

F22.006: A Perspective on the Mental Health of NAU Latina/o Students During the Coronavirus Pandemic

Faculty mentor: Dr. Jose G. Moreno

Overview

The current pandemic has had a substantial impact on people across the world, with these impacts on populations going well beyond just the physical toll that it has on those that are infected with the virus. Beyond the challenges that it has had on economic and social conditions, there is also the impact it has had on the mental health of people across the globe. While a virus does not discriminate, nor can it specifically target any particular race, sex, or level of social class - the virus, and a government's response to it - can have different or unique impacts on particular groups of people. This research project aims to address how the current COVID-19 pandemic has affected the mental health of Latina/o students at Northern Arizona University (NAU). This will include a discussion on cross culturalism, intergenerational differences, environmental adaptations, mental illnesses, and student motivation. It will analyze how cultural competence may influence a Latina/os perception on mental health. Insight provided by mental health organizations targeting the Latino/a community will provide a current view on the acceptance or rejection of mental health and the stigma surrounding it. Next, it will create a brief outline on how students' lives have changed since the beginning of the pandemic. Specifically, focusing on Latinas/os in the United States attending a postsecondary institution.

What the student will DO and LEARN

The intern will help create a research design, conduct a literature review, conduct interviews, conduct a focus group with faculty advisor. This student will learn how to conduct research through being part of this critical scholarly study.

Additional benefits

This student will learn the tools to go forward in their future graduate studies.

Additional qualifications

N/A

Time commitment

6 hrs/week for 30 weeks