Collections:

As stated in the library review for the Ethnic Studies Minor (fall 2007), the library has been working steadily over the years to build collections to support research in ethnic studies. This year, a one-time additional addition of $1,250 was allocated to the ethnic studies budget line to boost collections in the area. Additionally, subject selectors in other areas continue to add titles relating to ethnic groups within their own subject areas. For the most part we should be able to continue to add to the collections with existing funds, however we will need to see if demand increases as a result of the minor.

Books:

Overall, the collection is adequate to support the needs of this new course. The library is stronger in materials relating to Indigenous Americans, European Americans, African Americans, Latino Americans, and Asian Americans, as well as general works on ethnicity race and racism. Some effort should be made to build the collections relating to Middle Eastern Americans, and Pacific Islanders. We should also continue to build in the area of whiteness and white privilege.

Reference Books:

The library owns a variety of excellent reference sources related to ethnic studies. In line with our current policy of purchasing reference sources online when possible, this collection is slowly migrating to an electronic format. Some examples of reference sources related to ethnic studies are:

*Native Americans in Sports.* Armonk, N.Y.: Sharpe Reference, 2004
Periodicals:

A search of the Periodicals List under the subject category “Ethnic and Racial Studies” yielded 273 current periodical titles. This may be an imperfect count as it relies on the Periodicals List database’s determination of what belongs in each category. The list contains a mix of academic and ethnic news titles.

This indicates that we should be able to support research for this course. As mentioned in the Library Resources Review for the minor, there are still some titles that we may want to add to the collection over time.

Databases:

The library subscribes to over 100 electronic databases many of which contain information relevant to ethnic studies. However, the following databases will be most relevant to the minor:

- EthnicNewswatch
- Sociological Abstracts
- AnthroSource
- Anthropology Plus
- Academic OneFile
- OmniFile FT

We may want to consider subscribing to the Chicano Database as well. This is a specialized database that indexes journal articles, newspapers, books and book chapters about Chicanos and also covers the broader Latino experience of Puerto Ricans, Cuban Americans, and Central American immigrants.

Media:

There is no mention of media use in the course proposal. The library purchases many DVD’s and videos for use in courses. If any are needed for this class they can be purchased as long as the budget can support it. DVD’s can be quite expensive, therefore the their purchase needs to be weighed against other formats such as books.

Information Literacy:
The proposal for the Ethnic Studies minor lists as one of its outcomes for the minor that students “will be proficient in researching and writing research papers with a clear thesis statement, including support and evidence for that argument, in accordance with the appropriate academic and professional guidelines.”

In order to insure this outcome, I proposed in the library resources review that an information literacy component be included in the proposed lower division Ethnic Studies 001: Introduction to Ethnic Studies course, which would introduce students to the strategies and resources necessary to effective research in ethnic studies. I do not see a research component listed as a component of any of the assignments listed in the syllabus. Perhaps it would be possible to include some research in the “Cultural Autobiography” assignment. This could include a library session to help acquaint students with the resources in ethnic studies. While students may receive information literacy assignments and instruction in courses for their major, it is important that they also have some exposure to doing research in the field of ethnic studies before they reach the capstone course.