COURSE

ES 101 (007). CRN 85771. TR Kuykendall 306. 3 credits.

This is the basic course in Ethnic Studies. It explores the central concepts and ideas of the lively and dynamic field of the discipline and provides an overview of dominant issues. Training in critical thinking, problem solving, and communication skills is a vital part of the course. ES101 aims at giving you a firm base for future work in the social sciences and humanities and an understanding of the realities of multiethnic nations. Most of the examples that we work with in class are drawn from Hawai’i and the United States.

The approach is interdisciplinary and holistic, integrating research methods and theories from anthropology, political science, sociology, social psychology, behavioral science, economics, and history.

You will 1) be provided with experience in research, writing, presentation and discussion; 2) be introduced to interdisciplinary inquiry; 3) be encouraged to practice critical thinking; and 4) become familiar with the study of political and economic change through a historical-anthropological method.

INSTRUCTOR

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TEXTS

Course reader, online texts and hand-outs.

POINTS AND GRADES

We use a point system with a total of a thousand points, distributed as follows: 1. Attendance, participation and minor assignments: 200 points. 2. Genealogy 100 points. 3. Group research and presentation 200 points. 4. Service learning or book report 300 points. 5. Two midterm exams 2x50 points, total 100 points. 6. Final exam 100 points. Extra credit max. 30 points.

Your final grade is based on the accumulated points and translates into A (900-1000 points); B (800-899 points); C (700-799 points); D (600-699 points) or F (less than 600 points).

COMMUNICATION

The course is taught as an interactive hybrid course making good use of our accompanying WebCT class website, which you are expected to check regularly and which is used for announcements, assignments, group work, email communication, and class discussions.

REQUIREMENTS

All assignments must be completed by due date. There is a penalty for late assignments.

1. Class attendance, participation and minor assignments, grade value 200 points. Your level of involvement is measured through participation in discussions, and fulfillment of the minor assignments. High quality discussion is expected based primarily on reading materials and minor research assignments. Whenever the class is divided into groups, members of the groups are expected to work together to fulfill specific assignments for each group.
2. Genealogy, grade value 100 points. You will be asked to research the genealogy of your own family, minimum four generations back, calculating ethnicity and place of living/migration history. The resulting diagram and 1000-1200 words write-up is due at the end of Section A. Detailed instructions will be given.

3. Group research project resulting in a class presentation, grade value 200 points. In groups, you are required to do research on the history and present situation of an ethnic group of Hawaii and/or the Continental US of your own choice. Remember that good research is driven by genuine interest! The research must be original and include written sources as well as fieldwork, if possible (for instance an interview and visits to a local areas). We will work together on establishing the groups and agree on topics. Each group will be able to communicate in their own space on the course webpage. You will be asked to produce outlines/preliminary bibliographies and a one-page synopsis showing topics and areas of responsibility for each group member. The presentations will be integrated in section B, organized according to topic. It should last approximately 25 minutes for a group of four. Points earned for the presentation depend on delivery and focus of the presentation and thoroughness of the background research. Detailed instructions will be given.

4. Semester-long project: (4A) Service-learning and research OR (4B) book report and research, total grade value 300 points.

4A. Service learning - learning while working in the community - is an integral part of the Department of Ethnic Studies and therefore also of this class. We encourage students to engage in research and fieldwork, and at the same time address needs in the community through voluntary service efforts. We not only strengthen the relationship between the community and institutions of higher learning, we also enhance learning and career possibilities for students. It is a form pedagogy, which in recent years has gained national interest because of its documented ability to enhance student learning outcomes. In this class, you are invited to participate in one of several service-learning projects, practicing the concepts and research methods, we work with in class. We work in low-income areas such as Palolo Valley (Honolulu) with the Palolo Pipeline Program; Kalihi Valley (Honolulu) with Bridging the Digital Divide at Kuhio Park Terrace and at Palama Settlement; and will during the Spring 2007 semester run a pilot project working with homeless in Kaka’ako and elsewhere. We offer a cultural-environmental program (Adopt an Ahupua’a); we work with Micronesian immigrants; with elderly immigrants in Chinatown (the SHINE program); and with a number of cultural institutions such as the Hawai’i Plantation Village in Waipahu. You will have a chance to work in multi-ethnic communities for most of the projects. Detailed site descriptions and guidelines will be given. You are required to do minimum 20 hours of service during the semester, to keep a daily journal, and to sum up your experience in a final reflective journal (c. 1200 words). Sharing of experiences with the class will take place during Section C.

