MEXICAN AMERICAN HISTORY
HIST 4336.001
FALL 2018
TR 5:30-6:45
BH 207

INSTRUCTOR        Anthony Quiroz
OFFICE            Faculty Center 284
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OFFICE HOURS      TR: 1:00-2:00; 5:00-6:00 / W: 2:30-3:30 / and by appointment

NOTE: THIS IS A PRELIMINARY SYLLABUS. THERE WILL BE MINOR ADJUSTMENTS TO THE FINAL VERSION.

DESCRIPTION
This course presents an overview of Mexican American History from pre-Columbian times to the present. Through the course of the term we will examine how Mexican Americans were created and the ways in which they worked and contributed to Spanish, Mexican, and ultimately—American society. The course is organized by each of the major generations in Mexican American history (Pre-American; Conquered, Immigrant, Mexican American, Chicano, Hispanic). Throughout each period we will study identity and citizenship in light of prevalent economic, social, cultural, and political conditions. Students will be required to produce a short (10-12 pages) piece of original research.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
Although the course is designed to develop students' understanding of the major issues and central themes in Mexican American history, the course is designed to achieve several other objectives as well.

• To enhance students' abilities to read critically by teaching them to read for authors' arguments, evidence, and rhetorical style. (book reviews, text)
• To enhance students' critical thinking skills (class discussions, book reviews, exams)
• To expand students' understanding of the field of history and historical interpretation. (research project, exams, class discussion)
• To enhance students' writing abilities by teaching them writing skills in the research project and by offering them opportunities in the examinations to express themselves clearly and concisely by writing essay answers
• To help students prepare for the ExCET in the fields of American history and historical concepts and terms. (lectures, readings)
ASSESSMENT

EXAMS 45%
First Exam 10%
Second Exam 15%
Final Exam 20%

FILM ASSIGNMENTS 10%
First film assignment 5%
Second film assignment 5%

RESEARCH PROJECT 45%
Thesis Statement, Bibliography & outline 10%
First rough draft 15%
Final draft 20%

All three exams will consist of one essay question over the lecture material, worth 50% of the exam grade, and one essay question over the reading material, worth 50% of the overall exam grade.

Research Project: See separate instructions

Film Assignments: Students will turn in a one page reaction paper to each of the two films we will watch. Papers will discuss the topic, argument and educational significance of each film.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Lorena Oropeza, Raza Si! Guerra No!: Chicano Protest and Patriotism during the Viet Nam Era (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2005).

Anthony Quiroz, Claiming Citizenship: Mexican Americans in Victoria, Texas (College Station: TAMU Press, 2005).

Kate Turabian, A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations.


CLASS POLICIES

- MISSED EXAMS: I will schedule one makeup exam for a week or two after each of the two midterms. If you must miss a scheduled exam you will be
allowed to take the make up exam at the time of the SCHEDULED MAKEUP ONLY. No Exceptions. Makeup exams will consist of a single essay question (no choices) worth 100% of the exam grade. The questions will reflect material from the review sheets. Students who face extraordinary circumstances at the time of the final may seek to take it early. Extraordinary circumstances include such things as: a death in the family; a serious illness; delivery of a child (by the student or a spouse ONLY). Winning a trip to the Bahamas, or taking a family skiing trip that has been planned for two years are NOT extraordinary enough. If you know in advance that you need to miss the final exam because of a less than acceptable reason, you should drop the course immediately and take it at a later time. No late makeup will be given for the final exam. If you face extraordinary circumstances that honestly preclude you from taking the final we can try to set up an early exam. Remember, however, you must have a strong reason.

- MAKE UP EXAM FORMAT: make-up exams will consist of ONE ESSAY QUESTION ONLY, WORTH 100% OF THE GRADE. The question will ask the student to consider major issues in light of lecture and reading. Realize that due to the broad nature of these questions, it is more imperative than ever that students be prepared to offer interpretive answers sustained by ample detail and clear argumentation from both lecture and readings.

- LATE PAPERS: Late papers will be accepted, but five points will be deducted for each late day, including weekends. Exceptions will be made ONLY in RARE instances that involve the student providing documented evidence of a special need.

- PLAGIARISM: Plagiarism is the theft of intellectual property. If you present material written by someone else as your own you will receive a grade of "0" for that specific assignment, and you will be subject to further disciplinary action. For specific information on plagiarism see the university catalog. If you are not sure about how to incorporate material into a paper or review see me.

- CHEATING ON EXAMS: If you are caught cheating on an exam you will receive a grade of "0" for that exam. At worst a "0" will virtually assure a failing grade in the course, at best it will ensure a very low grade. You may also be subject to further disciplinary action by the university.

- INFORMAL GRADE APPEALS: Students are welcome to appeal grades that they believe were assessed incorrectly. Once a formal appeal has been made, the student will have one week to write a two page, single spaced justification for the grade she or he is requesting. This document MUST contain specific references to material in the essay and cite lecture and/or readings to validate the student’s claims. At that point I will re-consider the grade in light of the student’s argument. I will then choose to raise the grade, leave the grade, or bump down the grade, depending upon how well the case is made and how strong or weak the answer is.

