

Chicano
MEANS
POWER



MEXICAN AMERICAN STUDIES

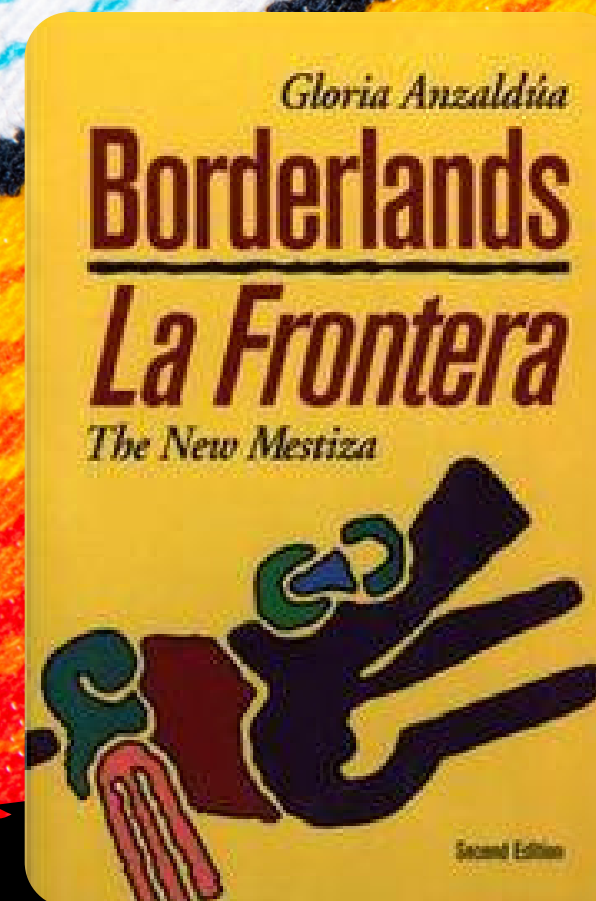
The University of Texas
Rio Grande Valley™

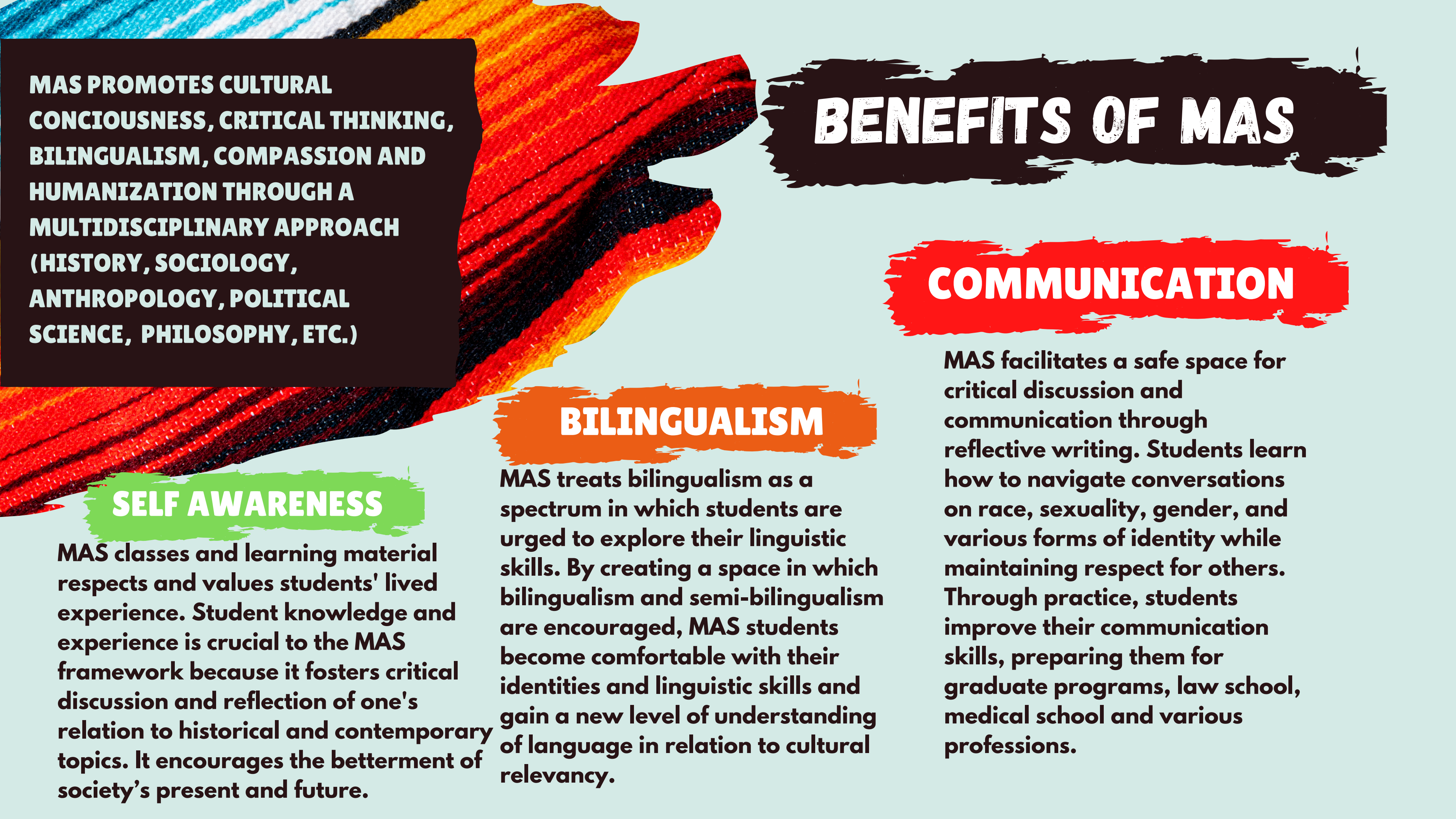
WHAT IS MAS?

