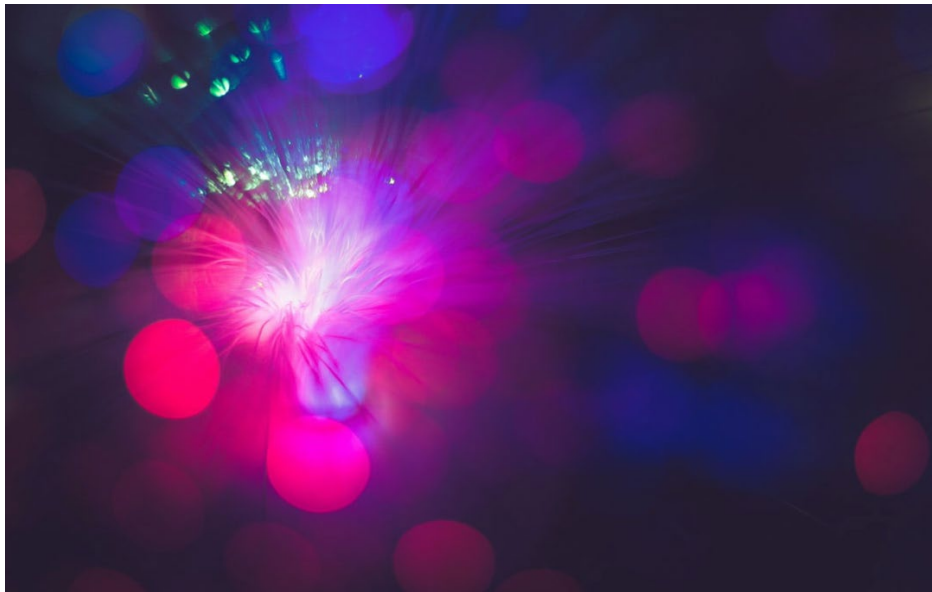




20th Annual Capstone Conference



Saturday, April 24, 2021

10:00am - 4:00pm

University Honors Program

McNair Scholars Program

California State University Stanislaus

One University Circle, Turlock CA 95382

(209) 667-3180 | csustan.edu/honors | csustan.edu/mcnair

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The following faculty taught in the Honors Program this year:

Ian Albright (Philosophy), Steve Arounsack (Anthropology), Ralph Becker (Social Sciences), Ellen Bell (Anthropology), Larry Busk (Philosophy), Tom Carter (Computer Science), Dave Colnic (Political Science), Andrew Conteh (Political Science), Jim Cook (History), Jennifer Cooper (Biological Sciences), Suditi Gupta (Psychology), Tim Held (Library), Heather Jarrell (Anthropology), Therese Lunt (History), Renee Mattos (English), Maureen McCorry (Honors), Chris Nagel (Philosophy), Jamila Newton (Biological Sciences), Richard Randall (Political Science), Chad Redwing (Honors), , Motecuzoma Sanchez (Ethnic Studies) and Kyle Stubbs (Communication Studies).

Seniors in the Honors Program are encouraged to tackle complex problems using methods and knowledge drawn from relevant disciplines. Honors Program faculty and research mentors offer critical feedback and guidance along the way. The main objective is for students to explore, gather and analyze information effectively, and to reflect on the implications of what they have discovered. Group discussions help to promote thoughtful questioning. The goal is to communicate knowledge, judgments, and original perspectives based on careful inquiry, exploration and analysis.

2021 Capstone Conference Summary Schedule

Saturday, April 24, 2021

10:00a.m. - 4:00p.m.

10:00am **Welcome**

10:05am-12:00pm **Capstone Research Poster Session**

- ❖ HONS 3990-1
- ❖ HONS 3990-2
- ❖ HONS 3990-3
- ❖ HONS 3990-4

12:00pm – 1:00pm **Break**

1:00pm – 1:50pm **Senior Research Presentations**

- ❖ Education
- ❖ Psychology and Mental Health

10 Minute Break

2:00pm – 3:00pm **Keynote Address: Joshua Kerr**
On the Hubris of Growth: Plants and Persons

(Joshua Kerr completed the Honors Program at CSU Stanislaus in 2007. He is currently a doctoral student in the Philosophy Department at the University of Oregon. In the fall of 2021, he will return to CSU Stanislaus to teach for the Honors Program and the Department of Philosophy and Modern Languages)

10 Minute Break

3:10pm – 4:00pm **Senior Research Presentations**

- ❖ Humanities, Social Science, and Economics
- ❖ STEM and Health Sciences

4:00pm **Conference concludes**

Session Participants

***HONS 3990-1:** Julien Alfaro, Isaac Lopez, Claudia Mendoza-Chavez, Adriana Santos, Noreen Singh, Tripti Singh, Danny Tovar Franco

HONS 3990-2: Victoria Aguilar, Melana Cook, Elizabeth Davies, Guadalupe Godinez, Jamie Hawthorne, Lucie Jegoux, Sarah Lamphere, Guadalupe Marquez, Alexis Martinez, Obed Meraz, Rosita Nelson, Erica Nixon, Isaura Patino, Luis Toledo Gonzalez

HONS 3990-3: Vivian Aguilar, Mauricio Arzate, Matthew Bonzi, Jordyn Boone, Danielle Carpenter, Brendan Contreras, Nicholas Fleming, Clarissa Gutierrez, Louisa Imelio, Chelsey King, Brian Meginness, Chayla Neese, Lizeth Sanchez Espinoza

HONS 3990-4: Melissa Almeida, Helena Arroyo, MoRaya Ferryman, Alexandra Heuston, Johanna Pena, Angel Reyes, Candace Stubblefield

Education: Carley Newbill, Megan Dean, *Aurora Ceja, *Juana Nieto Vazquez, Farhat Khairzadah, Malika Shoker, Sophia Kline, Timea Friesen, Cierra Duke,

Psychology and Mental Health: Catarina Sousa, Brittany Rigby, Tawny Ortega, Sabrina Stephens, Elizabeth Luna, Kerry Young, Rachel Klopfer, *Georgina Orozco, Lisa Lewis,

Humanities, Social Science, and Economics: Zephan Wood, Abdulla Mammadsoy, Cristal Fuentes, *Lourdes Ramirez, Abram Galvez, Esmeralda Acatitla Velazquez, Ryan De Los Santos, Marcus Ruddicks, Yesenia Solorzano, Colin Gage,

STEM and Health Sciences: *Marlen Martinez-Lopez, *German Astorga, *Emma Van Hoogmoed, *John Molthen, Navjot Nahal, Jair Torres, *Guadalupe Villanueva

***Denotes McNair Scholar**

Junior Research Poster Session

10:05 am - 12:00 pm

*Moderators: Steve Arounsack, HONS 3990 Instructor, Professor of Anthropology and
Suditi Gupta, HONS 3990 Instructor, Sociology Department*

Honors 3990-1

10:05am – 10:30am

Julien Alfaro: Neutrino Flavor Identification in In-Ice Experiments

Isaac Lopez: Effects of Music on Reading Comprehension

Claudia Mendoza-Chavez: COVID-19 and Spanish-Speaking Latinx Immigrants: Economic Impacts and Resource Communication

Adriana Santos: Racism Vs. COVID-19: What Causes more Anxiety?

