

Houston Community College-Eastside



Humanities 1305: Introduction to Mexican American Studies, CRN 72543

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Name: **Dr. J. Ross-Nazzal**

Office Hours: Online only from 11-1 M-Th

Comms: Please use the QuickMail feature to send me private messages. Otherwise please post your questions to the Questions Forum.

Learning Web page: <http://learning.hccs.edu/faculty/james.rossnazzal>

Comms: As this is an online class, all of our communications will be online.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

The main goal of this course is to provide students with a basic foundation in the Mexican-American/Chicano Studies discipline by offering insight into historical, social sciences, demographics, socio-cultural, political, economic, linguistics, educational, and cultural themes that are relevant to the experience of Mexican-Americans in the U.S. Core curriculum course.



REQUIRED BOOK

Meier, Matt and Feliciano Ribera. *Mexican Americans/American Mexicans: From Conquistadors to Chicanos*, ISBN 978-0-8090-1559-7.

Other Required Readings: Electronic Readings from the Julian Samora Research Institute (see “Electronic Readings” folder) in each Unit.

Required Monographs (purchase any one book)

Tatum, Charles. *Chicano Popular Culture: Que Hable el Pueblo*. ISBN: 0-8165-1983-8

Macias, Anthony. *Mexican American Mojo: Popular Music, Dance, and Urban Culture in Los Angeles, 1935-1968*. ISBN 978-0-8223-4322-6.

Reyes, David. *Land of a Thousand Dances: Chicano Rock ‘n’ Roll from Southern California*, ISBN 978-08263-4722-0.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Describe various themes and developments (including socio-economic) which have contributed to define the position of Mexican American populations.
2. Analyze at least one major problem related to Mexican American communities
3. Apply current methods in the Humanities to an issue or development in Mexican American studies.
4. Evaluate cultural developments in Mexican American studies.

ADA statement: *any student with a documented disability, (i.e. physical, learning, psychiatric, visual, hearing, etc) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the disability services office at the respective college at the beginning of each semester. Faculty are authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the disability services office. The counselor for Southeast College can be reached at 713 718-7218.*

Academic Honesty:

In the case of any form of cheating, including plagiarism you will receive an F in the course. If you drop the course after being caught cheating in any form, including plagiarism, I will change your final grade to an “F”. Plagiarism is the failure to cite your research/evidence while cheating includes any academic dishonest practice that offers you an unfair advantage. See the Student Handbook on plagiarism and cheating

Participation and Attendance. Participation *is required* if you want to succeed (i.e., pass): you must log into class at least thrice per work week. Students who fail to do so will be dropped for failure to attend, regardless of your grade. ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED. You are required to submit all graded and non graded work. The first

time you fail to submit any graded or non graded work I will give you an F/X for your final grade. PARTICIPATION IS REQUIRED.

3-peaters: NOTICE: Students who take a course more than twice face significant tuition/fee increases at HCC and other Texas public colleges and universities. Please ask your instructor / counselor about opportunities for tutoring/other assistance prior to considering course withdrawal or if you are not receiving passing grades. The Texas State Legislature has begun to impose penalties on students who drop courses excessively. In 2007, the Legislature passed a law limiting students to no more than 6 total course withdrawals throughout their academic career in obtaining a baccalaureate degree. To help students avoid having to drop/withdraw from any class, HCC has instituted an Early Alert process by which your instructor will “alert” you and HCC student services of the chance you might fail a class because of excessive absences and/or poor academic performances. You should visit with your instructor, a counselor, or HCC online Student Services to learn about your options.

Student Attendance:

Life is too short to repeat in lecture what is available in your readings, thus relentless attendance is required. If you miss “just one day” you truly miss a lot because my lectures, like history, are tightly integrated. Successful students attend class with a tenacity of purpose. Successful students log into the class daily to get the latest Announcements and to read my daily emails. Attendance means logging in, opening files, or uploading assignments.

Withdrawal Deadline and Participation: **Why would you want a “W” on your transcript? Please realize that when universities or employers see transcripts with Ws, the message they receive is that you are a quitter and thus cannot complete what you started.** In other words, it is in your best interest to get a grade in this course. Nevertheless, students who do not participate will be blocked and possibly then dropped.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: Receiving a W in a course may affect the status of your student Visa. Once a W is given for the course, it will not be changed to an F because of the visa consideration. Since January 1, 2003, International Students are restricted in the number of distance education courses that they may take during each semester. ONLY ONE online/distance education class may be counted towards the enrollment requirement for International Students per semester. Please contact the International Student Office at 713-718-8520 if you have any questions about your visa status and other transfer issues.

