

Encuentro Schedule

At the Du Bois Center, South Campus

04/05/23

I. 8:45 - 9:30am, Du Bois Ballroom (Zoom link)

Opening/Introductory Remarks: José Luis Cruz Rivera, President of NAU

II. 9:40 - 11am Du Bois Ballroom

Symposium: Understanding and Celebrating *Latinidad*

This symposium opens the *Encuentro* with a general discussion of *Latinidad*, and the themes that will emerge in panel discussion throughout the day. Invited speakers will use their expertise and experience to present broad ideas that frame *Latinidad*, along with information regarding the current status of the *Latiné* population in our region.

- a. Dr. Rima Brusi, Professor of Anthropology
- b. Dr. Stephen Nuño-Perez, Chair of Politics and International Affairs
- c. Dr. Jose Moreno, Chair of Ethnic Studies
- d. Dr. Robert Neustadt, Director of Latin American Studies and Professor of Spanish
- e. Christopher Castillo, Student Leader
- f. Dr. Cynthia Villareal, Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership

III. 11 - 12:15pm: Panel Sessions I

1. History of the Border

History is not only what happened in the past, history informs the present. Ironically, many people, even in AZ, don't know much about the history of the US/ Mexico border. This panel will bring up significant events and actions from the past and will relate them to the current situation for Latinos and others in Arizona and elsewhere.

Moderator: Dr. Robert Neustadt, Latin American Studies

Location: Du Bois, Aspen A

Panelists:

- a. Dr. Eric Meeks, Professor of History
- b. Dr. China Medel, Assistant Professor of Ethnic Studies
- c. Dr. Marco Antonio Cabrera Geserick, Assistant Professor of Comparative Cultural Studies

2. Language/Culture: Differences between Mexican, Mex/American, and other Terminology

This panel will discuss various perspectives on the labels of Mexican American, Borderlands, Xicana Feminism, and Queer Xicana/o. Each panelist will share their personal narratives on these critical labels that makes the Latinx communities unique from other people-of-color population groups.

Moderator: Dr. Jose G. Moreno, Chair of Ethnic Studies

Location: Du Bois, Aspen B

Panelists:

- a. Dr. T. Mark Montoya, Associate Dean in SBS and Associate Professor of Ethnic Studies
 - b. Dr. Cesar Silva, Asst. Teaching Professor of Ethnic Studies
 - c. Dr. Juan D. Ochoa, Asst. Professor Women's and Gender Studies and Sociology
3. Growing Pains: Farmworkers, Asylum Seekers and Humanitarian Aid at the Yuma-San Luis Border

This panel discussion focuses on key issues impacting the people and environment of the Arizona/Mexico borderlands, including the asylum process, labor migration, border enforcement and militarization, and the political discourse of immigration and the border.

Moderator: Dr. Kayeleigh Sharp, Assistant Teaching Professor, Department of Anthropology

Location: Du Bois, Aspen C

Panelists:

- a. Leah Mundell, Associate Teaching Professor, Department of Anthropology
 - b. Estevan Ramirez, MA student, Department of Anthropology
 - c. Noorul Murshidha Jawaheer, MA student, Department of Sociology
 - d. Sara Lowden, Assistant Teaching Professor, Department of Sociology
 - e. Isaac Garza, PhD student, Department of Political Science
 - f. Guadalupe Reynoso Jimenez, BS student, Criminology and Criminal Justice
4. NAU Student Leadership Panel

This panel will feature Latiné student leaders from the NAU Campus. They will discuss their experience, their organization, and the work they do as they focus on our population.

Moderator: Vidal Mendoza, Assistant Director of Hispanic, *Latiné* Student Services

Location: Du Bois Ballroom

Panelists:

- a. Alexa Franco, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, International Affairs and Spanish Major
- b. Christopher Castillo, College of Health Sciences, Fitness and Wellness Major
- c. Giselle Mendoza, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Political Science Major
- d. Jonathan Otero, College of Education, Special and Elementary Education Major
- e. Lorenzo Gomez, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Political Science and Psychology Major
- f. Viviana Mendoza, College of Health Sciences, Fitness and Wellness Major

IV. Lunch 12:15 - 1pm, Du Bois Ballroom

Lunch provided by the Center for Equity and Access, Office for Undergraduate Research, the Vice Provost for Academic Operations, and the Vice Provost for Curriculum and Assessment, and the Office of the Provost. And the project MIRA! will exhibit their efforts in involving youth in the STEM.

