

**Subject:** STS NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF 2/17  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 12:00:00 PM Pacific Standard Time  
**From:** stsm minors-request@calpoly.edu on behalf of Science Technology & Society Minors  
**To:** stsaffiliates@calpoly.edu, stsm minors@calpoly.edu, stsexecutivecommittee@calpoly.edu  
**Attachments:** ATT00001.txt

# SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIETY

## WEEKLY NEWS 2/17

### NOTE FROM DR. RYALLS

I hope you all had a wonderful long weekend! With registration upon us, I imagine many of you have questions that we'd be happy to answer. My office hours are Monday 2PM-4PM and Thursday 12PM-2PM. During these times, we can meet in my office (52-D3) or via Zoom. Please be sure to schedule an [appointment](#). Alternatively, you can reach out to Dr. Matthew Harsh, Interim STS Director at [mharsh@calpoly.edu](mailto:mharsh@calpoly.edu)

### MEET KEELY - YOUR ISLA/STS STUDENT ASSISTANT!

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

I create these newsletters, run our ISLA & STS social media, and support events throughout the quarter. I'm also here as a resource for you — whether you have questions about your STS minor, need help navigating course selection, or want to get more involved in the STS community.



✉ My contact information: [kfrobot@calpoly.edu](mailto:kfrobot@calpoly.edu)

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

## STS - RELATED CLUBS



# MUSTANG FILM SOCIETY



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



For more info contact  
[eryalls@calpoly.edu](mailto: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 [eyalls@calpoly.edu](mailto:eyalls@calpoly.edu) or follow the Instagram [@mustangfilmsociety](https://www.instagram.com/mustangfilmsociety)

## CAREERS & INTERNSHIPS

### Career & Internship Opportunities You Don't Want to Miss!

Winter quarter is packed with exciting opportunities—mark your calendars and take advantage of what's coming up!

 Virtual Social Impact Alumni Panel

Hear from alumni working as nonprofit directors, veteran services coordinators, and even California mayors at this virtual panel on Thursday, February 19 at 11:10 a.m. A flyer and Zoom link are coming soon!

## **Dream Out Loud**

**Dream Out Loud is a call to CSU students, faculty, and alumni** to share the stories that brought you here, shaped you, and keep you moving forward. You can share your own OR someone else's story (think Ryan Coogler, Billie Jean King, etc.)

**The CSUEA will select a handful of these stories to create statewide and potentially even national PSA campaigns.** Selected participants will work with creative professionals to help craft their story into multiple media types (think tv spots, radio commercials, billboards, and more) to share with the world. Your voice matters — and we hope to hear it!

-  Create a short PSA about your CSU journey
-  Or spotlight someone who inspired your path
-  Any medium. Any style. Your voice. Your story.

**We are currently looking for the story, not the finished product** — a short, written treatment is all that is needed!

**Submission DEADLINE EXTENDED to March 1, 2026** — For more information, go to [CSUEA.submittable.com](https://csuea.submittable.com)

If you have questions about any of these opportunities, don't hesitate to reach out—we're here to help!

# ENROLLMENT

# 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. Theobold on Tuesdays from 12-2

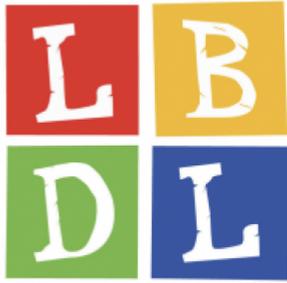


## Course Spotlight: Data Are a Feminist Issue (STAT 270)

*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. Theobold, meeting Tuesdays from 12–2.



CAL POLY  
Center for Engineering,  
Science & Mathematics Education



# 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)**



# EVENTS

CAL POLY ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ETHICS LAB PRESENTS:

# Ethical Considerations for AI in Urban Planning



Thursday, February 19th at 6:10 pm  
in Room 14-232B  
(Computer Science Lab)

Guest speaker:

**Amir Hajrasouliha, PhD,** Department Head and Professor in the City and Regional Planning Department, will be presenting on applications of AI in urban planning. The presentation will explore the ethical concerns around AI in planning, including reproducing existing biases, reducing complex lived experiences into simplified metrics, and shifting power and accountability away from human decision-makers.