Mexican American Studies (MAS) is a social justice-oriented program that prepares students to work, serve and research in their communities to address and navigate the complex socio-historical, political, cultural, economic and educational realities of Mexican origin/Chicanx/Latinx communities. MAS is a transdisciplinary program that prepares students to be leaders and advocates in their communities and to use the tools of their professions to transform communities to promote a just society.

Why Study MAS? Next slide!

WE SERVE
WHITE'S *only*
NO
SPANISH or MEXICAN





**MAS PROMOTES CULTURAL
CONCIOUSNESS, CRITICAL THINKING,
BILINGUALISM, COMPASSION AND
HUMANIZATION THROUGH A
MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH
(HISTORY, SOCIOLOGY,
ANTHROPOLOGY, POLITICAL
SCIENCE, PHILOSOPHY, ETC.)**

SELF AWARENESS

MAS classes and learning material respects and values students' lived experience. Student knowledge and experience is crucial to the MAS framework because it fosters critical discussion and reflection of one's relation to historical and contemporary topics. It encourages the betterment of society's present and future.

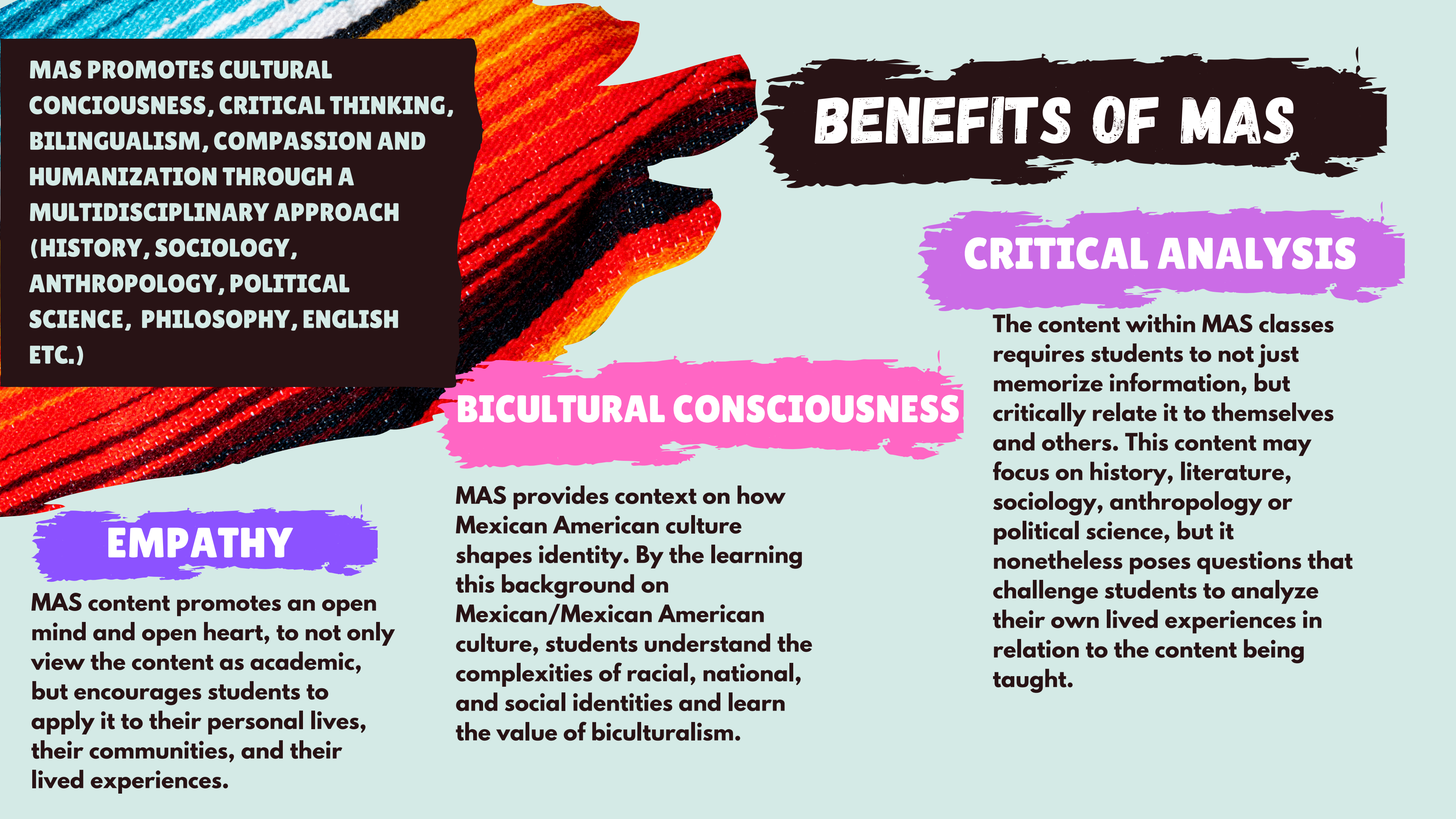
BILINGUALISM

MAS treats bilingualism as a spectrum in which students are urged to explore their linguistic skills. By creating a space in which bilingualism and semi-bilingualism are encouraged, MAS students become comfortable with their identities and linguistic skills and gain a new level of understanding of language in relation to cultural relevancy.

BENEFITS OF MAS

COMMUNICATION

MAS facilitates a safe space for critical discussion and communication through reflective writing. Students learn how to navigate conversations on race, sexuality, gender, and various forms of identity while maintaining respect for others. Through practice, students improve their communication skills, preparing them for graduate programs, law school, medical school and various professions.



