

MPES Colloquium Series

**A Consideration of Risk and Opportunities for Resilience
among Latino Adolescents in the U.S.**

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Friday May 6th, 2016
11 AM – 12 PM
Annenberg 303



Latino youth are at increased risk for numerous indicators of maladjustment, partially as a function of experiences with culturally informed stressors. The current presentation will provide a demographic snapshot of the Latino population in the U.S., as well as an overview of areas in which Latino youth in the U.S. demonstrate disproportionate maladjustment or underachievement. With a focus on resilience, ethnic-racial identity will be introduced as an important developmental task that is highly salient during adolescence, and that has the potential to confer psychological benefits to youth in the U.S. Finally, preliminary findings from a small-scale, randomized controlled trial in which aspects of ethnic-racial identity were examined as intervention targets will be presented.

Dr. Adriana J. Umaña-Taylor is a Foundation Professor at Arizona State University in the T. Denny Sanford School of Social and Family Dynamics. Her work, which has focused largely on Latino youth and families, is guided by developmental and socio-cultural ecological frameworks with an emphasis on understanding how individual and contextual factors intersect to inform adolescent development and adjustment. She has successfully collaborated with school districts and other community organizations for over 15 years to design and implement large-scale, longitudinal, school-based and community-based data collection efforts with adolescents. Dr. Umaña-Taylor has led several synergistic efforts to bring scholars from different disciplines together to advance scholarship on ethnic-racial identity. She was co-founder of the *Ethnic-Racial Identity in the 21st Century Study Group*, which published four articles in *Child Development*. As Co-Editor of *Studying Ethnic Identity: Methodological and Conceptual Approaches across Disciplines*, published by the American Psychological Association, she brought together scholars from Anthropology, Sociology, Developmental Psychology, Counseling Psychology, and Education to produce a book focused on conceptual and methodological advances in the area of ethnic-racial identity. She recently served on the Executive Council of the *Society for Research on Adolescence*, and is currently Associate Editor of the *Journal of Research on Adolescence*.