

Oberlin College
Department of History

History 270: Latina/Latino Survey
Fall 2013
Tues,Thurs 9:30-10:50 King 241
Instructor: Pablo Mitchell

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Office Hours: By appointment (please email me at
above address to schedule a meeting)

Beginning in the 16th 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, Dominican American, and Central American experiences in the United States. 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. Case studies will cover barrios in the Southwest, migratory work routes to the Midwest, and the creation of multi-ethnic communities in the Northeast. The course will also focus on shared Latina/o identity and changing images of Latina/os within American popular culture.

Note: This course counts toward the GSFS major.

Required Texts:

Vicki L. Ruiz, *From Out of the Shadows*

Gina M. Pérez, *The Near Northwest Side Story*

Virginia Sánchez Korrol, Vicki L. Ruiz, eds., *Latina Legacies*

Textbooks are available for purchase at the college bookstore. Readings are available 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. 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 or essay reviews (1-2 pages in length) describing the assigned readings at the beginning of the scheduled discussion section.

Attendance (and absences) will be considered in determining your final grade. Students will be allowed one absence, excused or unexcused, over the course of the semester without affecting the final grade for the course. The second absence will result in a loss of two points from the participation grade. Students missing three or more classes can receive no higher than a B+ for the course. Students who miss five or more classes will not receive credit for the course. Under special circumstances (prolonged illness, death in the family, etc), exceptions can be arranged through consultation with the instructor and the Dean of Students' office.

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 based on selected primary and secondary sources. Papers must have reasonable fonts, double-spacing, and 1 inch margins. Please attempt to stay within the assigned page limits. Late papers will be penalized 2 points 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://new.oberlin.edu/students/policies/2011-2012/11-Policies-Honor.pdf>. If you have questions about how the code applies to any assignment or work done for the class, please feel free to consult the instructor.

Schedule and Reading Assignments:

September 3 **Introduction**

September 5 **Shared Roots in Latina/o History**

Gina Pérez, The Near Northwest Side Story, xi-29.

Vicki Ruiz, From Out of the Shadows, Introduction, xi-xv; Epilogue, 147-165.

Latina Legacies, Introduction, 3-18.

September 10 **Puerto Rican History: 1500-1898**

September 12 **Puerto Rican History: 1898-1930**

Latina Legacies, Chap. 5, 84-96.

September 17 **Puerto Rican History: 1930-1945**

Arlene Dávila, Latino Spin excerpt, 1-21, 71-96 (available on Blackboard).

Raul Ramos y Sanchez, America Libre excerpt, 1-16 (available on Blackboard).

Latina Legacies, Chap. 7, 120-134.

September 19 **Puerto Rican History: 1945-1970**

Introduction to Research: Jennifer Starkey, Mudd Library

Pérez, The Near Northwest Side Story, 30-60.

September 20 **Raul Ramos y Sanchez Class Visit (12:00-1:30pm, Wilder 101)**

September 24 **Puerto Rican History: 1970-2000**

Discussion Sections, The Near Northwest Side Story, entire book.

Bring Book Review to Discussion Section

September 26 **Museum Visit (Please meet at 9:25am at entrance of museum in back courtyard)**

October 3 **Chicana/o History: 1500-1820**

Latina Legacies, Chap. 1, 19-38.

Draft Paper #1 Due, Discuss Draft in Class

October 5 **Chicana/o History: 1820-1910**

Latina Legacies, Chap. 2, 39-58; Chap. 4, 72-83.

1st paper due Friday, October 6, 2013 by 5pm.

October 8 Chicana/o History: 1910-1930

Ruiz, From Out of the Shadows, Chaps. 1-2, 3-50
Latina Legacies, Chap. 6, 97-119, Chap. 8, 135-147.

October 10 No Class

October 15 Chicana/o History: 1930-1945

Reading Quiz #1

October 17 Chicana/o History: 1945-1960

Ruiz, From Out of the Shadows, Chaps.3- 4, 51-98.

October 22, 24 *Fall Break, No Class.*

October 29 Chicana/o History: 1960-1980

Ruiz, From Out of the Shadows, Chap. 5, 99-126.

**October 31 Book Discussion: From Out of the Shadows, entire book
*Bring Ruiz Book Review to Discussion Section***

November 5 Shared Roots in Latina/o History

Iris López, Matters of Choice, Introduction, ix-xxv, Chap. 4, 61-77 (available on Blackboard).
Horacio Roque Ramírez, "That's My Place" (available on Blackboard).

November 7 Dominican American History: 1915-1965

Draft Paper #2 Due, Discuss Draft in Class

2nd paper due Friday, November 8, 2013 by 5pm.

November 12 Dominican American History: 1965-1990

November 14 Cuban American History: 1800-1898

Latina Legacies, Chap. 3, 59-71.

November 19 Cuban American History: 1898-1959

Reading Quiz #2

November 21 **Cuban American History: 1959-1990**
Latina Legacies, Chap. 14, 225-239.
Susana Peña, “‘Obvious Gays’ and the State Gaze” (available on Blackboard).

November 26 **Book Discussion: Latina Legacies, entire book**
Bring Book Review to Discussion Section

November 28 **No Class; Thanksgiving Break**

December 3 **Central American History: 1900-1965**
Cary Cordova, “The Mission to Nicaragua” (available on Blackboard).

December 5 **Central American History: 1965-1990**
Draft Paper #3 Due, Discuss Draft in Class

3rd paper is due Friday, December 6, 2013 by 5pm.

December 10 **Latina/os in Popular Culture**
Frances Aparicio, “Jennifer as Selena.” (available on Blackboard).
Dolores Inés Casillas, “Puuurro México” (available on Blackboard).
Latina Legacies, Chap. 12, 193-208.

December 12 **Class Summary**
Reading Quiz #3