



DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA 92521-0201

June 2020

Dear Philosophy Students and fellow members of the UCR community:

We are writing to share our collective support in response to the recent Call to Action sent by UCR students and student organizations. Please distribute as widely as you see fit.

The faculty and instructors of the Philosophy Department at UCR are deeply disturbed and outraged by violence—both recent and historical—targeting people and communities of color, in particular, the state and police violence against Black people and other people of color leading up to and during the current protests. This violence is compounded by systemic racism, which has led to disproportionate impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on communities of color, including African American, Native, and Latinx communities. This violence is also displayed in anti-Asian racism related to the geographic origins of the coronavirus.

As teachers and allies, we stand in solidarity with our students of color. Rather than adopt a single policy for all cases, we have each committed to support students in the ways that best suit individual students and circumstances. Some of us have made final exams and papers optional; some have reduced workloads or extended deadlines; others have adopted different measures. We encourage you to reach out to us if the relief offered by these measures is not sufficient. We are committed to the success of all students at all times, but especially to students of color in this historical moment.

We also call on our leadership to seek direct engagement with the day-to-day realities of students, staff, and faculty of color. We stand with the authors of the Call to Action. We add our voices to those of our students. We challenge our leadership to offer a meaningful and lasting response.

Signed,

Myisha Cherry
Maudemarie Clark
Carl Cranor
Luca Ferrero
Kim Frost
John Martin Fischer
Peter Graham
Adam Harmer
Agnieszka Jaworska
Pierre Keller
Coleen Macnamara

Jozef Muller
Michael Nelson
Sasha Newton
Andrews Reath
Erich Reck
Eric Schwitzgebel
Howard Wettstein
Joshua Wood
Patrick Londen
Avery Snelson
William Swanson