

books on chicano history

Books on Chicano History: Exploring the Rich Legacy and Struggles of a Vibrant Culture

Books on chicano history open a window into the rich and complex narrative of the Chicano community, a story marked by resilience, cultural pride, and social activism. Whether you are a student, educator, or simply curious about the diverse fabric of American history, these books provide invaluable insights into the experiences of Mexican Americans and their profound impact on society. Delving into these works reveals not just historical facts but personal stories, cultural movements, and the ongoing fight for identity and equality.

Understanding the Significance of Chicano History

Chicano history is more than a timeline of events; it's a vibrant tapestry woven from the lives of people who have navigated colonization, migration, discrimination, and empowerment. Books on Chicano history help readers appreciate the cultural richness that stems from indigenous roots, Spanish colonial influence, and Mexican heritage, all blending into a unique American experience.

By exploring Chicano history, readers gain awareness of important social movements such as the Chicano Civil Rights Movement, which sought justice and equal rights for Mexican Americans during the 1960s and 1970s. This background is crucial for understanding contemporary discussions around immigration, identity politics, and educational reforms.

Essential Books on Chicano History You Should Read

If you're looking to deepen your knowledge, here are some standout books that are widely regarded as foundational texts in the study of Chicano history.

1. "Occupied America: A History of Chicanos" by Rodolfo F. Acuña

Often considered the definitive book on Chicano history, Acuña's work provides a thorough overview of the historical and political experiences of Mexican Americans from pre-Columbian times to modern day. The book emphasizes themes of colonization, land dispossession, and social movements, making it a must-read for anyone interested in ethnic studies or Latino history.

2. "Chicano! The History of the Mexican American Civil Rights Movement" by F. Arturo Rosales

This book offers an in-depth look at the civil rights struggles and activism that shaped the Chicano identity. Rosales uses interviews and archival material to paint a vivid picture of the leaders, protests, and grassroots organizations that fought for political and social reforms.

3. "A People's History of Chicanos in California" by Antonio Moreno

Focusing on California, a key region in Chicano history, this book uncovers stories of labor strikes, cultural resistance, and community building. Moreno's narrative highlights the contributions of Chicanos to the labor movement and their enduring fight against discrimination.

Exploring Themes in Books on Chicano History

When you pick up books on Chicano history, you'll notice several recurring themes that define the community's experience.

Identity and Cultural Pride

Many works delve into how Chicanos have navigated the complexities of cultural identity. This includes embracing indigenous heritage, using language as a form of resistance, and fostering a sense of pride in Mexican American traditions. Books often explore how art, literature, and music have been powerful tools for expressing Chicano identity.

Social Justice and Activism

A significant portion of the literature focuses on activism, highlighting figures like Cesar Chavez and organizations such as the United Farm Workers. These stories illustrate how Chicanos have organized to challenge systemic inequalities in areas like labor rights, education, and political representation.

Migration and Borderlands

The geographical and cultural significance of the U.S.-Mexico border is a crucial aspect of Chicano history. Books discuss the experiences of migrants, the concept of the borderlands as a unique cultural space, and the impact of immigration policies on families and communities.

How to Choose the Right Books on Chicano History

With so many titles available, selecting the most relevant and engaging books can be overwhelming. Here are some tips to guide your choice:

- **Define your purpose:** Are you looking for a general overview, a focus on activism, or cultural analysis? Knowing this helps narrow down your options.
- **Look for diverse perspectives:** Chicano history is multi-faceted, so seek out authors from different backgrounds and disciplines.
- **Check the publication date:** While foundational texts are important, newer books may offer updated research and contemporary viewpoints.
- **Read reviews and summaries:** They provide insights into the book's approach and readability.

The Role of Literature in Preserving Chicano History

Beyond academic texts, literature plays a vital role in keeping Chicano history alive. Novels, poetry, and autobiographies often capture the emotional and cultural nuances that traditional histories might overlook. Writers like Sandra Cisneros and Luis Valdez weave historical context into their narratives, enriching readers' understanding through storytelling.

