In *The Souls of Black Folk* (1903), sociologist W.E.B. DuBois puts forth his concept of double consciousness, describing how a Black man is “… always looking at [him]self through the eyes of others. [He] ever feels his two-ness,—an American, a Negro; two souls, two thoughts, two unreconciled strivings; two warring ideals in one dark body…The history of the American Negro is the history of this strife—this longing to attain self-conscious manhood, to merge his double self into a better and truer self…. He simply wishes to make it possible for a man to be both a Negro and an American, without being cursed and spit upon by his fellows, without having the doors of Opportunity closed roughly in his face.”

Although DuBois talks specifically about African American men, as Americans we all experience forms of this double (sometimes triple and quadruple) consciousness. As part of this year’s larger discussion about embracing rather than erasing our many differences, this spring Conversations on Diversity will focus on the “strife” and the “gifts” inherent in our multiple identities.

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**February 20, BMU 210**  
In Search of the “African” in African-American  
Facilitated by Katherine Puntenev, International Student Advisor

**March 12, BMU 210**  
Perceptions of Powerful Women: Bitches, Breezies, Divas, Domestic Goddess’s  
Facilitated by Dr. Lori Beth Way, Professor of Political Science

**March 26, BMU 303**  
Who Floats Your Boat? Naming Sexual Identities  
Facilitated by Professor Liahna Gordon, Professor of Sociology

**April 9, BMU 210**  
Erotic, Exotic & Erased: Bi-racial Identities  
Facilitated by Dr. Renee Lopez, Psychological Counseling and Wellness Services Counselor

**April 30, BMU 210**  
Sikh Experience in the U.S.: More Than What You Think  
Facilitated by Campus and Community Panel

**May 7, BMU 210**  
3rd Annual Conversations on Diversity Awards  
Facilitated by Tray Robinson, CSU, Chico Diversity Coordinator

**Conversations on Diversity** is a series of discussions sponsored by the Center for Multicultural and Gender Studies, the Women’s Center, Building Bridges and the Office of Diversity

For more information contact Tray Robinson at 898-4764