

History 7C: Race and Ethnicity in the U.S.

Spring 2005

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History 7C is the third of a three-quarter course sequence exploring the history of “race” and ethnicity in American history. This course focuses primarily on the history of ethnic Mexicans in the U.S. since 1848. The class will also explore more generally issues of ethnogenesis, the intersections of class, gender, and cultural conflict and exchange, the significance of mass migration from Mexico and other regions of Latin America, transnationalism, and globalization. The course will also address the broad implications of the emergence of an increasingly multi-ethnic, multilingual society—particularly in the state of California.

Required Reading

George J. Sánchez, **Becoming Mexican American: Ethnicity, Culture and Identity in Chicano Los Angeles, 1900-1945** (New York: Oxford University Press, 1994).

F. Arturo Rosales, **Chicano! The History of the Mexican American Civil Rights Movement** (Houston: Arte Público Press, 1997).

Vicki L. Ruiz, **From Out of the Shadows: Mexican Women in Twentieth-Century America** (New York: Oxford University Press, 1999).

T.C. Boyle, **The Tortilla Curtain** (New York: Viking, 1995).

History 7C Reader (available from Postal Plus for first two weeks of term).

Class Requirements/Student Evaluation

This is primarily a lecture and discussion course, and students expecting to do well should complete assigned readings and attend lectures and discussion sections. Attendance and participation in discussion sections is mandatory and will count for 30% of your grade. In addition to this requirement, students will complete an (open-book/open-note) take-home mid-term examination (distributed in class, **Friday April 27**, and due in class, **Monday April 30**). The midterm, an essay of 8-10 typewritten or computer-generated double-spaced pages, will count for 30% of your grade. Students are also required to complete a take-home final examination. The final exam (format to be determined later), will count the remaining 40% of your grade. Please note: **LATE EXAMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

Class Schedule, Spring 2005

Week 1: The Hispanic Northwest and Manifest Destiny

READ: Rosales, Introduction, Chapter 1; Weber, "Society in Transition"; Hietala, "The Myths of Manifest Destiny," in Reader.

March 28 Course Introduction

March 30 Hispanic Civilization on the Eve of Conquest

April 1 Film: "The Ballad of Gregorio Cortez"

Week 2: Legacies of Conquest

READ: Weber, "Scarce More than Apes"; and De León and Stewart, "Lost Dreams" in Reader.

April 4 American Expansion and "Manifest Destiny"

April 6 Political Economy of Conquest, 1

April 8 Political Economy of Conquest, 2

Week 3: The Political Economy of Immigration

READ: Rosales, Chapters 2-3; Sánchez, Chapters 1-3.

April 11 Economic Development of the Border Region: Mexico

April 13 Economic Development of the Border Region: The United States

April 15 The First Wave of Mexican Labor Migration

Week 4: Cultural Survival and Change

NOTE: MIDTERM EXAM DISTRIBUTED IN CLASS, APRIL 22

READ: Rosales, Chapters 3-4; Sánchez, Chapters 4-5; Ruiz, Chapters 1-3; selected *corridos* in Reader.

April 18 The Importance of Gender in Historical Studies

April 20 Cultural Continuity and Cultural Change in the Borderlands

April 22 The Political Implications of Demographic Change

Week 5: Politics and Society in the Interwar Era

READ: Rosales, Chapters 7; Sánchez, Chapters 6-9; Ruiz, Chapter 4; and Ayres, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, "Statistics"; LULAC documents, and Congreso documents in Reader.

NOTE: MIDTERM EXAMS DUE IN CLASS, April 29

April 25 Depression, Repatriation, and Political Polarization

April 27 The Great Debate: The Assimilationist Perspective

April 29 The Great Debate: Alternative Visions

Week 6: The Paradox of the Post-War Era

READ: Rosales, Chapter 6; Sánchez, Chapters 10-12, Conclusion; and LULAC correspondence in Reader.

May 2 The Impact of the Bracero Program

May 4 Mobility and Rising Expectations in the 1950s

May 6 Film: "Mi Familia—My Family"

Week 7: An Ethnic Awakening?: The Chicano Movement

READ: Rosales, Chapters 8-10; Ferriss and Sandoval, "Delano"; Navarro, Chapter 1; "Plan de Raza Unida"; and "Plan Espiritual de Aztlán" in Reader.

May 9 Film: "Chicano!, Part 1"

May 11 The Origins of the Chicano Movement: Cesar Chávez and the UFW

May 13 Students and the Advent of Chicano Separatism

Week 8: Transnationalism and the Problematics of Separatism

READ: Rosales, Chapters 10-13; Ruiz, Chapter 5; Chicana feminist readings in Reader.

May 16 The Contradictions and Limitations of Separatism

May 18 Contradictions, Part 2.

May 20 Globalization and Contemporary Transnational Migration, 1.

Week 9: Contemporary Issues, 1

READ: Rosales, Chapter 14; Ruiz, Chapter 6, Epilogue; Matute-Bianchi, “Situational Ethnicity,” in Reader; begin *Tortilla Curtain*.

May 23 Trends in Globalization: A Regional Overview

May 25 Globalization and Local Issues: Education and Employment

May 27 Film: “Born in East LA”

Week 10: Contemporary Issues, 2

READ: Martínez, “The Shock of the New”; Gutiérrez, “Third Space” in Reader; finish *Tortilla Curtain*.

May 30 HOLIDAY—NO CLASS

June 1 Globalization and Local Issues: Cultural Change and the Future

June 3 Some Conclusions

*****NOTE FINAL EXAM DISTRIBUTED IN CLASS, JUNE 3*****