

# UCSB CHICAN@ STUDIES DEPARTMENT RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

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Chicana/o Studies students are encouraged to pursue research at the undergraduate level through one of several options. Within the Department, students may consider the Honors Program as well as Independent Studies with faculty members. Beyond the Department, the campus supports several programs aimed at increasing student participation in on-going faculty research activities. Several are listed below, but students should also consult the Letters & Science website as well as discuss opportunities with faculty directly, e.g. office hours.

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## INTRODUCTION TO ACADEMIC RESEARCH

For those students interested in research, but still with questions about how and where to begin we suggest the following options:

**New Heights Mentor Program** - The Chicano Studies Institute pairs undergraduates with faculty mentors in order to support the success of underrepresented ethnic minority students. Students learn how to seek out research opportunities, how to succeed in graduate school, and earn 2 units.

**CH ST Faculty Member office hours** - If you are a CHST major interested in assisting a faculty member with their research, you may be able to receive Independent Studies units to develop bibliographies, literature review or assist in basic academic research activities. Contact faculty members individually via email to set up an appointment or drop by during office hours.

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## INDEPENDENT STUDIES

Students who have already been introduced to research may develop an interest in pursuing their own research questions. Such students should discuss their ideas with a CH ST faculty member and develop a proposal to address their questions by enrolling in Independent Studies units with the faculty member who will advise them. These courses are arranged in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty mentor, but also require approval from the department administration. Additional resources including research funds are available to support student research projects.

Interested students may also contact the undergraduate advisor at [shashmi@chicst.ucsb.edu](mailto:shashmi@chicst.ucsb.edu) for more information.

## DEPARTMENTAL HONORS PROGRAM

For students interested in pursuing graduate and/or professional school, the Department offers an Honors experience, conferring "Distinction in the Major" on student transcripts and diplomas. The Honors Program provides students with a faculty mentor for an academic year. The student enrolls in 197HA, HB, and HC to work on a project that they present at the end of the year in a Department Honors Colloquium.

The application deadline for the AY 2018-19 Honors Program is September 15, 2018.

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## DEPARTMENT RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

For more information including campus wide opportunities and our department go to, <http://www.chicst.ucsb.edu/>

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## CH ST FACULTY & RESEARCH INTERESTS

The following is a list of our faculty along with their research interests:

### Gerardo Aldana

Mayan Hieroglyphic History, Mesoamerican Art, Experimental Archaeology, Science Studies, Culture Theory, Indigeneity.

### Ralph Armbruster-Sandoval

Social Movements, Urban Studies, Racial Studies, Religion, Latin American Studies, Labor Studies, Political Economy.

### D. Inés Casillas

U.S. Spanish-language Media; Chicana Popular Culture; Radio & Sound Practices; Racial Politics of Language

### Micaela J. Díaz-Sánchez

Chicana/o and Latina/o Performance Studies, Visual Culture, Cultural Studies, Feminisms, Theatre History, Afro-Latina/o Diaspora Studies.

### Mario T. Garcia

Civil rights struggles, Oral History, and Chicano Catholic history.

### Ellie D. Hernández

U.S. Minority & Ethnic Literature, Gender & Sexuality Studies, Sexual Minorities and Immigration.

### Aída Hurtado

Equity issues in Education, Feminist Theory, Representations of Ethnic and Racial groups in the Media, Social Identity, including Ethnic Identity.

### Francisco Lomelí

Literary History, Chicano Literature, New Mexico Studies, Latin American Literature.

### Chela Sandoval

Cyber and Millennial Studies, Third Space Feminism, Critical Media Theory and Production, Oppositional Consciousness, Social Movements.

### Maria Herrera Sobek

Film Documentaries, Nationalist and Ethnic Construction Theories, Theories on Aesthetic Activism.