

Subject: IS NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF 3/31

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 at 12:00:00 PM Pacific Daylight Time

From: isla-faculty-request@calpoly.edu on behalf of Interdisciplinary Studies Cal Poly

To: ismajors@calpoly.edu

CC: isla-faculty@calpoly.edu

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

WEEKLY NEWS 3/31

NOTE FROM DR. RYALLS

Welcome back! I hope you had a fantastic Spring Break and are looking forward to the Spring quarter.

This quarter promises to be an interesting one as there are plenty of opportunities arising that will be of interest to IS majors. The weekly ISLA newsletter will keep you up to date on information that is important for our majors. For those recently enrolled into the IS major or on an ICMA, the newsletter is a place to share news and to let ISLA students know about internal/external events, research opportunities, and career services' programs relevant to them. If you have any news or events that you would like to share with your fellow IS majors then please let us know at is@calpoly.edu.

My office hours this quarter will be Monday 2PM-4PM, Wednesday 11AM-1PM, and Thursday 10AM-12PM. During these times, we can meet in my office (52-D3) or via Zoom. Please be sure to schedule an appointment: <https://calendly.com/eryalls/dr-ryalls-s-office-hours>. I am also happy to set up other meeting times if you are not able to make these office hours. Just send me an email and we can arrange a day/time.

The Palm Theater is beginning a monthly series called Professor Picks. On Thursday, April 9th at 7PM, this professor 😊 picked the incredible Oscar nominated documentary Cutting Through Rocks. I hope to see you there!

PROFESSOR PICKS



THURSDAY, APRIL 09

CUTTING THROUGH ROCKS

Introduction by Dr. Emily D. Ryalls,
Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies
in the Liberal Arts Department
at Cal Poly.

Her research and teaching interests are in the areas of critical/cultural studies and feminist media studies. Dr. Ryalls's research has explored issues of age, race, class, gender, and sexuality.



👋 MEET KEELY AND AKSHARA - YOUR ISLA STUDENT ASSISTANTS!

Hi everyone! I'm Keely, a fourth year ISLA major/STS minor. I am also the ISLA student assistant!

Hello! I'm Akshara, a second year ISLA major with a concentration in Ethics, Law and Social Justice!

We create these newsletters, run our ISLA social media, and support events throughout the quarter. We are also here as a resource for you — whether you have questions about the ISLA program, need help navigating course selection or declaring a concentration/minor, or want to get more involved in the ISLA community.

 **Our contact information:**

Keely: kfrobert@calpoly.edu

Akshara: amadabus@calpoly.edu

We'd love to hear from you — don't hesitate to reach out, connect, or say hi around campus!

ISLA ASSOCIATED CLUBS



Cal Poly ISLA Club

Instagram
[@calpolyislaclub](https://www.instagram.com/calpolyislaclub)

Slack



ISLA CLUB

A group of students has founded the ISLA club as a space for ISLA students to meet and connect! The first meeting has been held, but meetings will continue across the quarter.

Follow the Instagram @calpolyislaclub or join the GroupMe for more updates.

A green banner for the Mustang Film Society. On the left is a cartoon illustration of a brown and white mustang horse. To its right, the words "MUSTANG" and "FILM SOCIETY" are written in large, bold, dark blue capital letters. Further right is a yellow and black microphone. Below the horse is the Instagram logo, followed by the text "Instagram @mustangfilmsociety". Below that is an envelope icon, followed by the text "For more info contact eryalls@calpoly.edu". On the right side of the banner, there is a rounded rectangle containing two yellow stars and the text "CONNECT WITH PEERS INTERESTED IN FILM!" and "BUILD IMPORTANT INDUSTRY SKILLS!".

**MUSTANG
FILM SOCIETY**

Instagram
@mustangfilmsociety

For more info contact
eryalls@calpoly.edu

★ CONNECT WITH PEERS
INTERESTED IN FILM!

★ BUILD IMPORTANT
INDUSTRY SKILLS!

MUSTANG FILM SOCIETY

Mustang Film Society is a new club on campus aimed at fostering a community around film and providing students interested in film with opportunities to connect to others in the film industry and explore their interests! This may be of interest to any MAST minor students.

If interested, please contact Dr. Emily Ryalls at eryalls@calpoly.edu or follow the Instagram [@mustangfilmsociety](https://www.instagram.com/mustangfilmsociety)

CAREERS & INTERNSHIPS



CAL POLY

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & OFFICE OF STUDENT SUCCESS
PRESENTS

ACE INTERNSHIP SUCCESS ENHANCEMENT



In the College of Liberal Arts? The ACE programs hopes to support low-income & first-generation students by enhancing internship opportunities. You can earn up to \$2500!

