

The Advancing Justice Through DEI Series Presents

A CONVERSATION WITH DR. LAURA C. CHÁVEZ-MORENO



Tuesday, February 7, 2023

3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

**World of Words, RM 453
or join via Zoom**

RSVP Here

Laura C. Chávez-Moreno, PhD, is an award-winning interdisciplinary scholar and assistant professor at UCLA's César E. Chávez Department of Chicana/o and Central American Studies. Professor Chávez-Moreno studies how schooling teaches about race/racism and makes Latinidad.

IS "LATINX" A RACIAL GROUP? AND WHY DOES IT MATTER TO TEACHERS?

In this presentation, Professor Laura Chávez-Moreno offers a conceptual argument meant to stimulate discussion about the racialization of Latinxs. Professor Chávez-Moreno aims to speak to those who may question whether or how Latinxs form a racial category. Asserting Latinx is a racialized group, she argues that the boundary delineating the Latinx group is the Spanish language and Spanish/English bilingualism, even if these are implied and even though she later argues for this definition to be reconceptualized. She problematizes defining Latinidad's racial boundaries with the constructs of language/bilingualism, because this definition erases Spanish colonialism from the racialization of Latinidad. She argues these ideas and concepts matter to teachers because understanding the Latinx-group construct helps to clarify what is race and racialization. And it is especially important for teachers to understand these concepts because of the heightened attention to educational institutions teaching about racial issues. She concludes by inviting education practitioners to conceptualize Latinxs as a racial group that is defined by multiple colonialisms, including contemporary U.S. imperialism.



Education