

Faculty Learning Community for Culturally Validated Pedagogy

Leader(s): Dr. Devan Romero, Associate Professor of Kinesiology

Description

This FLC will be devoted to developing culturally validating (CV) pedagogy for academic & curriculum enhancements related to Latina and Latino experiences, strengths, and voice that aims for the creation of more cultural relevant curriculum. "Validation is an enabling, confirming and supportive process initiated by in- and out-of-class agents, that fosters academic and interpersonal development" (Rendon, 1994). CV pedagogy is needed to better serve Historically Under-Represented Students (1st Generation, Low-Income, Students of Color), face the persistent "Achievement Gap" that exists on the traditional college model that is focused on competition versus collaboration. CV focuses on assessing learning outcomes versus learning processes and requires unlearning past attitude, behaviors, and beliefs in cultural practice to better serve students specific to our University community. Ultimately, infusing culturally relevant curriculum, enhancing student support services promotes educational equity.

FLC Learning Outcomes

The main goal is for participants to enhance one or more courses to include more Latinx related content and assignments. Participants will also learn about pedagogical strategies that are proven to be successful for students of color, the 1.5 generation, and first-generation college students.

Specific themes include:

- Understanding the experiences of Latinx students
- High Impact Practices related to students of color
- Validating Theory and Pedagogy
- Identifying Latinos and Latinx scholars by discipline

Faculty will be able to infuse CV into their course, classroom environment, and pedagogy through addressed the key Validating Principles

1. Validating agents (faculty, program staff, speakers, scientists) initiate and maintain student contact
2. Make students feel capable of learning
3. Validate the students to build their confidence
4. Expand validation practices beyond the classroom
5. Carry out throughout a student's trajectory
6. Begin early in a student's college career

Who should apply?

Any faculty (tenure track and lecturers) who teach either upper or lower division courses.

How will faculty be selected?

Faculty will be selected based on interest for participating in the FLC and willingness to culturally validate at least one of their courses, in addition to availability of attending the FLC meetings (either in person or via Zoom).

What are the deliverables?

Participants will define what and how they want to work on for the learning community by the end of Fall. In Spring, they will complete their objectives by working individually and with the coaching of the FLC facilitator. The final items required are a brief reflective report and evidence of completed objectives (e.g., revised assignment(s), new web content, new readings, revised syllabus). Participants will also share their results with the Faculty Center.

Time Commitment

FLC will meet on the following dates and times:

Fridays: 10am to 12pm in FC Library Reading Room

September: 10, 24

October: 8, 22

November: 12, 19

December: 3, TBD

Compensation

Faculty will receive \$250 compensation for participating in the FLC, upon completion of action plan and missing no more than 2 meetings.

Application:

Please select a course you teach that you would like to infuse culturally validated pedagogy and describe why this course would benefit or a genuine interest in learning how to incorporate cultural validation in your classroom. Fill out this [application](#). Priority will be given to faculty who submit their application by **September 10, 2021**