Moreover, school curricula increasingly recognize the importance of including Chicano literature and history, helping younger generations connect with their heritage. Libraries and community centers also host events and discussions centered on these books, fostering dialogue and awareness.

Recommended Literary Works with Historical Themes

- *"The House on Mango Street"* by Sandra Cisneros - A coming-of-age story that touches on themes of identity and community.
- *"Zoot Suit"* by Luis Valdez - A play based on the 1940s Sleepy Lagoon murder trial and Zoot Suit Riots, significant events in Chicano history.
- *"Bless Me, Ultima"* by Rudolfo Anaya - A novel exploring cultural heritage and spiritual identity in a Chicano community.

Why Books on Chicano History Matter Today

In today's socio-political climate, understanding Chicano history is more important than ever. It sheds light on the roots of ongoing issues such as immigration reform, racial justice, and educational equity. These books empower readers to appreciate the contributions of Mexican Americans and recognize the challenges they continue to face.

Whether for academic study, personal enrichment, or community engagement, books on Chicano history offer a meaningful way to connect with a vibrant culture that has shaped and continues to influence the American landscape.

Exploring these books invites us to reflect on the power of history in shaping identity and social change, inspiring us to acknowledge and celebrate the diverse stories that make up our collective past.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are some essential books on Chicano history?

Some essential books on Chicano history include "Occupied America: A History of Chicanos" by Rodolfo F. Acuña, "A People's History of the United States" (with Chicano perspectives) by Howard Zinn, and "Chicano! The History of the Mexican American Civil Rights Movement" by F. Arturo Rosales.

Which book provides a comprehensive overview of the Chicano civil rights movement?

"Chicano! The History of the Mexican American Civil Rights Movement" by F. Arturo Rosales offers a detailed and comprehensive overview of the Chicano civil rights movement.

Are there any recent publications on Chicano history?

Yes, recent publications include "The Chicano Movement: Perspectives from the Twenty-First Century" edited by Mario T. García, which provides updated scholarship and perspectives on Chicano history and activism.

What book would you recommend for beginners interested in Chicano history?

For beginners, "Occupied America: A History of Chicanos" by Rodolfo F. Acuña is highly recommended as it provides a clear and accessible introduction to the history and experiences of Chicanos in the United States.

Do any books cover the role of women in Chicano history?

Yes, "Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza" by Gloria Anzaldúa explores Chicana identity and the role of women within the Chicano cultural and historical context.

Which books explore the cultural aspects of Chicano history, such as art and literature?

"Chicano Art: Resistance and Affirmation" edited by Richard Griswold del Castillo and Ricardo F. Romo is a key book that examines the artistic and cultural contributions within Chicano history.

Are there any autobiographies that provide insight into Chicano history?

"Always Running: La Vida Loca, Gang Days in L.A." by Luis J. Rodríguez is a powerful memoir that gives personal insight into the social and historical conditions faced by Chicanos in Los Angeles.

Where can I find academic resources and primary sources on Chicano history?

Academic resources and primary sources can be found in university libraries, digital archives such as the Chicano Studies Research Center at UCLA, and collections like the "Mexican American Civil Rights Movement" archives.

Additional Resources

Books on Chicano History: Exploring the Roots and Legacy of a Vital Cultural Movement

Books on Chicano history serve as crucial tools for understanding the complex socio-political and cultural evolution of Mexican Americans in the United States. As scholars, activists, and readers seek to unravel the nuanced narratives of identity, struggle, and empowerment, these texts provide invaluable perspectives on a community often marginalized in mainstream historical discourse. This article undertakes a comprehensive exploration of significant works on Chicano history, analyzing their contributions, thematic focuses, and their roles in shaping contemporary understandings of Chicano identity.