Noreen Singh: Children's Mental Health and Academics During COVID-19

Tripti Singh: Double Helical Nanotube Structures Can Be Used To Target Cancer Cells

Danny Tovar Franco: COVID-19: How did it affect Student's Academics and Mental Health

Honors 3990-2
10:30am – 11:00am

- Victoria Aguilar:** A War With No Front: Arms Trafficking in North America During the Twenty-First Century
- Melana Cook:** Out with the Old: How B Corps are Proving Classic Business Theory Obsolete
- Elizabeth Davies:** The Effects of Art Therapy on PTSD
- Guadalupe Godinez:** Contradictions in Bilingual Studies
- Jamie Hawthorne:** Measuring Teachers' Perceptions of the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress
- Lucie Jegoux:** Treating Neck Pain Through Acupuncture
- Sarah Lamphere:** What are the Functions of Art on the Basis of Metaphysics?
- Guadalupe Marquez:** The Relationship Between First Generation Status and Academic Success
- Alexis Martinez:** The relationship between emotion and school motivation
- Obed Meraz:** The Effects Of Microplastics On Microbial Diversity
- Rosita Nelson Verbera:** Association between a sense of privacy and safety, and decreased pain during childbirth
- Erica Nixon:** Excessive screen time and it's affects on mental health
- Isaura Patino:** The Villainization of Undocumented Latinx Immigrants
- Hailey Smith:**
- Luis Toledo Gonzalez:** Student Perceptions of Online Learning During the Pandemic

Honors 3990-3
11:00am – 11:30am

- Vivian Aguilar:** The Effect of Image Priming on Consideration Towards the Environment
- Mauricio Arzate:** Chains of the Future
- Matthew Bonzi:** The Characters of Ernest Hemingway and the Shift in Their Literary Depictions in Relation to Biographical Accounts of Hemingway's Life
- Jordyn Boone:** Language Teaching Methods and Student Success
- Danielle Carpenter:** The Use of Non-Invasive Imaging Technology In Paleoanthropology-Finding Trauma and Disease In Ancient Skeletal Remains
- Brendan Contreras:** Synthesizing UI Design Trends via Analysis of Controller-Based Video Game Menu GUI
- Nicholaus Fleming:** Procedural Generation Algorithms and Why Use Them Over Machine Learning
- Clarissa Gutierrez:** Attitudes about Multilingualism in the U.S.A
- Louisa Imelio:** A Language Alone: A Study of the Piraha
- Chelsey King:** The Potential and Problems of Gene Drive Technology
- Brian Meginness:** Social Media and Its Relationship with Political Unrest

Chayla Neese: Development, Diagnosis, Treatment, and Prevention of Hypophysitis

Lizeth Sanchez Espinoza: A Companies Impact and Response to the Environment

Honors 3990-4
11:30am – 12:00pm

Melissa Almeida: COVID-19 Imposed Digital Learning Environment Acceptance

Helena Arroyo: The impact a phenomenon such as globalization has on companies' marketing strategies.

MoRaya Ferryman:

Alexandra Heuston: Pesticide Residue on Organic Fruit Vs. Non-Organic Fruit

Johanna Pena: Resiliency in Youth with LGBTQ Parents

Angel Reyes: The Connection Between Gallbladder Disease (GBD) and Inheritable Traits

Candace Stubblefield: A Critical Comparison of American and Nordic Penal Systems

Senior Capstone Presentations

1:00 pm – 1:50 pm and 3:10 pm – 4:00pm

*Moderator: Ellen Bell, Professor of Anthropology, University Honors Program Director, McNair Scholars PI
James Tuedio, Dean, College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, University Honors Program Director
Araceli Garcia, McNair Scholars Program Director, Steve Arounsack, HONS 3990 Instructor, Professor
of Anthropology and Jamila Newton, Department of Biological Sciences, HONS 4960 Instructor*

Education

1:00pm – 1:50pm

Carley Newbill (English): How School Type Influences Overall Performance and Enrollment

Megan Dean (English): The Impact of Trauma Informed Education Practices on Combatting Inequity in Schools

Faculty Mentor: Pamela Young

***Aurora Ceja** (Sociology): Racialization: How Does It Affect Latinx Immigrant Students?

Faculty Mentor: Jennifer Strangfeld

***Juana Nieto Vazquez** (Psychology): Examining stress among first-generation college students

Faculty Mentor: Kelly Cotter

Farhat Khairzadah (Nursing Licensure): The Effects of Anxiety Reducing Coping Mechanisms on Nursing Students' Test Scores

Faculty Mentor: Jennifer Lynn Peltier MSN, RN

Malika Shoker (English): The Role of Trust and Rapport in Teaching
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Jori Lindley

Sophia Kline (Spanish): Examining the Post Secondary Latinx Educational Attainment Gap
Faculty Mentor: Richard Wallace

Timea Friesen (English): Effectiveness of the Flipped Classroom Teaching Method: How it Impacts Motivation, Performance, and Satisfaction in the Classroom
Faculty Mentor: Karen Zandarski

Cierra Duke (Psychology): Effects of Gender of Nondisordered and Nondisabled College Students' Attitudes Towards Students with Disabilities and/or Disorders
Faculty Mentor: Julie Hall

Psychology and Mental Health ***1:00pm - 1:50 pm***

Catarina Sousa (Criminal Justice): Side Effects of Instagram
Faculty Mentor: Sebastián Sclofsky

Brittaney Rigby (Chemistry): Evaluating the Doctor-Patient Relationship and How it Affects Cases of Obstetric Violence
Faculty Mentor: Jamila Newton