Student Course Reinstatement Policy: Students have a responsibility to arrange payment for their classes when they register, either through cash, credit card, financial aid, or the installment plan. Faculty members have a responsibility to check their class rolls regularly, especially during the early weeks of a term, and reconcile the official class

roll to ensure that no one is attending class whose name does not appear on the rolls. Students who are dropped from their courses for non-payment of tuition and fees, who request reinstatement after the official date of record (OE date), can be reinstated by making payment in full and paying an additional \$75 per course reinstatement fee. A student requesting reinstatement should present the registrar with a completed Enrollment Authorization Form with the signature of the instructor, the department chair, or the dean, who should verify that the student has been regularly attending class. Students who are reinstated are responsible for all course policies and procedures, including attendance requirements. A dean may waive the reinstatement fee upon determination that the student was dropped because of a college error. The dean should note the nature of the error in a memo to the registrar with the appropriate documentation.

ASKDECOUNSELING FORM

[AskDECounseling](#) is a student services online help form. This is the best and quickest way for students to get accurate assistance with DE registration, enrollment, advising, and counseling. The online help form is simple to fill out, convenient, and readily accessible through the internet. Students do not have to travel to campus sites, leave work, or wait in an office or lobby to receive assistance. Upon submission, student requests are answered in the order they are received.

EARLY ALERT

HCC has instituted an Early Alert process by which your professor may “alert” you and DE counselors that you might fail a class because of excessive absences and/or poor academic performance. A counselor will then reach out to you to discuss your progress and offer any relevant resources. This initiative is designed to provide students with support services and resources to assist them in successfully completing their course.

HCC COURSE WITHDRAWAL POLICY

Beginning Fall 2007, the State of Texas imposes penalties on students who withdraw/drop courses excessively. Students are limited to no more than SIX total course withdrawals throughout their educational career at a Texas public college or university. Students are encouraged to review the [HCC 6 Drop Policy](#).

To help you avoid having to withdraw from any class, contact your DE professor regarding your academic performance. You may also want to contact your DE counselor to learn about helpful HCC resources (e.g. online tutoring, child care, financial aid, job placement, etc.).

CLASS ATTENDANCE

As stated in the HCC Catalog, all students are expected to attend classes regularly. Students in DE courses must log into their Eagle Online class or they will be counted as absent. Just like an on-campus class, your regular participation is required.

Although it is the responsibility of the student to withdraw officially from a course, the professor also has the authority to block a student from accessing Eagle Online, and/or to

withdraw a student for excessive absences or failure to participate. DE students who do not log into their Eagle Online class before the Official Day of Record will be automatically dropped for non-attendance. Completing the DE online orientation does not count as attendance.

DISABILITY SERVICES

Any student with a documented disability (e.g. physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the Disability Support Services Office at the beginning of each semester. Professors are authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the [Disability Support Services Office](#).

DE students who are requesting special testing accommodations may choose the most convenient DSS office for assistance each semester:

District ADA Coordinator – Donna Price – 713.718.5165

Central ADA Counselors – Jaime Torres & Martha Scribner – 713.718.6164

Northeast ADA Counselor- Kim Ingram – 713.718.8420

Northwest ADA Counselor – Mahnaz Kolaini – 713.718.5422

Southeast ADA Counselor – Jette Lott - 713.718.7218

Southwest ADA Counselor – Dr. Becky Hauri – 713.718.7910

Coleman ADA Counselor – Dr. Raj Gupta – 713.718.7631

After student accommodation letters have been approved by the DSS office and submitted to DE Counseling for processing, students will receive an email confirmation informing them of the Instructional Support Specialist (ISS) assigned to their professor.

LIBRARY RESOURCES

As a DE student you have the same access to first-rate information resources that the HCC Libraries make available to all HCC students. A special website pulls together all the tools DE students will need to complete research. Visit [Library Resources](#) specifically for Distance Education students.

Library services are available throughout HCC. Through a daily library delivery service and a listing of all materials belonging to HCC libraries, books may be requested from and delivered to any campus library. HCC also has cooperative borrowing agreements with the University of Houston libraries and provides a copy of the Houston Public library catalog at each library. These arrangements provide students with access to over 4 million volumes.

