

CHICANA AND CHICANO STUDIES

Formerly Mexican American Studies

SJSU SAN JOSÉ STATE
UNIVERSITY

"I Exist" by Adriana Arriaga (CSS Minor, Class of 2017)

What is Chicana and Chicano Studies (CCS)?

CCS (formerly known as Mexican American Studies - MAS) prepares students to critically examine and actively address contemporary issues resulting from race, class, and gender intersections in Chicax/Latinx and other communities. We serve SJSU students and local communities through interdisciplinary courses based on principles of social justice. CCS students learn about Chicax history, cultures, arts, intellectual traditions, and much more. CCS faculty are experienced educators dedicated to student success and view CCS not just as theory, but as practice. Addressing the racial and ethnic realities of our students and communities since 1969, CCS is a vital part of SJSU.



What can I do with a CCS Degree?

CCS courses sharpen all the skills that employers in every field look for in outstanding job applicants: Critical thinking, problem-solving ability, effective communication, and intercultural awareness. Many of our graduates go on to pursue Master's and Doctoral degrees in programs such as Education, History, Social Work, and Feminist Studies, becoming the next generation of CCS educators and community leaders. CCS students want to create positive social change: They don't expect to passively receive knowledge—they intend to create it and share it!

How can I make CCS part of my academic journey?

CCS provides you the flexibility to graduate in a timely manner and many of our courses help you fulfill lower-division GE requirements, as well as upper-division Area S.

Majoring in CCS requires 40 units (14 courses) and is designed to make it easy for you to double-major. We offer three areas of emphasis: *Cultural and Creative Expression, Institutions and Community Engagement, and Transnationalism and Global Relations*. These emphases allow you to focus your training and prepare for specific careers and graduate school programs. Additional electives help you gain a broad understanding of the issues that impact Chicax and Latinx communities.

Minoring in CCS requires only 18 units (6 courses) and complements any field of study by giving you an additional area of expertise. Up to three lower-division courses can count towards the CCS Minor--*so if you have taken MAS 10A/B and 30 or 74 as part of your lower-division requirements, you are already halfway to a minor!*