Chicanos are Americans. They speak English. They speak Spanish too. In this course we will explore a wide spectrum of short stories (all written in English) by Mexican Americans, or Chicanos, dating from the 1930s to the present. We will specifically become familiar with the general characteristics of the short story genre and its particular presence within the Chicana/o literary canon. These short stories provide insights into the historical experiences of Chicanos in the U.S. from the early 1900s to the present day.

In analyzing these stories and their writers we will employ historic, thematic, and regional approaches as well as focus on subgenres like adolescent literature, detective fiction, and humor. Students can also expect to learn about the social, cultural, and political issues with which the Chicano Movement civil rights agenda of the 1960s was concerned and the ways in which short fiction responded.

Authors we will read:

- Daniel Cano
- Daniel Chacón
- Sandra Cisneros
- Jovita Gonzales
- Américo Paredes
- Alberto A. Rios
- Gary Soto
- and several others

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