Course Outline for History 53

MEXICAN AMERICAN HISTORY FROM THE MEXICAN REVOLUTION TO THE PRESENT

Catalog Description:

HIS 53 - Mexican American History from The Mexican Revolution to the Present
(See also ES 53) 3.00 units

Students will survey the social, political, economic, and cultural history of the Mexican American experience within the context of U.S. history from The Mexican Revolution to the present. Students will also analyze the struggles and contributions of Mexican Americans in the development of the United States and California, and with comparisons to other groups. Major topics include The Mexican Revolution, The Great Depression, WWII, The War with Vietnam, and the Chicano/a Movement. This course includes analysis of the U. S. Constitution, Supreme Court Rulings, and California State and local government issues related to the rights of Mexican Americans. (May not receive credit if Ethnic Studies 53 has been completed successfully).

Requisites: none

Grading Option: Letter Grade

Discipline:

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Prerequisite Skills:

None

Measurable Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. assess the significance of The Mexican Revolution as it relates to Mexicans and the impact that it had on the United States, economically, politically, and socially;
2. assess the significance of U.S. intervention in Latin America during the early stages of the twentieth-century;
3. identify the contributions of Mexican American women to the economic, social, and political development of the United States;
4. explain the fusion of Mexican and Anglo-American cultural patterns which contributed to the cultural development of the United States to the present;
5. discuss the political and economic impact of early twentieth-century such as WWI, the interwar period, and WWII on the political and economic advancement of Mexican Americans;
6. evaluate the California State Constitution and state legislation which have had a significant impact on Mexican Americans and other ethnic groups;
7. compare the United States Constitution in the twentieth-century regarding the Civil Rights of Mexican Americans and other minority groups;
8. discuss California legislation that has curtailed rights of immigrant groups;
9. compare the impact of civil rights Supreme Court decisions in the twentieth-century on Mexican Americans and other marginalized groups;
10. trace the development of Mexican American led labor movements in the Southwest during the twentieth century;
11. discuss the impact of nativism and discrimination upon various ethnic and racial groups;
12. discuss Mexican American political participation in California state and local government;
13. assess the relationship between federal government, state government, and local governments as it pertains to Mexican immigration in the United States.

Course Content:

1. The Reconstruction Amendments
   A. Slaughterhouse cases and the 14th Amendment
2. The End of Slavery and the Reconstruction of the South
3. The End of the Reconstruction and the Rise of Jim Crow
   A. Anglo American Repression and Mexicano Resistance in the Southwest
4. White Americans’ Winning of the West
Indigenous Peoples' Resistance

A. California Political Culture and Land use
   A. Early California Land Policy
   B. Legal Disputes over California water
   C. Hetch Hetchy Valley

B. California on the eve of the Mexican Revolution
   A. Challenges to the State Constitution
   B. Political formation at the local level

C. The Mexican Revolution and its impact on North America and the World
   A. Roots of The Mexican Revolution
   B. Porfirio Diaz and U.S. interests in Mexico
   C. Ricardo Flores Magón
   D. Transnationalism
   E. The Russian Revolution

D. American Imperialism – "A White Man's Burden"
   A. Cuba
   B. Philippines
   C. Haiti

9. The American Industrial Revolution

10. The Birth and Rise of the American Labor
    A. From the Knight of Labor to the American Federation of Labor
    B. Mexicans in the Labor Movement

11. American Foreign Policy
    A. US military interventions in Latin America
    B. America’s Involvement in World War I

12. Immigration in the early twentieth-century: The "New" Immigrant
    A. Impact on the East Coast
    B. Impact on the Midwest
    C. Impact in the Greater Southwest
      a. Southern European
      b. Mexican
      c. Asian

13. Political and Moral Reform within the California Constitution
    A. Progressive reformers in the golden state
    B. Women and progressives
    C. Hollywood joins the moral crusade

14. The Great Depression and the New Deal
    A. The Mexican Repatriation

15. WWII and Restructuring of National Economy
    A. Eastern versus Western Industries
      a. Manufacturing, transportation and natural resources
    B. The West
      a. The roots of the Military Industrial Complex

16. America in the Cold War Years
    A. The Emergence of Mexican American Organizations
    B. The Birth of the Civil Rights Movement

17. The Vietnam War: A Divided America
    A. Anti-war movement
    B. The rise of the New Left
    C. Chicano Moratorium

18. Imperial America and the World
    A. The Cold War and Détente
    B. American Foreign Policy and Latin America

19. The Modern Civil Rights Movement
    A. The Chicano Movement
      a. Social Activism and Cultural Nationalism
    B. BBP for Self Defense
    C. American Indian Movement
      a. Not just Alcatraz
    D. Asian American Movement
    E. Feminist Movement
      a. Combahee River Collective

20. The Moral Majority and Conservative backlash
    A. Pressure to end Affirmative Action
    B. Prop. 13 – The Power of Local Politics
    C. Grassroots Tax Revolt
    D. Bakke Case
    E. Anti-ERA movement
      a. Phyllis Schlafly

    A. The complicated legacy of IRCA, 1986

Methods of Presentation

1. Lecture/Discussion
2. Research project
3. Textbook reading assignments
4. Written assignments
5. Online Assignments

Assignments and Methods of Evaluating Student Progress

1. Typical Assignments
   A. Write a 10-page paper on a topic such as the impact of the anti-war movement, or farm workers movement, or Chicana/o artistic renaissance of the 1960s and 1970s.
   B. Do a research presentation with your group on the impact of the Mexican Revolution in North America and globally.
   C. In a short in-class presentation trace the development and significance of modern U.S. immigration legislation and/or U.S. border enforcement policies as they pertain to Mexicans and the United States.

2. Methods of Evaluating Student Progress
   A. Class Participation
   B. Exams/Tests
C. Homework
D. Papers
E. Written assignments
F. Online Assignments
G. Midterm Examination
H. Final Examination

3. Student Learning Outcomes
   Upon the completion of this course, the student should be able to:
   A. Analyze the causes and consequences of political, economic, and social change.
   B. Demonstrate a body of knowledge about and critical understanding of eras, their key events and ideas, and the process of change over time.
   C. Synthesize factual information and historical evidence from a variety of sources and identify the connections between them.
   D. Critically analyze the struggles and contributions of Mexican Americans in the formation of the United States and California, with comparisons to other groups.

Textbooks (Typical):

Special Student Materials
1. Films accessed via Films on demand

Abbreviated Class Schedule Description:

Students will survey the social, political, economic, and cultural history of the Mexican American experience within the context of U.S. history from the dawn of the twentieth-century to the present. Students will also analyze the struggles and contributions of Mexican Americans in the development of the United States and California, and with comparisons to other groups. Major topics include The Mexican Revolution, The Great Depression, WWII, Vietnam, and the Chicano/a Movement. (May not receive credit if Ethnic Studies 53 has been completed successfully).

Requisites: none