ANTHROPOLOGY 3140.001

LATINOS IN THE U.S.

Spring 2012
Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:30pm-1:50pm, WH 115

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Mariela Nuñez-Janes (profe)
OFFICE: Chilton Hall 330F
TELEPHONE: 940/369-7663
EMAIL: Mariela.Nunez-Janes@unt.edu
OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays 10am-noon, or by appointment

TA: Shino Endo
OFFICE: Chilton Hall 308D
EMAIL: endohshino@gmail.com
OFFICE HOURS: Thursdays 10am-noon, or by appointment

Course Description
This is a course about a people known today as Hispanics, Chicanos, Tejanos, Latinos, Mexican Americans, among many other names. The course provides a foundation in: identity and resistance theories that allow the exploration of the various constructions of Latino ethnicity and race from an anthropological perspective; a review of the historical constructions of race and ethnicity and how these two categories of difference are synonymous at some times and analogous at other times; an insight into the historical and social constructions of Mexican, Mexican American, Latino identities; and a critical analysis of the social and political implications of being Mexican or Latino today.

The growth of the U.S. Latino population has prompted the recognition of the importance of understanding the various issues related to this multifaceted community. Scholars, activists, and policy makers are currently asking many questions about the present realities and future opportunities of Latinos in this country. One of the central themes among the myriad issues related to this community is the continuing categorization of this population as other, different, and in some cases not American. Indeed regardless of population size, place of birth, economic status, linguistic abilities, labor, and educational attainment Latinos are ultimately seen as strangers in a nation that has been home or has become home sometimes for generations. In this class we will explore the ways in which Latinos have been excluded from the national imaginary while maintaining and transforming their own cultural identity. We will see how this process of marginalization a lo Americano-“American style-” has deeply changed the racial and cultural landscape for Latinos and non-Latinos. Using the tools of anthropology and other relevant disciplines we will approach the complexities of identity formation in the Latino community by focusing on two important themes: 1) the historical formation of Latino identity and identities in the U.S., and 2) the sociocultural issues faced by the Latino community as we go about maintaining, challenging, and transforming our marginalized status.
Objectives
When you finish this class you will:

1) Understand how and why Latinos constitute a marginalized population.
2) Know the common and particular themes that contribute to categorize Latinos as a single ethno-racial group and as distinct national groupings.
3) Be familiar with prominent figures in Latino history and scholarship and their contributions.
4) Appreciate the importance of Latino studies.
5) Be familiar with some of the methods utilized in Latino studies and anthropology.

Course Requirements (340 total possible points)
1) Class project: You will participate in a semester class project. You will select project 1 or project 2.

Project 1, America Reads Mentoring

Project 2, The Chicano/a Latino/a Oral History Project (CLAHP). You will work in a group in order to conduct the project. Each group will find an informant to interview. The groups will produce a written transcript of the interview. The transcripts will be archived for the purposes of documenting the history and experiences of Latinos/as Chicanos/as in Denton and the Metroplex.

The class project will culminate in group presentations and an individual paper. The project will be both exciting and fun but will also require your commitment. You will need to take it seriously and act professionally. This is your chance to learn about ethnographic research and apply what you will learn in class.

You will perform the following tasks for the class project:

a) Transcript of mock interview (15 points):
   - Each group will interview a group member for practice (the date of the mock interview is listed in the course outline.
   - Each student will transcribe a total of 5 minutes of audio-recorded interview and turn in the written transcript. We will discuss transcriptions in class and I will provide you with guidelines.
   - Due on 3/13

c) Scheduling and conducting the interview (1 per group, 25 points):
• Each group will contact, schedule and conduct an audio-recorded interview with a Latino/a not enrolled in the class (this is your “informant”). The informant must be someone that you know.

• Each group is responsible for providing written notice to Dr. Nuñez-Janes of the date, place, and time of the interview.

• Due 3/27

**d) Interview transcript (1 per group, 50 points):**

• Each group will produce a typewritten transcript of the interview with their informant. The transcript must follow the guidelines provided in class.

• In addition, each group will turn in a manila envelope with: team #, CD-ROM with the audio file of the interview, and an MS Word formatted copy of the transcript, a hard copy of the transcript, and an original signed consent form (the consent form will be distributed in class).