Tawny Ortega (Psychology): Am I Worthy
Faculty Mentor: Deborah Forester

Sabrina Stephens (Psychology): Stress from Side Effects in Patients on Antipsychotics
Faculty Mentor: Deborah Forester

Elizabeth Luna (Psychology): ABA Parent Training via Telehealth for Caregivers of Children with Autism: A Review of the Literature
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Katie Wiskow

Kerry Young (Psychology): Effects of Trait-Anxiety and Mindfulness on Female Sexual Functioning
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Victor Luevano

Rachel Klopfer (Sociology): Eating Disorders and their Lasting Effects in Competitive Athletes

***Georgina Orozco** (Kinesiology): The Effects of Attentional Focus in Fine Motor Learning
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Arya Alami

Lisa Lewis (Psychology): Diverse Coping Strategies for COVID-19 Related Stressors
Faculty Mentor: Jamila Newton

Humanities, Social Science and Economics

3:10pm – 4:00 pm

Zephan Wood (Political Science): Human Dignity v Civil Liberties How Israeli and American Supreme Courts Handle Speech
Faculty Mentor: Stephen Routh

Abdulla Mammadsoy (Mathematics): Modesto's Housing Problem
Faculty Mentor: Gökçe Soydemir

Cristal Fuentes (Psychology): Why Does Female Genital Mutilation Continue To Be A Social and Cultural Drive?
Faculty Mentor: Andrew Conteh

***Lourdes Ramirez** (Criminal Justice): Forensic Anthropology in Latin America: Examining Methods of Human Identification
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Sari Miller-Antonio

Abram Galvez (Business Administration): Speculation on the Future of Moore's Law and Analysis of Business Proceedings Within the Microprocessor Industry
Faculty Mentor: Adamou Fode Made

Esmeralda Acatitla Velazquez (English): Author's Social Anxieties: Gender Preference in The Picture of Dorian Gray & The House of Mirth
Faculty Mentor: Scott Davis and Jesse Wolfe

Ryan De Los Santos (Physics): Should the Electrodynamic Screen be Used for Solar Panels in Stanislaus County?
Faculty Mentor: Brian Morsony

Marcus Ruddicks (Economics): Estimating a Minimum Income Level for Local College Students
Faculty Mentor: Elaine Peterson

Yesenia Solorzano (Criminal Justice): The Significance of the Dark Figure of Crime: Analyzing Unreported Violent Crime
Faculty Mentor:

Colin Gage (English): The Victorian Roots of the Graphic Novel
Faculty Mentor: Arnold Schmidt

Stem and Health Sciences

3:10pm - 4:00pm

***Marlen Martinez-Lopez** (Computer Science): Creating and Designing a Medical Big Data Analysis System
Faculty Mentor: Dae Hee Kim

***German Astorga** (Physics): Modeling Short GRBs as Structured Jets
Faculty Mentor: Brian Morsony

***Emma Van Hoogmoed:** Teaching Robots Biologically Inspired Tasks
Faculty Mentor: Xuejun Liang

***John Molthen** (Chemistry): Computational Docking of Potential Drug Inhibitors to the SARS- CoV-2 Main Protease
Faculty Mentor: Koni Stone

Navjot Nahal (Exercise Science): The Effects of Resistance Training on Chronic Lower Back Pain (CLBP)
Faculty Mentor: Brent Powell

Jair Torres (Biological Sciences): The Role of Misleading Diagrams in Student Misconceptions about Plant Metabolism
Faculty Mentor: Sarah Bissonnette

***Guadalupe Villanueva** (Exercise Science): An Examination of Weight Status and Gender Differences in Associated Health Risk Behaviors Among Overweight/Obese U.S. adolescents
Faculty Mentor: Wura Jacobs

Abstracts of Senior Capstone Presentations

Author's Social Anxieties: Gender Preference in The Picture of Dorian Gray & The House of Mirth

Esmeralda Acatitla Velazquez

The rise of the LGBTQ+ community has become extremely popular today. Supporters claim that these individuals have existed in our society, only gone into hiding because of social circumstances. The Victorian society was not as welcoming. They held on tight to Christian values and pressured individuals to meet their social roles. Therefore, arousing fear and anxiety. The purpose of this study is to explore the novels of Oscar Wilde, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, and Edith Wharton, *The House of Mirth*, to illustrate hidden gender preferences when parallel to their characters. Authors consciously or unconsciously inject themselves into their creations to reflect their desires. Many argue that self-authorship doesn't exist because characters come from imagination, making them a fictional experiment rather than something real. A writer cannot write what they didn't experience, understand, or thought. I expect that the writer's social environment influences their writing, and writers influence their characters.

Modeling Short GRBs as Structured Jets

German Astorga

We adopt a structured jet from a simulation of a short GRB, previously used to model the afterglow of GW170817 (Lazzati et al. 2018) to find if that the same jet can be used to successfully model other short GRB afterglows. The afterglow of GW170817 has been successfully modeled as a structured, relativistic jet that is highly peaked towards the center, being viewed off-axis (e.g. Lazzati et al. 2018b, 2020, Mooley et al. 2018, Hajela et al. 2019). A large sample of Swift-detected short GRB afterglows were modeled by Fong et al. (2015) using a top-hat jet seen on-axis, with the energy and opening angle of the jet as free parameters. We fit the same observations using a fixed (structured) jet energy distribution, with the observer angle as a free parameter. This allowed us to determine that this jet structure can replicate other short GRBs. This is significant because the jet model for GW170817 has not been proven for all short GRBs.

Racialization: How Does It Affect Latinx Immigrant Students?

Aurora Ceja

My research is based on students' experiences of racialization and their feelings of belonging in educational institutions. There are two hypothesis statements for my research project: 1) Latinx students who experience fewer microaggressions will feel safer and 2) Latinx students who have experienced more microaggressions will feel that their concerns on racism will not be taken seriously. This project will focus on Latinx immigrant students who live in a society that racializes them. It is important to know how students are being treated in the educational spaces because of the push for diversity. A campus cannot become diverse if students of color feel neglected and discriminated against, especially in Hispanic serving institutions like CSU Stanislaus. For my expected results, I anticipate that students have had experiences with racialization, which turn into shame or insecurity on being a university student. Which will then provide evidence that my two hypotheses are correct. The responses will hopefully lead to more exposure on the treatment of students at the CSU Stanislaus campus.