Ethical Considerations for AI in Urban Planning

The Cal Poly Artificial Intelligence Ethics Lab invites you to a talk on how AI is shaping cities—and the ethical questions that come with it. Join guest speaker Amir Hajrasouliha, Department Head and Professor of City and Regional Planning, as he explores real-world applications of AI in urban planning and the risks they pose, including bias, oversimplifying lived experiences, and shifting power away from human decision-makers.



Thursday, February 19

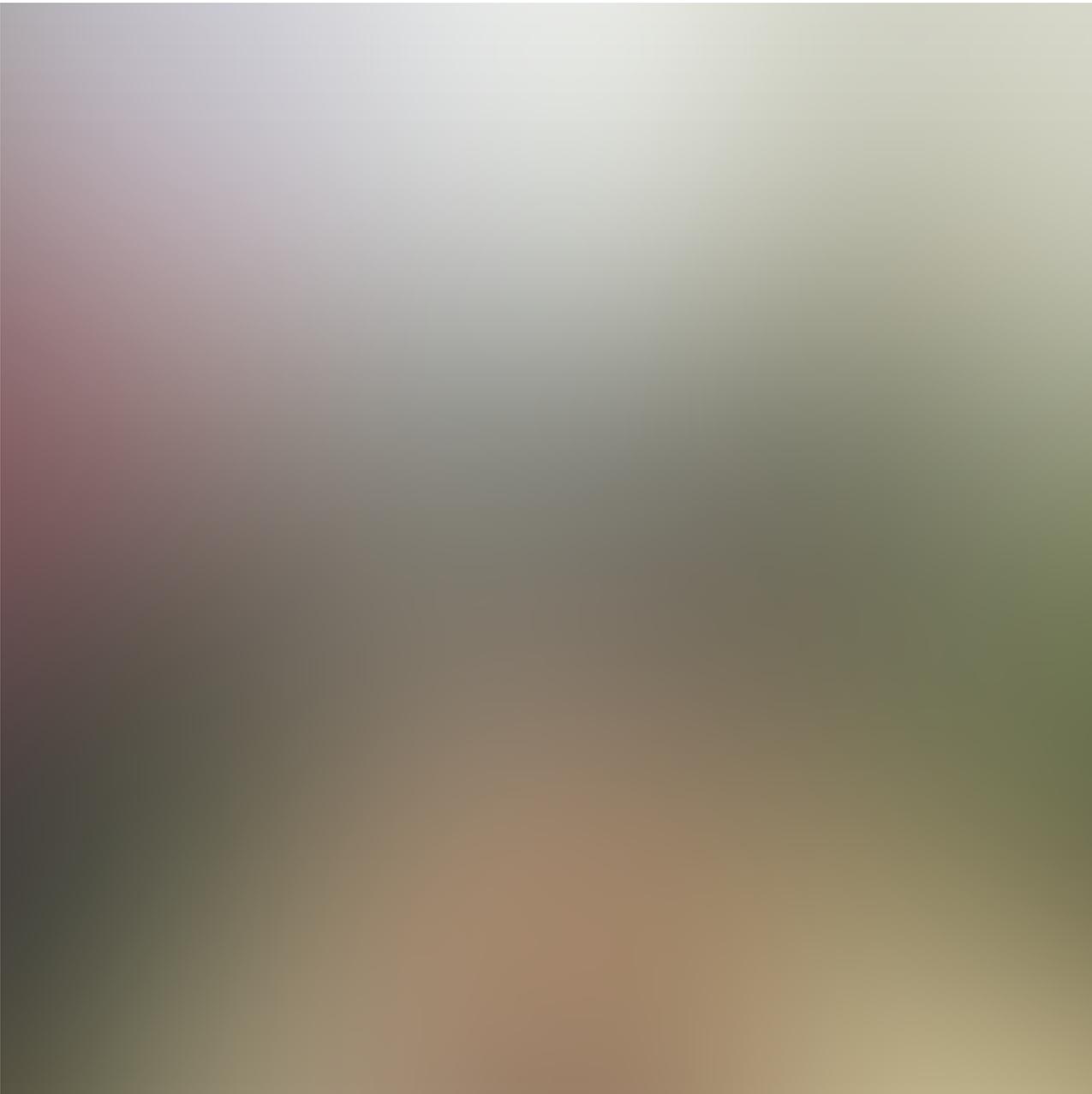


6:10 pm



Room 14-232B (Computer Science Lab)

Open to all students—no technical background required. Come think critically about the future of cities and technology.



