Finding Aid to the

UC Berkeley Department of Ethnic Studies Records,

1968 – 2014

Collection number: CES ARC 2022/1

Ethnic Studies Library



University of California, Berkeley

Berkeley, California

Finding Aid Written By: Nathaniel Moore

Date Completed: February, 2022

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Collection Sumr	nary	p.
Information for F	Researchers	p.
Administrative Ir	nformation	р.
Organizational H	listory	р.
Scope and Cont	ent of Collection	р.
Series Descripti	on	p. 8 – 12
Container List		p. 13 – 24
Series 1:	Afro-American / African American / African American and A Studies, 1968 – 2004	African Diaspora
Series 2:	Native American Studies, 1970 – 2011	
Series 3:	Chicano / Chicana/o and Latina/o Studies, 1971 – 1996	
Series 4:	Asian American / Asian American and Asian Diaspora Stud	dies, 1968 – 2014
	4.1: Asian (American) Studies Committees, n.d. – 1977	
Series 5:	Department of Ethnic Studies UC Berkeley, 1968 – 2012	
	5.1: Proposals, 1969 – 1981	
	5.2: Correspondence, 1969 – 1993	
	5.3: Department Reorganization, 1994 – 1998	
	5.4: Departmental Reviews, 1972 – 1993	
	5.5: News-clippings, 1969 – 2012	
	5.6: Meeting Minutes, 1970 – 1978	
	5.7: Committees 1968 – 1992	
	5.8: Surveys, 1968 – 1979	
	5.9: General History / Strikes and Protests, 1969 – 1997	
	5.10: Strikes and Protests, 1963 – 2012	

COLLECTION SUMMARY

Collection Title: UC Berkeley Department of Ethnic Studies Records

Date (inclusive): 1968 – 2014

Date (bulk): 1968 – 2012

Collection Number: CES ARC 2019/2

Creators/Collectors: Department of Ethnic Studies, Asian American Studies Program, African American Studies Program, Native American Studies Program, Chicano Studies Program

Extent: 3.13 linear feet (9 cartons)

Repository: Ethnic Studies Library University of California, Berkeley Berkeley, California, 94720-2360 Phone: (510) 643-1234 Fax: (510) 643-8433 Email: esl@library.berkeley.edu

Abstract: The UC Berkeley Department of Ethnic Studies Records contains materials documenting the UC Berkeley Ethnic Studies Department from its founding in 1968 – 1969 to the 2010s. Originally composed of four academic disciplines: Afro American Studies, Chicano Studies, Asian American Studies and Native American Studies, the department of Ethnic Studies grew out of a student-led strike to a nationally recognized academic unit, producing some of the most dynamic and influential scholarship in the field and struggling since its inception to transform education.

Languages Represented: Collection materials are in English.

Physical Location: Ethnic Studies Library Special Collections Room

INFORMATION FOR RESEARCHERS

Access: Collection is open for research.

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Preferred Citation: UC Berkeley Department of Ethnic Studies Records, CES 2022/2, Ethnic Studies Library University of California, Berkeley.

Alternate Forms Available: There are no alternate forms of this collection.

Additional Notes on Collection:

Related Collection(s):

Third World Strike at University of California, Berkeley collection 1968-1972 (CES 2015/1)

Third World Strike at University of California, Berkeley collection 1999 (CES ARC 2015/2)

University of California, Berkeley. Chicano Studies Program records (CS ARC 2009/1)

Indexing Terms:

Third World Liberation Front -- Archives.

Asian American Political Alliance (Berkeley, Calif.)

University of California, Berkeley -- Students -- Political activity.

Student movements -- California -- Berkeley.

Ethnicity -- Study and teaching (Higher)

Multicultural education -- California -- Berkeley.

Asian Americans – Political activity

Asian Americans – Study and teaching

Indigenous peoples – United States

Indians of North America – Political activity

Indians of North America - Study and teaching

Mexican Americans – Study and teaching

Chicano movement

African Americans – Political activity

African Americans – Study and teaching

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Acquisition Information:

Ethnic Studies Departmental Records have been identified, collected and preserved by Ethnic Studies Library staff since 1969 and by Janice Otani, Ethnic Studies Library archivist.

Accruals:

Additions are expected.

System of Arrangement:

Arranged to the folder level.

Processing Information:

Processed by Nathaniel Moore

ORGANIZATION HISTORY

Established in 1969 in the midst of national and global decolonial uprisings, the Department of Ethnic Studies emerged from student and community members' demands for scholarly programs that would provide relevant and liberatory education for Third World communities including African Americans, Asian Americans, Chicanos, and Native Americans. Following a year-long struggle for a Black Studies program and inspired by the organizing at San Francisco State College, the Afro-American Student Union convened a meeting of Third World students which resulted in the creation of the Third World Liberation Front (TWLF), a coalition of students and student organizations including the Asian American Political Alliance, Mexican American Student Confederation, Native Student Union, and more. Under the banner of the TWLF, these activists at UC Berkeley initially proposed the creation of a Third World College similar to the one established a year before at San Francisco State University. After one of the longest and most violent student strikes in U.S. history, a compromise was reached that resulted in the creation of a Department of Ethnic Studies that housed four undergraduate programs: African American Studies, Asian American Studies, Chicano Studies, and Native American Studies. The initial compromise included a plan for the Department of Ethnic Studies to eventually become a Third World College.

