TExAS A&M UNIVERSITY - CORPUS CHRISTI
MXAS 3311.001 Mexican American Literature
CS 115  T 7:00 – 9:30
Fall 2016

Professor: Dr. Godsey
Class Meetings CS- 115  T 7:00- 9:30
Office Location: CE 214-D
Office Hours MW 3:30 – 5:00
       TR 11:00 – 12:00
       (or appointment)
Phone Number: 825-5783 (message only)
E-mail: yolanda.godsey@tamucc.edu

Texts:
Required:


Recommended:


**Articles for class readings to facilitate class discussions, presentations and final research paper (posted on Blackboard):**

- Ballí, Cecilia. *Letter from Juárez: The Missing*

**Course Description:**
The course will examine selected texts representative of Mexican-American literature. As a point of reference, a historical framework will be emphasized to establish distinctive periods of Chicana/o creative writing from 1960s to the present, as well as an appreciation for the historical and socio-political circumstances under which this literature was created. The class incorporates poems, short stories, novels, plays and essays to familiarize students with the characteristics of Mexican-American literature, its production and its reception in academia. Moreover, the class will explore the construction and representation of race, class, gender, sexuality, and the relationship of these identity constructs to the texts.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Students will demonstrate the ability to:
- Exhibit an analytical understanding of Mexican-American history, politics, and culture through literature.
• Dialogue and inform about literature and literary theory, effectively by leading one class discussion during the term using appropriate terminology.
• Extend their understanding of texts and correlate class discussions through personal reflections in three response-writing assignments.
• Increase academic writing skill through analysis and research on an instructor approved text that broadens the course-required scope.

Course Policies:
It is essential that students attend all class meetings; after one absence, two points will be deducted from your final grade for each absence. You are responsible for the materials covered in class during your absence. All work must be turned in at the beginning of class. **No late assignments will be accepted** unless arrangements have been make with me before the due date.

Course Evaluation System:

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<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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| 1 Presentations (oral)           | 15 pts.
| 1 Exam                           | 20 pts.
| 4 Response papers                | 20 pts.
| 1 Written project                | 30 pts.
| Daily preparation and participation | 15 pts. |
| **Total**                        | **100pts.** |

90 – 100 = A    80 – 89 = B    70 -79 = C    60 -69 = D    59 & below = F

Presentation:
For this assignment, you will be responsible for leading class discussion on a text covered in class. Additionally, you are to present **background information on the author, their political and/or social concerns**. As you are leading this conversation, you are expected to have researched the subject matter in-depth. Please refer to instructor if you need guidance with this assignment.

Exam:
In the short answer response section of the exam you will demonstrate knowledge of key terminology pertinent to the discussion of race, class, gender, and sexuality as well as the role that these social identity constructs play in a historical and political context of selected texts. In the essay section of the exam, you will critically analyze literary themes and make appropriate connections to class discussions and conclusions resulting from your own research. In preparation for exam, it is necessary that you stay current with the readings, participate in class discussions and take detailed notes.

Response Papers:
During the semester, you will write four response papers to a text read and discussed in class. For this assignment, you will do an analytical reading of a passage or literary theme that reflects your own critical analysis of your selected subject matter. Literary analysis and applicable social, historical and cultural aspects should be addressed. Class discussion notions must be expounded upon and instead of just restated. This paper will be **200 words long and must adhere to a**
Written project:
This assignment should relate directly to, or be an extension of, theoretical framework and analysis of the titles required for this course. This will provide students with a support within which to operate and/or a point of departure and sense of direction beyond the class. If individual students have extensive background in the area, they may be allowed to pursue aspects of the Chicano experience that are outside the itinerary content, provided the instructor gives her approval. All projects must adhere to a writer’s manual style (MLA). The mid-term paper is to be 10 to 12 pages long. Please review the student handbook of conduct for university policy on plagiarism and academic honesty.

Daily participation and class preparedness:
Each student will lead the class discussion on the day of their presentation, however for the purpose of successful completion of this course all students are required to read the assignments and come to class prepared to participate based on the readings for each class meeting.

Miscellaneous: Please reduce unnecessary distractions to the minimum. No EATING is allowed in class, CELL PHONES must be set on vibration mode and put away. Also, LAPTOP users must be on task at all times. Visitors are not allowed in class, unless permitted by the professor in advance. Students are expected to follow the Student Code of Conduct as described by the University Student Handbook and to have an amicable and respectful attitude towards their instructor, and fellow students.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION – Summer I 2014

Dates to remember:
August 24……………….Wednesday……………… Classes begin
August 31……………….Wednesday……………… Last day to register or add a class
November 11……………..Friday………………….. Last day to drop a class
December 5……………….Monday…………………. Last day to withdraw from university
December 6……………….Tuesday………………….. Last day of classes
December 8……………….Thursday………………. Exams begin

ACADEMIC ADVISING
The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA
Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466 or log onto http://www.tamucc.edu/~aac.

DISABILITY SERVICES
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall, Room #116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

GRADE APPEALS: Students who feel they have not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website (http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean.

Semester Schedule

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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 30</td>
<td>Introduction to the course</td>
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<tr>
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<td> Century/Early 20th Century Literary Background</td>
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<td> Limón handout – On Américo Paredes</td>
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<td>Chicano Movement Literature</td>
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<td> Valdez, Luis. Actos.</td>
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<td>Sept. 6</td>
<td>Emergence of the Chicano novel</td>
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<td> López, Dennis. “Good-bye Revolution –Hello Cultural Mystic:Quinto Sol Publications and Chicano Literary Nationalism</td>
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<td></td>
<td> Anaya, Rudolfo. Bless Me, Ultima - Introduction</td>
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Sept. 13  
continued
- Anaya, Rudolfo. *Bless Me, Ultima* – Movie
- Response paper #1 due

Sept. 20
- Rivera, Tomás, and Evangelina Vigil-Piñón. *No Se Lo Tragó la Tierra*
- MUST HAVE APPROVED TOPIC FOR WRITTEN PROJECT
- Movie

Sept. 27

Oct. 4
**La voz femenina**
- Anzaldúa, Gloria. *Borderlands*
- Response paper #2 due

Oct. 11
- Cantú, Norma E. *Canícula: Snapshots of a Girlhood En La Frontera*
- Moraga, Cherrie, *The Hungry Woman*. Drama

Oct. 18
**Midterm Exam**

Oct. 25
- Moraga, Cherrie, *The Hungry Woman*. Drama
Nov. 1
- Grise, Virginia. *The Panza Monologues*
- Movie

Nov. 8
- Ballí, Cecilia. *Letter from Juárez: The Missing*
- Response paper #3 due

Nov. 15
- Cont.

Nov. 22

Nov. 29
- Cont.
  - Response paper #4 due

Dec. 6
- Cont.
  - Finish *Rain of Gold.*
    - Books 3-5
  - Final paper due