Special services provided by the library system include photocopying facilities; specialized equipment for disabled students; group and personalized instruction in library use, including a self-instructional media program to orient students to the use of the HCCS libraries; a “term paper” workshop; and online bibliographic search services.

POLICIES. If you cannot or will not follow my policies, do not take this class.

ONLINE TUTORING

HCC provides free online tutoring in writing, math, science, and other subjects. Look for Ask Online on your Eagle Online log-in page. This directs students to the HCC [AskOnline](http://hccs.askonline.net/) Tutoring site: <http://hccs.askonline.net/>. Use your student ID or HCC e-mail address to create an account. Instructions, including a 5-minute video, are provided to make you familiar with the capabilities of this service.

SOCIAL NETWORKING

DE students are encouraged to become a fan of [DE on Facebook](#) and follow [DE on Twitter](#). These social networking sites can provide a sense of community for the online learner, as well as up-to-date information and announcements related to HCC and DE.

VIRTUAL CLASSROOM CONDUCT

As with on-campus classes, all students in HCC Distance Education courses are required to follow all [HCC Policies & Procedures](#), the [Student Code of Conduct](#), the [Student Handbook](#), and relevant sections of the Texas Education Code when interacting and communicating in a virtual classroom with your professor and fellow students. Students who violate these policies and guidelines will be subject to disciplinary action that could include denial of access to course-related email, discussion groups, and chat rooms or even removal from the class.

ASSIGNMENTS

Ethnic Studies Essay Answer this question in at least 750 words: “What does it mean to you to be able to take ethnic and gender studies classes in general and why did you select this specific ethnic studies class?” TNR, 12 font, double spaced. This is an opinion piece. No need to cite IF you do not use any evidence from any sources. But if you do use any evidence from any sources then the citation method is either APA or MLA, your choice.

Essay Analysis. Using any two of the assigned Julian Samora essays (see each Unit), please draft a 500 word (minimum) critical analysis that explains the selected essay, identifies the thesis, and demonstrates the effectiveness of each author’s argument. Each submission is worth 10% of your final grade. TNR, 12 font, double spaced and parenthetically cited as in MLA or APA. One is due before the middle of the semester and one is due towards the end of the semester. See the Calendar below for specific dates.

Exams: There will be three out of class, open book exams and will be available in our EO classroom via an email from me at least two weeks before each is due. You will be given a list of questions and you will respond to three questions per exam using evidence from the audio lectures, textbook, monographs, and other assigned e-readings. Each response must be, at a minimum, 500 words and so each exam will be at least 1500 words in

length. TNR, 12 font, double spaced citing parenthetically (MLA or APA). Each exam is worth 20% of your final grade. See below for specific due dates.

Due dates: With the exception of your third exam, all regularly assigned graded work is due on Sundays no later than 11:59pm

Miscellaneous Stuff

Late Work. I do not accept late work, for any reason. Do not ask me to accept late work. If any holidays, parties, work, vacations, family obligations, legal matters, technical issues, health or fitness, or secular or religious responsibilities prevent you from completing the work when it is due, please do not take this class as I do not negotiate assignments or due dates.

Please note that this is not an independent study class. There are required, weekly interactions among class members and myself, and every assignment has a due date that I will not negotiate. Thus, please do not ask for me to accept late work or to make up missed work. You are responsible for your academic careers, so take charge and be the boss of you.

Technical Stuff

You are ultimately responsible to ensure the computer(s) you use is (are) properly equipped with software, hardware, and programs that afford successful completion of all assignments. For example you must ensure that your computer is running the latest version of Java. Older versions of Java will prohibit you from successfully completing assignments, assessments, and examinations. In addition, you must remove pop-up blockers to successfully complete assignments, assessments, and examinations. Failure to maintain the latest version of Java and/or remove pop-up blockers will negatively affect your grade from failing an assignment to failing the course. You must run Microsoft Word. You must run an mp3 player (such as Windows Media Player).

All assignments, assessments, and examinations will be submitted in our DE classroom. All email communication between you and I will take place through the DE classroom email service. I will not accept graded work submitted to me outside of the DE classroom.

