

**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:**

**Dr. Maria S. Arbelaez**

**ASH 287-X**

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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.**
- 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:**

<b>98-100 percent, A+</b>	<b>95- 97 percent, A</b>	<b>90-94 percent, A-</b>
<b>86- 89 percent, B+</b>	<b>83- 85 percent, B</b>	<b>80-82 percent, B-</b>
<b>76- 79 percent, C+</b>	<b>73- 75 percent, C</b>	<b>70-72 percent, C-</b>
<b>66- 69 percent, D+</b>	<b>63- 65 percent, D</b>	<b>60-64 percent, D-</b>
<b>59 percent and below, F</b>		

### **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.**