Since the Department was founded, Ethnic Studies at UC Berkeley has consistently transformed with the African American Studies program becoming the Department of African American and African Diaspora Studies, the Asian American Studies program becoming the Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies program, the Chicano Studies program becoming the Chicana/o and Latina/o Studies program, the formation of a Comparative Ethnic Studies area of focus, and the creation of a doctoral program (PhD). In 1997, the Ethnic Studies Library was established by consolidating the individual program reading rooms. In 1999, in response to drastic budget cuts and the

loss of faculty members which resulted in many courses being cut, students organized another series of rallies, sit-ins, and hunger strikes, again under the banner of the third world Liberation Front (twLF). This activism resulted in additional faculty positions, the creation of the Multicultural Community Center, and the establishment of the Center for Race and Gender.

*For more information about the history of the UC Berkeley Ethnic Studies Department, watch *On Strike: Ethnic Studies 1969-1999* directed by Irum Sheikh.

SCOPE AND CONTENT OF COLLECTION

This collection contains materials documenting the UC Berkeley Ethnic Studies Department from its founding in 1969 to the 2010s. Originally composed of four academic disciplines: Afro-American Studies, Chicano Studies, Asian American Studies and Native American Studies, the department of Ethnic Studies grew out of a student-led strike to a nationally-recognized academic unit, producing some of the most dynamic and influential scholarship in the field. The origins of the department are rooted in struggles for self-determination and civil rights as in 1969, students united to demand systemic change and the creation of Ethnic Studies, a new discipline meant to challenge Eurocentric epistemologies and support scholarship that would empower and bring justice and material change for communities of color on and off campus.

This collection documents the history of the newly formed discipline – the newly conceived array of courses; the proposals that shifted the structure, culture and dynamics of the discipline; the focus on student engagement with the community, the struggles between Ethnic Studies and UC Berkeley and UC administration, and the continued protests and strikes to guarantee the hard-earned victories of the students in the 1969 Third World Liberation Front. Contained within are extensive documentation of the departments as they evolved from a set of demands into a robust academic unit and the tensions within and outside the department related to institutionalization and changing global, national and local politics.

Materials in this collection include administrative memorandum and correspondence, course catalogs, meeting minutes, curricula, news clippings, proposals, committee notes, and departmental reviews. These cover a span of over fifty years and include some of the formative moments in the history of the department including the separation

of Afro-American studies from Ethnic Studies in 1974, strikes and protests, debates about departmental reorganization, external reviews, budget cuts and more.

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

SERIES 1: Afro-American Studies / African-American Studies, 1968 – 2004

Carton 1 Folders 1 – 18 Arranged Chronologically

Contains proposals, correspondence, statements, reports, news articles and other materials related primarily to the first seven years of what is now the Department African-American Studies. Materials of note include the proposals to create a Black Studies Program and Department for Afro-American Studies; correspondence about the deteriorating relationship between the administration and the Black Studies coordinator Ron Lewis and his subsequent firing; information about the split of Black studies from Ethnic Studies; correspondence, news articles and other materials about the protests undertaken by faculty and students regarding the hiring of William Banks; information about the founding of Black Studies at other colleges and universities and assorted ephemera, reports and articles from the early years of the department.

SERIES 2: Native American Studies, 1970 – 2011

Carton 1 Folders 19 – 36 Arranged Chronologically

Contains materials surrounding the creation of the Native American Studies program. Includes pamphlets and reports about the conditions and presence of Native students on UC Berkeley's campus and the importance of offering Native American Studies in higher education; initial summary of the program; resources from the Native occupation of Alcatraz Island (1970); course announcements, proposals, catalogs, and syllabi; materials from the American Indian Graduate Program; and other materials related to the program.

SERIES 3: Chicano Studies, 1971 – 1996

Carton 2 Folders 1 – 42 Arranged Chronologically

Contains materials related to the Chicano Studies program, established in 1969 as a direct consequence of Third World Strike demands by students of Mexican descent for the University to research and teach a curriculum based on the Chicano experience in the United States. Includes proposals, meeting minutes, course information, administrative information, and other

departmental materials.

SERIES 4: Asian American Studies, 1968 – 2014

Carton 3 – Carton 6 Arranged Chronologically

Contains materials related to the founding of the Asian Studies Department. Includes extensive committee materials from the first decade of the department as well as curriculum, correspondence, program and course proposals, meeting minutes, debates within the program, student connection and involvement in the International Hotel and the Asian Community Center in San Francisco, and information on workshops, conferences and student initiatives.

SERIES 5: Ethnic Studies Departmental Records, 1963 – 2012

SUBSERIES 5.1: News clippings, 1969 – 2012

Carton 7 Folders 1 – 2 Arranged Chronologically

Contains news-clippings from assorted sources related news about the Department of Ethnic Studies.

SUBSERIES 5.2: Proposals, 1969 – 1981

Carton 7 Folders 3 – 16 Arranged Chronologically

Contains original proposals for the Third World College (Black Studies, Native American Studies, Chicano Studies, and Asian Studies) and modified plans for a different iteration of the Third World College in 1974 (after the separate formation of a Department of Afro-American Studies).

SUBSERIES 5.3: Correspondence, 1969 – 1993

Carton 7 Folders 17 – 27 Arranged Chronologically

Contains official university correspondence related to and produced by the Department of Ethnic Studies. Items range from statements from the Office of the Chancellor and Chancellor Heyns about the Third World Liberation Front strike and the initial establishment of Ethnic Studies; correspondence to faculty and staff and letters from politicians and legislators related to the initial years of Ethnic Studies; and correspondence between university departments and official correspondence from the Department of Ethnic Studies.

SUBSERIES 5.4: Department Reorganization Proposals, 1994 – 1998

Carton 7 Folders 28–33 Arranged Chronologically

Contains proposals from 1994 to reorganize the Department of Ethnic Studies and introduce a cluster plan. The proposal would have changed the Department of Ethnic Studies (with programs in Chicano Studies, Asian American Studies, and Native American Studies) to a Department of Comparative Ethnic Studies and then grant departmental status to Chicano Studies, Asian-American Studies and Native American Studies. This series also contains a letter from L. Ling-chi Wang (chair of Ethnic Studies) to faculty, staff and students about a proposal to transform Ethnic Studies into American Studies.

