Professor: Y. Godsey
Office Location: CE 214-D
Office Hours: T – 12:30 – 1:30, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
W – 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
(or by appointment)
E-mail: yolanda.godsey@tamucc.edu

Class meetings: TR – 2:00 – 3:15 p.m. CS 115


Recommended:

Course Reserves

Articles for class readings to facilitate class discussions, presentations and final research paper:


**Course Description:**
This course is designed to familiarize students with conventional studies of Mexican-American folklore. It incorporates traditional Mexican and Mexican American norms: from beliefs, customs, and proverbs to folktales, music, ballad, legends and folk medicine. These themes have been significant to the construction of the Mexican-American cultural identity, they reflect the social and historical environment in which Chicanos live and interact. The intent is to examine in a respectful manner important socio-cultural specifics that operate in the Mexican American Community which have traditionally been kept in the private space of the home as well as their multiple adaptations from rural to modern and urban sites in a scholarly setting.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**
Students who successfully complete course and its requirements will demonstrate the ability to:

- Collect and identify a variety of Mexican-American folklore genre.
- Classify and interpret folklore samples in relation to cultural significance.
- Demonstrate analytical knowledge of Mexican-American folklore.
- Differentiate amongst the nuances of folklore as it evolves from rural to urban communities.

**Course Policies:**
It is essential that students attend every class meeting; after one absence two points will be deducted from your grade. 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:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Midterm Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Genre Presentation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Final Project Proposal</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Final Written project</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation and class preparation</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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**Exam:**
You will demonstrate knowledge of key terminology pertinent to the discussion of Mexican-American folklore. In the essay sections, you are expected to elaborate on knowledge gained through class discussion, your own research, and experience where you will make critical and
appropriate connections to themes as discussed in class in relation to identity construction. In preparation for exam it is necessary that you stay current with the readings, participate in class discussions and take detailed notes.

**Presentation:**
For the presentation, you are to collect genre samples (legends, songs, riddles etc.) and guide a class discussion based on your materials. You are expected to research the subject matter in-depth and analyze your collected data accordingly. Please refer to instructor if you need guidance with this assignment.

**Final project proposal and research paper:**
The final project should relate directly to, or be an extension of, one of the major topics covered in the course. This will provide a framework within which to operate and/or a point of departure and sense of direction on your chosen topic. The topic for this assignment must be preapproved (see date on class calendar). Submission for topic approval proposal must include a one page well thought out project overview, collected samples, and a bibliography citing at least seven sources, two of which should be primary. If individual students have extensive background in the area, they may be allowed to pursue aspects of the Chicano experience that are outside, the course content, provided the instructor gives his approval. Your final research paper should be **12 pages** in length. All projects must adhere to a writer’s manual style (MLA) seventh edition. Please review the student handbook of conduct for university policy on plagiarism and academic honesty.

**Participation and class preparation:**
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.
Dates to remember:

**Academic Calendar, 2017-2018**

**Fall Semester 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 14, Monday</td>
<td>New Faculty Report</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 21, Monday</td>
<td>Returning Faculty Report</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 24, Thursday</td>
<td>Camden Move In Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 25, Friday</td>
<td>Momentum Move In Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 25-27, Friday-Sunday</td>
<td>Aloha Days</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 28, Monday</td>
<td>Classes begin Regular Fall &amp; 1st 7-Week Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 4, Monday</td>
<td>Labor day Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 5, Tuesday</td>
<td>Last day to late register or add a class</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 25, Monday</td>
<td>Last day to drop for the 1st 7-Week Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 2, Monday</td>
<td>Last day to apply for December graduation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 13, Friday</td>
<td>Last day of classes for 1st 7-Week Session and final exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 16, Monday</td>
<td>First day of classes for 2nd 7-Week Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 18, Wednesday</td>
<td>Grades due for 1st 7-Week Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 10, Friday</td>
<td>Last day to drop for the 2nd 7-Week Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 15, Wednesday</td>
<td>Last day to drop a class</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 22, Wednesday</td>
<td>Reading Day-No Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 23-24, Thursday-Friday</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Holidays</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 5, Tuesday</td>
<td>Last day to withdraw from the University</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 6, Wednesday</td>
<td>Last day of classes and</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 7, Thursday</td>
<td>Final Exams 2nd 7-Week Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 8, Friday;</td>
<td>Reading Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-14, Monday-Thursday</td>
<td>Final examinations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 15-18, Friday-Monday</td>
<td>Grading days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 16, Saturday</td>
<td>Fall Commencement</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 19, Tuesday</td>
<td>Fall grades due at noon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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/advising/.
DISABILITY AND VETERANS 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

