

CCS Fall 2022 Welcome Letter

Dear Future CCSer,

Welcome to Northwestern and to the Residential College of Cultural and Community Studies (CCS)! Whether you're local to the area or reside internationally, we're so happy to welcome you to our community!

Here's what you can expect to find in this Welcome Letter:

- **Get to Know CCS**
- **Meet Your CCS Exec Board**
- **Meet Your College Staff**
- **A Message From Your Faculty Chair**
- **Contact US**



Get to Know CCS

Sitting at 2303 Sheridan Road and boasting some of the best facilities on Northwestern's campus, CCS is a tight-knit staple of social engagement in the Northeast Area. CCS is close to the Technological Institute (Tech), Sargent Dining Hall, and the Henry Crown Sports Pavilion (SPAC). Yet, CCS remains only a 12-minute walk from South Campus.

CCS is part of a cohort of ten communities within Northwestern's Residential Colleges. Though CCS is on the small side—with a population of around 40 students—we make up for it with one of the closest communities on campus!

CCS strives to create a bridge between Northwestern's campus, the community of Evanston, and the broader city of Chicago. As one of the first Residential Colleges on campus, CCS has a history steeped with fun, engaging traditions. Faculty-led fireside talks about everything from research to Puerto Rican Chicago, routine trips into Chicago's cultural boroughs, and a winning legacy in the Residential College Board Field Day compose some of CCS's annual happenings.

We're so glad that you are a part of our community, and we hope that you are looking forward to a year of fun and engagement!



Meet Your CCS Exec Board

President

Raphael Tinio

Contact: raphaeltinio2025@u.northwestern.edu

Major: Neuroscience

Hometown: Sayreville, NJ

Favorite CCS Experience: Special lunches with the CCS fellows – a great opportunity to connect one-on-one with fellows and other faculty guests such as professors from different departments



Vice President of Faculty Relations

Hannah Ma

Contact: hannahma2025@u.northwestern.edu

Major: Biology and Data Science

Hometown: Portland, OR

Memorable CCS Experience: Staying up until 2AM to talk about everything under the sun

Vice President of Programming

Levy Deckard

Contact: levydeckard2025@u.northwestern.edu

Major: Undecided (Weinberg)

Hometown: Lexington, KY

Favorite CCS Memory: Every hours-long post-midnight hallway conversation that inevitably happens





Vice President of Communications

Gustavo Ballesteros

Contact: gustavoballesteros2025@u.northwestern.edu

Major: Civil Engineering

Hometown: Rockville, MD

Memorable CCS Experience: Pilsen Mural Tour

Treasurer

Samantha Foerster

Contact: samanthafoster2025@u.northwestern.edu

Major: Neuroscience

Hometown: Warwick, GA

Memorable CCS Experience: Attending CCS's special Wildcat Welcome Events



Secretary

Alanna Liu

Contact: alannaliu2025@u.northwestern.edu

Major: Biomedical Engineering

Hometown: Bloomington, IL

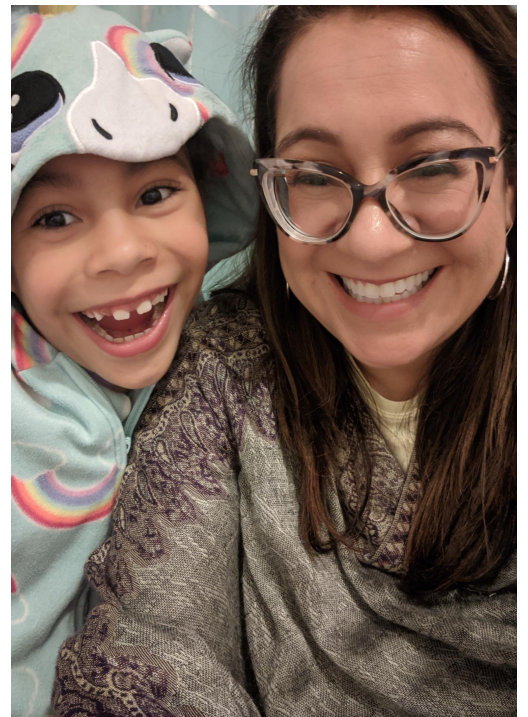
Memorable CCS Experience: Sharing common interests and exploring new ones with the rest of the community!

