

**Latino Politics in the U.S.**  
**POLI 105A**  
**MWF 12-12:50**  
**Center Hall 113**  
**Spring 2016**

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Office Hours: Wednesday, 1:30-3pm or by appointment

Teaching Assistants:

Taylor Feenstra ([tfeenstr@ucsd.edu](mailto:tfeenstr@ucsd.edu)), Thursday, 9:30-11:30, SSB 341  
Kelly Matush ([kmatush@ucsd.edu](mailto:kmatush@ucsd.edu)), Wednesday, 11-12, SSB 343

**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 medically documented reason 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, and if you do so, your final will count as your midterm grade. For example, instead of the final counting as 45% of your grade, it will now count for 80% of your grade should you miss the midterm.

*Grades*

You can retrieve your grades when we distribute the assignments and exams in class and/or during office hours. Grades **will not** be communicated via email or any other type of correspondence. It is your responsibility to retrieve your grades.

Please write your name on all the assignments as it is officially registered with the University Registrar. Otherwise, we may not be able to enter your grades properly.

### *Grade Appeals*

You have one week after I return the exam/paper to appeal the grade. This deadline is firm, even if you did not pick up your assignment the day they were passed back in class. All appeals must be made to me, not the TAs. You must submit a one page, 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, I reserve the right to decrease the existing grade.

### *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**

Abrajano, Marisa and R. Michael Alvarez. 2012. *New Faces, New Voices: The Hispanic Electorate in America*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Other readings will be available on the course website: <https://tritoned.ucsd.edu/webapps/login/>.

### **Grading**

*Midterm Exam* (35%): This will be an *in-class exam* and will take place on **April 29, 2016**.

*In-class assignments* (20%): There will be **two** in-class assignments (each worth 10%) that will be distributed sometime during the quarter. Students who miss the in-class assignment may not make-up it for any reason unless there is a well-documented excuse for doing so (e.g. illness).

*Final Exam* (45%): The final is scheduled for **June 8, 2016** from 11:30am- 2:30pm.

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**COURSE SCHEDULE** (*subject to change*)  
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**Part 1: History, Background, and Theory**

*Week 1(3/28- 4/1): Introduction and Background*

Readings:

Abrajano and Alvarez, Introduction

*Week 2 (4/4 & 4/8): Theoretical Foundations*

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

**Part II: Political Behavior**

*Week 3 (4/11 & 4/15): The Relationship between Ethnic Identity and Political Behavior*

Readings:

Abrajano and Alvarez, Chapter 1

Lee, Taeku. 2008. "Race, Immigration, and the Identity-to-Politics Link." *Annual Review of Political Science*.

*Week 4 (4/18) Political Predispositions and Attitudes*

Readings:

Abrajano and Alvarez, Chapter 4

*Week 4 (4/20-4/22): 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 (4/25 and 4/27): Public Attitudes and Partisanship*

Readings:

Abrajano and Alvarez, Chapter 2

***In-class midterm: 4/29/16***

*Week 6 (5/2-5/6): Political Participation -- Voting and Turnout*

Readings:

Abrajano and Alvarez, Chapters 3, 5 and Postscript

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

Garcia, Bedolla Lisa and Melissa Michelson. *Mobilizing Inclusion: Transforming the Electorate through Get-out-the-Vote Campaigns*. Selected chapters.

*Week 7 (5/9-5/13): Coalition Building and Inter-group Relations*

Abrajano and Alvarez, Chapter 6

Kaufman, Karen. 2003. "Cracks in the Rainbow: Group Commonality as a Basis for Coalition Between Latinos and African-Americans." *Political Research Quarterly*

### **Part III: Political Institutions and Policy Concerns**

*Week 8 (5/16-5/20): Education & Language Policy*

Fry, Richard. "The Changing Racial and Ethnic Composition of U.S. Public Schools." Pew Hispanic Research Report. August 30, 2007.

*Week 9 (5/23-5/27): Public Policy Concerns--- the Criminal Justice System*

Hagan, John and Alberto Palloni. "Sociological Criminology and the Mythology of Hispanic Immigration and Crime" *Social Problems*, Vol. 46, No. 4 (Nov., 1999), pp. 617-632

Report: [http://www.sentencingproject.org/doc/publications/inc\\_hispanicprisoners.pdf](http://www.sentencingproject.org/doc/publications/inc_hispanicprisoners.pdf)

*Weeks 10 (5/30-6/3): Public Policy Concerns, cont (Immigration) and Conclusion*

Readings:

Wong, et al. September 20, 2013. "Undocumented No More: A Nationwide Analysis of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA". Center for American Progress Report

Report: <http://www.pewhispanic.org/2015/11/19/more-mexicans-leaving-than-coming-to-the-u-s/>

Abrajano and Alvarez, Conclusion

