

### High School Ethnic Studies Initiative





Othering and Belonging Conference - Saturday, April 27 2024

# Emotional Connections to High School Ethnic Studies Concepts

### UC Berkeley High School Ethnic Studies Initiative Goals:



Berkeley The American Cultures Center





- To support High School Ethnic Studies educators with content and pedagogies that can be used in their classrooms
- To provide access to UC Berkeley's resources that support the development and/or refinement of Ethnic Studies courses
- To expand the professional networks of Ethnic Studies educators



#### **Program Highlights**



High School Ethnic Studies Scholar Conversation Series

High School Ethnic Studies Educator Summer Workshop Week







### High School Ethnic Studies Initiative

#### High School Ethnic Studies Educator Summer Workshop Series

June 10-14th, 2024 In-Person @ UC Berkeley

#### REGISTER TODAY:

bit.ly/HSESI-Summer2024







#### OPENING ACTIVITY: Turn & Talk



What aspects of the field of Ethnic Studies are essential, and demand a place in High School Ethnic Studies instruction?



## For the High School offering to be considered an Ethnic Studies course, it must include...

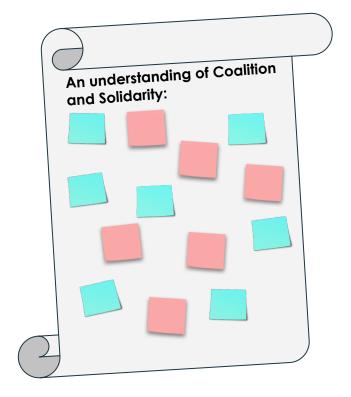
- 1. Critical conversations about oppression
- 2. Healing and agency in the face of oppression
- 3. An understanding of Coalition and Solidarity
- 4. Explicit connections to community





#### Refining our Thinking of Essential Concepts

In order to resist the "banking information" model of instruction, Ethnic Studies educators make an effort to surface the affective, emotional relationships to the work.







# What do these <u>look like</u> and <u>feel like</u> in a high school ethnic studies classroom?



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- 1. Critical conversations about oppression
- 2. Healing and agency in the face of oppression
- **3.** An understanding of Coalition and Solidarity
- **4.** Explicit connections to community



#### **Panel Discussion**



Julie Yick
she/her/hers
Ethnic Studies Teacher
Mountain View High School



Mike Espinoza
He/Him/His
Ethnic Studies Teacher/TOSA
Campbell Union High School District



antmen pimentel
mendoza
he/she/they
Director, UC Berkeley
Multicultural Community Center



#### Critical conversations about oppression

What do these <u>look like</u> and <u>feel like</u> in a high school ethnic studies classroom?

Looks like Students talking, writing, reflecting

Looks like
Developing the
capacity to listen,
gather information
+ empathize

Looks like Learning about oppressive legislations and the movements that have worked towards overturning them

Looks like Self-modeling as teacher

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Looks like Multiple voices discussing experiences with oppression as well as examining + identifying systems of oppression

Feels like Personal, Scary / dangerous, Empowering, Rigorous, Tiring, Transformative Feels like Discomfort, understanding, anger

Feels like
Vulnerable,
sorrowful, painful,
angry, sad, hurt
and cathartic,
receiving, freeing,
draining, building
connections &
closeness

Feels like
Frustrating,
humbling, eyeopening, call to
action

Feels like Cathartic for some, defensive for some, enlightening for some, confusing for some

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#### Healing and agency in the face of oppression

What do these <u>look like</u> and <u>feel like</u> in a high school ethnic studies classroom?

Looks like
Collective hope,
returning,
researching/
embracing origin
culture,
re-imagining future
without
oppression,
dreaming,
celebrating
culture/ heroes,
joy/ positivity

Feels like Hope and certainty that I can make a difference and affect my future Looks like Learning about local initiatives

Feels like Relief and safety, good vibes + chill atmosphere Looks like
Storybuilding /
telling, examining
music, art,
artifacts, rituals,
examine
traditional
philosophies +
values, building
psychological
resilience

Feels like Inspiration, joy, release, confusion/ conflict, empathy, anger patience Looks like Students finding pride in their identity

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Feels like A joyful space where care and well being is prioritized. It feels like a community of care

Looks like Creating and doing community action projects

Feels like Students building their own safe space and communities and methods of resistance, reconciliation and healing

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#### An understanding of Coalition and Solidarity

What do these <u>look like</u> and <u>feel like</u> in a high school ethnic studies classroom?

Looks like Community, we are in it together, identifying allies, togetherness, collectivism

Feels like Porous, accepting boundaries among groups, inclusion

Looks like New friendships in/out of the class

Feels like We are not alone, others are in this with us, working together Looks like
Exercises to create
solidarity, open
recitation each
day, affirmation of
intention +
understanding

Feels like Togetherness, building bonds, empowerment, strength Looks like
Communitybuilding activities,
non-violent
communication,
learning about
others' values,
identifying basic
needs we all share

Feels like there is no isolation, closed community, betrayal by perceived allies Looks like Students engaging with their classroom community, identifying genuine allyship examples, defining liberation for the communities to which they belong

Feels like Vulnerability + strength, trust + respect

Share your thoughts!



#### **Explicit connections to community**

What do these <u>look like</u> and <u>feel like</u> in a high school ethnic studies classroom?

Looks like Guest speakers, parent/family teachers, collective action projects, examining one's own location/city/ school

Feels like Belonging, togetherness, supported Looks like A place of belonging, hope, care, that feels like home

Feels like Empowerment Looks like Project based learning, YPAR, not essays

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Feels like Safety + belonging in the classroom + outside of it, safety to be yourself in your whole reality Looks like Action / project based on community needs, understanding of whose land your community might be on

Looks like
Collaboration +
activism,
co-creation

Feels like Engaging, energizing, personal

Feels like
Overcoming
introversion +
showing up for
others, confidence

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Share your thoughts!



#### **Community Discussion**





