



THE NEED FOR ETHNIC STUDIES

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Brooklyn College



Land Acknowledgment-

Today I am zooming into this conference from the unceded land of the Canarsee, Munsee, and Lenape tribes. Tribes that once lived and stewarded the land that would become New York, that along with the bloodshed by enslaved African Americans brings about our belonging on this land, While this acknowledge is not enough it is a beginning toward moving towards more understanding and accepting of our past histories

[land-acknowledgment](#)



Little bit about myself

I am a first generation college student studying Anthropology and History , American Studies Minor at Brooklyn College

I am a peer mentor in Mellon Transfer Student Research Program

I am a member in the American Studies Curriculum Committee

I identify as Puerto Rican, Taino, Irish



What is Ethnic/Cultural Studies?

The studies of different Cultures, Races-
moreover so Religious, Sexualities, Genders



Why is it important

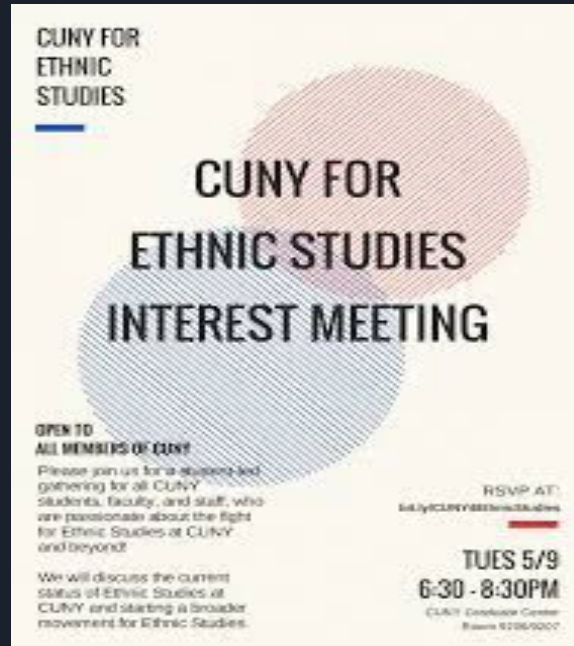




Back to my story

I grew up in a predominantly white middle class community and most of my academic life went to primarily white middle class schools where I did not see teachers who had the same background as myself. I also felt ostracized because though my skin is white, my heritage is Hispanic and Indigenous and I did not have any fellow Hispanic/ Indigenous students. This led to why I became an anthropology major and why I wanted to make sure that people like myself have a seat at powerful decision making tables.

What is CUNY doing about Ethnic Studies



The flyer features a central graphic of two overlapping circles, one light red and one light blue, both filled with a fine grid pattern. The text is arranged around and over this graphic.

**CUNY FOR
ETHNIC
STUDIES**

**CUNY FOR
ETHNIC STUDIES
INTEREST MEETING**

**OPEN TO
ALL MEMBERS OF CUNY**

Please join us for a student-led gathering for all CUNY students, faculty, and staff, who are passionate about the fight for Ethnic Studies at CUNY and beyond!

We will discuss the current status of Ethnic Studies at CUNY and starting a broader movement for Ethnic Studies.

RSVP AT:
bit.ly/CUNYEthnicStudies


**TUES 5/9
6-30 - 8:30PM**

CUNY Concourse Center
Room 4226/9007

PRLS at BC

“Given the toxic atmosphere surrounding "ethnic" studies in some areas of this nation, the answer to the original question of this essay is not why Puerto Rican Studies, but Puerto Rican Studies: now more than ever.” (PRLS Website)





The Asian American Pacific Islander Project at BC (with Mellon Transfer Student Research Program)

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AAPI
STUDIES ✨ BROOKLYN

My TLH experience



TLH



**CUNY
STUDENT
SUMMIT**

**MAY 5,
2023**

**9:00 AM –
5:00 PM ET**

**A virtual conference
hosted by TLH**

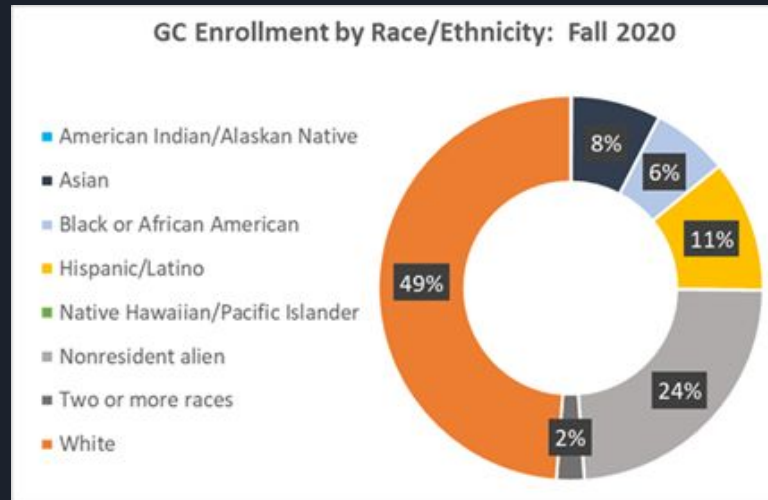
TLH


Transformative
Learning in the
Humanities

CUNY as a leader in Diversity

Diversity-inclusion

CUNY has more and more diverse student bodies, and faculties- we are starting to create more programs and currently have most major holidays to honor all cultures and religions.





What can we do now to make a better future, and a better CUNY

Have more diverse classes like Puerto Rican Studies, AAPI literature, and African American history.

Start ethnic studies at younger ages.

Have more diverse faculty to identify with a diverse student body.

Tell your friends especially BIPOC people about CUNY.



Thank you!!!

Jaclyn A. Rodriguez

Brooklyn College

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Instagram @historianloading (fun instagram about historical/ anthropological places I visit!!!)