Chicanos/Latinos and the Law ES 452
Winter 2007
Syllabus

Tuesday 4:00-6:50pm

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Grading (Undergraduate Students): Based on 5 written assignments described below. Each assignment is due when specified. Papers not turned in when due will be lowered one grade (e.g., A- to B+), and lowered an additional grade for each week until turned in.

Grading (Graduate Students): Same as above except 1/3 of the grade will be based on an in-class presentation of the student’s research and findings on their written assignments.

January 9 Overview of Latina/o Stereotypes and Treatment of Latinas/os in American Law
Greasers and Gringos read preface and pages 1-29

January 16 Latinos and Immigration Policy  Greasers and Gringos, 114-134, 141-143

January 23 Latinos and Labor Law  Greasers and Gringos, 134-141, Class Packet 1-50

Writing Assignment #1 (due at the start of class, January 30): Prepare a “mock” newspaper editorial that proposes reform in federal immigration policy addressing immigration across the U.S./Mexico border (e.g., supporting a guest worker plan, supporting the alternative of a pathway to amnesty, the Minuteman Project imperative of border closure, or your own approach to the immigration issue).

January 30 Latinos in the Criminal Justice System  Greasers and Gringos, 30-63, Class Packet 51-79, 2229-234

Writing Assignment #2 (due at start of class, February 6): Prepare a newspaper editorial that speaks to some issue of racial profiling either by government or by private parties (e.g., store owners or the profiling of suspected terrorist passengers by airlines personnel).

February 6 Latinos and Welfare Law and Policy  Greasers and Gringos, 64-81, Class Packet 80-95
Latinos and Language Law and Policy  Greasers and Gringos, 82-103

Writing Assignment #3 (due at the start of class February 13): Write a newspaper editorial either for or against a hypothetical state initiative in Oregon modeled after California’s Proposition 187.
Writing Assignment #4 (due at the start of class February 27): Write a newspaper editorial either for or against hypothetical legislation introduced in the Oregon legislature to declare English the official language of Oregon and to outlaw the use of other languages in state government—OR—write a newspaper editorial either supporting or opposing judges who insist that parents speak English to their children as a condition in deciding custody of children in divorce proceedings.

Writing Assignment #5 (due at start of class, March 6): Write a newspaper editorial either for or against a hypothetical state initiative in Oregon modeled after the California initiative eliminating affirmative action programs based on race or ethnicity. -OR Write a newspaper editorial either for or against a hypothetical state initiative in Oregon modeled after the California initiative and intended to eliminate bilingual education programs.

March 6 Addressing Media Stereotypes and Hate Speech Through Law and Non-law Strategies Greasers and Gringos, 169-224, Class Packet 209-217

March 13 Latinos and Politics Greasers and Gringos, 162-168, 225-233, Class Packet 218-228