HUMA 1305.S70
Introduction to Mexican-American Studies
Times: Tuesday 7:00-9:45 pm
Room: B126
Credit: 3 Hours Pre-Requisite: None Co-Requisite: None
Lec: 3 Hours Lab: 0
INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Linda Sears
Office: BB117
Office Hours: Tues/Thursday 2:30-5:30 pm or by appointment
email: lsears@ccccd.edu
website: http://iws.ccccd.edu/lsears
Phone: 972-881-5837

TEXTBOOK: Mexican Americans/American Mexicans: From Conquistadors to Chicanos Matt S. Meir and Feliciano Ribera and selected readings

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Introduction to the field of Mexican-American/Chicano/a Studies investigates the field from its inception to the present. This interdisciplinary survey is designed to introduce students to the salient cultural, economic, educational, historical, political, and social aspects of the Mexican-American/Chicano/a experience.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES: Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:

- Formulate a definition of identity.
- Determine the political and economic stakes involved in the formation of the Chicano/a movement and the organization of migrant labor.
- Investigate how and why the immigration question polarizes communities.
- Trace the evolving relationship between Mexican-Americans/Chicanos/as and local, state, and national authorities.
- Articulate the ways in which representations of Mexican-American/Chicano/a culture shape political and social perceptions and assess the part art, literature, folk and popular culture, and performance play in forging Mexican-American/Chicano/a identity.
- Identify how inequalities in the education of Mexican-American/Chicano/a students contribute to systemic racism.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
1. Do assigned readings and participate in class discussion
2. Take three exams over class material
3. Write research paper
4. Present research findings to the class
5. Participate in two lab assignments

COURSE FORMAT: Includes open discussions, collaborative group discussions, various media presentations, out of class activities, and participation

COURSE EVALUATION: The final course grade will be based on the following:
Exam I: 100 pts
Exam II: 100 pts
Exam III: 100 pts
Research Project: 100 pts
Presentation: 50 pts
Lab Work: 50 pts (two labs at 25 pts each)

Total pts = 500 pts

GRADE CALCULATION:

450-500 = A
400-449 = B
350-399 = C
300-349 = D
299 and under = F

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Students are expected to attend as many classes as possible. Consequently attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class period. Every student has two “free” absences. Any extra absence without a valid excuse will result in the loss of five points from a student’s final grade. Any student who is late (i.e., not there for roll call) without a valid excuse more than three times during the course will lose a total of three points from her or his final grade.

LATE WORK: All assignments are due on the day specified in the syllabus. Late work will be penalized. For every class day an assignment is late, five points will be taken off the paper’s grade.

WITHDRAWAL: Please see the schedule of classes for the last day to withdraw.

INCOMPLETE POLICY
Incompletes are given at the discretion of the instructor and must be completed by the end of semester immediately following the semester in which the class was taken. Students who wish to take an incomplete must have a good attendance record, at least a C
average in the course, and have completed 80% of the points for the course at the time the Incomplete is granted

RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS: Refer to the current CCCCDD Student Handbook.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT COMPLIANCE: It is the policy of Collin County Community College to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable Federal, State and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to contact the ACCESS office, SCC-G200 or 972-881-5950 (V/TDD-881-5950) in a timely manner to arrange for appropriate accommodations.

ACADEMIC ETHICS:
New Scholastic Dishonesty Statement (based on revisions to the Student Handbook approved by CCCCDD's Board of Trustees, November 2004):

"The College may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of scholastic dishonesty. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, statements, acts, or omissions related to applications for enrollment or the award of a degree and/or the submission as one's own work material that is not one's own. Scholastic dishonesty may involve, but is not limited to, one or more of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, collusion, use of annotated texts or teacher’s editions, and/or falsifying academic records.

Plagiarism is the use of an author’s words or ideas as if they were one’s own without giving credit to the source, including, but not limited to, failure to acknowledge a direct quotation.

Cheating is the willful giving or receiving of information in an unauthorized manner during an examination, illicitly obtaining examination questions in advance, copying computer or Internet files, using someone else's work for assignments as if it were one's own, or any other dishonest means of attempting to fulfill the requirements of a course.

Collusion is intentionally aiding or attempting to aid another in an act of scholastic dishonesty, including but not limited to providing a paper or project to another student, providing an inappropriate level of assistance; communicating answers to a classmate during an examination; removing tests or answer sheets from a test site, and allowing a classmate to copy answers."

COURSE REPEAT POLICY: You may repeat this course only once after receiving a grade, including W. If you drop the course before the census date, September 8th, you will not be penalized in regard to the repeat policy. If you withdraw from the course after the census date, a grade of W will posted to your transcript and count as one attempt toward the repeat policy.
IN ADDITION TO THE INFORMATION IN THIS SYLLABUS, STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL INFORMATION INCLUDED IN THE 2006-2007 COLLIN COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT HANDBOOK.

TURNITIN.COM
All written assignments must be turned in to Turnitin.com to ensure it is plagiarism free. You do not need to give me a hardcopy. Turnitin.com accepts papers in Microsoft Word, Word Perfect, RTF, PDF, Postscript, plain text, and HTML formats. I will also post grades on Turnitin.com
To access Turnitin.com, go to www.turnitin.com
You must create your own user profile
Class Name is HUMA 1305  Class ID = 2345368  Password = Mexican

DISCLAIMER
The instructor and Collin Country Community College reserve the right to make changes in context, scheduling, or requirements in order to facilitate the best possible learning experience.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Any changes in the following schedule will be announced in class.
All readings should be completed by the dates on which they are listed.

Week 1
Tuesday, August 26: Introduction to Course. Pre-Columbian Mexico

Week 2
Tuesday, September 2: Spanish Conquest and the myth of La Malinche. Read Introduction and Chapter One of Mexican Americans

Week 3
Tuesday, September 9: Invasions of Mexico. Read Chapters Three and Four of Mexican Americans

Week 4
Tuesday, September 16: Immigration and WWI. Read Chapters Seven and 8 of Mexican Americans

Week 5
Tuesday, September 23: Labor and Americanization. Read Chapter Nine of Mexican Americans

Week 6
Tuesday, September 30: EXAM I. The Depression. Read Chapter Ten of Mexican Americans
**Week 7**
Tuesday, October 7: Hollywood representations and World War II. Read Chapter Eleven of *Mexican Americans*. Watch *Zoot Suit*

**Week 8**
Tuesday, October 14: 1960s, the Chicano Movement, and Teatro Campesino. Read Chapter 14 and 15 of *Mexican Americans*. **Identity Lab Due**

**Week 9**
Tuesday, October 21: Beginnings of a Backlash and the Borderlands. Read excerpt from Gloria Anzaldúa’s *Borderlands*.

**Week 10**
Tuesday, October 28: Feminism and the Chicana. Read excerpts from *Real Women Have Curves*

**Week 11**
Tuesday, November 4: **EXAM II**. Mexican-American performers: Selena, Richie Valens, El Vez, and Luis Alfaro. Read Chapter Sixteen of *Mexican Americans* and excerpt from *Downtown*.

**Week 12**
Tuesday, November 11: Folk and popular culture: corridos, folklorico, salsa, and hip hop. Read excerpt from *Dancing with the Devil*. **Representation Lab Due**

**LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW: NOVEMBER 14**

**Week 13**
Tuesday, November 18: Immigration debate. Read Chapter Thirteen and Seventeen of *Mexican Americans*

**Week 14**
Tuesday, November 25: Educational Challenges.

**Week 15**
Tuesday, December 2: Present research papers

**Week 16**
Tuesday, December 9: **EXAM III**