



Ethnic Studies in EGUSD - Update

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Goals & Objectives

Defining Ethnic Studies

Recognize how Ethnic Studies is defined as well as the benefits, outcomes and principles embedded in an Ethnic Studies course.

Ethnic Studies in EGUSD

Understand how the course was developed, designed and what instructional materials are used, as well as the recommended timeline for implementation of Ethnic Studies as a graduation requirement.



What is Ethnic Studies?

What is Ethnic Studies?

- Ethnic Studies is for all students.
- Ethnic Studies helps bring students and communities together.
- Ethnic Studies is designed to benefit all students.

“Rather than being divisive, ethnic studies helps students to bridge differences that already exist in experiences and perspectives.”

Christine Sleeter,
The Academic and Social Value of Ethnic Studies A Research Review

Ethnic Studies helps bring Students and Communities together.

An Ethnic Studies course should:

- address racialized experiences and ethnic differences as real and unique
- build greater understanding and communication across ethnic differences;
- reveal underlying commonalities that can bind by bringing individuals and groups

Ethnic Studies is designed to benefit All Students

- Instruction that includes diversity experiences and a specific focus on racism and other forms of bigotry - has a positive impact.
- Culturally meaningful and relevant curriculum which helps students develop the skill sets to engage in critical conversations about race, can have a positive impact on students' engagement in education and their achievement.

Ethnic Studies is designed to benefit All Students

- Ethnic studies helps “foster cross-cultural understanding among students of color and white students, and aids students in valuing their own cultural identity while appreciating the differences around them.”
- By asking students to examine and reflect on the history, struggles, and contributions of diverse groups within the context of racism and bigotry, ethnic studies can foster the importance of equity and justice.

Guiding Values and Principles of Ethnic Studies

The foundational values of ethnic studies interweaves holistic humanization and critical consciousness.

Humanization includes the values of love, respect, hope, and solidarity, which are based on celebration of community cultural wealth.

- Cultivate
- Celebrate
- Center
- Critique
- Challenge
- Connect

Defining Ethnic Studies

Ethnic studies is an interdisciplinary field of study that encompasses many subject areas including history, literature, economics, sociology, anthropology, and political science. It emerged to both address content considered missing from traditional curriculum and to encourage critical engagement.

*The History Social–Science Framework for California Public Schools:
Kindergarten through Grade Twelve, Chapter 14, pg. 25-26*

Defining Ethnic Studies

As a field, ethnic studies seeks to empower all students to engage socially and politically and to think critically about the world around them. It is important for ethnic studies courses to document the experiences of people of color in order for students to construct counter-narratives and develop a more complex understanding of the human experience.

*The History Social–Science Framework for California Public Schools:
Kindergarten through Grade Twelve, Chapter 14, pg. 25-26*

Defining Ethnic Studies

Central to any ethnic studies course is the historic struggle of communities of color, taking into account the intersectionality of identity (gender, class, sexuality, among others), to challenge racism, discrimination, and oppression and interrogate the systems that continue to perpetuate inequality.

*The History Social–Science Framework for California Public Schools:
Kindergarten through Grade Twelve, Chapter 14, pg. 25-26*

Outcomes of Ethnic Studies Teaching

- Pursuit of justice and equity
- Working toward greater inclusivity
- Promoting self-empowerment for civic engagement
- Supporting a community focus
- Developing interpersonal communication

GRADUATE PROFILE



Benefits of Ethnic Studies

Ethnic studies scholars and teachers have established through research that courses in Ethnic Studies have:

- Helped students develop a strong sense of identity
- Aided in the social-emotional wellness of students
- Increased youth civic engagement and community responsiveness
- Helped foster a classroom environment of trust between students and teachers, enabling them to discuss contentious issues and topics, as well as current events



Ethnic Studies in EGUSD

2016

CPL begins reviewing current course offerings to meet the Ethnic Studies Requirement.

Fall 2018 - June 2019

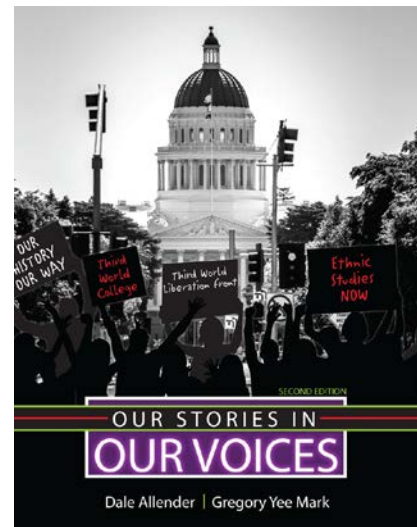
Ethnic Studies Subcommittee
Identify the viability of an Ethnic Studies graduation requirement for EGUSD.

