

Troy High School Course Profile

Course Title: Ethnic Studies

Course Prerequisites: Refer to annual registration presentation

Course Description: The focus of Ethnic Studies is to encourage students to have a better cultural understanding of American racial and ethnic diversity as well as how different American ethnic groups have both struggled and worked together. This course will thematically survey the historical, cultural, social, political and economic impacts of race and ethnicity as they apply to the study of four core American ethnic groups: African Americans, Native Americans, Latina/o/x Americans, and Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. Attention will be given to recognizing the diversity of peoples and experiences within these ethnic groups. Through the study of past events and the effects of these events on specific groups of people, students will have the opportunity to analyze the ways that the American government and society have sought to improve on previous actions and assumptions. In addition, the course will illuminate leaders and significant events in the movements to overcome limitations placed on ethnic groups within the American past while taking note of achievements despite difficult odds. During the course, students will learn about the arrival and diffusion of different ethnic groups within the United States. Students will learn to see themselves within the spectrum of experiences of the ethnic groups studied and opportunities for identification of similarities across ethnic and racial groups will help support students in valuing their own cultural identity while appreciating the differences around them. Students will demonstrate their knowledge of Ethnic Studies gained over the course by completing a culminating project that applies the same themes in a research project and presentation that deeply examines an ethnic group or event of their choice. Sharing the presentations of student research with their peers will allow students to extend their learning and understanding of the cultural and ethnic diversity present in their communities and the larger society.

Students entering this course should already have a mastery of the following concepts and possess the following skills:

None required. This is an entry level survey course.

Workload expectations for this course:

Regular homework assignments (20-30minutes) two to three times a week.