South Plains College: Common Course Syllabus

Department: Behavioral Sciences
Discipline: Humanities

Course Number: HUMA 1305

Course Title: Introduction to Mexican American Studies

Semester Hour Credit: 3 Hours; 3 Lecture Hours; 0 Lab Hours (3:3:0)

This course satisfies a core curriculum requirement: Yes (Behavioral Science)

Prerequisites:
none for campus; TSI reading compliance for Internet

Available Formats:
Conventional and Internet

Textbook:
There is NO textbook for this course. Electronic readings, videos, and other forms of media will be made available to all students in lieu of a textbook. You're welcome.

Supplies: Textbook access, a computer/laptop and Internet access for all course formats and campuses. Note: Cell phones and tablets may be used for accessing some functions in Blackboard but do not work well with all functions. It is not recommended to use a cell phone for online courses.

Course Specific Instructions:
Internet classes access Blackboard from South Plains College homepage on the first day of the semester. Campus classes may use Blackboard for course material, see instructor's course information sheet for specifics.

For information regarding official South Plains College statements about intellectual exchange, disabilities, non-discrimination, Title V Pregnancy Accommodations, CARE Team, and Campus Concealed Carry, please visit https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/.

Course description: Application of sociological principles and theoretical perspectives to major social problems in contemporary society such as inequality, crime and violence, substance abuse, environmental issues, deviance, or family problems.

Course Purpose/Rationale/Goal: The purpose of the behavioral science component in the core curriculum is to enable the students to understand and apply sociological theories and concepts as they examine potential problems in human society. To master sociology, students will be able to identify and apply the concepts and principles in the study of group life, social institutions, and social processes.

Course Requirements:
To maximize the potential to complete this course, students should attend all classes, log into Blackboard multiple times per week, read required textbook/course materials, complete required homework/assignments and/or examinations. See instructor's course information sheet for specifics.

Course Evaluations:
Refer to Instructor's course information sheet for specifics coursework and grading.

Attendance Policy:
Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. For internet classes, this means watching all lectures and logging into Blackboard regularly to read and submit

coursework. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.

When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of time as determined by the instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first-class meeting.

Students who enroll in a course but have "Never Attended" by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and/or receive a grade of "X" or "F" as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student's responsibility to be aware of that policy.

It is the student's responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through Texan Connect If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.

See instructor's Course Information Sheet for additions to the attendance policy.

Student Identification Verification Pictures

EFFECTIVE SPRING 2026: In order to comply with institutional identity-verification procedures, students enrolled in courses at South Plains College must have a current photo available in the College's student information system. Approved photos are used solely for instructional, advising, and security purposes and are protected under applicable privacy laws. Students without a photo on file must update their record during the first week of class.

Pictures may be uploaded using these instructions.

Academic Integrity Policy:

It is the aim of the faculty of South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own any work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.

Cheating:

Dishonesty of any kind on examinations or on written assignments, illegal possession of examinations, the use of unauthorized notes during an examination, obtaining information during an examination from the text- book or from the examination paper of another student, assisting others to cheat, alteration of grade records, illegal entry or unauthorized presence in an office are examples of cheating. Complete honesty is required of the student in the presentation of any and all phases of course work. This applies to quizzes of whatever length, as well as to assignments and examinations, to daily reports and to term papers.

Plagiarism:

Offering the work of another as one's own, without proper acknowledgment, is plagiarism; therefore, any student who fails to give credit for quotations or essentially identifiable expression

of material taken from books, Internet resources, encyclopedias, magazines and other reference works, or from the themes, reports or other writings of a fellow student, is guilty of plagiarism. See *South Plains College Student Guide* and *South Plains College General Catalog* for more information. Also, see instructor's course information sheet for more information.

