

## Research

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The Center for Puerto Rican Studies (Centro De Estudios Puertorriqueños) at Hunter College, City University of New York, is the only university-based research institute in the United States solely devoted to the interdisciplinary study of the Puerto Rican experience in Diaspora. It is the oldest and largest Latino research and archival institution in the Northeast, and boasts the world's only repository of archival and library materials dedicated exclusively to the Puerto Rican migration. Since its inception in 1973, Centro also has developed notable ties to academic, advocacy and community-based constituencies, enabling it to document and respond to critical cultural and social conditions within the stateside community.

Centro staff's research focusing on Puerto Rican and other ethnic and racial communities seeks to contribute to general knowledge, to be relevant to our communities, and to promote social change and justice. We are committed to engaging in research that is both collaborative and interdisciplinary, methodology we believe necessary for advancing new understandings and solutions to emerging

questions and problems. One of our objectives is to obtain sponsored research grants to leverage our resources and to promote among our staff and other partners publishing articles in refereed journals to heighten the impact of our research on the field. We will also encourage the formation of working groups that include our staff and other scholars doing research areas of high relevancy to the field. Our intention is to create a more organic relationship with external scholars who receive Centro support for their research, and to expand our capabilities to engage in policy and community development research. We envision these groups becoming sustainable, and evolving over time as new needs arise and we have the opportunity to interact with a broader circle of scholars.

Centro researchers observe the following guiding principles:

1. We value and encourage the diverse forms of scholarship (Discovery, Teaching and Learning, Artistic Creativity, Integration, or Application) that contribute to knowledge and to a comprehensive understanding of the Puerto Rican population and the multiplicity of social, political, and cultural factors that affect their conditions of existence and well-being.
2. We encourage and support research that is relevant to positively affect the welfare of Puerto Ricans, and that comparatively analyzes the relationship and connectedness of Puerto Ricans to other groups.
3. We encourage research that attends to the interconnectedness of various disciplines and social processes.
4. We recognize the importance of both qualitative and quantitative methodological approaches to social research.

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