

# UC Merced

## The Undergraduate Historical Journal at UC Merced

### Title

Front Matter

### Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/7q83s4q6>

### Journal

The Undergraduate Historical Journal at UC Merced, 7(1)

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### Publication Date

2020

### DOI

10.5070/H371051132

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Undergraduate

**THE  
UNDERGRADUATE  
HISTORICAL  
AND  
CRITICAL RACE &  
ETHNIC STUDIES  
JOURNAL  
At UC Merced**

Volume 7 ↔ Issue 1 ↔ Fall 2020

**The Undergraduate Historical  
and Critical Race & Ethnic Studies  
Journal at the University of California, Merced**

The Editorial Board (Fall Issue 2020)

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## Letter from the Editor in Chief

It is with great pleasure that I present the second issue of the Undergraduate Historical and Critical Race & Ethnic Studies Journal at UC Merced, as a continuation of the 7th volume of the Undergraduate Historical Journal at UC Merced. As a reflection of our joint department's commitment to urgent questions of race, class, and gender in the past and present, this issue stands as a testament to the benefits of collaboration from students across disciplines.

Throughout this semester, we as student editors have still been struggling to keep up with coursework and editing responsibilities with operations remaining online. This year and all of the tragedies and uprisings that came along with it have made questions of race, class, imperialism, and representation in hollywood to the forefront of everyone's minds. In this edition, our articles and book reviews explore those topics in new and creative ways.

Cynthia Bravo, in her review of *For Women and The Nation: Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti of Nigeria* By Cheryl Johnson-Odim and Nina Emma Mba, discusses ideas of feminism and anti-imperialism. Maya C. Ramirez in, *The Other in Hollywood: Asia and Asian Americans and the Fight Against the Western Perspective*, explores the roles of Asian American's in film and the strides that are being made to make their representation more accurate and inclusive. Yohel Salas takes on Salvador Allende's socialist movement in Chile in, *Chile: Detouring the Road to Socialism, 1970-1973*. Finally Andrea Guerra chooses to make a creative critical race argument in her article, *A Successful Border Crossing in Chicken Run*.

This semester's board was staffed by Lesly Garcia, Yohel Salas, Cynthia Bravo. Kevin Ng, Jeremy Paguibitan, Andrea Guerra, Jessica Martinez, Guadalupe Vasquez, and Jessica Olivas. I cannot thank these amazing editors enough for the work they put in this semester despite all of our challenges. Finally, on behalf of the entire board, I would like to thank Mario Sifuentez, PhD for serving as our faculty advisor.

Madelyn Lara  
Editor in Chief

## Faculty Forward

It is a testament to our students that in this extremely challenging environment, they have not only been able to concentrate on their studies but that they have published another stellar edition of the Undergraduate Historical and Critical Race & Ethnic Studies Journal. In this era of alternate facts and fake news, our profession fills a desperate need for teaching students critical thinking skills, the ability to assess evidence, and making compelling arguments. This year's edition demonstrates a continuation of UC Merced HCRES students who have taken that challenge to heart. As is our tradition the journal examines questions of race, gender, sexuality and seeks to provide students with a publishing experience that will serve them in various aspects of their lives. It takes a tremendous amount of diligence and bravery to send your work out into the world and for that our students should be commended.

The issue opens with a timely book review of a biography of Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti, a Nigerian activist for women's rights and self-determination.

The articles in this edition tackle issues of representation in the media at a time when we see how powerful these messages can be and how important it is to challenge damaging and derogatory stereotypes. But more importantly we can see the power in creating our own stories and telling our own truths and how those stories often turn into concrete change. Andrea Guerra and Maya C. Ramirez provide us with two powerful articles that force us to rethink how we consume film.

As we face a worldwide pandemic, we are also forced to ask ourselves what the nation is obligated to provide its citizenry. Recent polls have demonstrated that younger generations are becoming increasingly critical of capitalism and are looking for alternative ways to organize society. History here too can shed some light on what it means to be a socialist, Yohel Salas provides us some perspective from Chile and the fascinating story of Chile's Socialist President Salvador Allende.

Finally, I want to thank the members of our editorial team for putting together this issue, which is a challenge in typical circumstances and even more so in the COVID era. Specifically, our Editor in Chief Madelyn Lara, and her team of editors Lesly Garcia, Yohel Salas, Cynthia Bravo, Kevin Ng, Jeremy Paguibitan, Andrea Guerra, Jessica Martinez, Guadalupe Vasquez, and Jessica Olivas. I am constantly in a state of awe when I think about all the challenges this team has overcome.

Mario Jimenez Sifuentez, PhD