Dear Colleagues,

As members of the Academic Affairs, the History Program, the Office of Service Learning, and Civic Engagement I am requesting your feedback on the draft syllabus listed below that I have created for a Service Learning Capstone course titled, “Ventura County Culture and History.” I plan to offer this interdisciplinary capstone course this fall semester to a limited number of students in the program of History. Any timely insight and suggestions you can provide will be appreciated.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,
frank

California State University Channel Islands
History Program DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT
Fall Semester 2005

Ventura County Culture and History
HIST 492/499

Professor Office: Dr. Frank Barajas
Assistant Profess, History Program
Office: Professional Building, 242
Contact Info.: Phone: 437.8862; Email: frank.barajas@csuci.edu

Office Hours Devoted to Capstone Students TBD:
Students are required to meet with the professor at a minimum every two weeks to discuss the progress of their projects.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This service learning course affords capstone students the opportunity to research and write on a spectrum of community issues ranging, for example, in the areas of education and housing to youth violence and real estate development and resource management. A foundational element of the course is to have students apply their interdisciplinary skills of critical thinking and research to problems and questions in the surrounding community. Students accepted into this capstone are required to embark upon research
relying upon the extensive use of primary sources consisting of but not limited to: government documents (Federal, State, and Local), newspapers articles, interviews, and participant-observer data collection.

**Description of possible Service Learning/Internship/Research**

With the approval and direction of the professor, students will meet and work with community leaders and organizations involved with at-risk youth, the development of cultural and social programming, and economic sustainability. Some of these activities can include working with the KEYS Leadership Academy, El Concilio del Condado de Ventura, CAUSE, Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation, the League of United Latin American Citizens, the Oxnard Library special collections department, and the Ventura County Museum of History and Culture.

Some specific issues in the community that I would encourage accepted students into the course to investigate are:

--The Camarillo Secession Effort from the Oxnard Union High School District
--Farm worker housing projects in Ventura County
--Living Wage Organizing Efforts in Ventura County
--City of Oxnard Parks and Recreation resources: A Countywide Comparative Analysis
--The KEYS Leadership Academy for At-Risk Youth
--After Brown: Researching School Desegregation in Oxnard
--Proposed Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Project in Oxnard

**Student Eligibility**

To be accepted into this capstone, students must submit a one page statement why they are interested in this course, interview with the instructor, and present two letters of reference from past CSUCI faculty speaking to the applicant’s abilities to accept and follow through with faculty direction, interface with faculty on a regular and consistent basis via office hours, and complete assignments in a satisfactory and timely manner. Students must also agree to devote at a minimum 3 hours of field work and research a week for each unit of credit for the course.

**ASSIGNMENTS AND CRITERIA:**

Four writing assignments are required for the course. The design and character of the research paper, in consultation with the professor, will be guided by each individual project. Each student must meet and interact consistently and regularly with the contracted Service Learning provider as well as the instructor.

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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Semester Progress Report (4-5 pages)</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annotated Bibliography of Research</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Analysis of Rules for Radicals (4-5 pages)</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evaluation by Service Learning Provider</td>
<td>20</td>
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Consultation with Faculty 50 Points
Open Presentation to the University 100 Points
Research paper 100 Points
(7 page minimum, not including endnotes and bibliography, for each semester unit)

Total 330 Points

GRADING POLICY

The final grade system will be a “+/-” A, B, C, D, and F-scale based upon a 90, 80, 70, etc., scale. For individuals taking the course for credit/non-credit, a minimum C grade is needed for credit.

REQUIRED TEXT


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