SYLLABUS/FALL, 2013
CULTURE CLASH: STUDIES IN U.S. LATINO THEATRE

THTR 180-E (TUES./THURS. 3:30-4:45 P.M.) GERVITZ 1115
Professor Carlos Morton. TD WEST 2509. Tel: 455-0374. Office
Hours After class or by appointment. E-mail:
cmorton@theaterdance.ucsb.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Latinos have become the largest so called “minority” in the United States, and their art is
beginning to make a significant impact on American Culture. Since the 1960's the theatre
and film of Chicanos, Puerto Ricans, Cuban Americans and other Americans of Latin
American origin have been making their mark on the professional stage and in
Hollywood.

This is a survey course designed to study the dramatic literature of Mexican Americans,
Puerto Ricans, Cuban-Americans, as well as other U.S. Latinos residing in the U.S.A.
The objectives are to acquaint the students with a history of U.S. Latino theatre and the
conditions that produced this theatrical movement.

READER AVAILABLE AT THE ALTERNATIVE Ucen Rd. Bldg 558 Rm 2345,
Santa Barbara · (805) 968-1055

THERE WILL ALSO BE A COPY OF READER ON RESERVE AT DAVISON
LIBRARY.

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

Lectures and discussion of the history, theory and literature and screening of selected
videos. NOTE: Most of the readings use some Spanish words and phrases; while Spanish
is NOT required for the course, it helps to have a Spanish language dictionary handy.

GRADES AND EVALUATION

Quizzes 50% of Grade: 13 Quizzes (3 DROPPED) at 5 points per quiz e-mailed to the
instructor each Tues. and/or Thurs. 8 A.M. – 50% of grade. (No make up for missed
quizzes.)

Attendance and Participation 10% of grade: Students will be called upon to discuss
their response to the quizzes in class. Students will also give ONE ORAL REPORT five
minutes in length on a topic to be determined. Being tardy or not attending class WILL
SERIOUSLY AFFECT YOUR GRADE.
One “short paper” 500 words (2 pages double spaced) -- 10% of grade. Late papers will be deducted 1 pt. per day. Note: The same subject may be used for the final paper. Due Oct. 31.

One “long paper” 1250 word (5 pages double spaced) -- 25% of grade --- due Dec.11. Late papers will be deducted two points per day. (Topics to be determined but will involve comparative studies of U.S. Latino Theatre.)

5 minute oral presentation in class – 5% of grade – dealing with the subject of your paper. A one-page outline must be turned in the day of your report which is the “thesis statement” for your final paper. You may change the focus of your paper after class discussion.

COURSE OUTLINE

REMEMBER TO E-MAIL QUIZZES 250 WORDS MINIMUM TUES. AND/OR THURS. AT 8 A.M. TO CMORTON@THEATERDANCE.UCSB.EDU

YOU ARE REQUIRED TO READ EVERYTHING IN THE READER.

9/26 - GENERAL INTRODUCTION.

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WEEK ONE: 10/1 & 10/3 - EL TEATRO CAMPESINO
Read Spanish language scripts in class.

El Teatro Campesino Online Collection AN IMPORTANT SOURCE!
http://cemaweb.library.ucsb.edu/theater.html

PLAYS: Las Dos Caras del Patroncito, Soldado Razo.


VIDEO: Los Vendidos

QUIZ #1/El Teatro Campesino (including Broyles and Huerta) DEFINE THE “ACTO” STYLE: QUOTE FROM THE PLAYS AND ARTICLES YOU READ.
Due Thurs. 10/3 at 8 A.M.

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WEEK TWO: 10/8 & 10/10 - THE ACTO STYLE

BEGIN FIVE MINUTE ORAL PRESENTATIONS

PLAYS: Nopal Boy (Macedonio Arteaga) & Real Women Have Curves (Josefina Lopez)
QUIZ #2/Nopal Boy (Macdonio Arteaga). **WHAT IS THE “COMIC PREMISE” AND DO YOU FIND IT EFFECTIVE?**  Due 10/8 at 8 a.m.

VIDEO: Real Women Have Curves

Quiz #3/Real Women Have Curves. **DISCUSS THE DIFFERENT ATTITUDES THE WOMEN HAVE ABOUT THEIR BODIES.**  Due 10/10 at 8 a.m. E-Mail quiz to THEORY: Jorge Huerta

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- **WEEK THREE: 10/15 & 10/17 – THE NUYORICANS**

PLAYS: *Short Eyes* (Miguel Pinero), *Unmerciful Good Fortune* (Edwin Sanchez).