• Due 4/10

**e) Group presentation (1 per group, 50 points):**

• Each group will present to the class a summary of their results (see attached guidelines).

• The presentations will take place at the end of the semester. I will circulate a sign-up sheet in class.

**f) Project Participation (graded by project group members, 50 points):**

• Each team member will grade the participation of fellow team members in the various project tasks using the attached guidelines (see syllabus for due date).

• Sometimes projects conducted in groups turn into individual assignments rather than collaborations and groups are individually rewarded or penalized by the instructor for the actions of group members. To avoid this, your fellow group members will be responsible for this part of your grade. They will assess your performance in the group. The purpose is to encourage responsibility and collaboration. I expect all students to be honest, respectful, and abide by the guidelines when assigning this grade.

• Each group will be given the opportunity to grade their fellow group members before turning in the project participation grades. The mock project
participation grade will not be counted but will give each group member a chance to know what he/she is doing well and what needs improvement.

2) **Complete discussion preparation guide and lead in class discussion (50 points):**
   - Sign-up to lead discussion. The discussion dates along with the available chapters are listed on the syllabus. A discussant sign-up sheet will be circulated on **1/26**. You are responsible for conducting discussion on the date you selected. If you miss the discussion and do not have a valid excuse you will not receive credit.
   - Select one chapter from the ones listed for your selected date and turn in 1 completed discussion preparation guide (25 points) at the end of the class period.
   - Use the guide to lead an in class small group discussion (25 points) once during the semester (you will find the discussion preparation guide attached to the syllabus).

4) **Final Paper (100 points):**
   - Each student will turn in a final paper that analyzes the interview. The papers must be written individually and must follow the attached guidelines.
   - Due **5/7**
   - Your final paper must be turned in no later than 1:00 pm, Chilton 300 (Anthropology Department)

5) **Reading:**
   - Complete the readings listed on the syllabus for the day they are assigned and come to class prepared to discuss them.

6) **Attendance:**
   - I expect you to be in class having completed all assignments and ready to participate. I also expect your full participation in the class project and your collaboration with group members. Because this course requires your full commitment failure to attend class and collaborate in the project will severely affect your final grade. **4 or more unexcused absences will lower your grade by 20 points.** Please let me know ahead of time if an emergency occurs that prevents you from meeting the attendance requirement on a given day.

**Grading:**
   - All grades will be assigned based on the following grading scheme:

   100-89% = A
CLASSROOM POLICIES
1) Since discussion is an essential part of this course please come to class prepared and on time.

2) Please turn off your cell phones.

4) Do not come into class late or leave early.

5) You are responsible for tracking your own grade progress (see course requirements and grading scheme to help you keep track of available points). If you have questions about your grade come to office hours, make an appointment, or contact me via email. Do not make specific inquiries about your grade in class.

6) No late work will be accepted unless you have a valid documented excuse (documented illness or death in the family). If you miss an assignment and you have a valid documented excuse notify me as soon as possible via phone or email so we can arrange a reasonable time for you to make up the missed assignment. All work must be turned in at the beginning of class unless noted otherwise. I will not accept emailed work.

7) Penalties for late submission of work: 5 points will be reduced daily until submission.

8) Plagiarism and Cheating: The department of anthropology does not tolerate plagiarism, cheating, or helping others to cheat. Plagiarism is defined as misrepresenting the work of others (whether published or not) as your own. It may be inadvertent or intentional. Any facts, statistics, quotations, or paraphrasing of any information that is not common knowledge, should be cited. Any of these will be reprimanded and can result in an “F” in the course. In addition, I reserve the right to pursue further disciplinary action within the UNT legal system, which may result in your dismissal from the university. For more information on paper writing, including how to avoid plagiarism, and how to use citations, see http://www.unt.edu/anthropology/writing.htm. For information on the University’s policies regarding academic integrity and dishonesty, see the UNT Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities, http://www.unt.edu/csrr/.

9) The Anthropology Department does not discriminate on the basis of an individual’s disability as required by the Americans With Disabilities Act. Our program provides academic adjustments or help to individuals with disabilities in its program and activities. Attempts will be made to meet all certified requirements.
REQUIRED READING (UNT BOOKSTORE)

Suárez-Orozco, Marcelo M. and Páez, Mariela M., eds.  
2009  *Latinos Remaking America*. Berkeley: University of California Press. (referred to as Latinos in the course outline)

REQUIRED RESERVE READING (ELECTRONIC RESERVE, WILLIS LIBRARY) password:latinos12

Emerson, Robert M. et. Al  

“El Plan Espiritual de Aztlán”

Gonzales, Phillip B.  