Understanding Chicano History Through Literature

The term "Chicano" itself emerged prominently during the 1960s civil rights era, symbolizing cultural pride and political activism among Mexican Americans. Books on Chicano history do more than recount events; they delve into the lived experiences, cultural expressions, and political mobilizations that define the Chicano movement. The literature bridges gaps between academic research, grassroots storytelling, and cultural heritage preservation.

One of the foundational texts in this field is Rodolfo F. Acuña's **Occupied America: A History of Chicanos**, which has been widely regarded as a pioneering comprehensive account. This book traces centuries of history from the Spanish colonization of the American Southwest to modern struggles over immigration and civil rights. Acuña's analytical approach, combined with

extensive archival research, makes it a staple in both academic and community settings.

Key Themes in Books on Chicano History

Books on Chicano history often revolve around several critical themes that reflect the multifaceted nature of the Chicano experience:

- **Colonial Legacy and Land Rights:** Many works discuss the consequences of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo (1848) and subsequent land dispossession suffered by Mexican Americans.
- **Labor and Economic Struggles:** The role of Mexican American workers in agriculture, mining, and industry, including the formation of unions and labor movements.
- **Political Activism and Civil Rights:** The rise of organizations like the United Farm Workers and the Chicano Moratorium, which protested the Vietnam War and systemic discrimination.
- **Culture and Identity:** Exploration of Chicano art, literature, language, and educational reforms that assert cultural pride.

Noteworthy Books and Their Contributions

In addition to Acuña's landmark work, several other books provide essential insights into Chicano history:

1. **"Chicano! The History of the Mexican American Civil Rights Movement" by F. Arturo Rosales:** This book offers a detailed chronicle of the civil rights era, emphasizing grassroots activism and the political strategies that shaped the movement.
2. **"Occupied America" by Rodolfo F. Acuña:** As mentioned, this remains a foundational text, notable for its interdisciplinary approach and accessibility for both scholars and general readers.
3. **"The Chicano Movement: Perspectives from the Twenty-First Century" edited by Mario T. García:** A collection of essays that provide varied viewpoints on the movement's legacy and contemporary relevance.
4. **"Chicano Culture, Politics, and Sexuality" by Rafael Pérez-Torres:** This work broadens the discussion by incorporating intersectional perspectives on gender and sexuality within Chicano communities.
5. **"From Out of the Shadows: Mexican Women in Twentieth-Century America" by Vicki L. Ruiz:** Though focusing on gender, this book enriches the understanding of Chicano history by highlighting often-overlooked contributions of Mexican American women.

Analytical Perspectives on Chicano Historical Literature

The landscape of books on Chicano history is marked by an interplay between academic rigor and activist narrative. Many historians adopt a revisionist stance, challenging dominant Anglo-centric historical accounts and emphasizing the agency of Chicanos in shaping their destinies. This approach is crucial in dismantling stereotypes and rectifying historical omissions.

One analytical consideration is the extent to which these books address intersectionality—how race, class, gender, and sexuality intersect within the Chicano experience. For example, while early works primarily focus on labor and political activism, later scholarship increasingly incorporates cultural studies and identity politics. This shift reflects broader trends in historiography and social sciences, enriching the discourse around Chicano history.

Another important factor is the accessibility of these books. While some texts are heavily academic with specialized terminology and dense theoretical frameworks, others are written to engage a wider audience, including students, activists, and community members. The balance between depth and readability plays a critical role in the dissemination and impact of historical knowledge.

The Role of Oral Histories and Personal Narratives

A distinctive feature of many books on Chicano history is the incorporation of oral histories, memoirs, and personal testimonies. These narratives provide texture and emotional resonance that traditional historical records may lack. For instance, works like *"Testimonio: A Documentary of Politics and Culture in Mexico and the United States"* showcase first-person accounts that illuminate the everyday realities behind larger political movements.

This focus on lived experience helps to humanize historical events and highlights the diversity within Chicano communities. It also challenges homogenized portrayals and underscores the complexity of identity formation in the context of migration, discrimination, and cultural resilience.

