

Fall 2019: Ethnic Studies Classes



ES 1: Intro to Ethnic Studies

This introductory Ethnic Studies class draws upon interdisciplinary approaches to understand and problematize the study of race and ethnicity in the United States.

The class will discuss current disciplinary debates, theoretical frameworks and methodological approaches within the diverse field of Ethnic Studies. By focusing upon diverse populations in the United States the class will index a broad range of cultural and political contexts; social problems; and histories to comprehend how racial formations and ethnic identity constructions have contradictorily served to:

(1) create inequality and sustain systems of power and privilege and (2) create

fissures of possibility to forge self-reflective solidarities and intercultural alliances that serve to dismantle oppressive conditions. The class will discuss the social construction of race and ethnicity coupled with the intersectionality of identity and positionality across race, class, gender and sexuality.

ES 100: Asian American History

This course examines the social, historical, and structural contexts defining the experiences of Asians and Pacific Islanders in the U.S. from 1850 to the present, with an emphasis on how global movements of capital, population, goods, and culture have impacted the transnational relations and identity formation of contemporary AAPI (Asian American Pacific Islanders) communities and individuals. Topics include immigration, labor, community development, U.S.- Asia relations, gender and family dynamics, and race relations. This transdisciplinary course draws from historical and journalistic accounts, literary narratives, ethnographic studies, community research, and individual experiences. The course also identifies relevant resources and current issues in local AAPI communities for students interested in doing research in the field of Asian American Studies