Guzman, Pablo  

Hurtado, Aída  

Negrón-Portillo, Mariano  

Nostrand, Richard L.  

Ennis, Sharon; Ríos-Vargas, Merarys, and Albert, Nora, G.  

Torres-Saillant, Silvio  
Vélez-Ibáñez, Carlos G.

COURSE OUTLINE

1/17 Course introduction

1/19 The “imagined community”? Demographic Trends
Assignment: Latinos introduction

1/24 The “imagined community”? Demographic Trends (continued)
Assignment: Ennis, Sharon

1/26 The “imagined community”? Demographic Trends (continued)
Assignment: Latinos chapter 1
Sign-up for student led discussion in class

1/30 Class Project Description

2/2 Student led discussion of Latinos introduction; Ennis, Sharon; Latinos chapter 1
Assignment: Review Latinos introduction; Ennis, Sharon, Latinos chapter 1

2/7 Latinos and Race
Assignment: Latinos epilogue

2/9 Latinos and Race (continued)
Assignment: Torres-Saillant, Silvio

2/14 The border crossed us: Colonization
Assignment: Nostrand, Richard

2/16 The border crossed us: Colonization (continued)
Assignment: Vélez-Ibáñez, Carlos G.

2/21 The border crossed us: Colonization (continued)
Assignment: Negrón-Portillo, Mariano

2/23 Student lead discussion of Latinos epilogue; Torres-Saillant, Silvio; Nostrand, Richard; Vélez-Ibáñez, Carlos G.; Negrón-Portillo, Mariano
Assignment: Review Latinos epilogue; Torres-Saillant, Silvio; Nostrand, Richard; Vélez-Ibáñez, Carlos G.; Negrón-Portillo, Mariano

2/28 Conducting and transcribing interviews
Groups will be assigned in class

3/1 Mock interview
Assignment: Select a group member ahead of time to ask questions during the in class mock interview. Interview questions will be distributed in class.

3/6 Activism and Movimientos Sociales
Assignment: Latinos chapter 6

3/8 Activism and Movimientos Sociales (continued)
Assignment: Guzman, Pablo

3/13 Activism and Movimientos Sociales (continued)
Assignment: El Plan Espiritual de Aztlán; Hurtado, Aída
Transcript of mock interview due

3/15 Student lead discussion of Latinos chapter 6; Guzman, Pablo; El Plan Espiritual de Aztlán; Hurtado, Aída
Assignment: Review Latinos chapter 6; Guzman, Pablo; El Plan Espiritual de Aztlán; Hurtado, Aída

3/20-3/22 NO CLASS SPRING BREAK

3/27 Ethnic Labels
Assignment: Gonzales, Phillip
Team note with interview date, place, and time due in class

3/29 Immigration
Assignment: Latinos chapter 8

4/3 Immigration (continued)
Assignment: Latinos chapter 9

4/5 Student led discussion of Gonzales, Phillip; Latinos chapter 8; Latinos chapter 9
Assignment: Review Gonzales, Phillip; Latinos chapter 8; Latinos chapter 9;

4/10 Content Analysis: Coding and discussion of team presentations
Assignment: Emerson, Robert
Interview transcript, CD, and consent form due (place in a manila envelope with your names and team number)
Sign-up for team presentations in class

4/12 Education
Assignment: Latinos chapter 18

4/19 Student-led discussion of Latinos chapter 18
Assignment: Review Latinos chapter 18

4/24 Presentations

4/26 Presentations

5/1 Presentations

5/3 Presentations

5/7 Final paper due no later than 10 am, Anthropology office Chilton 330

Note: this syllabus may be subject to changes and/or revisions
Discussion Preparation Guide for Student-led Discussions

Name_______________________________________________ Date________________

Chapter____________________________________________

To the student:
A. You must fill out this discussion preparation guide and turn it in on the day of the discussion. No exceptions will be made for late papers. The guide will count towards half of the student-led discussion grade. (25 points)

B. Use this guide to help you formulate the issues you will like to bring up during the discussion.

C. Remember that your role as a discussion leader is to act as moderator. Thus, in addition to having particular issues that you want to address during discussion, your role as moderator also includes making sure that you do this within the class time and that the discussion moves along.

