

College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences – Messages to Students

Dear CAHSS students,

The long and ongoing systemic injustice towards People of Color is evident in individual actions of violence and discrimination and in broad negative effects across entire communities of color. At times, the broader community takes more notice of these. These moments, such as the one we are in, can generate inspiration, despair, and distress; we desperately hope they also generate real change. To move beyond hope to change, these times thus call us each to action and reflection. I and all CAHSS faculty and staff are committed to work to support our students and to upholding diversity and equity, within our campus and as part of our mission for the public good. Below is a message and information from the CAHSS Inclusive Excellence Committee. The collective work for justice is both a present imperative and a long journey we must consistently recommit to taking together.

Take good care,

Daniel N. McIntosh, PhD
Dean

Dear CAHSS students,

Recent events put in full relief the continued racial violence and health disparities impacting Black communities nationwide. We write today on the heels of a particularly difficult few weeks, as the killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, Tony McDade, and George Floyd have brought to the forefront of public attention the hundreds of years of systemic oppression and racism faced by Black people. As such, the CAHSS IE Committee, on behalf of the College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences, wishes to reach out and offer our care and support to students touched by racism and discrimination. For those of you who live this reality daily, we see you. For those who are learning to be better allies to People of Color, we support you.

The spring quarter may be about to end, but in the coming days, please be aware that there will be several campus events and spaces to engage and support students interested in racial justice, and to address ongoing social inequities. Please see the DU Student Life website, under the Racial+Justice and Current Events tab, for details: <https://www.du.edu/studentlife/ie-education/>. Action does not end here, however—as a College we pledge to support and participate in the ongoing, difficult work of building a community where diversity, equity, and inclusion are not just espoused values, but lived experiences for all.

Our hearts are heavy, but we remain committed to a more just and equitable future, where all individuals can thrive and be treated with dignity, care, and respect. Together we still dare to have hope for a better tomorrow.

In solidarity,

Alejandro Cerón, Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology
Frédérique Chevillot, Professor of French
Lauren J. DeCarvalho, Assistant Professor, Department of Media, Film & Journalism Studies
Liz Escobedo, Associate Professor, Department of History
Kristy Firebaugh, Assistant Dean, Academics & Communications
Rachel Lim, Academic Advisor, Lamont School of Music
Casey Stockstill, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Criminology

College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences – Messages to Faculty and Staff

Colleagues,

Below is an important message from the CAHSS IE Committee. In the context of new grief bound to long-term and ongoing violence and oppression, the importance of examining and working for change in our immediate campus and local community as well as supporting and genuinely listening each other are all the more critical. This includes both awareness and support for students and colleagues who are most strongly affected by these repeated events, as well as individual reflection and action. The CAHSS IE Committee, College, and University will be sending more information on resources and opportunities. I thank the CAHSS IE Committee for their ongoing work and initiative.

Take good care,

Danny

Dear CAHSS Community,

On the heels of a particularly difficult week, one that we recognize is only the tip of the iceberg of hundreds of years of violence and oppression faced by Black people, the CAHSS IE Committee wishes to reach out and offer our support to our friends and colleagues of color. For those of you who live this reality daily, we see you. For those who are learning to be better allies to people of color, we will support you.

Any CAHSS faculty and staff of color who would like to get together and talk with one another in a virtual group setting, please be on the look-out for an invitation through the FOCA and SOCA list-servs, or contact Liz Escobedo (elizabeth.escobedo@du.edu) for more information.

For those looking to engage in anti-racist work and allyship, a list of ideas and resources will follow in a separate email.

Our hearts and minds are heavy, but we remain committed to a more just and equitable future, where all individuals can thrive and be treated with dignity, care, and respect. Together we still dare to have hope for a better tomorrow.

In solidarity,

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