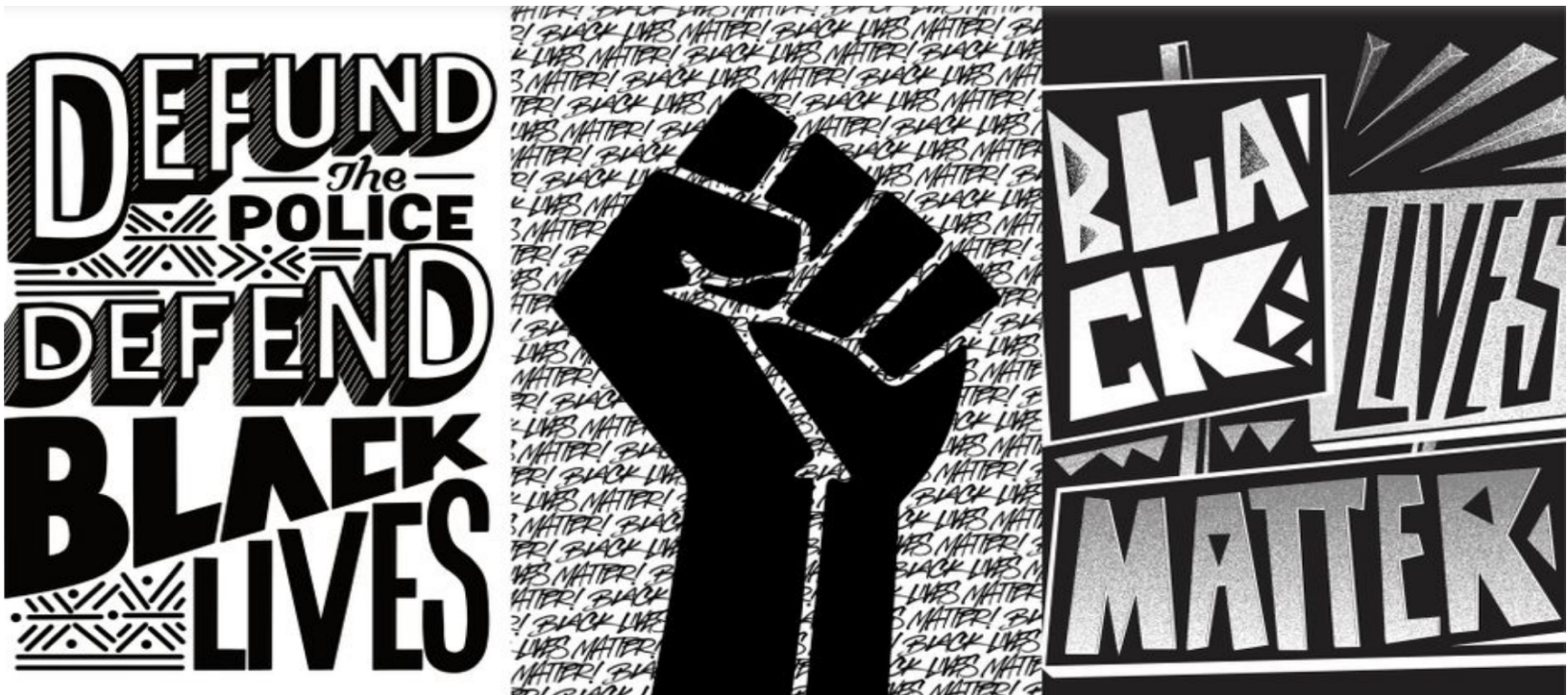


2020-21 NEWSLETTER



Artists Images L-R: Gia Graham, Adrian Meadows, Hust Wilson. You can follow the artists on Instagram.

“If we don't take seriously the ways in which racism is embedded in structures of institutions, if we assume that there must be an identifiable racist who is the perpetrator, then we won't ever succeed in eradicating racism.” -

Angela Y. Davis, *Freedom Is a Constant Struggle*

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CRES Director's Letter

Dear CRES community,

In a time of historical reckoning with structural racism and on a campus that has had a majority student-of-color population for over a decade, the work of CRES is unmistakably urgent. Much of consequence has been in the works the past several months, thus the issuing of our annual newsletter as an end-of-the-year update. Even as the process is still unfolding, we take this opportunity to announce important news: after seven years as a program, **CRES is at long last moving toward departmentalization!**

The **struggle for ethnic studies** is part of the storied legacy of student activism on this campus that dates back to the earliest days of UC Santa Cruz's history. In the late 1960s, in the same moment that the earliest ethnic studies departments were established as a result of student strikes in the Bay Area, Santa Cruz students called for what is now Oakes to be named Malcolm X College, a college dedicated to the "study of the black experience," and for what is now known as Kresge to be the College of Ethnic Studies. In 1969, Santa Cruz students took over the graduation stage to protest institutional racism on campus and U.S. intervention in Vietnam. Starting in 1977, while organizing against the apartheid regime in South Africa, a new generation of students mounted what would be a sustained campaign for Third World and Native American studies (TWNAS), including going on hunger strike in 1981. The formation of Engaging Education (e2) in 2001 was a direct outcome of student organizing in response to racist incidents across campus. CRES's initial formation likewise was thanks to the mobilization of student activists who in 2010, taking the baton from a prior generation of e2 students, revived the decades-long struggle for ethnic studies.