The Impact of Trauma Informed Education Practices on Combatting Inequity in Schools

Megan Dean

This project focuses on the impact of trauma informed education practices on combatting inequity in

schools. It answers three questions of what are trauma informed practices, how they combat inequity in schools, and how they can be applied in classrooms. A definition for these practices was concluded as practices that aim to understand the wide-reaching impacts of trauma on a child by addressing the social, emotional, and academic well-being of the student in a specialized, intentional, and equity-driven way. Based off of the research, trends consistently showed the importance of teachers being educated in the area of trauma, offering students support that builds their social and emotional skills, and creating a safe classroom environment. These trends point to the practices' ability to strengthen children with ACEs' developmental, academic, and emotional well-being. Trends demonstrate the ways these practice level the field for students with ACEs thus positively interrupting inequity in education.

Should the Electrodynamic Screen be Used for Solar Panels in Stanislaus County?

Ryan De Los Santos

Solar energy is today's leading contender for renewable energy. However, one of the hurdles that needs to be addressed is the dirtying that these solar panels can face. Over months of operation, photovoltaic cells can lose large percentages of their efficiency due to the accumulation of dust and other contaminants that layer the surface of the cell. In this paper the electrodynamic screen cleaning method is simulated on a standard sized (5.4'x 3.25') residential solar panel using a python code to determine how effective this cleaning methods would be in Stanislaus County, an urban area with a Mediterranean climate. Solar radiance data along with daily rainfall data is used to characterize the area. Due to its low power consumption and customization the simulation is expected to show that the electrodynamic screen will save a considerable amount of energy throughout months of usage in Stanislaus County.

Effects of Gender of Nondisordered and Nondisabled College Students' Attitudes Towards Students with Disabilities and/or Disorders

Cierra Duke

Gender has recently become a topic of interest in society within the past few years, however societal discussion is more focused on gender impacts of daily life and society rather than on college specifically. College students navigate different hardships as they work on their degree, some have more difficulties than others, and it is important to recognize what aspects of college life can be improved. The present study surveyed California State University, Stanislaus students, looking at their perceptions towards other students who have a disability and/or disorder. These students responded to a form of the Attitudes Towards Disabled Persons Questionnaire (ATDP). Using this survey, the responses were individually scored, and the data was analyzed in groups based on gender (men, women, transgender/etc.). It is expected that students who identify as men will have the least receptive attitudes while those who identify as women will have the most receptive attitudes, and the students who identify as transgender or other genders will score in between men and women.

Effectiveness of the Flipped Classroom Teaching Method: How it Impacts Motivation, Performance, and Satisfaction in the Classroom

Timea Friesen

The flipped classroom pedagogy has rapidly gained educators' attention over the past decade. Its potential to reinvent the classroom makes the flipped classroom a popular candidate for research, particularly in regards to researching and analyzing data in a variety of circumstances: grade levels, subjects, personality types, activity types, etc. This study focuses on the flipped classroom's effects on student motivation, student performance, and student and teacher satisfaction. Meta-analysis of previous research shows that the flipped classroom may be beneficial to these categories of achievements and attitudes. A small case study of educators in various fields from middle school to college level contributes to the positive

sentiments surrounding the effectiveness of the flipped classroom model, but the results are not conclusive. The flipped classroom can be effectively utilized as an instructional tool to modify the functions of work done within the classroom, but a variety of factors also contribute to motivation, performance, and satisfaction.

Why Does Female Genital Mutilation Continue To Be A Social and Cultural Drive?

Cristal Fuentes

Cultural practices are a way for many communities to display their history and continue a tradition that has long been created. However, some cultural traditions still retain some practices that no longer match the morals of today's society. Human rights are set in place all over the world in order to allow freedom for all individuals regardless of their socioeconomic status. Many of the abuses occur in developing countries because of the lack of resources and structure to prevent it from happening. Examining education in regard to the knowledge of this practice and the human rights violations imbedded within it affirms the importance of potentially raising awareness and increasing support of apprehending the issue. This study explores how effective the level of education and age can be toward increasing support against cultural issues, more importantly, abuses within female genital mutilation (FGM). In order to determine the effectiveness of education, a study will be conducted with a diverse target population. Specifically looking at age, their level of education, and their willingness to support preventative measures (i.e. signing petitions, donating, and further research). The results of the study indicated that participants with a bachelor's degree or higher showed the most willingness to support preventative measures. Furthermore, ages 45-65 with a doctorate degree displayed the most knowledge and agreeableness than any other age range. However, participants 18-24 with some high school attendance and/or diploma were less inclined to agree to support such measures.

The Victorian Roots of the Graphic Novel

Colin Gage

Graphic novels are gaining market share (and thus popularity) worldwide, but there is still resistance to taking them seriously as literature because many people think of them in terms of their apparent emergence from comics. However, because of similarities in publication, narrative gaps, and social critique, as well as their frequent borrowing of and reworking of Victorian characters by graphic novels, there are enough parallels to establish parentage between the Victorian serialized novel and the Anglo-American graphic novel. This study provides an important, though not exhaustive, link in establishing the pedigree of the graphic novel, using among other approaches the unique one of analyzing narrative gaps. This study showed that both genres had parallel publication history, both used visual markers to signify gaps, and both critiqued current society through the use of outsider heroes who were sometimes villainous.

Speculation on the Future of Moore's Law and Analysis of Business Proceedings Within the Microprocessor Industry

Abram Galvez

Understanding the future of Moore's Law is critical for the research on microprocessors but also for businesses who pour investment into the research and development of these microprocessors, which I believed to positively correlate with Moore's Law's continuance. Moore's Law, an observation on microprocessor development, states that the density of components within microprocessors doubles roughly every two years. Increasing the density is accomplished by shrinking the components of the microprocessor. While this process continues to make headway, shrinking will come to a halt and with it, the end of Moore's Law. After investigating previous slowdowns to Moore's Law, such as Dennard scaling, and research solutions to the unstable viability of Silicon, the proximity of Moore's Law's end does not

seem to be near. Furthermore the correlation between business investment and Moore's Law's continuance is negligible if existent. This conclusion is furthered by the introduction of the more than Moore idea, where microprocessor development can continue in varied physical device implementations as well as software development. The eventual end of Moore's Law requires, within the business lens, a speculation on where investment will shift, which I believe will be towards expanding the current implementation of more than Moore.

