

Rutgers University-Newark Spring 2019
Introduction to Latina/o Cultural Studies (21:595: 200)

Final Project Assignment

At a Glance

Proposal due: **Apr. 9**
Presentations: **Apr. 30 & May 2**
Final project due: **May 9**
Length: **Video 2-3 mins., Podcast 4-5 mins., Rationale 300 word**
Submit: **via email**

Overview:

You have spent the semester engaging and working through various topics in Latinx Studies. For your final project I want you to work in groups of 3-4 people to apply the concepts and approaches to a multi-media project. You can model your project after one of the non-essay materials from class: video, podcast, interview, etc. Using a combination of media, such as image,

audio, music and video, you will create, edit and produce a **scripted** video (2-3 minutes) or podcast (4-5 minutes) that focuses on a specific U.S. Latinx community and cultural product.

Rationale:

You will individually write a one-page (300 words) rationale, explaining the choices you made for your project. Your rationale should address the following:

- What difficulties did you encounter? How did you overcome them?
- Why did you choose this medium? That is, why video or audio?
- How can we use our research within larger Latinx communities?

Group Roles:

To produce a video or podcast you will need to work in groups of 3-4 people. Each group member should have a specific role but should fully contribute to producing the content for your project. This means all group members should participate in researching material and writing the script for the final project. Roles include:

- presenter (who will be in front of camera or microphone)
- video/camera operator (who will shoot or record the material)
- editor (who will edit the script)
- director (who will help facilitate the recording)



Those with four people can designate one person for a specific role, while groups of three can alternative between the fourth role.

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Proposal:

To check the appropriateness of what you're working on, you will submit a project proposal answering the following questions:

1. Which U.S. Latinx group is the focus of your project?
2. Chose a cultural product (language, food, music, dress/clothing, tradition, origin story, folktale, pop culture icon, literature, art, or if you think of something not listed include it for review)?
3. What theme(s) within Latinx Studies relate to your topic (refer to the reading schedule on the syllabus)?
4. Research question: what question would you like to answer?
5. What do you need to know to successfully complete your project?



You will submit your proposal via google form, available on the course blog, link **by Tuesday Apr. 9**. Make sure to bring a laptop or tablet that day, as we will be using them to work on your projects.

Research Questions:

Your project should grapple with the following questions:

- How did your community develop a distinct group identity separate from the larger U.S. culture and other U.S. Latinx groups?
- What issues did/does your community face (racism, classism, misogyny, homophobia, transphobia, ableism, etc) in relation to your topic?
- Who are the other Latinx groups that your community engage with to form a larger pan-ethnic Latinx identity?
- Where does your research project fit within the [inter]discipline of Latinx Studies, presently, or Latino Studies, historically?



Submission:

You will submit your project via email (cc group members) on **Thursday May 9th by 10 p.m.** Make sure that you receive confirmation of receipt. It is your responsibility to contact me ahead of the deadline with any group or technical issues. Extensions will be considered on a case-by-case basis and need to be brought up before the last week of class.