Now that we are on the threshold of departmentalization, we pause to thank those of you whose dedication and labor have strengthened us and **we invite our broader community to join your vision and resolve to ours**. Since our establishment, CRES has emerged as the fastest-growing major in the Humanities yet we have struggled to secure basic resources to serve students on this campus well. Some of you reached out following our announcement about the new Black Studies minor. Despite the obstacles to collaboration that persist on this campus, faculty came forward to cross-list classes, develop courses that expanded our curriculum, plan events with us, and even join our ranks. CRES has always been and will continue to be a collective project, born out of a shared antiracist, anticolonial commitment to liberation through education. We welcome your participation and solidarity now.

Over the past year, CRES has expanded in foundational and visionary ways. As the academic year opened, **Xavier Livermon**, a scholar of Black Studies who received his MA and PhD in African Diaspora Studies from Berkeley, joined us from UT Austin to anchor Black Studies as a growing program of study at Santa Cruz. Professor Livermon's research focuses on

popular culture in post-apartheid South Africa through a Black queer theoretical lens. Over Zoom this past winter, CRES and Feminist Studies [celebrated Professor Livermon's book, *Kwaito Bodies: Remastering Space and Subjectivity in Post-Apartheid South Africa*](#), which was published by Duke University Press last year. Over fall quarter, Professor Livermon taught the first-ever “Approaches to Black Studies” (CRES 68), the gateway course to the Black Studies minor, and he is currently teaching a seminar on Black freedom movements. CRES has been immeasurably strengthened by Professor Livermon’s decision to join us, and the entire campus benefits from his leadership and commitment to building Black studies.

As the academic year comes to a close, **CRES joyfully welcomes Marisol LeBrón**, a public intellectual, radical historian, and interdisciplinary scholar of critical prison and policing studies, critical ethnic studies, Latinx studies, and transnational American studies who has, from afar, long been a part of our community. Currently at UT Austin, Professor LeBrón will formally join us this fall. Through a powerful anti-imperialist lens, her writings on punitive governance in Puerto Rico challenge and transform our understanding of the U.S. carceral state by demonstrating its deep colonial moorings. In 2019, Professor LeBrón’s monograph, [*Policing Life and Death: Race, Violence, and Resistance in Puerto Rico*](#) was published by the University of California Press, and her co-edited volume (with Yarimar Bonilla), [*Aftershocks of Disaster: Puerto Rico Before and After the Storm*](#) was published by Haymarket Books.

Through collaboration with student organizers and faculty from across campus, and with administrative support, CRES has deepened in other powerful ways this past year.

- Thanks to the decades-long struggles of Black students on this campus and the enormous labor and dedication of CRES faculty and staff, the **Black Studies minor launched this past fall**. In our move forward to build and strengthen Black studies, we have worked closely with the BSU--a collaboration fortified by Dean of Students Garrett Naiman’s support for a BSU-CRES student internship.
- Long underway, our **4+1 pathway with Education** was at long last green-lighted by the Academic Senate! In a historic juncture in which the state Board of Education approved of an ethnic studies model curriculum for K-12 education and a UC faculty workgroup is drafting a new systemwide A-G requirement in ethnic studies, this BA + MA/teaching credential program enables CRES majors accepted into the pathway to pursue an advanced degree in education. Given California’s teacher shortage, particularly in schools serving students of color from low-income backgrounds, this pathway positions our students to roll out ethnic studies throughout the state.
- Demonstrating the visionary, community-collaborative nature of our curriculum, two CRES courses, one longstanding and the other new, have just been placed on the books.
 - **Introduction to the Sikhs** (CRES 70S), although long formalized, thanks to the initiative and vision of Professor Nirvikar Singh who taught the course as an overload for many years, has now been approved as **an online course**,

open to all UC students. An invaluable complement to the new UC-wide Online Punjabi sequence, a project for which Professor Singh served as co-principal investigator, CRES 70S is testament to the geographically multi-sited, multilingual, and diasporic nature of CRES as a field of study.

- Launched in Winter 2021, **(Un)docu Studies**, a student-initiated, peer-to-peer course, has now been formalized as CRES 70U. This course emerged from the ground up--out of a desire to approach undocumentation through a people-centric lens, to honor the histories of struggle not only more broadly and historically (i.e., migrant justice struggles from the nineteenth century until now) but also more locally (i.e., undocumented students at UC Santa Cruz), and to materialize a growing people's archive that challenges the state's monopoly on documentation.

