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THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA



September Newsletter

Welcome Back, Wildcats!

As we get settled back into the the semester we have updates of upcoming events and announcements that you won't want to miss!

**CCI HORIZONS STUDENT
AI SHOWCASE**

Tuesday, October 7
Main Library, Room 112
Doors open at 5 pm

Experience innovative, student-led projects that explore how AI sparks creativity, drives solutions, and intersects disciplines.

confluentcenter
for Creative Inquiry

The poster features a grid of ten hexagonal portraits of diverse students and faculty members, set against a blue background with a network-like pattern of lines and dots.

📌 RSVP & Save the Date: CCI Horizons Student AI Showcase
Tuesday, October 7, 2025 | Doors open at 5:00 PM
📍 Main Library, Room 112

The CCI Horizons Student AI Showcase will feature nine exceptional students who have spent their summer exploring artificial intelligence through bold, interdisciplinary lenses. Their projects examine AI's evolving role in education, research, creative practice, and its broader societal impact.

These projects are supported through the [CCI Horizons - AI Summer Grant](#), part of the Conflucenter for Creative Inquiry's ongoing mission to foster bold, imaginative exploration at the intersection of technology and the human experience. This initiative supports student work rooted in intersectional thinking and transdisciplinary collaboration, inviting new visions of what AI can do.

 **Mark your calendar and RSVP below!**

[RSVP Here!](#)



CCI Horizons Student AI - Interviews

If you've been keeping up with our social media, you've likely caught a glimpse of our CCI Horizons student grantees sharing insights into their AI-powered projects.

These short interviews offer a behind-the-scenes look at the inspiration, goals, and community impact behind each project and how these students are using AI as a creative and meaningful tool.

 Full videos and reels are coming soon! Stay tuned to our channels to hear directly from the grantees and learn more about their bold, interdisciplinary work.

 Follow along and get a sneak peek of what's to come at the [October 7th Showcase!](#)



Fall 2025 Charlas con Café

Join us this semester for a collaborative Charla series
with CLAS and Confloucenter!



Charlas.con.Café is back for Fall 2025! ✨

This fall, the [Center for Latin American Studies](#) is partnering with the [Confloucenter for Creative Inquiry](#) to host the *Charlas con Café Speaker Series*. 🤝

Join us for a semester of meaningful conversations and, of course, coffee ☕ — a weekly space to hear lectures from a wide variety of experts and discuss topics relevant to the Latin American region.

📅 Fall 2025 Dates: Sept 5 • Sept 19 • Oct 3 • Oct 17 • Oct 31 • Nov 14 • Dec 5

📍 Stay tuned for topics, guest speakers & locations!

FALL 2025 CHARLAS CON CAFÉ

RADICAL ANCESTRALITY: THE EMERGENCE AND POPULARIZATION OF THE CONCEPT OF ANCESTRALITY IN BRAZIL

with Dr. Antonio J. Bacelar da Silva & Dr. Rafaela Cruz

This talk is an introduction to a new book project titled *Radical Ancestrality*, which combines critical theory and ethnographic studies to offer a comprehensive analysis of the use of the notion of "ancestralidade" (ancestrality) in Brazilian academia, social movements, and policy-making. In the past 20 years, Brazil has witnessed an increase in the centrality of race and racism as a public concern in media, public policies, and academia. This shift has been mostly led by the cumulative struggles of social movements and community strengthening of the previous decades. Drawing on the strengths of a transdisciplinary approach to examine the sociocultural dimensions of such phenomenon, the book will serve two different, albeit interconnected, purposes: (1) to trace the genealogy of the concept of ancestrality in Brazil as it has historically appeared in the Brazilian black movement and academic (professional) discourse, as well as its recent popularization and wide dissemination into the public sphere; (2) to establish a robust and rigorous framework for conceptualizing what we will refer to as radical ancestrality: a radical historical consciousness that expresses itself through a commitment to both the present and the future.



Dr. Antonio J. Bacelar da Silva

Associate Professor,
Center for Latin American Studies
School of Anthropology
University of Arizona



Dr. Rafaela Cruz

Assistant Professor
Literature & English
Universidade Federal Rural de
Pernambuco (UFRPE), Brazil



Friday,
September 5, 2025



1:00 pm - 2:00 pm
Coffee & snacks at 12:30pm



Marshall 280



COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
Center for Latin
American Studies



confluentcenter
for Creative Inquiry



Join Us for Our First Charla!

Fridays | 1–2 PM (Coffee & snacks at 12:30!)



Kicking things off: We're diving into the idea of "*ancestralidade*" (ancestrality) in Brazil with a preview of the upcoming book *Radical Ancestrality*. Discover how this powerful concept is helping reshape conversations around race, identity, and belonging — from academia to activism to everyday life.

Come for the coffee, stay for the conversation. See you there!

[Learn More](#)



Episode 6 of the Voices of Fronteridades is out now! 🎙️

Learning Across Borders: Migrant Shelters as Spaces of Resistance

In this episode we sit down with Chicana scholar and Ph.D. candidate [Juanita Sandoval](#) to explore how migrant shelters along the U.S.-Mexico border can serve as powerful spaces for learning, advocacy, and transformation.

Juanita shares insights from her Mellon-Fronteridades Fellowship research, reflecting on her time in Sonora, Mexico, where she examined the role of pedagogy and activism in supporting undocumented migrants.

Tune in to hear how education, storytelling, and community care come together in spaces often overlooked and how this research can impact both sides of the border.

[Listen Here!](#)



New Job Opportunity: Call for Artists!
Morris K. Udall Park: Request for Qualifications

In partnership with the City of Tucson Parks and Recreation Department the Arts Foundation is in search of requests for qualification for the Morris K. Udall Park.

Budget: \$122,597

Eligibility: Open to all professional Artists and Artist teams WORLDWIDE!

Application Deadline: Thursday, September 18, by 11:59pm Arizona Time

🎨 ✨ Public art is coming to Morris K. Udall Park! This project seeks to integrate public art into a new inclusive playground—creating an engaging, inspiring, and accessible environment for community members of all abilities. Don't miss this opportunity to create lasting artwork that will spark joy and connection for generations of Tucson families.

Visit artsfoundtucson.org to learn more!



Now that you are all caught up, make sure you stay up to date with us by following us on [social media](#), checking out our [Linktree](#), or visiting our [website](#)!



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[Land Acknowledgment](#)

We respectfully acknowledge the University of Arizona is on the land and territories of Indigenous peoples. Today, Arizona is home to 22 federally recognized tribes, with Tucson being home to the O'odham and the Yaqui. The university strives to build sustainable relationships with sovereign Native Nations and Indigenous communities through education offerings, partnerships, and community service.