Ethnic Studies

Ethnic Studies is an interdisciplinary, comparative concentration that examines the construction of race and ethnicity in social, cultural, historical, political, and economic contexts. Concentrators develop individual programs based on areas of focus in consultation with faculty advisors, drawing from courses in the humanities and social sciences. Typical areas of focus are social issues (such as inequality, education, or health), cultural production and the representation of racial groups, processes of racialization, the historical formation of transnational communities and of diaspora, and the history of particular ethnic or racial groups.

The Ethnic Studies concentration (https://www.brown.edu/academics/american-studies/ethnic-studies) at Brown emphasizes the histories of diverse peoples through the lens of race and ethnicity, and the analysis of structures of inequality across national borders. It trains students to think critically about race and to engage in research that advances our understanding of the construction of race and ethnicity. Concentrators will work closely with faculty to develop a plan for the academic, research, and professional development that is appropriate for their interests and career trajectories.

Faculty, both core and affiliated, create and participate in groundbreaking research universities. Ethnic Studies leadership has become an important feature of major ethnic studies programs. Organized around straightforward political goals – the enrichment through diversification of the curriculum and the systematic, multi-disciplinary, and the often comparative study of racial and ethnic inequality – Ethnic Studies has become an important feature of major research universities.

As an academic field, Ethnic Studies is rooted in the protests of the 1960s and 1970s, out which emerged the very first Latino/a Studies, Asian American Studies, African American Studies, and Native American studies programs. Organized around new questions and new political goals – the enrichment through diversification of the curriculum and the systematic, multi-disciplinary, and the often comparative study of racial and ethnic inequality – Ethnic Studies has become an important feature of major research universities.

Faculty, both core and affiliated, create and participate in groundbreaking Ethnic Studies scholarship. Areas of faculty research include borderlands history, Latino/a literary studies and visual culture, indigenous movements, migration and African American cultural studies as well as the intersecting fields of gender and sexuality, queer theory and critical race theory. Students can focus their study on specific populations (e.g. Latina/os, Asian Americans) and choose a thematic interest including such current examples as: “social issues affecting radicalized groups” (students have looked at health disparities or educational inequality); “the study of cultural production or cultural representations,” “the theory of a particular racial or ethnic group,” and “the study of comparative processes of racialization.”

Requirements (for students starting with the class of 2020)

**ETHN 1000** Introduction to American/Ethnic Studies 1

Any two courses from the ETHN 1200 "Topics in Ethnic Studies" or ETHN 1750 "Advanced Topics in Ethnic Studies" sequence, or similar electives in AMST, as approved by the advisor 2

**ETHN 1200B** Contemporary Indigenous Education in North America

**ETHN 1200D** Latinx Literature

**ETHN 1750A** Immigrant Social Movements: Bridging Theory and Practice

**ETHN 1750B** Treaty Rights and Food Fights: Eating Local in Indian Country

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ETHN 1750D</td>
<td>Transpacific Asian American Studies</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ETHN 1750E</td>
<td>Transpacific Popular Culture</td>
<td>4</td>
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Four classes (at least two in ETHN) that address the student's focus area and that prepare them for the capstone experience. Courses must be approved by the concentration advisor.

**ETHN 1650** Methods and Approaches in Ethnic Studies 1

**American Studies seminar in the AMST 1700 series** 1

**AMST 1700D** Race and Remembering 1

**AMST 1700F** American Publics 1

**AMST 1700I** Community Engagement with Health and the Environment 1

**AMST 1700K** Race in the Americas: A Hemispheric Perspective 1

**ETHN 1900** Ethnic Studies Senior Seminar 1

Total Credits 10

**Honors:**

Admittance to the Honors Program in Ethnic Studies requires:

1. A 3.5 GPA in concentration courses
2. A 3.0 overall GPA
3. Completion of the standard concentration
4. AMST/ETHN 1800 the Honors Seminar in the sixth semester
5. An Honors Thesis Proposal and an application for the Ethnic Studies Honors Program
6. Two independent studies, taken in the seventh and eighth semester, with the Director of your honors thesis
7. A completed project, delivered the third week of April.
8. A recommendation for honors from both readers.

Students must define their honors project by April 1 or near the end of their sixth semester. The proposal is comprised of a two-page, single-spaced project description along with a bibliography of relevant sources. This proposal must be submitted for approval to the faculty along with the application for the Ethnic Studies Honors Program form. The proposal should identify the problem, or question the student will focus on, and suggest approaches and possible hypotheses or outcomes. Students need to work with two professors - a director and a reader. At least one should be Ethnic Studies faculty. The proposal should have a confirmed director (who must sign your application form) and likely second reader (who will need to confirm at the beginning of your seventh semester). If a student wants to work with two professors, neither of whom is Ethnic Studies faculty, then they should have a third director who will read the final draft or consult on the final project and approve it for honors in the field.

In their seventh and eighth semesters, students seeking honors will enroll in an independent study class with their director during which they will follow through on the plan devised in the spring of their junior year. Students and thesis directors should plan on at least a monthly meeting to discuss the research, writing, and revision of sections of the thesis. In addition to meeting with their director, student should also plan to meet their second reader during this time.

In their eighth semester, the deadline for a finished full draft of their project is April 21. Students should turn in a completed (proofread, formatted, fully written) draft to their readers by that day. Of course, students will turn chapters to the director and reader before that, according to their recommendations, but April 21 is the absolute deadline to turn in the final draft.

