American Ethnic Studies Department Course Descriptions Fall 2012
www.ksu.edu/ameth/courses

AMETH 160: Introduction to American Ethnic Studies


The Introduction to American Ethnic Studies course will provide you with a context for exploring many of the dynamics of race and ethnicity in the U.S. and select countries. In addition, a socio-historical framework will be used to help you understand racial and ethnic relations between the major ethnoracial groups in the US, i.e. Native Americans, African Americans, Asian Americans, European Americans, and Hispanic Americans.

AMETH 449: Comparative Ethnic Studies

Sect. A: TU 1:05-2:20p- Dr. Brunson

The purpose of this course is to understand the principles and processes that shape the patterns of relations among racial, ethnic, and other groups in society. This course will not discuss each racial and ethnic group individually, but rather will enhance our understanding of why such groups interact as they do. In particular, students will investigate the relationships between dominant and subordinate racial and ethnic groups in the United States. This course also examines theoretical approaches and key concepts in the study of race and ethnicity, focusing on both the individual level and larger societal level.

AMETH 453: Latino/a Perspectives

Sect. A: T 4:30-7:20p- Mirta Chavez

This is an interdisciplinary course examining the Latino experience in the United States. The focus is on the methods and perspectives utilized by social scientist in the field of Latino Studies. Major demographic, social, economic and political trends are discussed. This course will also critically examine the historical, cultural manifestations and contemporary experiences of U.S. Latino/as in the context of Latino/a groups and “mainstream” America and between the different nationalities and regions of origins among U.S. Latino/as.

AMETH 460: Independent Reading and Research in American Ethnic Studies

Sect. A: By Appointment- Spencer Wood

Guided reading and research on a specific topic of student interest, leading to preparation of a research paper or creative work. Enrollment restrictions: Instructor consent.
AMETH 550: Research Methods in American Ethnic Studies

Sect. A: W 2:30-5:20p- Dr. Brunson

This course examines the use of qualitative research to understand the “everyday life” and social interactions. The purpose of this course is to become knowledgeable and practice qualitative techniques used in sociological research and apply them to the field of race and ethnicity. Students learn when to use appropriate techniques and how to analyze data collected using those techniques. This course will be divided into two major sections. The first section will emphasize unobtrusive techniques. Some of the techniques that will be addressed in this section will include historiography and oral tradition, case studies, and content analysis. The second section will focus on obtrusive techniques, such as ethnography, interviewing, and action research.

AMETH 560: Black American Social Movements

Sect. A M 2:30-4:20p- Dr. Cheryl Ragar

In this course, students will look at a range of social movements that have shaped, especially, African American communities— with an eye to the ways in which all of America has been impacted. Using an historical timeline, and focusing mostly on the 20th century, students will explore significant Black leaders and movements. In this course, though, those “significant Black leaders and movements” will include both familiar and less familiar leaders in order to gain a fuller picture of the men, women, and communities that have so profoundly shaped American society today. Students will complete a research project, utilizing primary source documents, as part of the requirements of this course.

AMETH 660: Independent Reading and Research in American Ethnic Studies

Sect. A: By appointment – Spencer Wood

Advanced guided reading and research on a specific topic of student interest, leading to preparation of a research paper or creative work. Enrollment restrictions: Instructor consent.