LLS 1000
Introduction to Latin American Studies
Spring 2013
T and R 1:00 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.
Arts and Sciences 392

Instructor:
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Course description:
This is the introductory course to Latino-Latin American Studies (LLS) and Chicano-Latino Studies (CLS). It is intended to familiarize students with Latin America’s historical interconnections with the U.S. It recognizes Latinos as active members of the American society by addressing their experiences in U.S. history. Course instruction is based on lectures, readings, video-documentaries, and movies.

Objectives:
Introduction to Latino-Latin American Studies
Why the study of Latin American and Latino is relevant in today’s globalization
Understanding of Latino-Latin American Studies as a field of the social sciences and humanities
Learning the diversity of Latinos and Latin Americans
Ascertain Latino experiences as part of U.S. history
Learning the linkages of the U.S. and Latin American nations

There are no textbooks. All materials, videos, and documents are found in Blackboard.

All documents will be uploaded into Blackboard in sequence. Once the first quiz has been taken, corresponding materials in the site will be deleted. This is to avoid excessive clutter in Blackboard.

Assignments:
The final grade for this course is based on the completion of the following tasks:
1. **40%**
   Class presentation:
   Student groups will research and present their findings-interpretation on any of the following topics:
   Immigration
   Religion
   Gender
   Food
   Communities
   Literature
   Art
   Cinema
   Folklore
   Music
   Celebrations
   Politics
   Power point, videos, and any other creative format are welcomed. The instructor will organize the groups; assign topics, and presentation dates.

2. **30%**
   Three Quizzes on readings and videos,
   Dates of quizzes are in the schedule below.

3. **10%**
   Visit to Museo Latino.
   Instructions will be announced in class.

4. **20%**
   4. Class attendance

**RULES:**

1. Attendance is mandatory. Only reasonable and justifiable absences will be accepted. All students are expected to be present at ALL presentations. Absences during presentation weeks will be counted twice.
2. Come to class on time.
3. Read and study class materials.
4. Quizzes are expected to be the students learning and understanding of class materials. Copying of course documents and/or websites is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. If copying, quizzes will be invalidated.
5. No second chances when taking quizzes. Use reliable browsers and computers. Be mindful of rules when taking the quizzes. The quizzes are designed with plenty of time for processing and submitting.

GRADE SCALE
Grades will be determined on a percentage basis, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>98-100 percent</td>
<td>A+</td>
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<tr>
<td>95- 97 percent</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>90-94 percent</td>
<td>A-</td>
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<tr>
<td>86- 89 percent</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<tr>
<td>83- 85 percent</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>80-82 percent</td>
<td>B-</td>
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<td>76- 79 percent</td>
<td>C+</td>
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<td>73- 75 percent</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>70-72 percent</td>
<td>C-</td>
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<tr>
<td>66- 69 percent</td>
<td>D+</td>
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<td>63- 65 percent</td>
<td>D</td>
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<td>60-64 percent</td>
<td>D-</td>
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<tr>
<td>59 percent and below</td>
<td>F</td>
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Schedule
This schedule is modifiable. It will change according to special circumstances: snow days and unexpected events. The instructor will notify accordingly.
Quizzes will be on Thursdays or announced during the previous class. They will be uploaded into Blackboard in the morning and closed at night the same day.

Week 1
January 8-10
Introduction to the course. Explanation of syllabus. Setting up the stage
The many backgrounds of Latinos-Latin Americans What are Latino-Latin American Studies?
What are Latino Studies?
Documents in Blackboard

Week 2
January 15-17
Who are the subjects of Latino-Latin American Studies?
Latino-Americans, Latinos, Hispanics?
Who are they?
What is transnational?
Documents in Blackboard

Week 3
January 22-24
Mexicans and Mexican-Americans
Documents in Blackboard
Movie: Mi Familia
Week 4
January 29-31
U.S. country of immigrants
Latino community in South Omaha
Documents in Blackboard
R-JAN 31 QUIZ 1

Week 5
February 5-7
The Caribbean Latin Americans and Latinos: Puerto Rico, Cuba, and Santo Domingo
Documents in Blackboard

Week 6:
February 12-14
Latin American identities vs. Latino identity

Week 7
February 19-21
Latin American and Latino Arts and Literature

Week 8
February 26-28
Latino Education
Documents located on your Blackboard
R- FEB 28 QUIZ 2

Week 9
March 5-7
Latin American and Latino Politics: Different history, diverse practices
Documents in Blackboard

Week 10
March 12-14
The New Latinos
Documents in Blackboard
Movie: El Norte

Week 11
March 19-21
NO CLASS. SPRING BREAK

Week 12
March 26-28
Transnational communities
Documents in Blackboard

Video: Binational Communities

Week 13-14
April 2-4
April 9-11
Group presentations
R- APRIL 4 QUIZ 3

Week 15-16
April 16-18
April 23-25
Group presentations
APRIL 25 LAST DAY OF CLASSES

GROUPS MEMBERSHIP AND TOPICS OF PRESENTATIONS WILL BE ASSIGNED THE SECOND WEEK OF CLASSES.
INSTRUCTIONS FOR PRESENTATIONS, GROUPS, AND SCHEDULE DOCUMENTATION WILL BE UPLOADED TO ASSIGNMENTS.