

**Latino Politics in the U.S.
Political Science 105A
Center Hall 109
TR 12:30-1:50
Spring 2007**

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Course Description

This class is a survey of historical and contemporary issues in Latino politics in the U.S.; race and ethnicity in the context of U.S. politics; comparisons of racial and ethnic group experiences in the U.S. with those experienced by racial and ethnic groups elsewhere; Latino access to the political system through political participation.

Course Policies

Attendance and Class Readings

Attendance and readings are mandatory. I will not take attendance, but it will be difficult to do well in the class if you do not attend lecture or only rely on the lecture notes. *All readings for a given date should be done before the beginning of class.*

Excuses Policy (extensions, make-up exams, etc.)

Extensions and make-up exams will be allowed on a case-by-case basis. You must have a documented reason (i.e. medical reason, extenuating personal circumstances, etc.) for not being able to take an exam or turn in a graded assignment at the scheduled time. You will need to bring in supporting documentation to be granted a make-up, extension, etc. After you provide this information and evidence, a decision will be made regarding a make-up, extension, etc. *Please note that the make-up midterm exam will be held during Week 10 of the quarter.*

Grade Appeals

You have one week after I return the exam/paper to appeal the grade. All appeals must be made to your TA. You must submit a typed, double-spaced, statement explaining why you are requesting a grade appeal and justify it with evidence from your paper, exam, readings and lectures. If you choose to appeal your grade, your TA reserves the right to decrease the existing grade. His/her decision is final.

Late Papers

A late paper loses 10% for each day that it is late up to the letter grade of a C. If you turned in a paper one day late, the highest grade you can get is a 90% and if you turn in a paper a week late, for example, the highest grade that you can get is a C. The idea behind this is simple. You are not

overly penalized for day one but by day two the highest grade that you may receive is 80%. You are encouraged to turn in late papers quickly but by making the reduction capped at a C you also encouraged to turn them in, even if exceptionally late. *Late papers will not be accepted past the Tuesday of Week 10.*

Tardiness to Exams

It is expected that you will arrive to exams on time. Arriving late to exams is a disruption for your colleagues and increases the probability that exam information has been shared. Students who arrive more than 20 minutes late will not be allowed to sit for the midterm. Exceptions to this policy will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Academic Honesty

Cheating, plagiarism and other violations of academic honesty are serious offenses. Graded assignments are not collaborative efforts in this class. You must work independently on all exams and papers. Please refer to the UCSD policy on integrity of scholarship for further details. If you are caught cheating in this course (this includes plagiarism), you will be awarded a letter grade of an F.

Required Readings

Garcia Bedolla, Lisa. 2005. *Fluid Borders: Latino Power, Identity and Politics in Los Angeles*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Other readings will be available on electronic reserves. www.reserves.ucsd.edu

Grading

Midterm Exam (30%): This will be an in-class exam and will take place on May 3, 2007.

Short Paper (30%): Paper topics TBA.

Final Exam (40%): The final is scheduled for June 14, 2007, 11:30 am -2:30pm.

COURSE SCHEDULE *(subject to change)*

Part 1: History, Background, and Theory

Week 1 (4/3-4/5): Introduction and Background

Readings:

- Gutierrez, David G. 1995. *Walls and Mirrors: Mexican Americans, Mexican Immigrants and the Politics of Ethnicity*. University of California Press, Berkeley. Chapter 1.
- Jost, Kenneth. 2007. *Issues in Race and Ethnicity*. Washington DC: CQ Press, 3rd Edition. Chapter 10.

Week 2 (4/10-4/12): Theoretical Foundations and Background

Readings:

- Garcia-Bedolla, Chapter 2
- Hero, Rodney. Chapters 2 and 3. 1992. *Latinos and the Political System*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press.

Part II: Political Identity, Participation and Attitudes

Week 3 (4/17-4/19): The Importance of Ethnic Identity on Political Behavior

Garcia-Bedolla, Chapters 1 and 5.

Pardo, Mary. 1990. "Mexican American Women Grassroots Community Activists: Mothers of East Los Angeles." *Frontiers: A Journal of Women Studies*. 11: 1-7

Week 4 (4/24): Political Ideology and Partisanship

Readings:

Alvarez, R. Michael and Lisa Garcia Bedolla. 2003. "Similar Yet Different? Latino and Anglo Party Identification." *Journal of Politics*. 63: 31-49

DeSipio, Louis. 1996. *Counting on the Latino Vote: Latinos as a New Electorate*. University Press of Virginia, Charlottesville. Chapter 2.

Week 4 (4/26): Campaigns, Elections, and the Media

Readings:

Segal, Adam. 2004. "The Hispanic Priority: The Spanish-Language Television battle for the Hispanic Vote in the 2004 U.S Presidential Election" Hispanic Voter Project. Washington, D.C.: John Hopkins University.

Subervi, Federico. 2004. "Network Brownout Report 2005: The Portrayal of Latinos and Latino Issues on Network Television News, 2004, with a Retrospect to 1995".

Week 5 (5/1): Voting Behavior

Readings:

DeSipio, Louis. 1996. *Counting on the Latino Vote: Latinos as a New Electorate*. University Press of Virginia, Charlottesville. Chapter 4.

Garcia-Bedolla, Chapter 4.

In-class midterm: 5/3/07

Part III: Political Institutions and Policy Concerns

Week 6 (5/8): Coalition Building and Inter-group Relations

- Kaufman, Karen. 2003. "Cracks in the Rainbow: Group Commonality as a Basis for Coalition Between Latinos and African-Americans." *Political Research Quarterly* (available on reserves)
- Vaca, Nicolas C. 2004. *The Presumed Alliance: The Unspoken Conflict between Latinos and Blacks and what it means for America*, New York, Harper Collins. Chapters 2 & 4.

Week 6 (5/10): Latino Representation

Hero, Rodney and Caroline Tolbert. 1995. "Latinos and Substantive Representation in the U.S. House of Representatives: Direct, Indirect or Nonexistent?" *American Journal of Political Science*. 39: 640-652

Weeks 7 & 8 (5/15-5/24): Public Policy Concerns---Education and Segregation, Affirmative Action

- Fraga, Luis Kenneth Meier, and Robert England. 1986. "Hispanic Americans and Educational Policy: Limits to Equal Access". *Journal of Politics*. 48:850-876.
- Jost, Kenneth. 2007. *Issues in Race and Ethnicity*. Washington DC: CQ Press, 3rd Edition. Chapter 4.
- Kozol, Jonathan. 2005. *The Shame of the Nation: The Restoration of Apartheid Schooling in America*, pp. 215-264.
- Sander, Richard. 1997. "Experimenting with Class-Based Affirmative Action." *Journal of Legal Education*. 47: 472-503.

Weeks 9 & 10 (5/29-6/7): Public Policy Concerns- Immigration and Language Policy

Readings:

- Garcia-Bedolla, Chapter 3.
- Ngai, Mae M. 2004. *Impossible Subjects: Illegal Aliens and the Making of Modern America*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. Chapter 4.
- Portes, Alejandro and Ruben G. Rumbaut. 1996. *Immigrant America: A Portrait*. University of California Press, Berkeley, CA. Chapter 8 and pp. 195-231
- Press, Eyal. "Do Immigrants Make Us Safer?" *The New York Times*. 12/3/06.