

CUYAMACA COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD

SOCIOLOGY 150 – LATINX COMMUNITIES IN THE UNITED STATES

3 hours lecture, 3 units

Catalog Description

This course is an in-depth sociological examination of Latinx/Hispanic communities in the United States. Topics include family structure, gender roles and sexuality; religion; economics; racialization, racism; intersectionality, social movements; U.S./Mexico border issues and immigration policy; and education. Emphasis is placed on social interactions, politics of identity formation, and social processes impacting the status of U.S. Latinx/Hispanics. This course is intended for sociology majors or any student interested in the social sciences.

Prerequisite

None

Course Content

- 1) Historical integration of selected Latinx groups
- 2) Critical events in the histories, cultures and intellectual traditions of Latinx communities
- 3) Latinx identity formation and multiracial identities
- 4) Local Latinx community experiences
- 5) Latinx culture(s)
- 6) Language and oppression
- 7) Ethnocentrism, eurocentrism, white supremacy
- 8) Immigration
- 9) Educational inequality
- 10) Gender relations
- 11) Construction of sexuality and sexual identities among Latinx
- 12) Race, racialization and racism
- 13) Labor market and work
- 14) Significance and influence of religion on Latinx communities
- 15) Gangs and urban issues
- 16) Prison industrial complex
- 17) Institutional violence
- 18) Environmental racism
- 19) Contemporary social problems affecting Latinx communities
- 20) Art and music in the Latinx community
- 21) Empowerment and resistance
- 22) Social change and social movements, with special focus on the concepts of equity, self-determination, solidarity, liberation, decolonization and anti-racism
- 23) Social theory
- 24) Intersection of race and ethnicity with other forms of difference affected by hierarchy and oppression (e.g., class, gender, sexuality, religion, spirituality, national origin, immigration status, ability and/or age).

Course Objectives

Students will be able to:

- 1) Apply social theories to describe the historical integration of Latinx communities in the United States.
- 2) Examine the diverse experiences and cultural variations of Latinx communities.
- 3) Analyze contemporary social issues affecting Latinx communities.
- 4) Critically discuss how the intersection of race and ethnicity with other forms of difference affected by hierarchy and oppression (e.g., class, gender, sexuality, religion, spirituality, national origin, immigration status, ability and age) shape Latinx experiences.
- 5) Identify and analyze racialization of and structural barriers facing Latinx communities.
- 6) Identify and evaluate how Latinx communities have coped with and struggled against prejudice, individual and institutionalized forms of discrimination, ethnocentrism, eurocentrism, and white supremacy.
- 7) Identify the historical, cultural and intellectual contributions made by the Latinx communities to U.S. society.
- 8) Evaluate how the concepts of equity, self-determination, solidarity, liberation, decolonization and anti-racism have translated into forms of resistance against social injustices and empowerment.
- 9) Describe how struggle, resistance, social justice, solidarity and liberation as experienced by Latinx communities are relevant to contemporary social issues.
- 10) Apply social theories to explain social inequality experienced by Latinx communities.
- 11) Evaluate the impact of race, ethnicity, class, gender, sexual orientation, and immigration status on Latinx experiences in institutions such as the family, education, work, and prison.
- 12) Develop critical thinking and writing skills to demonstrate the ability to conduct research on social issues affecting Latinx communities.

Method of Evaluation

A grading system will be established by the instructor and implemented uniformly. Grades will be based on demonstrated proficiency in the subject matter determined by multiple measurements for evaluation, one of which must be essay exams, skills demonstration or, where appropriate, the symbol system.

1. Quizzes, exams, and writing assignments that measure students' ability to recognize, describe, explain and provide examples of the various topics, information and issues related to Latinx sociology, including
 - a. The concepts of race, ethnicity, racialization, equity, ethno-centrism, eurocentrism, white supremacy, self-determination, liberation, decolonization and anti-racism
 - b. Theories describing critical events in the histories, cultures and intellectual traditions of Latinx communities, with an emphasis on agency and self-determination
 - c. The intersection of race and ethnicity with other forms of difference
 - d. The relevance to current issues of struggle, resistance, social justice, solidarity and liberation as experienced by Latinx communities.
2. Written analysis of controversial issues in which students are required to analyze, interpret, and weight the impact of racialization, racism and other forms of oppression, and socio-historical contexts on Latinx communities.
3. Group or individual projects or research papers that require students to solve practical real-world issues related to topics such as higher education, criminal justice system, immigration, labor market, the family, and intersectional realities of the Latinx experience.
4. Interactive group activities, in which students analyze, discuss and draw conclusions about readings and/or topics of Latinx sociology.
5. Field-based exercises or research papers requiring students to report how research methods are used to study social issues affecting Latinx communities.

Special Materials Required of Student

None

Minimum Instructional Facilities

Smart classroom

Method of Instruction

- 1) Lecture and discussion.
- 2) Group discussion and activities.
- 3) Individual and group projects.
- 4) Films, multimedia presentations, guest speakers.
- 5) Discussion of assigned readings and of written assignments

Out-of-Class Assignments

- 1) Weekly required readings before class meetings.
- 2) Written assignments such as reflections paper and a research paper.
- 3) Online discussion boards (e.g., on Canvas)
- 4) Library research including web sources for research paper and/or course project.
- 5) Interviews with peers, community members and/or professionals in the field. For example, students can interview Latinx-identified individuals who have experiences in the following areas: education, politics, medicine, engineering, art and social activism.

Texts and References

- 1) Required (representative example): Acuna, Rodolfo. *U.S. Latino Issues*. 2nd Edition. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2023.
- 2) Supplemental: Bonilla, Frank, Edwin Melendez, Rebecca Morales, and Maria de los Angeles Torres, eds. *Borderless Borders: U.S. Latinos, Latin Americans, and the Paradox of Interdependence*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press. 2010.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Examine and evaluate the effects of historical and contemporary forms of systemic discrimination and other structural issues on Latinx communities.
- 2) Explain diverse social experiences among the Latinx population based on the intersection of race, ethnicity, class, gender, sexuality and immigration status.
- 3) Describe how struggle, resistance, social justice, solidarity and liberation as experienced by Latinx communities are relevant to current issues.
- 4) Evaluate the contributions of the Latinx community to the economy, labor force, education, politics, family, arts and music, and social movements.