Requirements

- ✓ Maintain a qualifying Spring 2026 internship as defined by Cal Poly
- ✓ Ability to attend cohort-based reflections and meet-ups
- ✓ Completion of ACE Internship ePortfolio



Earn up to \$2500 today!



ACE is open and available to all who are interested to apply and/or participate, regardless of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin.

For this Spring only, ACE is offering a \$1500 supplement to the ACE \$100 base stipend to low income and/or first generation college students who have an internship lined up for spring quarter. For more information or to apply, visit the [ACE website](#).

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



Dr. Kirby, ISLA Department Chair, selected to interview astronaut alumnus Victor Glover

Cal Poly alumnus Victor Glover returned to campus for an inspiring conversation with department chair Dr. Kirby, reflecting on his journey from “Learn by Doing” to spaceflight. A 1999 graduate of California Polytechnic State University, Glover is set to pilot Artemis II—the first crewed mission to orbit the Moon in over 50 years. Drawing on his experience aboard the International Space Station, he emphasized the importance of interdisciplinary learning, resilience, and taking initiative. His visit highlighted how Cal Poly’s hands-on approach continues to shape leaders pushing the boundaries of exploration.

Watch the exclusive interview [HERE](#)

ENROLLMENT

ES 470: LOS ANGELES: RACE, CULTURE, AND URBANIZATION



DIVISION OF THE BARRIOS & CHAVEZ RAVINE

THIS COURSE INTRODUCES STUDENTS TO THE PHILOSOPHICAL AND HISTORICAL STUDY OF URBANIZATION IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. BY LOOKING AT THE WORK OF SUCH VARIED FIGURES AS CHESTER HIMES, RAUL VILLA, AND HENRI LEFEBVRE WE WILL TAKE AN APPROACH THAT HIGHLIGHTS THE CONCEPTUAL RICHNESS OF URBAN EVERYDAY LIFE.




INSTRUCTOR:
DR. GABRIEL SOLDATENKO,
GSOLDATE@CALPOLY.EDU

MEETING TIME:
SPRING 2026
MW 10:10 AM - 12 PM,
38-114

ES 470: Los Angeles: Race, Culture, and Urbanization (Spring 2026)

Looking for an upper-division elective? Join **ES 470: Los Angeles: Race, Culture, and Urbanization**, taught by Dr. Gabriel Soldatenko in the Ethnic Studies Department. This course explores the history of Los Angeles—from its origins as a pueblo to its rise as a global metropolis—examining the social, political, and cultural forces that have shaped the city’s urban landscape and the communities who call it home.

Engaging with thinkers such as Chester Himes, Raul Villa, and Henri Lefebvre, students will explore race, space, and everyday life in Southern California through a philosophical and historical lens.

-  **Spring 2026**
-  **MW 10:10 AM – 12:00 PM**
-  **Building 38-114**

This course is ideal for ES majors and minors in need of an upper-division related elective. Reach out to Dr. Gabriel Soldatenko (gsoldate@calpoly.edu) for more information.



DATA ARE A FEMINIST ISSUE

“ Considers how inequality permeates all stages of data science. ”

“ Looks at many axes of inequity including race, gender, class, ability status, and more. ”

“ A data science that exposes and challenges power and the intersecting oppressions that result. ”

Come take Data Feminism (STAT 270) with Dr. Theobald on Tuesdays from 12-2



  **Course Spotlight: Data Are a Feminist Issue (STAT 270)**

Data Are a Feminist Issue explores how inequality is embedded in every stage of data science—from data collection to analysis and interpretation. Using an intersectional framework, the course examines how power, race, gender, class, ability status, and other forms of inequity shape data and its real-world impacts. Interested in using data to challenge systems of oppression rather than reinforce them? **Enroll in Data Feminism (STAT 270) with Dr. Theopold, meeting Tuesdays from 12–2.**



SCM 302: learn by doing lab

**EARN COURSE CREDIT AND GET
REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE WORKING WITH KIDS!**



LEARN MORE AT [CESAME.CALPOLY.EDU](https://cesame.calpoly.edu)



