THE REALITY
The UC ANR 4-H Youth Development Program (YDP) embraces positive youth development (PYD) as a theoretical approach for engaging youth and helping them reach their full potential.

Navigating Biculturalism and Acculturation
“Latino youth benefit from settings that understand and support their unique cultural and linguistic heritage, particularly the challenges and richness of navigating more than one language and culture [biculturalism]…[and] support acculturation: awareness of an ongoing negotiation between cultures and languages”

(Erbstein and Fabionar 2014)
**RESEARCH NEEDED**

- **Cultivate** biculturalism, acculturation, and agency (feeling capable of creating change).
- **Recognize** effects of language barriers, immigration, discrimination, and economic poverty.
- **Encourage** positive racial and ethnic identity development.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Gain a deeper understanding of the cultural characteristics of Latino youth across diverse contexts.

- Understand the concepts of racialization, panethnicity, globalization, and transnationalism, and how Latino youth may experience these contexts.
- Gain deeper knowledge of the cultural dimensions of immigration, language, discrimination, and poverty experienced by Latino youth and families.
- Learn how Latino youth navigate through and contend with immigration, discrimination, and poverty.
- Understand the cultural similarities and differences among Latino familial and ethnic relationships.

Adapt and evaluate programs.

- Develop UC ANR 4-H YDPs that adapt the positive youth development model to reflect the needs of diverse youth and their families.
- Using community participatory approaches, identify valued goals for positive development in diverse communities, and incorporate them into 4-H evaluation.
- Prepare UC ANR 4-H volunteers to create safe environments while working with diverse populations.
- Encourage racial and ethnic identity development for all youth, creating safe environments for cultural sharing.
- Explore personal assumptions of PYD, identify the cultural concepts that shape these views, and reflect on the ways these ideas influence professional practices.

**MORE INFORMATION**


**REFERENCES**


Suggested citation
