

**Government 2311**  
**Mexican American and Latinx Politics**

**Western Texas College**  
**Department of Social Sciences**

**I. Basic Course Information**

- A. Course description – The study of Mexican American and Latinx politics within the American political experience. Topics include historical, cultural, socioeconomic, and constitutional issues that pertain to the study of Mexican Americans and other Latinx populations in the United States. Other topics such as political participation, governmental institutions, electoral politics, political representation, demographic trends, and other contemporary public policy debates will also be addressed.
- B. Prerequisites – Student have a proficiency in reading and writing.

**II. Student Learning Outcomes**

- A. Explain the construction of identity among Mexican Americans and other Latinx populations and how identity is expressed as part of the political process.
- B. Analyze empirical data to explain the political behavior, including public opinion, of Mexican Americans and other Latinx populations in the political system.
- C. Identify, formulate, and answer questions related to the institutions, structures, and processes that impact the lives and social status of Mexican Americans and other Latinx populations.
- D. Evaluate the current events and conditions related to policy challenges facing Mexican Americans and other Latinx populations.
- E. Compare and contrast various representational roles as they pertain to Mexican Americans and other Latinx populations.
- F. Identify examples of situations where considerations of Mexican American and other Latinx cultures results in more effective public policy and administration.
- G. Discuss the struggle of Mexican Americans and other Latinx populations for political and social equality and the role of the American judicial system in promoting their civil rights and civil liberties.

**III. Major Course Requirements**

- A. **Exams:** There will be **three to four** exams throughout the semester. Exam questions may include any combination of the following: True/False, Multiple Choice, Fill in the blank, short answer, and essay.
- B. **Writing Assignments:** There will be **multiple** writing assignments throughout the semester.
- C. **Collaborative Exercises:** There will be **multiple** collaborative exercises spaced throughout the semester. Each of these assignments will require

you to work with your peers analyzing documents, articles, and other information regarding toward the study of American government.

**IV. Information on Books and Other Course Materials**

A. Garcia, J. (2021) *Latino Politics in America: Community, Culture, and Interests*. Fourth Edition. Pearson Publishing. ISBN-13: 9781538144060.

**V. Other Policies** – Please refer to the [WTC Course Catalog](#) for the following:

- A. Campus Calendar
- B. Final Exam Schedule
- C. How to drop a class
- D. Withdrawal information
- E. Student Conduct/Academic Integrity
- F. Students with Disabilities

**VI. Course Topics**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Chapter</b>
Introduction to Latino Politics	Garcia, Chapter 1
Community Building	Garcia, Chapter 2
Culture & Demographics	Garcia, Chapter 3
Latino Subgroups	Garcia, Chapter 4
Politics of Interests and Culture	Garcia, Chapter 5
Latino Political Participation	Garcia, Chapter 6
Latinos in the Electoral Arena	Garcia, Chapter 7
Latino Leadership	Garcia, Chapter 8
Immigration	Garcia, Chapter 9
Education, Health, & Voting Rights	Garcia, Chapter 10
Political Alliances	Garcia, Chapter 11
The Latino Community Beyond Politics	Garcia, Chapter 12
COVID-19 & Racial Justice Movements	Garcia, Chapter 13

\*The above topics, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change.

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