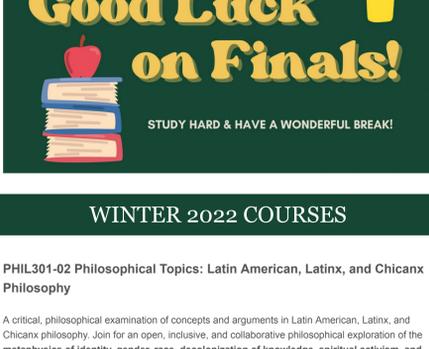


# INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

## WEEKLY NEWS



## WINTER 2022 COURSES

### PHIL301-02 Philosophical Topics: Latin American, Latinx, and Chicana Philosophy

A critical, philosophical examination of concepts and arguments in Latin American, Latinx, and Chicana philosophy. Join for an open, inclusive, and collaborative philosophical exploration of the metaphysics of identity, gender, race, decolonization of knowledge, spiritual activism, and science and society in Hispanic American philosophy.

Class #8804  
Satisfies GE Area C  
Meets in Person, TR 9-11am  
Prof. Francisco Ferrnlores  
ffernfo@calpoly.edu  
Winter 2022

For any students interested in taking this new course, it can be substituted for the IS major requirement course PHIL 335. Reach out to Dr. Kirby (dkirby@calpoly.edu) if this interests you!

### ISLA 411: Technology and Community Engagement

Design and carry-out community engagement activities with middle school and high school students from Santa Maria that involve storytelling and STEM to empower our Central Coast communities. Class combines seminars, guest speakers and critical reflection with project-based work involving design, animation, and robotics. Students will have opportunities to be involved in research and evaluation and work with the [Center for Expressive Technologies](#).

This course can be substituted for courses within several IS emphasis areas/concentrations. Please contact Dr. Kirby (dkirby@calpoly.edu) if you would like to pursue this.

Tues/Thurs: 12:10 – 2:00

Course Number: 7628

Instructor: Dr. Matthew Harsh

Interested students should contact Dr. Matthew Harsh at: mharsh@calpoly.edu

### POLS 470 Democracy: A Cookbook

This course charts a new way of learning about political institutions and the challenges to democracy at home and abroad. Integrating the study of institutional design with an exploration of the peoples and movements that support political action across the world's political systems, students taking Democracy: A Cookbook create a "cookbook" of the various recipes for political regimes and cultural variations that we find around the world, as well as the people and social movements that reflect evolving struggles for freedom and democracy. Teams of students design and publish country-system portfolios that highlight these variations, identify common patterns, and investigate the role of individual leaders and communities that shape the continuing struggle for human rights and political equality.

For questions or more information reach out to Professor Michael Latner at mlatner@calpoly.edu

### BIPOC First Gen Class

The BIPOC First Generation College Students Group Dialogue class is currently recruiting students for Winter Quarter. It is a great class for students who are struggling to adjust to Cal Poly and who may be underrepresented on this campus. The class offers a close community for students to share their experiences and receive support.

We will be offering two sections of the class at Monday 2:10PM-4PM (PSY 251-02) and Tuesday 2:10-4PM (PSY 251-01). Each section can enroll up to 10 students.

The class is an excellent opportunity to meet other students and mentors with similar backgrounds and experiences. We offer a credit/ no credit, easy, 1 credit course.

If interested, request a permission code using the link here: [Interest Form](#).

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## EVENTS



### Camp PolyHacks 2022

Camp PolyHacks, a student-led, 24 hour Hackathon, where students from a variety of majors and members of the SLO community come together to develop an app, website, or product that will solve civic-based issues with the help of our community heroes.

Fill out the [Interest Form](#) here!

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## OPPORTUNITIES

### Student Research Assistant Opportunity

Undergraduate Research Assistants, Two Undergraduate Research Assistants (640 hours at an hourly pay rate of \$15/hour) will assist in recruiting participants, conducting focal follows and focus groups, entering qualitative and quantitative data, and conducting qualitative data analyses. These Research Assistants will work under the direction of Drs. Tseng, Phelan, Neill, and M. Espinoza-Kulick and in close collaboration with community research associates.