The Effects of Anxiety Reducing Coping Mechanisms on Nursing Students' Test Scores

Farhat Khairzadah

Several studies have shown that stress and anxiety have negatively affected students' psychological well-being and test scores, especially amongst nursing students who have to deal with additional stressors in the hospital setting. Coping mechanisms that involve deep breathing, muscle relaxation, and cognitive restructuring are shown to improve students' well-being and decrease anxiety. The purpose of this research is to determine whether using these coping mechanisms within a group of nursing students will affect student outcomes in regards to test scores and relief of test-anxiety. The study hypothesizes that students who implement these coping mechanisms will have improved test scores and report feeling less anxiety. The study is a mixed-method survey and experimental design that will use the Student Test Anxiety Scale developed by Nist and Diehl (1991) and a free response questionnaire. Participants included two cohorts of 30 students in the CSU Stanislaus Nursing Program. One cohort of students will listen to a pre-recorded Voice Thread implementing the aforementioned coping mechanisms prior to eight exams in the same class and the other cohort will serve as the control group. Data retrieved from each cohort will be compared. It is anticipated that the intervention group who implements the coping mechanisms will have decreased anxiety and higher test scores, whereas the control group will have similar, or unchanging, anxiety and test scores.

Examining the Post Secondary Latinx Educational Attainment Gap

Sophia Kline

Due to the general lack of literature concerning Latinx post-secondary education, this research aims to shed light on the factors contributing to the Latinx, post-secondary educational attainment gap in a way that is beneficial to educational policy makers, or readers who hold the power to make change within the educational system. It focuses on the history of Latinx education and the educational experiences of five Latinx individuals both enrolled and not enrolled in college. Together, this information supports the hypothesis that the Latinx educational community faces inhibitory factors, resulting in lower educational attainment rates in comparison to other demographics. The results of this study expect to see limited translation services for parents, economic instability, cultural pressure for young women to fulfill familial obligations over school, negative societal pressure and ethnic discrimination, and general uncertainty or disinterest with higher education as contributing factors to the gap.

Eating Disorders and their Lasting Effects in Competitive Athletes

Rachel Klopfer

Disordered eating habits and body image issues often go unnoticed in athletes because the disordered behavior has become a normalized part of being a competitive athlete. The significance of this study is to raise awareness that individuals who seem to live healthy lifestyles and look physically fit can be struggling with unhealthy habits and mindsets that go undiagnosed and untreated. If made aware of this, athletic institutions could provide more knowledge and resources regarding this issue. I will be comparing the Eating Disorder Examination Questionnaire (EDE Q) scores of athletes (current and former) against those of non athletes. I hypothesize that on average athletes will have higher scores on the EDE Q

(indicating more severe disordered eating habits) than non athletes.

Diverse Coping Strategies for COVID-19 Related Stressors

Lisa Lewis

Since the onset of the global Coronavirus pandemic, many citizens have reported significantly heightened levels of stress and stress-related illnesses. Previous research supporting the negative effects of chronic stress hormones and their contribution to a weakened immune system suggest the capacity of short- and long-term changes associated with high exposure to stress. The purpose of this study is to explore the cognitive, societal, and interpersonal relationships between diverse coping strategies and COVID-19 related experiences in order to establish a link between external and internal stress management techniques among individuals heavily exposed to COVID-related stressors. One method of coping with stressful experiences is by utilizing mindfulness: an awareness of one's internal states and external surroundings in the practice of avoiding destructive and automatic thoughts and responses through present-moment observation, without judgement or emotional reaction. rather than maladaptive and harmful methods. Mindfulness-based stress reduction (MBSR) is proven helpful in development and practice of proactive cognitive coping patterns aimed at maintaining the long-term health of the individual. We propose individuals who report using MBSR coping techniques will report most effective stress management for COVID-related stressors. Expected results are that participants who report positive coping techniques, especially mindfulness-based stress reduction strategies will report high scores of proactive coping competence and greater emotional regulation Mindfulness is the variable of interest because it requires no professional training or physical equipment and therefore may be applicable across diverse cultural backgrounds and demographics.

ABA Parent Training via Telehealth for Caregivers of Children with Autism: A Review of the Literature

Elizabeth Luna

The current COVID-19 circumstances have forced many of us to turn away from in-person consultations and receive virtual services instead, but are autistic children receiving the effective services they need during the COVID-19 pandemic? Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) procedures have been used as an effective form of treatment for autistic children for many years and they have been provided via telehealth even before the pandemic came along. The purpose of this review of literature was to investigate if ABA parent training via telehealth was an effective form of providing services to families of children with autism. We strived to focus on the functional analysis (FA) and functional communication training (FCT) portions of the parent training in ABA therapy. The population of interest for this review included children ages 2-12 diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and their caregivers. The findings of this study demonstrate that ABA therapy via telehealth is effective because it reduces problem behaviors and increases mands, it can be implemented with feasibility and fidelity by caregivers, it is accessible, and it is highly rated by caregivers of children with autism.

Modesto's Housing Problem

Abdulla Mammadsoy

Rising rent and housing prices as well as limited number of available housing units has turned finding a house in Modesto into a nightmare for many families. High cost is caused by the imbalance between supply and demand in housing market. It is important to observe a few key factors that may cause the imbalance between supply and demand, thus, high rent and housing prices in Modesto. The purpose of this research is to investigate the change in rent and housing prices, population growth, limited number of available housing units, long and expensive process of obtaining building permits and lack of construction of new

dwelling as well as to provide possible solutions to Modesto's housing problem.

Creating and Designing a Medical Big Data Analysis System

Marlen Martinez-Lopez

Medical researchers primarily rely on Electronic Health Records and genomic data in order to identify associations between genetic variants and human diseases. They have used Phenome-Wide Association Study (PheWAS), to identify and locate differences in the sequence of DNA called genomic variants and Genome-Wide Association Study (GWAS), to discover genomic variants of specific diseases. In the era of Big data, the amount of data of both disease and genomic data has increased significantly, that the amount of time to process the data has increased too. A prototype of a Medical Big Data Analysis System was designed and created using both PheWAS and GWAS datasets of a population-based biobank, Marshfield Clinic Research Institute. This prototype was made to be more efficient and load results quicker. The goal of this project is to help medical researchers with data analysis with their patients and create a web query system that helps find associations between human diseases and genetic variants.

Computational Docking of Potential Drug Inhibitors to the SARS-CoV-2 Main Protease

John Molthen

Abstract Computational biology and chemistry have become more relevant with the new technology of the 21st century. Many programs are used as replicas for experimental results, and visualizations of the chemical and microbiological world. This project is focused on docking drugs to the Main Protease of SARS-CoV-2 using AutoDock Vina, a computational docking program. With the quantum mechanical equations done by the program, it should give results within 5% of the actual experimental results. If it does do this, it can be considered a good model for the actual experiment.

