

Letter to the Editor:

Dear Sir,

The April 4 edition featured an article, "Minority Students Feel Alienated", in which a student was quoted as saying: "there isn't any ethnic education offered in any history class for the fall semester." We believe that some clarification is needed.

All history classes at I.U. East, regardless of the time or topic covered, contain "ethnic education". The study of history includes all human activity, not just one race, religion, or nationality. For example: H108 (Perspectives on the World) studies a multitude of cultural and religious subjects from Asia, the Middle East

and Africa; H232 (20th Century World) places specific emphasis on problems of imperialism and national identity in South America, Africa and Asia; B361 (Europe in the 20th Century), among other things, contains a major unit on the Jewish Holocaust; H105 and H106 (American History) include Native-Americans, African-Americans and Japanese-Americans. Even the supposedly provincial A371 (Indiana History) devotes substantial time to Native Americans and African-Americans.

This current academic year we have been pleased to offer two classes which are explicitly "ethnic" in con-

tent: African-American History and Colonial Latin America. And we intend to offer similar classes in the future when staff and finances are available. We must keep in mind, however, that I.U. East does not offer a major in history and there are only two resident historians. Therefore, we can schedule only a limited number of classes. Many of our history classes support other majors and are often required by them. Hence, they must be repeated frequently.

The I.U. East Bulletin offers a better indication of course content than do listings in the schedule of classes; it also reveals the richness

and variety of the human condition covered therein. Please don't assume that a class must bear a label that designates one group in order to contain "ethnic" material. All humans belong to some ethnic group; and all history classes study the pluralism that exists.

Thank you for allowing this time for clarification.

Sincerely,

Eleanor Turk

George Blakey

Professors of History