

From: [Neff, Jennifer](#)
To: [Spitulski, Nick](#); [Kunimoto, Namiko](#)
Cc: [Dugdale, Tom](#); [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#); [Steele, Rachel](#); [Hilty, Michael](#)
Subject: Ethnic Studies 3311
Date: Thursday, November 7, 2024 9:05:00 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Good morning,

On Tuesday, October 29th, the Arts and Humanities 1 Subcommittee of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed a new course request for Ethnic Studies 3311.

I am pleased to report that the Subcommittee approved the request with the following feedback:

- **Comment:** The Subcommittee commends the overall quality of the syllabus. The narrative accompanying each week in the course calendar is particularly appreciated, as it provides valuable context for students.
- **Comment:** The Subcommittee notes the statements in the syllabus about banning students from their technology if it is being used for unintended purposes and the possible introduction of extra assignments if students are not completing the readings. If these statements remain in the syllabus, the subcommittee recommends that the department ensure they can be enforced in a way that does not feel unnecessarily punitive to students. [Syllabus pp. 11-12]
- **Recommendation:** The Subcommittee recommends clarifying the scaffolding of the creative project option in the syllabus. While the milestones for the research paper are well-defined, the guidelines for the creative project could be more explicit with similar steps or checkpoints so students understand the timeline. [Syllabus pp. 6-9]
- **Recommendation:** The Subcommittee recommends providing specific examples of abstracts to serve as models to students for creating their own abstracts. [Syllabus p. 7]
- **Recommendation:** The Subcommittee recommends that the department revise the excused absence policy in order to align with the guidance sent by OAA at the beginning of the term, which encouraged instructors to refrain from asking students to provide a doctor's excuse. [Syllabus p. 8]

As a reminder, *recommendations* (in italics above) should be implemented when the course is next taught.

Ethnic Studies 3311 will continue through the approval process to the Race, Ethnicity and Gender Diversity Subcommittee for approval in the GEN Foundation.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Tom Dugdale, faculty Chair of the A&H1 Subcommittee, or me.

Best,

Jennifer



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Pronouns: she/her/hers