



BUILDING CONNECTIONS
A YEAR OF GROWTH
2020-2021



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*This was the
best quarter I've
ever had
at UC Davis.*



Matt Traxler

Associate Vice Provost for
Academic Planning,
Undergraduate Education



Angela Taylor

Program Coordinator
Quarter at Aggie Square

Welcome to Quarter at Aggie Square.

Quarter at Aggie Square launched in the most challenging circumstances imaginable for a place-based program: a remote learning environment.

And yet, we achieved numerous successes.

Student outcomes were exactly what we had hoped for: an enhanced sense of connection with faculty and fellow students, newly discovered academic and career pathways, and a sense of purpose.

The challenge of internships and community engagements in the remote environment were met by innovative faculty and their partners. Students contributed solutions to the future of education, equitable health care for impacted communities in Sacramento, and took an introspective, holistic approach to become bilingual teachers in California.

Faculty found a renewed excitement in teaching this quarter. The opportunity to co-curate interdisciplinary, thematic curricula with colleagues across departments, and teach in a cohort model, yielded strong connections.

With the addition of four new, diverse experiences in the coming quarters, faculty from each of the four undergraduate colleges will teach our students.

Matt Traxler

Associate Vice Provost for Academic Planning

Angela Taylor

Program Coordinator

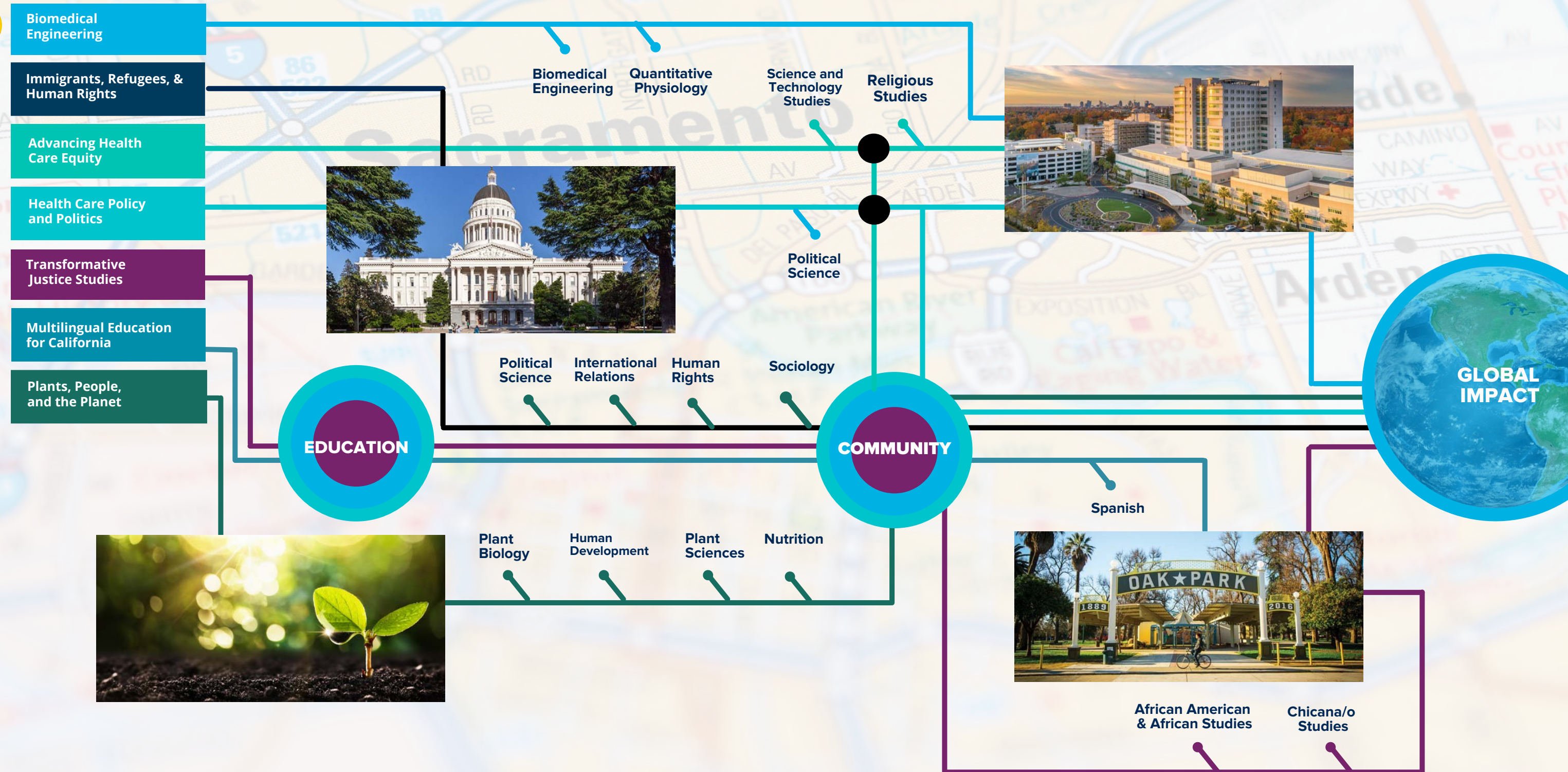


We started with Chancellor May's vision to connect **UC Davis** with **Sacramento**.

Quarter at Aggie Square incorporates undergraduate education into Chancellor May's vision to grow connections with the Health Campus, state leadership, and all that Sacramento has to offer. Through our experiences, students engage with and contribute to the Sacramento community.

Our curricula, our cohorts, our community:

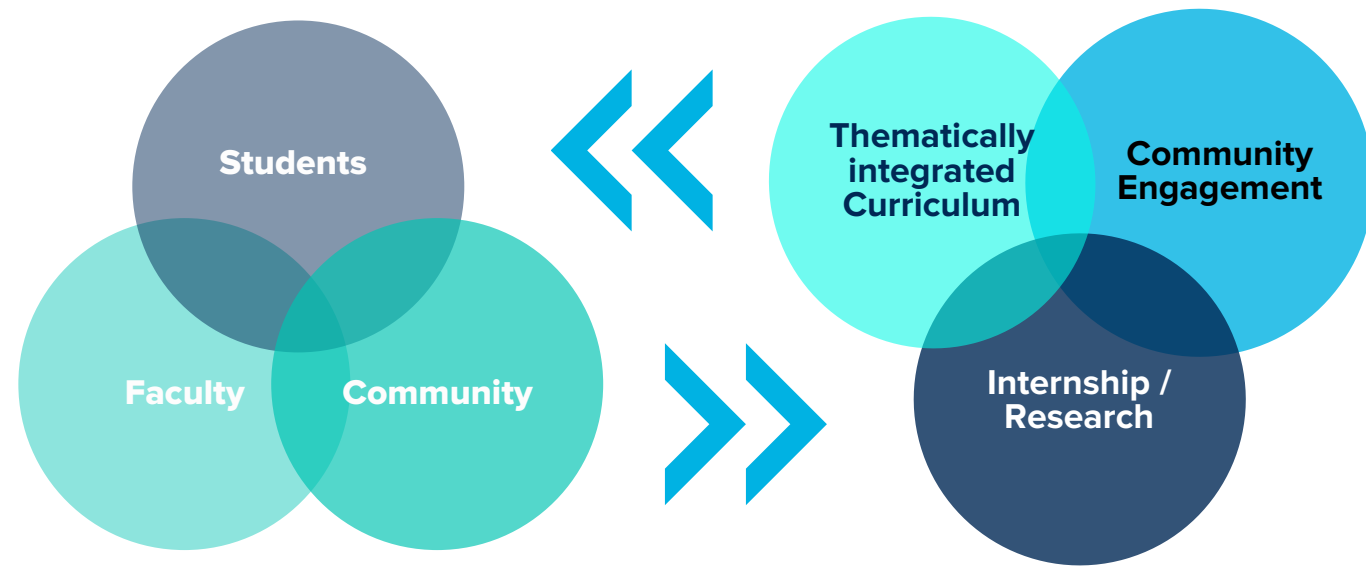
Everything about Quarter at Aggie Square is designed to connect people, learning, and action.



