The Guiding Values, Principles, and Outcomes of Ethnic Studies Teaching

Given the range and complexity of the field, it is important to identify key values and principles of Ethnic Studies to aid in guiding and developing Ethnic Studies courses, teaching, and learning.

The foundational values of Ethnic Studies are housed in the conceptual model of the “double helix,” which signifies the relationship and interdependence of holistic humanization and critical consciousness.

1. **CULTIVATE**

   empathy, community actualization, cultural perpetuity, self-worth, self-determination, and the holistic well-being of all participants, especially Native People/s and People of Color;

2. **CELEBRATE**

   and honor Native People/s of the land and Communities of Color by providing a space to share their stories of struggle and resistance, along with their intellectual and cultural wealth;

3. **CENTER**

   and place high value on pre-colonial, ancestral, indigenous, diasporic, familial, and marginalized knowledge;

4. **CRITIQUE**

   empire, white supremacy, anti-Blackness, anti-Indigeneity, racism, xenophobia, patriarchy, cisgender/patriarchy, capitalism, ableism, anthropocentrism, and other forms of power and oppression at the intersections of our society;

5. **CHALLENGE**

   imperialist/colonial hegemonic beliefs and practices on ideological, institutional, interpersonal, and internalized levels;

6. **CONNECT**

   ourselves to past and contemporary resistance movements that struggle for social justice on global and local levels to ensure a truer democracy;

7. **CONCEPTUALIZE,**

   imagine, and build new possibilities for post-imperial life that promote collective narratives of transformative resistance, critical hope, and radical healing.

**SOURCES**


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