- GENERAL DECORUM: be respectful of your fellow students and me. Don’t be disruptive by talking, holding hands, reading anything, eating, or monopolizing discussions. Turn off your cell phones, and beepers. Come to
class on time. Do not anticipate the end of class by putting away your materials. You are training to be tomorrow’s professionals. Act like it.

- PENALTIES: Individuals who consistently behave in an inappropriate manner and distract the class will be warned. In cases of chronic violations of the class rules, students will be removed from the classroom. If removal does not stop future disturbances, students will be referred to the Dean of Students’ Office for further disciplinary procedures.

- GRADE MEETINGS: ALL STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED STRONGLY to hold at least one grade meeting toward the end of the semester (the last two weeks of the semester). During this brief meeting we will go over your grades for the semester and resolve any concerns or disputes up to that point. By not attending this meeting, the student is waiving any right to future contestation of any grade or portion of any grade in any course assignment. When attending such meetings you MUST bring all graded work IF you wish to level a challenge or dispute.

- END OF TERM GRADE DISPUTES: I will not address any grade disputes or challenges after graduation. IF you wish to level a challenge or dispute you must do so prior to the Friday before graduation. Any later correspondence will not be addressed until after the spring semester has begun. UNDERSTAND: it is not uncommon for students to perform poorly on a final exam or project. Such a grade can often pull down a semester’s worth of work by a letter grade or more.

Disabilities Accommodations

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 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.
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.

Dropping a Class

I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with your academic advisor, the Financial Aid Office, and me, before you decide to drop this course. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class.

Grade Appeals

As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.03, Student Grade Appeals, 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.C2.03, Student Grade Appeals. These documents are accessible online at: [http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/assets/13.02.99.C0.03_student_grade_appeals.pdf](http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/assets/13.02.99.C0.03_student_grade_appeals.pdf). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s office in the college in which the course is taught. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal in CLA, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, [http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html](http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html).
SCHEDULE

WEEK 1  August 28 & 30
Tuesday
Lecture  Course introduction; Creation of Mexicans and Mexico (1500-1836)

Thursday
Meet in Library Special Collections

WEEK 2  September 4 & 6
Tuesday
Meet in Lib 216A

Thursday
Readings  Turabian Chapters 1-8; Vargas chapter 1 & 2
Lecture  Creation of Mexicans and Mexico (1500-1836)
Discussion  Research paper

WEEK 3  September 11 & 13
Tuesday
Lecture  Creation of Mexicans and Mexico (1500-1836)
Readings:  Turabian Chapter 9; Vargas chapter 3 & 4

Thursday
Lecture  The Conquered Generation (1836-1900)
Readings  Turabian Chapter 10; Vargas chapter 5

WEEK 4  September 18 & 20
Tuesday
Lecture  The Conquered Generation (1836-1900)
Discussion  Research Topics
Readings  Turabian Chapter 11; Vargas chapter 6

Thursday
FIRST EXAM
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<th>WEEK 5</th>
<th><strong>September 25 &amp; 27</strong></th>
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<td>Lecture</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
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<td>Readings</td>
<td>Turabian Chapters 16-19; Vargas chapter 7</td>
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<td>The remainder of the Turabian book will be used as needed for reference</td>
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<th>WEEK 6</th>
<th><strong>October 2 &amp; 4</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Readings</td>
<td>Quiroz, Introduction &amp; Conclusion &amp; Chapter 1 &amp; 2</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Readings</td>
<td>Quiroz Chapters 3; Vargas chapter 8</td>
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<td>Due</td>
<td>Bibliography &amp; outline (see separate handout)</td>
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<th>WEEK 7</th>
<th><strong>October 9 &amp; 11</strong></th>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
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<td>Quiroz Chapters 4-5</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
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<td>Readings</td>
<td>Vargas chapters 9</td>
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<th>WEEK 8</th>
<th><strong>October 16 &amp; 18</strong></th>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Vargas chapters 10-11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Film</td>
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### WEEK 9  October 23 & 25
- **Tuesday**
  - **SECOND EXAM**
  - Due: One page reaction to film

- **Thursday**
  - **Film** “Chicano”

### WEEK 10  October 30 & November 1
- **Tuesday**
  - **Lecture** Chicano Generation
  - **Reading** Oropeza Introduction, Epilogue and Chapter 1; Vargas chapter 12
  - **Due** One page reaction to film

### WEEK 11  November 6 & 8
- **Tuesday**
  - **Lecture** Chicano Generation
  - **Readings** Oropeza Chapters 2-3; Vargas chapter 13
  - **Due** Rough drafts of paper

### WEEK 12  November 13 & 15
- **Tuesday**
  - **Lecture** Hispanic Generation
  - **Readings** Oropeza Chapters 4-5; Vargas chapter 14

### WEEK 13  November 20 & 22
- **Tuesday**
  - **THIRD EXAM**
  - Drafts returned

### WEEK 14  November 27 & 29
- **Individual student paper meetings**

### WEEK 15  December 4 & 6
- **Individual student paper meetings**

- **Thursday**
  - **READING DAY**: NO CLASS
WEEK 16   December 13
FINAL PAPERS DUE AT START OF CLASS