

## Latinos in New Jersey (LCS 01:595:412 / History 01:512:391)

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*Open to Juniors and Seniors*

*Fulfills Capstone and Upper-Level Elective for LCS Major, Upper-Level Elective for LCS Minor*

*Fulfills Upper-Level Elective for History Major and Minor*

Latinos/Hispanics/Latinx make up nearly twenty percent of New Jersey's people. Yet we know surprisingly little about their histories and origins. Who are the Garden State's Latinos? When did they arrive? Where did they come from? Why did they choose to settle here? Why has the population grown so dramatically in the past four decades?

This course builds upon work of The Latino New Jersey History Project, a student-led, community-based research project launched by Professor Fernandez in 2016. Through the project, Rutgers students have been exploring and documenting the histories of New Jersey's diverse Latino/a communities by identifying archival materials and conducting oral histories with local residents. In this seminar we will continue this work to keep building our repository of knowledge about Latinos in New Jersey. We will read some primary sources, identify research topics and individuals to interview, produce maps, do newspaper research, and analyze census data. The course will culminate with students either writing a final paper or producing a Story Map showcasing their research. Our goal is to better understand how Latinos/as have contributed to the state's rich heritage and help document that history.

### **Course Learning Goals**

Upon completion of the course, students will:

- gain a deeper understanding of the history and origins of New Jersey's Latino populations
- be familiar with the diversity of New Jersey's Latino populations
- contribute to the scholarly knowledge on New Jersey's Latino history

### **Required Reading\***

Readings and other materials are in Sakai or Canvas.

Consult Rutgers Barnes & Noble for current books for the course.

There is very little scholarship written on the history of Latinos in New Jersey. There are no textbooks, few monographs, or journal articles. Thus, our seminar will be research-focused, meaning that we will be producing knowledge about Latinos in New Jersey.

### **Evaluation\***

Newspaper Research	= 10%
Town History	= 10%
Class Presentations/Participation	= 20%
Oral History	= 30%
Final Paper or Story Map	= 30%

\*This synopsis is intended for informative purposes only; it is provisional and subject to change before the beginning of the semester.