A Fully Integrated Learning Model

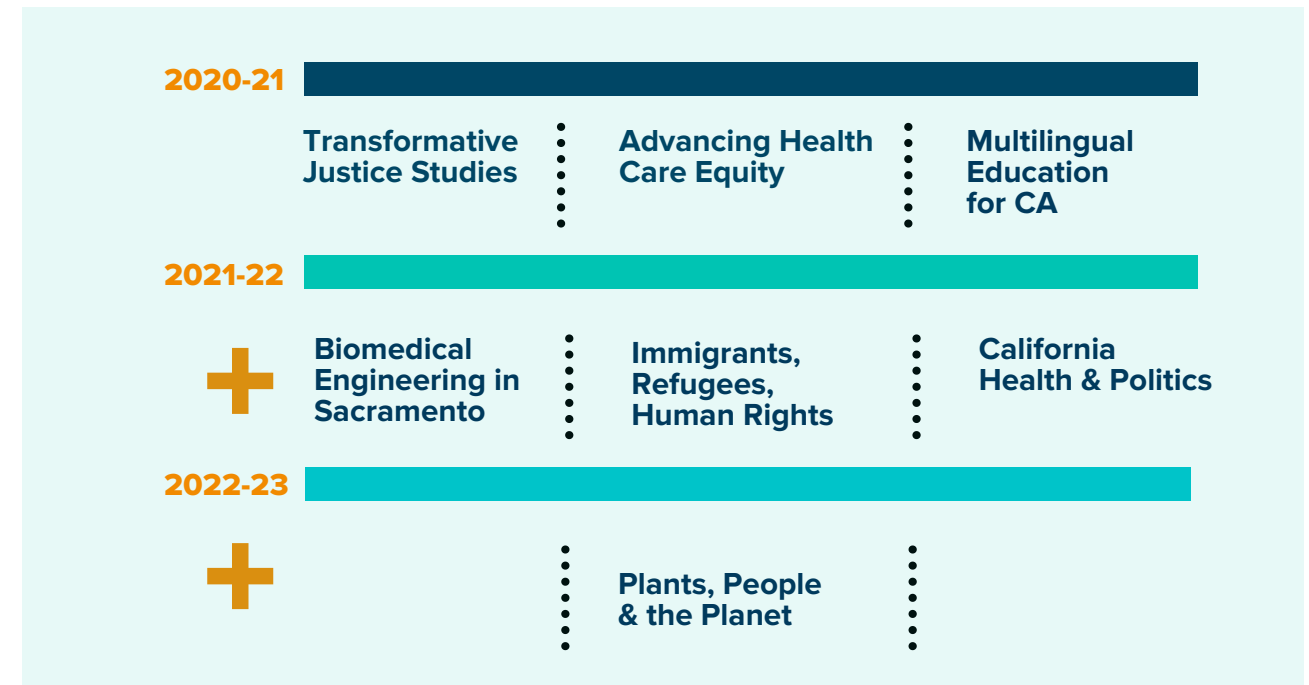
Multimodal, multidisciplinary

learning experiences connect students, faculty, and community through coursework, research, internships, and engagement.



Growing Opportunities Across the Disciplines

In our pilot year, we offered one experience per quarter. Next year we will have two; our eventual goal is four cohorts per quarter. Each experience is offered a minimum of three times. Faculty from each of the undergraduate colleges as well as the Schools of Education and Medicine have committed to teaching in the program by 22-23.



Growing Capacity and Projected Enrollment

25 student maximum per cohort

50 students in 3 cohorts in 2021-22 Pilot Year

5 cohorts scheduled in 21-22

By 2024-25, our goal is to offer four cohorts each academic quarter, and add summer opportunities.

	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
2021-22 Enrolled	14	14	15	
2022-23 Capacity	40	50	25	
2023-24 Capacity	65	75	75	25
2024-25 Capacity	90	100		50

A HIGHLY DIVERSE FACULTY

leading social change across disciplines

Transformative Justice Studies



Maisha Winn
School of Education



Lawrence "Torry" Winn
School of Education



Orly Clerge
Sociology

Advancing Healthcare Equity



Emily Merchant
Science and
Technology Studies



Lindsay Poirier
Science and
Technology Studies



Meaghan O'Keeke
Religious Studies

Multilingual Education for California



Margarita Jiménez-Silva
School of Education



Agustina Carando
Spanish & Portuguese



Orlando Carreón
School of Education



Cynthia Suarez
School of Education

"This was the best experience I've had teaching at UC Davis. Working closely with colleagues to deliver interdisciplinary curricula was a creative endeavor. Working with a small cohort generated a rare level of focus and engagement."

"Working with this unique set of students in this cohort was engaging (more so than I was use to) and really allowed me to garner meaningful relationships. This extra level of comfort really helped with this heavy emphasis on group work that really made this personal experience really collaborative that I think challenged and pushed everyone."

