



# DEPARTMENT OF CHICANA/O STUDIES



**ABOUT US** Born out of the Chicana/o civil rights movement, our Department offers degrees that provide a deep understanding of the history, culture, contributions and contemporary experiences of the Chicana/o and Latina/o community in the United States. A program rooted in social justice, our courses teach students how to create space that accurately reflects their cultures and communities; and gives students the critical reading, writing, and thinking skills needed to address today's challenges.



**STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES** We provide involvement opportunities that give you real world experiences. Become a mentor for local middle and high school students, participate in undergraduate research and present at national conferences, or land that dream internship with your favorite non-profit organization.



**MAJOR/MINOR** We offer both a major and a minor in Chicana/o Studies. Majors can select one of two concentration areas: Social Practice or Cultural Studies. The Social Practice Concentration is designed for students interested in working with diverse Chicana/o and Latina/o communities locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally. The Cultural Studies Concentration is designed for students interested in studying aspects of Chicana/o and Latina/o culture ranging from art, film, music, religion, and literature.



**WHAT MAKES US SPECIAL** Both inside and outside of the classroom, we strive to create a space that fosters a sense of belonging and welcomeness. Inside of the classroom, we center the study of Chicana/o and Latina/o communities where students learn to apply theory to practice. Outside of the classroom, we work to maintain and create bonds with community members and organizations as part of our commitment to making the world a most just place.

**ALUMNI QUOTE** "Seeing myself. The sense of belonging was what lit my fire. It's what drives me to create that for my students in Denver Public Schools."

- Alma Salas,  
Denver Public Schools, Dean of Culture



## CONTACT US

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# CHICANA/o STUDIES

## Experiential Major Map



COLLEGE OF LETTERS,  
ARTS AND SCIENCES

### First Year

### Last Year

### Academic Success Checklist

- Discover library resources
- Book an appointment with your academic advisor
- Visit the writing and tutoring center
- Complete FASFA and academic scholarship applications

**Employment in Chicana/o Studies and related areas is projected to grow by 5.1 percent from 2024 to 2026.**

### Middle Years

### Career Development Checklist

- Update your resume early & often
- Drop into the C2 Hub's Career Lab
- Secure an internship or career aligned part time job to develop essential skills for graduation

### Cultivate Learning & Academic Excellence

- Attend community building events
- Meet with Chicana/o Studies faculty to discuss your interests
- Meet with your academic advisor
- Declare your major
- Declare a Chicana/o Studies area of concentration
- Check your degree progress report and meet with your advisor
- Work with your advisor to ensure you have no outstanding course requirements
- Complete your senior capstone course
- Apply to graduate

### Engage Globally and Locally

- Research the history of the Auraria campus
- Connect with student organizations like Journey through Our Heritage
- Participate in department events
- Connect with faculty about research opportunities
- Engage with nonprofits or community organizations
- Integrate electives that prepare you for your intended career path
- Connect with faculty about potential internship opportunities
- Participate with nonprofits or community organizations

### Prepare for Postgraduation Success

- Build your early experience resume
- Begin to develop and explore a career pathway
- Attend C2 Hub career, mentoring, networking workshops/events
- Attend the National Association for Chicana/o Studies conference
- Attend alumni and campus-wide networking events
- If considering graduate school discuss options with Chicana/o Studies faculty

### Career Information

#### What skills do employers want?

- A demonstrated track record of commitment to social justice
- Communication skills
- Critical thinking skills
- Collaborative co-worker
- Problem-solving skills

#### This major gives me the skills to:

- Understand the history, culture, and contributions of the Chicana/o/e community
- Read, write, and think in a critical and culturally responsive manner
- Understand and apply social justice principles to better address today's challenges

#### What careers can I pursue?

- Attorney
- Educator
- Applied Research and Program Evaluator
- Social Worker
- Non-Profit Director

