



English 49 | Latino and Chicano Literature | 3 units | Fall 2009

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### **Course Description**

Short stories, poems, plays, and novels of Latin American and Chicano writers studied and analyzed for appreciation and understanding of the literature and the culture.

### **Expected Outcomes/Objectives**

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- Demonstrate recognition of allusions, figurative language, aesthetic devices such as magical realism, and thematic inference through written assignments, discussion and oral examination.
- Articulate an understanding of Latino and Chicano art, music, history, culture, and politics in various writing assignments.
- Demonstrate command of standard written English and critical thinking skills in written response to readings, lecture, and discussion.
- Show increased appreciation for Latino and Chicano culture, art, and literature as a result of new knowledge and understanding.
- Use various reading strategies to comprehend, appreciate, analyze, and discuss Latin American and Chicano literature
- Understand various issues and influences in Latin American and Chicano literature
- Use various strategies to write responses to the readings.

### **Required Texts**

Drink Cultura—Burciaga (ISBN: 1-877741-07-8)

Always Running—Rodriguez – (ISBN: 0-7432-7691-4)

Zoot Suit and Other Plays—Valdez (ISBN: 978-1-55885-048-4)

And the Earth Did Not Devour Him—Rivera (ISBN:978-1-55885-083-5)

The Ice Worker Sings —Montoya (ISBN: 0-927534-86-X)

Work Done Right—Dominguez (ISBN: 0-8165-2266-9)

Skin Tax—Hernandez (ISBN: 1-890771-93-7)

Loose Woman—Cisneros (ISBN: 0-679755-27-6)

Song of the Hummingbird—Limón (ISBN: 1-55885-091-0)

### **Required Programs:**

In order to do work from home, you should have the following programs (all of which are installed on computers here on-campus): Internet browser (such as Internet Explorer or Safari); e-mail access; word processor (MS Word preferably, see Essays below); Adobe Acrobat Reader for research materials.

**Email and Blackboard access:**

To access the course site go to the following URL: <http://blackboard.reedleycollege.edu>. Login using your seven-digit student ID for your username and password. Go to Personal Information and enter your e-mail address. You will need to be officially enrolled before you will be allowed to enter the site.

**Grading:**

Midterm Essay	25%
Short Assignments	15%
Discussion Boards	10%
Final Essay	50%

The grading scale is as follows:

A	B	C	D	F
100-90%	89-80%	79-70%	69-60%	59% & Below

**Essays:**

All work must be typed, double-spaced and in 12-point type of a standard typeface (Times Roman, preferably). You must submit your work via the Assignments area. You must submit files in one of the following formats: Word documents (\*.doc; \*.docx) or Rich Text Format files (\*.rtf). For each essay you will receive a prompt that will outline the specific requirements for each essay.

**Discussion Board:**

The Discussion Board is really where the "life" of the class takes place, and as such we want to grant it the importance it is due. Please consider the following:

- First, unlike discussion in a traditional classroom, you have the opportunity to think carefully and deeply about the things that you "say" on the Discussion Board without the constraint of time pressure or the concern of whether or not your voice will be heard over the voices of others; you also have the opportunity to edit your remarks. Please take advantage of those opportunities.
- Second, because this is an academic environment, please do not consider the Discussion Board as analogous to text messaging, instant messaging, or e-mail to friends. Your comments should be grammatical and mechanically sound with regards to spelling and punctuation.
- Finally, remember that a significant portion of your grade is based upon the quantity, but more importantly, the quality of your participation.

**Late Work:**

Late papers will not be accepted unless you have contacted me prior to the deadline posted for the assignment. There will be no make-ups of missed short assignments for any reason.

**Short Writing Assignments**

During the semester, there will be a number of short writing assignments given. These assignments generally ask you to draw connections between the readings recently covered and formulate a well thought out response.

**Attendance:**

Although an online class does not chart attendance per se, you do need to make your presence known every week. There will be a reading response assignment every week and Discussion Board assignments in addition to the major papers. If you fall behind at any point during the course of the semester, you will find it extremely difficult to catch up.

**Important Dates:**

Friday, August 28th - Last day to drop a full-term class for a refund

Friday, September 4th - Last day to register for a full-term class

Friday, September 4th - Last day to drop a full-term class to avoid a "W"

Monday, September 7th - Labor Day (no classes held, campus closed)

Friday, October 16th - Last day to drop a full-term class (letter grade assigned after this date)

Wednesday, November 11th - Veteran's Day (no classes held, campus is open)

Thursday-Friday, November 26-27th - Thanksgiving holidays

## **Cheating and Plagiarism**

The following is adapted from Fresno City College's website on cheating and plagiarism.

### **CHEATING**

Cheating is the act of deception by which a student misleadingly demonstrates that he/she has mastered information on an academic exercise. Examples include but are not limited to:

- ✓ Copying or allowing another to copy a test, paper, project or performance.
- ✓ Using unauthorized materials during a test, for example, notes, formula lists or "cheat sheets."
- ✓ Taking a test for someone else or permitting someone to take a test for you.

### **PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism is the act of representing the work of another as one's own without giving credit. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

- ✓ Incorporating the ideas or words of another's work without giving appropriate credit.
- ✓ Representing another's artistic or scholarly works, such as musical compositions, computer programs, photographs, etc., as one's own.
- ✓ Merely changing a few words or making a few structural changes to another's work is still plagiarism when passed off as one's own work.

### **PENALTIES**

**Penalties for cheating and plagiarism are severe and can follow you the rest of your college career.** At the minimum, you will receive an F on the assignment and a warning, but plagiarizing in a major essay will result in an immediate F for the class and a write-up for your student record. You may also be liable for more severe penalties, up to and including expulsion from the college. **The bottom line is that the college and I take this very seriously and so should you.**

### **Accommodations**

If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e. Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact me as soon as possible.

### **Contact and Conferences**

At different times during the semester, a student may need time with me or I may request a conference with him or her. I check my phone messages and email daily at the email address on the front page. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you are experiencing a problem, have any questions, need help or clarification from me, or have ideas and suggestions for the class. I am here to help you succeed.

### **Course Changes**

This syllabus may change during the course of the semester to better address the class's needs. A handout explaining the new expectations will accompany such changes.