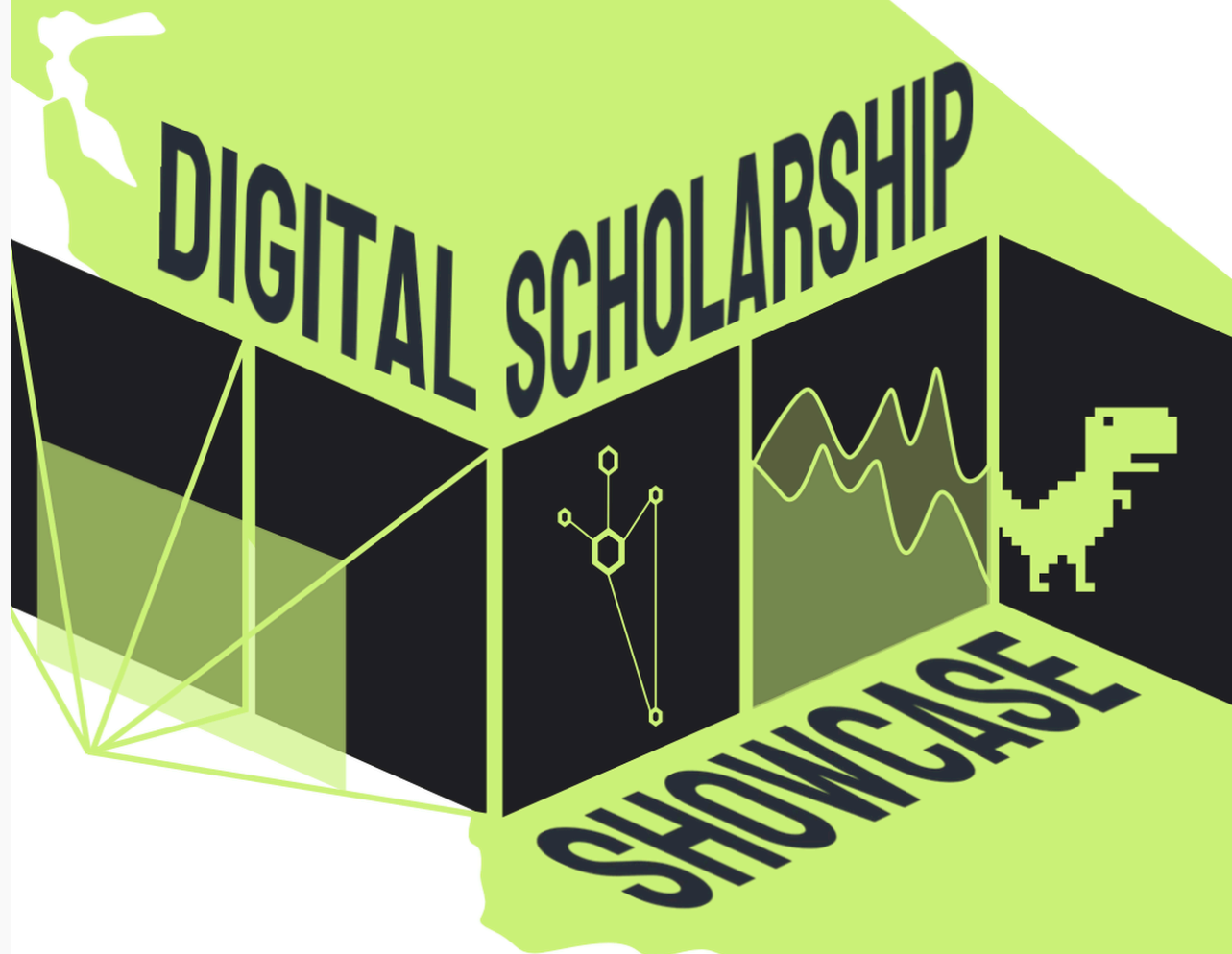
 Teach, Explore, and Inspire in the Learn by Doing Lab

Looking for a meaningful, hands-on experience that blends science, teaching, and community impact? Join Cal Poly CESAME's **Learn by Doing Lab** through **SCM 302**! This interactive outreach program gives Cal Poly students the chance to lead inquiry-based STEM activities for visiting 5th–8th grade classes. You'll guide real experiments, spark curiosity, and help bring science to life—all while building confidence in communication, teamwork, and instructional design. Open to all majors and offered Winter and Spring quarters, SCM 302 counts toward early field experience hours and provides valuable, real-world teaching practice.

Enroll in **SCM 302: Learn by Doing Lab** during registration. For questions, contact **Dr. Seth Bush** at sbush@calpoly.edu.

