


**UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA**

Ethnic Studies Department

May 23, 2008

TO: Bee Molina Kooker  
Interim Associate Vice Chancellor  
For Academic Affairs

FROM: Ibrahim G. Aoudé, Chair   
Department of Ethnic Studies

SUBJECT: Authorization To Plan

I have revised the ATP along the lines you have suggested. I also included statements of support from several units at UHM. Please attach the signature page from the previous draft to this new version of the ATP application.  
Many thanks for your assistance in this matter.

## **Authorization to Plan an Academic Program at UH Manoa**

1. College: Social Sciences; Department: Ethnic Studies
2. Chair of Planning Committee: Ibrahim Aoude
3. Program Category: New
- 4a. Degree Proposed: Master of Arts in Ethnic Studies
- 4b. Similar Degrees in UH System: There are no MA degrees with the same programmatic areas of concentration currently being offered in the UH system (see page 4 of Program Justification).

### 5. Planning

5a. The planning period will be from June 1, 2008 through May 31, 2009.

5b. A Planning Committee of Ethnic Studies faculty will be appointed by the Department Chair that will take the lead role in planning the MA degree program. The committee will develop the program admission requirements, degree requirements including core and elective courses, and thesis and non-thesis options for students. It will obtain information on graduate courses offered in the social sciences, humanities, Pacific Island Studies, and Hawaiian Studies at UH Manoa to avoid any duplication of courses and to ensure the overall academic uniqueness of the program. The committee will meet with department chairs and directors in those fields to discuss the proposed MA program with them and to identify their regularly offered courses that can be designated as electives for the degree. It also will gather information on other ethnic studies and Asian American studies graduate programs that can be used in developing the curriculum and other aspects of the program.

During the planning phase, each of the Ethnic Studies faculty will develop a graduate course in their field of specialization consistent with the three major areas of concentration of the program (see below) that can be offered beginning in fall 2009. The Planning Committee will draft a schedule of course offerings for that and the following academic year so that the first cohort of admitted students can graduate by spring 2011.

Some of the Ethnic Studies faculty will work on externally-funded research proposals that, if funded, will be used to provide part-time employment to students in the MA program through research assistantships. Faculty also will seek financial support for students from local and national private sources.

5c. The submission date of the program proposal will be June 1, 2009.

5d. No additional funds are required for the planning period.

## 6. Program Description (Objectives and Relation to Campus Mission and Strategic Plan)

The primary objective of the proposed MA degree program is to provide students with specialized interdisciplinary training on contemporary and historical aspects of race, ethnicity, indigeneity, and transnationalism in Hawai'i, the Pacific, and the continental United States. Students will be provided with a critical theoretical background and knowledge of racial and ethnic groups and indigenous peoples and of major sociocultural processes in the above sites. The MA program thus will have three major interrelated areas of concentration: 1) theories of race/ethnicity, indigeneity, and transnationalism; 2) the comparative study of racial and ethnic minorities and indigenous peoples; and 3) Social problems and issues in racial/ethnic and indigenous communities in Hawai'i, the Pacific, and the U.S. continent. Courses will be offered in each of those three areas. The program will seek to establish itself as one of the foremost graduate departments in ethnic studies and Asian American studies.

The MA program is intended to attract two primary groups of students: those for whom the program will provide theory-oriented academic training toward the attainment of more advanced degrees such as a doctorate or juris doctor; and those for whom the program will enhance their professional development in fields such as education (including community college instruction), social work, counseling, public administration, and social research.

Students will come primarily from Hawai'i, the continental United States, and Pacific Island nations. We will recruit UH Manoa, UH Hilo, UH West O'ahu, and Hawai'i Pacific University graduates in the social sciences and humanities, including our own majors. We also will seek to admit students graduating from universities on the U.S. continent, including those from Hawai'i, and Pacific Islanders including those supported by the East-West Center.

With regard to the UH Manoa Strategic Plan, the MA program will contribute to the attainment of several of the major "Strategic Imperatives" related to the broader "Core Commitments" of the university as stated in its current Strategic Plan for 2002-2010.

Core Commitment of Research: "Encourage research that benefits and involves the local community."