Comparative Insights: Books on Chicano History vs. Broader Latino Histories

While books on Chicano history focus specifically on Mexican American experiences primarily in the southwestern United States, broader Latino histories encompass a wider array of national origins and geographic contexts. This distinction is important for readers seeking targeted knowledge.

Comparatively, Chicano history literature tends to emphasize borderland dynamics, including issues surrounding U.S.-Mexico relations, bilingualism, and cultural hybridity unique to this region. Conversely, pan-Latino histories may cover Caribbean, Central American, and South American diasporas, each with distinct challenges and contributions.

Understanding these differences enhances the appreciation of Chicano history as a vital and distinct field within Latino studies, deserving of focused scholarly attention and public discourse.

Challenges and Opportunities in Publishing Chicano Historical Works

Publishing books on Chicano history faces challenges including limited mainstream visibility, funding constraints for research, and the need to balance scholarly integrity with community engagement. However, opportunities are expanding thanks to growing interest in ethnic studies, digital archives, and collaborative projects between universities and cultural institutions.

Furthermore, the rise of independent presses and community-based publishing initiatives is helping to amplify Chicano voices and perspectives. This democratization of knowledge production ensures that future books on Chicano history will continue to evolve in both scope and accessibility.

Books on Chicano history remain indispensable for anyone seeking to grasp the full spectrum of Mexican American experiences. Through rigorous scholarship and compelling storytelling, these works illuminate a vibrant history of resilience, activism, and cultural innovation that continues to shape American society.

Books On Chicano History

books on chicano history: Memories of Chicano History Mario T. García, 2023-11-15 Who is Bert Corona? Though not readily identified by most Americans, nor indeed by many Mexican Americans, Corona is a man of enormous political commitment whose activism has spanned much of this century. Now his voice can be heard by the wide audience it deserves. In this landmark publication—the first autobiography by a major figure in Chicano history—Bert Corona relates his life story. Corona was born in El Paso in 1918. Inspired by his parents' participation in the Mexican Revolution, he dedicated his life to fighting economic and social injustice. An early labor organizer among ethnic communities in southern California, Corona has agitated for labor and civil rights since the 1940s. His efforts continue today in campaigns to organize undocumented immigrants. This book evolved from a three-year oral history project between Bert Corona and historian Mario T. García. The result is a testimonio, a collaborative autobiography in which historical memories are preserved more through oral traditions than through written documents. Corona's story represents a collective memory of the Mexican-American community's struggle against discrimination and racism. His narration and García's analysis together provide a journey into the Mexican-American world. Bert Corona's reflections offer us an invaluable glimpse at the lifework of a major grass-roots American leader. His story is further enriched by biographical sketches of others whose names have been little recorded during six decades of American labor history. Who is Bert Corona? Though not readily identified by most Americans, nor indeed by many Mexican Americans, Corona is a man of enormous political commitment whose activism has spanned much of this century. Now his voice can be heard by the wide audience it

books on chicano history: The Chicano Generation Mario T. García, 2015-05-12 This is the story of the historic Chicano Movement in Los Angeles during the late 1960s and 1970s. The Chicano Movement was the largest civil rights and empowerment movement in the history of

Mexican Americans in the United States. The movement was led by a new generation of political activists calling themselves Chicanos, a countercultural barrio term. This book is the story of three key activists, Raul Ruiz, Gloria Arellanes, and Rosalio Muanoz, who through oral history related their experiences as movement activist to historian Mario T. Garcaia. As first-person autobiographical narratives, these stories put a human face to this profound social movement and provide a life-story perspective as to why these individuals became activists--Provided by publisher.