SUBSERIES 5.5: Department Reviews, 1972 – 1993

Carton 7 Folders 34 – 40 Arranged Chronologically

Contains notable reports and related materials evaluating the Ethnic Studies Department. Also contains student and faculty responses from the 1992 report.

SUBSERIES 5.6: Meeting Minutes, 1970 – 1978

Carton 8 Folders 1 – 4 Arranged Chronologically

Contains meeting minutes – divided by convening body – Ethnic Studies Coordinators, Executive Council, Faculty and ASUC Senate.

SUBSERIES 5.7: Committees, 1968 – 1992

Carton 8 Folders 5 – 20 Arranged Chronologically

Contains materials related to assorted committees intersecting with the Department of Ethnic Studies in its first two years on campus. In addition to administrative committees, this series includes committees focused on university-community engagement and the Third World Board which contained representatives from all four ethnic groups and was responsible for coordinating community projects through the 1970s. Contains meeting notes, agendas, draft proposals and reports and correspondence from various committees related to or created by the Ethnic Studies Department.

SUBSERIES 5.8: Surveys, 1968 – 1979

Carton 8 Folders 21 – 28 Arranged Chronologically

Contains reports, statistics, election results, surveys related to various studies conducted by the Ethnic Studies Department. Survey topics range from minority student experiences on campus, racial demographics of UC Berkeley students and staff/employees and number of minority candidates standing for election by county in California.

SUBSERIES 5.9: General History, 1969 – 1997

Carton 9 Folder 1 – 2 Arranged Chronologically

Contains materials pertaining to the original goals, needs, organization and historical background re: the struggle for a Third World College and a chronology of important events related to Ethnic Studies on the UC Berkeley campus.

SUBSERIES 5.10: Strikes and Protests, 1963 – 2011

Carton 9 Folders 2 – 18 Arranged Chronologically

Contains flyers, ephemera, news coverage, fact sheets and pamphlets, correspondence and photographs about student protests, mobilizations, and strikes related to the Ethnic Studies Department. There is not only comprehensive coverage of the 1999 twLF strike, including extensive newspaper articles covering the strike, but also materials focusing on student mobilizations

before and after 1999 such as the protests against Chancellor Berdahl's inauguration in 1997, the Walkout in Defense of Affirmative Action in 1998 and the Hunger Strike of 2011. There are also miscellaneous materials about rallies and protests on campus and throughout the third world.

CONTAINER LIST

Container	Folder	Contents	Dates
SERIES 1:	Afro-Am	erican Studies / African-American Studies, 1968 – 2004	
Carton 1	1	Black Studies on Campus – Harvard University	n.d.
Carton 1	2	Black Studies on Campus – Merritt College	n.d.
Carton 1	3	Related Materials – Assorted / Miscellaneous	n.d.
Carton 1	4	African American Student Development	n.d.
Carton 1	5	Special Committee on Visiting Lecturers to Negro Colleges	1964 –
1967			
Carton 1	6	1st Association of Afro-American Educators Conference	1968
Carton 1	7	Establishing Black Studies – Afro-American Student Union	1968
Carton 1	8	Establishing a Dept. of Afro-American Std. – A. Billingsley	1968
Carton 1	9	Establishing a Dept. of Afro-American Std. – Walter Knight	1969
Carton 1	10	Correspondence / Committees / Meetings	1969 —
1972			
Carton 1	11	Organizations – Black Student Union	1972
Carton 1	12	Chancellor Bowler firing of Ron Lewis	1972
Carton 1	13	Appointment of William Banks / Subsequent Protests	1972
Carton 1	14	Curriculum – Schedule of Classes	1972 /
1976			
Carton 1	15	Program Brochure	1975
Carton 1	16	Shirley Graham DuBois Flyer	1975
Carton 1	17	Afro-Americana - A Research Guide to Collections at UCB	1984
Carton 1	18	Curriculum – Major / Minor Requirements	2004
SERIES 2:	Native A	merican Studies, 1970 – 2011	
Carton 1	19	Indian Uprising on Campus	n.d.
Carton 1	20	The Significance of NAS for Colleges and Universities	n.d.
Carton 1	21	Program Brochure – Information and History	n.d.

