

Multicultural classes are enriching

In his editorial, columnist Mark Pena stated that proponents of multicultural education are "academic totalitarians" and "thought police." ("E306 demise a victory for all," *The Daily Texan*, Monday).

Really, Mark, don't be silly. While certain elements of the progressive movement have crossed the line over to absurdity, painting all who support the inclusion of alternative/minority viewpoints in our education system as some sort of academic KGB is ridiculous. Such behavior is just as McCarthyistic as the worst excesses of P.C. activists.

I happen to be taking an E309 writing class, which (unbeknownst to me when I registered for it) is of a multicultural nature.

This course incorporates reading from quality writers who happen to be black, chicano, etc., as well as traditional writers like Shelley, Milton, etc. I must say that this has been an intellectually enriching and eyeopening experience, and hardly the kind of Orwellian nightmare which radicals like Mark Pena say it is.

As long as ignorant extremists like Dr. Joseph Horn, Toni Lockett, etc., set the tone for debate on both sides of the issues, the polarization of our campus between crossburners vs. flagburners will only continue.

That is what hurts the intellectual environment and reputation of a university, not the inclusion of a few multicultural courses.

Mark Yzaguirre
Government