CCS/LATAM 310 Mexican and Chicano Music
Classroom AL 204
Thursdays: 4-6:40 PM
Instructor: Coral MacFarland Thuet
Contact information: cmacfarl@mail.sdsu.edu (best way to reach me),
Office: AL 372
Office Hours: Wednesday and Friday 9:45 to 11:45 AM

Required Texts:
Barrio Rhythm: Mexican American Music in Los Angeles
Mexican and Chicano Music, second edition by José “Pepe” Villarino

Other materials: (no need to purchase books or recorded music):
Chicano Soul: Recordings & History of an American Culture by Ruben Molina
Corridos Sin Fronteras/Ballads Without Borders by Smithsonian Institution
Online readings and music listening will be assigned.

Course Description:
This course focuses on Mexican music of the Southwest and the Chicano Barrio with an emphasis on the Mexican corrido (ballad), its history and development in Mexico and the United States. The areas to be covered are (1) Pre-Cortesian musical contributions, (2) music from the Iberian Peninsula, (3) Mexican music, and (4) Mexican-American and Chicano music. This course will demonstrate how these musical entities blend to form and enhance Mexican and Chicano music today. The class was developed to promote an appreciation of the music, history, and culture of Mexico and the Southwest through its rich musical heritage. Mexican-Americans are the largest ethnic group in the United States with an especially long history in this region. Music is an important part of the culture, which is deep rooted and valuable both as an art form and as a means of identity.

Course Objectives:
This class will help students develop a solid foundation that will provide them knowledge and understanding of the music, as well as an appreciation of Mexican and Chicano culture. Students will be able to critically comprehend and creatively respond to the ever presence of said music. A historical overview will be given since music is part of the larger “culture of man” and as such cannot be truly understood in isolation. Students will learn about Mexican and Chicano history and culture through music. The student will learn how music changes as it crosses international borders.

Procedures:
The instructor will lecture on the historical background of the various genres of Mexican and Chicano music.
Class members will participate by listening to music, speakers, and lectures, and by participating in class discussions.
Guest speakers, musicians, and dancers will present their craft during class. Students are to actively listen, take notes, ask questions, and discuss presentations at the end of the sessions.

Students will review films and videos relevant to Mexican and Chicano music and listen to relevant recordings.

Small groups of students will work together on a research project on a Mexican and/or Chicano music genre and will present the findings to the class. The focus will be on how the musical genres evolve through time due to social, political, economic, and cultural changes. Students will analyze the particular genre and will investigate how the music changes as it crosses borders.

Students will be given exams based on the reading assignments, class lectures, music, films and videos presented in class and assigned, student presentations, and lectures presented by invited guests.

Students will be further exposed to the various musical styles by attending two outside class music/dance events. Students are encouraged to attend events that are free of charge or of minimal expense. Students are also encouraged to share event information with the class at the beginning of each session.

Students will be given listening assignments. There is no need to purchase any music.

Language is a very important part of culture. There are terms, names of instruments, music genres, artist names, etc., that only have Spanish or indigenous names and no English translations exist. The Students are responsible to read and study all reading assignments prior to the beginning of class. The instructor may or may not go over all the readings in class.

Each student will receive a number at the beginning of the semester. This number is to be included in every piece of paper that is turned in to the instructor. The number should be written on the right hand corner of every document. If the student does not write the assigned number on each document, two points will be deducted from the particular assignment, quiz, or exam.

**REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION CRITERIA**

The student will demonstrate knowledge of the history and background of Mexican and Chicano music by satisfactorily completing the following tasks: pop quizzes based on assigned readings, two exams, two outside musical event essays, group class presentation, and an a research paper.

**Pop quizzes:** There will be 5 pop quizzes during the semester. Each quiz is worth 10 points. The quizzes are based on the reading assignment for that week. This is done to insure reading assignments are done prior to the beginning of each class session. If you miss class or are late to class, you cannot take the quiz at a later time. There will be an opportunity to earn 10 extra credit points during the semester to make up for one missed quiz.

**Music events:** Students are required to attend and review two musical events outside of class related to Mexican and/or Chicano music or dance. A 2 full page essay for each event is to be written and turned in on time. The report must be typed using Times New Roman font, 12-point size font, use standard margins and be double spaced. Student must attach proof of event attendance on the back of each report. As proof of attendance, have a picture of yourself taken at the event or take it yourself (“selfie”). You must be in the picture! Staple it to the back of your report. On the top left corner of the front page of the paper write your name, date, class name and number, title of paper “Event #1 or Event #2”. Please single space this information. On the right hand corner write your personal number which will be given to you at the beginning of the semester. Please do not send pictures or videos via the Internet. Reports must be turned in by the date they are due and no later than 4 pm. Papers will not be accepted electronically except under
special circumstances and it must be approved by the instructor prior to the due date. If proof of attendance is not attached to the report when it is due, it will be considered “late.” A student may turn in a report “late” but will receive no more than 50% possible points. All papers must be stapled. The essay should be well written, organized, clear, and proper grammar should be used. The paper should include basic information such as the type of event, where it took place, the date, the name of the musical group or artist the student listened to, and the genre. The main focus of the paper is to write about two new and valuable lessons learned by listening to the music and attending the event. Be specific and clear. Your grade will be based on the depth of what you learned, paper organization, writing skills, grammar, and the following of instructions. Please use proper English. Slang is not acceptable. If you use quotes, do not block from the rest of the paragraph. Go to the department of Rhetoric and Writing Studies or the English Department’s “drop-in-tutoring” services if you need help.