"Imagine the changes that would come from having more students and faculty from the Davis campus working on our Sacramento campus. Instead of separate domains — a college town campus and an urban campus dominated by the operations of UC Davis Health — a larger incarnation of UC Davis that connects the various parts of its Northern California region comes into view."



TRANSFORMATIVE JUSTICE STUDIES

Learning and Practicing a Pedagogically Informed approach to Teaching Transformative Justice

Fall 2020	Courses in Education Cultural Studies Sociology	Internship at Oak Park Elementary School	14 Students 9 Majors represented 3 Faculty
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A Strong Sense of Community

Students formed close bonds with each other, which was critical in the remote environment. They stayed in touch and took additional classes together, as well as with the TJS faculty. One student took a second QAS cohort.



TJS students met up on campus in the summer, after Covid restrictions eased.



I left the program with a deep understanding of the subject matter and knowledge of how it applies to my life, society, and culture.

*-Ella Sands '22
Major*



Community Connections

Covid-19 kept us from going out into the community -- so the community came to us. Special guest lectures by Oak Park entrepreneur-activists Maritza and Roshaun Davis, and Sacramento performance painter David Garibaldi, helped the students draw a deeper connection to each other and between the learning and the local community.

Connecting Pedagogical Theory & Practice

Student teams worked with teachers and principals at Oak Ridge Elementary to create documents relating the Five Pedagogies of transformative justice education to the school. They created reports on how **history matters**, **race matters**, **justice matters**, and **language matters**, and envisioned **futures** which they presented in podcasts.

We created a Zoom background blending the five pedagogies of Transformative Justice with an iconic mural from Oak Park.





ADVANCING HEALTH CARE EQUITY

An approach to the science and politics of health care access informed by science, data, and sociocultural impacts

Winter 2021

Courses in Science & Technology Studies Religious Studies

Collaborations with Asian Resources, Inc CA Dep't of Public Health - Office of Health Equity Sacramento LGBT Center

14 Students 9 Majors 3 Faculty



Students did virtual group internships. One group, working with the Sacramento LGBT Community Center, created a plan for AIDS testing in the Covid environment

Photo: Sacramento LGBT Community Center,

Public Speaker Series

Free public lectures brought academic and professional experts from across campus, California, and the country to engage with students and the community on challenging topics.

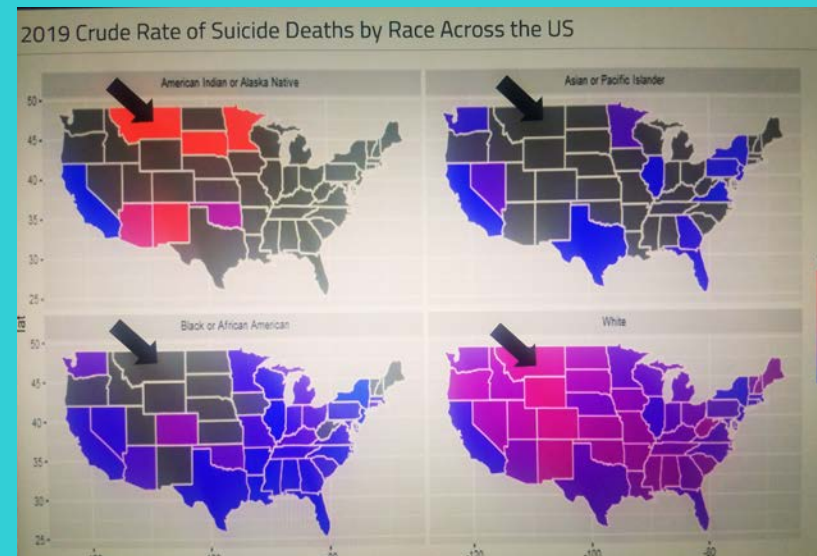
The series featured experts from the UC Davis School of Law, School of Medicine, and department of Evolution and Ecology; Oregon State and CSU-Sacramento, and state government speaking on topics from reproductive injustices, religion and healthcare delivery, to personal genomics, privacy and equity.



Rebecca Kluchin, Professor of History, CSU-Sacramento, spoke on "Reproductive Injustices: Forced Caesarean Sections in 1980s America."

The Learning Lab: Data Sciences, Ethics, and Health care

Students developed data science skills and did research on healthcare inequities using national databases including CDC- and Vital Statistics. Presentations covered topics such as suicide rates among Native Americans, and obesity among Asian Pacific Islanders. They applied these skills in their group internship projects.



