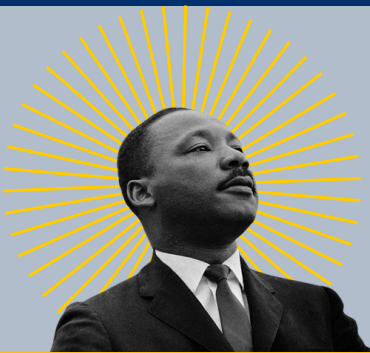


MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2025

cbsr.ucsb.edu



FROM OUR DIRECTOR



Dear CBSR Community,

Welcome back! I hope this message finds you well and refreshed after the Winter break. As we embark on a new year, I am thrilled to share exciting events and initiatives that the Center for Black Studies Research has planned for January 2025. Let us continue our journey of exploration, education, and celebration of African American history and culture.

Launch of Our 3rd Docuseries on African American Life in the United States

We are proud to announce the launch of the third installment in our documentary series focused on African American life in the United States. This year's series begins with two powerful showings that celebrate and reflect on the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The program will open with a moving recording of Dr. King reading his iconic Letter from Birmingham Jail. This reading will set the stage for a deeply engaging afternoon. Following this, we will show *I Am Not Your Negro*, a film that explores the history of racism in America using James Baldwin's unfinished manuscript for a book detailing Baldwin's reflections on Medgar Evers, Malcolm X, and Martin Luther King Jr. We invite you to join us for this meaningful tribute to Dr. King and an exploration of the ongoing struggles and triumphs in the fight for racial justice.

Upcoming Events and Highlights

Workshop by Dr. Ebenezer Larnyo

Dr. Larnyo will lead an engaging workshop this month, *Addressing Social Determinants of Health in Older African Americans in the US*, that will delve into the critical role of social determinants, including education, income, intergenerational support, and systemic discrimination, in shaping the health outcomes of older African Americans in the US. His talk will take place on January 23, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. in 4603 South Hall.

Talk by Dr. Antar Tichavakunda

We are honored to host Dr. Antar Tichavakunda for an enlightening talk that promises to inspire and challenge us. Dr. Tichavakunda's expertise in critical race theory and education will provide valuable perspectives for our community. His talk, *Doing Critical Race Theory in Perilous Times*, will be held on January 27, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. via Zoom.

Black Collective Scholar Mixer

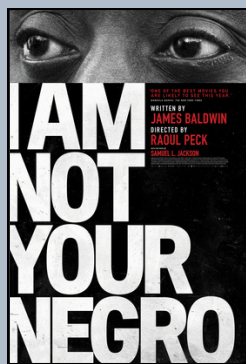
Hosted by Drs. Rice and Tichavakunda, this mixer is a unique opportunity to connect with fellow scholars

and build meaningful networks. Join us as we foster collaboration and celebrate the achievements of Black scholars.

As always, the Center for Black Studies Research remains committed to creating spaces where critical conversations, scholarship, and cultural expression thrive. We look forward to seeing you at these events and throughout the quarter. (Tettegah & Open AI, personal communication, January 7, 2025)

Warm regards,
Sharon Tettegah, PhD.
Director, Center for Black Studies Research
University of California, Santa Barbara

CELEBRATING MLK & 3RD IN CBSR DOCUMENTARY SERIES ON AFRICAN AMERICAN LIFE



On January 15th, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. in 4603 South Hall, we will be honoring Martin Luther King Jr. with a showing of him reading his *Letter from Birmingham Jail*. This reading will be followed by the next film in the series, *I Am Not Your Negro*. This film explores the history of racism in America through the unfinished manuscript of James Baldwin, connecting his reflections on civil rights leaders Medgar Evers, Malcolm X, and Martin Luther King Jr. to present-day racial issues.

Food and popcorn will be served.

HONORING MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

The Center for Black Studies Research is proud to have co-sponsored the Martin Luther King Jr. Committee of Santa Barbara (MLKSB) for more than a decade. A key highlight of MLKSB's annual programming is the Eternal Flame March, held at UCSB. This year, the march will take place on Thursday, January 16th, from 12:00–2:00 p.m. The event will convene at the Eternal Flame, located on the Chemistry Building lawn on UCSB's campus, and will open with the singing of the Black National Anthem.

We are especially honored to announce that our postdoctoral scholar, Dr. Charles Terry, will deliver his keynote address, *The Unfinished Torch of Justice: The Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*, at the march. Dr. Terry's speech will explore how Dr. King's vision continues to inspire the ongoing fight for justice and equality.

We encourage you to join us in honoring Dr. King's enduring legacy and commitment to justice. For more details about the Eternal Flame programming, MLKSB, and other events organized by MLKSB, please visit their website by clicking [here](#).

