ETHNIC STUDIES

Ethnic Studies
College of Social & Behavioral Sciences
Department of Ethnic Studies
109 Morris Hall • 507-389-2798
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Website: www.mnsu.edu/dept/ethnic

Chair: Kebba Darboe

Michael Fagin, Hanh Huy Phan, Vang Xiong

The Department of Ethnic Studies (ES), is an interdisciplinary program, academically committed to promoting multicultural and ethnic knowledge, skills and values both within and outside the United States and to preparing our students for effective participation in culturally diverse global communities. A major in ethnic studies gives students exposure to and understanding of those historical, economic, social and political forces which have contoured the cross-cultural and ethnic experience in and outside the United States. This program prepares students to identify social injustice issues (e.g., racism, discrimination, oppressing social conflict) effectively and also aims to provide students with multicultural/ethnic knowledge, multicultural/ethnic values and skills (e.g., cultural competency skills and other professional skills). The ES majors are academically strong and competitive on the market. ES majors must take both ES core courses and skill-oriented or applied courses focusing on one of the following areas of emphasis: Government/Public, Business/Corporate, local Community and Human Services, International Community and Human Services and Extended Program.

Admission to Major. Students enrolling in 300-400 level courses must be admitted to the program. Admission to Major is granted by the department. Minimum University admission requirements are:

- a minimum of 32 earned semester credit hours.
- a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00 (“C”).

Contact the department for application procedures.

POLICIES/INFORMATION

GPA Policy. 2.0 GPA.

P/N Grading Policy. No more than 1/4 of total undergraduate credits may be taken as P/N.

ETHNIC STUDIES BS

Required General Education (3 credits)
One introductory course (Prerequisite to ES major)
ETHN 100 American Racial Minorities (3) OR
ETHN 101 Introduction to Multicultural & Ethnic Studies (3)

(Instructor in the upper level course could waive this requirement, though ETHN 100 or ETHN 101 should be a prerequisite for upper-level courses in Ethnic Studies)

Required for Major (Core 6 credits)
One Research Method/Skills Course
ETHN 401 / ANTH 431 Applied Cultural Research (3) OR
ETHN 402 Ethnic Research Method/Skills (3) AND
One Critical Thinking/Theoretical Course:
ETHN 400 Cultural Pluralism (3) OR
ETHN 410 Foundations of Oppression (3)

Required Electives (15 credits)
Two of the following courses:
ETHN 201W Perspectives on African Americans (3)
ETHN 202W Perspectives on American Indians (3)
ETHN 203W Perspectives on Asian Americans (3)

ETHN 204W Perspectives on Latinos/Hispanics (3)

Three ES electives, two must be 4XX level courses from the suggested list below:
ETHN 150 Multi-Cultural/Ethnic Experience (3)
ETHN 200 Interracial/Interethnic Dating/Marriage (3)
ETHN 220 Civil Rights in the U.S. (3)
ETHN 295 Selected Topics (1-4)
ETHN 296 Workshop: TBA (1-3)
ETHN 300 American Indian Leaders (3)
ETHN 330 Immigration and Ethnicity (3)
ETHN 420 African American Studies (3)
ETHN 430 American Indian Studies (3)
ETHN 440 Asian American Studies (3)
ETHN 450 Latino/Hispanic Studies (3)
ETHN 460 Urban Minority Problems (3)
ETHN 470 Women of Color (3)
ETHN 480 Social Justice in Ethnicity and Gender (3)
ETHN 486 Racial and Ethnic Politics (3)
ETHN 495 Selected Topics (3)
ETHN 496 Workshop: TBA (1-3)
ETHN 498 College Teaching Internship (1-6)

Required for Major (15 credits)

PUBLIC/GOVERNMENT EMPHASIS
(Choose five courses from the following)
ECON 201 Principles of Macroeconomics (3)
ETHN 497 Internship will be optional (3)
LAW 234 Policing in a Diverse Society (3)
POL 101 Introduction to Public Life (3)
POL 111 United States Government (3)
POL 260 Introduction to Public Administration (3)
POL 361 Public Budgeting (3)
SOC 150 Social Problems (3)
SOC 417 Program Administration (3)
URBS 100 Introduction to the City (3) OR
URBS 415 Urban Housing Policy (3)

(The courses in the category above are related to public and governmental settings. Students who focus on this category are strongly encouraged to minor in Political Science, Law Enforcement, or Urban Studies or in other social sciences.)

