

# Chicana/o Studies: Societal Issues

The University of Texas at El Paso

(edited version for Spring 2020)

CHIC 3339-001, CRN 21084, Spring 2020: We are 100% online now.

Please let me start by saying, this is not what you signed up for - I recognize that. Many of us are in a daze with all that is going on. If you are not in a daze, no problem. If you are trying to make sense of it all, that's perfectly fine too.

We started this together and will finish this together. I've made things as simple as I could. However, as always, whatever needs clarification or if a comment, question, or concern should arise - just ask me.

In order for any of this to work, talk to me. If you need to vibe about "stuff" outside of class-related materials, I'm down. This is not a class per say, it's an experience. Yes, it sounds a bit over the top but - whatever you do in life, live at work as you do in life. And, live life as you do at work. Doing so, keeps you honest, accountable, and open-minded among many other positive things. At least the least, for me - it's worked, and still does. So, I share it here with you all.

I'm blessed and privileged to do what I love.... I wish you the same success.

The "experience" I reference is that there is no bullshit in the class. I'm here to help. And, I ask for your help to let me know what does and does not work. It's all a partnership. Notice, I avoided saying "students" in class. Instead, I do my best to say "colleagues" which is fancy college talk for teammates.

So, let's do these my homies!

Office Hours:

- Contact me via Blackboard email
- Or, if you need to, feel free to message me
  - 915-867-3311 - I'll get to you as soon as I can.
- My email is [aaragones@utep.edu](mailto:aaragones@utep.edu).

- However, keep in mind, we are getting tons of mail here so there is a good chance I will miss your mail. Also, DO NOT SEND assignments here for the same aforementioned reason.

We will continue writing to improve that and related skill sets. However, we will transition into using small more pointed/specific responses in both quizzes and Journal Responses. I will provide the prompts as needed.

While I promised to do a full-fledged research paper, for the benefit of maximizing time and not adding to the all that the current events have brought down on us.... The following will still leave you with excellent new skill sets as well as improving your current talents and strengths.

### **Journal Entries:**

- There are 2 Journal Responses which are now identified as "Responses". Same concepts just a different name.

### **Quizzes:**

- There are 3 quizzes. These will include short 2-3 paragraph responses. So, please make sure to keep up with the reading, podcasts, movies, and videos as needed.

### **Final Exam:**

- The final exam will be a writing assignment.
- Week #15 will have several assignments given but no quiz or writing assignment will be given.
- However, the materials given in Week #15 are needed for the Final Exam during Week #16. (Check the syllabus dates for more info.)

### **Attendance:**

- It is up to you to complete the assignments posted each week.
- I've streamlined the remainder of the term to make it easy to follow and tell you exactly what to expect.
- Accordingly, your part in all this is to keep up with the readings and assignments.

### **Format of submitted Written Work:**

- Clear thesis, body, and conclusion.
- In this class, any and all written/typed responses are a minimum of 3 paragraphs - unless directed to do so differently.
- Black ink
- Times New Roman 12 pt. font
- 1-inch margins, double-spaced, on white paper.

### Technical issues with Blackboard

- Let me know as soon as an issue is happening. DO NOT WAIT for the due date to come and go.
- Avoid using any type of smartphone.
- DO NOT USE INTERNET EXPLORER to engage Blackboard, you will have tech issues<sup>11</sup>
- Instead, use Google Chrome, Safari, or Firefox.
- Do not submit work with less than 10 minutes before any deadline. I promise that with all the University as a whole now using Blackboard, your work may not upload.

### Deadlines:

- **Professionalism is not an option, it is a requirement and obligation wrapped in self-respect.**

## Course Calendar

Ok, so here is how all this will work.

From this point forward, your grade includes what we have done up to Spring Break as well as what you see in this newly revised version of our syllabus. Accordingly, the revisions here reflect only those things that have changed, which is what the assignments are, deadlines, and final exam. While we were prepping to do a research paper, that is no longer possible for obvious reasons.

### Part III: Thinking critically generates answers

#### Week 11: (March 31 - April 5)

- Please watch the "Alternative Facts: lies about Executive Order 9066" in Folder Week #11

- Listen to podcast lecture (will post on Wednesday April 1st)
- **Quiz** will open on Friday, April 3rd and closes Sunday, April 5th.
  - The quiz will consist of the lecture and movie.

**Week 12:** (April 6 - April 12)

- **Response paper:** due Sunday, April 12. Submit the work via Blackboard in the Week #12 folder.
  - While the paper is due at the end of the week, the prompt/question will be available on Monday so - as you read - you have an idea of what to look for.
  - The question will open in the Blackboard folder.
    - the paper will center around the readings and podcast.
- Freire, P. "Pedagogy of the Oppressed" - read Chapter #1
  - We already covered this. So, if you read this and took notes in class- you are in good shape. Otherwise, here is your chance to catch up.
- Listen to podcast lecture (will post on Wednesday April 8th)

**Week 13:** (April 13 - April 19)

- Please watch "Precious Knowledge" in Folder Week #13.
- Listen to podcast lecture (will post on Wednesday April 15th).
- **Quiz** will open on Friday, April 17th and closes Sunday, April 19th.
  - The quiz will consist of the lecture and movie.

**Week 14:** (April 20 - April 26)

- **Response paper:** due Sunday, April 12. Submit the work via Blackboard in the Week #12 folder.
  - While the paper is due at the end of the week, the prompt/question will be available on Monday so - as you read - you have an idea of what to look for.
  - The question will open in the Blackboard folder.
    - The paper will center around the reading and podcast.
- Freire, P. "Pedagogy of the Oppressed" - read Chapter #2
  - We already covered this. So, if you read this and took notes in class- you are in good shape. If you did not, here is your chance to catch up.
- Listen to podcast lecture (will post on Wednesday April 22nd).

**Week 15:** (April 27 - May 3)

- Please watch "How to Fix Education: Heart, Head, Hands" in Folder Week #14.
- Listen to podcast lecture (will post on Wednesday April 29th)
- **Quiz** will open on Friday, May 1st and closes Sunday, May 3rd.

- The quiz will consist of the lecture and movie.

**Week 16:** (May 4 - May 10)

- Listen to podcast lecture (will post on Wednesday May 6th)
- (PDF Article) Anzaldua, Gloria. "How to tame a wild tongue", (35-44).
- Please watch "A Struggle for Educational Equality: 1950-1980"
- Freire, P. "Pedagogy of the Oppressed" - read Chapter #3
- Music Videos:
  - "Alright"
  - Immigrants, we get the job done"

**Week 17:** (May 11 - May 15)

- Final Exam: due Friday, May 15th.
  - The exam will engage only the assigned materials from Week #16.
  - Specific instructions along with the question will be made available on Monday, May 11 at 9am.
  - The assignment must be submitted before Fri., May 15th at 11:59pm.