“DOING CRITICAL RACE IN PERILOUS TIMES” WITH DR. ANTAR TICHAVAKUNDA

CBSR Advisory Board member and Assistant Professor of Education at UCSB, Dr. Antar Tichavakunda, will be giving his talk, *Doing Critical Race Theory in Perilous Times*, on January 27th, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. via ZOOM. Dr. Tichavakunda's talk will offer clarity on what exactly Critical Race

Theory (CRT) is, and will be based on a conceptual essay as an invitation to engage seriously with CRT's legal foundations in order to enrich CRT research. To register please [click here](#).

WORKSHOP SERIES WITH DR. EBENEZER LARNYO

“Happy New Year, and welcome back to campus for an exciting 2025! This quarter, I’m thrilled to continue hosting my monthly research workshops, focusing on crucial topics such as the impact of environmental exposures and social determinants of health in Black communities.

These workshops are designed to equip both undergraduate and graduate students with essential research and data analysis skills. More importantly, they aim to empower students with the knowledge and expertise needed to identify health inequities and contribute to informed policy interventions.

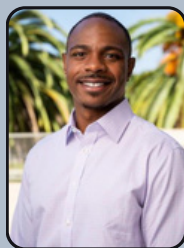
Let’s make this a year of learning, growth, and impactful research!” - *Dr. Ebenezer Larnyo*

The second workshop in Dr. Larnyo’s series is entitled *Addressing Social Determinants of Health in Older African Americans in the US*, and will be held January 23rd, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. in 4603 South Hall. The workshop will delve into the critical role of social determinants, including education, income, intergenerational support, and systemic discrimination, in shaping the health outcomes of older African Americans in the US. Participants will explore the intersection of aging, race, and health disparities, with a focus on how these determinants exacerbate chronic diseases. Through real-world data, interactive discussions, and practical policy analysis exercises, attendees will gain insights into the root causes of health inequities. Participants will have the opportunity to present community-based and policy-driven interventions that promote health equity, enhance quality of life, and empower older African Americans to achieve better health outcomes.



BLACK COLLECTIVE SCHOLAR MIXER & WORKING PAPER SERIES

The Black Collective, created by Drs. Albert Rice and Antar Tichavakunda, is a collaborative forum for scholars of the Black experience to share current research projects with a supportive, affirming audience that will provide generative feedback.



The Collective also serves to connect like-minded scholars at UCSB and foster strong intellectual and social ties across campus. These goals are pursued through two programs:

- 1) A Working Paper Series, where scholars discuss ongoing research projects and share works-in-progress, and
- 2) The Scholar Mixer, a quarterly social event that features food, wine and a relaxed atmosphere for scholars to dialogue and expand their cross-campus academic and social networks.

While the Black Collective hopes to center and uplift the research of Black scholars at UCSB, the space is open to all staff, faculty, administrators, and graduate students whose research aims to expand our understanding of the Black experience in the United States and beyond.



The Black Collective will host their Winter Scholar Mixer event on January 31, 2025. They will also hold their first Working Paper Series meeting on April 18, 2025. Both events begin at 5pm in the Center for Black Studies Research in 4603 South Hall.

“A FIGHT FOR LITERACY” WITH DR. CHARLES TERRY & OTHER UPDATES

“Welcome back all and I’m excited to be back for an eventful year! I’m continuing my work on revising my dissertation for publication as a book and will be meeting with an editor at Palgrave MacMillan in early January to discuss forthcoming plans. I have also continued work with my research group of undergraduate scholars, Zitong Xi and Kamaya Jackson, on topics in Black Studies. I’m looking forward to joining MLKSB for the Eternal Flame March to pay tribute to Martin Luther King Jr. I hope to see many of you at my upcoming academic talk *A Fight for Literacy: Enslaved African Americans and Education in the Antebellum South*.” - *Dr. Charles Terry*



CBSR Postdoctoral Scholar Dr. Charles Terry will be giving his talk *A Fight for Literacy: Enslaved African Americans and Education in the Antebellum South* on February 11th, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. in 4603 South Hall. The presentation will also be livestreamed accessible by clicking [here](#). Dr. Terry’s presentation will dive into the ways in which anti-literacy laws were passed as part of a larger response to the threat of slave rebellion and agency on the part of enslaved African Americans. It will demonstrate how these laws functioned to further reify the strict social hierarchy and hegemony of slave owners in the Antebellum South. To register for the livestream please click [here](#).

“BLACK PEARLS OF GENEALOGY” WITH DAVID TAYLOR

Family historian David Anthony Taylor will be exploring the Black Pearls of Genealogy website, TheBPOG.org, and the wealth of free tools it offers to support research into African American history. The BPOG is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and celebrating the rich histories of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC). Under David’s leadership, the organization has divided its website into two primary sections: the Ancestral Memorials and the Research Portal. With the Ancestral Memorials being dedicated to honoring and commemorating the lives of the formerly enslaved, the United States Colored Troops (USCT), and past and current local heroes within BIPOC communities, and the Research Portal is a resource that offers a wide array of tools and records to assist researchers in exploring the lives and historical contributions of people of color in the United States. Mr. Taylor will be presenting March 11th, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. in 4603 South Hall.