BUSINESS/CORPORATE EMPHASIS
(Choose five courses from the following)
ETHN 497 Internship will be optional (3)
GEOG 425 Economic Geography (3)
IBUS 380 Principles of International Business (3)
MGMT 330 Principles of Management (3)
MGMT 440 Human Resource Management (3)
MGMT 445 Training and Development (3)
MRKT 100 Global Business Concepts (3)
MRKT 310 Principles of Marketing (3)
PSYC 463 Survey of Industrial and Organizational Psychology (3)

(The courses in the category above are related to the business and corporate settings. Students who focus on this category are strongly encouraged to minor in marketing, human resource management, international business or in other business related areas.)

LOCAL COMMUNITY AND HUMAN SERVICES EMPHASIS
(Choose five courses from the following)
CSP 471 Interpersonal Helping Skills (3)
ETHN 497 Internship will be optional (3)
GERO 200 Aging: Interdisciplinary Perspective (3)
GWS 120W Violence and Gender (4)
HLTH 455 Health and Aging (or an age-related course) (3)
KSP 235 Human Development (3)
PSYC 101 Psychology (4)
SOWK 190W Social Welfare Services (3) OR
SOWK 210 Introduction to Social Work I (3)

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**ETHNIC STUDIES MINOR**

**Required for Minor (Core, 3 credits)**

ETHN 100 American Racial Minorities (3)

**Required Electives (18 credits)**

(Select 3 credits from the following)

ETHN 201W ETHN 202W ETHN 203W ETHN 204W

(Select 9 credits from the following)

ETHN 401 ETHN 402 ETHN 410 ETHN 420 ETHN 430

ETHN 440 ETHN 450 ETHN 460 ETHN 470

(Select 6 credits from the following)

ETHN 101 ETHN 150 ETHN 200 ETHN 220 ETHN 295

ETHN 296 ETHN 300 ETHN 330 ETHN 400 ETHN 480

ETHN 486 ETHN 490 ETHN 495 ETHN 496 ETHN 497

ETHN 498 ETHN 499

**ETHNIC STUDIES MINOR**

**Required for Minor (Core, 3 credits)**

ETHN 100 American Racial Minorities (3)

**Required Electives (18 credits)**

(Select 3 credits from the following)

ETHN 201W ETHN 202W ETHN 203W ETHN 204W

(Select 9 credits from the following)

ETHN 401 ETHN 402 ETHN 410 ETHN 420 ETHN 430

ETHN 440 ETHN 450 ETHN 460 ETHN 470

(Select 6 credits from the following)

ETHN 101 ETHN 150 ETHN 200 ETHN 220 ETHN 295

ETHN 296 ETHN 300 ETHN 330 ETHN 400 ETHN 480

ETHN 486 ETHN 490 ETHN 495 ETHN 496 ETHN 497

ETHN 498 ETHN 499

**JOINT MINOR IN ETHNIC STUDIES AND THE HUMANITIES**

The mission of this minor is to offer students an opportunity to explore the connections between ethnic experiences and cultural contexts of ethnic groups, as well as assess the values, beliefs, and ideologies of varying perspectives. This joint minor will expose students to an interdisciplinary approach to understanding human culture and the contributions of Western and Non-Western cultures. All students will be encouraged to focus in-depth on culturally diverse issues in order to gain a broader perspective of their community, both locally and globally.

**Required for Minor (13-14 credits)**

(Choose one)

ETHN 201W Perspectives on African Americans (3)

ETHN 202W Perspectives on American Indians (3)

ETHN 203W Perspectives on Asian Americans (3)

ETHN 204W Perspectives on Latinos/Hispanics (3)

HUM 150 Western Humanities I (4)

HUM 151 Western Humanities II (4)

HUM 155 Global Humanities I (4)

HUM 156 Global Humanities II (4)

(Choose one)

ETHN 400 Cultural Pluralism (3)

ETHN 410 Foundations of Oppression (3)

(Choose one)

GWS 251 Coming of Age: Gender and Culture (4)

HUM 281W Human Diversity and Humanities Traditions (4)

HUM 282 Global Perspectives and Humanities Traditions (4)

**Upper Level Requirements**

(Choose one)

HUM 450 Humanities Seminar (4)

ETHN 495 Selected Topics (3)

**Electives**

(Choose 3-4 credits)

Three to four credits of 300-400 level courses with advisor approval in the areas of ART, ENG, HIST, MUS, PHIL, THEA or WLC.