Our **amazing faculty** have been at the forefront of numerous initiatives, organizing efforts, and movement work. Their extraordinary research, art and performance practice, music, and design distinguish our program as one of the most interdisciplinary and vibrant ethnic studies programs in the nation. For a fuller sense of what our faculty have been up to, please check out faculty updates below. I highlight a few examples. Opening the academic year, Nick Mitchell's profound engagement of Afropessimism, "[The View from Nowhere](#)," was published in the inaugural issue of *Spectre*. [Lucy and Surely](#), Ronaldo Wilson's brilliant and thought-provoking experimental art piece also appeared in online form last fall. Stalled because of the pandemic, the first issue of [Critical Ethnic Studies](#) under Neda Atanasoski's and my editorship went live, at long last, in online, open-access format. Jenny Kelly and Camilla Hawthorne's guest-edited issue of the same journal is forthcoming soon--please stay tuned. This spring also saw the publication of consequential scholarly collections edited by our faculty--check out Eric Porter's [Playing for Keeps: Improvisation in the Aftermath](#) and Camilla Hawthorne's [Black Geographies: Borders, Bodies, and Citizenship](#).

As graduation approaches, we celebrate and lift up **our incredible community of students**, some of the most ferocious organizers and moving thinkers on this campus. Four of our undergraduate students have been inducted into Phi Beta Kappa: Nadine Hamden, Metztli Hamelius, Tara Hilliard, and Rosa Scupine. The research that CRES major, Paola Alexandra Berumen, carried out under Neel Ahuja's mentorship, "[Expedited Removal in 2020: An Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security vs. Thuraisingam Supreme Court Case](#)," was distinguished with the Chancellor's Undergraduate Research Award. Mejica ("Raul") Gonzalez was awarded the Humanities Dean's Excellence Award. Last but certainly not least, we celebrate the success of two CRES DEs: starting this fall, Trung Nguyen (History of Consciousness) will be taking a postdoc in Asian American Studies at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and assuming a tenure-track position in ethnic studies at San José State! As of this fall, Sheeva Sabati (Education) will be starting a position as an assistant professor in Education Leadership and Policy Studies at CSU Sacramento!

In closing, as we move into a departmentalized future, CRES continues to draw power and resolve from all of you in our community. I welcome conversations with you about working together to strengthen CRES. Please don't hesitate to reach out at any time.

Warm regards,

Christine Hong

New Black Studies Minor

We are delighted to have launched the Black Studies minor this past fall. In doing so, we honored the visionary students who fought--and continue to fight--so hard and at great personal cost to make Black Studies a priority on this campus. The minor will offer students both breadth and depth in the intellectual histories, political movements, cultural expressions, and critical theories of the Black diaspora, while engaging a range of methodologies from across disciplines.

See our original announcement of the new minor [here](#). Also check out City on a Hill Press's [article](#) on the launch of Black Studies.

Students can begin declaring the minor now! Simply complete the [Petition for Minor Declaration](#) in consultation with Shauntay Larkins (slarkins@ucsc.edu). Check out the Black Studies electives on [our website](#) for a continually updated list.

The New Center for Racial Justice

Established by co-principal investigators Neda Atanasoski and Christine Hong in 2019 through seed funding from the university, the [Center for Racial Justice](#) (CRJ) aims to bring students, faculty, local communities, and invited guests together in much-needed campus-wide dialogue on race and racial justice. The purpose of this center is to serve as a vital hub for racial justice and critical race and ethnic studies that crosses divisions and brings key units - including the ethnic resource center, the Amah Mutsun Land Trust, the Educational Opportunity Program, the colleges - and campus representatives together in its dedication to racial justice on multiple scales, local, national, and international. As the center becomes



UC SANTA CRUZ
**CENTER FOR
RACIAL JUSTICE**

established, it will serve as the face of UC Santa Cruz's engagement with and commitment to racially just and decolonized worldviews and worldings.

Remembering Judy Yung: American Studies Scholar Who Laid the Groundwork for Ethnic Studies at Santa Cruz

By Alice Yang (History and CRES)



The UCSC community was devastated to learn of the passing of Judy Yung on December 14, 2020 at the age of 74. In her honor, the campus has established the Judy Yung Memorial Fund, which shall be used to support interdisciplinary research and/or programming related to Asian American / Pacific Islander (AAPI) Studies at UC Santa Cruz. This fund will carry Yung's legacy into the future by creating an open and inclusive forum for nurturing intellectual exchange across the disciplines.

