INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION | COURSE INFORMATION
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Dr. Enrique Morales-Díaz  
Email: via PLATO | EGST 210: U.S. Latin@ Literatures  
(CORE: Literary and Philosophical Analysis)  
ONLINE – Summer Session I

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES
The works that we will read, discuss and analyze this semester will introduce the major trends and be placed into an historical framework focusing primarily on the 20th and 21st centuries. Emphasis will be on similarities and differences in the experiences among different Hispanic/Latino/a groups in the United States as it relates to the concept of the ‘American Dream.’ We will discuss such topics as the construction of identity in terms of race, gender, sexuality, and class; bilingualism and code switching; the experiences of the exile, the immigrant, the refugee and the colonial subject; the marketing of the Latino/a identity; and the relationship of the artist to his or her community. Some of the themes that we will discuss in class are: culture; history and society; politics and politics of identity in relationship to race/ethnicity/nationality, social/economic class, gender, being bicultural versus “living on the margins,” the struggle for self-determination, notions of mestizaje and its impact on cultural production.

By the end of the semester, students SHOULD be able to:
1. Understand the concepts of race, class and gender and how they apply to the U.S. Latino/Hispanic communities as reflected in various literary works and influenced by literary genres as well;
2. Understand the various theoretical frameworks introduced in class to discuss issues related to the development and establishment of U.S. Latinos/Hispanics as communities as reflected in representative literary works;
3. Understand the U.S. Latino/Hispanic literary cultural production and how it derived from the different socio-political-economic-historical circumstances connected to a variety of groups.

REQUIRED TEXTS
Ernesto Quiñonez. *Bodega Dreams: A Novel*
Piri Thomas. *Down These Mean Streets.*
*Poems, plays and essays will be made available on PLATO.