V. 1 - 2:15pm: Panel Session Part 2

1. Access to Higher Ed (AZ): DACA and Undocumented Students, and Proposition 308

This panel examines access to higher education for Latiné students, particularly around Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and the recently passed Proposition 308.

Moderator: April Peters

Location: Du Bois, Aspen A

Panelists:

- a. Dr. Gerald Wood, Associate Professor College of Education: Educational Leadership
- b. Dr. Claudia Rodas, Associate Clinical Professor College of Education: Educational Specialties; Statewide HSI Advisor to the Provost
- c. Dr. Lauren Contreras, Assistant Professor College of Education: Educational Specialties

2. Scholarships A-Z Reimagining Support

This conversation will offer tangible steps on how to create welcoming educational spaces and support systems for Undocumented youth and families.

Moderator: Esther Valadez Cuellar, Assistant Director for Enrollment Management

Location: Du Bois, Aspen B

3. Intersectional Political and Social Issues on Latiné Community

This panel focuses on multiple intersecting facets of differentiated Latiné experience. How do race, gender, class, ability, politics, and other social categories influence being Latine? Join the discussion to learn how members of diverse Latiné Communities navigate the intersecting boundaries of these multifaceted identities.

Moderator: Dr. Kayeleigh Sharp, Assistant Teaching Professor, Department of Anthropology

Panelists:

- a. Dr. Monica Brown, Professor of English, Department of English, Faculty Ombuds
- b. Dr. Jaime Awe, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Department of Anthropology
- c. Dr. Corina Kellner, Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology

VI. 2:30 - 3:45pm Panel Session Part 3

1. Spanish and the Latiné Community

While Spanish is the glue that binds the Latino community together, it is also divisive. Many Latino/as in the US don't speak Spanish, complicating their relationship to their peers, families and identities. "Spanish for Heritage Learners" programs in universities and high schools recognize that the experience of learning Spanish for members of this community is quite different from that of people who have never been exposed to the language. This panel will discuss the nuances and complexities of Spanish and language-learning for Latino students.

Moderator: Dr. Robert Neustadt, Latin American Studies

Location: Du Bois, Aspen A

Panelists:

- a. Dr. Yuly Asención, Professor of Spanish, Department of Global Languages and Cultures
- b. Dr. Káren López, Assistant Teaching Professor of Spanish, Department of Global Languages and Cultures.
- c. Aura Maria Yepes Obonaga, Graduate Teaching Assistant, Masters in Teaching Spanish Program

2. Staff Panel:

The speakers will feature the work that NAU staff do to attract, retain, and support the Latiné student populations

Moderator: Esther Valadez Cuellar, Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid

Location: Du Bois, Aspen B

Panelists:

- a. McKenzie Esperanza McLoughlin, Marketing Department
- b. Bekka Alvarado, First Generation Programs
- c. Vidal Mendoza, Office of Inclusion
- d. Nancy Navarro, Office of the Dean of Students/Student Life
- e. Hilda Ladner, Associate Vice President, Student Life Experience
- f. Beatriz Ortiz, Enrollment & Student Services

3. Student Research: COVID-19 Pandemic Impacts on the Latinx Population and Community

This panel will discuss the impacts of the COVID 19 Global Pandemic, which has affected the well-being of the Latina/o populations and community formation. Each panelist will provide an informal discussion on their research projects on this critical subject.

Moderator: Dr. Jose G. Moreno, Chair of Ethnic Studies

Location: Du Bois, Aspen C

Panelists:

- a. Dr. Jose G. Moreno, Chair of Ethnic Studies
- b. Sophia Zuniga, Ethnic Studies Student
- c. Lorena Duran, Ethnic Studies Graduate Student

- d. Lalia Puga, Ethnic Studies Student
- e. Yesenia Cruz Carrillo, Ethnic Studies Student

VII. 6:00 - 7:00 pm at Lumberjack Lounge

At this Honor Exploration, a panel of esteemed faculty and staff from across the University will convene to discuss their obstacles faced and overcome by Hispanic/Latine students. Event open to all students and is sponsored by the Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity, and the Honors Advocacy Council.

VIII. 7:30 - 9:00 pm International Pavilion

Encuentro NAU is also a celebration! Come listen and dance to salsa and jazz played by the 16-piece Flagstaff Latin Ensemble / Banda Latino Caribeña de Flagstaff! Free/Gratis and with a free dessert bar too!