

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

WEEKLY NEWS

Note from Dr. Kirby

I hope everyone is studying hard as we make our way towards the last third of the quarter. Spring registration will begin soon. If you have any issues or need to discuss anything about this then let me know.

My office hours this quarter are Tu 1-3PM and Th 1-3PM. You can drop by my office at these times or you can contact me via Zoom using this link: [6247671135](https://us02zoom.us/j/6247671135). As always, 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.

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



Professor Randi Barros lands a semifinalist spot in the Nicholl Awards for THE CHICKEN FESTIVAL

ISLA Professor Randi Barros's script, THE CHICKEN FESTIVAL, is a semifinalist for the Oscars Nicholl Awards. Congratulations Professor Barros!

For more info, check out this link: <https://www.oscars.org/nicholl/ceremonies/2023>



Dr. Brandiff Caron featured in CLA magazine

ISLA professor Dr. Brandiff Caron is featured in CLA magazine for his research in artificial intelligence. His work centers creative ways to incorporate considerations of justice, equity, diversity and inclusion into computer science and engineering design processes, including the use of artificial intelligence. For more information, check out the magazine here:

<https://cla.calpoly.edu/liberal-arts-and-ai>

SPRING COURSE OFFERINGS

A New Class from Cal Poly Theatre and Dance

TH470 ANCESTRAL THEATRE



Taught by Andrew Saito, MFA, Susan J. Currier Visiting Professor

Students will research and engage with their ancestries, genealogies, families and communities to research their familial and cultural pasts and relate them with our present and future through creating plays.

For example, a student could relate their ancestors' involvement in the Great Migration with the current and escalating climate displacement. What tools, experiences, wisdom, and strength in one's ancestral web could prove beneficial in today's changing world?

Spring Quarter 2024: Fridays from 10:10 am to 2 pm

Please contact the Theatre and Dance Department for course permission:

Brian Healy

bphealy@calpoly.edu



Spring Quarter 2024: Fridays from 10:10 am to 2 pm

This Spring, Theatre and Dance is happy to host the Susan J. Currier Visiting Professor, Andrew Saito. Mr. Saito will be offering a Select Advanced Topics section: **TH470 Ancestral Theatre**.

About the Class:

Students will research and engage with their ancestries, genealogies, families and communities to research their familial and cultural pasts and relate them with our present and future through creating plays. For example, a student could relate their ancestors' involvement in the Great Migration with the current and escalating climate displacement. What tools, experiences, wisdom, and strength in one's ancestral web could prove beneficial in today's changing world?

About Andrew Saito

Andrew Saito is an internationalist playwright who focuses on indigenous and cross-racial stories, hybridity, and struggles against colonialism and its long-lingering footprints. He holds an MFA from the Iowa Playwrights Workshop, and a BA in Ethnic Studies from UC Berkeley. Seminal mentors in his formation include: June Jordan, Cherríe Moraga, Tiya Miles, Octavio Solís, Migdalia Cruz, Naomi Wallace, and Sherry Kramer.

For more info, please contact bphealy@calpoly.edu

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Have your art featured on campus!

Applications are now being accepted for the Cal Poly Utility Box Art Project - a campus beautification initiative transforming utility boxes into works of public art to enhance the vibrancy of the campus and showcase local talent. All students, faculty, staff and community members are invited to submit an application (due: March 1st) via email to: af@calpoly.edu. Selected artists will be notified in March/April and will receive a \$250 VISA gift card to cover necessary materials. Utility Box Art Project guidelines and application can be found [here](#).

WELCOME TO

ISLA CLUB



We invite you to our **inaugural meeting**
English building 22 - Room 0212
Friday, Feb. 9
1:10pm - 3:00pm



Join us for introductions, discussing future plans for the club, and bracelet & key chain making!

Follow the Instagram for more updates!

Join the GroupMe



@calpolyislaclub

New 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 or join the GroupMe for more updates.



Check in with your College Success Coach!

A call to College Possible students! Join your College Success Coach for coffee and chat about academics, scholarships, basic budgeting skills, and more. You can reach us through our emails Mgutie96@calpoly.edu and yvargass@calpoly.edu or through text. 😊



MUSTANG FILM SOCIETY

DO YOU LIKE FILM?

HAVE YOU ALWAYS WANTED
TO PLAN AND EXECUTE A FILM
FESTIVAL?

WOULD YOU LIKE THE
OPPORTUNITY TO MEET FOLKS
IN THE FILM INDUSTRY?



