

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Ethnic Studies program is designed to help you develop a breadth and depth of understanding of ethnicity and its significance in contemporary American society. As you analyze the ethnic experience from an interdisciplinary perspective, you will gain a background in the theories and concepts required to understand and interpret inter- and intra-group relations in the United States.

In common with other liberal arts graduates, those with a degree in ethnic studies will be trained in creative and critical thinking, complex reasoning, and effective communication. In addition, ethnic studies graduates will have cultural competency skills that are highly valued by employers, especially those in sales and service areas. Other occupations that employ many ethnic studies graduates include: teaching, journalism, marketing, community and union organizing, and social work. Ethnic studies graduates also find work in non-profit agencies and federal, state, and local government agencies.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) supports students to graduation using a dual-advising system. CLAS students have two academic advisors with whom they should meet regularly to discuss academic and degree progress: a CLAS Academic Advisor and a major/faculty advisor.

For questions related to CU Denver Core Curriculum, CLAS, general graduation requirements, university/college academic policies, or campus resources contact:

CLAS Academic Advising

clas_advising@ucdenver.edu

Find your CLAS Advisor [here](#)

North Classroom (NC) Building 1030

303-315-7100

For questions related to major requirements, major course prerequisites, or evaluation of transfer coursework in your major contact:

Dennis Green

dennis.green@ucdenver.edu

Visit the department website [here](#)

Plaza (PL) Building 102

303-315-7211

GENERAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

All CU Denver CLAS students are required to complete the following minimum general graduation requirements to be eligible to apply for graduation:

1. Complete a minimum of 120 semester hours passed
2. Achieve a minimum 2.0 CU cumulative grade point average (GPA)
3. Complete a minimum of 45 upper-division (3000- to 4000-level) semester hours
4. Complete all CU Denver Core, college, and major requirements
5. Residency: complete a minimum of 30 CLAS hours at CU Denver

Credits exceeding the following maximum hour restrictions will not be applied toward the minimum 120 hours required for graduation:

- 56 semester hours in major department/prefix courses
- 16 semester hours Pass/Fail
- 12 semester hours of Independent Study
- 9 semester hours of internship credit
- 8 semester hours of physical education credit

CAREER RESOURCES

Are you interested in learning about career and occupational options for this major? Visit the CU Denver Career Center located in the Tivoli Student Union (TV) Suite 267 to speak with a career counselor. The Career Center also provides *Career Briefs*, overviews of careers related to specific CU Denver majors, which include related links and resources to the particular field and show potential jobs related to the major. Access Career Briefs [here](#).

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

Students are responsible for meeting with the major/faculty advisor in the department to confirm major requirements. In addition to completing all CU Denver Core and CLAS requirements, students completing the Ethnic Studies B.A. Degree are required to complete the following minimum program requirements:

1. Complete a minimum of 33 credit hours in ETST coursework.
2. Complete at least 15 upper-division (3000- to 4000-level) semester hours.
3. All grades in ETST courses taken at CU Denver must be completed with a C or above. Grades of C- or below for courses taken in residence do not apply.
4. Students must earn a minimum 2.0 GPA in all ETST courses applied to the major.

Degree Requirements	Credits	Notes
* Course prerequisites change regularly. Students are responsible for consulting advisors and the class schedule in the student portal for prerequisite information. *		
CU Denver Core Curriculum Requirements	34 - 40	CU Denver Core Curriculum Requirements
CLAS Graduation Requirements	15 - 29	CLAS Graduation Requirements
ETST Major Requirements	33	15 semester hours must be upper-division
ETST Required Courses		
ETST 2000 Introduction to Ethnic Studies	3	Course will count toward CU Denver Core Social Sciences
ETST 2155 African American History	3	Course will count toward CU Denver Core Humanities
ETST 3108 Chicano/a and Latino/a History	3	
ETST 3297 Social History of Asian Americans	3	
ETST 3396 History of the American Indian	3	
ETST 4000 Research Methods in Ethnic Studies	3	Offered Fall Semester only
ETST 4960 Capstone in Ethnic Studies	3	
ETST Major Electives		
Complete four Ethnic Studies elective courses	12	*Check prerequisites for individual courses and see major advisor for approved list
Estimated General Electives	18 - 38	General Elective credits will vary based on Core & CLAS Requirements. Consult with CLAS Advisor.
Total Minimum Program Hours:	120	45 semester hours must be upper-division

SAMPLE ACADEMIC PLAN OF STUDY

The following academic plan is a *sample* pathway to completing degree requirements for this major. Students should tailor this plan based on previously completed college coursework (e.g., AP, IB, CLEP, dual/concurrent enrollment, and transfer credit), course availability, and individual preferences related to course load, schedules, or add-on programs such as minors or double-majors.

Year One	Fall	CRS
	ENGL 1020 – Core Composition I	3
	CU Denver Core Mathematics – MATH 2830 <i>recommended</i>	3
	ETST 2000	3
	CU Denver Core Behavioral Science / First-Year Seminar	3
	General Elective	3
	Total Credit Hours	15

Spring	CRS	
	ENGL 2030 – Core Composition II	3
	ETST 2155	3
	ETST Elective	3
	CU Denver Core Arts	3
	General Elective	3
	Total Credit Hours	15

Year Two	Fall	CRS
	ETST 3108	3
	CLAS Communicative Skills	3
	CU Denver Core Biol/Phys Science with lab	4
	ETST Elective	3
	General Elective	3
	Total Credit Hours	16

Spring	CRS	
	ETST 3297	3
	CU Denver Core Biol/Phys Science without lab	3
	CU Denver Core Cultural Diversity ^M	3
	CLAS Humanities	3
	Upper-Division General Elective	3
	Total Credit Hours	15

Year Three	Fall	CRS
	ETST 3396	3
	CU Denver Core International Perspectives ^M	3
	CLAS Foreign Language Semester I	5
	ETST 4000	3
Total Credit Hours	14	

Spring	CRS	
	ETST Upper-Division Elective	3
	Upper-Division General Elective	3
	CLAS Foreign Language Semester II	5
	CLAS Behavioral Science	3
Total Credit Hours	14	

Year Four	Fall	CRS
	ETST Upper-Division Elective	3
	CLAS Biol/Phys Science with lab	4
	Upper-Division General Elective	3
	Upper-Division General Elective	3
	General Elective	3
Total Credit Hours	16	

Spring	CRS	
	ETST 4960	3
	Upper-Division General Elective	3
	Upper-Division General Elective	3
	Upper-Division General Elective	3
	General Elective	3
Total Credit Hours	15	