AA Ethnic Studies

Ethnic studies is a multidisciplinary field focused on the analysis of socially-constructed categories such as race, ethnicity, gender, sexual identity, nationality and (non)citizenship. Using a range of materials, from literary and musical works to sociological studies and historical texts, we deeply examine the processes whereby social categories of identity and difference are produced, resisted, inhabited, embraced, and transformed across historical time and geographic space. We trace the ways in which these racialized categories shape and are shaped by a variety of other complex issues, such as colonialism, military conflict, and the relations between capital and labor. Our classes interrogate systems of power and inequality, analyze the effects of social justice movements past and present, and delve into the ontology and phenomenology of the elusive notion of liberation. By familiarizing students with a range of methodological tools for the study of social life, while prioritizing the voices and perspectives of marginalized individuals and minoritized communities, we open up an intellectual space within which the term "ethnic" in "ethnic studies" is both critically deconstructed and strategically affirmed.

Career Opportunities

Students who transfer and complete a Bachelor's degree in Ethnic Studies can pursue careers in the arts, business, city planning, creative writing, education at all levels, international relations, journalism, law, medicine, politics, psychology, public health, research, and social work. In addition, Ethnic Studies courses allow public school teachers the opportunity to meet California State requirements in ethnic education.

Program Learning Outcomes

Students completing this program will be able to:

1. Describe the historical development and contributions of various ethnic groups to the United States and to California in particular.
2. Analyze the role in the political process played by various ethnic groups in the United States and in California particularly.
3. Discuss public policies involving various ethnic groups in the United Stated and in California particularly.
4. Analyze concepts such as race and racism, racialization, ethnicity, discrimination, neo-colonialism, patriarchy and transnationalism.

AA Degree Requirements

Major: Core and Selective Requirements

Complete Core requirements, 6 units:		**Units**
ETHN 108	Rethinking Race, Gender, and Nation	3 units
ETHN 109	Borders and Crossings	3 units

Selective Courses, choose a minimum of 12 units from the following:		**Units**
ETHN 103	Asian American Studies	3 units
ETHN 105	African American History and Culture	3 units
ETHN 107	Introduction to Native American Studies	3 units
ETHN 130	Introduction to Latinx Studies	3 units
ETHN 265	Evolution of Hip Hop Culture: A Socio-Economic and Political Perspective	3 units
ETHN 288	African-American Cinema	3 units

And required General Education coursework and electives as needed to meet the minimum 60 units required for the Associate degree.