Students also experience technical issues because: 1) they have too many open windows; 2) students fail to adhere to the official time which is located in the Eagle Online classroom; 3) students fail to save frequently. Thus, do NOT open any additional windows when operating in the Eagle Online classroom. Do not run iTunes, Windows Media Player, or any other device that sucks memory from the cache while taking an assessment or submitting work. HCCS server time is the official time, not the clock on your bedroom wall, or the watch on your wrist. Finally, save every five minutes. If you wait more than five minutes to save your work there is a distinct possibility that Eagle Online will kick you out of the class, losing all of your work in the process. Thus, save often!

You must have a computer or use a computer that has Microsoft Word as well as any MP3 program (such as Quicktime and Windows Media Player). All submissions will be in Microsoft Word (.doc, .docx, or rtf). HCC nor Eagle Online Vista supports Microsoft Works or WordPerfect platforms. If you know how, you can save your non-Word files as rich text format files (.rtf).

As this class meets online you must have access to a computer with internet. That computer must be running the latest version of Java and you must remove any pop-up blockers.

Writing Assistance. In college, there are some things that you must learn on your own, such as how to be a better writer. If need help in developing your history writing skills, then you have three choices: 1) take advantage of my offer to tutor you; 2) take advantage of the voluminous writing resources placed in the class (Click the “Class Documents” icon, then proceed to the “Writing Resources” folder); or, 3) Visit the college’s new-n-improved Writing Center, located in room 230 of the Felix Morales Building, 713-718-7202, email at se.writingcenter@hccs.edu, (or go to the SE College Learning Web and search for “Writing Center: (lower left corner).

The Distance Education Student Handbook contains policies and procedures unique to the DE student. Students should have reviewed the handbook as part of the mandatory

orientation. It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with the handbook's contents. The handbook contains valuable information, answers, and resources, such as DE contacts, policies and procedures (how to drop, attendance requirements, etc.), student services (ADA, financial aid, degree planning, etc.), course information, testing procedures, technical support, and academic calendars. Refer to the DE Student Handbook <http://de.hccs.edu/de/de-student-handbook>

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A Final Thought on Grades – Getting good grades is easy. All you have to do is to keep up with the readings, attend class with a tenacity of purpose, take full and complete notes as I lecture and as you read, review your notes on a daily basis, take advantage of my office hours, and put forth the required efforts on all class assignments. No one has more control over your grades than yourselves. You will do well (i.e., pass) when you decide that studying is what is important and if you take the necessary steps to do well. Ultimately, you are responsible for your success or failure

Grades

The grade of A (100-90) reflects excellence. The A work offers a well-focused and organized discussion appropriate to the instructor's assignment, reflects critical use of all relevant materials, and demonstrates effective and formal writing requirements. Work must demonstrate outstanding efforts to identify and use varied and pertinent evidence from all available sources, to employ those materials critically in the text of the papers, and to provide error-free citations of those resources. A work is handed in on time.

The grade of B (89-80) represents work beyond satisfactory and indicates the work was completed in an appropriate and competent manner and, in general, demonstrates a strong attempt at original and critical analysis, writing, and research. Work must demonstrate beyond satisfactory efforts to identify varied and pertinent evidence from all available sources. The B work may contain a number of minor errors of grammar or citation, and its thesis or its conclusions may be undeveloped or too weakly supported. B work is handed in on time.

The grade of C(79-70) indicates that the work was done in a satisfactory or appropriate fashion and represents the average work expected for university courses. In order to obtain a C grade, your work must adhere to all of the assignment's minimum requirements to include but limited to page/word requirements, number of sources, types of sources, and proper citation method. The work is organized around a central idea with arguments supported by relevant examples from the available sources. The work is structured into correctly written paragraphs and sentences. Although fulfilling the assignment, the C work may exhibit one or more weaknesses including, but not limited to, errors of punctuation and grammar, imprecise or incorrect word use, inaccurate or uncritical use of materials, occasional inconsistency of organization or development, and lack of direct relevance of the selected research materials to the topic. C work is handed in on time.

The grade of D (69-60) indicates that the work may have a poorly defined topic or thesis, lacks clear focus or organization, and contains unsupported generalizations or conclusions. Research support (citations) is inadequate, not clearly relevant, or improperly documented. A less-than-minimal research effort is evident. D works fails to obtain the required page or word minimum requirement, number of sources, or required citation method. The work may also suffer from numerous or major formal writing errors. D work fails to adhere to any of the assignment's minimum requirements. D work is handed in on time.

