

CRITICAL RACE AND ETHNIC STUDIES NEWSLETTER



OUR NEW CRES MAJOR

In September 2023, CRES officially became a College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences major thanks, in part, to the efforts of the CRES curriculum committee (Drs. Elizabeth Escobedo, Marco Nathan, Lynn Scofield Clark, and Reggie Byron). Since then, CRES has welcomed its first cohort of new majors, supported its 50+ minors, and engaged over 230 students in ETHN (the subject code for CRES) courses. Pictured: CRES' first four majors- (left to right) Phia Krout, Rosie Molina, Audrey Ralphs, and Michelle Quintana - in our CRES Quantitative Methods course.



CURRENT CRES FACULTY

CRES also welcomed two visiting faculty this year. Dr. Indhira Udofia (left, below) was hired as a one-year Visiting Teaching Assistant Professor and Dr. Tyler Han (right, below) was hired as a two-year IRISE-CRES Post-Doc. Both taught ETHN courses this year and received rave reviews. And, in further exciting news, Dr. Udofia has been selected as DU's Teaching Assistant Professor in Leadership Studies and the Faculty Director of the CWC Leadership Scholars Program. Please congratulate both on a successful year if/when you see them!! 🙌🏾



OTHER IMPORTANT CRES NEWS

INCOMING CRES FACULTY

In 24-'25 CRES will welcome two new jointly appointed faculty members.

Dr. Stephanie Kang (left), a curator, artist, and art historian, will join us as a jointly appointed Assistant Professor in CRES and the School of Art and Art History. A special thanks to Drs. Bilha Moor, Chinn Wang, Chad Leahy, and Annabeth Headrick for serving on this Search Committee with Reggie Byron and to Jeanie Tischler for her superb administrative assistance.

Dr. T. Carlis Roberts (right), a composer, designer, performer, and scholar, will join us as a jointly appointed Assistant Professor in CRES and the Lamont School of Music. A special thanks to Drs. Laleh Mehran, Mitch Ohriner, Jack Sheinbaum, and Keith Ward for serving on this Search Committee with Reggie Byron and to both Kate Baudler and Julie-Ann Jordan for their stellar administrative assistance.

Both faculty come to DU with a wealth of rich experience. Both will teach core ETHN courses and offer fascinating new cross-listed courses as well!!!



STUDENT RESEARCH AND ACTIVISM

Over the summer of 2023, Malea Marxer, Ellie Barnett-Cashman, and Lily Baeza (left to right), worked with Dr. Reggie Byron to analyze data from the Philadelphia Obituary Project (a non-profit in Philadelphia) through a Critical Race Theory lens. With generous funding from DU's Public Good Fund to complete the research and DU's Student Scholar Travel Fund, the students were able to present a paper titled "Disrupting "Good" vs. "Bad" Person Binaries by Humanizing Victims of Urban Homicide" at the Southern Sociological Society Conference in New Orleans in April 2024. Dr. Byron then presented these findings to the executive board of the non-profit and they offered the following feedback, "We greatly appreciate the work that Dr. Byron and his team were able to do. Their research findings not only validated our mission in ways that will help with our fundraising, but they also illuminated aspects of our own work that we weren't even aware of."



In a similar vein, students from the CRES Quantitative Methods course are currently analyzing data -- collected by local non-profits like Housekeys Action Network Denver -- that documents the experiences of Denver's unhoused populations. In the near future, the CRES informed main findings will also be reported to these non-profit agencies.

CRES' FUTURE

CURRENT AND FUTURE CRES ACTIVITIES

In addition to CRES' core courses, CRES now sponsors a Living & Learning Community (LLC) titled "Racial Justice". The LLC is masterfully directed by Dr. Santhosh Chandrashekar from Communication Studies in CAHSS. We hope that this LLC will feed into the CRES major. A special thanks to Drs. Tom Romero and Anne DePrince for partnering with Reggie Byron to bring this LLC to life!

CRES has also been involved in a partnership to create a new Latin American and Border Studies (LABS) minor. Once the minor is fully approved, it will be housed under CRES.

CRES offers a special thanks to Drs. Nancy Wadsworth, Sara Chatfield, Kristy Ulibarri, Jesse Acevedo, Lauren DeCarvalho, and Josh Wilson for serving on the CRES - Political Science Search Committees with Reggie Byron and to both Darlene Squires and Kate Baudler for their generous administrative assistance. Despite making offers to viable candidates for the position, this search has encountered stiff competition from other universities and has not yet been successful. But we remain hopeful that our next search will be fruitful!

Finally, please stay tuned for CRES' first *Social Justice Social* in Fall 2024! This will be a great opportunity to meet CRES faculty, students, and alumni.

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT CRES' DIRECTOR
AT REGINALD.BYRON@DU.EDU**



NEW CRES ELECTIVE COURSES TO LOOK FOR...

Fall Quarter Course Titles:

- Race, Crime, and Documentaries
- Black Music and Abolition

Winter Quarter Course Titles:

- Racist Dehumanization and Criminal Punishment
- "Whitewalling": Racial Politics of the Art World

Spring Quarter Course Titles:

- Race, Racism, and Animals
 - Music of the Civil Rights Era
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KNOW ANYONE INTERESTED IN THE CRES MAJOR OR MINOR? PLEASE SHARE.

Major Degree Requirements: 40 credits

- Four mandatory courses - Introduction to Critical Race and Ethnic Studies, Quantitative Methods in Critical Race and Ethnic Studies; Theories in Critical Race and Ethnic Studies; Critical Race and Ethnic Studies Capstone (16 credits)
- Two courses that are cross-listed between CRES/ARTS or CRES/HUM and two courses that are cross-listed between CRES/SS from a bank of about 50 per year (16 credits)
- The remaining 8 credits of the curriculum will ideally come from elective credits in internships or study abroad.

Minor Degree Requirements: 20 credits

- Courses should come from several disciplines participating in the minor, with required exposure to at least three different disciplines.
- Eight of the credits toward the minor should be 2000-level or above.
- Relevant courses are listed with a CRES attribute and found in the Undergraduate Bulletin.