The Effect of Resistance Training on Individuals with Chronic Lower Back Pain (CLBP)

Navjot Nahal

The prevalence of chronic lower back pain is nearly the same as it was twenty years ago despite the advancements in technology and medicine. A predominant cause of chronic lower back pain is muscle weakness. Addressing this concern from the root by increasing muscular strength should eliminate CLBP. Resistance training is a form of exercise that primarily focuses on strength gain, therefore, it should be efficient in decreasing pain improving other related variables including disability. Resistance training was predicted to be the most efficient form of treatment compared to other rehabilitative forms such as general physical exercise, mindful meditation, and walking, but the meta-analysis suggested otherwise. While specifically comparing studies that used a walking program to a resistance training program, no conclusion could be drawn supporting resistance training as the most effective treatment form, and thereby, resistance training should not be the sole mode of rehabilitation for those with CLBP.

How School Type Influence Enrollment and Preference

Carley Newbill

Three types of schools that are often compared to one another are public, private, and charter schools, as the majority of the U.S. population attends one of these three schools. By comparing public, private, and charter schools, is it possible to see which people prefer attending and why? Public schools are anticipated to be the most attended school in the U.S. due to their size and accessibility, with performance being the main factor people consider before attending a particular school. As anticipated, public schools are the most attended schools in the U.S., but the reason behind this is complicated. Public schools have remained popular in the U.S. due to the schools being free for students to attend, as most families cannot afford or

do not want the extra expense of having their child attend private or charter schools.

Examining stress among first-generation college students

Juana Nieto Vazquez

Stress among college students has become a major issue. Together, subjective and objective stressors have implications on our overall health. Previous research by Welle and Graf (2011) suggests that college students who experience stress tend to encounter depression and suicidal thoughts. Further, first-generation students tend to report significantly lower social support, stronger post-traumatic stress symptoms, and less life satisfaction (Jenkins et al., 2013). The purpose of the present study is to explore the differences between first-generation college students and non-first-generation college students and the relationship between objective and subjective stress. It is hypothesized that first-generation college students will experience significantly higher levels of perceived stress than non-first-generation college students. In addition, it is expected to find a positive correlation between subjective stress and objective stress in college students. Factors related to stress will be examined which include academic, financial, and social stressors that influence our perception, thus affecting our feelings and emotions.

The Effects of Attentional Focus in Fine Motor Learning

Georgina Orozco

The goal of attentional focus studies is to identify whether internal or external focus of attention improves motor learning or performance on tasks. The majority of the attentional focus studies conclude that superior performance is achieved with an external focus but recent research suggests that there may be a difference when learning or performing a gross motor skill with or without vision. A similar fine motor attentional focus study has been already accomplished but this current study was designed to show whether there is a difference in the outcome when vision is eliminated. Will participants produce less error under the external focus of attention compared to the internal focus of attention and will fine motor learning occur? Sixteen right handed university students performed a finger movement task using a combination of keystroke sequences on a laptop with a blindfold. The participants performed six trials with five sets in each of the two focus conditions. Participants were instructed to pay attention to their finger movement (internal focus) and to pay attention to the target sequence (external focus), respectively, in the two separate conditions. The data demonstrated that all participants improved performance, and generated less error in the external focus condition compared to the internal focus condition. A two-way repeated measures anova was run in order to assess if the initial difference was statistically significant. These findings further suggest that adopting external focus of attention in fine motor skill learning without vision will lead to less error being generated. This research can be beneficial to educators due to the fine motor skills developed in early age and for medical professionals like physical therapists when executing the rehabilitation programs or other professions where direct view of fine motor movements is not possible.

Am I Worthy

Tawny Ortega

The purpose of the present study is to examine factors pertaining to weight stereotyping and the perception of intelligence, confidence, and the likelihood of relationship status. Participants were randomly assigned to either view images of individuals who were represented as a magazine model, or a regular everyday person. Participants were then be asked to complete the Perceived Intelligence Scale, the Relationship Status Questionnaire, and the Perceived Confidence Scale.

Forensic Anthropology in Latin America: Examining Methods of Human Identification

Lourdes Ramirez

The purpose of this research to get an understanding of what forensic anthropology techniques have been used through time in the subject of human identification in the region of Latin America. Latin America countries usually struggle with human rights issues, political violence, and mass natural disasters which usually means there are mass graves in certain regions of these countries. The application of forensic anthropology techniques and methods is analyzed throughout time. Also, the techniques that have been most useful in identifying victims in these countries are discussed.

Evaluating the Doctor-Patient Relationship and How it Affects Cases of Obstetric Violence

Brittaney Rigby

Abstract Pregnancy is a medically vulnerable state for the woman where trust and communication between the pregnant patient and her obstetrician is critical. Obstetric violence is the abuse against women during childbirth that can occur from healthcare professionals. Even in life threatening situations, women have the right to refuse care such as a “caesarean section, episiotomy, and vacuum-assisted delivery,” and being coerced into procedures can leave both mental and physical trauma to women. The correlation between a physician’s characteristics and the occurrences of obstetric violence will be investigated and evaluated. It is expected that more empathetic obstetricians who spend more time building a rapport with their patients and with their nurses about their patients will be less likely to commit obstetric violence against their patient. In summary, it is expected that the more empathetic an obstetrician is, the better rapport he or she will establish with their patient, and, thus, the less likely they will be to commit violence against their patient. This will be determined using a survey 125 participants which contain parameter questions to evaluate whether one’s experience or a confidant’s recount of a woman’s experience which determines if a pregnant woman has experienced any number of specified violence from medical professionals. There will also be questions to determine and characterize the physician based on the patient’s or confidant’s self-report essentially using communication amount and communication style as a measurement for a physician’s empathy.

Estimating a Minimum Income Level for Local College Students

Marcus Ruddicks

The basic needs approach measures poverty based on people’s ability to acquire the minimum resources necessary for their survival, but there isn’t a universal definition of basic needs. Previous researchers have found that the local level is the best one at which to administer antipoverty efforts, so it follows that the local level will be the best at which to measure and define poverty. This study seeks to combine both of these ideas and arrive at a local, basic needs-based definition of poverty. To do this, 61 students at California State University, Stanislaus were surveyed regarding the dollar amounts that they generally spend each month on different categories of basic needs, and a minimum income level was calculated based on that data. That minimum income level was greater than the 2021 U.S. national poverty threshold for single-person households, suggesting that it may be a better fit for local college students.

