

Call for Proposals

Think. Teach. Transform.

Symposium: 25th Anniversary of Critical Race Studies

UCLA School of Law

October 23-24, 2025

The Critical Race Studies program at the UCLA School of Law will hold its 25th Anniversary Symposium on October 23rd and 24th. This symposium will mark twenty-five years since luminaries in the field of Critical Race Theory created the only program of its kind in legal academia. Since then, CRS has produced over 1,000 lawyers dedicated to racial justice, and its faculty have written over 200 articles developing critical racial investigations of the pressing issues of our time.

For our 25th Anniversary, we will engage with the three themes that animate our work: think, teach, and transform. To that end, we are inviting submissions to consider the next 25 years of Critical Race Theory. We encourage paper and panel proposals that not only appreciate the foundations of Critical Race Theory but also push its boundaries, investigate how it informs legal pedagogy, and explore how it can be used by legal professionals and others to promote a more racially just world. Topics might include:

- In a moment that CRT is misrepresented and has become a target of fascist politics, how do we reclaim our identity?
- How does a project of fighting white supremacy look different as the country moves toward authoritarianism?
- How have white supremacist ideologies shaped immigration policies and enforcement practices in recent years?
- How can CRT help us understand the connections between anti-immigrant sentiment and other forms of racial oppression?
- What are the ideological underpinnings of contemporary attacks on "wokeness," DEI initiatives, and racial justice movements, and how do we resist them?
- How have recent legislative efforts to restrict discussions of race in classrooms impacted curriculum development and teaching practices?
- How can educational institutions navigate the tension between compliance with restrictive legislation and a commitment to accurate historical representation?
- How does a critical race perspective enhance our understanding of the climate crisis?
- What lessons from L.A.'s multiracial politics and activism might inform CRT's evolution in addressing complex racial hierarchies?
- How do manifestations of white supremacy differ across global contexts, and what insights might these comparisons offer CRT scholars?
- How might CRT engage more deeply with Third World Approaches to International Law (TWAIL) to develop more globally relevant frameworks?
- How can CRT methodologies inform public policy, healthcare, education, and other fields?

Each proposal must include a cover page with paper/panel titles, possible presenters, their affiliations, and a current email contact, along with a maximum two-page CV of each presenter. For individual papers,

please submit an abstract of no more than 250 words. For panels, submit an overall abstract of no more than 500 words and individual paper descriptions of no more than 250 words each. Please submit materials via email to crs@law.ucla.edu with the subject line: CRS Anniversary Symposium Proposal.

The deadline for submission is Wednesday, June 11, 2025. Scholars whose submissions are selected for the symposium will be notified no later than June 30, 2025. Submissions will be accepted on a rolling basis, so we highly encourage early submissions.