

ACEQUIA CULTURE AND LANDSCAPES OF NM - DOCUMENTARY FIELD SCHOOL

2007 Summer Session I / June 4-29 / 9-12 MTWRF
UNM Main Campus-Week 1,2,4 / Mora Valley-Week 3

Chicano Hispano Mexicano Studies CHMS
Native American Studies NATV
Communication & Journalism C&J

PROFESSORS: From UNM include Beverly Singer, Enrique Lamadrid, Miguel Gandert with special guest lectures and field presentations by José Rivera, Sylvia Rodríguez, and Greg Cajete. Acequia activists and community scholars Paula García, Estevan Arellano, Harold Trujillo will also join us in northern New Mexico, along with NM Highlands professors Anselmo Arellano, Eric Romero, and other guests.

CREDIT: students will earn up to 6 credit hours in this project. Weekly hours are the same. UNM Courses cross listed as follows:

Inter-Cultural Legacies of NM	Graduate credit available
CHMS 393 001 11971	in Anthropology, Spanish,
NATV 450 003	and Communications and
Fieldwork in Acequia Culture	Journalism
CHMS 393 002 11972	
C & J 413 SPAN 301	

FIELD SEMINARS: A field based survey of the Acequia Culture and Landscapes of New Mexico and northern Mexico, based on the folkways associated with traditional water management and agriculture. This overview of the ecology, history, ethnography, and sustainable systems of the region is accompanied by training in digital documentary technology, interview techniques, field notes, archiving, analysis, and the ethics of cultural representation. Two weeks of fieldwork will be conducted in the middle Río Grande Valley and one week in the Mora Valley of northern NM.

SCHEDULE: Morning workshops and classes, afternoon field work and editing sessions. One week field trip in Mora June 18-22, 2007. In a final seminar on June 29, students present their research in a multi-media forum

OBJECTIVES:

- Special emphasis on cultural mapping and qualitative research.
- Training in contemporary ethnographic techniques and digital documentation.

- Observation of the landscape, settlements, village plazas, etc. Analysis of small scale irrigation systems and the "acequia culture": its ecological landscape, soils, rivers, aquifers, flora and fauna; as well as its material bases such as dams, ditches, canals, and irrigated plots.
- Exploration of New Mexico's cultural history and contemporary expressions with fieldwork based on participant observation.

TASKS:

Students will expand their understanding of Acequia Culture in New Mexico through field work and participant observation.

Methods of inquiry include:

- Reading / selected bibliography and web sites
- Interviews of cultural practitioners
- Seminar discussions

Students will document their field work with:

- Field notes and diary
- Digital photo, audio, and visual imaging
- Transcriptions, indexing, and analysis

Students will edit and present their findings in the following formats:

- Photo essays, with commentaries illustrating some aspect of the celebrations and traditions that we are documenting.
- Audio collages.
- Video pieces.
- Poster presentations.
- On line audio visual pieces (digital "slide/tape shows").

EVALUATION:

Based on participation in all the events: classes, lectures, fieldwork, field research, laboratory, and final seminar. All participants will choose an area of study and conduct field research which will be processed in multiple digital formats and presented in poster, power point, video and audio formats at the public forum on the last day of class, June 29, 2007.

TEXTS:

Crawford, Stanley. *Mayordomo: Chronicle of an Acequia in Northern New Mexico.*

Rivera, José. *Acequia Culture.*

Rodríguez, Sylvia. *Acequia: Water Sharing, Sanctity, and Place.*