As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, a student who believes that he or she has 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. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures (available at http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/assets/13.02.99.C2.01_student_grade_appeal_procedure.pdf). 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’s Office.
### Semester Schedule

| Week 1 | August 28 - 31 | General Introduction  
|        | Leal article “Américo Paredes and the Culmination of Chicano Folklore Studies.” |

| Week 2 | September 5-7 | The World of the Mexican Americans (West)  
|        | Folk Speech and Naming |

| Week 3 | September 12-14 | Cultural Icons and other Images: (e.g. Our Lady of Guadalupe)  
|        | Zoot Suit (film) |

| Week 4 | September 19-21 | Proverbs  
|        | Paredes article “Folklore, Lo Mexicano, and Proverbs.” |

| Week 5 | September 26-28 | Riddles  
|        | Cobos article *Refranes: Southwestern Spanish Proverbs*  
|        | Presentations begin |

| Week 6 | October 3-5 | Ballads and Folksongs  
|        | Gregorio Cortes  
|        | Presentations continue |

| Week 7 | October 10-12 | Presentations continue  
|        | MIDTERM |
Week 8
October 17-19
The History of Curanderismo.
The Cultural Context of Illness
Don Pedrito Jaramillo (Falfurrias, Texas)
Presentations continue

Week 9
October 23-26
Curanderismo: Mexican American Folk Healing.
Presentations continue
*Final project due proposal by 5:30 p.m. (Oct. 23)
Presentations continue

Week 10
Oct. /Nov. 31-2
Beliefs and Superstitions
Folk Medicine in the Mexican American Community
Niño Fidencio
Presentations continue

Week 11
November 7-9
Folk Drama and Dance
Teresa Urrea Santa de Cabora
Presentations continue

Week 12
November 14-16
Folk Drama and Dance
La Pastorela (film)
Presentations continue

Week 13
November 21
Music (Conjunto, Orquesta, Tejano, Banda)

Thanksgiving Holidays
**Week 14**  
**November**  
28-30  
Music cont.  
Selena Quintanilla: from a Tejano singer to a cultural icon  
**Presentations continue**

**Week 15**  
**December**  
5  
Folk Foods  
Final Written Project Due by 5:30 p.m.

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### Fall 2017 FINAL EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Final Exam Time</th>
<th>Final Exam schedule for courses that begin at the following times:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>8:00 MWF 9:00 S 9:00 MWF 9:30 TR 10:00 MWF 8:00 TR</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>11:00 MWF 12:00 S 12:00 MWF 12:30 TR 1:00 MWF 11:00 TR</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:45 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.</td>
<td>2:00 F 2:00 MW 3:30 TR 3:30 MW 2:00 TR</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>4:20 M 5:30 MW 4:20 T 4:20 W 4:20 R 5:30 TR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:15 p.m. – 9:45 p.m.</td>
<td>7:00 M 7:00 MW 7:00 T 7:00 W 7:00 R 7:00 TR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Your final exam will take place on:**  
- **Friday December 08**  
- **Saturday December 09**  
- **Monday December 11**  
- **Tuesday December 12**  
- **Wednesday December 13**  
- **Thursday December 14**