



# Critical Race & Ethnic Studies

*Critical Race & Ethnic Studies (CRES) is the critical interdisciplinary study of race, ethnicity, and indigeneity with a focus on the experiences and perspectives of people of color within and beyond the United States. It is driven by social justice and advocacy. Critical Race & Ethnic Studies explores how ideological constructions of race have material consequences in the lived experiences of people of color. Taking an intersectional perspective, it examines how race, class, gender, sexuality, ability, and nationality intersect to shape our experiences.*

## THE PROGRAM

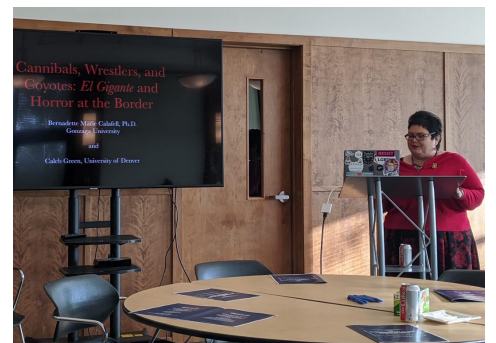
The Critical Race & Ethnic Studies program (CRES) is an interdisciplinary academic home for the study of race and ethnicity. In this program, students learn about the complex interplay of race and ethnicity vis-a-vis gender, class, sexuality, and other social dimensions that shape the diverse experiences of humans over time.

Students achieve this understanding by studying (1) the development of unique cultures among marginalized racial and ethnic groups and (2) the power relations which produce marginalization and injustice on the basis of race and ethnicity, among other intersecting categories of difference. As a reflection of the fifty-year intellectual tradition of ethnic studies, Gonzaga's CRES program is both student-driven and student-centered. Thus, it remains in dialogue with student movements for social and racial justice in the U.S. and transnationally. This reciprocal relationship provides students with the historical and academic grounding necessary to work toward justice, but also serves to re-invigorate the program with new knowledge that emerges from social justice movements.

## CURRICULUM

Students may enroll in classes such as:

- Fashioning Race
- Hip Hop Feminism
- Race and Popular Culture
- Intersectionality in CRES
- Race and Reproduction
- Introduction to Race and Ethnic Studies
- Monstrosity and Race
- Queer of Color Theories
- Race, Resistance, and Resilience







## FACULTY AND STAFF

Dr. Bernadette Marie Calafell received her Ph.D. in Communication Studies from the University of North Carolina. Prior to coming to Gonzaga University, she was a faculty member at Syracuse University and University of Denver. Her research and teaching interests are in women of color feminisms, queer of color theories, performance studies, critical rhetoric, and monstrosity/horror. You can learn more about her research, teaching, service, and activism at [BernadettePhD.com](http://BernadettePhD.com).

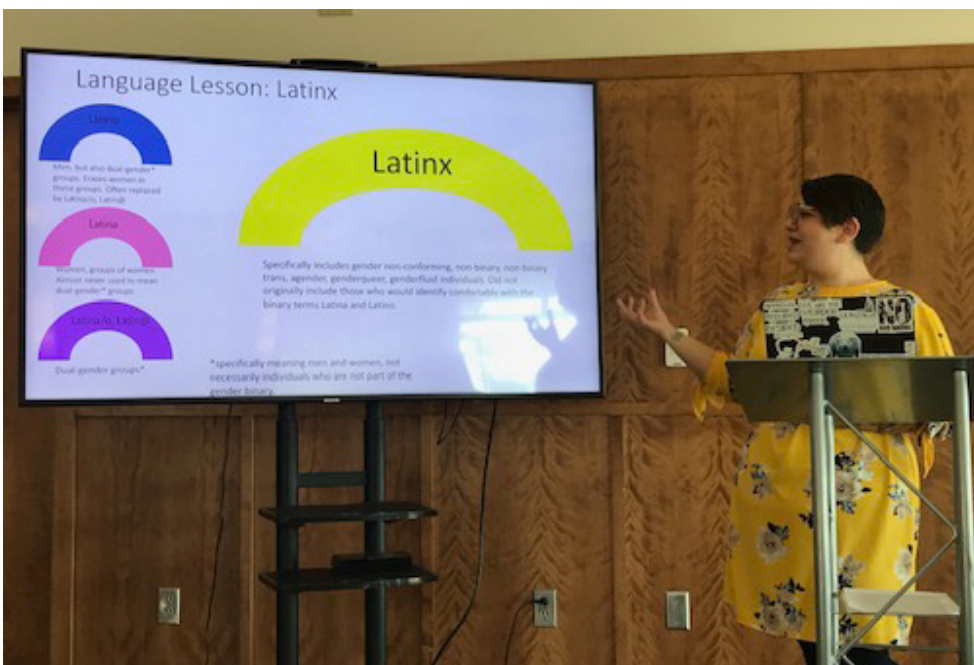
Dr. E. Cassandra Dame-Griff holds a Ph.D. in American Studies, with a focus on U.S. Latina/o/x Studies. Her work examines the intersections of anti-fat and anti-Latina/o/x public rhetoric, focusing the racialization of fatness as evidence of Latina/o/x pathology and unassimilability.

Melissa Keymer is the Program Assistant in Critical Race and Ethnic Studies.

## RECENT EVENTS IN CRES

Throughout the academic year, faculty in CRES hold brown bag lunches for students, faculty, and staff across campus. Recent topics have included examining changing labels in Latina/o/x communities, critical love, and settler colonialism.

Additionally, in the spring of 2021 the department began the CRES Oral History project, in which students conducted oral histories with those persons responsible for the creation of the department and minor. This included alumni and faculty. This is the start of a multi-year project.



## FACULTY CONTACT

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**  
[gonzaga.edu/cres](http://gonzaga.edu/cres)