Born in San Francisco's Chinatown on January 25, 1946, Judy was the fifth child of immigrant parents from Guangdong Province. She was bilingual and attended both public schools and Chinese-language schools before graduating as the salutatorian of Galileo School in 1963. She then received a B.A. in English Literature and Chinese Language from San Francisco State University in 1967 and an M.A. in Library Science from UC Berkeley.

She worked at the Chinatown Branch of the San Francisco Public Library where she established Asian-language and Asian American collections. As a journalist, she contributed to the East-West Chinese American Weekly and became an associate editor there in 1973. While at the Oakland Public Library, she helped found the first Asian public library in America in 1976. As a librarian and journalist, she was noted for her community advocacy and her commitment to promoting marginalized perspectives.

A prolific scholar, she collaborated with Him Mark Lai and Genny Lim to publish oral histories and translations of poetry by Chinese immigrants detained at Angel Island Immigration Station in *Island: Poetry and History of Chinese Immigrants on Angel Island, 1910-1940* (Chinese Culture Center of San Francisco, 1980; 2nd edition, University of Washington Press, 2014), which won the Before Columbus Foundation American Book Award in 1982. She also directed the Chinese Women of America Research Project, which

produced a traveling exhibit and the publication of *Chinese Women of America: A Pictorial History* (University of Washington Press, 1986).

Judy then returned to graduate school and received a Ph.D. in Ethnic Studies from UC Berkeley in 1990. She joined the faculty in American Studies at UC Santa Cruz in 1990 and became a beloved professor and chair. She taught popular classes on Asian American history, women's history, oral history, and the study of race and ethnicity. She received a UCSC Excellence in Teaching Award in 1999, an Excellence Through Diversity Award in 2003, and was named a commencement speaker four times. In 1995, she published *Unbound Feet: A Social History of Chinese Women in San Francisco* (University of California Press), which won the Jeanne Farr McDonnell Book Award from the Women's Heritage Museum, the Robert G. Athearn Book Award from the Western History Association, and the History Book Award from the Association for Asian American Studies. Other books include *Unbound Voices: A Documentary History of Chinese Women in San Francisco* (University of California Press, 1999), *Chinese American Voices: From the Gold Rush to the Present*, co-edited with Gordon Chang and Him Mark Lai (University of California Press, 2006), and *San Francisco's Chinatown* (Arcadia Publishing, Revised Edition, 2016). She co-authored with Erika Lee *Angel Island: Immigrant Gateway to America* (Oxford University Press, 2010) and worked with Ruthanne Lum McCunn and Russell Leong to publish *Him Mark Lai: Autobiography of a Chinese American Historian* (UCLA Asian American Studies Center and Chinese Historical Society of America, 2011).

She interviewed and then married Chinese American World War II veteran Eddie Fung in 2003 and together they published *The Adventures of Eddie Fung: Chinatown Kid, Texas Cowboy, Prisoner of War* (University of Washington Press, 2007). They continued to speak to UCSC classes about Eddie's wartime experiences and her oral history research even after Judy retired in 2004. After Eddie passed away in 2018, Judy returned to her family and beloved Chinatown community in San Francisco.

Countless UC Santa Cruz alumni, faculty, staff and members of the Santa Cruz community will celebrate Judy's life and legacy in a program in Fall 2021. More details and information about this event will be available soon.

Welcome to Professor Xavier Livermon!

Associate Professor Xavier Livermon was hired through the 2020 Black Studies recruitment and is an anchoring faculty member for the new Black Studies minor. Xavier is our fourth CRES core faculty member with Feminist Studies as his home department. Xavier earned his PhD from UC Berkeley and came to Santa Cruz from the University of Texas-Austin,

where he was Associate Professor of African & African Diaspora Studies. His research exists at the intersection of popular culture, gender, and sexuality in post-apartheid South Africa, encompassing African Cultural Studies, Black Popular Music, Black Performance, Black Queer Studies, HIV/AIDS and African Diaspora Studies.



Xavier taught Approaches to Black Studies (CRES 68) in Fall along with an upper-division elective course in Feminist Studies. In Spring, he taught CRES 131 (Black Freedom Movements) along with a graduate seminar in Feminist Studies.

Xavier's most recent book, *Kwaito Bodies* (Duke University Press, 2020), examines the cultural politics of the youthful black body in South Africa through kwaito, a style of electronic dance music that emerged in Johannesburg following the end of apartheid. Drawing on fieldwork in nightclubs and analyses of musical performances and recordings, Livermon applies a black queer and feminist studies framework to explore the work of popular kwaito artists like Lebo Mathosa, Mandoza, and Boom Shaka.

Xavier's current project, tentatively entitled *Queer(y)ing Freedom: Constructing Black Queer Belonging in South Africa*, has resulted in a number of published essays in *GLQ: Gender, Place, and Culture*; and *Feminist Studies*. In this book, Xavier examines how black queer South Africans construct forms of cultural and national belonging in a climate where progressive constitutional rights do not always translate in quotidian practice.

