

LIT 4483-1D54

Issues and Methods in Cultural Studies: Latin@ Literacies

Fall 2014 MAT 7

T4, R4-5

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Office hours: T5

Description

We will study theories and methods relevant to the field of cultural studies. We will start by reading and discussing one major, comprehensive book of cultural theory (Burke). Then, we will take what we learn from that book and compare it to what we find in two more recent books that deal with questions of latin@ identity, literacy, and culture (Anzaldúa, Villanueva). You will write, formally and informally.

Books

- Gloria Anzaldúa, *Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza (25th Anniversary)*
- Kenneth Burke, *Permanence and Change: An Anatomy of Purpose (3rd ed.)*
- Victor Villanueva, *Bootstraps: From an American Academic of Color*

Work

- Three essays—1000 words each.
- Eleven “blog” entries posted to Sakai—200 words each.

Essays: Research-based writing in which you examine an aspect of a

term or concept that we encounter in the course texts. I will meet with you individually to help you choose your topic and begin your research.

“Blog” Entries: Weekly responses to some specific issue in the course text for the week ahead. These entries will be available online for everyone in the class to read.

Evaluation

I will grade the essays according to how well you *choose* your secondary sources (no more than two), *understand* the claims these sources make about your topic, and *compare* these claims with those made by the writers in our course texts.

	Choosing	Understanding	Comparing
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A	You chose challenging material that makes complex and significant claims.	You thoroughly understand the material's claims, and your writing presents its complexity clearly.	You carefully compare these claims to claims made by Burke, Anzaldúa, or Villanueva.
B	You chose good material, but not the most rigorous that was available.	You mostly understand the claims, but at times they give you trouble, which in turn clouds some of your writing.	You skillfully compare these claims to those made by Burke or etc.
C	You chose adequate material that makes a respectable but unremarkable claim.	You understand the claims broadly and basically, but you struggle with details, so your writing lacks either clarity or complexity.	You make adequate but basic comparisons to Burke or etc.
D	You chose inadequate material that makes frivolous claims, or no claims at all.	You struggle to understand the basic claims, which makes your writing either simplistic or convoluted.	You struggle to make connections between the material and the course texts.

I will grade the "blog" entries in bulk. In order to qualify, each entry must be at least 200 words long, and you submit it on time (Sunday at 11:59 pm).

Grade	Number of "blog" entries
A	9-11
B	8
C	7
D	6
E	0-5

Late Work Policy

I don't accept late work, so you must plan ahead for technical difficulties such as failed printers, crashed hard drives, lack of Internet, and so on.

Student Disabilities

The [Disability Resource Center](#) in the Dean of Students Office provides information and support regarding accommodations for students with disabilities. For more information, please visit [this link](#).

Harassment

UF provides an educational and working environment that is free from sex discrimination and [sexual harassment](#) for its students, staff, and faculty. For more about UF policies regarding harassment of any kind, please visit [this link](#).

Academic Honesty and Definition of Plagiarism

If you plagiarize a draft or final version of an essay or “blog” entry, you will earn an E for the course, and I will report the incident to the [Dean of Students](#) for further action. In other words, you must abide by the [Student Conduct and Honor Code](#). For more information about academic honesty, including definitions of plagiarism and unauthorized collaboration, please visit [this link](#).

Course Grade Appeal

You may appeal your course grade by consulting [Prof. Stephanie Smith](#), Associate Chair, [Department of English](#).

Schedule

Week 1	<i>August 26-28</i>	Introduction
Week 2	<i>September 2 & 4</i>	<i>P&C: “Introduction,” “Prologue,” and 3-18</i>
Week 3	<i>September 9 & 11</i>	<i>P&C: 19-88</i>
Week 4	<i>September 16 & 18</i>	<i>P&C: 89-158</i>
Week 5	<i>September 23 & 25</i>	No Class—Individual Conferences for Essay 1
Week 6	<i>Sept. 30 & Oct. 2</i>	<i>P&C: 159-215</i>
Week 7	<i>October 7 & 9</i>	<i>P&C: 216-272</i> Essay 1 Due October 9 (11pm)
Week 8	<i>October 14 & 16</i>	<i>Borderlands: “Introduction to the Fourth Edition,” “Editor’s Note,” “Preface to the First Edition,” 23-61</i>
Week 9	<i>October 21 & 23</i>	<i>Borderlands: 63-113</i>
Week 10	<i>October 28 & 30</i>	<i>Borderlands: 121-225</i> No Class Thursday October 30—Out of Town
Week 11	<i>November 4 & 6</i>	No Class—Individual Conferences for Essay 2
Week 12	<i>November 11 & 13</i>	No Class Tuesday November 11—Veteran’s Day <i>Bootstraps: “Prologue,” 1-33</i> Essay 2 Due November 13 (11pm)

Week 13 *November 18 & 20* *Bootstraps: 34-118*

Week 14 *November 25 & 27* *Bootstraps: 119-143*
No Class Thursday November 27—Thanksgiving

Week 15 *December 2 & 4* **No Class—Individual Conferences for Essay 3**

Week 16 *December 9* Conclusion.
December 12 **Essay 3 Due December 12 (11pm)**

Orange **No class—individual conferences**

Blue **No class—holiday, or Sánchez out of town**

Red **Due dates for essays**