Cluster Course Addition
(course already approved for UNST)

All changes to Clusters must be approved by PSU’s Senate Curriculum Committee.

Add to Community Studies

1. COURSE TITLE AND NUMBER.

EC 419U: Economics of Race and Ethnicity

AVAILABILITY
With what regularity has been / will be the class offered?

Once every two years at a minimum.

2. GENERAL EDUCATION GOALS.

A. OTHER CLUSTERS
List other clusters for which it has been approved.

American Studies

B. SUITABILITY
Discuss the place of this particular class within the cluster.

Racial division and disparities are an ongoing focus of investigations into the nature of communities in the United States, and increasingly elsewhere.

Racial divisions are often suggested to be the reason that the U.S. lacks a strong labor movement, labor party and effective social programs. Arguments have been and continue to be fierce over the extent to which different communities--defined by race or ethnicity--are differently situated economically because of their own culture, their historical access to economic resources or race discrimination. Policies to ameliorate racial disparities represent a community response, reflective of a community understanding of the situation.
This class presents several perspectives that attempt to account for racial disparities in order to assist students in learning how to think critically and scientifically about how to explain racial differences in economic outcomes. Understanding the supports of these various perspectives—and the pertinent historical and statistical evidence—help students better understand the wider community in which they live.

C. CLUSTER INDIVIDUALITY
Discuss ongoing, distinct individuality of your cluster, after adding course from another cluster.

The course adds an economic perspective on the composition of the community. It will help students understand the sources of racial/ethnic disparities, and policies that might effectively address them. The course will strengthen the cluster’s ability to address issues of diversity.

COURSE APPROVED FOR CLUSTER INCLUSION BY

DEPARTMENT CHAIR(S): ___________________________ DATE: 10-5-01

CLUSTER COORDINATOR: _________________________ DATE: 10-8-01

CHAIR, CLUSTER COORDINATORS: ___________________________ DATE: __________.

CHAIR, UNST COMMITTEE: ___________________________ DATE: __________.