August 2019-January 2020

ES course was developed and approved by the Board along with *Our Stories in Our Voices* as the instructional materials for the course.

Ethnic Studies (A-G Elective) Approved in 2020

This course is designed to provide key language, historical lessons and critical analysis skills that empower students to articulate and address the social injustices they see and experience. The class will cultivate understanding necessary for social, political and educational engagement, while developing academic literacy skills. Students will be able to take an in-depth look at history through a thematic approach (as opposed to chronological) as well as theories of multicultural and gender studies.



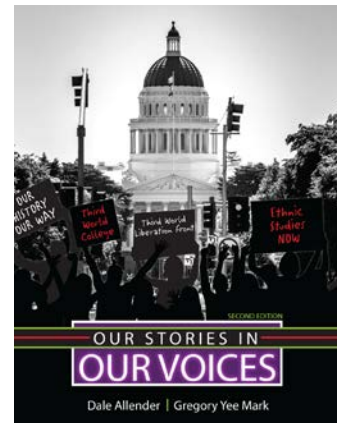
Ethnic Studies Course Outline

- Unit I: Introduction to Ethnic Studies
- Unit II: Indigeneity and Self-Identity
- Unit III: Coloniality and Dehumanization
- Unit IV: Hegemony
- Unit V: Transformation and Regeneration
- Unit VI: Youth Participation Action Research (YPAR)

Instructional Materials

Our Stories in Our Voices, 2nd Edition Dale Allender & Gregory Yee Mark

- Unit I: Inventing Images, Representing Otherness
- Unit II: Ghosts of the Past
- Unit III: A Glimpse of California
- Unit IV: Solidarity



February 2020 - August 2020

Two schools
opt-in to offer
Ethnic Studies
for the 2020-
2021 school
year.

September 2020 - July 2021

The Ethnic
Studies(ES) course is
taught almost
exclusively online in
its first year. ES
teachers are invited to
participate in variety
of PL/PD
opportunities.

August 2021 - February 2022

Four schools
opt-in to offer
Ethnic Studies.
ES teachers are
encouraged to
participate in
PL/PD and
collaboration.

What are other districts doing?

SCUSD

Started with a pilot in 16-17, Ethnic Studies became a graduation requirement starting in 2020.

San Juan

Course not required for graduation but all 9th graders are enrolled in the class.

Twin Rivers

Team working on the development of a course as a graduation requirement.

Stockton

Started with a pilot course in 2017 and has an Ethnic Studies TOSA.

Salinas

5-credit ES graduation requirement for all students, beginning with the freshman class of 2024.

Recommendations for 2022-2023/2023-2024

Professional Development

Collaboration and PD/PL for ES Teachers
ES Teacher/CPL Instructional Coach (50/50 contract) to provide support

Collect Feedback

Interview/survey current ES students and teachers about their experience with the course

Increase Enrollment

All schools include ES as an option for an elective on their course schedule

Community Engagement

Host feedback sessions and/or listening sessions for community groups regarding ES/WG

Review & Report

Review, strengthen, update and add to current ES course offerings

Recommendations for the 2024-2025 School Year

Fall
2024

Provide PD/PL
Pilot new IM
Update Course
Description &
Outline

Winter 2024-
2025

Obtain Board
Approval and
School sites
identify
teachers for
the course

Spring/
Summer
2025

Provide
mandatory
training for
all ES
teachers
who will
teach in the
Fall of 2025

Fall
2025

All 9th graders
enrolled in ES.
Provide direct
support to
teachers with
an instructional
coach

Winter
2025

Interview/
survey current
ES students
and teachers
about their
experience with
the course

Immediate Next Steps

- ☐ Develop a disseminate a survey for current Ethnic Studies students.
- ☐ Ensure that all high school sites opt-in to offering Ethnic Studies for 2022-2023 as an elective.
- ☐ Draft a [resolution](#) outlining the plan and commencement of the ES course as a graduation requirement beginning in 2025.
- ☐ Provide an instructional coach in CPL focused on ES.
- ☐ Provide PD/PL and collaboration time for current ES Teachers and those teachers who are interested in ES.
- ☐ Develop synchronous and asynchronous opportunities for teachers to participate in PD/PL with an Ethnic Studies focus.