All official readers must recommend the project for honors. When written as formal research papers, honors theses are generally between 50-100 pages. When there is a creative or public component, students should work closely with their faculty team to determine the appropriate length of the written accompaniment.

Students will make a public presentation of their work to the Ethnic Studies faculty during the first week of May.
### Requirements (for students through the class of 2019):

**ETHN 0500** Introduction to American/Ethnic Studies 1

Any two introductory courses in Latino/a, Africana, Asian-American, or Native American Studies. The courses in the list below are examples of these courses. Other courses may be approved by the Advisor.

**AFRI 0090** An Introduction to Africana Studies

**ANTH 1121** From Coyote to Casinos: Native North American Peoples and Cultures

**SOC 1270** Race, Class, and Ethnicity in the Modern World

**ANTH 1400** Race, Culture, and Ethnic Politics

or **ANTH 1420** Ethnicity, Race, and Gender in the Americas

Courses taught by core Ethnic Studies faculty may be recognized in consultation with concentration advisor.

Any three courses in Ethnic Studies that address the student's focus area (as approved by the concentration advisor), for example:

- **ETHN 0909A** The Border/La Frontera
- **ETHN 0909B** Critical Mixed Race Studies in the Twenty-First Century
- **ETHN 0300** Ethnic Writing
- **ETHN 0790A** Native Americans and the Media
- **ETHN 0790C** Theory Into Practice: Service Learning at a Dual Language Charter School
- **ETHN 0790D** Race and Remembering
- **ETHN 0880** Hip Hop Music and Cultures
- **ETHN 0980** The Research Process: Qualitative and Ethnographic Methods
- **ETHN 1020** Race and Language in the United States
- **ETHN 1050** Race in the Americas
- **ETHN 1070** Ethnic Studies Practicum: Strategy, Tactics and Tools for Social Change
- **ETHN 1750A** Immigrant Social Movements: Bridging Theory and Practice
- **ETHN 1870A** Ethnic Los Angeles
- **ETHN 1870B** Latino/a Communities Seminar
- **ETHN 1870C** Native North Americans in the Media: Representations and Self Representations in Film
- **ETHN 1870D** Chicana/o Fiction
- **ETHN 1870E** Queer Latino/a Literature and Theory
- **ETHN 1870F** Eating Cultures
- **ETHN 1870G** Reading Race: Advanced Seminar in Critical Race Theory
- **ETHN 1890A** Seminar on Latino Politics in the United States
- **ETHN 1890B** Native American and European Contact in Early North America, ca. 1600-1750
- **ETHN 1890C** Business, Culture, and Globalization: An Ethnographic Perspective
- **ETHN 1890D** Indigenous Music of the Americas
- **ETHN 1890E** Johnny, Are You Queer: Narratives of Race and Sexuality
- **ETHN 1890F** Bad Boys and Bad Girls in Asian American Literature and Culture

Any two introductory courses in Latino/a, Africana, Asian-American, or Native American Studies.

Any three courses in Ethnic Studies that address the student's focus area (as approved by the concentration advisor), for example:

- **ETHN 1890G** Native Americans in the Media: Representation and Self-Representation on Film
- **ETHN 1890H** Introduction to American Indian Studies
- **ETHN 1890J** Native American Environmental Health Movements
- **ETHN 1890K** Engendering Empire
- **ETHN 1890L** (De)Colonizing Women: Writing the Third Space
- **ETHN 1890M** Treaty Rights and Food Fights: Eating Local in Indian Country
- **ETHN 1890N** Thawing the “Frozen Indian”: American Indian Museum Representation
- **ETHN 1890P** Introduction to Native American Literature
- **ETHN 1890Q** The Hispanic Caribbean and its Diasporas
- **ETHN 1890S** Youth, Art, Engagement and Social Justice
- **ETHN 1892** Race, Class and Gender in Latino Communities

Any three courses drawn from a list of related courses (as approved by the concentration advisor). A course from the ETHN 1900 series.

- **ETHN 1900A** Alien Nation: US Immigration in Comparative Perspectives
- **ETHN 1900B** Community, Language and Literacy: A Practicum
- **ETHN 1900C** Contemporary Latino/a Education in the United States
- **ETHN 1900D** Latino Communities Seminar
- **ETHN 1900E** Senior Seminar in Ethnic Studies
- **ETHN 1900F** Theory, Creativity, Activism
- **ETHN 1900G** Race and Immigration in the Americas
- **ETHN 1900H** What is Ethnic Studies?
- **ETHN 1900N** Transpacific Asian American Studies

Students in the concentration should also take a WRIT course from within the concentration, from a list of cross-listed courses, or from a course approved by their advisor. Students should also be sure to take a methods course.

#### Total Credits: 10

1. To be taken in the first semester of the student's final year.

The senior seminar is the capstone course and is required of all concentrators.

### Honors

Candidates for honors must have at least a B+ average in the concentration and be approved by the Concentration Committee. Honors candidates will propose a thesis project to be completed by the end of their final semester. The development of a thesis project will begin during the sixth semester. Honors candidates will have two readers, at least one of whom must be Ethnic Studies core faculty.

Concentrators who choose not to request consideration for honors will be required to complete a major essay or project by the end of their final semester. The essay or project can be the result of major work completed in the senior seminar.

Students seeking information about the Ethnic Studies Program or in need of advising should contact (401-863-7034).
Font Notice

This document should contain certain fonts with restrictive licenses. For this draft, substitutions were made using less legally restrictive fonts. Specifically:

Helvetica was used instead of Arial.

The editor may contact Leepfrog for a draft with the correct fonts in place.