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BENEFITS OF MAS

CRITICAL ANALYSIS

The content within MAS classes requires students to not just memorize information, but critically relate it to themselves and others. This content may focus on history, literature, sociology, anthropology or political science, but it nonetheless poses questions that challenge students to analyze their own lived experiences in relation to the content being taught.

EMPATHY

MAS content promotes an open mind and open heart, to not only view the content as academic, but encourages students to apply it to their personal lives, their communities, and their lived experiences.

BICULTURAL CONSCIOUSNESS

MAS provides context on how Mexican American culture shapes identity. By the learning this background on Mexican/Mexican American culture, students understand the complexities of racial, national, and social identities and learn the value of biculturalism.

RELEVANT CAREERS

**HEALTH
PROFESSIONS**

**WRITING &
JOURNALISM**

**MARKETING &
ADVERTISING**

EDUCATOR/TEACHER

SOCIAL WORK

GOVERNMENT

NON-PROFIT ORG.

RADIO & TELEVISION

MAS IS ESSENTIAL TO STUDENTS WHO WANT TO WORK EFFICIENTLY IN AND WITH MEXICAN ORIGIN/LATINX COMMUNITIES TO PROVIDE CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY RELEVANT/RESPONSIVE SERVICES, PRACTICES & PROGRAMS. REGARDLESS OF THE CAREER PATH YOU CHOOSE, MAS MAKES YOU STAND OUT!

RELEVANT CAREERS

**LAW
ENFORCEMENT**

**LAW &
LAWSCHOOL**

**COMMUNITY
ORGANIZING**

**MUSEUMS &
LIBRARIES**

**HISTORICAL & CULTURAL
PRESERVATION**

NATIONAL PARKS

ENGINEERING

COUNSELING

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YOUR OPTIONS IN MAS AT UTRGV

- USE MAS AS YOUR
MAJOR
- USE MAS AS A **DOUBLE
MAJOR**
- USE MAS AS A **MINOR**

IF YOU ARE CURRENTLY MAJORING IN **HISTORY,**
POLITICAL SCIENCE, CRIMINAL JUSTICE, ENGLISH
COMMUNICATIONS, ANTHROPOLOGY, SPANISH,
PHILOSOPHY, SOCIOLOGY, BILINGUAL EDUCATION, OR
CREATIVE WRITING, A MAS DOUBLE MAJOR OR MINOR
COULD SUIT YOU!