If you are currently enrolled in CCS/LATAM 380, you may not use the same event for both classes. Events must be attended during the current semester.

Exams: There will be two exams. They will consist of multiple choice, true and false, short answer and/or essay questions. The first exam will cover the first half of the semester and the second exam the second half.

Assignments: Written assignments are due on a specified date. Assignments will not be accepted electronically unless previously arranged with the instructor and only under special circumstances. All assignments are due at the beginning of the class meeting.

Group Project: You are required to participate in a group project. Small student groups will be formed and will be assigned a Mexican or Chicano music/dance genre for a class presentation. The students are required to listen to the music and research the cultural, social, linguistic, religious, gender, political, educational and/or historical implications or context of the music. Students are to speak about the artists, lyrics and instrumentation (if relevant). An important area of discussion would be how the music changes when, and if, it crosses the U.S.-Mexican border and/or other borders. Students are highly encouraged to interview local musicians that perform the assigned genre of music and to photograph and/or videotape the artist with his/her permission and include these images in their presentation. The presentation will be limited to 19-20 minutes per group. If students go over the allotted time, they will be asked to wrap it up within two minutes and points will be deducted. Students are to equally share responsibilities. Every group member will do research and will be part of the class presentation. Students are to check the class equipment at least one week prior to their group presentation. It is important to do so in order to avoid technical difficulties and/or delays on the day of the presentation. Please make sure you eliminate commercials if you use videos from the web.

Each group is to turn in a list of research sources: books, magazines, music listened to, interview dates, etc. Students must also orally cite sources when presenting.

Students are to critically listen to the music genre they are reporting on and come up with their own findings. Those findings are to be presented to the class. PLAGIARISM IS CHEATING. Do not copy information and report it as your own research. When you need to support an argument by using other people’s research or opinions, you must cite your sources on your paper and the oral presentation. Students will receive a group grade. The grade will be based on the quality of research, originality, creativity, organization, distribution of work, original findings, and conclusions reached. Think outside
the box! You will also be graded on how the presentation flows, the use of images and music and if you meet all the basic requirements aforementioned. This is not an oral communications class but you should make sure your presentation is well organized by having a good introduction, body, and conclusion. If a group member does not do his/her share of the work, you are to inform the professor right away so the problem is resolved in a timely fashion. If a student does not show up the day of the presentation, that student will receive a “0” grade and may affect the grade of the rest of the group if it affects the presentation. If a group member knows ahead of time that she/he will be absent on the day of the group presentation, it is up to the group to trade with another group and to notify the instructor in advance (it is acceptable to trade time slots with another group, but it is the responsibility of the groups to make the arrangement, not the instructors). All group members should be prepared to step in. It is important that you know what each group member is reporting on so there is no repetition of information. You should have your presentation ready to go at least one week before you present so you can resolve issues or possible problems. Individual term papers are due the day the student presents or was to originally present (in case a switch was made).

**Paper:** A three-page paper will be turned in by each student the day their group presents. This paper will be based on the political, cultural, social, economic, linguistic, religious, gender, educational, historical and/or trans-border implications or context of the music genre your group researched. Only one of the aforementioned topics will be reported on by each student. The group will decide which group member will write on each of the topics. A Works Cited sheet must be included in addition to the 3 page paper. It must be clear to the professor which topic the student is writing about. If the student does not complete the assignment on time, he/she may turn it in a week late but earning only half of the points.

**Extra credit:** There will be an opportunity to earn extra credit. You can earn up to 10 points. If you missed a quiz, the extra credit points will be the opportunity for you to make them up. You will be asked to analyze the lyrics of a corrido/ballad that has not been analyzed in the past. The book by Villarino has several examples of this.

**TURNITIN**

Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. You may submit your papers in such a way that no identifying information about you is included. Another option is that you may request, in writing, that your papers not to be submitted to Turnitin.com. However, if you choose this option you will be required to provide documentation to substantiate that the papers are your original work and do not include any plagiarized material. For additional information and instructions pertaining to Turnitin, consult the ITS Turitin resource page at:
http://its.sdsu.edu/tech/plagiarism.html

**PLAGIARISM and CHEATING.** Plagiarism will result in a 0 grade on the assigned project, a full grade reduction at the end of the course, and the student will be reported to the University. If a student is caught cheating on an exam the above applies AND they may also fail the course.
Academic misconduct representative of the falsification of a student’s academic performance is considered plagiarism and is unacceptable as is unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing class work for credit (cheating). Plagiarism can be described as the taking of another’s ideas or writings (as well as material from the Web) and presenting them as your own through unethical or unauthorized behavior. If you quote material word for word (verbatim) you should follow appropriate MLA or APA formatting such as blocking quotes or using quotation marks at the start and end of such material as well as cite the appropriate source. Plagiarism will result in a grade reduction and/or course failure. For more information, read the chapter on plagiarism in the SDSU General Catalog or go to:
http://www.wpacouncil.org/node/9 or
https://www11.georgetown.edu/programs/gervase/hc/plagiarism.html

