

Latino Metropolis

Tuesday, 3:30pm – 6:20pm

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The course will explore across generations the process of Latinx urbanization, particularly in the context of the changing political economy of California. A particular focus will be placed on Latinx perspectives and experiences that inhibit, deter or complicate their participation in urban development and environmental protection efforts. The course will examine struggles between individuals and groups over access to and control of land, water and other natural resources. Through the themes of narrative, representation, ownership and identity, we will investigate the complex relationships between humans and nature, and the importance of these relationships in shaping social relations, landscapes, and urban environments.

<p><i>“Nature”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The natural world; consisting of all things unaffected by or predating human technology, production and design. • e.g. the ecosystem, the natural environment, virgin ground, unmodified species, laws of nature. • Consists of the Earth’s wide variety of animals and plants and its endangered species. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essential Quality/character of something (nature of something) 	<p><i>“Environment”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The surroundings of, and influences on, a particular item of interest. • The natural world or ecosystem. • All the elements over which a designer has no control and that affect a system or its inputs and outputs. • Covers air pollutants, global warming, the greenhouse effect, and other dangers to the planet. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A particular political or social setting, arena or condition 	<p><i>“Intersectionality”</i></p> <p>The concept of intersectionality has been used to highlight how social categories of culture and identity overlap, heightening the effects of discrimination, exclusion, social inequality, and systemic injustice in the lives of specific individuals.</p> <p>An intersectional approach to urban theory emphasizes how certain people and groups suffer worse effects because of overlapping factors that are often measured separately.</p>
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Learning Objectives:

- Identify the foundations of ideas and attitudes towards the “natural” and “built” environments.
- Understand the construction of environmental narratives and how race impacts participation and access to natural resources in various settings;
- Have a broader grasp of major debates within environmental and Latinx politics and theories.