

## Multicultural Student Services

*Ms. Mary Grace Almandrez, Assistant Dean for Multicultural Student Services*

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*Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.*

The Office of Multicultural Student Services (MCSS) engages the multiple identities of all students, empowers leaders to be change agents for social justice, and builds alliances with faculty, staff and students to create a community that honors and values diversity.

### Signature Programs

- **Culturally Focused Clubs Council (CFCC):** MCSS advises this representative group of student leaders from various culturally-based clubs and organizations on campus. CFCC promotes collaboration and relationship-building amongst these groups and provides a forum for students to have a voice regarding issues facing them on and off campus.
- **Esther Madriz Diversity Scholars (EMDS):** Sophomores have the opportunity to participate in a year-long living-learning community that explores topics of identity, leadership development, and community activism through sociology courses, service-learning experiences, and a residential seminar series.
- **Hip Hop & Activism Conference:** This free day-long conference chronicles the journey of hip hop, diving into the questions of ownership, identity, and activists' role in shaping its future direction.
- **Recognition Ceremonies:** MCSS honors graduating seniors and graduate students through annual celebrations: Asian Pacific Islander Graduation, Latino Recognition Ceremony, Lavender Graduation, and *Vizuri Kabisa* Unity Celebration.
- **Social Justice Educators Program (SJEP):** This spring semester experiential program provides students with the opportunity to increase their knowledge and skills as dialogue facilitators while addressing issues of social identity, group dynamics and intercultural communication.
- **Storytelling to Engage Multiculturalism (StEM):** Students in this fall semester program utilize storytelling and the arts as media to understand the ways in which they experience the world similarly or differently across difference. The capstone event is the StEM Showcase, where participants highlight their art, poetry, short stories, and monologues.