This course analyzes immigration and multiculturalism in the United States by combining lectures with readings, guest speakers, and field trips. It emphasizes the metropolitan area of Miami and South Florida as a laboratories for studying immigration as it has been affected by ethnic and racial change since 1960.

The course will focus on eight ethnic groups in the United States that will illustrate and illuminate the landscape of America’s cultural diversity. These groups are: Native Americans, African Americans, Asian Americans, Irish Americans, Jewish Americans, Mexican Americans, Muslim Americans, and Latino Americans (in addition to Mexican Americans). Guest speakers will include an immigration judge, an editor of a local West Indian Newspaper, and a world-famous demographer who studies immigration. Two field trips will be conducted. One will be a tour of ethnic neighborhoods in Miami and the second will be visit to an immigrant labor camp in Florida City.

Each student will select one ethnic or racial group to study and report on to the class. They will be taught how to use U.S. Census data to study and map their group. These presentations will emphasize where in the U.S. their group is concentrated, why they concentrated there, and what has been the affect of their group living there.