CONNECT WITH PEERS
INTERESTED IN FILM!



BUILD IMPORTANT
INDUSTRY SKILLS!

INTERESTED? CONTACT DR. EMILY RYALLS
ERYALLS@CALPOLY.EDU

Mustang Film Society Starting!

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!

EVENTS

HOW A CAREER CURVE BALL STARTED NETFLIX

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND

11:10 - 12:00 PM

In the ATL and via Zoom

CO-SPONSORED BY:

Educational Opportunity Program (EOP)

Vice President of Student Affairs

Leadership & Service

Cal Poly Scholars



CAL POLY
Career Services



How a Career Curve Ball Started Netflix

Cal Poly Career Services is hosting an event with alumna Christina Kish, co-founder and vice president of Merchandising for Netflix, on Thursday, Feb. 22, from 11:10 a.m. to noon. This virtual event can be attended on Zoom or through joining the watch party, that includes lunch, in the Advanced Technology Laboratories (No. 7). Christina will discuss entrepreneurship, business development, and her role at streaming-giant Netflix. Christina earned a degree in Business Administration from Cal Poly with a concentration in Management Information systems. She later went on and earned an MBA from Golden Gate University. She has over 30 years of success within software, retail, entertainment and e-commerce industries.

All of the Cal Poly community is invited to attend this moderated discussion. Christina will engage

in a conversation with Career Services Associate Director of Career Education and Equity about her journey and provide incite to attendees about how to navigate the unknown and unexpected career curveballs. Attendees will also have time question-and-answer session where they can question Kish about her experience working in startups, navigating career shifts and beyond. This Career Services event is co-sponsored by the Leadership and Service Department, Cal Poly Scholars, Educational Opportunity Program and the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs.

Learn more about the event - <https://now.calpoly.edu/event/9912031>

This is a great event for any students unsure about their career path. Free lunch will be provided.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES AND INTERNSHIPS

We invite you to consider making
SUMMER EXPERIENCE
 Part of your 2024 summer plans!
 June 17 - July 31
 No School 6/19, 7/4, & 7/5

WHY BE PART OF SUMMER EXPERIENCE?

- Many positions available
 - Certificated Teachers, Activity Leaders, Instructional Aides, Counselors, Secretaries, Administrators
- Opportunities to teach different subjects
 - ELA, Math, DLI, and Enrichment classes like Culinary Arts, Sports, Leadership, STEAM, and more!
- Flexible schedules - teach 3 or 6 weeks
 - Session 1: June 17 - July 10
 - Session 2: July 10 - July 31
 - M-F School Hours: 8:45-2:15 (1st-4th) & 8:30-2:00 (5th-8th)
- Teach at SLCUSD elementary or high school campuses

EARN EXTRA MONEY!

- Credentialed Teachers:**
- Hourly per diem based on current rate of pay
 - First year teacher up to \$6,435
 - Top end teacher up to \$13,718
- Activity Leaders:**
- No Credential required
 - Pay rate: \$30 hr
 - Earn up to \$4,725
- Classified:**
- Hourly based on position and existing daily rate of pay

COMPLETE OUR INTEREST SURVEY



SUMMER EXPERIENCE
Learning Beyond the Classroom
 SAN LUIS COASTAL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
 SummerExperience@slcUSD.org | 805-549-1271 | se.slcUSD.



Details about our Summer Experience program are included in the above image. Candidates have the option of working the full 6 week program from Jun 17 - Jul 31 OR the first 3 weeks or second 3 weeks. Elementary and secondary school site positions are available. Interested candidates should complete this [JOB INTEREST SURVEY](#) in order to be contacted by SLCUSD staff for a short online interview. Hiring is underway so the sooner the survey is completed the better. Thank you for your consideration to work with the San Luis Coastal School District to make a positive impact on our students this summer.

Contact jshepherd@slcusd.org with any questions you may have.



INTERESTED IN A CAREER AS A RESEARCH SCIENTIST?



WHAT IS CAL POLY U-RISE?

U-RISE at Cal Poly will provide research opportunities to students from underrepresented groups and develop their identities as scientists. Students will leave inspired and prepared for success in graduate school in the biomedical field.

Students in the program will receive tuition assistance (~\$7,500/year for two years), an annual stipend (~\$14,000/year) for completing ~10-15 hours/week on research, and a paid 10-week summer research experience.

