

Ethnic Studies

Ethnic Studies is the interdisciplinary study of race and racism and focuses on the histories, experiences, cultures, and issues of underrepresented racial-ethnic groups in the United States. Ethnic Studies, at its core, is defined by its attention to the systemic power relations that arise from institutional, cultural, and global productions of "race." Ethnic Studies also investigates how race/ethnicity intersects with class, gender, colonialism, imperialism, and sexuality in order to help students gain an understanding of historical movements for social transformation, resistance, and liberation. Students take courses to prepare for an Ethnic Studies major or to fulfill general education requirements. Career options include teaching at the high school and college level, social work, non-profit work, human services, counseling, law enforcement, legal professions, and business.

Academic and Career Pathway: Social and Behavioral Sciences

Contact Information

Chair: Olivia Quintanilla

Dean: Jonathan Fohrman

Department: Ethnic Studies

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Full-Time Faculty

Olivia Quintanilla

Courses

ETHN 100: Introduction to Ethnic Studies

Units: 3

Prerequisites: None

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Lecture 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

This course provides a comparative and interdisciplinary exploration of historical connections among race, ethnicity, class, religion, sexuality, and gender inequality. It introduces significant theories, philosophies, concepts, issues, and social movements related to racial and social justice and liberation in the US. Students examine diverse perspectives on empowerment, identity, equity, self-determination, agency, and anti-racism within contemporary American society as well as the effects of institutional racism and marginalization on the African American, Native American, Asian American, and Latinx/Chicanx racial and ethnic groups.

ETHN 207: Race and Ethnic Relations

Units: 3

Prerequisites: None

Enrollment Limitation: Not open to students with prior credit in SOC 207.

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Lecture 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall or Spring

This course provides a systematic examination of how race and ethnic relations are affected by the concepts of power, prejudice, ethnocentrism, and racism. It connects historical oppression to current racial and ethnic dynamics in the U.S. The course also studies the institutions and other factors involved in establishing, sustaining, and changing systems of racial and ethnic inequality and how they are connected to class, gender, sexuality, citizenship status, and other intersections. C-ID SOCI-150.