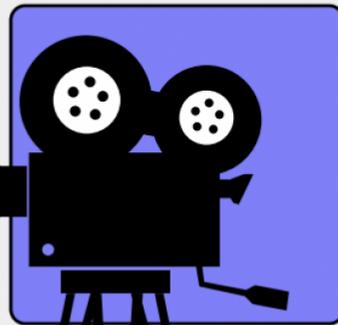
Interested in careers that create real social impact? 🌱

Join Cal Poly Career Services for a Social Impact Virtual Alumni Panel on Thursday, February 19th at 11:10 AM. Hear from Cal Poly alumni working across nonprofit leadership, local government, food recovery, and veteran advocacy as they share their career paths, lessons learned, and advice for students interested in purpose-driven work. Whether you're exploring public service, communications, policy, or nonprofit careers, this panel is a great chance to connect and get inspired.

PRESENTED BY CAL POLY ISLA DEPARTMENT

# SOCIAL JUSTICE FILM FESTIVAL

FEBRUARY  
25-26



## NIGHT ONE

**Crossing Borders: Media Representations  
of Migration and Justice**

Film by **Professor Randi Barros**  
Screening and Discussion with  
**Dr. Melissa Manzanares**

February 25<sup>th</sup>

4:10 PM

Building 33, Room 286

## NIGHT TWO

**Sleep Dealer**

Screening and Discussion  
with **Dr. Stina Attebery**



February 26<sup>th</sup>

4:10 PM

Palm Theater

Social Justice Film Festival Series

The Cal Poly ISLA Department invites you to the Social Justice Film Festival, a two-night series using

film and discussion to explore migration, justice, labor, and technology.

### Night One: *Crossing Borders: Media Representations of Migration and Justice*

 February 25 at 4:10 PM

 Building 33, Room 286

A film by Professor Randi Barros, followed by a discussion with Dr. Melissa Manzanares, examining how migration and justice are represented in media.

### Night Two: *Sleep Dealer*

 February 26 at 4:10 PM

 Palm Theater

A thought-provoking sci-fi film exploring borders, labor, and technology in a globalized world, followed by a discussion with Dr. Stina Attebery.

 Free admission and open to all students—don't miss this chance to engage with film, ethics, and social justice.



The banner features a teal background with a faint image of the White House. On the right side, there is a portrait of actor Kal Penn. The text on the banner includes the Cal Poly Arts logo in the top left, the name 'KAL PENN' in large white letters, the title 'From White Castle to The White House' in yellow, the date 'FEBRUARY 26' in yellow, and the location 'Performing Arts Center San Luis Obispo' with a link to 'Tickets at CalPolyArts.org'.

## Kal Penn: From White Castle to the White House

Cal Poly Arts, celebrating its 40th Anniversary season, presents an evening with Kal Penn—Emmy-nominated actor, author, producer, and former Associate Director of the White House Office of Public Engagement—on Thursday, February 26, 2026 at 7:30 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center San Luis Obispo.

In this onstage event, presented in partnership with the Cal Poly Center for Service in Action, Penn shares his real-life journey from Hollywood to public service, reflecting on his work in arts education, public policy, and student engagement. Through stories from film, television, and the White House, Penn highlights how taking risks and pursuing multiple

passions can lead to a fulfilling and impactful career.

Penn is known for his roles in *Harold & Kumar*, *House*, *Designated Survivor*, *How I Met Your Mother*, and *The Namesake*. During the Obama administration, he stepped away from acting to serve as the President's Liaison to Young Americans, Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, and the Arts, and later served on the President's Committee for the Arts and Humanities.