### Research Assistantships: Ethical Technology

Cal Poly's National Science Foundation Grant on "Assessing the Profession of Ethical Technology for the Future of Work" seeks student research assistants to support the development of a study on the profession of ethical technology in the tech workforce. Successful applicants will work closely with the faculty research team to collect and analyze quantitative and qualitative data in order to better understand the needs and focuses of ethical technology in the tech industry, and the skills, background, and training new technologists need to perform ethical technology work in the industry.

Student research assistants will perform many of the following tasks:

- Interviewing tech industry leaders, hiring managers, and recruiters
- Assisting with interviews, reading transcripts from interviews, ensuring transcripts match recordings, managing recordings
- Coordinating meetings and interviews, correspondence, and engaging with tech companies to schedule and organize interviews
- Researching ethical technology

Skills desired include:

- An understanding of the ethical challenges and problems with technological production and culture
- Strong writing and communication skills
- Interview skills
- Data collection and analysis skills
- Strong interpersonal skills and comfort reaching out to strangers
- Detail oriented attention
- Research skills
- Familiarity with Zoom, Excel, Word, Google Documents
- Organization and timeliness

\*Technical skills desirable but not required \*Quantitative methodology coursework desirable but not required

TO APPLY: Please submit all of the following, in an email addressed to ddonig@calpoly.edu.

- 1 page cover letter. Cover letters should include your background, future ambitions, relevant prior experience, proficiencies and competencies, interest in ethical tech, skills, what you hope to gain from the experience, and what you will bring to the team
- An up-to-date resume
- 1 page statement about how you understand and/or will contribute to diversity in the sphere of this project and ethical tech broadly
- 1 journal selection from this quarter that best represents your thinking about ethical tech and your writing skills.

COMPENSATION/WORK TIME EXPECTATIONS: Our team is looking for research assistants to work 10 hours/week over the quarter. The stipend amount is \$1,500, as a research experience stipend. We select to pay in stipends rather than hourly because the stipend is UNTAXED to maximize inclusivity, so that undocumented workers can apply. This also allows you to retain the stipend in whole, rather than lose a chunk (30-35%) to taxes. Time expectations are roughly 10 hours / week, but may vary in actuality depending on workload.

Review of applications will begin on Dec 9th and continue until the positions are filled



### Men of Color Success Initiative Mentorship Program - MOCSI Connect

The Men of Color Success Initiative (MOCSI) Mentorship Program serves to connect undergraduate and graduate men of color at Cal Poly with a dynamic community of peer and faculty/staff mentors who create a network of social, professional and academic support for mentees. This network serves to further develop mentees' self-understanding, sense of community, engagement, and persistence towards achieving their degree. The program begins in Fall Quarter and concludes at the end of Spring Quarter.

Mentees who join at this point in the process will be formally onboarded and paired with a mentor at the beginning of Winter Quarter. Anyone who is interested in this program can check out our website for more information and the application at <https://masculinities.calpoly.edu/men-color-success-initiative-mentorship-program>

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### INTERGROUP DIALOGUE FACILITATOR TRAINING

#### Intergroup Dialogues Facilitator Training (Winter, 2022)

Intergroup Dialogues (IGD) is a nationally recognized social identity groups and engage in open and constructive dialogue, learning, and exploration. IGD focuses on dialoguing about issues of race in our program, and learning the skills in this training has many benefits. Certificate awarded at the completion of the training program.

- Class is 2 hours for 8 weeks
- All students are welcome (any major!)
- Sign up here to enroll in a certificate of completion

IGD is now a drop-in space, running Tuesdays 10:10 AM-11:40 AM. We believe that by making this transition to drop-in group, it will allow more students to access this service and connect with a support network.

For more information go to: <https://cla.calpoly.edu/student-resources/IGD>

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### Invitation to Participate in Meeting of America

Over the last several years, our country has seemingly become more and more politically divided. Issues such as racial equality, access to abortion, minimum wage, healthcare, and more have led to deep political polarization and the demonization of those on the other side of the aisle.

The ISLA Department is concerned about the impact of this deepening disharmony on our communities and country. That's why we're excited to be part of a select group helping pilot an exciting endeavor called Meeting of America.

