

# Ethnic Studies Program

18 units

The ethnic studies program (<https://www.apu.edu/clas/programs/ethnic-studies>) enhances students' understanding of the experiences of U.S. immigrant populations and communities of color, along with their sensitivity to issues of race, ethnicity, and social class. The program also enables students to analyze contemporary social problems that affect these populations and evaluate public policy related to the areas of immigration, education, criminal justice, health care, and economic development. The primary curricular focus is on the experiences of Asian Americans, African Americans, Chicano/Latino, and American Indian peoples within the United States. Because of the program's interdisciplinary character, students learn to appreciate how scholars in different fields (e.g., history, art, literature, communications, anthropology, education, political science, psychology, and sociology) approach the study and expression of race and ethnicity.

## Program Learning Outcomes

Students who complete the ethnic studies minor are able to demonstrate:

PL0 1: An awareness of the historical experiences of U.S. ethnic groups and their contributions to the broader U.S. society.

PL0 2: Knowledge of the terminology that specifically relates to respective U.S. ethnic groups.

PL0 3: An ability to critically engage the elements of American cultural identity formation, including ethnic identity and issues of race.

PL0 4: A broadened understanding of how Christian faith shapes respective U.S. ethnic experiences.

## Requirements

Code	Title	Units
<b>Core Course</b>		
ETHN 150	Introduction to Ethnic Studies <sup>1</sup>	3
<b>Contemporary Experience Courses</b>		
ETHN 355	The Asian American Experience	3
ETHN 356	The African American Experience	3
ETHN 357	The Chicano(a)/Latino(a) Experience	3
<b>Elective Requirements</b>		
Select two of the following:		6
<b>Culture and the Arts</b>		
ART 403	Multicultural Art <sup>2</sup>	
COMM 495	Special Topics	
ENGL 364	American Ethnic Literature <sup>1</sup>	
ENGL 489	Literary Topics	
GLBL 201	Anthropology for Everyday Life <sup>1</sup>	
MUS 301	Music of Africa	
MUS 302	Soul Music <sup>1</sup>	
<b>Social Relationships/Public Policy</b>		
COMM 260	Intercultural Communication <sup>1</sup>	
EDLS 405	Diversity in the Classroom <sup>1</sup>	
GLBL 260	Intercultural Communication	
HIST 346	History of American Immigration <sup>1</sup>	
PSYC 400	Multicultural Psychology <sup>1</sup>	
SOC 358	Human Diversity <sup>1</sup>	
SOC 359	Immigrant L.A.	
SOC 464	Social Stratification	
THEO 480	Theology from the Margins	

Total Units

18

<sup>1</sup> Meets the General Education Intercultural Competence requirement.

<sup>2</sup> Meets the General Education Humanities: Fine Arts requirement.

### **ETHN 150, Introduction to Ethnic Studies, 3 Units**

This class examines the complexities of ethnic and racial diversity in the United States, exploring the historical and cultural aspects of how ethnic minority groups have been affected by social inequality in America. The course provides an overview of concepts and terms essential to studies and discussions within the discipline of ethnic studies. Covered terms include: race, racism, racialization and racialism, ethnicity and ethnic identity, ethnonationalism or ethnic nationalism, panethnicity, ethnocentrism, prejudice, discrimination, segregation, marginalization, diversity, pluralism, multiculturalism, affirmative action, enculturation, acculturation, assimilation, and self-determination. This survey course provides an overview of the discipline of ethnic studies as a whole. Topics of study include: the social construction of race and ethnicity, notions of identity and citizenship, and analysis of African Americans, Asian Americans, Chicanos and Latinos, Native Americans, and Pacific Islanders. The effect of culture on spiritual experience and identity are also examined.

### **ETHN 355, The Asian American Experience, 3 Units**

This class introduces students to the history and experiences of Asian Americans. Using the analytical lens of sociological inquiry, students examine immigration patterns, sociopolitical and economic challenges, as well as issues encountered by Asian Americans due to racism and/or ignorance. The course also explores the contributions of Asian cultures to the fabric of American life.

### **ETHN 356, The African American Experience, 3 Units**

This course introduces students to the experience of African Americans in the United States, including an examination of their contributions to the nation's development as well as an exploration of the dimensions of their identity. Students are challenged to critically analyze and interpret history and culture.

### **ETHN 357, The Chicano(a)/Latino(a) Experience, 3 Units**

This class introduces students to the history and experiences of Chicano(a)/Latino(a) Americans while examining their immigration patterns, sociopolitical and economic influences, heritage and traditions, contributions to American culture, and race relations.

## **Faculty**

### **Director**

David Miyahara (<http://www.apu.edu/clas/faculty/dmiyahara>), Ph.D., Sociology

### **Affiliated Faculty**

Patricia Andujo (<http://www.apu.edu/clas/faculty/pandujo>), Ph.D., English

James Fujitani (<http://www.apu.edu/clas/faculty/jfujitani>), Ph.D., French

Marcela Rojas (<http://www.apu.edu/clas/faculty/mrojas>), Ph.D., Spanish

### **Adjunct Faculty**

Aaron Hinojosa, M.Ed.

Rebecca Park-Hearn, M.A.