

NAME			H/S/S	CREDITS
MEXICO- U.S. RELATIONS		THEORY	4	8
COURSE NUMBER	COURSE CODE	PRACTICAL	0	0
100010		TOTAL	4	8

COORDINATION

COOPERACIÓN ACADÉMICA

GENERAL OBJECTIVE:

1. Identify the most important topics in U.S.–Mexico bilateral relations, past, present, and future.
2. Give a perspective about how the issues have developed and have been handled throughout history.
3. Identify important cultural differences and different ways of handling issues, based on sociological theories.
4. Consider the future of U.S.–Mexico Relations.
5. Discuss stereotypes and xenophobia.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:

1. Write academic essays on U.S.–Mexico relations.
2. Prepare oral presentations on the topics.
3. Recognize the most important issues in Mexico–U.S. relations, their history and possible future.
4. Develop a personal opinion about immigration, xenophobia, stereotypes, drug trafficking, and more, supported by bibliography.

MAIN TOPICS

1. Trends in Sociology
 - 1.1. What is culture?
 - 1.2. Cultural Relativism
 - 1.3. Universal Human Rights
 - 1.4. Globalization Theories
 - 1.5. Multiculturalism
 - 1.6. Anti-multiculturalism
 - 1.7. Epistemologies of the South
2. History of U.S.–Mexico Relations
 - 2.1. Conquest to Independence
 - 2.2. Poinsett, the Monroe Doctrine, Manifest Destiny, U.S.–Mexican War, Texas and California, French Intervention, Benito Juárez
 - 2.3. From Industrialization, Porfirio Diaz, and Teddy Roosevelt to the Good Neighbor Policy
 - 2.4. WWII, Cold War, and Import Substitution Industrialization
 - 2.5. Neoliberalism and anti-neoliberalism to the present (including NAFTA and the backlash and “renegotiation”)
3. Immigration and Drug Trafficking
 - 3.1. History of Flows, Treaties, and Agreements: Braceros and other Documented Workers
 - 3.2. Undocumented Immigrants: Who, Where, and Why
 - 3.3. The Issue in U.S. Politics Today: The players, the politics, supply and demand, divided families, etc.
 - 3.4. History of Drug Trafficking: Where and How
 - 3.5. Supply and Demand
 - 3.6. Response: The Merida Initiative, etc.
 - 3.7. Weapons

3.8. Ideas about drugs, use in the U.S., and future scenarios

4. Walls and Bridges: Binational Cooperation and Xenophobia

- 4.1. Xenophobia, Racism, and Realist Politics: From Schmitt to Huntington to Trump
- 4.2. Binational Organizations and Projects

5. Cultural Relations

- 4.1. Kohl and Hofstede
- 4.2. Spanglish, Food, and Other Hybrid Ideas
- 4.3. Mr. Trump's ideas and opposing ideas

METHOD

Reading, lectures, role playing, videos, teamwork, roundtable discussions, learning thru discussion, guest speakers on Drug Trafficking and NAFTA resistance movements (Zapatistas), student presentations, essays.

Reading:

Various, from Internet and current news

Anthony Giddens

Samuel Huntington

Boaventura de Sousa Santos

Robert Kohl

Geert Hofstede

Joel Poinsett

Martin Sicker

U.S. Document Transcripts (Monroe Doctrine, Manifest Destiny, Big Stick and Good Neighbor Policies)

Office of the Historian

New York Times

Harvard Files

Trump–Pence Make America Great Again Official Website

NPR

Forbes Magazine

U.S. Department of State

Council on Foreign Relations

Mexico Solidarity Network (Zapatistas)

The Economist

Washington Post

U.S.–Mexico Binational Commission Working Group on Homeland Security and Border Cooperation

Político Magazine

San Diego Union Tribune

European Journal of American Studies

EVALUATION

REQUIREMENTS

80% assistance required.

GRADING TOOLS

INSTRUMENTS		PERCENTAGE	OBJECTIVES
2 Exams		25%	Two essay-type tests on material covered.
2 Presentations / Participation in class		25% / 25%	2 oral presentations / Class participation in activities, group learning, etc.
2 Essays		25%	2 written essays on topics related to the course.