The American Cultures Engaged Scholarship Program supports the development of courses and initiatives that emphasize public scholarship and engage students in community-based projects.

The American Cultures Engaged Scholarship (ACES) Program
Launched in January 2010, the ACES program is a partnership between the American Cultures Center (http://americancultures.berkeley.edu) and the Public Service Center (http://publicservice.berkeley.edu). This program aims to transform how faculty’s community-engaged scholarship is valued, to enhance learning for students through a combination of teaching and practice, and to create new knowledge that has impact both in the community and the academy.

The American Cultures (AC) requirement—the only campus-wide breadth requirement on the UC Berkeley campus—was passed by the Academic Senate in 1989 and instituted as a campus requirement in 1991 to help students gain a deeper understanding of the diverse cultures of the United States through an integrative and comparative framework. These goals are extended through community-focused and collaborative research and teaching.

*Applications Due by 5pm on October 23, 2015, to Victoria Robinson at ac_center@berkeley.edu*

In the 2016 proposal cycle, several priorities have been emphasised to support community engaged scholarship directly benefiting undergraduate education. Including the ongoing support for AC courses which engage students directly in community-based projects, the ACES program expands its consideration of community-based teaching and research. Proposals are therefore welcomed in ONE of the following five categories.

Application Categories for 2016 ACES Program:
- The development of a new or revised American Cultures Engaged Scholarship (ACES) course to be taught in Spring 2016, Summer 2016 or Fall 2016. *(Funding: $3000 grant to faculty, $1500 for student fellow, $1500 to support community project implementation)*
- Continuation of existing ACES courses and projects where learning goals are reached through community-based scholarship and integrated in a significant manner within the course curriculum. *(Funding: up to $3000)*
- A departmental initiative, e.g. brown bag or workshop series, to consider the role of existing and development of future community-based studies, such as field studies programs. *(Funding: up to $3000)*
- The appointment of a graduate student to support community-based outreach, teaching and course partnership development. *(Funding: up to $15,000)*
- Multi-disciplinary efforts engaging the same community-based partnerships. *(Funding: up to $15,000)*

Benefits of Participation:
- The ACES program is designed to provide faculty with the opportunity to develop, broaden, or deepen their research and teaching of community-engaged scholarship.
- Intensive training and consulting from ACES staff
- Funds of up to $15,000 for costs related to course community projects, graduate student hire, community based project development, as detailed per application category above.
- Opportunities to present research and best practices at on-campus ACES seminar.
- Explore and deepen your own and departmental community-engaged scholarship
- Benefit from relationships developed with an interdisciplinary cohort of faculty
- Enhance your capacity to build and sustain long-term relationships with community partners
- Mentor undergraduate and graduate students in the development of community-based partnerships

Program Timeline

October 23, 2015, at 5pm: Deadline to submit applications to Victoria Robinson, ACES Program Director, ac_center@berkeley.edu
November 6, 2015: Acceptance Letters Issued. All applicants will be notified by e-mail of their status in the program. The department chairs of accepted applicants will receive a formal letter notifying them of participation.

November 20, 2015: ACES Orientation. Successful applicants will convene with ACES staff for a half-day program orientation. In the orientation we will explore the concept of engaged scholarship and examine actual examples of real projects across disciplines at UC Berkeley. You will find answers to these questions and more: What are the components of a community-based project? What is Service-Learning/community-based research/engaged scholarship? How do we organize such a project? How could the work my students do in the course advance my research goals?

Application Process and Selection Criteria
We encourage applications from Senate or non-Senate faculty who are interested in developing community-based projects as applied to one of the five ACES 2016 criteria. In this competitive application process the faculty selection committee seeks applications in which the proposed project:

1. Integrates a compelling community partnership project that recognizes the larger community as a knowledgeable partner in both the teaching and the research which will be produced.