1. Note words that are unfamiliar or are used in a specific way in the reading. Define the word in the context of the phrase where you first saw it and in relation to the main points of the reading.
   a.

   b.

   c.

   d.
2. What ideas seem significant or puzzling to you? Prepare questions about these to ask during discussion.
   a.

   b.

   c.

   d.

   e.

3. State the topic of the reading in one or two sentences. What is this chapter/article about?
4. How does the reading relate to other materials you've read in this class and/or in other classes?

5. How does the reading relate to things you, friends, family have experienced and/or to events you are familiar with?

6. What is your opinion of the reading? Provide a reason for your opinion.

7. What did you learn from the reading? Please be specific.
Guidelines for completing the interview transcripts

Include the following information in the upper left-hand corner of the transcript:
Name of team members
Date and location
Informant’s gender
Informant’s age
Start time
End time


Number all lines consecutively. Include the line number in the left margin

Example:

1 Informant; I thought it was important to do

2 MNJ; Why do you think it was important?

3 Informant; Because my family kept talking about it

Use “informant” to replace the name of the person you are interviewing. Use the first name and last name initials to replace the name of the person(s) conducting the interview.

Single space utterances by a single speaker and double-space utterances by different speakers.

Speakers names should be bolded

MNJ; Of course, I am a professor in the anthropology department and I’m teaching a class on Latinos in the U.S.

Informant; Can you say a little bit more about your class?

Use three dots indicate an untimed pause.

Use words between parentheses in the transcripts to represent the best guess of a stretch of talk which was difficult to hear.
**Group presentation guidelines**

The presentation will be conducted in class on the date selected by the group.

All group members must participate and be present during the presentation to receive full credit.

The presentation cannot exceed 10 minutes and must be done using Power Point or Prezi.

It must include the following:
- Number and name of group members
- A brief summary of your informant's responses
- What your team learned from the project about Latinos in the U.S.
**Project participation grading guidelines**

**Your Name:**

**Name of group member you are grading:**

Please rate your fellow group member on the following:

1) Availability: Was this group member available to perform assigned tasks?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(never available)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(always available)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2) Responsibility and promptness: Did this group member carry out and complete tasks in a timely manner?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(never)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(always)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3) Leadership: Did this group member volunteer to perform tasks and contribute ideas to the group?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(never)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(always)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4) Communication: Did the group member respond to emails, phone calls or other type of group communication on a timely manner?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(never)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(always)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5) How would you rate the overall participation of this team group in the project tasks?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(poor)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(excellent)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Points:** (add up all the scores)

Comments: Please provide constructive feedback that addresses the areas that the group member did well and those that could be improved. Give concrete examples if possible.
Guidelines for final paper
Your final paper will discuss the main themes you identified in the interview with your informant.

The paper must be no longer than 7 type-written pages double-spaced using 12 point font.

It must include:

- Separate title page with the title of the paper, your name, course title and number, semester (5 points)-does not count in the 7 page limit
- Thesis statement and brief biographic sketch of your informant. Remember not to include name or personally identifiable information of informant (15 points)
- A description of the methods used. This description must include: when and where you conducted the interview, who asked the questions during the interview, the procedures followed for transcribing the interview, a description of how you identified the relevant themes from the interview along with a list of all of the themes you came up with (20 points)
- Analysis that identifies the most relevant themes from the interview and relates them to ideas and information from the readings and class lectures. This analysis must include relevant citations (follow AAA’s citation style http://www.aaanet.org/publications/style_guide.pdf ) of the class lectures and readings that show your understanding of how the readings and class lectures apply to the relevant themes you identify. It must be written in a way that supports and develops your thesis statement (50 points).
- A page listing the references cited in your paper (follow AAA’s citation style http://www.aaanet.org/publications/style_guide.pdf ) along with a brief acknowledgment of your group members and the class project (10 points)

***Go to http://www.unt.edu/honors/eaglefeather/2006issue.shtml and read the papers listed under “Special Section: Undergraduate Scholar Articles in Anthropology” for examples of past papers written by students enrolled in the class.