Carton 122American-Indian Community Development – Proposaln.d.Carton 123Fundamentals of Am. Native-Indian Education – Proposaln.d.Carton 124The Indian Experience – Proposaln.d.Carton 125Alcatraz Occupation Flyersn.d.Carton 126NAS related event announcementsn.d.Carton 127Assorted / Miscellaneousn.d.Carton 128American Indian Ownership of the UC – A Proclamation1969Carton 129Planning Grant Proposal to Develop All Indian University and Cultural Complex on Indian Land, Alcatraz1970Carton 1301st National Conference on Native American Studies1970Carton 131Schedule of Classes1971 –1979197719721977Carton 133Program Summary - Henrietta V. Whitman (Coordinator)1972Carton 135NAS sponsored event announcements1997 –20072007200720072002 –Carton 136Course Announcements – Flyers1998 –20032002 –2002 –2002 –Carton 137American Indian Graduate Program2002 –
Carton 124The Indian Experience – Proposaln.d.Carton 125Alcatraz Occupation Flyersn.d.Carton 126NAS related event announcementsn.d.Carton 126NAS related event announcementsn.d.Carton 127Assorted / Miscellaneousn.d.Carton 128American Indian Ownership of the UC – A Proclamation1969Carton 129Planning Grant Proposal to Develop All Indian University and Cultural Complex on Indian Land, Alcatraz1970Carton 1301st National Conference on Native American Studies1970Carton 131Schedule of Classes1970Carton 132Course Catalogs / Brochures1972Carton 133Program Summary - Henrietta V. Whitman (Coordinator)1972Carton 135NAS sponsored event announcements1997 -2007Zourse Announcements – Flyers1988 -2003Zourse Announcements – Flyers1988 -2003Zourse Indian Graduate Program2002 -
Carton 125Alcatraz Occupation Flyersn.d.Carton 126NAS related event announcementsn.d.Carton 127Assorted / Miscellaneousn.d.Carton 128American Indian Ownership of the UC – A Proclamation1969Carton 129Planning Grant Proposal to Develop All Indian University and Cultural Complex on Indian Land, Alcatraz1970Carton 1301st National Conference on Native American Studies1970Carton 131Schedule of Classes1970Carton 132Course Catalogs / Brochures1971 –19791972Carton 133Program Summary - Henrietta V. Whitman (Coordinator)1972Carton 134Syllabi / Bibliography1976Carton 135NAS sponsored event announcements1997 –20072007Carton 136Course Announcements – Flyers1988 –200337American Indian Graduate Program2002 –
Carton 126NAS related event announcementsn.d.Carton 127Assorted / Miscellaneousn.d.Carton 128American Indian Ownership of the UC – A Proclamation1969Carton 129Planning Grant Proposal to Develop All Indian University and Cultural Complex on Indian Land, Alcatraz1970Carton 1301st National Conference on Native American Studies1970Carton 131Schedule of Classes1970Carton 132Course Catalogs / Brochures1971 –19791972Carton 133Program Summary - Henrietta V. Whitman (Coordinator)1972Carton 134Syllabi / Bibliography1976Carton 135NAS sponsored event announcements1997 –20071998 –20031998 –200337American Indian Graduate Program2002 –
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Carton 128American Indian Ownership of the UC – A Proclamation1969Carton 129Planning Grant Proposal to Develop All Indian University and Cultural Complex on Indian Land, Alcatraz1970Carton 1301st National Conference on Native American Studies1970Carton 131Schedule of Classes1970Carton 132Course Catalogs / Brochures1971 –19791972Carton 133Program Summary - Henrietta V. Whitman (Coordinator)1972Carton 134Syllabi / Bibliography1976Carton 135NAS sponsored event announcements1997 –20071998 –2003Carton 136Course Announcements – Flyers1998 –200320042005200720032003200420052007200320032004200520072003 </td
Carton 129Planning Grant Proposal to Develop All Indian University and Cultural Complex on Indian Land, Alcatraz1970Carton 1301st National Conference on Native American Studies1970Carton 131Schedule of Classes1970Carton 132Course Catalogs / Brochures1971 –19791972Carton 133Program Summary - Henrietta V. Whitman (Coordinator)1972Carton 134Syllabi / Bibliography1976Carton 135NAS sponsored event announcements1997 –20071998 –2003Carton 136Course Announcements – Flyers1998 –20032004200520072003200320172021203120312032203120322032203220332033
Cultural Complex on Indian Land, Alcatraz1970Carton 1301st National Conference on Native American Studies1970Carton 131Schedule of Classes1970Carton 132Course Catalogs / Brochures1971 –1979197019721972Carton 133Program Summary - Henrietta V. Whitman (Coordinator)1972Carton 134Syllabi / Bibliography1976Carton 135NAS sponsored event announcements1997 –2007197019781998 –Carton 136Course Announcements – Flyers1998 –2003137American Indian Graduate Program2002 –
Carton 1301st National Conference on Native American Studies1970Carton 131Schedule of Classes1970Carton 132Course Catalogs / Brochures1971 –1979Carton 133Program Summary - Henrietta V. Whitman (Coordinator)1972Carton 134Syllabi / Bibliography1976Carton 135NAS sponsored event announcements1997 –2007Carton 136Course Announcements – Flyers1998 –200337American Indian Graduate Program2002 –
Carton 131Schedule of Classes1970Carton 132Course Catalogs / Brochures1971 –1979Carton 133Program Summary - Henrietta V. Whitman (Coordinator)1972Carton 134Syllabi / Bibliography1976Carton 135NAS sponsored event announcements1997 –2007Carton 136Course Announcements – Flyers1998 –2003Carton 137American Indian Graduate Program2002 –
Carton 132Course Catalogs / Brochures1971 –197919791972Carton 133Program Summary - Henrietta V. Whitman (Coordinator)1972Carton 134Syllabi / Bibliography1976Carton 135NAS sponsored event announcements1997 –200720071989 –1998 –Carton 136Course Announcements – Flyers1998 –200320032002 –1002 –
1979Carton 133Program Summary - Henrietta V. Whitman (Coordinator)1972Carton 134Syllabi / Bibliography1976Carton 135NAS sponsored event announcements1997 –200720071989 –1998 –Carton 136Course Announcements – Flyers1998 –20032002 –1998 –1998 –
Carton 133Program Summary - Henrietta V. Whitman (Coordinator)1972Carton 134Syllabi / Bibliography1976Carton 135NAS sponsored event announcements1997 -2007Carton 136Course Announcements - Flyers1998 -2003Carton 137American Indian Graduate Program2002 -
Carton 134Syllabi / Bibliography1976Carton 135NAS sponsored event announcements1997 –200720071998 –Carton 136Course Announcements – Flyers1998 –200320032002 –
Carton 135NAS sponsored event announcements1997 –200720071998 –Carton 136Course Announcements – Flyers1998 –200320032002 –
2007 Carton 1 36 Course Announcements – Flyers 1998 – 2003 Carton 1 37 American Indian Graduate Program 2002 –
Carton 136Course Announcements – Flyers1998 –2003Carton 137American Indian Graduate Program2002 –
2003 Carton 1 37 American Indian Graduate Program 2002 –
Carton 1 37 American Indian Graduate Program 2002 –
5
0044
2011
Carton 1 38 Native American Staff Council – Am. Indian Heritage Month 2011
SERIES 3: Chicano Studies, 1971 – 1996
Carton 2 1 History / Chronology n.d.
Carton 2 2 College of Aztlan - Ethnic Studies College Proposal Draft n.d.
Carton 2 3 A Third World College – Dept. Chicano Studies /
A Chicano Center / Extension Program n.d.
Carton 2 4 Chicano Library n.d.