36 CREDITS REQUIRED

18 REQUIRED CREDITS (6 CLASSES)

3 CLASSES IN MAS: MASC/ENGL 2351, MASC/HIST 3332, MASC 4350

3 CLASSES IN SPANISH LANGUAGE: SPAN 1311, 1312, 2311, 2312, 1315, 2313, 2315.

18 ELECTIVE CREDITS (6 CLASSES)

**STUDENTS CAN SELECT 3 CATEGORIES,
WITHIN EACH CATEGORY, TWO CLASSES
ARE REQUIRED**

**CATEGORY OPTIONS (YOU PICK 3): ANTHROPOLOGY,
CREATIVE & FINE ARTS, HISTORY, LANGUAGE &
LITERATURE & LINGUISTICS, MEXICAN AMERICAN
STUDIES, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE,
SOCIOLOGY, INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES.**

MAS MAJOR



**Scan above or visit
<https://www.utrgv.edu/mas/> !**

DOUBLE MAJOR

**DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN DOUBLE MAJOR BY
ADDING MAS AS A SECOND MAJOR TO ENHANCE
YOUR PROSPECTIVE PROFESSION. IF YOU ARE
CURRENTLY MAJORING IN HISTORY, POLITICAL
SCIENCE, BIOLOGY, ENGINEERING, CRIMINAL
JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS/JOURNALISM,
ANTHROPOLOGY, SPANISH, PHILOSOPHY, SOCIAL
WORK, SOCIOLOGY, BILINGUAL EDUCATION,
ENGLISH, OR CREATIVE WRITING, ADDING MAS
AS A SECOND MAJOR OR MINOR COULD SUIT YOU!**

18 CREDITS REQUIRED IN TOTAL

6 REQUIRED HOURS (2 CLASSES)

MASC 2301: INTRO TO MEXICAN AMERICAN STUDIES

HIST/MASC 3332: MEXICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

12 ELECTIVE HOURS (YOU PICK 4 CLASSES)

EXAMPLES OF SOME MAS ELECTIVES

(visit our website to view more elective options)

SPAN 1311/1312: BEGINNING SPANISH I&II

ENGL 4317: MEXICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE

HIST 4331: MEXICAN AMERICAN CIVIL RIGHTS

PHIL 3365: CHICANA AND LATIN AM FEMINISMS

POLS 4320: LATIN AMERICAN POLITICS

ANTH 4350: MEX AMER FOLK MEDICINE

ARTS 4357: LATINA ART HISTORY

DANC 2250: FOLKLORICO I

HLTH 3325: LATINO HEALTH

MUSI 1307: MEXICAN FOLK MUSIC

GEOG 3333: LATIN AMERICAN GEOGRAPHY

SOCI 4313: RACE & ETHNIC RELATIONS

MAS MINOR



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**ADDITIONAL
INFO!**

**TO MEET SPANISH LANGUAGE
REQUIREMENTS, STUDENTS CAN TEST OUT
USING:**

SPANISH AP SCORES

DUAL ENROLLMENT SPANISH CREDITS

CLEP EXAM

Testimonio

During my freshmen year of college, I took a Mexican American art class. It completely changed my life. For the first time, I saw myself, my culture, my history, and most importantly my people being represented in education. Once I discovered the MAS program, I knew I had to change my major. To me, MAS is about representation. Obviously, it is much more than that but ultimately representation in all aspects of life is what creates change. By learning about the history of our people I was able to create a path of my own. In one of my MAS classes, I learned about La Union del Pueblo Entero, a nonprofit organization that creates social change here in the RGV. Flash-forward a couple of years, I am now the Education Equity Specialist at LUPE. Not only did the MAS program directly point me towards my job but it has also enhanced my ability to do the work. Throughout my MAS classes, I learned about leadership, identity, community, intersectionality, and much more, all of which have been active in my career. Above all, organizing is the most prominent tool I learned in MAS, which I am currently implementing in my career. Everything we do at LUPE is done by organizing our community, every event, every protest, every march, etc. The organizers are truly the backbone of the organization. By organizing, we can create change for marginalized communities. I am forever grateful to the MAS program and department for giving me the proper tools to help me make the change I want to see in my community.

