Black Education Program

Eastern Washington University. Africana Studies Program

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Eastern Washington University

Black Education Program

Cheney, Washington 99004
"The function of the university is not simply to teach bread-winning, or to furnish teachers for the public schools or to be a center of polite society: it is above all, to be the organ of the fine adjustment between real life and the growing knowledge of life, an adjustment which forms the secret of civilization."

W.E.B. DuBois

**Overview**

Institutionalized in September, 1972 as a small academic unit under the Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Black Education Program (BEP) has since developed into a regular academic and student service program in the School of Human Learning and Development. The BEP at Eastern is now one of the few academic programs in the continental United States that offers and combines a course of study leading to a minor in Black Studies with support services designed to ensure the retention and success of Black students in all areas of their college work and social life at the university. The faculty and staff of the Black Education Program are dedicated to providing students with the best instruction and guidance toward their career goals and future aspirations. We are aware that the task of bringing about needed changes in our society rests with those who are intellectually prepared. Consequently, we are committed to continue striving for academic excellence, social responsibility and personal survival in the 1980s and the 1990s.

A description of the BEP support services and the Black Studies Curriculum follows:

**Location**

Eastern Washington University is located 17 miles from Spokane, a metropolitan area with a sizable Black population. There is an inexpensive bus service between downtown Spokane and the University campus which operates throughout the day and evening.

The Black Education Program maintains a relationship with several Black community organizations in Spokane and adjacent communities. Student referrals are made as needed.

- Tutorial Services
- Counseling
- Recruiting/Admissions
- Black Studies
Support Services

Tutorial Program

The Black Education Program provides tutorial services in almost all academic areas for Black students enrolled at Eastern Washington University. The tutorial staff is composed of tutorial specialists and graduate students who, for the most part, have had previous teaching and tutoring experience. Undergraduate students, recommended by their department chairpersons, are also employed as tutors. Black students experiencing academic difficulties are always encouraged to seek tutorial referral through the BEP. The BEP has a long-standing and cooperative relationship with the Learning Skills Center and the Math Lab.

Under the direction of the BEP counselor, the BEP coordinator of Tutorial Services periodically sponsors in-service training sessions for all BEP tutors. The training sessions are designed to promote greater understanding of the skills/methods of tutoring and understanding learning styles and attitudes in general of Black students on a predominantly white university campus. The primary responsibility of tutors is to assist Black students with academic courses in which they are experiencing difficulty. However, students who do average work and desire to do better also seek tutorial assistance.

Counseling Services

The Black Education Program counseling service is designed to provide academic, personal, and career counseling for Black students. Recognizing the importance of meeting the special needs of Black students on a predominantly white university campus, the BEP employs a full-time, professionally trained Black counselor who is sensitive to the particular needs of Black students. The Program's service is in addition to those offered by the University, but has the benefit of a more continuous relationship between the student and the Program. The BEP Counseling office maintains excellent communication with the Office of General Advising, Student Employment Office, and the Career Planning and Placement office to keep abreast of all developments in academic requirements and job opportunities. In addition, the BEP maintains a relationship with several Spokane community programs and agencies. Through such associations, the Counseling office is able to help students find part-time work during the school year and the summer.

Recruitment and Admissions

Recruitment and Admissions

The Black Education Program has a recruitment component, designed to assist the University's Admission office in the recruitment and admission of Black students into Eastern Washington University. The BEP Recruitment office assists Black students who elect to come to Eastern at every stage in the admission process, including financial aid. The recruiter keeps all interested students fully informed about scholarships, grants, loans and/or work-study programs.

Students with a grade-point average of at least 2.5 are recruited from high schools. Students transferring from community colleges and four-year institutions should have a GPA of at least 2.0. Students with lower GPAs are considered upon the recommendation of counselors and the Black Education Program's Director in conjunction with the Admissions Office.

For additional information and details on admission procedures, financial aid, etc. please contact:

Marilyn Kershaw
BEP Counselor
Eastern Washington University
Cheney, WA 99004
Tel (509) 359-6151
359-2205
458-6276—from Spokane

The BEP Counselor discusses academic progress with student.
Introduction to Black Literature, 4 credit hours. (Crosslisted Eng 280).
Survey of American Black Literature from colonial times to the 20th Century. Various genres, chiefly fiction and poetry, will be studied.

Special Studies in Black Studies, 1-5 credit hours.
Studies will vary according to faculty and student interest. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing.

Harlem Renaissance, 5 credit hours.
A selective and objective study of the cultural, ideological, and political contributions of Blacks during the period, 1918-1929.

Survey of Black Education, 5 credit hours.
An overview of the development and nature of education for Black Americans. Particular attention is given to the role of private and public agencies in the evolution of Black Education. Emphasis is placed on instructional strategies and curriculum designs suitable for teaching the Black experience.

African History, 5 credit hours. (Crosslisted His 315).
A survey of African history from prehistory to the present. Emphasis will be directed toward earlier African civilizations, extensive contact with the outside world, and the formation of African nations.

Black American Family, 5 credit hours.
Black American family as a social system influenced by the institutions of the larger American society.

Black Political Awareness, 5 credit hours.
The issues of Black political power and awareness as they relate to several studies of macro and micro institutional racism with alternatives for radical change.

American Literature of Ethnic Minorities, 5 credit hours. (Crosslisted Eng 380).
Asian-American, Latin-American, Afro-American, Indian-American and other forgotten pages of ethnic minority literatures.

Contemporary American Black Literature, 4 credit hours. (Crosslisted Eng 381).
Major American Black literature of the 20th Century: fiction, poetry, essay, autobiography, and drama.

Special Studies in Black Studies, 1-5 credit hours.
Studies will vary according to faculty and student interest. Prerequisite: Junior standing.

Economics of Poverty and Economic Security Programs, 5 credit hours. (Crosslisted Eco 424).
Causes of poverty and an evaluation of the possible remedies, especially current and proposed programs.

Black Studies Workshop, 1-5 credit hours.
Workshops are held to examine issues in this area.

Seminar, 1-5 credit hours.

Directed Study in Black Studies, 1-5 credit hours.
Directed study and research projects will vary according to faculty and student interest. Prerequisite: Senior or graduate standing.

Black Studies
Minor in Black Studies
The BEP offers a minor in Black Studies. A minor in Black Studies requires a choice of 20 credits in Black Studies of which 10 must be upper level. Students are advised to consult the Program Director or the BEP Counselor about the selection of courses for the minor.

The Black Education Program Library
The Black Education Program Library houses a number of books, current periodicals and newspapers related to the Black experience in Africa, the Americans and other areas of the world. Materials in the collection are available for circulation and reference services are provided.

For further information:
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