More Information About Plagiarism and Cheating: Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, examinations, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy will result in an F for the assignment and can result in an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, or a mail order term paper mill.
- Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation.
- Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
- Missing in-text citations.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion.
- Using Artificial Intelligence.
- Discovering the content of an examination before it is given.
- Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, text messaging, internet, apps) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment.
- Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage.
- Taking an examination for another.
- Altering grade records.
- Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment.
- Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's.
- Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

Student Conduct Policy:

Classroom Conduct: Failure to follow lawful direction of a classroom teacher relative to maintaining good order is considered misconduct on the part of the student. Repeated violations of disrupting a class may result in the student being dropped from that course.

See *South Plains College Student Guide* for full policy covering other areas of conduct including penalties for misconduct and procedures for disciplinary action.

Tobacco Products:

South Plains College prohibits the use of any tobacco product, electronic cigarette, or vapor device throughout all indoor areas and within a 25-foot perimeter around all facility entrances, exits and HVAC air intake vents under the control of SPC, including sporting facilities and SPC vehicles. Included in this ban are tobacco products of all types (including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, pipes, chewing tobacco, snuff and all other kinds and forms of tobacco prepared in such a manner to be suitable for spit tobacco use, smoking, or both). This ban also includes herbal tobacco products and simulated tobacco products that imitate or mimic tobacco products such as e-cigarettes, vapor cigarettes, pipes or other types of inhalation devices.

Grade and Academic Discipline Appeals:

South Plains College provides two procedures which allow students the opportunity to address grievances of an academic nature.

Appeal Restrictions:

Only final grades or dismissal resulting from academic discipline will be considered. The instructor's teaching ability or expertise will not be considered during the hearing. No grade or disciplinary action can be formally appealed after a period of six (6) months from the date that the student is informed.

Informal Appeal:

1. The student should schedule an appointment with the instructor of the course to discuss the final grade or disciplinary action.
2. If the student is still not satisfied, she should schedule an appointment with the appropriate departmental chairperson to discuss the situation. The chairperson may request that the instructor also be present.
3. If the student is still not satisfied, he she should schedule an appointment with the Divisional Dean to discuss the situation. The dean may request that the chairperson also be present.
4. If the student is still not satisfied, he she should be advised of the formal appeal process.

Formal Appeal:

1. If the student is not satisfied with the results of the informal appeal, s/he should provide the following information, in writing, to the Vice President for Academic Affairs:
2. A request for a formal appeal hearing.
3. A brief statement of what is being appealed.
4. The basis for the appeal.
5. Pertinent facts relating to the appeal.

The agenda of the appeals hearing will include only those factors documented in the student's appeal request letter. The Vice President for Academic Affairs will determine the date, time and place of the hearing, and notify the student accordingly.

The Hearing Composition of the appeals committee:

- Vice President for Academic Affairs will preside over the hearing.
- Faculty member of the student's choice.
- Faculty member and student selected by the Vice President for Academic Affairs.
- President of Student Government Association.
- Dean of Students.
- Other persons who should be available at the hearing:
- The student who requested the hearing.
- The faculty member involved.
- Anyone the student or faculty member wishes to be present to substantiate the case.
- Chairperson and Divisional Dean.

Hearing procedure:

The committee will hear the student's appeal during which the parties to the controversy and such representatives as desired will present all facts relating to the case. By majority vote, the committee will decide to sustain, amend or reverse the previous decision.

The decision of the committee is final and completes the academic appeals procedure.

Student Learning Outcomes/Competencies:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Analyze the developmental history, culture, and struggles for equality of Mexican Americans.

2. Articulate an informed personal response and critically analyze works by Mexican Americans in the arts and humanities.
3. Describe the impact of discrimination on the everyday life of Mexican Americans in the context of social, political, and economic circumstances.
4. Analyze minority group interactions in the United States focusing on immigration and migration patterns.
5. Formulate an understanding of shifting definitions of Mexican American cultural identities.

Core Objectives:

Communication skills- to include effective written, oral and visual communication.

Critical thinking skills- to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.

Social Responsibility- to include the demonstrated intercultural knowledge and competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities.