-Carla Ocadíz



CONTACT US TO SEE HOW YOU CAN BE A MAS MAJOR/DOUBLE MAJOR/MINOR



MARITZA.DELATRINIDAD@UTRGV.EDU

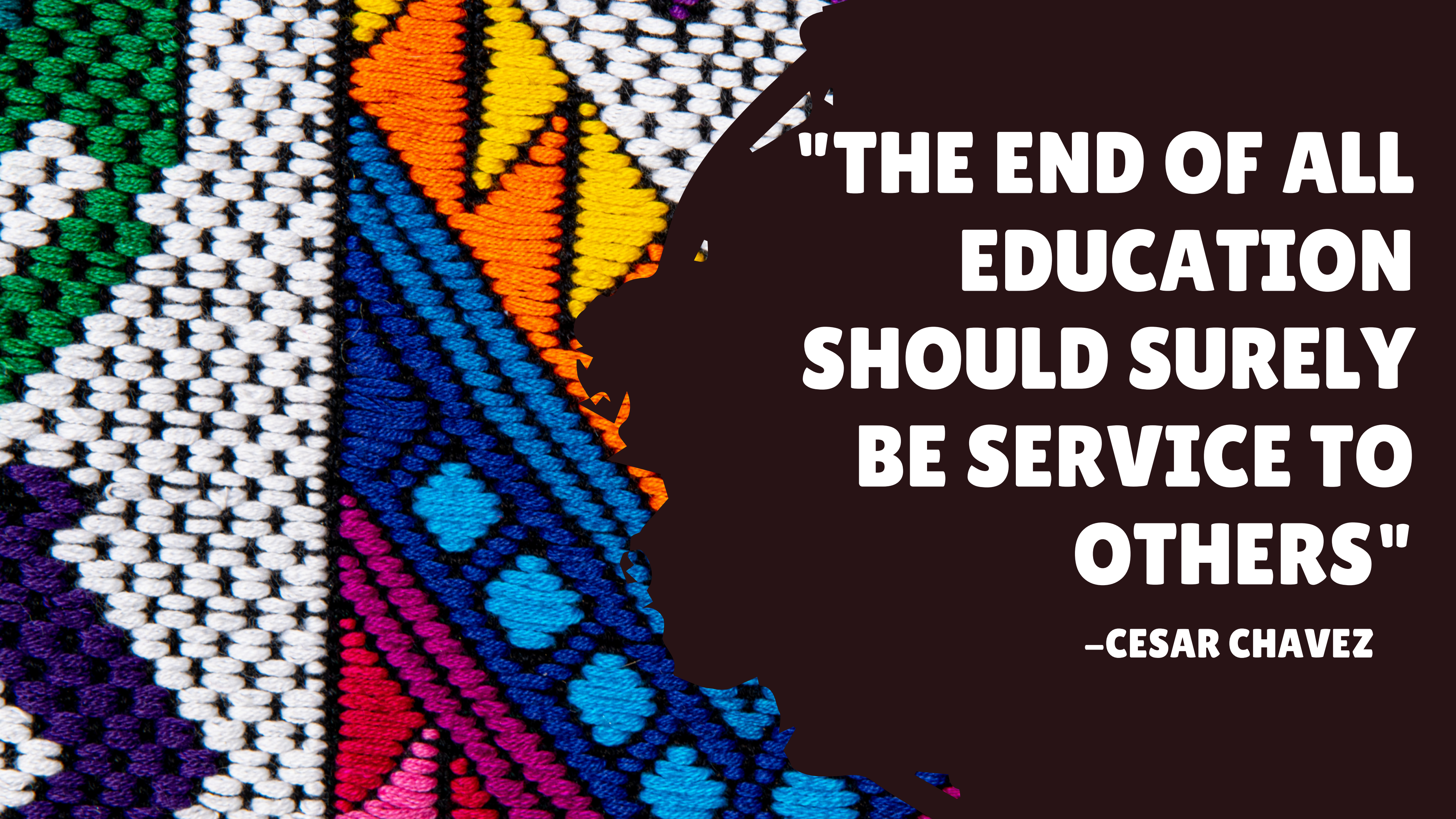


MEETINGS CAN BE DONE VIA ZOOM AS WELL!



[HTTPS://WWW.UTRGV.EDU/MAS/](https://www.utrgv.edu/mas/)



The background of the image is a vibrant, multi-colored woven textile, possibly a rug or tapestry, featuring a complex geometric pattern in shades of green, white, orange, yellow, blue, and purple. Overlaid on the right side of this pattern is a solid black silhouette of a person, likely a man, in a dynamic pose that suggests movement or a specific gesture. The person's head is tilted back, and their arms are extended, with one hand near their face. The overall composition is bold and visually striking.

**"THE END OF ALL
EDUCATION
SHOULD SURELY
BE SERVICE TO
OTHERS"**

—CESAR CHAVEZ