

**HISTORY 159/ETHNIC STUDIES 131**  
**THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC HISTORY OF THE SOUTHWEST**

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Winter 2006  
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OFFICE HOURS: W, 1-3pm and by appt.

The geographic area now known as the “American Southwest” has long been one of the most socially dynamic and complex regions of the world. Although the region is perhaps best known now as part of the borderlands separating the United States from Mexico (and the rest of Latin America), over the course of its history parts of the region have been controlled by native peoples, Spain, the Republic of Mexico, the Republic of Texas, and the United States. This course provides a broad historical overview of the region’s history over the past 150 years, focusing on the main contours of its political, cultural, social, and economic development.

**REQUIRED READING (Available at Groundwork Books and On Reserve):**

Albert M. Camarillo, *Chicanos in a Changing Society: From Mexican Pueblos to Americann Barrios in Santa Barbara and Southern California*, rev. ed. (Dallas: Southern Methodist University Press, 2005).

Gilbert G. Gonzalez, *Labor and Community: Mexican Citrus Villages in a Southern California County, 1900-1950* (Champaign-Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2003).

George Mariscal, *Brown-Eyed Children of the Sun: Lessons from the Chicano Movement, 1965-1975* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2005).

Gloria Anzaldua, *Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza* (San Francisco: Aunt Lute Press, 1999).

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

This is an upper-division requiring strong critical, analytical, and writing skills. In addition to attending lectures and in-class discussions, students are required to complete an 8-10 page take-home midterm examination (45% of final grade) and a 10-12 page take-home final examination (55% of final grade). Both exams are open note and open book. Exams will be distributed in class during week 4 and the last meeting of the course and will be due at the date and time an in-class exam is scheduled. PLEASE NOTE: LATE EXAMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

**CLASS SCHEDULE, WINTER 2006:**

WEEK 1 (Jan. 9, 11, 13) *Racial Anglo-Saxonism and Territorial Expansion*

READ: Camarillo, Chapters 1-5

WEEK 2 (Jan. 18, 20) *Regional Economic Development and Social Stratification*

READ: Camarillo, Chapter 6 to end.

WEEK 3 (Jan. 23, 25, 27) *Globalization and Transnational Migration, 1*

READ: Gonzalez, Chapters 1-4

WEEK 4 (Jan. 30, Feb 2, 3) *Depression, Repatriation, and Retrenchment*

READ: Gonzalez, Chapter 5 to end

**Feb. 3—\*\*\*MIDTERM DISTRIBUTED\*\*\***

WEEK 5 (Feb. 6, 8, 10) *Culture, Accommodation, and Resistance*

READ: TBA

**Feb. 10—\*\*\*MIDTERM DUE IN CLASS\*\*\***

WEEK 6 (Feb. 13, 15, 17) *The Contradictions of Ethnic Politics*

READ: Mariscal, Chapters

WEEK 7 (Feb. 22, 24) *Ethnic Mobilization and Activism, cont.*

READ: Mariscal, Chapter to end.

WEEK 8 (Feb. 27, Mar. 1, 3) *Political Critique and Devolution*

READ: Anzaldua

WEEK 9 (Mar. 6, 8, 10) *Looking to the Future: Globalization and Demographic Revolution, 1*

READ: TBA

WEEK 10 (Mar. 13, 15, 17) *Globalization and Demographic Revolution, 2*

READ: TBA

**Mar. 17—\*\*\*FINAL EXAM DISTRIBUTED IN CLASS\*\*\***