

# UC Davis Center for Poverty and Inequality Research Black History Month Essay Contest

January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The Center for Poverty and Inequality Research (CPIR) at UC Davis is pleased to announce its third annual **Black History Month Essay Competition**. The competition is open to all undergraduate and graduate students currently enrolled at UC Davis.

## Theme

How Can We Reduce Racial and Economic Inequality in California?

## Prize

\$500

PLUS editorial input from CPIR senior writer, who will attempt to secure publication of the winning essay as an op-ed in a news outlet. If op-ed publication should prove unviable, the essay will appear as a feature on the CPIR website and be promoted widely by the Center.

## Essay Criteria

- Essays (600-800 words) should explore and offer answers to the question ‘How Can We Reduce Racial and Economic Inequality in California?’.
- Entrants may draw on published research in fields such as economics, sociology, psychology, history, education, or any other relevant discipline. They may also, if they wish, draw on personal experience.
- Submissions must be **original, unpublished work** that reflect the student’s individual voice and perspective.
- Essays should be written in the style of an op-ed and need not include formal citations. Embedding links to relevant resources is encouraged. Guidelines for writing op-eds can be found [here](#).
- Previous winners can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

## Eligibility and Guidelines

- Word count: 600-800 words
- Applicants must be currently enrolled as undergraduate or graduate students at UC Davis.
- Essays should be original, and written by the applicant.
- Applicants may only submit one essay for consideration.
- Essays should be submitted as PDF files, formatted as follows: 12-point Times New Roman or similar font; double-spaced; author’s full name, student number and email address in the header; pages numbered.
- Any questions related to the competition should be sent by email to CPIR Center Manager Jessica Harold at [jwharold@ucdavis.edu](mailto:jwharold@ucdavis.edu).

## Deadline

February 4th, 2024

## Submissions

Learn more and submit your essay:

<https://poverty.ucdavis.edu/post/black-history-month-essay-contest-2024>