Personal Responsibility-to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making. Texas Coordinating Board Approval Number…….. 45.1101.53 25

Instructor Syllabus Information

Dr. Sherley Rios
Office: Lubbock Downtown Center, DTC 2017
srios@southplainscollege.edu
Phone (806) 716-2256 leave a voice mail

Welcome to the course! My goal is to create a respectful, supportive community where we learn and work together. I'm honored you've chosen this class and thank you in advance for your effort. Stay on top of assignments and the fast pace of the course, and your grade will reflect your commitment. Success in college depends on communication—please email me so I can support your learning.

Office Hours

Should you have questions that need immediate and/or private attention I am available on the Lubbock Downtown Center. See below for specific days and times. You may also call my office phone number during these hours or schedule an appointment by phone or email to meet either virtually or in person. Office hours, email, and phone are the preferred method of communication.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1:30pm – 4:00pm	8:30am – 9:30am	1:30pm – 4:00pm	8:30am – 9:30am	9:00am – 10:00am

Communication with Instructor via Email

Should you have questions about assignments, personal matters, and course material, **please use SPC's official email to contact the instructor. Do not use Blackboard Messages.** SPC email is the official means of communication between professors and students. Be sure that you are using your official SPC email when contacting the instructor. Be advised that although I am available via email any time during the semester, I am not always able to respond to emails quickly, especially if you email during non-business hours (after 5pm or on weekends).

Communication with Students

The instructor does not use Blackboard Messages. Communication with all students about class assignments, exams, or other information, will be done via Course Announcements. These will automatically populate when you open the course in Blackboard Ultra. If you see an announcement in Blackboard, simply click on the announcement link and it will reroute you to the specific announcement contents. It is important that you check these announcements when they are sent out, which means frequent logging into Blackboard and your SPC email account.

Required Materials

All course materials (readings, videos, and media) will be provided to students in Blackboard as an Open Education Resource. Reliable internet access and a computer and Blackboard Ultra are needed.

Course Plan Information & Delivery

This class will be following a fully face-to-face where you must be physically present in the classroom. Starting at the beginning of the semester, we will meet in a classroom (see your schedule). These sessions are imperative for discussing how to be successful in this course, going over what is expected for the rest of the semester, attending lectures, and activities. Attendance is necessary for the successful completion of this course.

Course information (e.g., syllabus, schedule, assignments, papers, projects, media and potential student handouts) is accessed through the Blackboard website and in class. The student is responsible for receiving and reviewing all information posted on Blackboard and given in class. If the student has questions/concerns about this information, then she/he should contact the instructor (via office hours, SPC email, or phone). There will be assignments each week which have to be submitted via Blackboard or in class depending on the assignment.

Course Requirements

You are responsible for reading and submitting all lecture material, assigned readings, and submitting assignments. You are expected to read the syllabus and be familiar with its contents. You are responsible for all material covered in this course including exams and keeping up with the course schedule. If there are any questions regarding course materials, it is your responsibility to

It is essential that you have reliable access to the Internet. It is not necessary to buy or own your own computer, but you should have a backup plan in place should you encounter computer problems. Firefox is the recommended and supported browser for Blackboard. It is also the student's responsibility to have the required computer skills to complete this course. Should you encounter technical difficulties contact the instructor first, and/or the SPC technical support call (806) 894-9611, ext. 2180. Be sure to include course and section number information when contacting technical support.

Methods for Assessing the Expected Learning Outcomes

The expected learning outcomes for the course will be assessed through assignments, quizzes, projects, in-class coursework, and exams. Grades are based on the quality of the work that has been submitted, not the existence of a submission. This means that grades are earned based on proof of mastery of the major concepts.

Grading:

4 exams worth 30%
Assignments worth 25%
Annotated Bibliography worth 15%
In-class activities worth 20%
Dia de muertos Project worth 10%

A = 90% – 100%
B = 80% – 89.9%
C = 70% – 79.9%
D = 60% – 69.9%
F = 0% – 59.9%

***Please expect a 10-day grading turnaround. Final grades will not be rounded up.**

Late Work

To promote fairness and consistency, assignments are expected to be submitted by the posted deadline. **Late work is not accepted.** Students are strongly encouraged to plan ahead and manage their time accordingly. Dual Credit students are held to the same deadlines, policies, and expectations as all students enrolled in this college-level course.

