

History 199: Latina/o History

Professor Julie M. Weise

Spring 2014 - MWF 9-9:50 a.m.



Immigrants' rights march in Portland.

One in eight Oregonians and one in six people in the United States identify themselves as “Hispanic/Latino” on the U.S. Census. What has motivated Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, Cubans, and other Latin American immigrants to move to the United States, and what have they experienced once here?

The course will introduce students to the historical experiences of Latino/a groups, with an emphasis on Mexican and Caribbean migrations to the United States. We will cover the major themes in Latina/o history. These include: colonialism, race and racialization, migration, identity, labor, politics, and culture. Students will analyze Latina/o migration history through the lens of not only U.S. history but also the histories of Latin American nations. Course readings and materials will include historical narrative, film, literature, and visual materials. We will pay close attention to the ways that the many histories of Latinos in the Americas can help us better understand the political, economic, and cultural experiences of Latinos in the United States today.