4B. Book report: If you are prevented from participating in the service-learning option, you can read an important book in the discipline of Ethnic Studies, and review it in an academic essay (c. 3500 words). I will assign you the book in consultation with you. The final essay must relate the book reviewed to topics covered in class. It must have (1) a title; (2) an introduction; (3) a body (with subheadings); (4) a conclusion, clearly identified; (5) references to written or other sources used; (6) end or foot notes if needed; (7) a bibliography of minimum five references some of which must be to sources different from assigned readings.

5. Two midterm exams, grade value 50 points each, total grade value 100 points. After each of the sections A and B, we will have a minor exam: 2/13/07 and 3/22/07. In preparation, work with the study questions posted on our class website. You are strongly encouraged to form study groups and work with study questions in these groups. One of the minor assignments mentioned under item 1 above is to create two timelines for important events and legislative actions pertaining to the history of the peoples of the United States and Hawai’i (one for Hawai’i and one for the United States in general). Those timelines are a big help, when you study for the midterm exams. Required for grade.
6. Final exam, Tuesday 5/8/07 12-2pm, grade value 100 points. The study guide for the final exam is the complete collection of study questions given and the two midterms exams. Required for grade. (Preparation: See 5, above).

Extra credit option, maximum 30 points. You can participate in community events, hearings, lectures, work days, performances, etc. and write reports (length: about 750 words) about each activity for extra credits. Events approved for this assignment are posted on the class webpage. You are welcome to suggest events to be included.

A note on academic writing. It is legitimate and useful to refer to works and ideas of other authors in your own academic writing. But you must make available the complete reference: the author, work in question, edition and page(s), whether you are quoting directly or just referring to another author's ideas. Direct quotes must be justified in order to make a certain point of argument. They must be marked with quotation marks and follow the original literally to the point of repeating spelling mistakes. Clearly mark omissions or additions. If these rules are not followed, the writer will be stealing and using the ideas and writings of another as his own - which is the definition of plagiarizing, according to Webster's II New Riverside University Dictionary (Boston: The Riverside Publishing Co. 1988:898). Plagiarism is forbidden by the policy of the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, and students caught in plagiarism will automatically fail the course.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Section A - INTRODUCTION AND BASIC CONCEPTS (weeks 1-5)
Introduction to the course and class. Basic population histories of Hawai'i and the United States. Basic concepts: Identity, ethnicity, ethnic groups, race, class, and nation. Colonialism, assimilation, migration. Minority/majority groups and relations; prejudice, stereotypes, persecution, racism; civil rights, minority rights, individual human rights and indigenous rights; affirmative action. Pluralism, melting pots and myths of diversity; multiculturalism and the role of ethnicity in social history. Genealogy due (week 5). Exam A: 2/13/07.

Section B - CASES: PEOPLES AND ISSUES (weeks 6-11)
Case studies: Exploring concepts and histories. Indigenous peoples of the US and the Pacific. Europeans, Africans, Asians, Pacific Islanders, and other ethnic groups in the US. Slavery, contract laborers and other forms of immigration. This section will be planned around the student group research presentations. Exam B: 3/22/07.

Section C - POLITICS OF ETHNICITY (weeks 13-18)
Globalization, ethnic identity and multiculturalism. Strategies for tolerance. Future of ethnic relations and the discipline of Ethnic Studies. Semester-project oral and written reports due (week 16). Summary (week 17) and final exam (week 18).