The grade of F (59-1) indicates that the work is not clearly relevant to the assignment and that its topic and thesis are poorly focused or defined. The work may display inadequate organization or development, unsupported generalizations, and nonstandard formal features (including language usage, sentence structure, and paragraphing). Research support (citations) is absent, or irrelevant to the assignment. F work contains non-academic sources such as Wikipedia or unassigned sources. F work is handed in on time.



The grade of 0 indicates that the work was not submitted at all or submitted after the due date/time. Remember any cheating whatsoever will result in an F for the course. Do you remember what happened to SMU in 1987?

<http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/spe/2004/feb25football/smu.html>

Late Work. I do not accept late work, for any reason outside of being hospitalized. Do not ask me to accept late work otherwise. If any holidays, parties, work, vacations, family obligations, legal matters, or secular or religious responsibilities prevent you from completing the work when it is due, please do not take this class as I do not negotiate assignments or due dates, unless you are hospitalized. If you are hospitalized, and can provide documentation, then we will talk about alternative assignments or taking an Incomplete.

Incompletes. I will entertain the possibility of granting students an Incomplete for health reasons provided the student has completed at least 75% of the assignments with a 70% or higher grade. The student must also provide documentation demonstrating that he/she was unable to sign into the class during the illness.



WEEKLY CALENDAR

WEEK	To be Covered, Read, and Completed
9/21	<p>Read and listen to all files in Unit 1 Read “Hispanic, Latino, Chicano” in the Electronic Readings folder.</p> <p>Post your introduction</p> <p>Submit the Ethnic Studies Essay NLT 11:59pm Sun. Sep 27th.</p> <p>Read <i>Mexican Americans</i>, Ch. 1 Begin reading your selected monograph Read “Mexican American Acting Company” in the Electronic Readings folder. Listen to all files in Unit 2</p>
9/28	<p>Read <i>Mexican Americans</i>, Chs. 2-3 Read “Significant to Whom?: Mexican Americans and the History of the American West” in the Electronic Readings folder. Listen to all files in Units 3</p>
10/5	<p>Read <i>Mexican Americans</i>, Ch. 4 Read “The Chicana in American History: The Mexican Women of El Paso, 1880-1920: A Case Study” in the Electronic Readings folder. Listen to all files in Unit 4.</p>
10/12	<p>Read <i>Mexican Americans</i>, Chs. 5-6 Read “Immigration (19th century)” in the Electronic Readings folder. Listen to all files in Units 5 Complete Exam I by 10/18</p>
10/19	<p>Read <i>Mexican Americans</i>, Ch. 7 Read “Con Sus Calzones Al Réves” in the Electronic Readings</p>

- folder. Listen to all files in Unit 6
- Read *Mexican Americans*, Ch. 8-9
 Read “La Pachuca” in the Electronic Readings folder.
 Listen to all files in Units 7
 Submit first Essay Analysis 10/25
- 10/26 Read *Mexican Americans*, Ch. 10
 Read “Pre-World War II Mexican Americans” in the Electronic
 Readings folder.
 Listen to all files in Unit 8
- 11/2 Read *Mexican Americans*, Ch. 11-12
 Read “Rita Mendoza –Chicana Poet” in the Electronic Readings
 folder.
 Listen to all files in Unit 9
 Complete Exam II by 11/8
- 11/9 Read *Mexican Americans*, Ch. 13
 Read “Mexican American Cultural Capital –San Antonio” in the
 Electronic Readings folder.
 Listen to all files in Unit 10
- Read *Mexican Americans*, Ch. 14
 Read “Religion and Health” in the Electronic Readings folder.
 Listen to all files in Unit 11
 Submit second Essay Analysis 11/15
- 11/16 Read *Mexican Americans*, Ch. 15
 Read “Mexican and Mexican American Families (1970s) in the
 Electronic Readings folder.
 Listen to all files in Unit 12
- Read *Mexican Americans*, Ch. 16
 Read “A Woman’s Work is Never Done” in the Electronic
 Readings folder.
 Listen to all files in Unit 13
- 11/23 Read *Mexican Americans*, Ch. 17
 Read “Ethnic Pride and Internalized Racism” in the Electronic
 Readings folder.
 Listen to all files in Unit 14
- 11/30 Read *Mexican Americans*, Ch. 18
 Read “Fatherhood” in the Electronic Readings folder.
 Listen to all files in Unit 15



The famed Carmelita Chorizeros, called the New York Yankees of barrio baseball, are featured in "From the Barrios to the Big Leagues," an exhibit about the golden age of Mexican American baseball in Los Angeles.