

APPENDIX V – 144

Facts: Transformative

Tucson Unified School District's **Culturally Relevant African American & Mexican American Studies** courses are open to all students, regardless of "race" or ethnicity.

ALL students academically benefit from taking a course that reflects the history, experiences and cultures of our African American & Mexican American communities.

Culturally Relevant Courses offer a unique, cultural approach to traditional material while **fulfilling core/graduation credit requirements** for junior & senior English, American History and Government from the state of Arizona.



Culturally Relevant classes provide opportunities for:

- Community Engagement
- Student Events
- Field Trips
- Collaboration with Universities
- Student-Centered Learning

Culturally Relevant Courses offered at the Middle School level:

8th Grade Language Arts:

This course promotes the mastery of literacy standards including reading, writing, listening, speaking and critical thinking through the use of literature primarily focusing on the experience of Mexican American people in the first semester, and African American people in the second semester.

8th Grade Social Studies:

This course presents an in-depth, interdisciplinary study of the designated history standards centered on the impact, and the contributions made by groups including Mexican Americans and African Americans.



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TUCSON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
H.T. Sánchez, Ed.D., Superintendent

Culturally Relevant Courses



Working to provide equitable learning opportunities for ALL students.

TUCSON UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT

CULTURALLY RELEVANT COURSES

Culturally Relevant African American Studies courses are offered at your high school:



American History
African American Viewpoint

An investigation of the unique African American experience with content centered on the development of American history spanning the pre-colonial era in Africa and America through modern times.

U.S. Government
African American Viewpoint

With an emphasis on the African American experience, this course looks critically at the development of the American political system, government function, practices and structures. This course fulfills graduation requirements.

English 11 & 12
African American Literature

This class emphasizes mastery of reading, writing, listening, speaking, and critical thinking through an exploration of African American literature. This is a course that represents an interdisciplinary study of the breath of the major developments in the unique, broad story of the Indigenous/African/Black experience.

The Department of Culturally Relevant Pedagogy and Instruction offers Culturally Relevant Curriculum/Courses (CRC) at all Tucson Unified School District high schools and select middle schools.

CRC offerings include literature and social studies courses from a Mexican American and African American perspective. The impact of this educational approach is measurable through increased student engagement, achievement, improved graduation rates, lower absenteeism and matriculation to college.

CRC are:

- Academically Rigorous
- Transformative
- Empowering
- Engaging
- Validating & Affirming
- Student-Centered
- Liberating
- Research-Based
- Diverse
- Multidimensional



Culturally Relevant Mexican American Studies courses are offered at your high school:

American History
Mexican American Viewpoint

This course presents an in depth interdisciplinary study of the major developments in the unique history of the Mexican American/ Chicana/o experience within American History.

U.S. Government
Mexican American Viewpoint

This course has an emphasis on Mexican American perspectives that fulfills American Government credit and is centered on the development of the political system and the various social, political and historical forces that have influenced it. Student inquiry and research are utilized to develop students' critical consciousness.

English 11 & 12
Mexican American Literature

11th grade Mexican American Literature is a college preparatory course that serves as an introduction to the tremendous scope and unique impact of Chicana/o & Latina/o Literature in the United States. The 12th grade Mexican American Literature course focuses on the themes of social justice, resistance and transformation through literature.

Empowering **D**iverse