books on chicano history: Rewriting the Chicano Movement Mario T. García, Ellen McCracken, 2021-03-09 The Chicano Movement, el movimiento, is known as the largest and most expansive civil rights and empowerment movement by Mexican Americans up to that time. It made Chicanos into major American political actors and laid the foundation for today's Latino political power. Rewriting the Chicano Movement is a collection of powerful new essays on the Chicano Movement that expand and revise our understanding of the movement. These essays capture the commitment, courage, and perseverance of movement activists, both men and women, and their struggles to achieve the promises of American democracy. The essays in this volume broaden traditional views of the Chicano Movement that are too narrow and monolithic. Instead, the contributors to this book highlight the role of women in the movement, the regional and ideological diversification of the movement, and the various cultural fronts in which the movement was active. Rewriting the Chicano Movement stresses that there was no single Chicano Movement but instead a composite of movements committed to the same goal of Chicano self-determination. Scholars, students, and community activists interested in the history of the Chicano Movement can best start by reading this book. Contributors: Holly Barnet-Sanchez, Tim Drescher, Jesús Jesse Esparza, Patrick Fontes, Mario T. García, Tiffany Jasmin González, Ellen McCracken, Juan Pablo Mercado, Andrea Muñoz, Michael Anthony Turcios, Omar Valerio-Jiménez

books on chicano history: Chicano! The History of the Mexican American Civil Rights Movement F. Arturo Rosales, 1997-01-01 Chicano! The History of the Mexican American Civil Rights Movement is the most comprehensive account of the arduous struggle by Mexican Americans to secure and protect their civil rights. It is also a companion volume to the critically acclaimed, four-part documentary series of the same title, which is now available on video from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Both this published volume and the video series are a testament to the Mexican American community's hard-fought battle for social and legal equality as well as political and cultural identity. Since the United States-Mexico War, 1846-1848, Mexican Americans have striven to achieve full rights as citizens. From peaceful resistance and violent demonstrations, when their rights were ignored or abused, to the establishment of support organizations to carry on the struggle and the formation of labor unions to provide a united voice, the movement grew in strength and in numbers. However, it was during the 1960s and 1970s that the campaign exploded into a nationwide groundswell of Mexican Americans laying claim, once and for all, to their civil rights and asserting their cultural heritage. They took a name that had been used disparagingly against them for years—Chicano—and fashioned it into a battle cry, a term of pride, affirmation and struggle. Aimed at a broad general audience as well as college and high school students, Chicano! focuses on four themes: land, labor, educational reform and government. With solid research, accessible language and historical photographs, this volume highlights individuals, issues and pivotal developments that culminated in and comprised a landmark period for the second largest ethnic minority in the United States. Chicano! is a compelling monument to the individuals and events that transformed society.

books on chicano history: Chicano! [videorecording] , 1996

books on chicano history: Historia Louis Gerard Mendoza, 2001 The nature of ethnic identity has been a major issue in the Mexican American community for decades now. Historia: The Literary Making of Chicana and Chicano History makes a superb contribution to the multidisciplinary exploration of ways Mexican Americans have chosen to present their past through both factual and fictional narratives. Whereas history has offered frameworks for interpreting generational changes in the understanding of identity, literature has been particularly rich in exploring themes of power and domination and of intragroup complexities, Louis Gerard Mendoza argues in this innovative look

at historical and imaginative literatures and their role in the formation of ethnic identity. Focusing on late twentieth-century literature and history by American writers of Mexican descent, Mendoza examines how style, purpose, and context function to facilitate or constrain the understanding of the past. By juxtaposing the literary and the historical, he provides new insight on culture, agency, and experience. Mendoza accepts as his starting point the generational model posited by historian Mario García, then contrasts for each generation the nuances and contradictions offered by one or more Chicana/o creative writers. Other historians whose works are centrally considered include Juan Gomez-Quíñones, Rodolfo Alvarez, Ricardo Romo, David Montejano, and Carlos Muñoz, while the literary writers featured include Jovita González, Alejandro Morales, Sara Estela Ramírez, Teresa Paloma Acosta, Oscar Zeta Acosta, and Américo Paredes. Mendoza argues that history is the narrative battleground upon which literature is based--the writing and rewriting of Chicano history thus becomes an important subtext of Chicana/o literature. However, he contends that most Chicana/o historical narratives are integrated uncritically into literary analysis to establish background, resulting in the invocation of the histories as representations of the real. Libraries, Borderlands scholars, and those interested in the broad issues of cultural studies will want to own Mendoza's innovative book, which instead of insisting on the strict separation of the two genres of history and literature, seeks ways to integrate them through the new critical analysis.

