

American Cultures Engaged Scholarship Program
Fall 2021 Application
Application Deadline: Friday, July 16



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 an 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.

As we move back to campus this fall, several priorities have been emphasized to support community engagement and engaged scholarship:

Application Categories for Fall 2021 ACES Program

- A) **Chancellor's Public Scholar Faculty Fellowship.** Instructors receive \$2,000 for participating in a Fall 2021 Faculty Fellowship that includes five workshops exploring community-engaged scholarship, partnership, reflection, syllabus design, and more. Faculty will participate as part of a cohort, learning and engaging with one another and developing tools to enhance their community-engaged teaching.
- B) **Community Partnership Grants.** Open for existing ACES partnerships or for the development of new collaborations with community partners, this \$500 funding will be made available to support community partners' labor, energy, and time in and outside the classroom.
- C) **Chancellor's Public Fellow.** Faculty may apply for \$1500 to be given to a Graduate Fellow of their choice. The Fellow could serve one of the following roles:
 - ...facilitate structured reflection within the course.
 - ...act as a liaison among the faculty, students, and community partners.
 - ...assist with syllabus design.Graduate Fellows must be selected by the first week in August and will participate in a seminar throughout the semester.

Program Admission Procedure

We encourage applications from Senate or non-Senate instructors. Each of the above application categories have corresponding requirements, listed below. Completed applications will include all requirements within that category and will be sent by Friday, July 16 at 5:00 PM to Victoria Robinson, AC Director, and Andrea Wise, Associate Director of the Public Service Center at: americancultures@berkeley.edu.

Category A Requirements - Chancellor's Public Scholar Faculty Fellowship

- 1) **Cover Letter:** Within this cover letter, faculty should share ideas about why they want to participate in the Chancellor's Public Scholars Faculty Fellowship and a brief description of any

previous experience related to community engagement and engaged scholarship. What do you want your students to gain from participating in an ACES course? How do you plan or hope to partner with community partners? Faculty should describe any topics they wish to explore during the semester and their planned teaching schedule. Please limit to two pages.

- 2) **Availability:** The group will meet as a cohort over the course of the fall semester. Faculty must list three to four 2 hour time slots in which they have consistent fall semester availability. The workshops will likely begin in September.

Category B Requirements - Community Partnership Grants

- 1) **Cover Letter:** Faculty should address the following prompts in 250 words or less:
 - Describe the community-identified needs and assets that you hope to explore through the course.
 - How do you envision partnering with your selected community organization(s)? For those continuing existing ACES courses, please briefly describe how you will build on current community partnerships.
 - How will this partnership contribute to student learning, and what impact do you hope it will have in the community?

Category C Requirements - Chancellor's Public Fellow

- 1) **Cover Letter:** Faculty should address the following prompts in 250 words or less:
 - In part C (above), there are descriptions of three ways to utilize a graduate student. Describe which of the three areas you hope a student will support and how the appointment of a graduate student will further the goals of the course. Faculty should consider goals, partnership, and sustainability of course-community relationships.
 - Please describe how you imagine the graduate student fellow's role and corresponding work/activities will be integrated into the course design and offering.
 - Include the name and contact information of the graduate student you have in mind.

After submission:

- ACES staff will notify participants via email by late July.
- A formal notification letter will go to department chairs of accepted applicants notifying them of participation.

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.

Participants receive and gain:

- intensive training and consulting from and with the ACES and Public Service Center staff
- potential funds for costs related to course community projects, graduate student hire, and/or community-based project development (as detailed per application category above)
- opportunities to present research and best practices at an on-campus ACES seminar
- new relationships with an interdisciplinary cohort of faculty
- enhanced capacity to build and sustain long-term relationships with community partners
- the opportunity to mentor undergraduate and graduate students in the development of community-engaged partnership