

The Department of English, Comparative Literature, and Linguistics expresses its support for all Black students at CSUF. We continue to be outraged at the nationwide suffering caused by anti-Black racism. Many of our students come from communities that have been subject to police brutality, racial inequities in the criminal justice system, anti-Black violence, and voter disenfranchisement. We affirm our support for those students and reject bigotry in all its forms.

Our department is devoted to the study of language, writing, and literature, along with the belief that such study is potentially liberating. As Frederick Douglass often attested, humanistic learning can be an invaluable tool of freedom. “The more I read,” he wrote in *My Bondage and My Freedom*, “the more I was led to abhor and detest slavery, and my enslavers.” In supporting our students, we are also supporting a curriculum that challenges the legacies of colonialism, misogyny, and racism.

We reaffirm our solidarity with those who are suffering, as well as all those trying to build a more tolerant and just world. We stand in unity with our sister departments in Ethnic Studies, particularly the Department of African American Studies, and express solidarity with [their own letter in support of CSUF students](#).

Sincerely,

The Department of English, Comparative Literature, and Linguistics