 Faculty and staff receive 20% off adult tickets, and students can purchase tickets starting at \$17 through the Cal Poly Ticket Office.

 Harold Miossi Hall, Performing Arts Center San Luis Obispo

 Thursday, February 26, 2026 | 7:30 PM

# CAN YOU NARCAN?



**Tuesdays at 3:00-5:00pm**

**Thursdays 3:30-5:30pm**

**HEALTH CENTER (BLDG. 27)**

**Interested in learning more about the life-saving benefits of  
Naloxone?**

**Training only takes 15 minutes!**

**Where else can you get Naloxone?**

**Naloxone, test strip refills and overdose prevention kits are also available  
by appointment.**

**Email [wellbeing@calpoly.edu](mailto:wellbeing@calpoly.edu) for more information or for group training  
inquiries.**

**Make an appointment here:**



**[ODPREVENTION@CALPOLY.EDU](mailto:ODPREVENTION@CALPOLY.EDU)**



**CAL POLY**  
Health Education  
CAMPUS HEALTH  
& WELLBEING

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 the AOD 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



### Cal Poly AI Ethics Lab (AI/EL)

The Cal Poly Artificial Intelligence Ethics Lab (AI/EL) is an interdisciplinary student–faculty partnership dedicated to exploring the ethical, legal, and social challenges posed by emerging AI technologies. The lab creates space for students to engage in meaningful discussions about AI ethics, examine the technical realities behind proposed solutions, and learn about current research in the field. AI/EL also offers opportunities to connect with faculty and explore future research and academic endeavors related to AI and society.

Students from all disciplines are welcome to get involved.

 [Email list sign-up](#) and [Discord invite](#)

### Survey Support

As part of an Intro to Entrepreneurship course project, a Cal Poly student team is conducting research to validate a potential student-focused product idea. They've created two brief surveys—each only a few minutes long—to better understand student needs and experiences. Your responses

will provide valuable insights that support their class project.

[Survey 1](#)

[Survey 2](#)

Participation is voluntary, and all input is greatly appreciated!



## Winter 2026 Open Workshops at the Digital Scholarship Studio

Jan 9 Intro to Git and Github

Jan 15 Intro to Figma

Jan 16 Intro to R and RStudio

Jan 22 Contours for Architecture

Jan 30 Intro to StoryMaps and GIS

Feb 6 Map Design and Cartography

Feb 13 Poster Layouts with InDesign

Feb 20 Intro to Adobe Illustrator

Feb 27 Intermediate Figma

March 6 Research Synthesis



Everyone is welcome!  
Details and registration:

[guides.lib.calpoly.edu/DPL/workshops](https://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.

# 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!!

### **LOCATION**

In Bonderson,  
Building 197, Room 110



### **HOURS**

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



### **CONTACT INFO**

Email:  
calpolyshoptechs@gmail.com



### **OUR SERVICES**

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

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.