Insofar as Hawai'i is one of the primary geographic sites of the proposed program, students will be encouraged in conducting public policy oriented and applied research for their master's degrees that can be of direct economic, political or social benefit to the people of the islands. In some cases, students will have the opportunity to work as research assistants in community-based projects in Hawai'i directed by Ethnic Studies faculty. Students and faculty thus will contribute to UH Manoa engaging in research that enhances the quality of life of the local community.

Core Commitment of Educational Effectiveness: "Deliver a modern, flexible, diverse, and multicultural curriculum supported by excellent teachers, classrooms, and information technology."

The department has been providing a diverse and multicultural curriculum since it began offering courses on the historical and contemporary experiences of Native Hawaiians and ethnic groups in Hawai'i in 1970. The MA program will contribute further to the above strategic imperative through its development of an interdisciplinary curriculum of advanced courses focused on indigenous peoples and racial/ethnic minorities in Hawai'i, the Pacific and the United States.

A major aspect of the educational experience of students in the program will be service learning activities that they will engage in as part of the curriculum requirements for the MA degree. Ethnic Studies has been an innovative and proactive campus leader in service learning since it formally began as an organized activity at UH Manoa in the 1990s. Each semester nearly all of our courses have a service learning option for students to participate in and learn from supervised volunteer activities at various settings in the community. These settings include public housing complexes, homeless shelters, public schools, *ahupua'a* traditional land areas, and Chinese American, Filipino American, and Japanese American community centers .

Core Commitment of Place: "Build on our comparative advantages such as our unparalleled natural resources, cultural diversity, sense of aloha, and excellent reputation."

Most of the Ethnic Studies faculty have written books and conducted research on Native Hawaiians, race and ethnic relations, and transnationalism and diasporic communities in Hawai'i which explains why it is one of the principal sites for the MA program. Building on their considerable research experience and knowledge of the islands' peoples and cultures and on the global reputation of Hawai'i as an especially culturally diverse society, if not "multicultural model," the program will provide its students with a comparative theoretical perspective for the analysis of other indigenous and ethnic communities and of transnational economic, cultural and social processes in the Pacific and the continental United States.

## 7. Program Justification (Needs and Rationale)

The primary rationale for establishing the MA program is to meet student demand for it. Each year the Ethnic Studies Department receives numerous requests for information from students attending colleges and universities on the U.S. continent about the graduate degree program they assume the department has. At UH Manoa, graduate and undergraduate students, including our majors, regularly inquire if the department offers a master's degree or at least graduate courses. Ethnic studies majors who have pursued graduate degrees have had to attend institutions such as UCLA and UC Irvine or have entered other graduate programs at UH Manoa such as sociology, political science or American studies. Graduate students in those and other Manoa departments regularly enroll in our upper division courses because of their interest in them and in our faculty teaching those courses. Our faculty also have been asked to serve on

numerous MA and PhD thesis committees for students who are researching and writing on topics that have an ethnic studies concern or focus. A formal needs assessment for the MA program will be conducted during the planning period.

The need for an interdisciplinary MA program with a comparative focus on Hawai'i, the Pacific, and the U.S. continent from the theoretical perspectives of race/ethnicity, indigeneity, and transnationalism is not being met by other Manoa graduate programs in the social sciences, humanities, Pacific Island studies, and Hawaiian studies. The MA program in American Studies does not address Hawai'i and the Pacific as geographical sites of concern, and those in Pacific Island Studies and Hawaiian Studies do not include the United States as a similar area of concern or race/ethnicity and transnationalism as theoretical perspectives. The Political Science, Anthropology, Geography, and History departments do not have any faculty whose primary area of expertise is race and ethnicity, nor do they offer any graduate courses on those subjects. Thus, there is limited overlap in content and theoretical orientation between the proposed MA program and those in other departments and schools at UH Manoa.