<u>Container</u>	Folder	Contents		Dates
Carton 2	5	Student Recruitment – Notes		n.d.
Carton 2	6	Chicano Studies Course Descriptions		n.d.
Carton 2	7	Event Announcements		n.d.
Carton 2	8	La Raza Medical Association Conference		n.d.
Carton 2	9	Photographs – Events (Music and Dance)		n.d.
Carton 2	10	Protest Photographs – Recruitment		n.d.
Carton 2	11	English for Native Speakers of Spanish		1968
Carton 2	12	Affirmative Action Recruitment Position		1969
Carton 2	13	Mexican American Student Federation Correspondence	е	1969
Carton 2	14	Chicano Studies - Merritt College (Oakland)	1969 -	- 1970
Carton 2	15	Proposed Budget	1969 -	- 1971
Carton 2	16	Academic Information		1970
Carton 2	17	Chicano Caucus		1970
Carton 2	18	Executive Committee of La Raza – Meeting Minutes		1970
Carton 2	19	Proposed Curriculum for an A.B. Major in Chicano Stud	lies	1971
Carton 2	20	Boalt Hall Sit-in / Admissions Cutbacks		1972
Carton 2	21	Faculty – Meeting Agendas / Minutes		1972
Carton 2	22	Miscellaneous Agendas / Meeting Minutes		1972
Carton 2	23	Proposal for ³ / ₄ Reading and Composition Sequence		1972
Carton 2	24	Course List	1972 -	- 1973
Carton 2	25	Chicano Studies Course Brochure (drafts / inserts)	1972 -	- 1974
Carton 2	26	Autonomous La Raza Library Services Association – U	СВ	1973
Carton 2	27	Brochures / Schedule of Classes	1973 -	- 1983
Carton 2	28	Chicano Studies Center – UCLA	1975 /	1978
Carton 2	29	Course Descriptions Fall		1976
Carton 2	30	Mesa Directive – Meeting Minutes		1976
Carton 2	31	Raza Students at Berkeley	1978	– 1979
Carton 2	32	Chicano Studies Program – An Evaluation by its Alumr	ni	1979
Carton 2	33	CS 172: Chicanos and the Educational System	1979 /	1984

<u>Container</u>	Folder	Contents	Dates
Carton 2	34	Nat'l Assoc. of College Admissions Counselors – Budget Cut	5
		1981-	-1982
Carton 2	35	Chispas (MeChA)	1984
Carton 2	36	Chicano / Latino Agenda (Programs / Events / Budget) 1989	– 1990
Carton 2	37	Raza and Chicano / Latino Resource Handbook 1990	– 1992
Carton 2	38	Chicano Studies Undergraduate Association	1992
Carton 2	39	Demystifying Chicano Studies – Meeting	1996
Carton 2	40	Chicano / Latino Academic Student Development Office	1998
Carton 2	41	Course Announcement / Flyers 1998	- 1999
Carton 2	42	Chicana/o Latina/o Commencement Materials 1998	- 2005
SERIES 4:		nerican Studies, 1968 – 2014	
Carton 3	1	Asians Unite No. 1 – No. 2	n.d.
Carton 3	2	Asians Studies Department Handwritten Notes	n.d.
Carton 3	3	B/W Photographs	n.d.
Carton 3	4	B/W Photograph (US/Philippines/Marcos)	n.d.
Carton 3	5	Why a New Asian Studies Dept? (with Wakeman Response)	n.d.
Carton 3	6	Anti-War / Internationalism	n.d.
Carton 3	7	Student Clubs / Asian-Am. Theme House	n.d.
Carton 3	8	Draft Asian Studies Proposal / Asian Creative Workshop	n.d.
Carton 3	9	Seminar on 3rd World Studies in Primary/Secondary Schools	n.d.
Carton 3	10	Asian American Mental Health	n.d.
Carton 3	11	Critical Analysis of Ideas of the University	n.d.
Carton 3	12	Asian Studies Bibliographies	n.d.
Carton 3	13	Analysis and Research in the Asian American Community	n.d.
Carton 3	14	AS 103B Filipino American Readings	n.d.
Carton 3	15	Racism and Imperialism: The American Thrust Towards Asia	n.d.
Carton 3	16	Misc. Course Materials	n.d.
Carton 3	17	Asian American Course Syllabi (USC / Cal State LA)	n.d.

