ETHNIC STUDIES 213  
CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN LATINO/A STUDIES  
Oregon State University

Instructor:  
Dr. Juan Herrera  
Email: juan.herrera@oregonstate.edu  
Office Hours: W 12-1PM Waldo 226 and by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course provides a comparative interdisciplinary analysis of contemporary Latino/a experiences. One of the main goals of the course is to highlight the diversity of Latino identities in the U.S. and how this group identity intersects with other forms of difference such as gender, sexuality, and class. Furthermore, we will explore how Latino racial identity is constructed in relationship to other groups, especially African Americans and Whites. As a socially constructed category, we will focus on how Latino identity has been shaped by social movement activism, transnational migration, and historical and contemporary sociopolitical forces.

* This class meets twice a week for an hour and fifty minutes each class meeting and is 4 credits.

COURSE-SPECIFIC LEARNING OUTCOMES
Students successfully completing this course will be able to:
1. Describe and explain how Latino racial identity has been historically produced by social, cultural, and political processes.
2. Understand the diversity of Latino experiences and the politics of mobilizing a unitary social group identity.
3. Interpret Latino racial identity through an interdisciplinary and intersectional framework.

BACCALAUREATE CORE & LEARNING OUTCOMES
For more on the “Bacc Core”: http://oregonstate.edu/ctl/baccalaureate-core. This course fulfills the Baccalaureate Core’s Difference, Power, and Discrimination (DPD) category. Students successfully completing this course will be able to:
1. Explain how difference is socially constructed.
2. Using historical and contemporary examples, describe how perceived differences, combined with unequal distribution of power across economic, social, and political institutions, result in discrimination.
3. Analyze how the interactions of social categories, such as race, ethnicity, social class, gender, religion, sexual orientation, disability, and age, are related to difference, power, and discrimination in the United States.
REQUIRED TEXTS
1. PDF readings available via Canvas.
2. Films and multimedia resources, as assigned for both in-class and out-of-class viewing.

Students are required to bring individual hard copies of readings to all appropriate class meetings. Yes, you must either PRINT them each out (double-sided printing is encouraged) or have your ANNOTATED DIGITAL copies on your laptop or mobile device (iPad, etc.).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
PARTICIPATION. This class is predicated on active discussion and student engagement. Class attendance is MANDATORY. You will be allowed (3) unexcused absences. After that, your grade will be affected by each additional absence. You are expected to contribute meaningfully to each and every class meeting: providing examples, asking text-based or conceptual questions, responding to your classmates in collegial ways, drawing attention to specific passages or ideas, and/or synthesizing readings.

READING ASSIGNMENTS. Students must complete all readings prior to attending class. This way you will be able to effectively follow along and engage with lectures and fully participate in the vital conversations that are the backbone of this course. Unprepared students will be graded down.

ANALYTICAL PAPERS: Students are expected to complete (4) Analytical Papers for the term. Each analytical paper needs to analyze at least (3) texts we have read. They are to be 2-3 pages in length. The purpose of each analytic paper is for you to think of the texts relationally. In writing your analytical paper you should consider: What is the main argument of each text? How do each of the authors write about Latino experiences, the nature of inequality, culture, and Latino racial identity? What is distinctive about each text? How are the texts in conversation with one another? What methods does the author use to construct the text? What is the value of choosing one method over another? What evidence do the authors present to support their claims?

MIDTERM AND FINAL. Exams will be online through Canvas.

FORMATTING. All written assignments must be typed, double-spaced, using 1” margins all around, 12- point Times New Roman font (or similar), proper paginations, proper heading, and stapled. All essays requiring minimum word counts must include the final word count in the heading. Papers must include citations and a complete and appropriately formatted list of references (course readings and resources used) immediately after the final lines of the text (not a separate page). Papers that do not follow this format will not be accepted.

EXTRA CREDIT. To receive points for extra credit (maximum of 3 points per effort), a student must attend one current event or site, and write an analytical essay (500-750 words) discussing 1) how the experience/place provides a concrete example of some idea or aspect described in our learning materials, and 2) what additional learning you gained from your experience. You must also embed within your essay a photograph showing you attending the event. You can only turn in a total of (3) extra credit essays.
Evaluation of Student Performance

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Analytical Papers</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>100</td>
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<td>Final</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>400</strong></td>
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**E-MAIL POLICY**

All e-mail correspondence with the instructor must be properly formatted with a useful description in the subject line, a greeting and salutation, and must be grammatically correct. Also, e-mail is the primary, official means of communication outside of class meetings. So, you must arrange for emails sent to your OSU account to be forwarded to you, or you must check this account weekly. Failure to receive messages sent via email is not an acceptable excuse for missed directions or notifications.

**LATE WORK POLICY**

Late work will NOT be accepted.

**WORK SUBMISSION POLICY**

Hard copies must be brought to class or assignments must be uploaded as requested on Canvas. I will not accept emailed submissions.

**DISABILITY ACCESS**

Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty, and Disability Access Services (DAS). Students with accommodations approved through DAS are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodation but have not yet obtained approval through DAS should contact DAS immediately at 737-4098.

**NOTE ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Students are responsible for understanding the university’s academic integrity policies and maintaining compliance. Please familiarize yourself with the OSU Student Conduct Code: http://studentlife.oregonstate.edu/studentconduct. Copying even small portions of essays from the internet or not properly citing your sources falls under the definition of plagiarism. Any act of
cheating or plagiarism will result in the student’s immediate failure and referral to the Student Conduct and Community Standards office for further investigation and assessment. Students who cheat or plagiarize can be suspended or even expelled from the University. If you have questions, please make an appointment to meet with the instructor or other relevant campus resources.

MAJORING OR MINORING IN ETHNIC STUDIES AT OSU

Many students take an Ethnic Studies course because the topic is of great interest or because of a need to fulfill a college requirement. Often students have taken three or four Ethnic Studies classes out of "interest" yet have no information about the major or minor and don’t realize how close they are to a major, a minor, or even a double major. An Ethnic Studies major is excellent preparation for a career in law, public policy, government and politics, journalism, education, public health, social work, international relations, and many other careers. If you would like information about the Ethnic Studies major or minor at OSU, please contact LEONORA RIANDA, Ethnic Studies Office Coordinator, at:

541-737-0709 OR LEONORA.RIANDA@OREGONSTATE.EDU
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WEEK 1: INTRODUCTION TO LATINO STUDIES
Tuesday
Introduction to the course, review of the syllabus

Thursday

WEEK 2: LATINO RACIALIZATION
Tuesday

Thursday

***Analytical Paper #1 Due (online submission)***

WEEK 3: SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND THE PRODUCTION OF RACIAL IDENTITY
Tuesday

Thursday

WEEK 4: IMMIGRATION AND LATINIDAD
Tuesday

Thursday

***Analytical Paper #2 Due (online submission)***
WEEK 5: IMMIGRANT RIGHTS MOBILIZING

Tuesday

Thursday

***Midterm (online)***

WEEK 6: INDIGENOUS LATINOS

Tuesday

Thursday

WEEK 7: QUEERING LATINIDAD I

Tuesday

Thursday

***Analytical Paper #3 Due (online submission)***

WEEK 8: QUEERING LATINIDAD II

Tuesday

Thursday

WEEK 9: AFRO LATINOS

Tuesday
Thursday

**WEEK 10: LATINOS AND THE FUTURE**

Tuesday

Thursday
Concluding Remarks

***Analytical Paper #4 Due (online submission)***
***Final (online)***