Ethnic Studies

Overview

Ethnic Studies is an interdisciplinary and diverse field that gives voice to historically marginalized peoples and their perspectives by challenging systems of injustice and valuing diversity. This program seeks to educate students on progressive social change, reflect on the dynamics of power and knowledge, and promote multiple approaches to social justice issues while encouraging students to be informed and active citizens. Ethnic Studies allows students a particular focus on marginalized and disadvantaged populations while also de-centering the dominant cultural, political, and social ideals that have shaped western societies.

ETHNS Course Descriptions

ETHNS 300 Introduction to Ethnic Studies

This interdisciplinary course examines the social, political, economic, and cultural experience of racial and ethnic minority groups in the United States using concepts, theories, and terminology from distinct disciplines within the social sciences. As an ethnic studies course, it has a culturally relativistic approach. Specifically, this course examines and redefines the lives of racial and ethnic minority groups through their own experiences: from the inside looking out at the world. This course was formerly SOCSC 300.

ETHNS 320 The African American Experience

This interdisciplinary course examines the social, political, economic, and cultural experience of racial and ethnic minority groups in the United States using concepts, theories, and terminology from distinct disciplines within the social sciences. As an ethnic studies course, it has a culturally relativistic approach. Specifically, this course redefines the lives of African Americans through their own experiences: from the inside looking out at the world. This course was formerly SOCSC 320.

ETHNS 330 The Asian American Experience in America

This interdisciplinary course examines the social, political, economic, and cultural experience of Asian Americans in the United States. As an Ethnic Studies course, it has a culturally relativistic approach. Specifically, this course examines and redefines the lives of Asian Americans through their own experiences: from the inside looking out at the world. This course was formerly SOCSC 325 and only one may be taken for credit.

ETHNS 340 Chicanos/Mexican Americans in the U.S.
This is an interdisciplinary course in which terms, concepts, and theories from distinct disciplines within the social sciences will be utilized to examine the social, political, economic, and cultural experience of Mexican Americans in the United States. As an Ethnic Studies course, it has a culturally relativistic approach. Specifically, this course examines and redefines the lives of Mexican Americans through their own experiences: from the inside looking out at the world. This course was formerly SOCSC 330.

ETHNS 344 The Latino Experience in America

This interdisciplinary course examines the social, political, economic, and cultural experience of racial and ethnic minority groups in the United States using concepts, theories, and terminology from distinct disciplines within the social sciences. As an ethnic studies course, it has a culturally relativistic approach. Specifically, this course redefines the lives of Latino American subgroups through their own experiences: from the inside looking out at the world.

ETHNS 350 Introduction to Native American Studies

This course introduces students to Ethnic Studies and the diverse institutional, cultural, and historical issues relating to the past and present life circumstances and intersectional identities of Native Americans/American Indians within the United States. This course is a survey of traditional cultures of Native Americans/American Indians focusing on the social, religious, economic, and artistic practices. The antiquity, distribution, and linguistic histories of Native American/American Indian cultures are integrated with the contemporary status of Native peoples regarding social change and adaptation.