The UH Executive Policy on the Approval of New Programs requires that new graduate programs demonstrate local, national or international need for "the direct relevance of the field of study where Hawai'i and the University have unique or outstanding resources to respond with quality." Establishment of the MA program in ethnic studies can be viewed as an especially appropriate response by the University to the critical need to address the increasing ethnic and racial polarization in both Hawai'i and the U.S. continent evident locally in growing challenges to Native Hawaiian rights and claims and nationally in the anti-affirmative action and anti-immigrant movements sweeping the nation. Hawai'i has long been recognized throughout the world as a multicultural model for other racially and ethnically divided societies in managing their racial and ethnic conflicts. By the 1950s the University, particularly through the UH Manoa Department of Sociology, had established itself internationally as one of the foremost academic centers for the comparative study of race relations. Unfortunately, this reputation has declined since then, but the MA program in ethnic studies provides a timely means for the University to respond proactively to major societal problems and issues concerned with race and ethnicity.

With its long-term and continuing research, instructional, and community service focus on race, ethnicity and indigeneity in Hawai'i and with several nationally and internationally recognized faculty, the Ethnic Studies department is especially qualified to respond on behalf of the University to the increasing racial polarization of society both locally and nationally. The MA program will enable the department to contribute to the academic training of future college instructors with a critical understanding of the significance of race/ethnicity and indigeneity in Hawai'i, the continental United States, and the Pacific. The program also will enhance the professional development of teachers, counselors, social workers, and government administrators in addressing the social problems and needs of racial/ethnic minorities and indigenous peoples, such as ethnic conflict. They will be provided with the skills and knowledge to serve effectively clients and co-workers in multiethnic settings.

Another important reason for establishing the MA program is that only a limited number of universities offer advanced degrees in ethnic studies. San Francisco State University has the only MA program in ethnic studies in the nation and also has an MA program in Asian American studies. The University of California, Berkeley and the University of California, San Diego offer PhD but not MA degrees in ethnic studies, while UCLA has an MA program in Asian American studies but not ethnic studies. Similarly, the Asian/Pacific Islander American Studies Program at the University of Michigan provides a PhD but not an MA degree. None of the peer institutions of UH Manoa offers an MA degree in ethnic studies. The proposed program can fill this academic niche by providing master's level training in ethnic studies that is currently being met only by San Francisco State University. Furthermore, none of the programs noted above has a focus on indigenous peoples and ethnic communities in Hawai'i and the Pacific.

#### 8. Description of Resources Required

8a. No new faculty are required for the MA program because the department has a sufficient number. Ethnic Studies currently has 8.5 FTE positions, including seven full-time positions and three half-time joint positions shared with the Departments of Anthropology, Women's Studies and Sociology. The latter faculty all have graduate faculty status in their respective departments. The full-time faculty have cooperating graduate faculty status in departments and programs such as Anthropology, Philippine Studies, Hawaiian Studies, Pacific Islands Studies, and International Cultural Studies at UH Manoa.

8b. The only new library resources required will be for annual journal subscriptions. For the past several years the department faculty have worked closely with the social sciences and humanities reference librarian at Hamilton Library and with the Wong Audiovisual Center to ensure that their collections include recently issued books and DVDs/videos desired by them for their research or courses. The department has its own Resource Center with thousands of books, journals, government reports, community newspapers, and other publications by community organizations in Hawai'i and the Pacific that can be used by students for their research.

8c. No additional physical space or equipment is required.

8d. The MA program will require at least three graduate assistantships (GA) that will be awarded to incoming students. A major task of these students will be to serve as teaching assistants for Ethnic Studies faculty. This will enable a few of the latter to devote more of their efforts to the graduate course they are teaching. The department currently has only one GA, so two more GAs are requested. The department chair will appoint one of the faculty as coordinator of the graduate program who will have primary responsibility for its day to day management.

9.

Five- Year Business Plan					
YEAR	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013
<b>PROGRAM COSTS</b>					
Faculty w/o fringe	40,961	81,921	81,921	81,921	81,921
Other personnel costs w/o fringe	17,500	17,500	17,500	17,500	17,500
Library	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
Equipment/Supplies	0	0	0	0	0
Other					
<b>TOTAL Expenses</b>	<b>59,661</b>	<b>100,621</b>	<b>100,621</b>	<b>100,621</b>	<b>100,621</b>
<b>REVENUES</b>					
Projected Enrollment	10	20	21	23	24
No. of Courses	3	3	3	3	3
No. of Credits	9	9	9	9	9
SSH	90	180	189	207	216
Tuition Rate/Credit	835	1,177	1,298	1,436	1,581
Total Revenue from Tuition	75,120	211,944	245,232	297,168	341,570
Other Sources of Income					
<b>TOTAL Revenues</b>	<b>75,955</b>	<b>213,121</b>	<b>246,530</b>	<b>298,604</b>	<b>343,151</b>