Extension Policy

Extensions are student-initiated and must be requested no later than 24 hours after the original deadline. Requests submitted after this window will not be considered. Students requesting an extension must propose a new submission deadline that falls within one week of the original due date, and all extensions require instructor approval. Extensions are not permitted for exams or projects at any stage and will not be approved after the end of Week 14.

Extension requests must be submitted via email and include the following: the subject line **"Deadline Extension for [Assignment Name]"**, a professional greeting (e.g., *Hello Dr. Rios,*), and a clear statement specifying the **day, date, and time** the assignment will be submitted. Responsibility for meeting the approved extended deadline rests with the student. Failure to submit the assignment by the approved deadline will result in a zero (0).

Dual Credit students are expected to manage their time independently, monitor deadlines through the learning management system, and communicate professionally. High school schedules, extracurricular activities, transportation issues, or technical difficulties do not excuse missed deadlines or extension requests.

Exams & Assignments

Reading Assignments

It is expected that you read the assigned chapter readings before submitting coursework. This will facilitate class discussion and activities. If it is clear to me that students are not completing their reading assignments, I reserve the right to alter the syllabus to add pop quizzes into your final grade. Assigned readings are listed in the schedule located in the Syllabus and Schedule folder in Blackboard.

Quizzes

Most chapters/units will have a quiz primarily based on the textbook to promote your understanding and knowledge of the material. These quizzes will allow you to take stock of your current understanding of the material. Although these are open book and open note, I strongly recommend you do the reading and review your notes first and then test your understanding via the quiz. You must work independently on the quizzes. Quizzes are designed to assess your understanding of the course materials.

All quizzes are taken in Blackboard and are timed. Once you start a quiz, you must complete it. You will not be able to log back into a quiz once you have opened it. Please make arrangements to take each quiz on a computer with a secure internet connection. You must take the quizzes individually. Please see the course schedule for due dates. You have 2 attempts for all quizzes if they are submitted by the scheduled deadline, and the average grade will be recorded.

Assignments

Throughout the course you will be required to work on various application assignments. These assignments typically will be media-based (either video or podcast), discussion-based or prompt-based and include application of concept questions for students to answer. Assignments must be done independently. Proper spelling and grammar are necessary for college course writing. If spelling and grammar are not written academically (i.e., in text message format, not spell and grammar checked, etc.) point deductions will be incurred. Google docs (cloud word documents) or .pages documents, hand-written and scanned, emailed, or late assignments will NOT be accepted. Students will submit these assignments in Blackboard.

Assignments – Discussions

Discussions will be required in this course and may be presented in class. Discussions are intended for you to discuss the lecture material with your peers in an academic format. Proper (n)etiquette should be used at all times, and it is expected that all students discuss the topics in academic and respectful terms as outlined in the student code of conduct and policies. Should any student not abide by these rules in discussion, the student will receive a '0' (zero) for the assignment for the first offense. Any offense thereafter, the student may be dropped from the course.

Annotated Bibliography

Your objective in the annotated bibliography is to engage in an independent exploration of a specific topic related to Mexican American studies, fostering peer interaction and feedback while developing research skills over the course of the term. The bibliography and presentation is broken down into submission stages. Each stage will have separate deadlines (see course schedule) and requirements which include using verifiable and reliable sources.

Día de muertos Project

There is one Día de muertos Project this term. The project provides an experiential learning component to how students are learning about Día de los muertos. There is a longer time setup for this activity and students will be given class time to complete the ofrenda. To receive credit for this project, you have to show up in person and contribute meaningfully and personally to building the ofrenda. Details regarding this project will be found in Blackboard. Late projects will not be accepted nor given extensions.