<u>Container</u>	Folder	Contents	Dates
Carton 3	18	Asian Studies Program	1968
Carton 3	19	Potential Funding Sources – Foundations 1968	- 1969
Carton 3	20	Asian Studies 100x: The Asian Experience in America 1968	- 1969
Carton 3	21	Yellow Identity Symposium	1969
Carton 3	22	Asian-American Studies Conference	1969
Carton 3	23	Philosophy: Asia and American and Asian-Americans	1969
Carton 3	24	Paul Wong Resignation Letter	1969
Carton 3	25	Some Bureaucratic Shit – For Asian Studies Division	1969
Carton 3	26	Asian Studies Mass Meeting Notes – August 4th	1969
Carton 3	27	A Proposal for the Dept of Asian Studies – L. Ling-chi Wang	1969
Carton 3	28	Asian Studies Proposal Daft – Floyd Huen	1969
Carton 3	29	Orientals in America – Tentative Course Outline	1969
Carton 3	30	Course Proposal – The Chinese Communities	1969
Carton 3	31	Asian Studies Department Committee Meeting	1969
Carton 3	32	Soc 191v: Asian American Communities	1969
Carton 3	33	Asian American Studies – UC Davis	1969
Carton 3	34	Course Proposal for Urban Media Workshop 1969	– 1970
Carton 3	35	Asian Studies 130: Oakland Chinatown Section 1969	– 1970
Carton 3	36	Course Proposal: Comparative Asian Student Movements 1969 – 1970	
Carton 3	37	Asian Studies Structure and Decision Making 1969	– 1970
Carton 3	38	Proposal for Asian Studies 1969	– 1970
Carton 3	39	Concept and Program Overview 1969	– 1970
Carton 3	40	Research Division of Asian Studies – Dept of Ethnic Studies	
		1969 – 1970	
Carton 3	41	Asian Studies Committee By-Laws 1969	– 1970
Carton 3	42	Asian Studies Course: Asian American Communities 1969	– 1970
Carton 3	43	Asian Studies Division Correspondence 1969	– 1973
Carton 3	44	Course Lists 1969	– 1988
Carton 3	45	AS 190: Vietnam Seminar	1970

<u>Container</u>	Folder	Contents	Dates
Carton 3	46	List of National Asian American Studies Programs	1970?
Carton 3	47	Announcement Flyers	1971 – 2011
Carton 4	1	Asian Community Center (San Francisco) Newsletter	1970 – 1971
Carton 4	2	AAS: A Summary of Efforts, Growth and Current Progr	ams
		1970 – 1971	
Carton 4	3	The Vietnam War / Internationalism	1970 – 1971
Carton 4	4	Third World News (UC Davis)	1970 – 1971
Carton 4	5	Community of Concerned Asian Scholars (CCAS)	1970 – 1971
Carton 4	6	Asian American Studies – UCLA	1970 – 1971
Carton 4	7	Course Brochures	1970 – 1983
Carton 4	8	Asian American Studies Program – San Jose State Co	llege 1971
Carton 4	9	Proposal: College-Level Course in Reading and Comp	osition 1971
Carton 4	10	Misc. Course Materials	1971
Carton 4	11	Combat Ethnic Weapons Vol. 1-1	1971
Carton 4	12	Asian Health Caucus Flyer	1971
Carton 4	13	Hong Kong, Migration and Chinese Community Bibliog	raphy 1971
Carton 4	14	The State of the Field of Asian American Studies Confe	erence 1971
Carton 4	15	An Open Letter to Asian Studies People – The Filipino	Caucus 1971
Carton 4	16	People's Community News Vol. 1-1	1971
Carton 4	17	Asian Studies, Past and Future	1971
Carton 4	18	Asian Studies Proposals	1971
Carton 4	19	Assorted Meeting Minutes	1971
Carton 4	20	Asian Studies Course Workgroups Correspondence	1971 – 1972
Carton 4	21	Asian Studies Newsletter	1971 – 1972
Carton 4	22	Staff / Faculty / Operations Correspondence	1971 – 1972
Carton 4	23	Asian Studies Staff Correspondence	1972
Carton 4	24	The Takeover by the '8'	1972
Carton 4	25	Asian American Review (Asian Studies – Ethnic Studie	es Dept) 1972
Carton 4	26	State of the Division	1972
Carton 4	27	Position Paper: Asian American Law Studies Associati	on 1972

<u>Container</u>	Folder	Contents	Dates
Carton 4	28	Calendar and Current Events	1972
Carton 4	29	Asian Studies Meeting Notes / Minutes	1972
Carton 4	30	Asian Studies Division – Statement of Policy re: Strike	1972
Carton 4	31	Social Work in Asian American Communities	1972
Carton 4	32	Asian American Review Correspondence and Submiss	sions
			1972 – 1977
Carton 4	33	News Clippings	1972 – 1973
Carton 4	34	History of the Japanese in America Syllabus	1972 – 1973
Carton 4	35	Contemporary Asian Studies: Philosophy and Curricul	um
			1972 – 1973
Carton 4	36	Asian Studies – History / Origins	1972 – 1975
Carton 5	1	Asian Pride Program – Cal State Los Angeles	1973?
Carton 5	2	Filipinos in America (Applied Behavioral Sciences)	1973
Carton 5	3	AAS 134: Asian American Communities and Health	1973
Carton 5	4	ASS 183: Comparative Analysis of Racism in America	1973
Carton 5	5	AAS 135: Social Service and Asian Am. Communities	1973
Carton 5	5a	Asian Studies Working Paper	1974
Carton 5	6	Petition in Support of Asian Studies Budget	1973
Carton 5	7	Position Paper on School of Third World Studies at CC	CNY 1974
Carton 5	8	Oppose Move to Letters and Sciences	1974
Carton 5	9	Asian American Studies Budget Proposal	1974 – 1975
Carton 5	10	AAS 121A: Chinese American History Vol. 1 (Ling-Chi	Wang) 1975
Carton 5	11	Summer Workshop – Meeting 1	1975
Carton 5	12	Summer Workshop – Meeting 2	1975
Carton 5	13	Summer Workshop – Meeting Notes	1975
Carton 5	14	Summer Workshop – Questionnaire	1975
Carton 5	15	Summer Workshop – Registration and Session Agend	as 1975
Carton 5	16	Internationalism Flyers	1975
Carton 5	17	AAS 150: Asian American Family and Personality	1975 / 1977
Carton 5	18	Library Correspondence	1975 – 1977

