

The increasingly greater presence and power of Latino voters will change American politics. Latinos have recently surpassed African-Americans as the most numerous minority group in the United States. Latino voters typically favor Democrats by about a two-to-one margin. This margin, coupled with population growth, immigration, and increased citizenship rates for Latinos, provides opportunities for Democrats and imperils the political prospects for Republicans, even in Republican-tilting states such as Texas. Both Democrats and Republicans have targeted Latinos as an emerging group to court and secure, a targeting strongly evident in recent elections. Against this political backdrop, this year Congress has struggled with immigration reform—the House adopted tougher border security and policing, the Senate adopted a broader reform complementing greater border security with a guest worker program and pathway to citizenship. The clash of issues touched off massive rallies, largely by Latinos, with slogans such as “*¡Hoy Marchamos! – ¡Mañana Votamos!*” (“Today we march, tomorrow we vote.”).

This course will rely on documentaries and television news clips as well as other journalistic and academic analyses of Latino politics. Topics to be considered include immigration reform as well as the composition and trends of the Latino population—not just their numbers and migration patterns but also the evolving socio-economic characteristics of Latinos; the diversity within the Latino community; the issues, political preferences, partisanship, and turnout rates of Latino voters. Recent elections will be considered, but also the broader context offered by Latino politics in recent decades.

Each of the three analytical exams, the research paper assignments, and class participation (largely unscheduled quizzes on the assigned reading to reward those who do and understand the readings) constitutes roughly 20 percent of your course grade.

Ultimately your grade turns on my impression of how well you have done in this course. What impresses me? Think of this course as your job and approach it with professionalism. Take this course seriously and let me know that. How? Attend class; be prepared for class--read the assignments for understanding, be ready to ask and answer questions, take an informed role in discussions; arrive early to class; remain for the entire class; be attentive in class without distracting me or your classmates with cell phones, text messages, side conversations, bathroom trips or any other reason for coming-and-going, and so forth; take exams when scheduled and complete assignments when due; demonstrate your understanding on the exams, quizzes, and research paper assignments.

After three unexcused absences I drop you from the course. An excused absence is almost exclusively restricted to religious reasons, certain university activities, documented medical conditions, or documented family emergencies. Absences for religious reasons or for university extracurricular activities necessitate communication with me in advance. If you have a disability that requires an accommodation, see me in advance.

Each of you must meet with me for 15 minutes in the first two weeks of the semester. Sign up for an appointment time during the first day in class.

Most readings will be on Blackboard or the internet. Many of the readings are on reserve in Fondren. Also required but not listed below: you are expected to supplement the listed readings by reading or watching news coverage of Latino politics in the U.S.

There may be changes to the readings and assignments listed below. This course requires the use of Blackboard at <http://cmsbb.systems.smu.edu/>.

Th, Aug. 17 \* Introduction and Overview

Fr., Aug. 18 \* 9.30-11 am, 2.30-4 pm appointment meetings

Mon., Aug. 21 \* 9.30-11 am, 2.30-4 pm appointment meetings

Tu, Aug. 22 \* Immigration—what's the problem? \*  
Huntington, "The Hispanic Challenge," *Foreign Policy*, March-April 2004, 13 pages; "Commentary on 'The Hispanic Challenge'," *Foreign Policy*, May-June 2004, 22 pages

Wed., Aug. 23 \* 9.30-11 am, 2.30-4 pm appointment meetings

Th, Aug. 24 \* Immigration—what's the problem?,  
continued \* DeSipio, "The Engine of Latino Growth: Latin American Immigration and Settlement in the United States," in Garcia, *Pursuing Power*, c. 12, 314-342

Fr., Aug. 25 \* 9.30-11 am, 2.30-4 pm appointment meetings

Mon., Aug. 28 \* 9.30-11 am, 2.30-3.15 pm appointment meetings

Tu, Aug. 29 \* Establishing Latino Identity and the Demographics of Community: National Origin, Migration, Class, and Mobility \* U.S. Census Bureau, "The Hispanic Population in the United States: March 2002," 1-8