Exams

There will be 3 non-cumulative exams and one cumulative final exam during the term. **Late exams will not be accepted.** The exams will cover any material presented in lectures, the textbook, as well as assigned readings or media. Exams may include a multiple-choice format, true/false, matching, and/or a short answer/essay format. All exams will be completed by the due date on the schedule, and you may use your notes and textbooks. The final exam will not be given at any time other than the scheduled final exam day. Make-up exams for the first 3 exams will be given only in extreme situations, may be of a different format than the original tests, and will only be given if you notify the instructor prior to exam day that you will not be able to complete the exam. If permitted to take a make-up exam, you will take it at a mutually agreed upon time, as soon after the original exam as possible. Make-up exams will not be given if I have not been notified prior to the exam day about your absence. Please plan your travel arrangements accordingly.

General Policies Regarding All Required Coursework Submissions:

- **It is necessary to read for this course.**
- **All work must be done independently.** The use of outside sources or materials, including the help of others, will be regarded as plagiarism and/or cheating. See Academic Integrity Policy and Artificial Intelligence (AI) Resource Policy for more information.
- **Spelling and Grammar matters in all written work.** Proper spelling and grammar are necessary for college course writing. If spelling and grammar are not written academically (i.e., written in text message format, not spell and grammar checked, etc.) a 5-point deduction will be incurred for each submission.
- **Late assignments will not be accepted. For an extension, see extension policy.**
- **If AI is suspected to have been used for an assignment, a grade of zero will be entered in the gradebook until the student contacts the instructor within 5 days of the posted grade (with instructions provided) to earn credit for an assignment. The student is responsible for proving mastery of concepts (see instructor AI policy).** After 5 days of the posted grade, the earned grade of zero will remain in the gradebook.

Feedback Policy

Feedback in this course is primarily provided at the class level through general feedback announcements, rubrics, or summary posts addressing common strengths and areas for improvement. Individualized written feedback is not guaranteed on every assignment, especially for those graded assignments with 85% or higher.

Students seeking specific feedback on their work must request it via email within **seven (7) days** of the assignment being graded. Requests made after this period may not be accommodated.

Feedback in this course is intended to support learning and improvement on future assignments, not to revisit or negotiate grades already assigned. Students are encouraged to develop independence, professional communication skills, and self-evaluation habits consistent with college expectations.

Writing Center Help

If you need feedback on written work, please visit the SPC Writing Center. For information about locations at each campus and making an appointment, visit the writing center's website at: https://www.southplainscollege.edu/writingcenter/

What to bring to your SPC Writing Center appointment:

Bring the instructions for your assignment, two hard copies of your writing draft, a laptop (if you have one), and questions for the writing center staff to help you with specific needs other than "How can I make this better?". Keep in mind that writing is a process, and it takes time to become a proficient writer.

Attendance

Attendance in this course is the active submission of coursework (on-time) whether it is in class or Blackboard. Each non-submission of assignments, discussions, or exams counts as an absence. If you need to miss any portion of the coursework (although not advised) please let the instructor know in advance, within 5 days of missing. If you miss "class" and have an SPC approved excuse (i.e., you are representing SPC at an official school function or celebrating a religious holy day) or a notice of absence from the Office of the Dean of Students, it is your responsibility to provide the ***written excuse*** from the school. In the case of an excused absence, you are still responsible for all missed readings, work, materials, and assignments.

Extra Credit Activities

Very rarely will additional credit be given and never upon request. Please note that if extra credit is given, the points may not be significant enough to bump your grade up a letter, but will be enough to supplement an assignment's low grade. Do not depend on extra credit to completely "fix" your overall grade.

Class Withdrawal / Dropping the Course

It is the full responsibility of the student to personally withdraw from the course if needed. Students should discuss progress and grades with the instructor prior to making a withdrawal decision. A student who has already missed or has had difficulty completing modules, assignments, discussions, exams, and/or anticipates difficulty in completing the course to his/her satisfaction is encouraged to give withdrawal all the consideration it is due.