The Role of Trust and Rapport in Teaching

Malika Shoker

Within the classroom, the establishment of trust between both students and teachers is dependent on many different elements. More often than not, a student’s insecurities surrounding the fear of seeming unintelligent, impedes their learning experience. Because of this issue, trust is needed in order for actual active learning and development to occur. The lack of trust in classrooms is a relevant and multifaceted

issue, so the knowledge gained from this study will add breadth to the discipline overall and eventually contribute to creating solutions to the problem at hand. Through naturalistic observation, the relationships between students and teachers in the classroom were noted and analyzed using a specific set of parameters in order to come to a conclusion on the manifestation of trust and rapport. The expectation is that teachers who utilize their skills of emotional intelligence and implement teaching strategies that put an emphasis on the building of trust and rapport, create positive learning atmospheres where students are engaged. The establishment of a supportive classroom atmosphere that values trust, will be conducive to motivating students as well as fostering receptiveness to the content being taught.

The Significance of the Dark Figure of Crime: Analyzing Unreported Violent Crime

Yesenia Solorzano

The underreporting of crime is a serious issue in the U.S. that has a great impact on society and the criminal justice system. Since crime statistics are used by organizations, services such as police training, police officer allocation and allocation of victim services can be affected by crime statistics. Therefore, it is important to find factors of unreported crime. The National Crime Victimization Survey gathers data of unreported crime from households while the Uniform Crime Report gathers data of reported crime from law enforcement agencies. A comparison of these reports shows that there is a great discrepancy between the rates of reported and unreported crime. Examination of peer-reviewed studies show the different factors that contribute to unreported crime. These factors are primarily psychological and consist of the victim's perception of the crime and the justice system, as well as other factors such as reporting the crime to another authority.

Side Effects of Instagram

Catarina Sousa

For countless individuals social media networking platforms are just fragments of their daily lives, and for others it is an absolutely essential part of it. As so, it is vital to explore the effects stemming from usage. This research intends to identify the types of negative emotional effects observed in users of virtual networking platforms (VNP), specifically Instagram. Additionally, research questions if emotional effects vary in regards to age and gender. In particular, we expected to see females ages 18-24 reporting negative emotional effects in greater instances when compared to females 24-30, males 18-24,25-30. After analyzing the data, we have concluded that females do not report negative emotional effects in high instances. Each group of females score extremely similar. in regards to attachment However, we see that they differ slightly in their level of Instagram use (or intensity) based upon age. F 25-30, have demonstrated on average to be active users, while F 18-24 remain passive users. A survey was administered with the purpose of examining emotional effects of Instagram use and intensity. One section applies an adapted version of the study by Gerson, Plagnol and Corr (Passive and Active Use Measure, 2017). Other questions were adapted from a study based on Ellison et al. (Instagram Intensity Scale, 2007) which uses a 1-5 point scale to indicate the emotional investment of a user to the Instagram platform. Additionally the survey included an optional short answer prompt, this was to conclude if there are any common terms associated with the platform. Responses can be taken into account to conclude that participants are either: Highly emotionally attached, passive user 2. Highly emotional attached, active user 3. Low emotional attachment, passive user 4. Low emotional attachment, active user. This data will be combined with demographic information to demonstrate which categories correlate which group/s have the highest reported negative emotional effects.

Stress from Side Effects in Patients on Antipsychotics

Sabrina Stephens

Antipsychotics are beneficial towards controlling the symptoms of psychosis disorders, but their side effects can be debilitating and create stress for patients. These medications can develop a variety of side effects, and it is common for patients to experience at least one during medication usage. Previous researchers have found that medication side effects do create stress in patients, some side effects more than others. The current status quo in treatment is to focus on the prevalence and appearance of side effects. While these issues are important, it is equally important to address the ways side effects may be interfering with patients' daily functioning and their stress levels. It was hypothesized for this study that amongst participants taking an antipsychotic, those experiencing side effects would report higher stress levels than participants who do not experience side effects. It was also hypothesized that weight-gain related side effects would cause higher stress levels than sleep-disturbance related side effects. This study uses statistical analysis from an original survey, with questions asking participants about medication type, what side effect they experience the worst (if any), and a general stress scale. Participants who indicated they experience side effects also completed a side effect stress scale and a COVID-19 stress scale. Statistical analysis was done by conducting a between groups t-test using the software program SPSS. Due to data collection issues, there are no results at this time. After data collection issues are resolved the results of the study will be updated.

The Role of Misleading Diagrams in Student Misconceptions about Plant Metabolism

Jair Torres

Research in biology education points to a prevalence of common misconceptions about how plants convert and use energy. Prior research in science education suggests that misleading diagrams significantly contribute to mistaken ideas students have about the subject matter. Here, we extended this idea about the role that visuals play in how students form their ideas to the concept of plant metabolism. Two groups of Stanislaus State students enrolled in an introductory biology course were provided either a misleading or updated diagram. The participants used these diagrams to answer survey questions designed to test for common misconceptions about plant metabolism. Based on the current literature, we predicted that students exposed to misrepresentations of plants would have more misconceptions than those provided with accurate diagrams. Our findings can help inform the way we visually present information in the classroom.

Teaching Robots Biologically Inspired Tasks

Emma Van Hoogmoed

This presentation will cover how we utilized a neural network to train a Jetbot to replicate predator-prey relationships. A Jetbot is a type of robot designed by NIVIDIA. The robot was trained using PyTorch and its various open source libraries. The goal of this project was to improve upon the research conducted by William Grey Walter and Michael Arbib. Both conducted previous work on replicating animal behavior through predator-prey relationships to examine the connection between the brain and its actions. By replicating their research with a neural network, we can see how a neural network improves on replicating predator-prey relationships.

