BRINGING LATIN AMERICA TO SOUTH TEXAS:
RESEARCHING THE LOCAL HISTORY OF IMMIGRATION
HIST 3304: MODERN LATIN AMERICA

In order to highlight the entanglement of Latin American and U.S. history, students will work in groups to investigate the history of immigration in South Texas.

Objectives:
- Students will conduct original research and generate original arguments
- Students will develop their communication skills by working in small groups
- Students will connect foreign and domestic policies to the history of South Texas and the lives of ordinary Latin Americans

Students will choose an area of immigration history to focus on:
1. Immigration from U.S. to South Texas in the pre-Civil War era
2. Immigration from Mexico to South Texas in the early 19th century
3. Bracero program, 1942-1964
5. Securing the border in the era of free trade, 1990-2008
6. The militarized border and the drug wars of the 2000s

Working in small groups of 4-5, students will conduct original research. This can include visiting local archives, interviewing former participants, and examining newspapers. As a group they will collect sources that help them understand how immigration from Latin America has shaped South Texas, and how South Texas has witnessed the consequences of changing U.S. immigration policy.

The group will prepare a 10 page paper summarizing their research. They will also create a poster that will be put up in Faculty Center.

South Texas Connections:
- Casa Romero (San Benito, TX)
- RAICES (Corpus Christi, TX)
- Brooks County Detention Center

High Impact Practices:
- Collaborative Assignment
- Diversity/Global Learning
- Community Based Learning

Assessment:
- Journal
- Research Paper
- Poster Presentation
- Group Self-Assessment