

# Course Syllabus

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HST/CHLA 325

Professor Marc Rodriguez

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This course explores the background to the long history of Mexican ancestry people in North America with an emphasis on the development of Chicanx historical and identity formation. By considering a long-view of history, the course begins with the Conquest of Mexico, and continues through the Spanish and Mexican colonial periods with an emphasis on Mexico's Northern Territories (currently the US Southwest).

Based on a comparative framework this course considers the background to the formation of Mexican American/Chicanx identity within the context of empire, colonialism, indigenous interaction and conflict, gender, sexuality, and relationships among those who eventually became Mexicans and Mexican Americans with other frontier groups and migrants. This class explores the dominant political, economic, social, and cultural transformations of Mexican America from the point of European contact to the 19th Century.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- Students must complete reading assignments and media assignments (these are tracked in Canvas)
- Students are ENCOURAGED to ask questions or offer pertinent comments at ANY TIME by asking Prof Rodriguez questions via email in Canvas or posting to the discussion forum.
- The mid-term and final papers will be due via upload to Canvas.
- Students with disabilities must inform Dr. Rodriguez the first week of class and make any arrangements at the start of class.

Title IX Information [here](#) ↗

**Course Learning Goals and Outcomes:**

Through the exploration of Chicanx history students will gain an understanding of the tensions and contradictions of the American Experience and its ethical, social, and political implications within a comparative framework. Students will consider and evaluate the cultural traditions and political history of Chicanx people as part of North American and the history of the western hemisphere. Students will engage with primary, secondary, and media as they develop critical thinking skills.

This is a **writing intensive course** and the primary assignments are essays. These writing assignments will help students develop their critical thinking and analytical skills through the preparation of two thesis driven essays.

**COURSE GRADE:**

Mid-term Paper (1000 words):            50%

Final Paper (1000 words):                50%

REQUIRED TEXTS: All articles and reading materials are at the Canvas Modules section for this course.

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**READING & CLASS SCHEDULE**

**PART ONE: THE CONQUEST**

**WEEK ONE (1/3) CORTEZ, THE AZTECS, AND SPAIN**

READ: Kizca Article; Isaac Article; Almazan Article

**WEEK TWO:(1/10) THE CONQUEST OF MEXICO**

READ: Daniel Article; Townsend Article; Brooks Article; Pohl Article

WATCH: In Search of: The Aztecs (Parts 1-3); and Week Two Professor Rodriguez Introduction Video

**WEEK THREE: (1/17) GENDER, MEMORY & LA MALINCHE THEN AND NOW**

READ: Candelaria Article; Valdeon Article; Godayol Article; McInnis Article; Cypess and Romero Chapters

Additional Recommended Reading in "Video Links and Other Sources" file: After 500 Years, Cortes's Girlfriend Is Not Forgiven - *The New York Times*; Doña Marina Primary Sources;

**PART TWO: THE SOUTHWEST BORDERLANDS, SPAIN, MEXICO, and the US CONQUEST**

**WEEK FOUR: (1/24) CONTACT AND CONFLICT ON THE NORTHERN FRONTIER**

READ: Spicer Chapter; Barr Article; McEnroe Article

Watch: Professor Rodriguez Video 2: Summary of First and Introduction to Second Section

Recommended Readings: Gutierrez Article

**WEEK FIVE: (1/31) SPANISH SETTLEMENT OF THE BORDERLANDS**

READ: Brand Article; Adams Article; Valerio-Jiménez chapter (ebook link)

**MIDTERM DUE 2/4 at 5 pm via canvas**

**WEEK SIX: (2/7) MISSIONS, NATIVES, MEXICANS, AND THE SPANISH BORDERLANDS**

READ: Castañeda Article; Bushnell Article; Duggan Article; Hurtado Article

**WEEK SEVEN: (2/14) US CONQUEST OF TEXAS AND NORTHERN MEXICO**

READ: Pohl and Hardin Article; Weber Chapter 2 (Primary Sources in Weber); Ramos Chapter 3 (ebook link)

WATCH: Clips from Videos: US Mexico War Part 1, US Mexico War Part 2

Recommended Readings: Harrigan Article

**WEEK EIGHT: (2/21) WAR, CONQUEST AND NEW US CITIZENS**

READ: Rosales Chapter 1 (Primary Sources); Weber Chapter 5 (Primary Sources).

Recommended Readings: Nostrand Article

**WEEK NINE: (2/28) RACE RELATIONS AFTER THE US CONQUEST**

READ: Ramos Chapter 6 (ebook link); Carrigan and Web Chapter 1 (ebook link)

Recommended Readings: Gomez Article

**WEEK 10: (3/7) CULTURE AND CHANGE IN THE US SOUTHWEST**

READ: Lozano Chapter 2; Alonzo Chapter 8-9; Almaguer Chapter

Recommended Readings: Venegas Article

**FINAL PAPER DUE : 3/15 at 5 pm via Canvas**

**Grading System:**

A 93-100

A- 89-92%

B+ 87-88%

B 83-86%

B- 80-82%

C+ 77-79%

C 73-76%

C- 70-72%

D+ 67-69%

D 63-66%

C- 70-72%



D+ 67-69%

D 63-66%

D- 60-62%

F 0-59%

## Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Fri Feb 4, 2022	 Midterm Paper	due by 5pm
Tue Mar 15, 2022	 Final Paper	due by 5pm