To whom it may concern,

My name is Ashia Black and I am a senior at David Douglas Highschool. I am writing this letter because I know it will mean a lot to whosoever reading it, I am in an English 4 Black studies class.

The main reason I'm writing this is because I want you to know why it's important for all Oregon students to take an ethnic studies class. I learned so much in my black studies class, I enjoy the subjects and the teachers that teach the class.

When I first walked in this class I was expecting us to learn about things that I already know but once I was really engaged in the class I was learning so many new things. I'm so happy that I'm able to be in an ethics class before I graduate. A lot of students don't get an amazing opportunity like this.

People need to know the things that I am learning in my black studies class. Why? Because it's so important for each and every person to understand someone's culture or identity. I think it will improve equality and diversity in schools so that everyone feels welcomed and appreciated for who they are. A lot of kids have trouble fitting in because they feel like they don't belong. If we have more classes proving that they matter and they belong then a lot of depression rates will slowly decrease.

> Sincerely, Ashia Black