

## Mexican American Studies – Comprehensive Exam

### Written Portion Rubric

Committee Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** The department believes that by the time students are ready to take their exams, doctoral candidates should have developed the skills necessary to be successful scholars in the field of Mexican American Studies. Enter a score that best reflects the student's responses to the prompts, after filling the form please send a copy to the Advisor Chair and Cc the Program Coordinator ([lemadera@arizona.edu](mailto:lemadera@arizona.edu)).

Committee members will have two weeks as indicated by the email to evaluate the responses and return the Rubric and Ballot to the Advisor Chair.

If after your evaluation of the responses your score indicates that the student will need to **re-write for your prompt**, please forward the Rubric/Ballot and any feedback notes you wish to provide to the Advisor Chair.

For any questions, please follow up with the Advisor Chair. For any issues with the form or document support, contact the program coordinator.

#### 1. Articulate MAS across Critical Interdisciplinary Theories

Articulates and demonstrates an understanding and analysis of Mexican American Chicana/Latina/Indigenous historic and contemporary issues, social movements, and related theories.

##### Masterful (4-5pts)

- Applies relevant theories and principles to solve specific problems encountered in Mexican American Studies as posed in exam questions
- Demonstrates knowledge of how and why theories and principles employed in the field of Mexican American Studies have changed over time.

##### Competent (3-4pts)

- Demonstrates familiarity with theories and principles employed in Mexican American Studies.
- Incorporates relevant theories and principles into pertinent exam answers.
- Recognizes that the theories and principles employed in Mexican American Studies have changed over time.

##### Not Competent (1-2 pts)

- Does not demonstrate familiarity with theories and principles employed in Mexican American Studies.
- Does not incorporate relevant theories and principles into any exam answers.
- Does not indicate familiarity with the changing nature of theories and principles in the field.

Score:

## 2. Theorizing MAS and Social Justice

Develop and apply a theoretical lens of transdisciplinary Mexican American Studies that draws on, and is grounded in, relevant frameworks, such as gendered dynamics, racialization, marginalization of communities and decoloniality.

### Masterful (4-5pts)

- Incorporates literature from diverse disciplines relative to Mexican American Studies into exam answers.
- Critically analyzes specific relevant literature in the process of problem solving.
- Contextualizes the specific (as posed in exam question) into the broader intellectual enterprise of Mexican American Studies.
- Synthesizes information to develop novel (but applicable) solutions thus contributing new understanding to the field.

### Competent (3-4pts)

- Demonstrates broad familiarity with the discipline's literature.
- Incorporates specific examples of relevant literature into most answers.
- Uses appropriate readings to offer some context for exam answers.

### Not Competent (1-2 pts)

- Does not demonstrate familiarity with discipline literature.
- Does not employ relevant literature appropriately.

Score:

## 3. Demonstrate a Hemispheric Perspective

Contextualize and analyze the experiences of Mexican Americans within a broader hemispheric perspective –from pre-Columbian to contemporary—by applying relevant theories and principles from Mexican American Studies and other relevant disciplines in order to analyze the complex realities and issues faced in the hemispheric context of the Americas.

### Masterful (4-5pts)

- Well versed in relevant theories and principles from Mexican American Studies and relevant disciplines that can be used to analyze the complex realities and issues faced in a hemispheric context of the Americas.
- Incorporates frameworks for analyzing how structures, processes, and cultures within the political borders of the U.S. influence the rest of the hemisphere and the ways the rest of the hemisphere influences peoples and processes within the U.S.
- Uses relevant literature in their answers to develop critical analysis and engagement with interconnected systems relevant to a transnational perspective.

### Competent (3-4pts)

- Demonstrates broad familiarity with relevant theories and principles from Mexican American Studies and relevant disciplines to analyze the complex realities and issues faced in a hemispheric context of the Americas using a multi-disciplinary perspective.
- Incorporates specific examples from literature in most answers.

### Not Competent (1-2 pts)

- Demonstrates basic understanding of the theories and literature related to the research from a hemispheric perspective, including a limited number of perspective and solutions.

Score:

- Alternatively, a hemispheric perspective is missing in answers but would have been relevant to this analysis.

#### 4. Critical Inquiry and Conduct Research

Demonstrate skills in critical analysis of research literature and demonstrate the ability to design and conduct original research in the interdisciplinary field of Mexican American Studies and across relevant disciplines.

##### Masterful (4-5pts)

- Connects and extends knowledge (facts, theories, etc.) from one's own academic study/field/discipline to social justice and to one's own participation in community life, politics, and government.

##### Competent (3-4pts)

- Analyzes knowledge (facts, theories, etc.) from one's own academic study/field/discipline making relevant connections to social justice and to one's own participation in community life, politics, and government.

##### Not Competent (1-2 pts)

- Begins to identify knowledge (facts, theories, etc.) from one's own academic study/field/discipline making relevant connections to social justice and to one's own participation in community life, politics, and government.

Score:

#### 5. Social Justice: Apply MAS Theories in Social Contexts

Apply Mexican American studies theories to think critically about social justice in the social context of Mexican American/Mexican origin communities.

##### Masterful (4-5pts)

- Consistently applies fundamental and advanced concepts to topics in the field and across relevant disciplines.

##### Competent (3-4pts)

- Frequently applies fundamental and some advanced concepts to topics in subject area.

##### Not Competent (1-2 pts)

- Applies minimal or no fundamental concepts to topics in subject area.

Score:

Total Score: \_\_\_\_\_