10. One impact of the MA program may be an increase in the number of students enrolled in graduate courses in the social sciences and humanities that are designated as electives for the degree. Another possible impact is that after completing the MA degree, students may continue on to PhD programs at UH Manoa in the social sciences or American studies.

11. See Attached (Statements of Support from UHM units).







# University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

## Center for Pacific Islands Studies

School of Hawaiian, Asian and Pacific Studies

1890 East-West Road • Moore 215 • Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822

Telephone: (808) 956-7700 • Facsimile: (808) 956-7053 • Telex (650) 3223611 MCIUW

May 22, 2008

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in support of the UHM Department of Ethnic Studies' application to plan for an M.A. degree program. I do so with great enthusiasm. We have much in common with Ethnic Studies. The department's focus is Hawai'i with its rich legacy of multiethnic heritages. Our center shares this commitment to examining the diversity and richness of life, and around issues involving race, gender, ethnicity, and class. While our focus is on the larger Pacific, we too embrace comparative, multidisciplinary and innovative approaches to the histories and experiences of those whom we study, serve, and advocate for. Moreover, both the Department of Ethnic Studies and the Center for Pacific Islands Studies play a pivotal role in assisting this university to meet its responsibilities to the Asia Pacific region. Through our courses, publications, and community outreach initiatives, we serve to remind the larger population here of the many contributions to life in Hawai'i made by people from the region.

There already exists considerable collaboration between Ethnic Studies and the Center for Pacific Islands Studies. Many of our students currently take courses offered by the Department of Ethnic Studies; their faculty members also serve on the graduate committees of our M.A. students. We, of course, welcome their students into our classes, and very much look forward to an expansion of this relationship. Service learning, a major feature of the Ethnic Studies curriculum, is something that our center is very much interested in as we plan for our undergraduate major in Pacific Islands studies. We also see service learning as a desirable component of our graduate program.

There is, then, currently a great deal of complementarity between our two programs; the establishment of an M.A. program in Ethnic Studies would further promote mutually beneficial cooperation between our two units, and to the general enrichment of graduate education on the Manoa campus. I therefore commend to you the Department of Ethnic Studies' application to plan for an M.A. program.

Sincerely,

David Hanlon  
Professor and Director



UNIVERSITY  
of HAWAII<sup>®</sup>  
MĀNOA

## Statement in Support of the Masters Program in Ethnic Studies

The School of Social Work enthusiastically supports the establishment of a graduate program in Ethnic Studies at the University of Hawai'i-Manoa. Over the years, several of our faculty have collaborated with faculty from the Department of Ethnic Studies on projects and other activities and we have a high regard for the quality of work that the Department of Ethnic Studies produces. Faculty from Ethnic Studies have served on Masters thesis committees in Social Work.

Ethnic Studies has been a leader in interdisciplinary studies at the UHM and is highly regarded nationally and internationally in its field. The Department is a leader in Service Learning, which is critical for Social Work students as well. The Department of Ethnic Studies and the School of social Work complement each other very well as we both serve the needs of this multi ethnic, multinational society and play a critical role in making sure that the UHM fulfill its commitments in serving the Pacific Basin region, including Hawai'i. We look forward to having Ethnic Studies graduate students take courses in Social Work as part of their course work in the Ethnic Studies Masters. A Masters in Ethnic Studies at the UHM is long overdue and we look forward to further collaboration with the Department on the graduate level. We again express our full support for the Ethnic Studies Graduate Program.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Jon K. Matsuoka'.