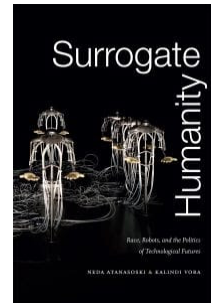
Faculty Updates

Since our last newsletter in Fall 2018, CRES has added new principal faculty members. A special welcome to Courtney Bonam and A.M. Darke! To learn more about the amazing and wide-ranging scholarship being done by our diverse CRES faculty (both [principal](#) and [affiliated](#)), we encourage you to visit their faculty profile pages.

[Neel Ahuja](#) (Feminist Studies) was promoted to full professor this spring! He completed his monograph, *Planetary Spectres: Race, Migration, and Climate Change in the Twenty-First Century*, which is forthcoming from the University of North Carolina Press. He was also interviewed about the relationship between colonialism, animal rights, and food politics by a group of Canadian scholars; this appeared as "Asking Hard Questions," [Messy Eating: On](#)

[Theory, Politics, and Animals as Food](#) (Fordham University Press, 2019). He taught CRES 190B - *Critical Migration Studies* (Fall 2020) and CRES 100 - *Comparative Theories* (Winter 2021).

[Neda Atanasoski](#) (Feminist Studies), along with Christine Hong, is a co-principal investigator for the new [Center for Racial Justice](#). Neda is the author, along with Kalindi Vora (UC Davis), of *Surrogate Humanity: Race, Robots, and the Politics of Technological Future* (Duke University Press, 2019). She is also serving as the Department Chair for Feminist Studies.



[Courtney Bonam](#) (Psychology) is an Assistant Professor in Psychology (Social Psychology) at the University of California Santa Cruz (began 2018). Previously, she was an Assistant Professor in African American Studies and Psychology at the University of Illinois, Chicago (began 2012). Prior to becoming a faculty member, Courtney completed a Chancellor's Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in the Goldman School of Public Policy at the University of California Berkeley. Her research focuses on stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination; environmental justice; racial disparities in access to high quality physical space; as well as the experiences and perceptions of multiracial people. Trained as a social psychologist, Courtney is a graduate of Stanford University. During her time there, she published research focusing on multiracial individuals' views of race as a social construct, as well as how this view can afford them resilience in potentially challenging social situations. She taught PSYC 148 - *Stereotyping and Racism* (Fall 2020) and PSYC 159P - *Race, Ethnicity, and Environmental Inequality* (Spring 2021).

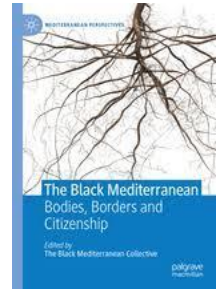
[micha cárdenas](#) (Art & Design: Games and Playable Media) is writing a new algorithm for gender, race, and technology. Her book-in-progress, *Poetic Operations*, proposes algorithmic analysis as a means to develop a trans of color poetics. micha's co-authored books, *The Transreal: Political Aesthetics of Crossing Realities* (2012) and *Trans Desire / Affective Cyborgs* (2010), were published by Atropos Press. Her artwork has been described as "a seminal milestone for artistic engagement in VR" by the Spike art journal in Berlin. She is a second-generation Colombian American, born in Miami. micha recently created an art game in collaboration with the [Critical Realities Studio](#). Sin Sol, available in the [App Store](#), is an augmented reality art game that explores climate change. She also recently co-edited, alongside Jian Chen, a special issue of *Transgender Studies Quarterly* titled "[Trans Futures](#)."

[Vilashini Cooppan](#) (Literature) is Professor of Literature. Her research interests include postcolonial studies; comparative and world literature; literatures of slavery and diaspora; globalization studies; cultural theory of race and ethnicity. She taught a graduate proseminar in Fall 2020.

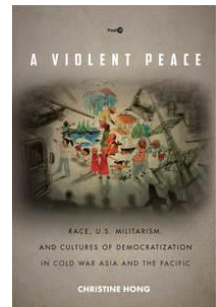
[A.M. Darke](#) (Art & Design: Games and Playable Media) is the founding director of The Other Lab, and recently created a game "Yea or Nay," which was nominated for an award. They taught ARTG 80 - *Foundations of Play* and Kresge 1 - *Power and Representation* in Fall 2020.

In Spring, they taught ARTG 134 - *Spectacular Play: Performance, Ritual, and Making a Scene* and DANM 250E - *Experimental Play Research Group*.

Camilla Hawthorne (Sociology) and Jenny Kelly are co-principal investigators for the THI research cluster “[Border Regimes and Resistance in Global Perspective](#).” In 2019, Camilla published two journal articles – “[Black Matters are Spatial Matters: Black Geographies for the Twenty-First Century](#)” (Geography Compass) and “[Making Italy: Afro-Italian Entrepreneurs and the Racial Boundaries of Citizenship](#)” (Social and Cultural Geography). Her book, [Black Geographies: Borders, Bodies, and Citizenship](#), was just published by Palgrave. She taught CRES 190D - *Black Geographies and the Imperative of Abolition* and a graduate writing practicum in Winter 2021.