EVENTS

Kennedy Library
Digital Scholarship Studio



METHODS • TOOLS • PEDAGOGY

Project Gallery • Presentations • Networking

Register:



11am-12pm
Thursday, April 9th, 2026
Kennedy Library 35-103

Digital Scholarship Showcase

Please join the Kennedy Library Digital Scholarship Studio/Digital Projects Lab for our inaugural Digital Scholarship Project Showcase on **Thursday, April 9th, 2026, at 11am-12pm** (UU hour). We hope that this will be the start of a yearly tradition of showcasing the creativity and collaboration happening across campus. Our goal is to provide a space where faculty, staff, and students from all disciplines who are interested in digital scholarship can connect through the library and get inspired. Everyone is welcome to attend.

2026 CHELSEA REDEKER MILBOURNE MEMORIAL



Chelsea Milbourne



Sophie Wang

ZINES AS CRITICAL RESEARCH- MAKING

SCIENCE, ART, AND TRANSLATING RESEARCH
INTO POLITICAL EDUCATION

**TUESDAY APRIL 14
3:10 - 5:00 PM**

HYBRID EVENT

**IN-PERSON LOCATION: ATL
MASKS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED**

**FOR ZOOM LINK REGISTER AT
[BIT.LY/2026CMMEMORIAL](https://bit.ly/2026CMMEMORIAL)**

The Chelsea Redeker Milbourne Symposium honors former Cal Poly faculty member Chelsea Milbourne. Chelsea was a valued teacher, scholar, and member of the department of English and the Science, Technology, and Society (STS) Executive Committee. This symposium aims to preserve her legacy by featuring scholarly talks in the areas of technical communication, STS, and public science.

SYMPOSIUM

2026 Chelsea Redeker Milbourne Memorial

Please join the Chelsea Redeker Milbourne Symposium as they honor former Cal Poly faculty member Chelsea Milbourne. Chelsea was a valued member of the Science, Technology, and Society Executive Committee. This symposium features scholarly talks such as "Zines as Critical Research-Making" and "Science, Art, and Translating Research into Political Education" to preserve her legacy at Cal Poly and honor her admirable contribution to student's education. This memorial is a hybrid event, and we welcome you to join us **Thursday, April 14 from 3:10-5:00 PM** in the **Advanced Technology Labs** (masks highly encouraged), or register for the zoom link [HERE](#).



Opioid Overdose Prevention & Free Narcan Kits

Cal Poly's Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Prevention team is partnering with ISLA to support student safety and wellness. With fentanyl-related overdoses on the rise nationally and locally, it's more important than ever to know how to recognize an overdose and respond effectively.

Join us for a brief, interactive training covering:

- How to identify an opioid overdose
- How to safely administer Narcan (Naloxone)
- How to access free Narcan + Overdose Prevention Kits

Students can pick up supplies at Building 27 (Health Center) or during weekly distributions:

Tuesdays, 3–5 PM and **Thursdays, 3:30–5:30 PM** on the Health Lawn.

Want us to come to your space for a distribution or presentation? We're happy to schedule a time that works for you!

OPPORTUNITIES

NEW MUSTANG MAKERSPACE

OPEN TO ALL CAL POLY STUDENTS!

ABOUT US

A completely free space open to all students, regardless of major. No engineering experience necessary. Work on class projects, senior project,s or even personal projects!!

OUR SERVICES

- 56 easy-to-use 3D printers
- Lasers for wood, acrylic, vinyl and more
- Embroidery and Sewing Machines

LOCATION

In Bonderson,
Building 197, Room 110



HOURS

Fall Quarter, Weeks 2-7
Mon-Fri: 10-7pm
Sat: 9-6pm



CONTACT INFO

Email:
calpolysuptechs@gmail.com



Link to
our
website



MUSTANG MAKERSPACE

The Cal Poly Machine Shops (College of Engineering) are excited to welcome students to

the Mustang Makerspace, located in Bonderson (Building 197), next to Mustang '60. This free, all-major space is your go-to hub for digital fabrication, creativity, and hands-on learning.

Inside you'll find **56 3D printers (Bambu, Prusa, Elegoo, Formlabs, MarkForged)**, **4 laser cutters, an embroidery machine, an industrial Cricut vinyl cutter, and sewing machines.** Whether you're working on a class assignment, a senior project, or just a personal idea, the Makerspace has the tools to help bring your vision to life. **No prior experience is needed—our shop techs are here to teach you, answer questions, and support your projects.**

 **Spring Quarter Hours (Weeks 2–10):**

- Monday–Friday: 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

3D printers are open to everyone without training, but you'll need a Red Tag Certification for lasers and some other equipment. Learn more and sign up for trainings at machineshops.calpoly.edu.