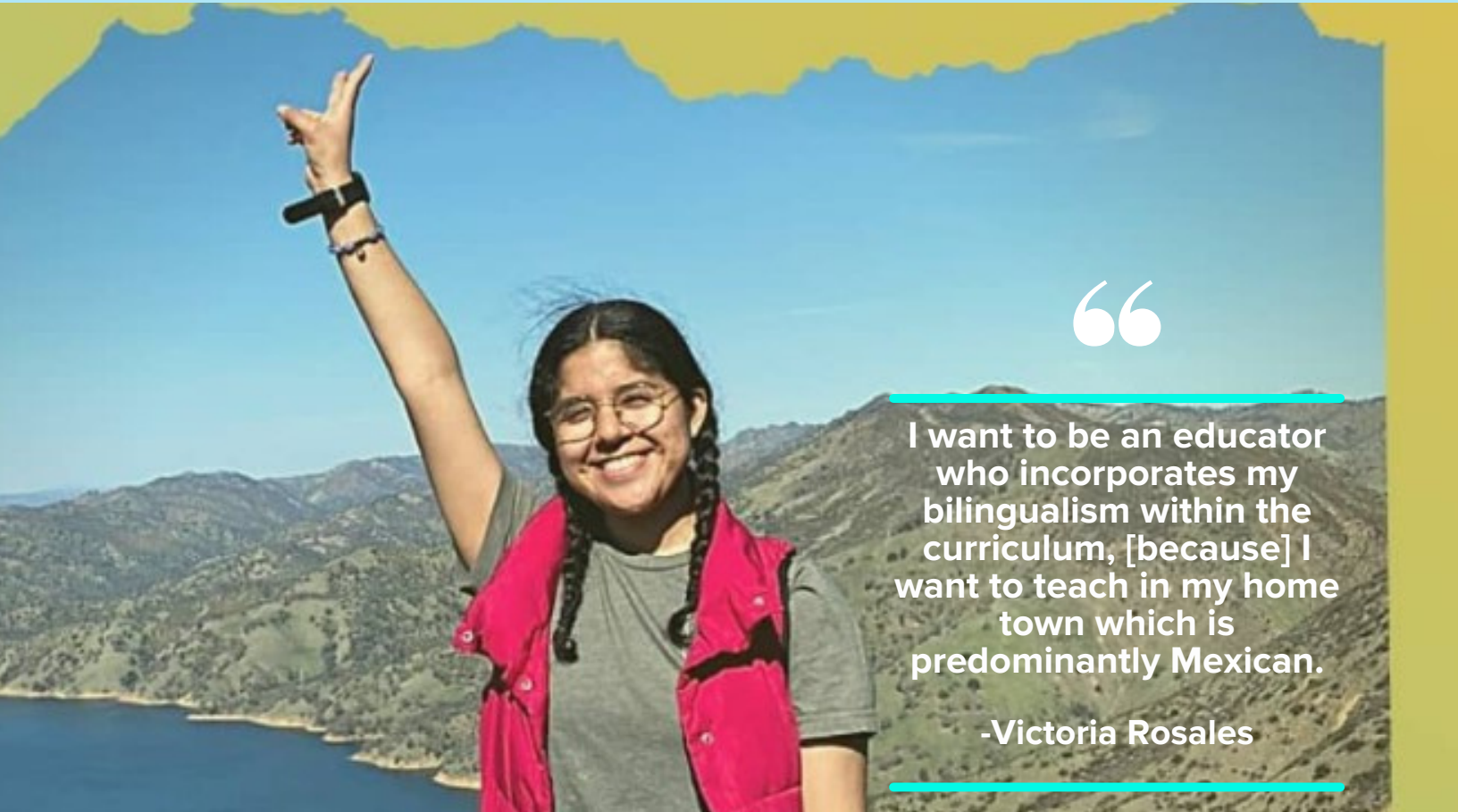
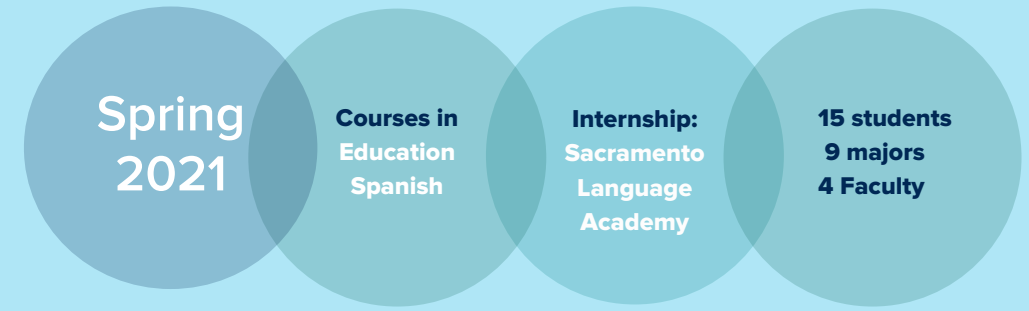
"In my eight years at Davis, I feel like these were the classes where my students learned the most."