Christine Hong (Literature) is our current CRES director, having assumed the role in Fall 2019 after serving as undergraduate director from 2017-2019. Christine serves alongside Neda Atanasoski as a co-principal investigator for the new [Center for Racial Justice](#). Christine has also been organizing a series of events through a THI cluster on “[Memory of Forgotten Wars](#)” around the 70th year of the Korean War. In addition to this weighty service and programming, Christine published a new book, [A Violent Peace: Race, U.S. Militarism, and Cultures of Democratization in Cold War Asia and the Pacific](#) (Stanford University Press, 2020) and edited a special forum of *The Abusable Past*, [White Terror](#), “[Red](#)” [Island: A People’s Archive of the Jeju 4.3 Uprising and Massacre](#). Along with student facilitators, she co-taught Undocu Studies (Winter 2021).



Jenny Kelly (Feminist Studies) and Camilla Hawthorne are the co-principal investigators for the THI research cluster “[Border Regimes and Resistance in Global Perspective](#).” Jenny taught FMST 145 - *Racial and Gender Formations in the US* in Fall 2020 and a senior seminar, CRES 190-FMST 194 - *Comparative Settler Colonialisms*, and core course CRES 101 - *Research Methods and Writing* in Spring 2021.

Xavier Livermon (Feminist Studies) taught CRES 68 - *Approaches to Black Studies* and FMST 188 - *African Queer Studies* in Fall 2020. He also taught CRES 131 *Black Freedom Movements* and a FMST graduate seminar in Spring 2021.

Nidhi Mahajan (Anthropology) is currently working on a book manuscript titled “Moorings: The Dhow Trade and States in the Western Indian Ocean.” This ethnography examines how mobile Indian Ocean trade networks contend with the boundaries of sovereign states across East Africa, the Middle East, and South Asia by establishing alternate social imaginaries that lie at the margins of states.

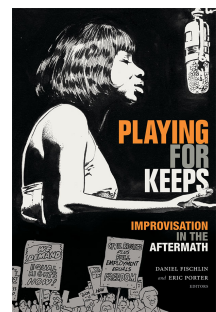
Nick Mitchell (Feminist Studies) was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure in Summer 2019 and received the Chancellor's Achievement Award for Diversity (which he has since [returned](#)). He continues to teach the hugely popular *Intro to CRES* course (CRES 10) along with *Feminism and Social Justice* (FMST 20). In 2019-2020, Nick chaired the search committee for the successful Black Studies recruitment which brought Xavier Livermon to UC Santa Cruz. Nick is currently involved in a UC-wide, year-long action of [Cops Off Campus](#), a project from Abolition University. His powerful essay, "[The View from Nowhere](#)," was published in the inaugural issue of the Marxist journal, *Spectre*.

Marcia Ochoa (Feminist Studies) is currently serving as the Oakes provost. Her first book is on the accomplishment of femininity among beauty pageant contestants (misses) and transgender women (transformistas) in Venezuela. Marcia's work focuses on the role of the imaginary in the survival of queer and transgender people in Latin America, and the place of these subjects in the nation. She taught FMST 1 - *Intro to Feminist Studies* in the Fall and a Social Documentary graduate course in the Winter.

Juan Poblete (Literature) published two books in 2019: *La Escritura De Pedro Lemebel Como Proyecto Cultural Y Político* (Pedro Lemebel's Writing as a Political and Cultural Project) and *Hacia Una Historia De La Lectura Y La Pedagogía Literaria En América Latina* (Towards a History of Reading and Literary Pedagogy in Latin America), both by Santiago: Cuarto Propio. He is lead for the Latinx working group that received a 5yr-\$3m [grant](#) to improve educational outcomes for Latinx students. Juan taught LIT 288Y - *Teoria Critica en America Latina: Coloniality and Modernity* in Winter 2021, and LIT 189H - *La Globalizacion en/del Cine Latin/o Americano* and LIT 190X - *Temas de la Literatura y Cultura Espanolas y Latinoamericanas* this spring.

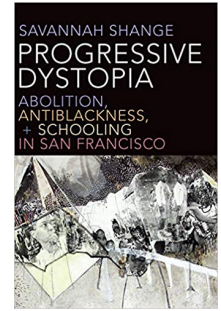


Eric Porter (History, History of Consciousness) taught HIS 122A - *Jazz and US Cultural History* in Fall 2020. His research interests include black cultural and intellectual history, US cultural history, jazz and improvisation studies, urban studies, and critical race and ethnic studies. Eric's co-edited book, [Playing for Keeps: Improvisation in the Aftermath](#), was recently published by Duke University Press.



