

Diversity in Lawrence History

This exhibit was designed by the University Archives in partnership with the Office of Diversity and Inclusion. It is part of the Truth and Reconciliation initiative, “a restorative process examining the changing dynamics of our institutional engagement with diversity, both contemporary and historic.”

“A Look at Race in Lawrence History” was originally developed to accompany the “Understanding Race” exhibit displayed in the Campus Center in September 2017 – an exhibit that examined “what race is, what it is not, and how race affects the relationships between people.” The timeline includes historical information about students from a variety of racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds, including African American, Native American, Asian American, Hispanic/Latinx, and international students. For this exhibit, we have created additional posters exploring women’s history, LGBTQ+ history, and the history of religious and spiritual life at Lawrence.

Because diversity in our history is such a broad theme, the information presented in these panels cannot be comprehensive. Our goals are 1) to communicate some background information about several aspects of diversity in Lawrence history, 2) to highlight relevant pieces of this history that archival records can illuminate, and 3) to spark ideas for future research. Faculty members or students interested in class sessions or research projects pertaining to these themes are strongly encouraged to contact the University Archives (archives@lawrence.edu).

Please note: Some content in these panels reflects historic perspectives that will be offensive to modern viewers. Lawrence University does not endorse these views. They are presented as part of our institutional historic record.