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR DISABILITIES
If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need accommodations for this class, it is your responsibility to contact Student Disability Services at (619) 594-6473. To avoid any delay in the receipt of your accommodations, you should contact Student Disability Services as soon as possible. Please note that accommodations are not retroactive, and that accommodations based upon disability cannot be provided until you have presented your instructor with an accommodation letter from Student Disability Services. Your cooperation is appreciated.

BLACKBOARD
Check Blackboard on a regular basis for your assignments, grades, course documents, and announcements.

NOTE: The use of cell phones, listening devices, or any other electronic devices is prohibited in class. Please turn off and store away all equipment before class begins. This class requires active listening.

WAIVER: Since outside activities are part of the pedagogy of this class, students must sign a waiver releasing and discharging any and all claims of danger, death, personal injury, or property damage against San Diego State University as a result of your participation in outside school events. Because there will be guests artists visiting this class, there may be changes to the schedule. Students will be notified of changes that affect student preparation.

CCS 310 / LATAM 310 Mexican and Chicano Music Fall 2014 Calendar

Week 1, Aug. 28
Introduction to Mexican and Chicano Music- Course overview. No assignment.

Week 2, Sept. 4
Pre-Cortesian Music
READ: Introduction and Chapter 1 Mex and Chicano Music
Danza, Aztec and Mayan Indigenous music-

Week 3, Sept. 11
Indigenous music continued
The Romance Corrido and a World Called Mexican Music
READ: Chapters 2 and 3 Mexican and Chicano Music
Lecture and class discussion-overview of Mexican and Chicano Music genres, select working
groups.

**Week 4, Sept. 18**
Sones-Son Jarocho, Canto Cardenche, Son Calentano, Huapango  READ: Chapter 5 Mexican and
Chicano Music and READ: http://www.ocweekly.com/2009-08-27/music/los-cojolites-son-
jarcho/

**Week 5, Sept. 25**
El Mariachi - on both sides of the border
READ: Chapter 4 Mexican and Chicano Music. 87-93 Barrio Rhythm
There will be an additional reading assignment TBA

**Week 6, Oct. 2**
Mexican Classic and Classical Music Then and Now The Golden Age/La Epoca de Oro  READ: Chapter 6 Mexican and Chicano Music, pp. 1-16 Barrio Rhythms.
Event #1 due today.

**Week 7, Oct. 9**
EXAM#1 (based on all readings, lectures, films, guest speakers, and musicians up to Oct. 2)
La Estudiantina, La Rondalla and El Corrido! Corridos de la Revolución!, READ: Chapters 7, 8, and 9 Mexican and Chicano Music (definitely no quiz today)

**Week 8, Oct. 16**
More Corridos and Musica del Norte!
READ: Chapters 10, 11, and 12 Mexican and Chicano Music, pp. 17-39 Barrio Rhythm

**Week 9, Oct. 23**
Lalo Guerrero,  READ: Chapter 13 Mex and Chicano Music-Lalo Guerrero, pp.158-183 Barrio
Rhythm.

**Week 10, Oct. 30**
Chicano Rock READ Chapter 14 Mex and Chicano Music- Chicano Rock,  pp. 233-254 Barrio
Rhythm

**Week 11, Nov. 6**
The Eastside Sound  READ pp. 95-122 Barrio Rhythm,  Music Lecture
GROUP PRESENTATIONS, papers due from presenters

**Week 12, Nov. 13**
WWII era…jazz and pop of the era  READ: pp.131-157 Barrio Rhythm, lecture
GROUP PRESENTATIONS, papers due from presenters
Week 13, Nov. 20
Change, Conflict and Childhoods READ pp. 259-285 Barrio Rhythm, lecture
Event # 2 due today.
GROUP PRESENTATIONS, papers due from presenters

Week 14, Nov. 27
No Class (Thanksgiving)

Week 15, Dec. 4
GROUP PRESENTATIONS.
Extra Credit Due

Week 16, Dec. 11
EXAM #2 (FINAL) 4-6 pm

*Speakers, performances, and films are tentative. Above schedule may change. Student will be notified in advance of changes if it affects student preparation.

POSSIBLE POINTS
Quizzes 5 X 10 50
Exam #1 125
Exam #2 125
Group Presentation 100
Term Paper: 50
Event essays 2 x 25 50
Possible points 500 Plus 10 Extra credit

Grading scale:
A 475 to 500
A- 450 to 474
B+ 425 to 449
B 400 to 424
B- 375 to 399
C+ 350 to 374
C 325 to 349
C- 300 to 324
D+ 275 to 299
D 250 to 274
F to 249