Advancing Intercultural Studies

We are pleased to announce a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to support a two-year series of faculty, graduate and undergraduate student seminars exploring diversity at UCR and in Southern California more generally.

Winter, 2015: “Beyond Diversity: Are We There Yet?”

This seminar looks at the contours, challenges and opportunities of UCR’s diversity. Through student surveys, interviews, focus group discussions and the insights of its undergraduate and graduate participants, the seminar explores the ways in which diversity continues to change UCR in creating new forms of research and teaching. (Adalberto Aguirre, Jr., V. P. Franklin, Nick Mitchell, Yolanda T. Moses with graduate and undergraduate students)

Spring 2015: “The Public Practice of Immigrant and Minority Religions in Southern California”

This seminar focuses on expressions of religious hybridity and the politics of cultural appropriation. In particular, it examines the way that diverse minority and immigrant communities in the multi-ethnic urban context of Southern California inhabit, claim and contest sacred and cultural spaces. (Ashon Crawley, Jennifer Scheper Hughes, Matt King, Amanda Lucia with graduate and undergraduate students)

Fall 2015: “Civic and Political Engagement”

Historically, immigrants along with Native Americans and African-Americans have had a much harder time exercising the idea of citizens as democratic participants than white people. This seminar explores the question of what it means to be an “American” in terms of the civic and political participation of immigrant communities and minority citizens. (Megan Asaka, Erica Edwards, Mariam Lam, Karthick Ramakrishnan with graduate and undergraduate students)

Winter 2016: “Migration, Displacement and Movement”

This seminar adopts the perspective of the person on the move. Taking advantage of the number of scholars and students at UCR in the fields of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, Peace and Conflict Studies, Mediterranean Studies, social history and economic theory it seeks to redefine the we think of migration, immigration and our local-global world. (Erith Jaffe-Berg, Juliette Levy, Susan Ossman, Jeffrey Sacks with graduate and undergraduate students.)

Spring 2016: Conference

Held at UCR’s Culver Center of the Arts in conjunction with the Department of Art’s annual Senior Show