

Mr. Verma

E-mail: [mayank.verma@saUSDlearns.net](mailto:mayank.verma@saUSDlearns.net)

Room 206

# Ethnic Studies English

2024-2025

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## *What is Ethnic Studies?*

Welcome to Ethnic Studies English! Ethnic studies is the study of the voices of people from a variety of races, ethnicities, ages, identities, and backgrounds. In this class, we will explore literature from many different communities, focusing on critical thinking, writing, reading, and expression. We will watch films and videos, as well as read novels, plays, and poetry.

This course aims to educate students to be politically, socially, and economically conscious about their personal connections to local and global narratives and histories through the interdisciplinary lens of Ethnic Studies. This year, we will be reading from text including *Santa Ana's Fairytales*, *The Distance Between Us*, and *The Hate U Give*.

## Course Materials

Please have the following tools **everyday** to ensure that you can participate in class.

- Chromebook and charger
- Pen or pencil
- Lined paper OR notebook

## Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism

Taking credit for others' work without credit is plagiarism and is never accepted. AI-generated work will not be accepted unless otherwise stated. You'll have many opportunities to work with your classmates and at those times, collaboration will be celebrated. Otherwise, all work must be your own or it will receive a failing grade with no opportunity for revision. This includes any work that is generated by AI software.

## Late Work

Late work will be accepted without penalty **if you complete a form notifying me that an assignment will be late**. The form is available on Google Classroom. You will receive plenty of time to work on assignments in class and are not expected to complete many tasks at home. If your submission is after the date you provide on the Google Form, there will be a grade penalty.

## Communication

School email is the best way to communicate with me outside of class. I will do my best to respond to all emails as quickly as possible, except on weekends or during breaks.

We will use Google Classroom for most assignments and I will give feedback and follow-up tasks on there as well, so make sure you keep up with it!

I am usually available after school for any questions or concerns that may come up, but please let me know ahead of time if you plan to talk to me just to make sure you don't show up to an empty classroom!

## Technology

We will try to incorporate technology consistently in this class, so make sure your Chromebook is with you and charged every day!

I understand that cellphones are an important part of all of our lives. I also know they can be a distraction from your learning so they must be away during class. You can talk to me if you have a reason to have it out. Cellphone use will be reflected in your participation grade through ClassDojo. There will be independent work time when I will allow you to check your phone and listen to music.

## Grading

Grades will be focused on how much I see you improve your work. You're not being compared to other students in my class, but your own growth. Assignments, tests, projects, participation, and group work will all be included in your grade.

- Summative Assessment: 30%
- Formative Assessment: 30%
- Guided Practice: 25%
- Independent Practice/Participation: 15%

Revisions will be allowed at my discretion. Check with me if you are interested in revising any work.

### *Grading Scale:*

A: 90-100%

B: 80-89%

C: 70-79%

D: 60-69%

F: 0-59%

*Sign here indicating you have read and agreed to the course expectations:*

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Student Name and Period Number

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Student Signature

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Parent/Guardian Signature