<u>Container</u>	Folder	Contents	Dates
Carton 5	19	Asian American Review (Asian Studies – Ethnic Studies Dept	.) 1976
Carton 5	20	Draft Proposal for Departmental Status	1976
Carton 5	21	Japanese American Concentration Camps	1976
Carton 5	22	Asian American Studies 160 Reading List	1976
Carton 5	23	Colonialism, Neo-Colonialism, and Internal Colonialism	1976
Carton 5	24	Comparative History of the Asian American Experience	1976
Carton 5	25	AAS 145: Social Institutions and Asian Americans	1976
Carton 5	26	AAS 122: Japanese American History	1976
Carton 5	27	AAS 6C: Third World Literature	1976
Carton 5	28	AAS 20A: Introduction to the Asian American Experience	1976
Carton 5	29	AAS 6A: Reading and Composition	1976
Carton 5	30	AAS – Language Courses and Workgroups 1976	– 1977
Carton 5	31	20th Century Asian Political Thought 1976	– 1977
Carton 5	32	Minutes – Staff Meetings 1976	– 1977
Carton 5	33	The Chinese Revolution and the Asian American Experience	1977
Carton 5	34	AAS 121B: Chinatowns	1977
Carton 5	35	Housing and Community Development in Asian Communities	1977
Carton 5	36	AAS 151: Asian Women in America	1977
Carton 5	37	University of California Santa Cruz (Asian/Ethnic Studies)197	7 – 1978
Carton 5	38	Asian American Report 1977	– 1988
Carton 5	39	Asian American Studies Colloquium Series Press Release	1979
Carton 5	40	Correspondence re: Tea Leaves	1988
Carton 5	41	Conference Programs	2001
Carton 5	42	Correspondence re: Departmentalization	2003
Carton 5	43	Veritaas Newsletter 2011,	2014
Carton 5	44	AAADS 50th Anniversary Fundraising Campaign	2014

SUBSERIES 4.1: Asian Studies Committees, n.d. – 1977

Carton 6	1	Faculty Search Committee	n.d.
Carton 6	2	Proposal: Course of Study Leading to BA	n.d.

<u>Container</u>	Folder	Contents	Dates
Carton 6	3	Asian Studies BA miscellaneous	n.d.
Carton 6	4	Budget Committee	1970
Carton 6	5	Asian Studies Council	1970
Carton 6	6	Representative Assembly	1971
Carton 6	7	Personnel Committee	1971 – 1973
Carton 6	8	Campus / Community Council	1971 – 1972
Carton 6	9	Political Education Committee	1972
Carton 6	10	Budget Committee	1972
Carton 6	11	Restructure Committee	1972
Carton 6	12	Cantonese Workgroup	1972
Carton 6	13	Curriculum Committee	1972
Carton 6	14	Campus Support Committee	1973
Carton 6	15	Curriculum Committee I	1973 – 1974
Carton 6	16	Curriculum Committee II	1973 – 1974
Carton 6	17	Proposal for BA Degree Program	1974
Carton 6	18	Curriculum Committee III	1974 – 1975
Carton 6	19	Asian Admissions to Boalt Hall	1975 – 1976
Carton 6	20	Library sub-committee	1975 – 1976
Carton 6	21	Research and Development Committee	1976 – 1977
Carton 6	22	Research and Development Meeting Committee Minute	es 1976 – 1977
Carton 6	23	Steering Committee	1976 – 1977
Carton 6	24	Steering Committee Meeting Minutes	1976 – 1977
Carton 6	25	Personnel Committee	1976 – 1977
Carton 6	26	Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes	1976 – 1977
Carton 6	27	Political Education Meeting Minutes	1976 – 1977
Carton 6	28	Curriculum Committee IV	1976 – 1977
Carton 6	29	Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes	1976 – 1977
Carton 6	30	Community Relations Committee	1976 – 1977
Carton 6	31	Political Education Staff Questionnaires	1977
Carton 6	32	Ad hoc Committee	1977

<u>Container</u>	Folder	Contents	Dates
SERIES 5:	Departm	ent of Ethnic Studies UC Berkeley, 1968 – 2012	
SUBS	SERIES 5.1	: News-clippings, 1969 – 2012	
Carton 7	1	News Clippings I 1969	9 – 1986
Carton 7	2	News Clippings II 1987	7 – 2012
SUBS	SERIES 5.2	:: Proposals, 1969 – 1981	
Carton 7	3	Establishing a Third World College (introduction - draft)	n.d.
Carton 7	4	Third College Academic Plan	n.d.
Carton 7	5	Asian Studies Proposal	n.d.
Carton 7	6	Significance of Native Am Stds for Colleges and Universities	n.d.
Carton 7	7	A Third World College - to include a Dept of Chicano Studies	s n.d.
Carton 7	8	Establishing Black Studies (Afro American Student Union)	1968
Carton 7	9	College of Ethnic Studies – Program and Structure	1969
Carton 7	10	Proposal for a TWC (w/comments)	1969
Carton 7	11	Synopsis - Establishment of the College of TWS	1974
Carton 7	12	Establishment of the College of TWS – Part 1	1974
Carton 7	13	Establishment of the College of TWS – Part 2	
		TWS Curriculum and Degree Granting Programs 197	74 – 1981
Carton 7	14	Establishment of the College of TWS - Part 3	
		Current Status of Asian American Studies	
Carton 7	15	Establishment of the College of TWS – Part 4	
		Chicano Studies Developmental Plan	
Carton 7	16	Establishment of the College of TWS – Part 5	
		Native American Studies Developmental Plan1975	5 –1981
SUBSE	ERIES 5.3:	Correspondence, 1969 – 1993	
Carton 7	17	Office of the Chancellor: to Deans, Directors, Dept Chairmer	า
		1968	3 – 1970
Carton 7	18	Chancellor Heyns Letter re: Twlf Strike	1969
Carton 7	19	Correspondence to Faculty and Staff 19	69 – 1993