Meeting of America is designed to convene millions of Americans of all backgrounds and beliefs to participate in conversations and find a way forward together.

We have been invited to be in the first group, part of testing and shaping the experience for the rest of the country.

We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity by signing up for three one-hour, virtual, small group conversations spread over seven weeks with a menu of times to fit your schedule. First, [please sign up here](#) for a Connect conversation happening between **November 1st and 12th**. Click on the **daytime** option most convenient for you, then click the **RSVP** button and answer a few questions. You'll be matched into groups of five spanning backgrounds and beliefs.

Your three conversations will align to the goals of Meeting of America:

1. Connect with each other to see individual humanity across differences, extracting some of the poison out of polarization (**Nov 1-12**)
2. Commit to America's founding yet unfulfilled ideals and other values that bind us together, building a shared national identity and foundation for the future (**Nov 13 - Dec 5**)
3. Champion the New Commitment in our daily lives and volunteer to collaboratively address areas of shared concern (**Dec 6-17**)

Please [sign up now](#) for the first conversation.

For any questions, reach out to Dr. Rylls: rylls@calpoly.edu



### Engineers Without Borders

The Engineers Without Borders Kenya Team is starting a project to aid the market community of Masogoo near the Kenyan city of Kisumu with a proposed water distribution project. This quarter, they will be conducting a remote community assessment to ensure that the proposed project is in line with the needs of the community. Students of all majors are welcome to come check out the team and join if interested! There are **weekly meetings on Mondays from 7-9pm at building 186 room C302** (186-C302). For questions, email [ewbkenya@calpoly.edu](mailto:ewbkenya@calpoly.edu).

[Read more >](#)

## STUDENT SUPPORT



### ROOTS (Reclaiming Our Origins Through Self-Exploration): A BIPOC Support Group

ROOTS is now a drop-in space, running Tuesdays 10:10 AM-11:40 AM. We believe that by making this transition to drop-in group, it will allow more students to access this service and connect with a support network.

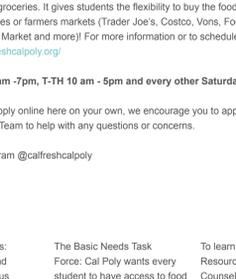
ROOTS is a space for BIPOC students to explore their intersecting identities and gain support through shared stories in the current political and social climate. Students are encouraged to build community, foster strength and resilience, and reflect on their experiences.

Information about how to [access the drop-in group](#) is included in the flyer.

[pbic.it](#)

### Stretch your summer fun, not your food budget. Let CalFresh benefits pay for your groceries.

Scan the QR code to learn about getting \$234 a month for groceries



### Financial Aid for Food: Get up to \$250/month for groceries

CalFresh is a nutrition assistance program that provides eligible students with up to \$234 per month to spend on groceries. It gives students the flexibility to buy the foods they love at their favorite grocery stores or farmers markets (Trader Joe's, Costco, Vons, Food 4 Less, the downtown Farmer's Market and more)! For more information or to schedule an appointment, go to <https://www.calfreshcalpoly.org/>

Hours are: **MW 10am -7pm, T-TH 10 am - 5pm and every other Saturday 10am - 2pm**

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

Follow us on Instagram [@calfreshcalpoly](#)

[pbic.it](#)

Corona Virus Updates:  
The safety, health, and wellbeing of all campus community members and visitors is a primary commitment for Cal Poly. For the latest updates and information regarding coronavirus and our campus preparedness, please visit <https://chw.calpoly.edu/coronavirus>.

The Basic Needs Task Force: Cal Poly wants every student to have access to food and housing in order to focus on their education. There are many resources to help students meet their basic needs. To learn about the food pantry, meal vouchers, and emergency grants and more visit [here](#).

To learn more about other Resources, like Health & Counseling or Disability, you can visit the [Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities](#).

If you have any further questions:

IS Majors/CMA:

IS@calpoly.edu

805-756-2740

Dr. Kirby's Office Hours:

2-4 PM Wednesdays and by appointment

[dkirby@calpoly.edu](mailto:dkirby@calpoly.edu)