

## Decolonial Praxis Conference

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### Project Summary

The main objective for organizing the Decolonial Praxis Conference was to create not only an academic space, but also to serve as an open space for activists, community organizers and academics to discuss decolonial theories, pedagogies, research methods and praxis, especially BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color). The Conference met the main objective, by creating not only this space, but also a transnational network of decolonial praxis scholars. The future steps are to solidify this open and safe space and network for not only academics, but also activists and community organizers from the local community and from other regions and countries, to increase the impact of the projects and research of participants, and join efforts to build projects together.

Another objective was for the Conference to be accessible for people with disabilities and people from other regions of the world that didn't speak English. This objective was also met by developing a hybrid Conference, where speakers and attendees participated online or in-person. Moreover, we conducted the Conference with a language justice approach by having consecutive interpreting in both English and Spanish during all the Conference, allowing participants from México and Latinx populations in the US to be included in the discussion, people that are normally left out due to western-centrism and coloniality of knowledge.

We also created a very relevant product that we didn't consider in the beginning, which is to create a book with the best papers of the Conference, as well as to publish a dossier in an academic journal. At the time of this report, we are working on both of these products. We already have a journal that will publish the dossier, as well as an editorial house that wants to publish the book.

### Impacts

We had a positive impact mainly with two milestones: We were the first Decolonial Praxis Conference to ever happen at UCR, that transcended just academic

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events, but collectively all the participants of the Conference created the Riverside Declaration of Decolonial Praxis. The second milestone is that we received feedback from several presenters and attendees that this was the only Conference they have attended that had Spanish-English interpreting during the whole Conference, putting in the center the importance of language justice.

We had around 50 attendees in total. Around 30 attended online and 20 in-person. Most speakers participated online, but there were around 30% of speakers/presenters in-person. Presentations were given in both Spanish and English. We had presenters and attendees from different states of the US, as well as from the countries of México, Chile, Ecuador, Peru, Brazil, and Cuba. All attendees were students, including both graduate and undergraduate students. The organizing committee, staff and interpreters were all volunteers and students (including us). Most of the presenters and attendees were Latinx, black, and Indigenous.