books on chicano history: *Occupied America* Rodolfo F. Acuna, 2014-03-14 The most comprehensive book on Mexican Americans describing their political ascendancy Authored by one of the most influential and highly-regarded voices of Chicano history and ethnic studies, *Occupied America* is the most definitive introduction to Chicano history. This comprehensive overview of Chicano history is passionately written and extensively researched. With a concise and engaged narrative, and timelines that give students a context for pivotal events in Chicano history, *Occupied America* illuminates the struggles and decisions that frame Chicano identity today. ALERT: Before you purchase, check with your instructor or review your course syllabus to ensure that you select the correct ISBN. Several versions of Pearson's MyLab & Mastering products exist for each title, including customized versions for individual schools, and registrations are not transferable. In addition, you may need a CourseID, provided by your instructor, to register for and use Pearson's MyLab & Mastering products. Packages Access codes for Pearson's MyLab & Mastering products may not be included when purchasing or renting from companies other than Pearson; check with the seller before completing your purchase. Used or rental books If you rent or purchase a used book with an access code, the access code may have been redeemed previously and you may have to purchase a new access code. Access codes Access codes that are purchased from sellers other than Pearson carry a higher risk of being either the wrong ISBN or a previously redeemed code. Check with the seller prior to purchase. --

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monolithic group. Bringing the story up through the 1980s, *The Chicano Movement* introduces students to the impact of the Movement, and enables them to expand their understanding of what it means to be an activist, a Chicano, and an American.

books on chicano history: *From Indians to Chicanos* James Diego Vigil, 1980

books on chicano history: *Chicano Movement For Beginners* Maceo Montoya, 2016-09-13

As the heyday of the Chicano Movement of the late 1960s to early 70s fades further into history and as more and more of its important figures pass on, so too does knowledge of its significance. Thus, *Chicano Movement For Beginners* is an important attempt to stave off historical amnesia. It seeks to shed light on the multifaceted civil rights struggle known as “El Movimiento” that galvanized the Mexican American community, from laborers to student activists, giving them not only a political voice to combat prejudice and inequality, but also a new sense of cultural awareness and ethnic pride. Beyond commemorating the past, *Chicano Movement For Beginners* seeks to reaffirm the goals and spirit of the Chicano Movement for the simple reason that many of the critical issues Mexican American activists first brought to the nation’s attention then—educational disadvantage, endemic poverty, political exclusion, and social bias—remain as pervasive as ever almost half a century later.

books on chicano history: *Chicano Homeland* Louis R. Negrete, 2016-03-17

Chicano Homeland tells the dynamic story of the movement for the rights of Mexican-Americans. Focusing on the Chicano movement at its epicenter in Los Angeles, author Louis R. Negrete brings to life the issues that triggered this wide-ranging civil rights movement - police brutality, institutionalized poverty, demands for better schools, opposition to the war in Vietnam, and defense of undocumented immigrants. He blends personal experiences and eyewitness accounts with stories of the many leaders, organizations, and successful political strategies. Negrete provides a vision of how a new generation of activists - who represent the largest minority voting block in the country --might revive this crucial human rights movement.

books on chicano history: *Chicanos in a Changing Society* Albert Camarillo, 1996 Originally published in 1979, *Chicanos in a Changing Society* was among the first studies to focus on the history of Mexican Americans, specifically the development of Mexican-American society from the Mexican War to the Great Depression. Camarillo's book underscored the diversity of the Chicano experience and its relationship to the wider society. Nearly two decades later, Chicano history has burgeoned into a dynamic field of American history with a rich and diverse literature.