Administrative Drop Policy

In accordance with South Plains College attendance policies, the instructor reserves the right to drop a student for excessive absences. In this course, absences include failure to complete required coursework. To meet South Plains College and Financial Aid participation requirements, students who fail to submit a substantial portion of assigned work *may* be dropped from the course and assigned a grade of "X."

Open Computer Lab

There is an Open Computer Lab located on the Levelland campus in the Technology Center. It is available to all students, with priority given to those students enrolled in computer classes. Computers are also available on the Reese Center, Lubbock, and Plainview campuses. Check with libraries and labs for hours.

The SPC Help Desk located on the first floor at the Lubbock Downtown Center will have laptops you can borrow should you need one for the day or semester.

Logging into Blackboard

To access your course, go to https://southplainscollege.blackboard.com/ or go to the SPC Homepage and click on the “Login to” link in the top right-hand portion of the page and then click on the Blackboard link on the pull-down or you can type or copy the address into the address window of your computer. I recommend that you bookmark Blackboard on your computer for quick and efficient access. You can also log into MySPC and there is a Blackboard link there. Once you reach the site you will click "Log In". The log-in screen will come up asking for your username and password. Simply follow the instructions on the screen.

Computer Requirements

It is recommended to use a computer for this course and not a tablet or cell phone. Most Web educational experience will require the use of several additional browser plug-ins. It is very highly recommended that you have an anti-virus program on your computer. You may also need Adobe Acrobat for readings and a multimedia player such as Windows Media Player. Firefox is the supported browser for Blackboard. SPC students are offered Office 365 which includes Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel, and storage on OneDrive. Please download and use it! Since coursework and material is entirely online, participants are expected to have at least an elementary knowledge of their microcomputer operating system and basic knowledge of software and tools such as a word processor, e-mail, an Internet browser, and search engines.

Technical Problems/Support

If you are having computer problems, let the instructor know as soon as possible. I will try to help in any way I can. Please remember that it is **the student’s responsibility to have a backup plan for technical issues**. Have a plan in place now and do not wait until a problem or crisis happens since late assignments are not accepted even under these circumstances.

- Most tech issues are related to failure to update java, using the incorrect internet browser (try to use Firefox instead of Google Chrome, Internet Explorer, or Safari), and/or not deleting browsing history files regularly. Most issues are related to computer issues, not Blackboard. Make sure that your computer has an up-to-date antivirus software program installed. Please note this instructor does NOT recommend the use of a cell phone for taking this course.
- **SPC Blackboard Technical Support Contact:** Call (806) 716-2180 or email at Blackboard@southplainscollege.edu for student technical support. Only call or e-mail technical support with questions about Blackboard or computer functioning. There is Technical Support information in the Course Resources link in your Blackboard course.

Academic Integrity

In addition to the policy in the Common Course Syllabus, students found guilty of cheating or plagiarism will earn a zero on the work in question for the first offense and will be documented with South Plains College. Should a second offense occur, the student will be dropped from the course with an ‘F’.

Any amount of dishonesty is subject to these consequences, whether a lot or a little; this can include but is not limited to: one copied sentence of a written assignment, a missing citation, an entire paper copied from someone/somewhere else, one plagiarized post on a discussion board, one copied exam item, having another person help you during an exam or other coursework completed by someone other than yourself. You have also committed academic dishonesty when sharing course content/items/answers. This includes sharing course content with classmates or future students as well as sharing course content on websites such as Quizlet, Course Hero, or similar “study applications.” For further information and examples please see the Catalog, Student Guide, or refer to www.plagiarism.org

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Resource Policy:

There are now websites that will generate semi-unique material that somewhat resembles original material. Since technology is available to create this content, technology is also available to detect this content. Make no mistake, this is plagiarism. The instructor is not asking AI to write any written portion of this course's requirements, but is asking you the student, to create this content.