QUIZ #4/Short Eyes. **DEFINE THE THEME OF “JUSTICE” IN THIS PLAY.**  Due 10/15 at 8 A.M.

QUIZ #5/Unmerciful Good Fortune. **WHAT UNIQUE THEATRICAL CONVENTIONS (breaking the fourth wall, split scenes, monologues, etc.) DOES THE AUTHOR USE TO TELL THE STORY?**  Due 10/17 at 8 A.M.

VIDEO: Short Eyes

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- **WEEK FOUR: 10/22 & 10/24 - THE CUBAN EXPERIENCE**

PLAYS: *Conduct of Life* (Maria Irene Fornes), *Ana in the Tropics* (Nilo Cruz).

QUIZ #6/Conduct of Life. **HOW DO THE CHARACTERS RELATE TO EACH OTHER IN TERMS OF SOCIAL AND “POWER” STRUCTURES?**  Due Tues. 10/22 at 8 A.M.

QUIZ #7/ Ana in the Tropics. **HOW DOES THE USE OF “HEIGHTEN LANGUAGE” (poetic or extraordinary language not used in every day speech) DEFINE THIS PLAY?**  Due 10/24 at 8 A.M.

GUEST LECTURER: RACHAEL WOLFE.  rwolfe@umail.ucsb.edu

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- **WEEK FIVE: - 10/29 & 10/31 – THE BORDER I**

PLAYS: *The Many Deaths of Danny Rosales & Culture Clash in America.*

QUIZ #8/The Many Deaths. **HOW MANY DIFFERENT WAYS DID DANNY ROSALES DIE?**  Due 10/29 8 A.M.
QUIZ #9/Cultural Clash. **DESCRIBE THE DIFFERENT STYLES (GENRES) OF THEATER THE GROUP UTILIZES TO GET THEIR MESSAGE ACROSS.** Due 10/31 at 8 A.M.

**SHORT PAPER DUE 10/31** (Hard Copy, 500 words double spaced.)

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**WEEK SIX: 11/5 & 11/7 – THE BORDER II**

PLAYS: *Roosters by Milcha Sanchez-Scott*

11/5 IN CLASS PRESENTATION BY:

QUIZ #10/ Roosters. **IS THIS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF “MAGICAL REALISM?”** Due 11/7 8 A.M.

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**WEEK SEVEN: 11/12 & 11/14 - LATINO GAY/LESBIAN EXPERIENCE**

PLAYS: *Shadow of a Man* (Cherrie Moraga), *Deporting the Divas* (Guillermo Reyes).

THEORY: Jorge Huerta: Chicano Drama, “Chapter Four.” David Foster, “Deporting the Divas.”

QUIZ #11/Shadow of a Man, (Including Huerta.) **WHAT ROLE DOES “DESIRE” PLAY IN THIS WORK?** Due 11/12 8 A.M.

QUIZ #12/Deporting the Divas (Including Huerta and Foster). **HOW MANY DIFFERENT KINDS OF “BORDERS” ARE DISPLAYED IN THIS PLAY?** Due 11/14 8 A.M.

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**WEEK EIGHT: 11/19 & 11/21 SALT OF THE EARTH/ESPERANZA – A MODERN OPERA. Begin 5 minute oral reports.**

QUIZ #13/Esperanza. **WHAT ROLE DID THE WOMEN PLAY IN THE MINER’S STRIKE?** Due 11/19 8 A.M.

VIDEO: Salt of the Earth

**WEEK NINE: 11/26 JOHN LEGUIZAMO Continue oral reports.**

PLAYS: John Leguizamo
Nov. 28 (NO CLASS.)  THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

VIDEO: John Leguizamo

WEEK TEN: 12/3 & 12/5 - FINISH ORAL REPORTS AND CONFIRM TOPIC FOR 1500 WORD RESEARCH PAPER. FINAL PAPER (30% of Grade) DUE: Weds. DEC.11, 5 P.M. Hard Copy only! (Mailbox, Dept. Theater and Dance) Late papers will be deducted two points for each day.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY


Reyes, Guillermo. “Deporting the Divas.” In GESTOS.

