



(Re)constructing Memory, Place, and Identity in Twentieth Century Houston: A Memoir on Family and Being Mexican American in Space City USA

AUTHOR Louis Mendoza
COLLECTION EDITED BY Manuel Callahan

COLLECTION
Latinx Studies

EDITION
1st edition

MARKET
College/higher education
and Professional and
scholarly

This course reading...

- Explores the interconnectedness of place and ethnic identity in the emergence of Houston's Mexican American community through the lens of one family's experience.
- Draws from the lived experience of three generations of the author's family in a memoir.
- Is ideal reading for students of Latinx or Latin American studies, migrant studies, American studies, sociology, oral history, and cultural anthropology.

What does it mean to be Mexican American in Houston, TX?

For the Mendoza-Martinez family, the answer to this question is complicated and evolving. In this fascinating memoir, author **Dr Louis Mendoza** tells his family's story over three generations, exploring the ongoing efforts to negotiate intense racialization in Texas. Examining questions of community, belonging and home, migrancy, and social strata, the book considers the interconnectedness of ethnic identity and place through the lens of lived experience.

Explicitly addressing the challenges of constructing—or reconstructing—a multi-generational family narrative when the traditional resources of family archives are limited, this memoir will enhance and illuminate courses in Latinx or Latin American studies, migrant studies, American studies, sociology, oral history, and cultural anthropology.

Louis Mendoza PhD is a professor in the School of Humanities, Arts, and Cultural Studies, and professor of literature and cultural studies at Arizona State University. Originally from Houston, TX, Mendoza is the author of several books on immigration and the Latinoization of the US. He also directed a short film based on his research, entitled *A Journey Across Our America: Observations and Reflections on the Latinoization of the US*.

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