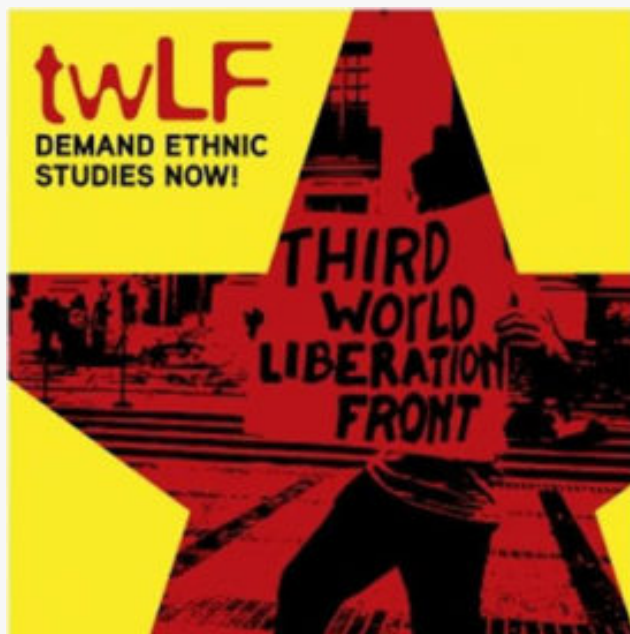




Center for Race & Gender
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

HOME ABOUT ▾ RESEARCH ▾ PUBLICATIONS ▾ EVENTS ▾

MEDIA ARCHIVE ▾ CONTACT DONATE



2018-2019: 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE THIRD WORLD LIBERATION FRONT

The pivotal 1969 UC Berkeley student movement, the Third World Liberation Front (twLF), helped established Ethnic Studies as an interdisciplinary field in the U.S.

Marking the upcoming 50th anniversary of the twLF, this research initiative will produce a year-long series of

events, discussions, exhibits, and an online digital portal that archives and documents twLF’s critical role in shaping UC Berkeley’s identity, its relationship with Bay Area-based 1960s social movements, and its impact on the inception and development of Ethnic Studies. Initiative members include students, staff, and faculty from the Center for Race & Gender, the Ethnic Studies Library, the Multicultural Community Center, the Ethnic Studies and African American Studies Departments, and American Cultures.

Thank you to the Berkeley’s Student Technology Fund supporting the twLF digital portal and 2018-19 commemoration events with a \$40,000 research grant.

History
Resource Guide
Film & Audio
Websites
Articles
Events

twLF history from the Multicultural Community Center

In 1968, a coalition known as the Third World Liberation Front (TWLF) is formed between the Black Student Union and other student groups at San Francisco State University to lead a five month strike on campus to demand a radical shift in admissions practices that mostly

excluded nonwhite students and in the curriculum regarded as irrelevant to the lives of students of color.

In 1969, a multiracial coalition of UC Berkeley students comes together and forms the third world Liberation Front (twLF) to demand that the University acknowledge the histories of communities of color as vital scholarship through the creation of a Third World College dedicated to the underemphasized histories of African Americans, Asian Americans, Chicanos/Chicanas, and Native Americans. The three month long protests that followed resulted not in a Third World College but in the Department of Ethnic Studies.

In 1999, under the banner of the third world Liberation Front, UC Berkeley students protested a series of cuts to the Ethnic Studies Department by holding rallies, sit-ins, building occupations, and a hunger strike resulting in a five point Agreement in Support of Ethnic Studies. Included in this agreement was a commitment to establishing a research center on campus, which evolved to be the Center for Race & Gender.

The **Center for Race & Gender (CRG)** is an interdisciplinary research center that creates knowledge on critical intersections between race, gender, and social justice.

© 2021 UCB Center for Race & Gender.

Contact