<http://www.census.gov/prod/2003pubs/p20-545.pdf>; "Hispanics: A People in Motion," Pew Hispanic Center, January 2005, 19 pages <http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/40.pdf>; Suro and Passel, "The Rise of the Second Generation: Changing Patterns in Hispanic Population Growth," Pew Hispanic Center, October 14, 2003, 1-9 <http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/22.pdf>; National Council of La Raza, FAQ, 20 questions: "About the Latino Community," 2006, 1-4, [http://www.ncr.org/files/1466\\_file\\_FreqAskedQues06\\_FNL\\_revised.pdf](http://www.ncr.org/files/1466_file_FreqAskedQues06_FNL_revised.pdf)

Th, Aug. 31 \* Illegal Immigration \* Passel, "Unauthorized Migrants: Numbers and Characteristics," Pew Hispanic Center, June 14, 2005, 1-44 <http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/46.pdf>

Lecture from: Pew, "Modes of Entry for the Unauthorized Migrant Population," May 22, 2006 <http://pewhispanic.org/files/factsheets/19.pdf>

Tu, Sep. 5 \* The Politics of Demography and Immigration Reform, 2006 \* Cook, "America's Changing Demographics," *The Rhodes Cook Letter*, April 2006, 3-16

Th, Sep. 7 \* Controlling immigration: U.S. history \* David Heer, *Immigration in America's Future* (1996), c.4, 27-76; Susan Martin, "The Politics of U.S. Immigration Reform," *Political Quarterly* 2003, 132-149 (reprinted in Sarah Spencer, ed., *The Politics of Migration* (2003), 132-149).

Tu, Sep. 12 \* Immigration: current U.S. experience

\* Cornelius and Tsuda, "Controlling Immigration: The Limits of Government Intervention," in Cornelius, et al., *Controlling Immigration*, 2<sup>d</sup> ed. (2004), 3-48; Wayne A. Cornelius, "Controlling 'Unwanted' Immigration: Lessons from the United States, 1993-2004," *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, Vol. 31, No. 4 (July 2005), pp. 775-794; Philip Martin, "The United States: The Continuing Immigration Debate" in Cornelius, et al., *Controlling Immigration*, 2<sup>d</sup> ed. (2004), 45-80; Eliot Turner and Marc R. Rosenblum, "Solving the Unauthorized Migrant Problem: Proposed Legislation in the U.S.," *Migration Information Source*,

<http://www.migrationinformation.org/Feature/display.cfm?ID=333>, September 1, 2005, 1-5, and Jennifer Medina, "Why Hard Work + Low Pay = More Anxiety," *New York Times*, April 10, 2005, 6 pages

Th, Sep. 14 \* Why immigrate? \* Sonia Nazario and Don Bartletti, "Enrique's Journey," *The Los Angeles Times*, September 29-October 7, 2002, 91 pages (available on Blackboard or, at <http://www.ici.kent.edu/dnb2.htm>, scroll down to "Enrique's Journey" and download the file).

Tu, Sep. 19 \* House and Senate reform of immigration, 2006 \* Migration Policy Institute, "Side-By Side Chart for Major Immigration Legislation Pending in 109th Congress," 8 pages, January 2006

[http://www.migrationpolicy.org/ITFIAF/legislation\\_jan06.pdf](http://www.migrationpolicy.org/ITFIAF/legislation_jan06.pdf); "The Debate over Immigration Reform," *New York Times*, 2 pages, no date (2006); Briggs, "Guestworker Program's: Lessons from the Past and Warnings for the Future," Center for Immigration Studies, March 2004, 7 pages <http://www.cis.org/articles/2004/back304.pdf>; Krikorian, "Flawed Assumptions Underlying Guestworker Programs," Center for Immigration Studies, February 2004, 11 pages <http://www.cis.org/articles/2004/back204.pdf>

Th, Sep. 21 \* House and Senate reform of immigration, 2006, continued \* White House, "Comprehensive Immigration Reform," current, 3 pages; Senator Hutchison and Representative Pence, "Securing the Borders and Reforming Immigration without Amnesty," July 25, 2006, 3 pages;

**Tu, Sep. 26 \* Exam One**

Th, Sep. 28 \* Who needs immigrant labor? \* "Dangerous Conditions For Poultry Plant Workers," March 10, 1998 and "Why U.S. Poultry Plants Hire Illegal Immigrants," A Closer Look by Erin Hayes, *World News Tonight with Peter Jennings*, March 11, 1998, transcript, 1-3

