

32nd St. USC Media Arts & Engineering Magnet School

Course Title: Ethnic Studies

Instructor: Mr. Llamas

COURSE SYLLABUS

Welcome to Ethnic Studies! I look forward to an exciting and productive year.

Course Description:

Ethnic Studies courses operate from the consideration that race and racism, have been, and continue to be, profoundly powerful social and cultural forces in American society. These courses focus on the experiences of African Americans, Asian Americans, Chicanas/os and Latinas/os, Native Americans, and other racialized peoples in the US. Courses are grounded in the concrete situations of people of color, and use a methodological framing that emphasizes both the structural dimensions of race and racism and the associated cultural dimensions (Adapted from UC Berkeley, Department of Ethnic Studies).

Units of Studies:

1. Identity
2. African American
3. American Indian
4. Latino American
5. Asian American

Objectives:

The major purpose of this course is to educate students to be politically, socially, and economically conscious about their personal connections to local and national history. Ethnic Studies focuses on themes of social justice, social responsibility, and social change. The course spans from past to present, from politics to social reform, allowing students to identify similar social patterns and universal qualities present in other societies, including their own. This course will focus on the experiences of African American, Asian Americans, Latino American, and American Indians. This course will also include an Identity section where students will consider concepts related to their own personal, group, and/or national identity.

Prerequisites: NA.

Student Behavior

Students are expected to adhere to 32nd St. USC Media Arts & Engineering (MAE) Magnet's behavior expectations while in class. Student must be respectful to presenters or speaker at all times.

Guidelines and Requirements

1. Attend daily class session and be on time (excessive absences can result in loss of credit.)
2. Watch/Read online material and complete assignments.
3. Complete all tests and quizzes.
4. Participate in all class activities and critiques.
5. Obey all school class rules.
6. Do your own work. Taking credit for work done by others is considered cheating and will be disallowed and grounds for referral.

7. Students assigned to a group/crew must maintain that position until all duties associated with that assignment is complete.
8. Class presentations.
9. Be respectful to others.
10. NO CELL PHONES.

Classwork and other responsibilities: In addition to the rules and behavior expectations students are responsible for doing classwork and assignments throughout the year via Schoology, as well as maintaining good attendance for all class sessions in order to complete this course successfully. All the work will be posted on Schoology and will be submitted via Schoology and in some cases Google Classroom.

Absence and Make-up Work

Students with an excused absence will be allowed an extension that equals the number of class days missed (i.e. two days of classes missed equals two days of classes extension). However, it is the **student's** responsibility to get the missing assignments and turn them in on time. Incomplete work due to illness or other excused absence will receive an incomplete grade defaulting to a D or less if not completed within the make-up two weeks' time.

UNEXCUSED late and incomplete work: Unexcused late work will receive at least one letter grade lower. No late work will be accepted two weeks after the original due date.

Grading Scale: The most important thing to do to be successful in this class is Participate! The more involved you are, the more you will learn and the easier this class will be.

Tests/Projects 35%, Quizzes 20%, Classwork 30%, Homework 10% and Participation 5%.

Grading (assessment) is based on a point system. Points are assigned to class work, homework, tests, quizzes and projects. Total possible points for an assignment or project will be based on the complexity and depth of the work involved.

Grades will be based on a standard grading scale of:

90 - 100% = A; 80 - 89% = B; 70 - 79% = C; 60 - 69% = D; below 60% = F.

Course Textbook: Does not require a textbook; however, students are required to keep a notebook of reference material that is distributed during the course.

Materials:

Optional:

- USB flash drive to save all documents created.
- Pencils, erasers, pens, and 3-ring binder with paper.

Disclaimer: This syllabus presented here is a tentative plan. The instructor reserves the right to make changes as student needs and other factors warrant.

Students please go over these class expectations with your parents, have them sign the bottom of the page, and bring it back to class to receive credit.

Parents, please feel free to contact me with questions or concerns, or simply to check on your child's progress. You are also welcomed to come and meet with me by appointment.

Mr. Llamas
Cinematic Arts and Career & Technical Education Instructor
Email/Contact Information : jxl31652@lausd.net

Parents, please fill out the bottom part and return the bottom portion to my class by 08/24/26

I have read, understand, and agree with the contents of this letter. By signing this contract, students and parents/legal guardians understand and accept the duties and responsibilities of this Ethnic Studies class.

This form must be signed by the student's parent or legal guardian regardless of the student's age before students will be permitted to use the equipment.

Print Student Name: _____

Signature: _____

Print Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Home Phone #: _____

Emergency Phone #: _____

Date: _____