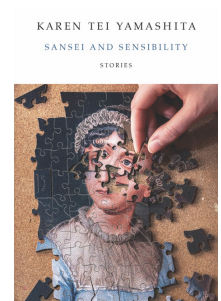
Felicity Amaya Schaeffer (Feminist Studies) was promoted to Full Professor in Summer 2020 having completed her monograph, *Tracking Footprints: The Science of Militarized Surveillance Bordering Sacred/Indigenous Land* (Duke University Press). She taught FMST 194L - *Chicanx/Latinx Cultural Productions* - in Fall 2020. In Winter 2021, she taught a topical course on race and pandemics (FMST 188) and FMST 125 - *Race, Sex, Technology*. She was also featured extensively in [a podcast on The Atlantic](#) to discuss TLC's reality TV show, "[90 Day Fiance](#)."

[Savannah Shange](#) (Anthropology) is a Black diaspora scholar who works at the intersections of race, place, sexuality, and the state. She published *Progressive Dystopia: Abolition, Antiblackness, and Schooling in San Francisco* (Duke University Press) in 2019. She taught the ever-popular ANTH/CRES/FMST 110Q - *Queer Sexuality in Black Popular Culture* and a senior seminar in Fall 2020.



[Ronaldo Wilson](#) (Literature) is Professor of Creative Writing and Literature, serving on the core faculty of the Creative Critical PhD Program, and co-directing the Creative Writing Program. Last fall he taught LIT 121N RAGE: *Race and Performance*. You can view some of Ronaldo's creative projects for the Center for Art and Thought [here](#) and on Interim Poetics [here](#). His powerful recent performance piece, "Lucy and Surely," can be found [here](#).

[KT Yamashita](#) (Literature and Creative Writing) is Professor Emerita in the Literature Department and last summer she released her latest book, *Sansei and Sensibility*, a collection of short stories about growing up and living in Japanese America. Blending fiction and history, Jane Austen and the Japanese immigrant experience, American pop culture and Japanese traditions, these inventive, witty, often surreal, and sometimes poignant stories explore the pain and strength of the Japanese American experience. Please stay tuned for her collection of short stories on race in Santa Cruz!



[Alice Yang](#) (History) is an Associate Professor and co-director of the Center for the Study of Pacific War Memories. Her research interests include transnational Asian American history, memories of the Pacific War and the War on Terror, oral history, and civil rights.

CRES Student Representatives and Advisor

Peer Advisor



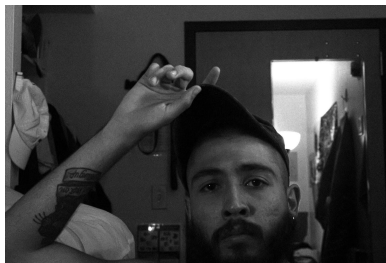
Andrea Duran Hi everyone! My name is Andrea (n-dre-ah) and I am this year's CRES peer advisor! I am so excited to offer you all support this year whether it be by helping you figure out what classes to take or connecting you with different academic resources on campus. I am a fourth year student in the CRES program, am currently an organizer for TWANAS communities of color literary magazine, and feel passionately about eating plant-based foods and swimming in the ocean! You can reach Andrea at crespeer@ucsc.edu to schedule a time

to meet with her on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 11:30am - 1:30pm or drop in using her [CRES Advising zoom link](#).

Undergraduate Representatives



Raul (Mexico) Gonzalez I am a first-generation Aztec descendent pursuing a double major in Critical Race and Ethnic Studies and Legal Studies along with a Black Studies minor. I have no distinctive or remarkable academic background--just my struggles and the intuition I developed that have helped keep my head above water and my feet grounded while growing up in South Central Los Angeles. I am here now at UC Santa Cruz with a goal of helping other marginalized students like myself pursue their dreams of higher education, regardless of their intersectionalities. Ultimately, I believe every human has the capabilities—they simply need access to the same opportunities.



Adonay Moreno I am a fourth-year Critical Race and Ethnic Studies Major and served as the CRES undergraduate representative for Fall 2020. My area of study focuses on how race, gender, and class work through and by each other in the construction of the human under racial capitalism, heteropatriarchy, and white supremacy. I think about world building as resistance against a global system of oppression that is also killing the planet. Recently, I have been thinking about how these systems develop across transnational geographies, and how world building, resistance, survival, and ultimately Liberation require a critical analysis and transnational solidarity among that disrupts borders, and works to dismantle global anti-Blackness and Indigenous genocide— two foundations of racial capitalism, white supremacy, and heteropatriarchy, which are also not isolated from one another. I have been working through artistic mediums for the last couple of months, mainly photography, and beginning a project that traces my family history, and analyzes the ways in which family does and doesn't takes shape through the day to day movements of people as they navigate and push back against a global system of violence and exploitation.



