Ethnic studies courses provide students many benefits, from social-emotional learning to college, career and community readiness. Stanford researchers found that a high school ethnic studies program in San Francisco boosted the GPA and attendance of students at risk of being pushed out of school (Dee & Penner, 2017; Bonilla, Dee & Penner, 2021).

Ethnic studies courses create a learning environment where both students and teachers co-construct knowledge. They cultivate students’ sense of agency and collective power.

Ethnic studies courses are designed to benefit all students. Culturally sustaining curriculum has a positive impact on students’ academic and community engagement. Ethnic studies courses help students find value in their own cultural identity while appreciating differences in others’. (Johnson, 2021; Gómez, 2021)

Ethnic studies shows students how institutions and policies have shaped society, and the way collective groups continue responding to them. Ethnic studies teaching is grounded in the belief that education is a tool for social, economic, and political change, and liberation; as such, teaching these courses requires a unique level of awareness.

When co-constructed with families and community organizations, ethnic studies promotes culturally sustaining content that supports students in transforming society (Craven, 2019; Tintiangco Cubales, et al., 2015; Valenzuela, 2016).

Learn more https://idra.news/EthnicStudies