-Meaghan O'Keefe
Associate Professor of Religious Studies



MULTILINGUAL EDUCATION FOR CALIFORNIA

Meeting California's Need for Culturally informed, Bilingual K-12 Educators



“

I want to be an educator who incorporates my bilingualism within the curriculum, [because] I want to teach in my home town which is predominantly Mexican.

-Victoria Rosales

Public Engagement:



Lilia Soto, Associate Professor of Latina/o Studies and American Studies at the University of Wyoming, gave a powerful public lecture about her research on the educational and cultural experience of migrant teens.

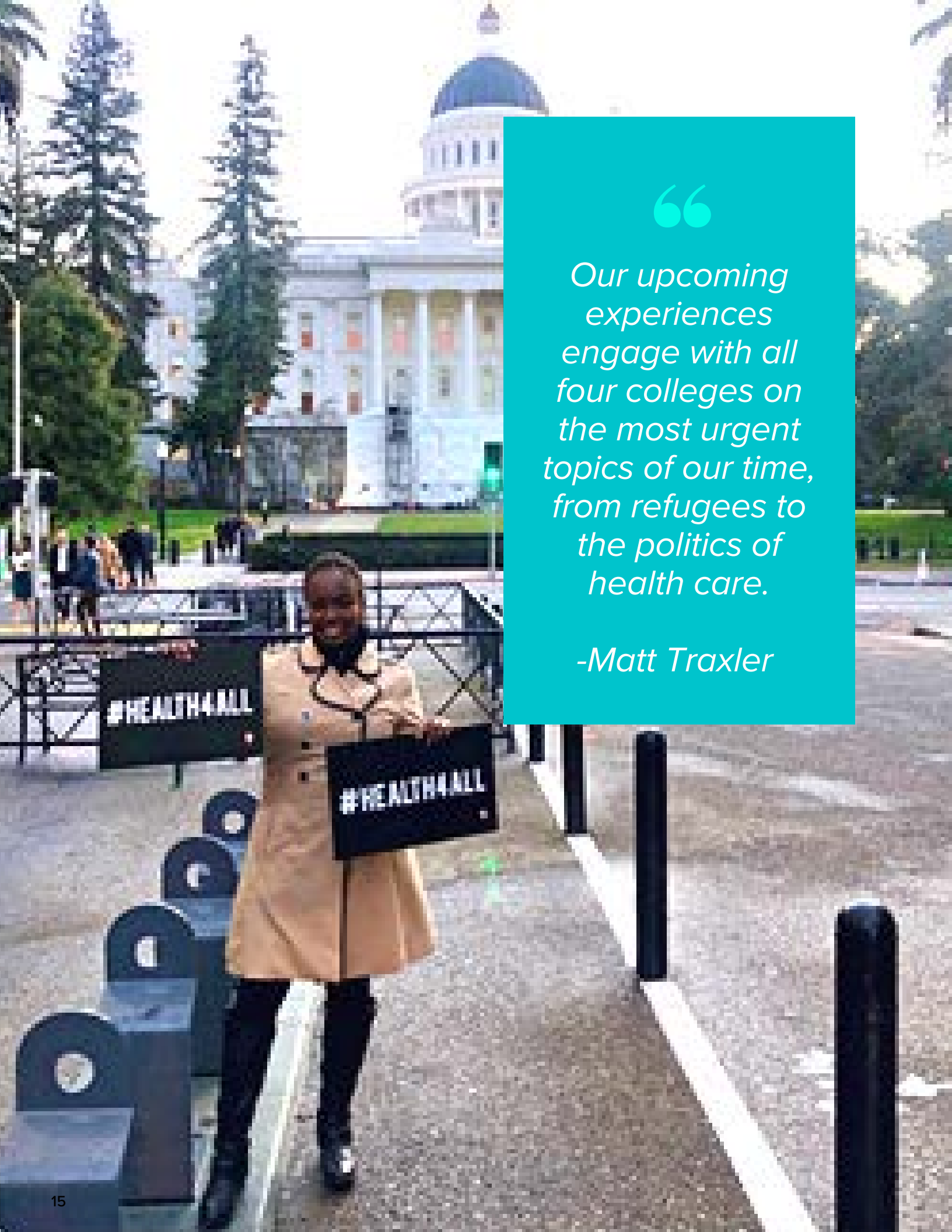
Internship: Language Academy of Sacramento