2. Demonstrates the possibility of creating sustainable campus-community partnerships that can last over multiple years.

By October 23rd at 5pm, please submit the following to Victoria Robinson at ac_center@berkeley.edu:

Application Materials
1) Cover Letter: The American Cultures requirement asks the instructor to provide a comparative and integrative analysis of race, ethnicity and culture in the United States, a dynamic analysis which straddles the past, present and future. Demonstrate in your proposal how any proposed course or project relates to the AC requirement, especially if you are proposing a new course. How will the community-based scholarship build on that intent? What specific goals do you hope to realize for your own scholarship; your community partner(s); students enrolled in your course or the graduate student supporting the project; your department? Please submit a letter of no more than three pages in length. Note: For those applying to continue an existing ACES course, no cover letter is needed. Please submit the remaining materials as described below.

2) Course Details (for new or continuing ACES course proposals): Please provide all information on pages 3-4.

3) Project Details (for departmental initiatives, graduate student support, or multi-disciplinary efforts): Please provide all information on pages 5-6.

4) Letter of Approval from the Department Chair: Please submit a letter of support from your Department Chair, confirming the Department’s support of your participation in the ACES program. If you are applying to develop a new/revised AC course or for continuing an existing ACES course, this letter should also confirm the department’s commitment to offering the course in the proposed semester.

Course Details (for new or continuing ACES course proposals)
A. Course
   a. Please describe the existing course and attach a current course syllabus. Alternately, for new courses, please provide a description of the proposed AC course.
b. What is the course’s current or proposed size?

c. Please comment, if appropriate, on the relationship of the course to your department’s current curricular goals.

B. Community Partnership
   a. Please describe (250 words or less) the community-identified needs that you hope to explore. How have you determined that these are the appropriate needs to address?

   b. How do you envision partnering with a community organization? Note: For those applying to continue existing ACES courses: please also briefly describe how you will build on current community partnerships.

   c. How will this partnership contribute to student learning, and what impact do you hope it will have in the community?

   d. If you have ideas of who your community partners may be, please share that information. Note: For those applying to continue existing ACES courses: please briefly describe your current community partnerships.

C. Scholarship
   a. How do you hope your participation in this program will benefit your research and/or facilitate your career goals?

   b. How might you disseminate work produced because of your participation?

D. Budget: Please provide a detailed budget breakdown for the use of the ACES program funds for your application category. Please note that these funds cannot be used to replace or supplement regular departmental supplies.
American Cultures Engaged Scholarship Program
2016 Application

and budget expenses.

- The development of a new or revised American Cultures Engaged Scholarship (ACES) course to be taught in Spring 2016, Summer 2016 or Fall 2016. (Funding: $3000 grant to faculty, $1500 for student fellow, $1500 to support community project implementation)
- Continuation of existing ACES courses and projects where learning goals are reached through community-based scholarship and integrated in a significant manner within the course curriculum. (Funding: up to $3000)

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**Project Details (for departmental initiatives, graduate student support, or multi-disciplinary efforts)**

A. **Project Description**
   a. Please describe the proposed project, including how it will support community engaged scholarship.

   b. What is the project’s proposed timeline?

   c. Who are the campus partners that will implement the project?

   d. What special considerations or structures will you utilize to effectively work across multiple faculty, departments, or disciplines as you implement your project?

   e. Please comment on the relationship of this project to your department’s current curricular or strategic goals.

B. **Community Partnership** (for multi-disciplinary efforts applications only)
   a. Please describe (250 words or less) the community-identified needs that you hope to explore. How have you determined that these are the appropriate needs to address?

   b. How do you envision partnering with community organization(s)?

   c. How will this partnership contribute to student learning, and what impact do you hope it will have in the community?

   d. If you have ideas of who your community partners may be, please share that information.
C. **Scholarship**
   a. How do you hope your participation in this program will benefit your department(s) and/or discipline(s)?

   b. How might you disseminate work produced because of your participation?

D. **Budget:** Please provide a detailed budget breakdown for the use of the ACES program funds for your application category. Please note that these funds cannot be used to replace or supplement regular departmental supplies and budget expenses.

   - A departmental initiative, e.g. brown bag or workshop series, to consider the role of existing and development of future community-based studies, such as field studies programs. *(Funding: up to $3000)*
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