

The Ethnogenesis of the *Mexican/ Chicano/ Chicana* Americans

Sociology 225

Aztlan	The historical prologue consisting of both real and mythic legacies of the great Meso-American civilizations such as the <i>Mayans, Toltecs, and Aztecs</i>
1519-1521	Arrival of Hernan Cortes in Vera Cruz and the eventual conquest of the Aztec empire and death of Aztec ruler Montezuma
1646-1746	Period of native genocide (Indian population declines from 15 to only 3 million); the Mexican <i>mestizo</i> emerges as the numerical majority of the population
1810	Abolition of slavery
1821	Mexican Independence from Spain after three full centuries [Spanish-born Peninsular, are replaced by Mexican-born (Mestizo) Criollas as heads of Government]
1821	First Anglo-American colony in Texas
1835	The Famous Battle of the Alamo (Pyrrhic victory for Mexico)
1836-1845	The Republic of Texas enjoys a brief era of national sovereignty
1845	Texas becomes a U.S. State
1846-1848	The Mexican-American War
1848	The Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo and the first Mexican Americans
1853	The Gadsden Purchase and the era of <i>Gunpowder Justice</i> commences with the creation of the Texas Rangers
1880-1910	First large influx of Mexican immigrants into the Southwest [The Mexican <i>greaser</i> stereotype begins to emerge]
1929-1935	National Depression and the first large-scale deportations of Mexicans commences (circa 458,039 persons deported for indigence—unemployment)
1942-1964	The Bracero Program goes into operation for about 5 million green card workers; Second large influx of Mexicans into the Southwest principally
1954-1959	Operation Wetback; 3.8 million Mexicans deported from U.S. as illegal aliens
1965, 1976	Immigration restrictions placed upon Mexicans for the first time in U.S. history
1986	Immigration Reform Act

[3.1 million illegal Mexicans granted eligibility for U.S. citizenship and the hiring of illegal immigrants becomes a criminal felony for the first time]