If the student submits work obtained by using AI or is suspected of utilizing AI, it will be considered plagiarism and receive a grade of zero for the work. This course policy will be provided as feedback for said coursework, letting the student know that AI is suspected, or plagiarism has occurred. It is the student's responsibility to follow up with the instructor within 5 days of the posted grade if work has been incorrectly flagged for AI use. The student can discuss the coursework in question with the instructor by virtual appointment in order to earn credit. In these cases, the student will need to verbally provide mastery of concepts related to the work in question. Any further attempts at using artificial intelligence as one's own work will continue to earn zeroes for those attempts or may result in a course drop with an F by the instructor. The incidents may also be detailed to the Dean of Students for disciplinary actions.

Civility in the Classroom

Please be respectful of others and their right to learn in a peaceful educational environment. Disruptive behavior includes, but is not limited to creating distractions, talking out of turn, talking with classmates during lecture, wandering in and out of class, chronically showing up late, chronically leaving early, or improper use of technology. "Failure to comply with lawful directions of a classroom teacher relative to maintaining good order is considered misconduct on the part of the student. Repeated violations of disrupting a class will result in the student being dropped from the course." (See Student Guide)

Cell phones and earbuds/headphones/listening devices must be silenced and put away while in the classroom. Devices used for note-taking are permitted but should be used responsibly and must not create distractions for you or others.

Violations will result in a grade of zero (0) on the assignment and may include removal from class, disciplinary proceedings, or being dropped from the course. Repeated violations or serious misconduct may result in further sanctions as outlined in the *South Plains College Student Conduct Guide*. If you must keep your phone available for emergencies, please consult the instructor before class begins.

Tardiness: Please do your best to manage your time well and be on time to class. If you are tardy, please enter the room quietly and take a seat as close to the door as you can get. Being late to class is disruptive to your fellow classmates. Being late to class is disruptive to your fellow classmates and is therefore subject to the same consequences listed in the Disruptive Behavior policy.

Sensitive Nature of Humanities and Behavioral Science Courses

Given the dynamics of individual, relational, familial, societal, and cultural development and issues, behavioral studies courses address many sensitive issues; this course is no exception. Lifespan and relational issues occur in the context of sexual, racial/ethnic, political, religious/spiritual, economic/social class, and disability/challenge concerns. The discussion of such issues will increase the student's knowledge of developmental conditions in the modern world, but the information can be emotionally charged. It is also likely that the student will be exposed to diverse viewpoints; some viewpoints might differ from the student's personal views. If a student chooses to remain in class, then they will be expected to respect the diverse viewpoints represented in course material and classmates. If the student is easily offended by discussion of such issues, then should consider whether to remain enrolled in the course.

Revelation of Personal Information

This course covers personal topics. Participation in assignments is required, but sharing personal information is not. Students should use discretion when disclosing information, as confidentiality cannot be guaranteed. You are responsible for what you share and should avoid sharing anything you do not want others to know.

Syllabus

The instructor reserves the right to amend the syllabus if necessary. Students will be notified of any changes in advance.

Tentative Course Schedule & Topics

Week One
- Theories in identity and self: How do humans form a self and identity in culture?

Week Two
- Aztec Culture and Colonization

Week Three
- Independence and Celebrations
- Understanding Culture through Artifacts

Week Four
- Conquering Aztlan and Changing Mexican American Identity

Week Five
- Exam #1
- Literature – Mythology, oral history, and poetry

Week Six
- Short Fiction and Non-fiction
- Basics of an ofrenda

Week Seven
- Art: the influences of Kahlo, Rivera, Orozco, and Siqueiros

Week Eight
- Exam #2
- Cultural Expressions and Material: Humor, Music, Food, and Games

Week Nine
- Rites of Passage: Quinceañera and dia de muertos

Week Ten
- Dia de Muertos ofrenda building

Week Eleven
- Borderland Confict and the Migrant discourse

Week Twelve
- Exam #3
- Zoot Suit Riots and discrimination in the education system

Week Thirteen
- The Bracero Program and the Chicano Movement

Week Fourteen
- Current topics in Mexican American Studies: Machismo and masculinity

Week Fifteen
- Current topics in Mexican American Studies: Psychological perspectives

Week Sixteen
- Exam #4