Honors Anthropology 6
Cultural Anthropology

What is “culture”? Is it the language you speak? Your religion? Your economic system? This riveting Honors Course will show you how anthropologists approach the complex concept of “culture” while trying to understand human behavior, and globalization.

You’ll learn how anthropology can help solve social problems and even get to encounter first-hand ethnographic fieldwork done with Thai peasant women working in sweatshops as well as a controversial study of the “crack cocaine culture” of Spanish Harlem in NYC.

MWF 1-1:50PM  IGETC Area 4A, CSU Area D1, Honors: Social/Beh Sci

Professor Liana Padilla-Wilson is an LMC graduate whose passion for anthropology took her to Saint Mary’s College (B.S.) and Arizona State University (M.S.) and beyond. Her graduate work focused on issues of migration and involved extensive fieldwork around the US-Mexico border. This focus on Latin American and Mayan studies took her to Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and Chile. A recipient of the prestigious Irvine Scholar Award and the Rigoberta Menchu Award, Professor Padilla-Wilson lives in Brentwood with her husband and two children.

Honors Astronomy 10
Introduction to Astronomy

Would you like to learn the difference between dark energy and dark matter or how to calculate the number of detectible civilizations in the Galaxy? If your answer is “yes”, then take this class! We will explore the Cosmos with a profusion of inquiry scenarios and special topics. The planetarium and the rooftop telescopes will be pressed into service regularly, and we will organize field trips to the Chabot Space and Science Center and the Morrison Planetarium.

MWF 10-10:50AM  IGETC Area 5A, CSU Area B1, Honors: Math/Sci

Professor Scott Cabral has loved astronomy since as long as he can remember. After getting a B.A. at U.C. Berkeley, he started teaching astronomy at Los Medanos in 1989 while still working on his M.S. at San Francisco State University. Scott is a veteran of countless public planetarium shows and telescope viewing parties, besides being the proud owner of over 15,000 astronomy slides. In addition to that, he loves participating in Honors activities, whether it is delivering a bad poem at the Honors Retreat, moderating at the Honors Research Symposium, or driving a van full of students at U.C. Irvine and Disneyland.
Honors Humanities 24  
Shakespeare’s English Kings

War • Murder • Mayhem • Madness •  
Triumph • Tragedy
Join us for Shakespeare’s exciting series of plays about Medieval kings who sought to gain the crowns of England and France. These are powerful and often funny plays that chronicle England’s evolution from a Medieval kingdom to a modern nation. Watch as the Plantagenets marry, conspire with and battle one another. Scenes from the plays will be informally read and enacted in class to recreate Shakespeare’s royal cast in their game of heroes, knaves and fools.

Th 4-6:50PM  IGETC Area 3B, CSU Area C2, Honors: Human/Arts

Professor Ken Alexander has a B.A. degree in Fine Arts and an M.A. in Art History. He has just returned from Italy where he taught in the Study Abroad program. Ken has visited every western European country, and has walked over 1000 miles alone through, England, Wales, Scotland and Italy.

Professor Nick Garcia is chair of the LMC Drama Department and has worked extensively as a teacher, actor and director in venues around the country. He received his BA in Theatre from Adams State College and his MFA Acting from the University of Iowa. When he is not slaying dragons and taking long walks on the beach, his hobbies include watching new movies and quoting classic comedies.

Honors Journalism 35  
Mass Communication

In January 2010, a razor-close Supreme Court decision ruled that the government may not regulate corporate political spending on ads in elections. This decision will have a profound impact on media and democracy. In this popular class, Honors will study the impact of the mass media on society while they tackle issues like sex, violence and stereotypes; free expression vs. political correctness; and press responsibility in times of war. In addition, students will use the newest mass medium, the Internet, in a dynamic way to expand the classroom.


Professor Cindy McGrath stepped out of the newsroom and into the classroom in 1988. She spent 11 years in Florida as an editor at the St. Petersburg Times and as a professional newspaper consultant in the high school newspaper program at the Poynter Institute for Media Studies. She writes in inches, measures in picas and tosses terms around the journalism lab like “dogleg”, “raw wrap” and “bastard type.” In one of her less sane moments, she worked as the Sacramento press coordinator for the Dukakis for President primary campaign. Chalk it up to her Massachusetts roots.
Honors Philosphy 41
Critical Thinking

We are surrounded by arguments. Politicians, teachers, salespeople and friends are constantly trying to convince us to vote a certain way, accept their belief system or “send money now!” But have you ever really examined those arguments to see whether they make sense? This Honors Course will delve into the world of logic and give you skills to recognize when an argument should persuade you and when to be skeptical. We’ll play logic games, immerse ourselves in the bizarre world of paradoxes and take these skills out into the real world to unmask con artists!

**TTh 9:30-10:20AM UC Elective Units, CSU Area A3, Honors: Arts/Human.**

Professor Jennifer Saito studied theoretical mathematics at UC Berkeley where she received her BA and MA degrees. She was lured into the world of philosophy when she saw Professor Danny Moriel working on logic puzzles in a meeting 16 years ago. Jennifer is the founder and director of the Honors Program and her critical thinking heroes include Rene Descartes, James Randi and Penn & Teller.

**Honors Philosphy 2
The Ethics of Leadership**

As an Honors Student, you are already an academic leader on campus. But what can leaders of the past and present teach you about leading in a larger arena? Through reading great literature (from *Huckleberry Finn* to Plato’s *The Republic*), viewing marvelous films (*Miss Evers Boys*, *Crash*, *Hotel Rwanda*, *Norma Rae*), and studying articles in diverse fields like psychology, business and philosophy, we will delve into the many aspects of leadership—initiative, decision making, servant leadership and ethics. Special emphasis will be place upon experiential team building experiences. This class will be taught by Professor Barbara Austin with LMC President Peter Garcia as visiting professor.

**M 7-9:50PM IGETC Area 3B; CSU Area C2; Honors Seminar**

Professor Barbara Austin has been interested in leadership ever since she was a campaign manager for the first female student body president of her junior high. Since then as a student, author (4 published books) and college teacher she has pondered the question of how to develop more ethical leaders. Barbara received her BA in English from Loyola Marymount, her MA in English/Creative Writing from SF State and her in PhD in a conjoint degree program at UC Berkeley and the Graduate Theological Union.