Hispanics/Latinos in the Carolinas
K-12 Study Guide
(please turn in for CEU credit)

Readings:

1. After visiting Pueblo, Mexico, the author of “Cross Purposes” writes that money sent by family members working in the United States ($17 billion in 2004) and closer ties to U.S. culture have “transformed life across the border.” He describes changes in housing, consumption, lifestyle, and health. Which changes do you think will have the most important effect on Mexico’s future? Explain your choice.

_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

2. The Kenan Institute study reported in the UNC news release reveals that the impact of Hispanic spending in North Carolina is more than $9 billion a year, and may rise to $18 billion by 2009. In addition, the report points out that Hispanic labor contributes to the success of key industries in the state. Given these statistics, what changes do you see occurring in North Carolina in the next decade?

_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

(OVER)
3. According to the Pew Hispanic Center study, the drop-out rate for Hispanics is 21%, more than twice the rate for whites. The same study reveals differences in drop-out rates among Hispanics, depending on country of origin. Should elementary and middle schools begin differentiating support for Hispanic students based on the national origin of the student (or the student’s family)? Why or why not?

_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

4. The Pew Hispanic Center Fact Sheet states that “a significant portion of the higher dropout propensity of Latino youth can be attributed to their less favorable family circumstances and the communities in which they reside.” How would you describe your school or school system’s relationship with the parents of Hispanic students? What is your school or school system doing to address community needs from kindergarten onwards? Discuss other options you might explore to improve support for Hispanic students.

_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Please turn in completed study guide at the conclusion of the seminar.