COURSE DESCRIPTION
The course will examine the personal, political, historical and sacred faces of Latinas/Latinos in U.S. society from the perspective of a theory of transformation. Particular attention is given to the struggle of Latinas and Latinos with the archetypal stories of their cultural past and present. La Comunidad Latina has not had the opportunity to confront their heritage nor the dominant stories of the wider society. The very fact that only a lecture here and there is devoted to Latinos in courses on the family, politics or sociology attests to the invisibility of the community. The issues facing Latinas in the United States is important and deserves a focus of its own. We know from the latest census that Latinos are the youngest population in the United States; that their rate of increase through birth and migration is the largest in the nation; their growing involvement based on sheer numbers is having a significant impact on politics in the West, the Southwest and increasingly in the Northeastern United States and Florida. Yet la comunidad Latina suffers from low employment, poor education, substandard housing, inadequate Social services and political under-representation. This course seeks to explore the reasons for such powerlessness.

Purpose and goals of the course: The course intends to provide Latinas and Latinos as well as students from all backgrounds the opportunity to see a people in their own midst creating a community. The Latino community is struggling with and asking all the relevant questions: Who am I as an individual Latina or Latino and what is my relationship to my community and to the wider society? What are the stories of our inherited past? What are the consequences when we uncritically live these dramas? How do we create a new and more compassionate culture? In response to these questions strategies of transformation will be examined.

Prerequisites: none; this course is intended for lower and upper level undergraduates, majors or non-majors, as a free elective

BOOKS TO BE PURCHASED
David T. Abalos, The Latino Family and the Politics of Transformation
David T. Abalos, Latinos in the United States: The Sacred and the Political
Leslie Marmon Silko, Ceremony
Laura Esquivel, Like Water for Chocolate
Sandra Cisneros, Woman Hollering Creek

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
Papers: There will be a mid-term paper of 10-12 pages and a final work of 12-15 pages. Two in class essays will also be required as well as class discussion of assigned readings.
GRADING POLICY
The two major essays will count for 80% of your grade; the two in class essays and class discussion will count for the other 20% of the grade.

OFFICE HOURS
TTH 10:00-12:00 (and by appointment)
Office phone: 761-9472 (Department phone: 761-9180)

OUTLINE OF TOPICS AND READINGS
WEEK OF AUGUST 26
Overview of the semester; presentation of key concepts, objectives and goals of the course.

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 2
I. Introduction to the various Latino populations in the United States. Latinas and Latinos do not constitute a monolith but are composed of diverse social, economic, racial and religious groups.
   A. What is a Latina, a Latino? -- the issue of identity.
   B. Readings:
      3. The Plumed Serpent, D. H. Lawrence
      5. Hunger of Memory, Richard Rodriguez
      6. Homo Ludens, Johan Huizinga
      7. The Puerto Rican Experience, F. Cordasco and E. Bucchioni.
      8. The Spaniards, Americo Castro
      9. The Cuban American Experience, Thomas D. Baswell and James R. Curtis

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 9 AND 16
II. The personal, political, historical and sacred faces of Latina women and Latino men in the United States from the perspective of a theory of transformation.
   A. The Latino community and the core drama of transformation
   B. Readings:
      3. Cubans in Exile, Richard R. Fagan
      4. The New Class War, Cloward and Piven, pp. 1-39
5. Cuban Exiles in the United States, ed., Carlos E. Cortes
7. Eros and Civilization, Herbert Marcuse
8. The Anatomy of Dependence, Takeo Doi
9. The Tacit Dimension, Michael Polanyi
11. The Social Contract, J.J. Rousseau
12. Too Late the Phalarope, Alan Paton
15. Justice and the Politics of Difference, Iris Marion Young

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 23
III. Cultural Comparison between Latino Culture and Anglo Saxon Ethos: The Archetypal Stories of Uncritical Loyalty and Capitalism.
   A. The tragedy of people speaking past one another--stories and ways of life at odds with one another
   B. Readings:
      1. **"Reflections, Mexico and the United States", Octavio Paz
      4. Beyond Geography: The Western Spirit Against the Wilderness, Frederick Turner
      5. Galilean Journey, The Mexican-American Promise, Virgilio Elizondo
      6. La Carreta, René Marqués
      7. Life Against Death, Norman O. Brown
      8. Cien Años de Soledad, Gabriel García Márquez
      9. Invisible Man, Ralph Ellison
      10. Distant Neighbors, A Portrait of the Mexicans, Alan Riding
      11. I Heard the Owl Call My Name, Margaret Craven