**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

**ETHN 100 (3) American Racial Minorities**

A study of American racial/ethnic minorities, especially the histories of Native Americans, African Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Asian Americans. Their roles and contributions to American society will be emphasized. Fall, Spring

**ETHN 101 (3) Introduction to Multicultural & Ethnic Studies**

This course introduces students to multicultural and ethnic knowledge and values in and outside the United States. Students are exposed to such issues as race, culture, ethnicity, dominance, immigration, stereotypes, discrimination, and intergroup relations through interdisciplinary approaches-anthropological, economic, historical, political, psychological and/sociological. Fall, Spring

GE-5, GE-7

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ETHN 150 (3) Multi-Cultural/Ethnic Experience
Students will participate in field trips, activities, and guest discussions that will enable them to interact with people ethnically (race, religion, lifestyle, etc.) different from the students, to understand their perspectives and to appreciate their unique experiences and/or contributions to the U.S. pluralistic society. Students are expected to learn actively in and outside the classroom by experiencing events or people from diverse cultural groups.
Fall
GE-7

ETHN 200 (3) Interracial/Interethnic Dating/Marriage
This course deals with the history of interracial/interethnic and intergroup (sex, age, religion, etc.) dating and marriage in the U.S. It will explore dating patterns, mate selection theories and impacts on multi-racial children in the area of identity and adjustment.
Variable
GE-7

ETHN 201W (3) Perspectives on African Americans
This course will explore the historical, social, political, and cultural experience of African Americans. It will also examine the contributions of African Americans to the growth and development of the United States.
GE-1C, GE-5, GE-7

ETHN 202W (3) Perspectives on American Indians
This course is an examination of the historical and contemporary issues and forces affecting American Indian peoples.
GE-1C, GE-5, GE-7

ETHN 203W (3) Perspectives on Asian Americans
Introduction to the history and cultures of the major Asian American ethnic groups with a comparative approach to their similarities and differences.
GE-1C, GE-5, GE-7

ETHN 204W (3) Perspectives on Latinos/Hispanics
A survey of the history and present status of Hispanics/Latinos in the United States from 1848. Emphasis will be on culture, history, and socio-political patterns.
GE-1C, GE-5, GE-7

ETHN 220 (3) Civil Rights in the U.S.
This course will focus on the struggle for civil rights by diverse groups in the United States. Emphasis will be on how these struggles have impacted their communities and cultural pluralism in the U.S.
Variable

ETHN 295 (1-4) Selected Topics
The course is offered according to student demand and instructor availability/expertise. A variety of topics related to ethnic and cultural areas will provide curriculum enrichment on an ongoing, but irregular basis.
Variable

ETHN 296 (1-3) Workshop
Courses will employ changing topics from year to year and will deal with cogent issues of current interest to ethnic and minority communities.
Variable

ETHN 299 (1-3) Individual Study
Exploratory independent study and research. Areas of interest not addressed in regular courses are given priority. Maximum three credits toward the major; one credit toward the minor.
Pre: Two other ETHN courses.
Fall, Spring

ETHN 300 (3) American Indian Leaders
The course surveys the social and cultural dimensions of traditional and contemporary American Indian leadership. This leadership is understood through a study of the lives, strategies, and words of American Indian leaders who played significant roles in the history of contact between Euro-American and indigenous North American peoples.
Pre: Consent
Variable

ETHN 330 (3) Immigration and Ethnicity
Examines the history, identity, conflict and ethnic relations related to immigration as explored from an Ethnic Studies perspective as well as from American and global perspectives.

ETHN 400 (3) Cultural Pluralism
This course will examine issues confronted in a multicultural society. It will study ethnic/minority groups not usually included in mainstream society, including their uniqueness and harmonious coexistence with other ethnic groups.
Fall, Spring

ETHN 401 (3) Applied Cultural Research
This course introduces concepts and methods of applying socio-cultural understanding to contemporary problems to bring about the empowerment of affected people. Case/field studies and other research methods in social sciences will be used to illustrate the impact and problems of cultural change with special attention to its affect on disadvantaged groups of people. Students will also design their own applied projects.
Pre: ANTH 101, ANTH 230 or consent; ETHN 100, ETHN 101 or ETHN 150 or consent
Variable

ETHN 402 (3) Ethnic Research Methods/Skills
This course deals with scientific methods and professional and/or investigative skills in Ethnic Studies. From an interdisciplinary perspective, students are expected to learn how to do research on ethnic and cross-cultural issues (e.g., hypothesis, different methods, data collection/analysis and report writing.) Other professional skills/issues related to Ethnic Studies are also discussed to meet the needs of students.
Pre: ETHN 100 or ETHN 101 or ETHN 150, or Consent
Variable

ETHN 403 (3) Chicana Feminisms
This course examines the different forms of Chicana Feminisms produced by Chicana scholars and activists. It demonstrates how Chicana Feminisms challenge social inequalities, and focuses on the construction of Chicana identities regarding the intersections of gender, race/ethnicity, sexuality and culture.