 **Questions? Email calpolyshoptechs@gmail.com |  **Aero Hangar: (805) 756-2266 | Mustang '60: (805) 756-5634****

Come explore, create, and make your ideas a reality—see you in the Makerspace!



CAL POLY

Robert E. Kennedy Library



Spring 2026 Workshops at the Digital Scholarship Studio

Apr 10 Intro to Git and Github

Apr 17 Data Discovery for Your GIS Project

Apr 23 Research Poster Design with Figma

Apr 30 Intro to Field Maps and GPS

May 7 Map Design and Cartography

May 15 Intro to Adobe Illustrator

May 21 Intro to Adobe Photoshop

May 28 Business Cards with Adobe InDesign



Everyone is welcome!

Details and registration:

guides.lib.calpoly.edu/DPL/workshops

Open Workshops at the Kennedy Library Digital Scholarship Studio

The Kennedy Library Digital Scholarship Studio holds weekly open workshops to introduce basic computing, design, mapping, and visualization topics. These workshops do not require any prior experience, and we welcome beginners and experts from all disciplines.

Additionally, the Digital Scholarship Studio offers consultation support for students, staff, and faculty working on projects and research involving data, design, GIS, and data visualization. Appointment times can be found [here](#). Meetings take place in-person at the Digital Scholarship Studio on Level 1 of Kennedy Library, or on Zoom.

STUDENT SUPPORT

CONTACT INFO

Office:
Building 47, Room 36E, 3rd Floor
College of Liberal Arts

Emails:
Aguti168@calpoly.edu
Lrami113@calpoly.edu

Instagram:
[@calpolycollegepossible](https://www.instagram.com/calpolycollegepossible)

CAL POLY



The College of Liberal Arts partners with **College Possible's Catalyze program** to connect students with near-peer success coaches. Coaches support academics, study skills, financial literacy, career exploration, wellness, and more.

Learn more by contacting **Multicultural Academic Advisor Alejandra Cebreros** at alcebrer@calpoly.edu or check out the attached infographic.



FINANCIAL AID FOR FOOD: GET UP TO \$250 A MONTH FOR GROCERIES

The CalFresh Outreach Team can help connect you with up to \$250 a month to buy groceries at your favorite stores and many farmers' markets! Get money to buy food, eat better, work less and focus more on school. It's easy to set up an appointment with a CalFresh Student Advocate to determine your eligibility, walk you through the application and answer any questions you may have.

Visit calfreshcalpoly.org/ to schedule an appointment today! **Hours are: M-W 10am to 7pm and TH 10:00am to 5pm.**

Although you can [apply online](#) on your own, we encourage you to apply with the help of the CalFresh Outreach Team to help with any questions or concerns.

Follow the CalFresh team on Instagram [@calfreshcalpoly](#)



SLO Solutions

SLO SOLUTIONS CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Are your students having a hard time focusing on schoolwork due to roommates or neighbors disagreeing about issues around noise, dishes, or house rules?

Students can find themselves overwhelmed by conflict with landlords, roommates, and neighbors! We can help! SLO Solutions may be able to help students and residents with access to FREE conflict resolution and mediation, funded by a partnership between the City of San Luis Obispo, Cal Poly, Cuesta College, and Creative Mediation. For more information, click [here](#).



Morning, Mustang

MORNING, MUSTANG - NEWS SOURCE FOR CAL POLY STUDENTS

Carly Heztel, a second year journalism student, has published a news source for Cal Poly students that summarizes every day's most important campus, San Luis Obispo and California stories in two-minute emails. Carly is working in cooperation with the nonprofit College Brief to create accessible and relevant news for college students.

Read some of the stories [here](#).



KEEP UP TO DATE WITH CAMPUS NEWS!

Interdisciplinary Studies Students and Staff! Are you eager to be in the know about the latest campus news and updates? Do you want the most up-to-date headlines conveniently sent to your email? Look no further! Subscribe to the Mustang News Roundup today! Our Roundup newsletter brings you the freshest Mustang News and KCPR content, and is delivered straight to your inbox every Monday through Friday of the school year. Don't let this opportunity to stay well-informed pass you by!

Subscribe here: <https://mustangnews.net/the-roundup/>

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