



# Honors Courses Fall 2016

## Honors Biology 7

Ecology and the Environment

Is it better to eat farmed or wild caught fish? How can we improve air quality in Contra Costa County? What are the impacts of diverting Delta water to Southern California? There's no avoiding it: you live in one of the world's most complex ecosystems and this class will help you understand the impacts our choices have. You'll come to understand how biology, chemistry, politics and other



fields all contribute to issues like sea level rise, sustainability and biodiversity. Honors students will especially enjoy the lab component of this class because half of them will be outside in the real world collecting data, seeing where your trash goes and even visiting a local water treatment site.

**MW 10-12:50PM IGETC Area 5B, CSU Area B2 & B3, Honors: Math/Sci**

**Professor Briana McCarthy** started college as a communications major but got hooked on biology after taking a science writing class. She has her BS in Environmental Systems from UC San Diego and an MS from San Francisco State in Ecology. A die-hard open water swimmer, Briana participated in the Bosphorus Cross Continental Swim last summer, navigating 6.5 km between Asia and Europe. She can often be found swimming in the SF Bay with the Dolphin Club and performing with Tsunami, a local synchronized swimming

## Honors Drama 70

Film as an International Art Form

Everyone loves movies, but have you ever truly learned the history of this vibrant art form? Do you know how to analyze the narrative, cinematography and editing choices of your favorite films? From Charlie Chaplin's silent movies in the 1920s, to landmark works like Akira Kurosawa's *Rashoman* or 1970's Blaxploitation films like *Shaft*, movies have



enchanted and provoked us. In this class you'll get to see lots of amazing films from all over the world and appreciate their contribution to the artistic arc of cinema. We'll also study the politics and themes found in diverse genres like Westerns, Sci Fi/Fantasy movies and more. Don't miss it!

**TuTh 3:30-5:50PM IGETC Area 3A; CSU Area C1; Humanities/Fine Arts**

**Professor Nick Garcia** is the chair of the LMC Drama Department. He received his MFA in acting at the University of Iowa and relishes his role as director, coach and designer. Nick also acts professionally in the Bay Area, most recently with Alter Theater in *Landless* set in an empty storefront in San Rafael. Nick knew he'd met his love when his wife told him on their first date her favorite movie was the same as his: *The Princess Bride*.

# Honors History 30

US History from 1865

From the gay marriage movement to Donald Trump's anti-government campaign platform, what's happening in today's world has its roots in the past. This popular class focuses on primary documents and historical monographs instead of textbooks to help you explore the roots of contemporary America. Why is the idea of "liberty" so important to



Americans? How was this term defined by diverse 19th and 20th century groups such as freed African American slaves, Filipino students in California or women wanting to vote? With field trips to local historical sites and terrific books like recent best seller *The Secret History of Wonder Woman*, Honors Students will learn to analyze historical texts and craft their own historical viewpoint.

**TuTh 9:30-10:50AM IGETC 4F, CSU D6; US History Group B; Honors: Soc/Beh Sci**

**Professor Joshua Bearden** is a recent California transplant from the South, having received his MA in History at the University of Alabama, Birmingham. His interest in history began with a fascination with medieval England as he devoured books on Robin Hood and early royalty. Josh is finishing his PhD thesis at the University of Maryland with a focus on interracial marriages between African Americans and Caucasians following the Civil War. He spends some of his spare time exploring more recent history by binge watching reruns of his favorite classic sitcoms *Frasier* and *Roseanne* on Netflix.

# Honors Journalism 100

Mass Communication

The mass media (TV, Twitter, newspapers etc.) pervade our daily lives. But have you ever learned the important skill of analyzing and evaluating this information? With the presidential campaign sure to be hotly contested, this course will focus on the media's role in the 2016 election. You'll also study other



controversial issues such as: the portrayal of sex, violence and stereotypes; freedom of expression and "political correctness"; the public's right to know vs. the need to protect national security; and how the media affects childhood in the 21st century. You'll never look at your smart-phone, television or computer the same way again.

**MW 8:30-9:50AM IGETC Area 4G, CSU Area D7, Honors: Soc/Beh Sci**

**Professor Richard Livingston** is a community college graduate who then earned degrees at Stanford University and the University of the Pacific. He served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Costa Rica and subsequently worked as a newspaper reporter and copy editor. Richard founded LMC's journalism program when the college opened in 1974. He later served in various academic management positions, including the Senior Dean of Instruction and Interim President. Richard the proud father of two LMC graduates.

# Honors Speech 110

## Speech Communication

Learn to use your voice to advocate for change in this interactive Honors Class which focuses on the 2016 presidential election and the important role speech plays in the campaign. You'll give talks to help you dig deeper into propositions on the ballot and utilize the TED Talk model to adapt complex material for di-



verse audiences. Honors Students will also have the unique opportunity to apply class material in a public "Town Hall Event" on campus. Rest assured, this class will help you find ways to stand out amongst the crowd and become an even more well-rounded citizen.

**MW 1-2:20PM IGETC Area 1C; CSU Area A1; Honors:Soc/Beh Sci**

**Professor Marie Arcidiacono** earned her MA in Speech Communication at California State University, East Bay. She is the Co-Director of the LMC Debate Team and will probably try and recruit you to. Marie is also a runner and if you're up early enough on a Saturday morning you might catch a glimpse of her and her dog running long miles all over town—she is a Pittsburg native after all. She also loves the movie, *Mean Girls* and will make references to it in class so be ready. Otherwise, "you can't sit with us!"

# Honors Philosophy 2

**Honors Seminar: The Ethics of Interpersonal Relationships**

Maria finds out Vanessa's boyfriend is cheating: is Maria morally obligated to tell? Your aging father, terminally ill and in terrible pain, asks you to help him commit suicide: should you? There's no avoiding it, life is complicated and deciding how to conduct yourself in the world goes beyond things in textbooks. That's where philosophy comes



in! Using the tools of philosophy as our guide, we'll examine the ethics of interpersonal relationships in friendship, dating, family life, and professional interactions as well. This team-taught Honors Seminar will help you think deeply about moral quandaries and includes research opportunities and lots of lively discussion for an unforgettable class.

**TuTh 12:30-1:50PM IGETC Area 3B; CSU Area C2; Honors Seminar**

**Professor Alex Sterling** has an MA in philosophy from Purdue University and an MA in English from Cal State East Bay. He has been a full-time member of the LMC English department since 2006. Alex has an adorable family—wife Julianne, and two boys, Jasper and Adlai—with whom of late he can be seen shouting from the couch while watching the Golden State Warriors.

**Professor Jennifer Saito** is the founder and director of the LMC Honors Program and teaches in three departments: mathematics, philosophy and humanities. Inspired by philosopher Alain de Botton, she's particularly interested in helping students figure out how to live, not just how to make a living. In her spare time Jennifer hikes in the Sierras, sings Balkan music and attends Alfred Hitchcock film festivals with her teenage girls.