

Fall 2011 Lower Division Multicultural Studies
(General Education VII) Courses

Survey Results

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Introduction

The Academic Senate committee on general education assessment conducted a survey to help determine the extent to which UCI's lower division GE VII (multicultural studies) courses are meeting their stated goals. This reports results of the anonymous survey of undergraduates who took such a course during Fall 2011.

The survey questions focused around the shared student learning outcomes of these courses: "After completing a course in this category successful students should be able to do one or more of the following:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of one or more historically underrepresented groups' culture, history, and development in California and/or the United States.
2. Demonstrate an awareness and appreciation of ethnic/racial differences and inequities in U.S. society.
3. Demonstrate an understanding that cooperation and mutual understanding among U.S. racial/ethnic groups is necessary in a culturally diverse society." (GE Approval and Assessment Guidelines, Update 9/26/2011)

Summary

The Academic Senate committee on general education assessment conducted an anonymous survey to help determine the extent to which UCI's lower division GE VII (multicultural studies) courses are meeting their stated goals. The results showed that these students are learning what is in the student learning outcomes for the GE VII courses.

- 370 UCI undergraduates (33%) who took a lower division GE VII course during Fall 2011 responded to the survey in Winter 2012.
- For each of the four questionnaire statements written from the student learning outcomes, approximately half the students reported more knowledge or understanding about the issues after the class than before (nearly all the rest reported no change). On a four-point scale, the average level of understanding/knowledge increased by about half a point for each of the four items.
- Level of understanding/knowledge after the class was about the same across the four student learning outcome items.
- Course grade (A/B vs. lower) was not significantly related to the amount of self-reported learning on the student learning outcomes.
- In response to an open-ended question of what one most important thing they learned in their course, about two-thirds of the responses pertained to the student learning outcomes.

Appendix

Students were asked which multicultural studies courses they had taken prior to Fall 2011. Sixty students reported having taken such a course, and 55 listed a specific response. These responses are shown verbatim in Table 8. Each row represents one respondent.

Table 8. Previously Taken Multicultural Studies Courses

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- A number of Women's Studies classes and Chicano/Latino Social Psychology
 - AFAM 40A
 - AFAM Studies 40A
 - African American Art
 - African American Studies
 - African American Studies 40 B/C HIV AIDS
 - African American Studies B
 - African American studies: African Diasporas, Women's Studies 100B: Feminist Theory I
 - American Ethnic Studies
 - Anthropology 2A
 - Asian Am 60 B Asian Am 60 C
 - Asian American 60B with Prof Liu
 - Asian American 60B, Filipino Literature
 - Asian American Psychology 141
 - Asian American Studies 60A, 60B, and 60C
 - Asian American Studies 60B 60C Asian American Fiction Korean American Experience
 - At UCI I also took Soc Sci 178f with Shorff, its South Asian American studies, i also took Asian Americans through film during my time at community college.
 - Chicano Latino 61 Transnational Migration African American Studies 50b
 - Chicano Latino Studies 139 Chicano Latino Studies 62 Political Science 124E
 - Chicano Latino studies Gang relations
 - Chicano Latino Studies 62 Chicano Literature Women Studies 50C
 - Chicano Studies 61, 62, and 63
 - Chicano studies I and III Latinos and Psycholgoy
 - Chicano Studies I and Sociology 1.
 - Chicano/Latino Studies
 - Engendered Colonial Bodies
 - FIP (Uni Studes 16) How is Race Made
 - Humanities Core-Although, I do not believe that Humanities Core should fulfill a multicultural studies general education requirement since it did not challenge me to think about a history of oppression, and power/systems of discrimination that has affected underrepresented groups. I think that a course just with a purpose of cultivating appreciation for ethnic/racial differences stops short of what the multicultural studies general education requirement should fulfill. I believe the multicultural studies GE should help cultivate consciousness around various issues, understand why discrimination occurs, understand their own problematic behavior, and how communities are continuously marginalized today.
 - I have taken Introduction to Chicano/Latino Studies I,II, and III. However, these were part of my major.
 - I took HIV/AIDS with Dr. Kim and Queer Lives and Knowledges with Scheper. They're upper division, but in the category of "multicultural"
 - I'm not quite sure, but yes, I have taken these classes.
 - Intro to Chic/Lat Studies 62 , Chic/Lat 161 Transnational Migration, Chic/Lat Social Psychology, and Soc 63 Race and Ethnicity
 - Intro to Chicano/Latino Studies I, and Migrations and Destinations

Table 8, Continued

- Intro to Soc -- O'Connell Humanities Core 1C
 - Intro to World Religions
 - It was a Sociology: Race & Ethnicity class I took before transferring to UCI.
 - Jewish Cultures and History of the Holocaust
 - Most memorable classes and professors: Black Harlem: Winston James Caribbean History: Winston James
Black Immigration: Tiffany Willoughby-Herard Wealth Inequality (Gap): Tiffany Willoughby-Herard
African Feminism: Tiffany Willoughby-Herard Af Am 40A: Bridget Cooks Af Am 40B: Jared Sexton
US/Mexico Borders: Ricardo Chivera
 - Multicultural dance, cultural anthropology
 - multicultural education- through the education department- ed 124
 - Queer Lives and Knowledges 157a.
 - race & ethnicity
 - Soc 63, WS 50A, WS 50B, WS 50C
 - Socio 2, InRel14
 - Sociology 3
 - Sociology 63
 - Sociology of Ethnic Relations
 - Woman Studies: Gender and Science
 - Women's Studies 50 Series
 - Women's Studies 50B
 - Women's Studies 50B Women's Studies 50C
 - Women's Studies 50B: Reproducing/Resisting Inequalities, Queer Lives and Knowledges WS157B, Sociology
of Gender WS183, Gender and Science WS60A, Money Sex and Power WS110B
 - Women's studies 51C
 - Womens Studies 20: Intro to Queer Studies Sociology 63: Race & Ethnicity Chicano Studies 62 and 63
 - World History B
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