

# Transcommunal Cooperation and Peacemaking in Soledad Prison

## Teaching and Learning Behind and From Prison Walls

Thursday May 17, 2018

11:40am – 1:15pm

Humanities 2 Room 359, UCSC

***How are peace and social justice actualized in a world of deep inequalities?***

***How can communities create social change while also acknowledging the power asymmetries among different members?***

This panel discussion features some of the people involved in creating the UCSC/Soledad Prison course to discuss *transcommunality*: an idea and set of practices which draws from the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois Confederacy) ways of thinking, and which approaches communities as coalitions that account for differences in their very act of coming together (Childs 2003).

The panel discussion includes leaders from Barrios Unidos' Prison Education Project, UC Santa Cruz professors, and Soledad Prison's "Cemanahuac/One World Group" class (via phone). This event is part of the Sociology Department's Spring Colloquium Series.

**DANIEL NANE ALEJANDREZ** Founder and Executive Director of the National Coalition of Barrios Unidos and the "BU Prison Project." UC Santa Cruz alumnus.

**DR. JOHN BROWN CHILDS** Professor Emeritus of UCSC Sociology, author of *Transcommunality, from the Politics of Conversion to the Ethics of Respect* and volunteer teacher of the Transcommunality classes in Soledad Prison.

**WESLEY L. HAYE** Veterans Advocate for "Veterans Healing Veterans" located in Marina, CA, and graduate of the Barrios Unidos Prison Education Project's "Transcommunal Peace Class"

**ERIKA LOPEZ** Coordinator of the Barrios Unidos "Prison Education Project," and undergraduate majoring in Sociology at UC Santa Cruz.

**DR. FLORA LU** Professor of Environmental Studies and Provost, Colleges 9 and 10, UC Santa Cruz; and speaker in the Soledad Transcommunality class.

**SOLEDAD PRISON "Cemanahuac/One World Group"** members who facilitate the Transcommunality class (via phone)

Not present at this event, but part of the broader project is Dr. Bruce Schumm, Professor of Physics  
References: Childs, John Brown. *Transcommunality: From the Politics of Conversion to the Ethics of Respect*. Temple Univ Press, 2003.

Sponsored by the Sociology department with Colleges 9 and 10.