ETHN 410 (3) Foundations of Oppression
Students will examine the forces which create and maintain prejudice, discrimination and racism within global perspectives. Special attention will be given to the work of Paulo Freire.
Pre: ETHN 100 or ANTH 400
Fall

ETHN 420 (3) African American Studies
This course will provide students with an in-depth examination of the issues affecting present-day Africans, and those of the Black Diaspora. Possible topics are fair representation in the media, education, cross-cultural interactions, economics, politics/law, and racial identity.
Pre: ETHN 110 or ETHN 400 or consent
Variable
ETHN 430 (3) American Indian Studies
This course will provide multiple perspectives about the issues facing American Indian peoples today. Topics to be considered are education, health care, gender, land rights, religious freedom, cultural identity, natural resource management, law enforcement, economic development, self-determination, and mass media images.
Pre: ETHN 400, or consent
Variable

ETHN 440 (3) Asian American Studies
Examination of current issues affecting the status of Asian Americans. The focus of this course will vary to reflect students’ interests in the area of politics, education, economics, social and/or cultural dealing with Asian Americans.
Pre: ETHN 400, or consent
Variable

ETHN 450 (3) Latino/Hispanic Studies
Thematic examination of major issues surrounding Latino/Hispanic communities in the United States. Emphasis will be on education, labor, politics, social welfare and migration.
Pre: ETHN 400, or consent
Variable

ETHN 460 (3) Urban Minority Problems
This course is concerned with racial/ethnic minorities who live in large urban (inner city) areas. It is especially concerned with the roles that culture and discrimination play in the shaping of America’s ghettos, barrios, reservations, and Chinatowns.
Spring

ETHN 470 (3) Women of Color
Examines the effects of sexism and racism on women of color and provides an understanding of the significant contributions they have made in their struggle against oppression.
Pre: ETHN 400, or consent
Spring

ETHN 480 (3) Social Justice in Ethnicity & Gender
Survey of institutional sexism and racism including their impact on U.S. society. Special attention will be given to their interconnectedness.
Pre: ETHN 400 or consent
Variable

ETHN 486 (3) Racial and Ethnic Politics
The course examines racial and ethnic minorities, and the mutual influences between these groups and the structures, procedures and issues of US politics. Major topics include: opinion on racial issues, the representation of minorities in elective and appointive offices, and the nature of value conflicts underlying contemporary racial issues, including affirmative action, immigration, welfare, language policies and Native American tribal issues.
Variable

ETHN 490 (3) Racial/Ethnic Families in the U.S.
This course will examine the different definitions of “family” through time in the United States. It will focus on changes in the African, Native, Hispanic/Latino, and Asian-American families. It will compare and contrast differences and similarities among ethnic minority families as well as between them and white ethnic families.
Pre: ETHN 400, or consent
Variable

ETHN 495 (3) Selected Topics
Multiple perspectives on the selected topic(s) will be addressed. Student scholars may contribute to the selection and/or refinement of the topic(s). Highly motivated seniors will join with graduate students in a graduate-type seminar.
Pre: ETHN major
Variable

ETHN 496 (1-3) Workshop
Courses will employ changing topics from year to year and deal with cogent issues of current interest to one or more minority communities.
Variable

ETHN 497 (1-10) Internship
Supervised, scholarly experience to which the theories and methodologies of ethnic studies can be applied. Opportunities may be on-campus and/or off-campus, including work in other countries.
Pre: ETHN major or minor
Fall, Spring

ETHN 498 (1-6) College Teaching Internship
Students assist a faculty member in teaching an ETHN 100 or ETHN 101.

ETHN 499 (1-3) Individual Study
Advanced independent study and research. Maximum of three credits toward the major; one credit toward the minor.
Pre: 2 ETHN courses at 300/400 level
Fall, Spring