Ethnic Studies in the United States

12th Grade

Mr. Kyle Jensen

Copper Hills High School

**Contact Information**

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RM- 2608

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I am available by appointment or before school from 7:00 AM till 7:50 AM and after school until 3:00 PM.

**Course Description**

Ethnicity is defined as a person’s cultural, religious, or national identity. To understand ethnicity this class will take a conceptual study of race, diversity, and intolerance in the United States. It focuses on the concept of oppression including; the causes and results of oppression, stereotyping, de jure and defacto segregation, and whiteness. As well as possible ways to end oppression through strategies of self respect, education, media, courts, separation, violent and non violent tactics. It will accomplish this by focusing on the history and struggles of the major ethnic groups in the United States including: African American, Latino, Native American, Chinese, Japanese, Southeast Asian, South Asian, Polynesian, Filipino, Middle Eastern, Refugees, Jewish, Catholics and Mormon, Hindu, and Muslim.

The Class will be divided into two quarters and approaches

1st Quarter- The Purpose of the class is to promote ideas of social justice. It will be discussions based around readings. The class will have a very Socratic feel to it. Students will be required to write two 5-8 pages papers. The first will be focused on Self Respect (35% of grade). And second will be a focus on Ending Oppression (35% of grade).

2nd Quarter- The Purpose of the class is to learn the history of different groups. It will be lecture based and have the feel of a traditional history class. Students will be required to take two in-class “Blue Book” essay tests. (70% of grade)

**Expectations:**

This class is a large class with many students. I have required a prerequisite U.S. history class be taken to give context to our lessons, so only seniors are allowed into the class. I expect these seniors to push forward until the end of the school year. I expect my students to take ownership of their learning experience. They will achieve this through participation, hard work, and respect. We will be talking more about this as the year goes on. I encourage parents and students to discuss issues and themes brought up in the classroom. I expect participation at a high level. Participation will be done through class discussions, (10% of grade) journal reflections, and exit questions (10% of grade), and attendance (10% of grade) Participation will account for 30% of the class grading, so if a student is only an observer the best they can get is a C in the class. Another aspect of this class is classroom reading that will be discussed throughout the class. For organizational purposes students are advised to use their school planner or a notebook to write down the daily agenda items to ensure organization and parents can ask their students what they learned that day. Each student will need a notebook specific to this class to take notes and journal entries.

**Academic Grading Scale:**

93-100=A 90-92=A-

87-89=B+ 83-86=B 80-82=B-

77-79=C+ 73-76=C 70-72=C-

67-69=D+ 63-66=D 60-62=D-

0 – 59=F

**Classroom Policies**

1) I will treat you with respect so that you will know how to treat me.

2) If you cause a problem, I will ask you to solve it.

3) If you choose not to solve the problem, I will do something about the problem.

4) What I do will depend on the person and the situation.

5) If you feel something is unfair, let me know privately and we will talk.

6) No cell phones, or other electronic devices allowed in class.

7) I expect you to work hard.

8) I expect you to be great.

9) I expect you to take ownership.

**Late Work Policy**

Principle behind late work policy: A great student not only turns things in on time but revises their work. A student should always have hope of passing.

1) Late work will be docked 10% each class day.

2) Students who turn assignments in on time have 2 class periods after the assignment is returned to revise the assignment to receive a higher grade.

3) Students who turn in every assignment will be guaranteed a passing grade.

4) Students will have 1 week to turn in assignments if missed after an excused absent.

5) Assignments will automatically be given a 50% if turned in 2 weeks after deadline.

6) Assignments will automatically be given a 25% if turned in 1 month after deadline.

**Absent Work Policy**

Students are expected to take to Mr. Jensen or a classmate about what they missed. When they turn in the assignment they will put ABSENT by their name and have Mr. Jensen sign their paper, if it isn’t signed the assignment will be marked late. You are not excused from the notes you miss. You are responsible to get them from someone in class.

Extra Credit will be offered through out the quarter on quizzes, tests and extra activities.

**Participation Policy**

Talking is an essential part of our class. To make sure students feel safe talking and know what is expected as far as participation, we will use the following procedure.

1. At the beginning of each quarter you will choose what level of participation you feel is comfortable, e.g. talking once every other per period, once per period, or three times per period.
2. At the end of the quarter you will score yourself out of 70 points on how well you think you participated based on your comfort level.
3. Mr. Jensen will take your personal participation score into consideration when awarding participation points. Mr. Jensen will have final say in your participation grade.

NOTE: excessive cell phone use and/or headphones in ears will result in an automatic 0 points on participation grade regardless of participation amount

\*Participation is worth 7% of your grade, so if you do not talk you cannot get an A in this course. A- is the best grade you can earn.

\*Accommodations will be accounted for based on IEP and Special Ed 504 cases per Federal Law

**Absences/Tardies Policy:**

CHHS Attendance Policy

1 – 3 – 4 = Attendance School

1 Truancy = No Grade

Two Attendance School Sessions Required.

3 Absences = No Grade

Upon the third unexcused absence, one attendance school session is

required for the third & each additional absence thereafter.

4 Tardies = No Grade

Upon the fourth tardy, one attendance school session is required per two

tardies.

To avoid attendance school, attend class & be on time!

See school web-site for the detailed attendance/tardy policy.

Ethnic Studies; Mr. Jensen

Student Name Printed\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Period\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Disclosure Acknowledgment Form**

We have read and discussed the Disclosure Statement for United States History

Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Comments from student:

Parent/Guardian Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Comments from parent/guardian:

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**Video Release Form:**

We will view various videos and sections of videos to enhance historical experiences. They will be carefully selected to be appropriate and meaningful and are preapproved by the school district. Some of these materials may have content that are considered PG-13*.*

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_I give permission for my student to view videos as part of Ethnic Studies. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_I do not give permission for my student to view videos

Parent/guardian Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Parent/guardian Contact:**

Best person to contact during the school day: (print name)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone #1\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ #2\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_