Meet Your College Staff

Faculty Chair: Dr. Myrna García

Contact Dr. G at: myrna.garcia@northwestern.edu

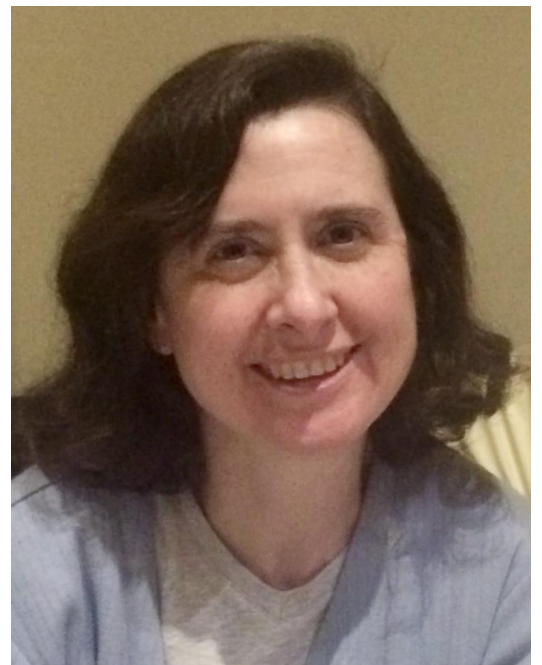
Dr. Myrna García is an ethnic studies scholar interested in race and ethnicity, Latinx im/migration, and Chicana/Latina feminism. Her signature course is “Latinx Chicago: Positionality, Community Histories, & Academic Knowledges.” Dr. García’s research documents the activism undertaken by members of the Chicago chapter of the Center for Autonomous Social Action (CASA), an important immigrant rights organization to emerge from the Chicano Movement, the Mexican American civil rights movement.



Associate Chair: Tasha Seago-Ramaly

Contact Tasha at: tseagram@northwestern.edu

Tasha Seago-Ramaly is an Assistant Professor of Instruction in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. She was once a grad student at Northwestern, and now has a sophomore in college and another recent college graduate, so that gives a hint of how long she has been here! Professional interests include second language acquisition, pedagogy and service learning. She is involved in the Latinx community in nearby Skokie. Outside of teaching she enjoys cooking and biking (to wear off all those calories!) and traveling.



A Message from Faculty Chair Dr. Myrna García

Dear incoming CCSers,

I am excited to welcome you to the Residential College of Cultural and Community Studies (CCS). CCS is dedicated to affirming the diversity and vibrancy of lived experiences, cultures, identities, and histories. We build community in fun and creative ways, and this includes the participation of my daughter who is an honorary CCSer. We hold “Storytime” featuring adventures that amplify underrepresented identities and motivate us to build a better world. We enjoy savory and sweet treats, games, art, and other activities. We also gather over lunch with faculty and graduate fellows. We hold fireside chats to feature dynamic research talks. Certainly, the pandemic coerced us to pivot to remote and in-person experiences, but it has not stymied our CCS programming. For instance, we held remote and in-person tours of murals in Pilsen, a neighborhood in Chicago contending with gentrification. We look forward to your participation in our cultural activities and community events in the upcoming academic year. I look forward to meeting you all & building community with you.

Warmly,

Prof. Myrna García

Contact Us

Don't hesitate to reach out to Exec or Faculty Staff if you have any questions or concerns. Also, follow us on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook! Our socials are linked at the bottom of every page as well as the top of the [Home page](#).

We look forward to meeting you soon!