U-RISE at Cal Poly consists of four key components over a 2-year training program:

1. A mentoring team and individual development planning
2. Mentored research experiences at Cal Poly and at another research-intensive university
3. Formal coursework to support students' development as scientists
4. Events outside the classroom (e.g., research seminars, professional development, team building, peer mentoring)

ELIGIBILITY

- ✓ Full-time undergrad Cal Poly student
- ✓ Cumulative GPA of at least 2.5
- ✓ US Citizen, permanent resident, or non-citizen national
- ✓ Commitment to pursuing a PhD or MD/PhD in biomedical field
- ✓ At least two years from graduating or have at 90+ units
- ✓ Meet 1 of the NIH definitions for underrepresented population: underrepresented minorities, first generation college going, pell grant eligible, individuals with disabilities



CAL POLY
Center for
Health Research



Opportunity for Aspiring Research Scientists

U-RISE is an exciting program funded by the National Institutes of Health that provides research opportunities to students from underrepresented groups and develop their identities as scientists. Students will leave inspired and prepared for success in graduate school in the biomedical field.

Students in the program will receive tuition assistance (~\$7,500/year for two years), an annual stipend (~\$14,000/year for completing 10-15 hours/week on research), and a paid 10-week summer research experience.

U-RISE is a 2-year training program consisting of four key components:

A mentoring team and individual development planning
Mentored research experiences at Cal Poly and at a research-intensive university
Formal coursework to support students' development as scientists
Events outside the classroom (e.g., research seminars, professional development, team building, peer mentoring)

For more information and to apply, please visit: <https://healthresearch.calpoly.edu/u-rise>

Gravity Water 2024 Internship Opportunities

-OUR MISSION-

"Gravity Water turns rain into safe water for schools in need around the world."

-OUR VALUES-

Integrity, Enthusiasm, Connection, Leadership, Perseverance

-OUR CORE PRINCIPLES-

"We do our best in our capacity."

"We communicate with clarity and mindfulness."

"We stay connected to our mission."

"We value collaboration."

"We see challenges as opportunities."

Gravity Water is a US-based 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization that focuses on providing clean drinking water to communities in developing countries by utilizing a unique, electricity-free approach.

If you are motivated and excited about learning and making a difference in mitigating the global water crisis and looking to gain real-world experience within a growing non-profit organization, Gravity Water may be the place for you! We have several internship opportunities for students, like you, within our Youth Initiative Program and University Chapters at UCSB and CalPoly

Open internship positions:

- University Program Outreach Coordinator (1 position)
- University Program Event Coordinator (1 position)

Increase Accessibility to Clean Drinking Water!

Gravity Water is a global nonprofit organization that is dedicated to providing clean drinking water to schools in Nepal and Vietnam by installing rainwater filtration systems. For more information, please see the attached pdf.

Gravity Water 2024 Internship Opportunities

[Click here for Gravity Water Internship Extended Information](#)

 download



Study Abroad in London Next Summer!

A note from Professor of Geography, Benjamin Timms:

We would like to invite you to join us in London next summer! This is a great opportunity to take upper division GE courses (prerequisites waived) and experience London and environs, which is one of the world's great cultural and economic centers. Here is a QR code to take you to the program website for more information:

The six-week summer program offers students twelve Cal Poly units with three upper-division general education courses (B, C, D). Note that prerequisites will be waived for those that will be 2nd year status or don't meet the others.

Please view the website, contact the faculty members, and seriously consider coming to London next summer! Note the Olympics will be in Paris next summer, just a 2 hour train ride away.



Civic Tech Fellowship Opportunity - United States Digital Corps

The [US Digital Corps](#) has started their application process on Monday November 6th. The Digital Corps is a **two-year, full-time, paid fellowship** for early-career technologists to serve in the federal government. Fellows contribute their skills in **software engineering, data science & analytics, product management, design, and cybersecurity** to high impact priorities across government. The fellowship offers competitive pay (\$86k+ in Washington DC) and benefits, as well as opportunities for growth and a path to a long-term career position. The Digital Corps offers in-person, hybrid, or remote work, depending on the host agency.

If anyone is interested in learning more about the application process, they can visit the [USDC website](#). As mentioned above, applications open on Monday, November 6th. They do have a cap on applications per track, so it's recommended to apply sooner than later. Any questions about the process can also be sent to usdigitalcorps@gsa.gov

For any questions about civic technology or the application process, reach out to Jaxon Silva (<mailto:jaxonvsilva@gmail.com>)



Urban Trees VR position

The Center for Expressive Technologies Seed Grant Team is looking for a student assistant.

