

**MINNESOTA WEST COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE**

DEPT. **HUMANITIES** COURSE NO. **2201** NUMBER OF CREDITS: **2**

COURSE TITLE: **The Many Faces of Mexico**

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: **The Many Faces of Mexico / Many Faces of Minnesota is an interdisciplinary course that explores the cultural, historical and social realities which together form contemporary Mexico. By studying about the economic and political situation, we can understand why many Mexicans are seeking work and moving their families north. Special attention is given to the impact on Minnesota communities and the challenge to welcome and to meet the needs of the growing Latino population.**

AUDIENCE: This course is designed for participants who have an interest in people of other cultures.

FULFILLS MN TRANSFER CURRICULUM AREA(S):

Area 6 : by meeting the following competencies: a, b, c, e

Area 7 : by meeting the following competencies: a, b, c, e

PREREQUISITES OR NECESSARY ENTRY SKILLS/KNOWLEDGE: None

LENGTH OF COURSE: One semester

THIS COURSE IS USUALLY OFFERED:

Every other year ☐ fall spring ☐ summer ☐ undetermined **X**

Four goals are emphasized in course at Minnesota West Community & Technical College:

- 1) **ACADEMIC CONTENT:** The academic objectives of this course are:
 - Students examine various works of art to help them learn to “read” about a country through its cultural images.
 - Storytelling is incorporated from many points of view, using a variety of literature, legends and original stories.
 - History is threaded throughout the course following particular families, stopping at particular moments to tell what is happening to them, both in terms of the broad political and economic situation and the reality of their daily lives.
 - Students will reflect on the ethics of how their own story intersects and intertwines with the stories of people from other places and other contexts,
 - Students will use case studies from the U.S. and Mexico to discover how people promote social changes in a society
- 2) **THINKING SKILLS:** This course will help students improve their thinking skills through:
 - Students will analyze the diverse perspectives that are presented
 - Students will be encouraged to recognize and identify similarities as well as the differences among people, customs and countries, paying special attention to mutual history and interdependence.

3) **COMMUNICATIONS SKILLS:** This course will help students improve their oral and written communication skills through:

- Students will use storytelling and discussion to relate various perspectives of topics and themes studied.
- Both large and small group discussions accommodate individual learning styles.
- Students will be encouraged to listen to one another, express their own ideas and come to their own conclusions about various themes and topics discussed.
- Students will use journaling as a means of internalizing the concepts and perspectives studied and discussed.
- Students will write reaction papers about outside readings for the course.
- Students will prepare an action plan to incorporate what is learned during the class into their work or community setting.

4) **HUMAN DIVERSITY:** This course will help students recognize, understand, and appreciate human diversity through:

- Students will be asked to identify diverse points of view, especially on issues of disparity among class, gender and ethnic groups.
- Students will be encouraged to develop a critical attitude to enable them to see how their own lives intersect and intertwine with the people from other places and other contexts.
- Students will interact with people of different ethnic and cultural backgrounds through service learning projects and interview assignments

TOPICS TO BE COVERED:

- 1) Ancient (pre-Hispanic) Mexico through the Colonial Period to Independence.
- 2) Independence through Contemporary Mexico – 1998
- 3) Mexico's current economic, political and social situation
- 4) Mexico's relations with the U.S.
- 5) Mexicans in the U.S.
- 6) Immigration and cultural/social change
- 7) Mexicans in Minnesota

LIST OF EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOMES:

See above under goals.

LEARNING/TEACHING TECHNIQUES used in the course are:

X Collaborative Learning	Problem Solving
X Student Presentations	X Interactive Lectures
X Creative Projects	Individual Coaching
X Lecture	X Films/Videos/Slides
Demonstrations	X Other (describe below)
Lab	Guest speakers, when available and appropriate
	Field trip to a local work site.

ASSIGNMENTS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR THIS CLASS INCLUDE:

X Reading	Tests	X Individual Projects
X Oral Presentations	Worksheets	X Collaborative Projects
X Textbook Problems	X Papers	Portfolio
Group Problems	Term Paper	X Interviews/Oral histories
X Other (describe below)	X Journals	

EXPECTED STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Students will be able to reflect on a diversity of perspectives about Mexico, the people of Mexico and Mexican Americans through discussions of historical, cultural, political and economic information.
- Students will become familiar with a variety of resources about Mexico and Mexican American people, including books, periodicals, people, and organizations.
- Students will gain an understanding of the personal experience of Mexican Americans and Mexican immigrants in southwest Minnesota.
- Students will plan at least one way to incorporate what is learned into the work or community setting.

To receive reasonable accommodations for a documented disability, please contact the campus Student Services Advisor or campus Disability Coordinator as arrangements must be made in advance. In addition, students are encouraged to notify their instructor.

Veteran Services: Minnesota West is dedicated to assisting veterans and eligible family members in achieving their educational goals efficiently. Active duty and reserve/guard military members should advise their instructor of all regularly scheduled military appointments and duties that conflict with scheduled course requirements. Instructors will make every effort to work with the student to identify adjusted timelines. If you are a veteran, please contact the Minnesota West Veterans Service Office.

This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by contacting the Student Services Advisor or by calling 800-658-2330 or Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529 or by using your preferred relay service.

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The information in this course outline is subject to revision.