

3rd Decolonial Praxis Conference

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Project Summary

The 3rd edition of the Decolonial Praxis Conference is not only an academic space, but an open and safe space for activists, community organizers and scholars to discuss decolonial theories, pedagogies, research methods and praxis, especially BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color), from the local community and from other regions and countries, to strengthen an international decolonial network, and increase the impact of the projects and research of participants, and join efforts to build projects together. This 3rd edition of the Conference will have panels where scholars, activists, and community organizers come together and dialogue about their projects and experience, allowing discussions to transcend academia, and be transdisciplinary. Moreover, panels will have English-Spanish interpretation, 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 always practice language justice. Finally, we plan to work on a publication with the discussions and papers of the Conference.

Impact

The main objective of organizing the 3rd Decolonial Praxis Conference (held in November 2024) was to grow the work of the previous 2 editions of the Conference and of the Decolonial Praxis Collective. The objective of the Conference has been to create not only an academic space but also an open platform for activists, community organizers, and scholars to discuss decolonial theories, pedagogies, research methods, and praxis, with a particular focus on BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) communities. However, in this Conference we wanted to hold space for more community organizers and activists. The conference successfully met this objective, by having a majority of presenters from community organizations, collectives and projects from the local communities around the Inland Empire (San Bernardino & Riverside). This helped increase the impact of the participants' projects and research, while also facilitating collaboration on new joint projects.

Another objective was to continue with the efforts of conducting our conference with language justice and disability justice. The 3rd Conference was accessible to people with disabilities and individuals from non-English-speaking regions. This was achieved by hosting a hybrid conference, allowing speakers and attendees to participate either online or in person. Additionally, we had simultaneous interpretation in both English and

Spanish throughout the conference, which allowed participants from Mexico and Latinx populations in the U.S. to be included in the discussion, people who are normally left out due to western-centrism and coloniality of knowledge.

Regarding participants, we had 109 participants in our 3rd Conference in total, including presenters, staff, and attendees, both online and in-person. We had undergrad and grad students, faculty, and community members attending. Additionally, we organized an online Symposium a couple weeks after our Conference, with English-Spanish interpreting and open to the public. Finally, we organized a smaller Conference of Decolonial Praxis in Mexicali, in March 2025, with a focus on Environmental Justice and Indigenous peoples. The rationale of having this smaller Conference is to give the opportunity to people from Baja California and the southern border of California to participate in-person, that didn't have the funds to attend or didn't have US visa. This was the first time we organized a Decolonial Praxis Conference in Mexicali. In this Conference we had presenters from southern California, Mexicali, and Tijuana, as well as Cucapáh Indigenous peoples.