books on chicano history: *Chicanos in California* Albert Camarillo, 1984

books on chicano history: *Encyclopedia of the Mexican American Civil Rights Movement*

Margo Gutiérrez, Matt S. Meier, 2000-05-30 Mexican Americans, like many other Americans, have a long history of struggle for equality and civil rights. Yet only in recent decades has that history begun to be included as part of mainstream American history. Bringing together a wealth of information on the Mexican American struggle for civil rights, this authoritative encyclopedia provides factual up-to-date information on the concepts, issues, plans, legislation, court decisions, events, organizations, and people involved in that long fight. It includes such leading figures as Corky Gonzales, Héctor Pérez García, Jovita Idar, and Alonso Perales, as well as many secondary leaders, and is rounded out with objective discussions of such topics as leadership, the movimiento, lynching, political exclusion, voting, and stereotyping. Appendices include a chronology and several basic documents critical to an understanding of the Mexican American Civil Rights struggle. The first comprehensive encyclopedia on this aspect of Mexican American history, the book fills a noticeable gap in the literature. It includes more than 300 entries, six appendices, sources of additional information, cross-referencing, and a detailed index that makes the history readily available. The book is a valuable resource for anyone interested in the Mexican American experience.

books on chicano history: *Youth, Identity, Power* Carlos Muñoz, 1989 *Youth, Identity, Power* is a study of the origins and development of Chicano radicalism in America. Written by a leader of the Chicano Student Movement of the 1960s who also played a role in the creation of the wider

Chicano Power Movement, this is the first fill-length work to appear on the subject. It fills an important gap in the history of political protest in the United States. The author places the Chicano movement in the wider context of the political development of Mexicans and their descendants in the US, tracing the emergence of Chicano student activists in the 1930s and their initial challenge to the dominant racial and class ideologies of the time. Munoz then documents the rise and fall of the Chicano Power Movement, situating the student protests of the sixties within the changing political scene of the time, and assessing the movement's contribution to the cultural development of the Chicano population as a whole. He concludes with an account of Chicano politics in the 1980s. *Youth, Identity, Power* was named an Outstanding Book on Human Rights in the United States by the Gustavus Myers Center in 1990.

books on chicano history: Chicano Politics Juan Gómez-Quíñones, 1990-07 How a new style of politics coalesced into an ethnic populism known as the Chicano movement.

books on chicano history: Literature as History Mario T. García, 2016-11-06 Historical documents—and, for that matter, historical sources—exist in many forms. The traditional archival sources such as official documents, newspapers, correspondence, and diaries can be supplemented by personal archives, oral histories, and even works of fiction in order for historians to illuminate the past. *Literature as History* offers a critical new path for Chicano and Latino history. Historian Mario T. García analyzes prominent works of Chicano fiction, nonfiction, and autobiographical literature to explore how they can sometimes reveal even more about ordinary people's lives. García argues that this approach can yield personal insights into historical events that more formal documents omit, lending insights into such diverse issues as gender identity, multiculturalism, sexuality, and the concerns of the working class. In a stimulating and imaginative look at the intersection of history and literature, García discusses the meaning and intent of narratives. *Literature as History* represents a unique way to rethink history. García, a leader in the field of Chicano history and one of the foremost historians of his generation, explores how Chicano historians can use Chicano and Latino literature as important historical sources. Autobiography, testimonio, and fiction are the genres the author researches to obtain new and insightful perspectives on Chicano history at the personal and grassroots levels. Breaking the boundaries between history and literature, García provides a thought-provoking discussion of what constitutes a historical source.

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books on chicano history: *A Century of Chicano History* Raul E. Fernandez, Gilbert G. Gonzalez, 2012-11-12 This study argues for a radically new interpretation of the origins and evolution of the ethnic Mexican community across the US. This book offers a definitive account of the interdependent histories of the US and Mexico as well as the making of the Chicano population in America. The authors link history to contemporary issues, emphasizing the overlooked significance of late 19th and 20th century US economic expansionism to Europe in the formation of the Mexican community.

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