



2020-2021 Ethnic Studies Course Syllabus

GENERAL INFORMATION: SGF-410

Term and Year: Fall 2020

Office Number: C-304

Name of Instructor: Brett Williams

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Class Website Hyperlink

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Ethnic Studies is an interdisciplinary course that uses a comparative and historical perspective to examine the languages, values, and voices of diverse groups within the United States. Using the skills and knowledge under the Common Core Standards for History/Social Studies students will investigate the practice of naming and being named, the intersection between ethnicity, culture, nationality, race, and gender, and the historic, economic and personal consequences of oppression and resistance. Students will also learn how the social construction of identity is created, contested, and altered by historic and economic processes. Emphasis will be on African-Americans, Asian/Pacific Islanders, Chicanos/Latinos, Native Americans and other ethnic groups in Sacramento and Northern California.

Textbook

Primary Text: *Our Stories in Our Voices* (Kendall Hunt) c. 2017, Allender & Mark. The book will be used exclusively in class. Students will not need to bring it home.

Students will also be reading a variety of additional texts, including news articles, personal narratives and literature.

Grading Policy

All assignments are worth points and grades will be calculated based on the amount of points earned in each category. Most work will be completed in class, during class time. Work will be divided into the following categories:

Classwork-- 35%	Final-- 15%
Homework-- 15%	Classroom Participation-- 5%
Unit Assessments -- 30%	

Check grades on Infinite Campus via www.scusd.edu

Late Work

Late assignments will be accepted during the current unit. The assignments will be plugged in the day they are collected and will be marked zero if the assignment is not present, but the score will be changed if the work is turned in by the end of the unit. Homework on the other hand will only receive half credit if turned in late during the current unit, and zero if not.

Students will receive notice of the deadlines when the Unit Assessment is assigned.

Grading Scale

Your grade will be given the following mark based on percentage:

A (+/-)	B (+/-)	C (+/-)	D (+/-)	F
89.5% and above	79.5%-89.4%	69.5%-79.4%	59.5%-69.4%	59.4% or below



Course Outline

The semester will be broken down to the following units:

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------|---------------------|---------|
| 1. What is Ethnic Studies? | 3 weeks | 4. Where Am I? | 4 weeks |
| 2. Who am I? | 3 weeks | 5. Where Am I Going | 3 weeks |
| 3. Where am I From? | 4 weeks | | |

Academic Expectations

- **We are here to learn together.** We are a community as well as individuals and we should each remember that when engaging in things that distract from that mission, such as texting, eating, drinking, working on other things, sleeping, rude behavior, long walks to the bathroom, etc.
- Every student is expected to attend every class on time every day unless the student is required to be absent for a valid excuse. Truancy, unverified and unexcused absences, excessive absences, and tardies affect the students' education and increase the chances for failure. Tardies interrupt and interfere with the learning environment for all students and the teaching opportunities for teachers. For the rest of the school and district policy on attendance please see the JFK Handbook.
- Students will enter the classroom ready for class. This means removing any hats, hoods and earphones and putting away cell phones or other electronics.
- As soon as the bell rings, students will be working on the Warmups.

Behavior Expectations

1. Be on time. School Tardy policy will be enforced.
2. Be prepared to learn once entering the class.
3. Treat others with respect at all times.
4. One person will speak at a time.
5. Believe in your ability to succeed.

Technology Use (JFK Handbook)

“During instructional time, a teacher may grant students use of their cell phone or like device for educational purposes. Any student who violates any term of this policy will have their device confiscated. First time offenders will be placed on an “electronics contract,” and the student can pick up the device at the end of the day from the office. Subsequent violations may carry additional disciplinary consequences and/or require that the parent/guardian pick up the electronic device from the school. **Refusal to comply with confiscation of a device can result in a disciplinary consequence, including suspension.”**

Classroom Materials:

The following materials are recommended in order to be successful. If you are unable to get a supply, please contact the instructor.

Recommended Materials		Optional Materials
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Ring Binder <input type="checkbox"/> Pencils (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Highlighter (2-3 Colors)	<input type="checkbox"/> Folder for Class <input type="checkbox"/> Glue Sticks (2-3) <input type="checkbox"/> Pens (2)	<input type="checkbox"/> Colored Pencils <input type="checkbox"/> White-Out <input type="checkbox"/> Different Colored Pens

NOTE: Once parent and student have thoroughly reviewed and understood the Syllabus please complete my [Google Form](#) here.