Undergraduate student wanted for an interdisciplinary research collaboration with the Urban Forest Ecosystem Institute (<https://ufe.calpoly.edu/>). UFEI researchers at Cal Poly are investigating the human benefits of trees in the urban environment. We seek a research assistant with an interest in Virtual Reality to create realistic fly-through experiences in urban environments across a range of socioeconomic and climate conditions in CA using 3D point cloud data from airborne Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR). Desired qualifications: working knowledge of Python, JavaScript, or 3D game programming in Unity or similar. Interest in VR, GIS, remote sensing and urban forestry are a plus, but not required. Applicants should include a cover letter and resume and email to Dr. G. Andrew Fricker (afriicker@calpoly.edu), and Dr. Jonathan Ventura (jventu09@calpoly.edu).

OPPORTUNITIES



Study Abroad in Europe!

Application deadline: March 15th

Multiple study abroad opportunities are available for students in Europe through CEA CAPA for the Summer and Fall terms.

Are you ready to embark on a transformative journey designed to enrich your college experience? As a current first-year student at Cal Poly, now is the perfect time to start planning your study abroad adventure with CEA CAPA – and we have a special promotion, just for you.

Imagine yourself walking to class through the vibrant streets of **Barcelona**, exploring **Paris** as a learning lab as you study the sciences and engineering, or immersing yourself in the rich cultural tapestry of **Dublin** – all while earning credits towards your degree. With programs vetted and approved by the Cal Poly International Center, you can trust that your academic pursuits abroad will align well with your academic goals.

Business and Liberal Arts:

[Fall 2024 Study in Barcelona \(Pre-approved courses\)](#)

[Fall 2024 Study in Dublin \(Pre-approved courses\)](#) (more coming soon!)

Engineering:

[Summer 2024 Engineering in Barcelona \(Pre-approved courses\)](#)

[Fall 2024 Engineering in Paris \(Pre-approved courses\)](#)

Apply by **March 15**, and you'll receive a flight credit of **\$500** for summer or **\$1,000** for fall programs. Simply use promotional code **CalPolyFall24** for fall programs and **CalPolySum24** for summer in your CEA CAPA application to unlock this exclusive, first-year student-only offer. Ready to take the next steps?

Questions? [Contact us!](#) Use the subject "Summer or Fall Dublin/Paris/Barcelona with CEA CAPA."

Student Professional Development Grant



Student Grant Opportunity

The Cal Poly Student Professional Development Fund awards up to \$2,500 in scholarship to eligible students to support career exploration, including conference and seminar travel, attending scholarly seminars or symposiums, participating in research initiatives with faculty, and many other extracurricular opportunities related to your major.

This fund aims to support applicants who demonstrate financial need, as determined by the Financial Aid Office, in attending and participating in a variety of opportunities that could aid their career exploration.

Here is more information and the link to apply: <https://deanofstudents.calpoly.edu/student-professional-development-grant>

JOIN ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS CAL POLY!



JOIN US TO:

- design and implement **sustainable engineering projects**
- gain engineering, business, multidisciplinary and **leadership experience**
- become part of a community dedicated to **improving lives worldwide**

OUR CURRENT PROJECT TEAMS:



STAY CONNECTED!



SIGN UP FOR OUR EMAILS

STUDENTS OF ALL MAJORS AND YEARS ARE WELCOME & ESSENTIAL!

LEARN MORE AT OUR UPCOMING EVENTS:



FALL KICKOFF

Learn about EWB and our four project teams at our first meeting of the year.

Tuesday 9/26

6-9 PM In the ATL (Room 07-02)



CRASH COURSE

Dive into the EWB project process to prepare for project team meetings.

Mondays: 10/2, 10/9, 10/16, 10/23

7-9 PM In the ATL (Room 07-02)

FOLLOW US: @EWBCALPOLY
LEARN MORE: WWW.EWB.CALPOLY.EDU
JOIN OUR SLACK: LINKTR.EE/EWBCALPOLY

Interested in Sustainable Global Development?

Engineers Without Borders, Cal Poly is a student-led non-profit organization that supports community-driven development programs worldwide through the design and implementation of sustainable engineering projects, while creating multidisciplinary and leadership experiences for students. With four international project teams in Fiji, Kenya, Nicaragua, and Local, we work to address issues such as water, education, food security, sanitation, and energy by collaborating with our partnered communities.