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 30
IV. Economic Impediments To A More Human Life
   A. The Archetypal Story of Capitalism
   B. Readings:
      2. Race and Class in the Southwest, Mario Barrera, pp. 34-57.
3. The New Class War, Cloward and Piven, pp. 40-99.
4. Puerto Ricans in the Continental United States, Chapter II.
7. *The Archetype of Capitalism*, Manfred Halpern

**WEEK OF OCTOBER 7**

V. Race and Ethnicity as Political Issues

A. Latinas/Latinos challenge the stories of upward mobility and the story of tribalism.

B. Readings:

2. "Toward a Transforming Analysis of Social Classes", Manfred Halpern
5. The Colonizer and the Colonized, Albert Memmi.
6. The Assimilation of Cuban Exiles, Eleanor Meyer Rogg
10. The Puerto Rican Struggle, C. Rodríguez, pp. 31-46.
13. *Ceremony*, Leslie Marmon Silko, pp. 100-152
14. Playing in the Dark, Toni Morrison
15. Two Nations, Black and White, Separate, Hostile, Unequal, Andrew Hacker
16. In My Father's House, Kwame Anthony Appiah

**WEEK OF OCTOBER 14 AND 21** Mid-Term Paper Due

VI. The Politics of Bilingual/Bicultural and Multicultural Education: the Archetypal Story of Democracy

A. The United States public school system was established in the nineteenth century to socialize and nationalize the immigrants; why did Congress support bilingualism and biculturalism in 1968? What is multicultural and how does it relate to specific ethnic and racial group?

B. Readings:

6. Puerto Ricans in the Continental United States, Chapter III.
12. The Signifying Monkey, Henry Louis gates, Jr.
13. A Different Mirror, Ronald Takaki
14. Culture and Imperialism, Edward Said

WEEK OF OCTOBER 28 AND NOVEMBER 4

VII. Latina Women and the Family: An Internal Liberation Movement

A. The Archetypal Stories of Romantic Love and Patriarchy: The Politics of Male/Female Relations.

B. Readings:
1. *Like Water for Chocolate, Laura Esquivel"
2. "Woman Hollering Creek", Sandra Cisneros
12. La Familia, Chicano Families in the Urban Southwest 1848 to the Present, Richard Griswold del Castillo.
13. The Color Purple, Alice Walker.
15. Sor Juana, Octavio Paz.
16. The Mambo Kings Play Songs of Love, Oscar Hijuelos
17. Bread Givers, Anzia Yezierska
19. The Joy Luck Club, Amy Tan

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 11

VIII. Drugs, Gangs and Violence
A. Turning Towards Deformation
B. Readings:
2. The Wretched of the Earth, Frantz Fanon, pp. 35-106.
5. The Politics of Protest, Jerome Skolnick.
6. Occupied America, Rodolfo Acuña, Chapters IX and X
12. Blood on the Forge, William Attaway
13. *TBA

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 18

IX. Latinos and the Politics of Transformation
A. Grass Roots Politics and Party Politics
B. Readings:
1. Chicano Revolt in a Texas Town, John S. Shockley, Preface, pp. 111-149.
2. **"The Politics of Transformation", Chapter 4, Abalos, Latinos in the United States.
3. The New Class War, Cloward and Piven, pp. 100-124.
6. "Minorities in the American Class System," Joan W. Moore, Daedalus,
7. Pedagogy of the Oppressed, Paulo Freire.
14. The New Class War, Cloward and Piven, pp. 125-150

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 25 AND DECEMBER 2
XI. Latinas/Latinos and the Sacred
A. The Role of Religion in Assimilation and Liberation
B. Readings:
10. When Jesus Came the Corn Mothers Went Away, Ramon Gutiérrez
11. We Drink From Our Own Wells, Gustavo Gutiérrez

WEEK OF DECEMBER 9
XII. Latinas/Latinos Look to the Future
A. Strategies of Transformation: Creating New Archetypal Stories
B. Readings:
1. "Mexican Americans in the Urban Area: Will they Riot?", Ralph Guzmán in La Causa Politica, pp. 415-421

190
6. **The Declining Significance of Race**, William J. Wilson, Chapters 1, 6, 7 and 8.
7. **Beyond Black and White, An Alternative America**, Vernon J. Dixon and Badi Foster.
11. *Ceremony*, Silko, pp. 248-262
12. **Afro-American Literature in the Twentieth Century: The Achievement of Intimacy**, Michael Cooke