

Honors Drama 30

Chicano/a Mexican-American Cinema

What does it mean to be Chicano/a or Mexican American in 21st century California? What stereotypes about gender or race are perpetuated both externally and internally?

Whether you're of Mexican origin or not, you'll love



this class that uses film as a way to explore fascinating issues of identity, culture clash and assimilation. You'll learn how to analyze movies as "texts" and see deeply moving films such as *Mi Familia*, *Stand and Deliver* and *La Bamba*. Don't miss it!

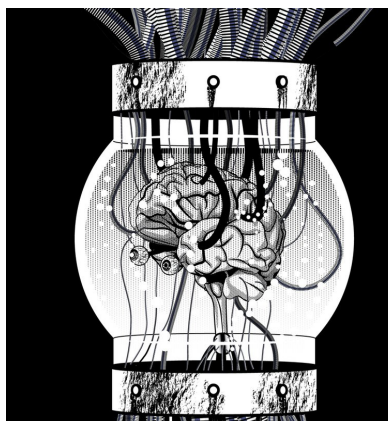
W 3:30-6:20PM IGETC Area 3B, CSU Area C2, Honors: Humanities/Art

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 the role of a dophin turned into a human. Nick knew he'd met his true love when his wife told him on their first date her favorite movie was the same as his: *The Princess Bride*.

Honors Philosophy 40

Introduction to Philosophy

Are you sure you actually exist and aren't just a brain in a vat receiving signals that trick you into thinking you know what's real? At what point should a robot be considered an intelligent life form? What's a better life: ignorant but happy, or wise and miserable? If you teleport somewhere else, is it still you that arrives? Does 2+2 really equal four?



When you ask these kinds of questions you're doing philosophy. This class will introduce you to ways philosophers have tried to answer these conundrums and help you clarify your analysis skills. You'll learn to examine and question your beliefs, think deeply about human existence, and maybe even change your mind about a few things.

TuTh 12:30-1:50PM IGETC Area 3B; CSU Area C2; Honors Humanities/Art

Professor Jennifer Smith transferred from Los Medanos College to University of California, Berkeley; where she earned a BA in Philosophy. She then went on to San Francisco State University to earn a MA in Philosophy. Besides work you can find her practicing Pilates, working out, reading (as of lately mostly environmental philosophy books), working on her newest creation in the kitchen, or binge watching Netflix.

Honors Political Science 20

Introduction to Politics

We all want to win at the game of life, but who sets the rules? Food, healthcare, the Internet even the water in your nalgene are all impacted by decisions made in Sacramento, Washington and beyond. Powerful forces and years of liberal democratic tradition have shaped a political landscape that needs your



opinion, vote, money and choices to function. Will America be able to provide opportunity for new generations? Is the United States in decline? Does your vote really count? Come find the answers and more in this stimulating foray into Political Science.

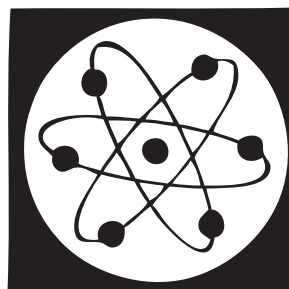
Tu 6:30-9:50PM IGETC Area 4H, CSU Area D8 & US Hist B; Honors: Soc/Beh Sci

Professor Kasey Gardner earned his Master's degree in Political Rhetoric at the University of the Pacific after double majoring in Political Science and Communication at Western Kentucky University. In Kentucky, Kasey's forensic team traveled to 25 different states and won seven national and international titles. Now that he has conquered the USA, Kasey has almost completed an MBA in Global Business at Saint Mary's College. Professor Gardner landed at LMC in 2011 and when he isn't teaching snowboarding at Squaw Valley or backpacking in the Sierras, he is often "geeking out" with books, games or politics.

Honors Physical Science 5

General Physical Science

Have you ever wondered what's inside those little packets labeled "Do not eat" in new shoes? Do you worry about global warming? Can solar energy and fuel cells replace fossil fuels? Will we ever travel to a galaxy far, far away? Take this stimulating survey class and find out.



The answers to these questions and more will be pursued in an engaging format. We will avoid boring calculations and focus on the more interesting and relevant concepts of physics, chemistry, earth science, and astronomy. No previous science experience is required; just bring a natural curiosity for the world around us.

MWF 12-12:50PM & M 11-11:50AM IGETC Area 5A, CSU Area B1, Honors: Math/Science

Professor Dennis Gravert received his BS in Physics from Santa Clara University and his PhD in Organic Chemistry from Stanford University. After completing a postdoctoral fellowship at The Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, California, he taught chemistry for 9 years in Minnesota. He came to his senses in 2007 when he gave up his snow shovel and moved back to California to teach at LMC. He was on hand to help his colleagues move into the science building and promptly tested the smoke alarms with a dazzling chemical demonstration.

Honors Philosophy 2

The Ethics of Education
Honors Seminar



Every political decision involves ethics -- decisions about right and wrong and what one should do. But this dimension is often ignored when talking about education, the one thing all Americans have in common. This important class focuses on ethical controversies in 21st century K-12 education and will give you tools to wrestle with a wide range of questions.



Should students be taught about evolution and creationism? Is it appropriate to discuss the gay rights movement with middle schoolers? Should your algebra teacher be required to have a degree in math? Should wealthy parents be allowed to give money to their children's schools for extra

perks that poor schools can't afford? Do you have a right to an education, and if so what does this even mean? Should children's families be allowed to pick their school?

Honors Students have an extra treat in this class: two professors from diverse disciplines.

Professors Zimny and Lewis will begin by exposing you to basic analysis tools and ethical perspectives, then give you a wide range of examples for practice.

You'll hear from a variety of guest speakers on the front lines of public education and go on field trips to local schools to see these issues in action. One thing is for sure, you'll never look at a classroom the same way again!

MW 1:30-2:50PM IGETC Area 3B; CSU Area C2; Honors Seminar

Professor Mark Lewis went to school to become a writer, but he got sidetracked along the way and ended up with a PhD in biochemistry from UC Berkeley. Since then, he has mostly been using aliases and assumed identities to escape FBI surveillance. His latest cover is as a mild-mannered Biology instructor at LMC.

Professor David Zimny came to Los Medanos College from the Midwest, where he graduated with Honors from the University of Chicago. He earned his Master's and Doctoral Degrees in political science with Distinction from Yale University, where he graduated first in his class. Dr. Zimny has taught college political science and interdisciplinary social science courses for almost 40 years, and has won awards for his outstanding teaching. When not busy in the classroom, he has served as president of a professional survey research firm, worked in many political campaigns and negotiated for several teachers' unions. His personal motto is borrowed from Spinoza: "Not to mock, not to deplore, not to despise – but to understand."

Honors Courses Spring 2015