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**Date:** August 14, 2015  
**To:** Dr. Karen Janney, Superintendent  
**From:** Ana Maria Alvarez   
**Re:** Request from Mr. Segura

Board Vice President Nicholas Segura requested information from staff regarding adding an Ethnic Studies course to the curriculum. SUHSD's course directory currently lists Mexican American Studies (Course # 94282) as an approved course for students in grades 11 and 12. The course satisfies an "a-g" social science elective for application to the UC/CSU systems. Course description is attached.

School sites have the ability to offer this course based on student interest. At this time, one school in the district (Chula Vista High) offers the course. Curriculum and Instruction staff will provide the information to the high school principals and counselors to support the addition of this course to other school sites.

## SUHSD Course Description

Department: History/Social Science

Course Title:	Mexican American Studies	Course #:	94282
Length of Course:	One Semester		
Grade Level Options:	11-12		
UC/CSU/College:	Satisfies an "a-g" social science elective for application to UC/CSU		
CTE Pathway:			
Prerequisite/s:	none		
<p>Mexican American Studies is a course that offers students an in-depth comparative study of the history, politics, culture, contributions, challenges, and current status of Mexican Americans in the United States. Students examine the process of racial and ethnic formation of this ethnic group through a variety of contexts: political, legal, social, historical, economic, and cultural.</p> <p>The course concentrates, to a great extent, on the experiences of various ethnic minorities in the United States and the ways in which their experiences were impacted by the issues of race, ethnicity, class, gender, and the interaction among different ethnic groups. Students will also address how individuals within specific ethnic groups think and feel about themselves and their group as it can be represented by literature, memoirs, art, and music. To understand ethnic identity in their local communities, students can volunteer with local community organizations and centers that serve specific ethnic populations.</p>			

*\*Course description includes*

1. Statement of overall purpose of course
2. Major topics for emphasis
3. Major outcomes to be achieved by students
4. General description of regular class activities
5. How the course differs from related courses (if applicable)