History 270: Latina/Latino Survey  
Spring 2008  
Tuesdays, Thursdays 9:35-10:50 AM  
Pablo Mitchell  
Office: King 141E, x8191  
E-Mail: pablo.mitchell@oberlin.edu  
Office Hours: **Monday 3pm-4pm, Thursday 11am-12pm (and by appointment)**

What is Latino? What is Latina? What historical forces in the American experience have brought together peoples and communities as diverse as, for instance, Chicanas and Chicanos from Los Angeles, Cuban Americans from Miami, and Dominicans Americans and Puerto Ricans from New York City? Beginning in the sixteenth century and stretching to the present, this class will map the varied terrains of Latina/o history, exploring the Mexican American, Puerto Rican, Cuban American, and Dominican American experiences in New Mexico, California, Texas, New York, the Midwest, and Florida. Major themes will include the intimate details of conquest and resistance, immigration, work, and the creation of racial and sexual differences within and between Latino/a communities.

This class will begin with a section on the interaction between Native Americans and Spanish colonists stretching from the sixteenth century to the early years of the nineteenth century. Subsequent sections will investigate Chicana/o, Puerto Rican, Cuban American, and Dominican American histories in detail. Major topics will include Manifest Destiny and the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, land dispossession, the Spanish-American War, forms of resistance, cultural transformation, and endurance, and the creation of diverse Latina/o communities in the twentieth century. Case studies will cover California barrios, migratory work routes between Texas and the Upper Midwest, the creation of multi-ethnic communities in the urban Northeast, and the rise of political conservatism in Miami. Throughout the course, we will focus on questions of shared Latina and Latino identity, and the changing images of Latinos and Latinas within broader American popular culture.

**Required Texts:**
Vicki L. Ruiz, *From Out of the Shadows*  
Carmen Teresa Whalen, Victor Vasquez-Hernandez, eds., *Puerto Rican Diaspora*  
Vicki L. Ruiz, Virginia Sanchez Korrol, eds., *Latina Legacies*

All textbooks are available for purchase at the college bookstore. Readings are available on reserve at Mudd Library and through Blackboard.

**Grading:**
- Class Participation/Attendance: 20 points  
- Quizzes: 30 points  
- Paper #1: 50 points  
- Paper #2: 50 points  
- Paper #3: 50 points

Final Grade will be out of 200 total points.

**Class Participation:**
Regular attendance and thoughtful, prepared, respectful participation in classroom discussion are required features of the class. Attendance (and absences) will be considered in determining your final grade. Discussions will alternate between small groups and the entire class. Please be prepared to discuss the readings on the assigned date. Students
will also be required to turn in book reviews (1-2 pages in length) describing each of three assigned books at the beginning of the class discussion of the entire book.

Quizzes
Scheduled reading quizzes (see below for dates) covering the readings and lecture material will focus on critical events, individuals, and locations in Latina/o History.

Written Assignments:
The major written assignments for the course will consist of three 5 page papers. Students will choose one of several essay topics (to be provided by the instructor) based on selected primary and secondary sources.

Papers must be legibly typed or word-processed, with reasonable fonts, double-spacing, and 1 inch margins. Please attempt to stay within the assigned page limits. Late papers will be penalized 1 point for every 24 hour period the papers are late. Papers more than ten days late will not be accepted. Students must complete all written assignments (including book reviews) in order to receive credit for the course.

Honor Code
All work in this class is governed by the Honor Code of Oberlin College. The honor code is available at: http://oncampus.oberlin.edu/courses/1/DSt/content/1627871/honorcode.pdf. If you have questions about how the honor code applies to any assignment or work done for the class, please feel free to consult the instructor.

Schedule and Reading Assignments:

February 5 Introduction

February 7 Shared Roots in Latina/o History
Vicki Ruiz, From Out of the Shadows, Introduction, xiii-xvii; Epilogue, 147-52.
Puerto Rican Diaspora, 1-42.

February 12 Chicana/o History: 1530-1820
Latina Legacies, Introduction, 3-18; Chap. 1, 19-38.

February 14 Chicana/o History: 1820-1910
Vicki Ruiz, From Out of the Shadows, Chap. 1, 3-32.
Latina Legacies, Chap. 2, 39-58; Chap. 4, 72-83.

February 19 Chicana/o History: 1910-1930
Vicki Ruiz, From Out of the Shadows, Chaps. 2, 33-50.
Latina Legacies, Chap. 6, 97-119

February 21 Chicana/o History: 1930-1945
Latina Legacies, Chap. 8, 135-147
February 26  Chicana/o History: 1945-1960
Vicki Ruiz, From Out of the Shadows, Chap. 4, 72-98.
Latina Legacies, Chap. 11, 175-192.

February 28  Chicana/o History: 1960-1980
Latina Legacies, Chap. 15, 240-254.

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March  4  Book Discussion
Vicki Ruiz, From Out of the Shadows, entire book.

March  6  Puerto Rican History: 1870-1898
Reading Quiz #1

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March 11  Puerto Rican History: 1898-1920
Introductory Paragraph Paper #1 Due, Discuss Paragraphs in Class

March 13  Latina Legacies, Chap. 5, 84-96; Chap. 7, 120-134

1st paper due Friday March 14, 2008 by 5pm

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March 18  Puerto Rican History: 1920-1945
The Puerto Rican Diaspora, Chaps. 2-4, 43-105.

March 20  Puerto Rican History: 1945-1960
Gina Pérez, “Introduction: Puerto Ricans in Chicago” and “An Upbeat West Side Story” (available on Blackboard)
The Puerto Rican Diaspora, Chaps. 5-7, 106-173.

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March 25, 27  Spring Break, no class.

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Reading Quiz #2

April  3  Book Discussion
The Puerto Rican Diaspora, entire book
April 8    Cuban American History: 1870-1950

Introductory Paragraph Paper #2 Due, Discuss Paragraphs in Class

April 10    Cuban American History: 1950-1970

2nd paper due Friday, April 11, 2008 by 5pm.

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April 15    Cuban American History: 1970-present
Susana Pena, “Obvious Gays’ and the State Gaze” (available on Blackboard)
Latina Legacies, Chap. 14, 225-239

April 17    Latina/os in Popular Culture
Frances Aparicio, “Jennifer as Selena” (available on Blackboard)
Latina Legacies, Chap. 12, 193-208.

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April 22    Book Discussion
Latina Legacies, entire book.

April 24    Dominican American History: 1900-1960

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April 29    Dominican American History: 1960-1990
Reading Quiz #3

May 1      New Directions in Latina/o History, I
Lisa Marie Cacho, “You Just Don’t Know How Much He Meant” (available on Blackboard)
Horacio Roque Ramirez, “That’s My Place” (available on Blackboard)

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May 6      New Directions in Latina/o History, II
Gabriela Arredondo, “Navigating Ethno-Racial Currents” (available on Blackboard)
Alexandra Stern, “Buildings, Boundaries, and Blood” (available on Blackboard)

May 8      Summary

3rd paper due Friday, May 9, 2008, by 5pm.

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