Students spent time every week in a [virtual] bilingual classroom, working one-on-one or in small groups with students. They experienced first-hand what teachers are doing to not only teach their content, but how they are able to meet the challenges of these times and create meaningful learning experiences for all their students.

--Cynthia Suarez, Lecturer, UC Davis School of Education; Literacy Coach, Language Academy of Sacramento



Photo: LanguageAcademy of Sacramento



“
 Our upcoming experiences engage with all four colleges on the most urgent topics of our time, from refugees to the politics of health care.
 -Matt Traxler

FUTURE EXPERIENCES

Connecting with more disciplines

Biomedical Engineering at the UC Davis Health Campus



Third-year biomedical engineering students spend fall quarter at UC Davis Health, where they can observe technologies applied in the clinical setting.

College of Engineering
 School of Medicine

Health Care Politics & Policy at the Seat of Government



The history of healthcare in the US is largely a reflection of our political history. This experience will study current and historical issues in the politics of healthcare, and will place students in internships with California’s lawmakers and healthcare advocates. Courses take place at the UC Center Sacramento.

College of Letters & Science
 School of Medicine
 School of Law

Immigrants, Refugees, & Human Rights



Sacramento is home to immigrants from all over the world, and is one of the main centers for refugee resettlement in the US. This experience connects courses in International Relations and Human Rights with NGOs and advocates working to support immigrants and refugees.

College of Letters & Science

Plants, People, and the Planet



Plant Biology, Plant Science, Nutrition, and Anthropology come together for this experience focused on producing and consuming plants responsibly and sustainably for healthy people and a healthy planet. The Sacramento region is a meeting point for agriculture, government, and a diverse population offering multiple perspectives on how to produce and consume plants in responsible and sustainable ways.

College of Agricultural and Environmental Science
 College of Biological Sciences
 College of Letters & Science



5 Ways Quarter at Aggie Square Advances Student Success and Engagement

1

STRONG CONNECTIONS WITH FACULTY & PEERS

I had direct engagement with the faculty who were reading my work, and developed relationships with each student which added value to my educational experience.

--Student, Transformative Justice Studies

2

ENGAGING STUDENTS TO ADVANCE SOLUTIONS ON SOCIETY'S MOST PRESSING ISSUES

Learning about health disparities has been very insightful. Initially my career goal was to be a biology researcher, but now I want to work somewhere that involves public health.

--Student, Advancing Healthcare Equity

3

RELATED INTERNSHIPS CONNECT STUDENTS WITH CAREER AND RESEARCH PATHWAYS

As part of their internship class, [students] are getting critical hands-on experience working in bilingual settings which will impact their own future teaching. One of our alumni is now employed at the Sacramento Language Academy where she interned with Quarter at Aggie Square!

- Professor, Multilingual Education for California

4

STUDENTS CONNECT AND EXPLORE RELATED DISCIPLINES

I wanted more exposure to the social equity and justice side of healthcare, both of which I was really interested in but wasn't getting much of in my usual science classes.

--Student, Advancing Healthcare Equity

5

AN EMPHASIS ON COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

I have purposely set a foundation for each program to provide opportunities for students, faculty, and the community to come together.

--Angela Taylor, QAS program



Help Us Grow Opportunities for Giving

- Endow the QAS Directorship
- Fund student internships, housing stipends, and travel grants
- Create a faculty fellowship or planning grant
- Provide programmatic support: Ensure a robust and ever-evolving array of experiential learning opportunities
- Name a speaker series; support public lectures, community forums, and symposia





Designed & Produced by
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