<u>Container</u>	Folder	Contents	Dates			
Carton 7	20	Student Correspondence	1969 – 1970			
Carton 7	21	Correspondence between UC Departments	1969 – 1977			
Carton 7	22	Politicians and Legislators	1969 – 1972			
Carton 7	23	Statements by Chancellor Roger Heyns	1970			
Carton 7	24	University Correspondence re: Ethnic Studies	1970			
Carton 7	25	Office of the Chancellor re: Ethnic Studies 19	971, 1976, 1993			
Carton 7	26	General	1981 – 2009			
Carton 7	27	Ethnic Studies Dept. Correspondence	1970 – 1977			
SUBS	SERIES 5.4	: Ethnic Studies Department Reorganization, 1994 –	1998			
Carton 7	28	Reorganization and Introduction of the Cluster Plan	1994			
Carton 7	29	Proposal for Departmental Status for AAS Program	1994			
Carton 7	30	Department of Chicano Studies	1994			
Carton 7	31	Native American Studies	1994			
Carton 7	32	Response to Proposed Reorganization	1994			
Carton 7	33	Proposal to Transform Ethnic Studies into American S	tudies 1998			
SUBS	SERIES 5.5	: External Departmental Reviews, 1972 – 1993				
Carton 7	34	Corr.re: Ad Hoc Review Committee of Ethnic Studies	1972			
Carton 7	35	Collins Report	1973			
Carton 7	36	Info re: Budget and Ethnic Studies Review	1973			
Carton 7	37	Brinner Report	1980			
Carton 7	38	Kirkpatrick – Stack Report	1992			
Carton 7	39	For the Advancement of Ethnic Studies	1993			
Carton 7	40	Responses to Ethnic Studies Reviews	1993			
SUBSERIES 5.6: Meeting Minutes, 1970 – 1978						
Carton 8	1	Ethnic Studies Coordinator's Meetings	1970 – 1971			
Carton 8	2	Executive Council Meetings	1971 – 1972			
Carton 8	3	AUSC Senate	1976 – 1978			
Carton 8	4	Faculty Meetings	1978 – 2011			

<u>Container</u>	Folder	Contents	Dates					
SUBSERIES 5.7: Committees 1968 – 1992								
Carton 8	5	University/Community Committee	1968					
Carton 8	6	Ethnic Studies Committee	1968					
Carton 8	7	Advisory Committee on Proposed Dept of Ethnic Studies	1969					
Carton 8	8	Dean's Committee on Ethnic Studies	1969					
Carton 8	9	Chancellor's Committee on Ethnic Studies	1969					
Carton 8	10	Third World Board 19	969 – 1974					
Carton 8	11	Ad-hoc Committee to Review Ethnic Studies 19	972 – 1973					
Carton 8	12	EOP Advisory Committee (Chicano Readiness Program)	1972					
Carton 8	13	Ethnic Studies Committee 19	973 – 1974					
Carton 8	14	Ethnic Studies Committee (II)	1974					
Carton 8	15	Executive Committee 19	976 – 1978					
Carton 8	16	Curriculum Committee	1977					
Carton 8	17	Fee Committee	1978					
Carton 8	18	Fee Committee (II) 19	975 – 1977					
Carton 8	19	Ethnic Studies Action Committee	1992					
Carton 8	20	Ad Hoc Committee on Dept. Ethnic Studies Administrative	9					
		Services and Staffing	n.d.					

SUBSERIES 5.8: Surveys, 1968 – 1979

Carton 8	21	EOP/UCB Study on Latino Students	1968
Carton 8	22	Ethnic Surveys – Assorted 1968	– 1979
Carton 8	23	Employment Titles by ethnicity – UC Berkeley	1969
Carton 8	24	Minority Candidates by County/Voting Statistics	1970
Carton 8	25	Minority Candidates by County	1970
Carton 8	26	Voting Statistics	1970
Carton 8	27	Immigration Schedules Communities / Average House Values	1971
Carton 8	28	Ethnic Enrollment Survey	1972

<u>Container</u>	Folder	Contents	Dates				
SUBSERIES 5.9: General History, 1969 – 1997							
Carton 9	1	Third World Studies at Berkeley	1969 – 1970				
Carton 9	2	Chronology of Ethnic Studies at UCB (Ling-chi Wang)	1997				
SUBSERIES 5.10: Strikes and Protests, 1963 – 2011							
Carton 9	3	Assorted Protest / Rally Flyers	n.d.				
Carton 9	4	Protests – Third World	1963 – 1975				
Carton 9	5	Protest Photographs – unknown	1970, 1977				
Carton 9	6	Protest Photographs – Michael Hill	1974 – 1977				
Carton 9	7	Strike for Diversity UCB April 19, 20	1990				
Carton 9	8	Demands for the Future of Ethnic Studies	1993				
Carton 9	9	Protest Chancellor Robert M. Berdahl Inauguration	1998				
Carton 9	10	Walkout October 21-22	1998				
Carton 9	11	Strike in Support of Ethnic Studies (I)	1999				
Carton 9	12	Strike in Support of Ethnic Studies (II) – News clippings	s 1999				
Carton 9	13	News clippings – Student Protests (I)	1999				
Carton 9	14	News clippings – Student Protests (II)	1999				
Carton 9	15	Third World Strike - Commemorations	1999, 2009				
Carton 9	16	Report of the Committee to Develop a Faculty Renewa	l Plan 2000				
Carton 9	17	Strike / Day of Action to Defend Public Education	2002				
Carton 9	18	Hunger Strike	2011				