Ileana Waddy Hi! My name is Ileana Waddy. I'm a second-year CRES and Feminist Studies double major. While I haven't settled on a course of research yet, I am passionate about decolonial studies, fantastical art, and fashion. I currently serve as both the Secretary of the Black Student Union and the BSU liaison to CRES. Black student organizing at UCSC has remained formative to the growth of racial studies over the years, most recently, resulting in the realization of the BSU's recurring demand for a Black Studies program. The BSU is

proud to continue organizing with our CRES allies to preserve and expand the legacy of radical thought and education at UCSC.

Graduate Representatives



Talib Jabbar (Literature) is a graduate student in the Literature department with a designated emphasis in critical race and ethnic studies. He focuses on the racial and queer politics of American imperial militarism in Asia and its diasporas, with special attention to under-theorized regions of the so-called “war on terror,” e.g., Pakistan and the Philippines. He got his BA from UC Santa Cruz, too, and finds it enriching to be a part of the burgeoning CRES community.



Jane Komori (History of Consciousness) is serving in her second year as Graduate Student Representative. She holds a Bachelor of Arts First Class with Distinction in gender, sexuality, and women’s studies and humanities from Simon Fraser University and is a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada doctoral fellow. Her research is concerned with histories of Japanese Canadian food production. Jane considers pre- and post-incarceration Japanese Canadian conceptions of food, land, and nature in relationship to their settler colonial and capitalist contexts. She was interviewed last quarter on [KPFA](#) as part of a series about Asian diasporic activists where she discussed political education with the hosts.

CRES DE Spotlight

Theresa Hice-Fromille (Sociology): CRES DE, Theresa Hice-Fromille (Sociology), spoke with fellow CRES DE and grad rep, Jane Komori to discuss her love of travel and research around community-based roots travel organization (CBRTO)--an educational space in which youth participants learned about themselves and Blackness and came to form their racial identity.

Uriel Serrano (Sociology): CRES DE student Uriel Serrano sat down with fellow CRES DE and grad rep, Jane Komori last quarter to discuss his research in youth studies, critical race theory, and critical carceral studies. Read more [here](#).



Christian Alvarado (History of Consciousness): Christian Alvarado, a CRES DE in the Department of History of Consciousness discusses with Jane Komori, also a CRES DE in the same department, his interdisciplinary research around education and culture in (anti)colonial (as well as postcolonial) Kenya. Read the DE spotlight [here](#).



The Humanities Institute Graduate Profile

Noya Kansky (Feminist Studies Doctoral Student and CRES DE)

Noya Kansky is a PhD Student in the Feminist Studies Department at UC Santa Cruz researching the history and enduring legacies of settler colonialism. In 2019, Kansky was a [THI Public Fellow](#) at the Heart Mountain Interpretive Center near Cody, Wyoming. The Center sits on the site of what was once the Heart Mountain “Relocation Center”: an internment camp which held incarcerated Japanese Americans during the Second World War. Among other things, she worked in the organization’s archive cataloging and digitizing the personal records of a former incarcerated: Estelle Ishigo.



In September, [THI spoke](#) with Kansky about her research and experience as a Public Fellow. We discussed the research interests which drew her there, the experience of working in the archive, and the unexpected insights that arose while laying commemorative bricks.

Opportunities for CRES Designated Emphases

CRES has a vibrant Designated Emphasis (DE) program, with graduate students from 11 departments across 3 academic divisions. Keep an eye out for future Works in Progress events and graduate student spotlights, which feature the research of our DEs.

Graduate Student Instructor positions

With funding support from the Humanities Division, CRES is able to offer at least 1 graduate student instructor (GSI) opportunity per academic year, and up to 5 pending resource availability. In 2020-2021, CRES has appointed 5 GSIs to teach our elective offerings:

Fall 2020:

CRES 114 - *Race and Disability in American Drama* - Ka-Eul Yoo

Winter 2021:

CRES 70S - *Intro to Sikhs* - Talib Jabbar

CRES 112 - *Environmental Racism and US Empire: Asian American and Pacific Islander Environmental Justice and Activism* - Danielle Crawford

CRES 188B - *Roots and Routes: Race, Identity, and Belonging in the African Diaspora* - Theresa Hice Johnson

Spring 2021:

CRES 188X - *Revolutionaries in the Digital Streets* - Anny Mogollon

DE Research and Travel Grants

The CRES program provides small grants (up to \$250) to graduate students who are conducting research and/or travelling to conferences. Last year's recipients were Xindi Li, Saugher Nojan, and Ka-eul Yoo. This year's recipients were Talib Jabbar, Theresa Johnson, Yuki Obayashi, Uriel Serrano, and Ka-Eul Yoo.