We are hoping to diversify the majors represented in our club in order to fill roles in business and cultural sub teams as well as to harness cross-disciplinary perspectives in designing holistic solutions that fit the needs of our communities.

Whether you're passionate about business development, cultural insights, leadership opportunities, or making a positive impact, EWB has a place for you.

Go to linktr.ee/ewbcampoly to sign up for our mailing list, club Slack channel and all other links.

EMPOWER Cal Poly students TO THRIVE

by serving with



**COLLEGE
POSSIBLE™**
CATALYZE



AmeriCorps

Gain invaluable career experience

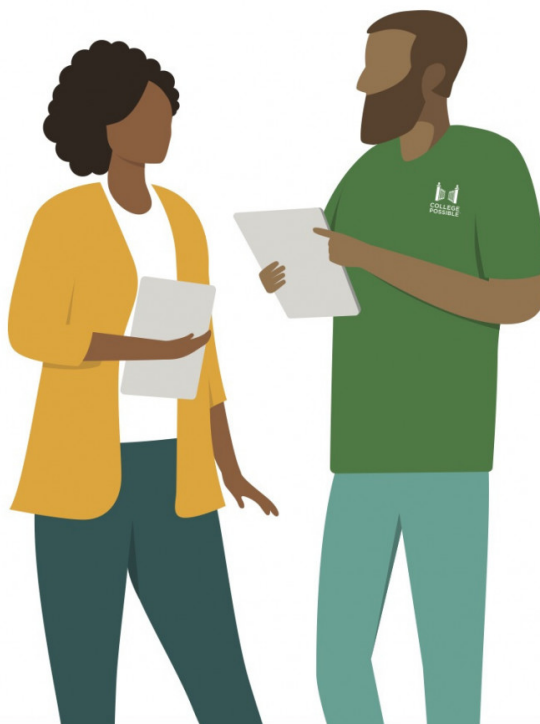
Change lives by giving back on campus

Gain sought-after skills and experience

Build your professional network

Accelerate your career

Get a living stipend of \$23,000; education award of \$6,895; medical, dental and vision coverage; student loan forbearance and interest accrual; and help applying for childcare and SNAP benefits.



Learn more or apply at
CollegePossible.org/Serve



CAL POLY

Serve with College Possible and Empower College Opportunity for all!

As a College Possible AmeriCorps coach, you'll help talented, driven students from under-represented backgrounds achieve their goal of a college degree.

Employers seek out AmeriCorps service members because they bring hands-on skills in team leadership, facilitation, equity and inclusion, intercultural communication and transferable industry expertise. Gain a head start for your career by helping aspiring youth navigate and overcome systemic barriers to achieve their goal of a college degree.

Learn more at: <https://www.americorps.collegepossible.org/>

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STUDENT SUPPORT



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/>



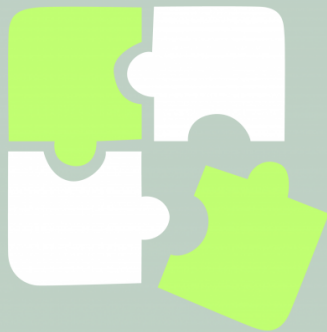
Cal Poly Student Startup: Ryde Carpool

Ryde is a service for Cal Poly students that helps you travel more affordably and comfortably! If you're driving home, Ryde can connect you with other Cal Poly students that will split your cost of gas. If you're looking for a way home, Ryde can connect you with/to students driving your way.

Want to learn more about us?

- [About Us](#)
- [Cal Poly CIE – Summer Accelerator Spotlight](#)
- [Cal Poly CIE – Demo Day Pitch](#)
- [Mustang New – Ryde](#)
- [Cal Poly Corporation Highlight](#)

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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](#).



**SAVE MONEY.
EAT FRESH.**

APPLY NOW TO RECEIVE FREE
MONEY FOR GROCERIES!



Financial Aid for Food: Get up to \$250/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 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 the CalFresh team on Instagram [@calfreshcalpoly](#)

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

- * Do you know of any campus events relevant to ISLA?
- * Do you have any cool research or projects you want to share with your peers?
- * Or anything else relevant to the ISLA department.

SHARE IT WITH US!

EMAIL US AT IS@CALPOLY.EDU

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, 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](#).



Check out our Instagram!

Follow us on LinkedIn!

If you have any further questions:

IS Majors/ICMA:

IS@calpoly.edu

805-756-2740

Dr. Kirby's Office Hours:

2-4 PM Wednesdays and by appointment

dakirby@calpoly.edu