Jon K. Matsuoka  
Dean  
5/23/08

**U N I V E R S I T Y   O F   H A W A I ' I   A T   M Ā N O A**

College of Arts and Humanities  
Department of American Studies

May 22, 2008

To Whom it May Concern:

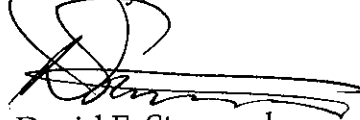
On behalf of the University of Hawai'i at Manoa Department of American Studies, I wish to endorse the proposal for creating an MA degree in Ethnic Studies.

Although our departments have different missions and distinctive areas of teaching and research, there are aspects of pedagogy where we complement one another and for some years now the American Studies and Ethnic Studies departments have engaged in cooperative endeavors. Faculty members in American Studies commonly cross-list courses in Ethnic Studies and vice versa, we have jointly sponsored off-campus speakers and other events, and students tend to move easily between the two departments.

Certainly, the Department of Ethnic Studies has a faculty of sufficient size and scholarly accomplishment to merit an MA program, and American Studies will be more than willing to have Ethnic Studies count selected classes from our department toward the requirements of an Ethnic Studies MA degree.

We believe the mission of UH Manoa will be enhanced by an MA degree in Ethnic Studies and, again, we support the proposal.

Sincerely,



David E. Stannard  
Professor and Chair

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

5/23/08

As Chair of the UHM English Department, I would like to support the Ethnic Studies Department's proposal for authorizing and implementing a Master in Ethnic Studies degree. The academic field of Ethnic Studies has grown in significance and value over the last two decades even as definitions and understandings of American identity have been enriched and made more complex by intermarriage, immigration, cultural reaffirmation as well as globalization, and political and economic developments. That a likely presidential candidate has Africa, Indonesia, Islam, Kansas, Hawai'i, and Chicago as part of what has made him who he is suggests the timeliness as well as the value of research, instruction, and serious thought in this area. It goes without saying that Hawai'i and this university ought to be particularly important sites for such work.

The English Department has been, and continues to be, happy to have Ethnic Studies students enrolled in our courses and would be pleased to have our graduate courses validated by Ethnic Studies as potentially part of the ES Master's program. English Graduate Students have often worked in fields that involve consultation with Ethnic Studies faculty, and our graduate seminars for M.A. and Ph.D. students normally include students from other disciplines, including Ethnic Studies. Our undergraduate courses include two courses cross-listed with ES, Ethnic Literature of Hawai'i (English 370, ES 370) and Asian American Literature (English 372, ES 372). Several other regularly courses also include important consideration of ethnic studies issues (African American Literature; Literature of the Pacific; Race, Ethnicity, and Literature; and three senior-level Studies courses in Asia/Pacific, Postcolonial, and Diasporic Literature). As this list indicates, well more than a half dozen English faculty teach and do research in areas that relate significantly to ethnic studies issues, and both departments have actively collaborated in colloquia and in advising and sitting on committees for honors and graduate students working in ES-related areas.

In sum, English and Ethnic Studies have had fruitful and productive instructional, research, and public outreach relations for years. I am pleased to continue that engagement by supporting the prospective Ethnic Studies M.A. program.



Mark A. Heberle  
Chair

**UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA**

Department of Anthropology

May 22, 2008

Ibrahim Aoude  
Professor and Chair - Ethnic Studies  
University of Hawaii  
2560 Campus Road, George Hall 301  
Honolulu Hawaii 96822

Dear Prof. Aoude,

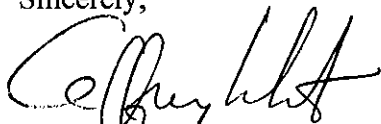
I am writing as Chair of the Department of Anthropology to express support for your application for Approval to Plan a Masters program in Ethnic Studies.

From our vantage point, this is both a natural and overdue evolution. We already share faculty (one regular, two 'cooperating'), cross-list courses, and utilize a number of your faculty on committees in our graduate program. It is clear that several of your faculty are active members of the graduate faculty with superb publication records who will make excellent mentors for potential Masters students in the kind of program you propose. Should such a program come on stream, I am sure that several of us in Anthropology will be willing and active advisors for your students as well.

If you or reviewers of your proposal have further questions, you are welcome to contact me at 956-8193, [white@hawaii.edu](mailto:white@hawaii.edu).

Good luck with the application.

Sincerely,



Geoffrey White  
Professor and Chair