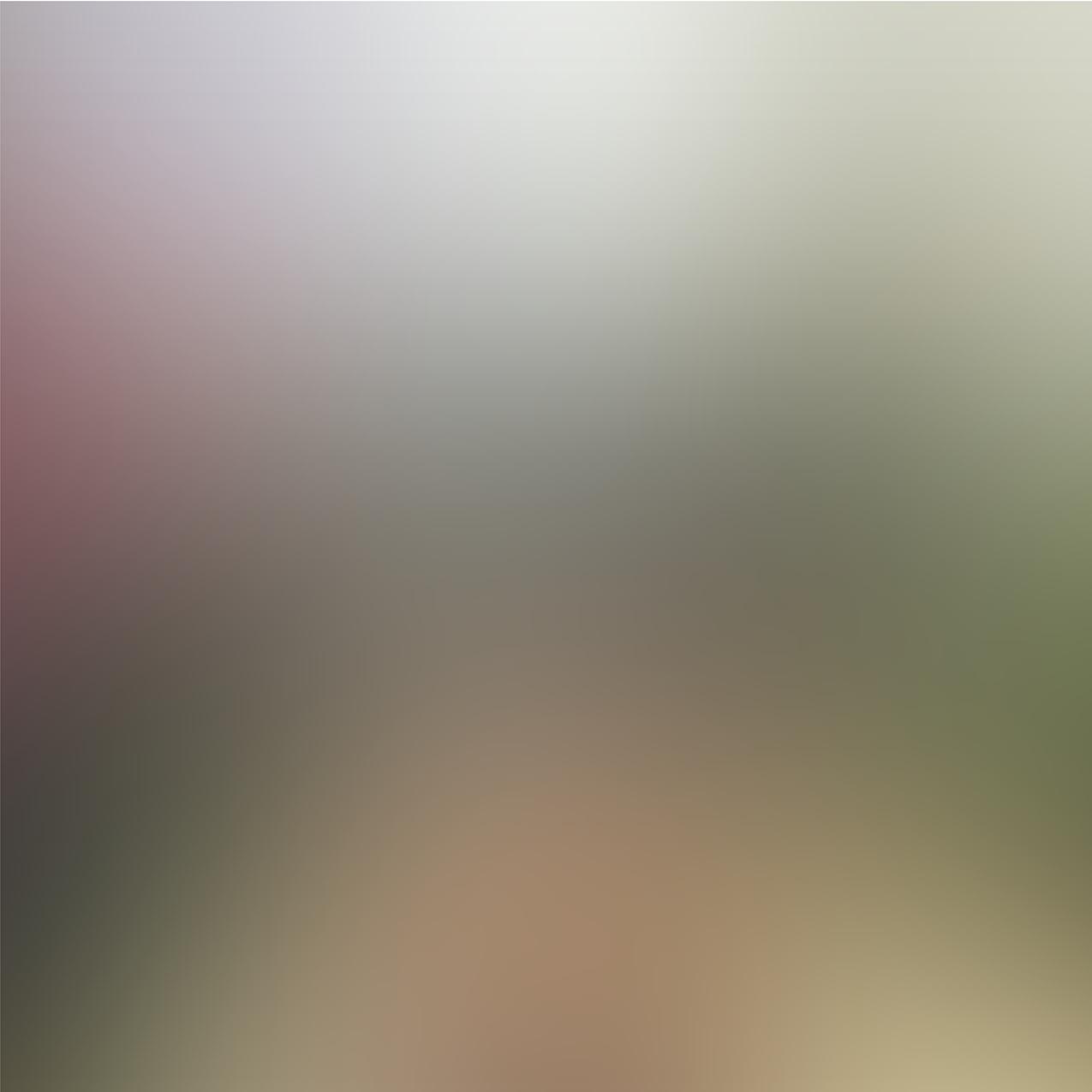
 Winter Quarter Hours (Weeks 2–10):

- 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](https://machineshops.calpoly.edu).

 Questions? Email [calpolyshoptechs@gmail.com](mailto: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!



## 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](mailto:sbush@calpoly.edu).

# STUDENT SUPPORT

# CONTACT INFO

Office:  
Building 47, Room 36E, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
College of Liberal Arts

Emails:  
[Aguti168@calpoly.edu](mailto:Aguti168@calpoly.edu)  
[Lrami113@calpoly.edu](mailto:Lrami113@calpoly.edu)

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

CAL POLY



COLLEGE POSSIBLE AT 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](mailto:alcebrer@calpoly.edu) or check out the attached infographic.



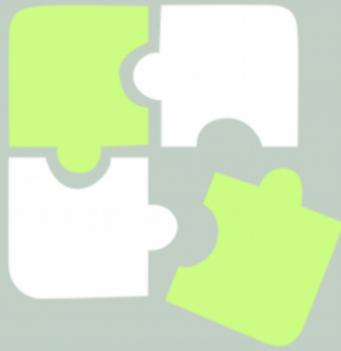
## 📢 FINANCIAL AID FOR FOOD: GET UP TO \$250 A MONTH FOR GROCERIES

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/](http://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/>

Created in  publicate

**Science, Technology and Society Minors Program**

**College of Liberal Arts | Cal Poly State University**

sts.calpoly.edu | 805-756-2740 | [sts@calpoly.edu](mailto:sts@calpoly.edu)