An Examination of Weight Status and Gender Differences in Associated Health Risk Behaviors Among Overweight/Obese U.S. Adolescents

Guadalupe Villanueva

In America, obesity levels keep rising. Especially among adolescents, many are carrying excessive weight which continues into adulthood. This excess weight (overweight or obesity) is associated with impairments and diseases such as poor quality of life, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, some cancers,

and earlier death. The purpose of this study is to examine whether and to what extent overweight/obese adolescents engage in other health-risking behaviors. I examine whether overweight/obese adolescents will have a reduced likelihood of meeting the 5-2-1-0 guidelines, whether the association between weight status and odds of engaging in different health-risk behaviors will be different for male and female adolescents, and if females will show a higher risk for multiple health-risk behaviors compared to males. Using data from the 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey of 9th –12th grade students, I conducted logistic regression models to examine whether and to what extent overweight/obese adolescents engage in other health-risking behaviors among males and females. Finding showed that compared to their normal weight counterparts, overweight adolescents were less likely to eat five servings of fruits and vegetables daily and engage in more than one hour of physical activity daily. Obese adolescents were less likely to report eating five servings of fruits and vegetables, engaging in more than one hour of daily physical activity, consuming sugar-sweetened beverages. Females were more likely to consume alcohol, use marijuana, report current sexual activity, and less condom use. My results demonstrate a higher risk for engaging in other risk behaviors especially among obese females. My findings highlight the need for gender-tailored interventions to help target health risk behaviors obese youth are at risk for.

Human Dignity v Civil Liberties How Israeli and American Supreme Courts Handle Speech

Zephan Wood

The purpose of my research is to compare and contrast how hate speech is treated by the Supreme Courts in two separate countries, the United States and Israel. These countries utilize different methods of review, in the United States, the strict scrutiny standard of upholding civil liberties such as free speech is upheld, while in Israel, the human dignity standard is upheld. This is significant because how the state treats hate speech has an impact on the societal landscape. When a nation imposes speech restrictions on it's populace, it can have the ripple effect of determining the behavior of the citizens that commonly engage in speech, sometimes with unintended and/or intended malicious consequences.

Effects of Trait-Anxiety and Mindfulness on Female Sexual Functioning

Kerry Young

My Capstone Project focuses on how trait-anxiety and mindfulness relate to female sexual functioning. I hypothesized that trait-anxiety would be positively related to sexual difficulties, and mindfulness would be negatively related to sexual difficulties. My study was conducted online using self-report measures. Eighty-nine participants were collected using Qualtrics. Participants were sexually active females on Stan State's campus from ages 18-42. This study used three surveys: The Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale, The Freiburg Mindfulness Inventory, and The Sexual Distress-Revised questionnaire. Using the responses from these surveys, I analyzed the relationships between mindfulness, sexual distress, and trait-anxiety. My results supported my hypothesis that women who report higher trait-anxiety report more sexual difficulties ($r = .51, 95\% \text{ CI } [.31, .67]$) and women who report higher mindfulness report fewer sexual difficulties ($r = -.42, 95\% \text{ CI } [-.60, -.21]$). This study is important because it brings light to a topic that has historically been underrepresented, it has potential for real world application, and it helps generalize findings to a more diverse population.

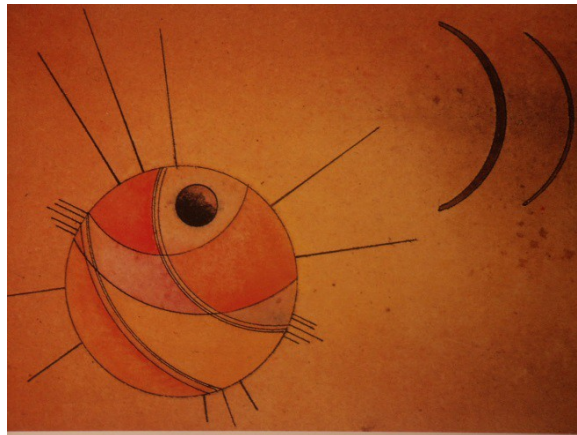
A special thank you to Therese Lunt for your generous support of the University Honors Program over the past thirteen years, and a hearty congratulations on your retirement. Thank you so much for your support of our students and our program.

Capstone Research Poster Displays

Victoria Aguilar - English
Vivian Aguilar - Psychology
Julien Alfaro - Physics
Melissa Almeida - Psychology
Helena Arroyo - Business Admin-
MGT/Intl Busn
Mauricio Arzate - Criminal Justice-
Law Enforce
Matthew Bonzi - English
Jordyn Boone - Liberal Studies-
TESOL
Danielle Carpenter - Anthropology-
Biological
Brendan Contreras - Computer
Science
Melana Cook - Business Admin-
Accounting
Elizabeth Davies - Art-Studio
Kaela Dishion - Psychology-
Experimental
MoRaya Ferryman - Gender Stud-
Ethn,Nation, Sexu
Nicholaus Fleming - Computer
Science
Guadalupe Godinez - Cognitive
Studies
Clarissa Gutierrez - English-
TESOL
Jamie Hawthorne - Liberal Studies-
Music
Alexandra Heuston - Chemistry
Louisa Imelio - Anthropology-
Biological Anthro
Lucie Jegoux - Biology
Chelsey King - Biology-General
Sarah Lamphere - Art-Studio
Isaac Lopez - Psychology
Guadalupe Marquez - Sociology-
Human Services
Alexis Martinez - Psychology
Brian Meginness - Computer Science
Claudia Mendoza-Chavez -
Anthropology
Obed Meraz - Biology-Molecular,
Cellular, Microb
Chayla Neese - Public Health
Promotion
Rosita Nelson - Psychology
Erica Nixon - Psychology
Isaura Patino - Political Science
Johanna Pena - Psychology-
Developmental
Angel Reyes - Biology-
Molecular,Cellular,Microb
Lizeth Sanchez Espinoza - Business
Admin-General
Adriana Santos - Psychology
Trisha Silveira - Philosophy
Noreen Singh - Psychology
Tripti Singh - Chemistry
Halley Smith - Psychology
Candace Stubblefield - Criminal
Justice-Law Enforc
Danny Tovar Franco - Psychology-
Developmental
Luis Toledo Gonzalez - Psychology-
Developmental

HONORS PROGRAM COMMUNITY STATEMENT

The Honors Program at CSU Stanislaus is a community of scholars bound together by vital principles of academic openness, integrity, and respect. Through focused study and practice involving exploration and discovery across a variety of disciplines, the Honors Program upholds these principles of scholarly engagement and provides students with the necessary foundations for further research and inquiry.



Our interdisciplinary curriculum is integral to this work and is intended to facilitate creative understanding of the irreducible complexities of contemporary life and knowledge. Personal and intellectual honesty and curiosity are essential to this process. So, too, is critical openness to difficult topics and respect for different perspectives, values and disciplines. The Honors Program aims to uphold these virtues in practice, in principle, and in community with one another.