Tu, Oct. 3 \* Who needs immigrant labor?, continued \* Peter Brownell, "The Declining Enforcement of Employer Sanctions," Migration Information Source, <http://www.migrationinformation.org/Feature/display.cfm?ID=332>, September 1, 2005, 8 pages;

Th, Oct. 5 \* Public Attitudes and the Politics of Immigration \* Thomas J. Espenshade and Maryanne Belanger, "Immigration and Public Opinion," in Marcelo Suárez-Orozco, ed., *Crossings: Mexican Immigration in Interdisciplinary Perspective* (1998), c. 12, 361-408; Uhlaner and Garcia, "Latino Public Opinion," in Norrande and Wilcox, *Understanding Public Opinion*, 2d ed., c. 4, 77-101; Anna Gorman, "Day Laborers: Cities Seek a Way That Will Work," *Los Angeles Times*, August 29, 2005; Suro and Escobar, "2006 National Survey of Latinos: The Immigration Debate," Pew Hispanic Center, July 13, 2006, 1-32

<http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/68.pdf> and "toplines," 1-20  
<http://pewhispanic.org/files/other/68.1.pdf>

Tu, Oct. 10 \* no class meeting: Fall Break

Th, Oct. 12 \* Public Attitudes and the Politics of Immigration, continued \* Wayne A. Cornelius, "Ambivalent Reception: Mass Public Responses to the 'New' Latino Immigration to the United States," in Marcelo Suárez-Orozco and Mariela M. Páez, eds., *Latinos: Remaking America* (2002), c. 8, 165-189

Tu, Oct. 17 \* Latino Voters \* Suro, Fry, Passel, "Hispanics and the 2004 Election: Population, Electorate and Voters," Pew Hispanic Center, June 27, 2005, 1-44; Louis DeSipio and Rodolfo O. de la Garza, "Forever Seen as New: Latino Participation in American Elections," in Marcelo Suárez-Orozco and Mariela M. Páez, eds., *Latinos: Remaking America* (2002), c. 20, 398-409

Th, Oct. 19 \* Latino Civic Participation \* Pew Hispanic Center/Kaiser Family Foundation, "2004 National Survey of Latinos: Politics and Civil Participation," July 22, 2004, 1-27  
<http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/33.pdf>

Tu, Oct. 24 \* The Latino Community: Interests, Culture, and Public Opinion: Cohesion and Division

\* Skerry, "E Pluribus Hispanic," in Garcia, *Pursuing Power*, c. 1, 16-30

Th, Oct. 26 \* Public Policy: Voting Rights, Redistricting, and Representation \* Reading TBA

Tu, Oct. 31 \* Community Formation and Coalitional Affinities with Other Minorities \* McClain and Stewart, "Coalition or Competition? Patterns of Interminority Group Relations," c. 5 in *Can We All Get Along?*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. (2006), 181-206

**Th, Nov. 2 \* Exam 2**

Tu, Nov. 7 (election day) \* History of Latinos in the U.S. \* Rodney E. Hero, *Latinos and the U.S. Political System*, "The History and Socioeconomic Status of Latino Groups," c. 3, 31-55;

Th, Nov. 9 \* History of Latinos in the U.S., continued \* "Chicano!," c. 9, "In Quest of a Homeland," 154-170

Tu, Nov. 14 \* History of Latinos in the U.S., continued \* "Chicano!," c. 8, "The Struggle in the Fields," 130-151

Th, Nov. 16 \* History of Latinos in the U.S., continued \* Fraga and Leal, "Playing the 'Latino Card': Race, Ethnicity, and National Party Politics," *Du Bois Review: Social Science Research on Race*, 2004, v1: 297-317, 20 pages

Tu, Nov. 21 \* History of Latinos in the U.S. \* "Chicano!," c. 13, "The Road to Political Empowerment," 228-247

Th, Nov. 23 \* no class meeting (Thanksgiving holidays)

Tu, Nov. 28 \* The Future: Growth, Diversity, and Pan-ethnicity \* 43. de la Garza, "The Future of Latino Politics," Real Instituto Elcano Working Paper 59/2004, November 30, 2004, 1-20  
<http://www.realinstitutoelcano.org/documentos/151.asp>

Th, Nov. 30 \* no class meeting (follow Wednesday class schedule)

**Mon., Dec. 4 \* Exam 3**