Fall 2007 - Spring 2008 Honors Classes - Come Join Us!

**CITY CAMPUS FALL 2007 HONORS CLASSES**

- Econ 7H  A. Casolari  MW  8:45-10:17
- English 1AH  T. Amidon  MW  11:40-1:52
- English 1BH  T. Carter  MW  11:40-1:52
- Hum 4H  Sell/Yoshino  TTH  8:45-10:17
- Speech Com 9  H.J. Gibbons-Anderson  TTH  10:30-12:02

**MORENO VALLEY FALL 2007 HONORS CLASSES**

- English 1AH  D. Clark
- English 1BH  V. Zapata
- Philosophy 1H  C. Rocco
- History 6H  A. Pééille

**CITY CAMPUS SPRING 2008**

- "Math 12H" (pending course approval)
- English 1AH  T. Amidon  MW  11:40-1:52
- English 1BH  T. Carter  MW  11:40-1:52
- Hum 5H  Sell/Yoshino  TTH  8:45-10:17
- History 7H  K. Woods  TTH  10:30-12:02
- Art 6H  R. Taube  TTH  2:3-3:32

**MORENO VALLEY SPRING 2008**

- English 1AH  D. Clark
- English 1BH  V. Zapata
- Poli Sci 1H  F. Biancardi
- History 7H  A. Pééille

Planning to Transfer?

It is in your best interest to meet with a counselor at any of the three campuses to develop a student educational plan (SEP) based on your educational goal at RCC. This plan will ensure that you complete the necessary courses in order to meet your goal in a timely manner.

In addition, there are many resources and programs available in the transfer/career centers at all three campuses to assist you. The transfer/career centers host many transfer and career workshops, university tours, appointments with university representatives, computer resources, online career assessments and inventories, and career exploration.

All RCCD counselors assist students with transfer/career planning. Please schedule an appointment as soon as possible to develop your student educational plan by calling:

- (951) 571-6104 Moreno Valley Campus
- (951) 372-7101 Norco Campus
- (951) 222-8440 Riverside Campus

We want to encourage you to attain your transfer goal and hope that you will take the necessary steps to make this a reality for you. Take advantage of the services offered through the counseling departments on all three campuses – we look forward to working with you!

Riverside Community College was in full academic form Saturday, March 17 as the Honors Program participated in the seventh annual Building Bridges Conference at the University of California, Irvine. This was the first year RCC students presented at the academic conference sponsored by the Honors Transfer Council of California (HTCC). The students representing RCC were Audrey Avila, Adam Balogh, Jeannette Burton, Annie Chen, Robert Cordiero, Shannon Luster, Holly Moreno, Raylyn Rollins, and Rebekah Silva. These students were from the Riverside and Moreno Valley campuses. They worked with faculty mentors Thatcher Carter, Daniel Clark, Kelly Douglass, Kathleen Sell, and Rhonda Taube. The students prepared and presented papers on topics ranging from hip hop to Fihomynjaiga to Chinese calligraphy and Kant’s Theory of Disinterestedness. The topics often combined students’ personal interests with Honors class curriculums. Raylyn Rollins wrote about Vietnam War protest music and Tim O’Brien’s The Things They Carried which she read in Dr. Carter’s English 1BH class. Adam Balogh also explored the war literature from English 1BH in his paper on the Georgian style and Expressionism in World War I poetry. Shannon Luster’s presentation of Virgil’s Aeneid grew from an essay she wrote for her Humanities 4H class.

“It was excellent practice in delivering an academic paper without a lot of pressure,” presenter Rebekah Silva said. “I’m sure I’ll be able to use what I learned in the future.”

The dilemma of the day was choosing which session to attend. The RCC group of faculty, student presenters, and audience members made every attempt to be a supportive audience for all nine presenters. By all accounts, biased as they may be, the students did Riverside Community College proud! It was a fun and stimulating day for all.

A presentation on the Electoral College encouraged a debate, largely instigated by RCC audience members, which continued among our group throughout the day. Academic conferences not only allow the presenter to showcase their ideas but the audience an opportunity to challenge them. HTCC demonstrated a commitment to helping community colleges succeed in the world of academics and RCC students demonstrated early sophistication and the promise of future academic accomplishments. The Honors Program encourages students to consider presenting at next year’s conference. Thanks to all who participated, and here’s to next year!
A Busy Year!

Though many of our honors students, of course, juggle work and family responsibilities, he along with their studies, many still found time to take advantage of workshops, field trips and speakers that are an important part of the experience of the Honors Program.

We kicked off the year with a welcome lunch for honors students, faculty, and counselors. Fall is a busy time for applications, and students had several workshops through both the Honors Program and Transfer Center to help them prepare personal essays for applications.

Field trips included two trips (one in the fall and one in the spring) to the Geffen Theater sponsored by the Eng 1BH class, fall and spring field trips to the National Cemetery sponsored by the Eng 1A1 and 1B1 classes, the Riverside Museum of Photography sponsored by the Art 61L class in the fall, and the Norton Simon Museum in the spring, sponsored by the Hum 5H class.

The Spring English 1A1 class were thrilled to convince Pomona College professor of Politics John Seery to come speak to them about his most recent work, Jesus for President: The Case for a Constitutional Amendment to the Age Requirement for Elected Federal Office.

We are looking forward to another series of terrific events next year.

Faculty Profile: Ron Yoshino by Nicolette Rohr

Interview with Dr. Ron Yoshino

Ron Yoshino teaches the Honors Humanities courses with Dr. Kathleen Sell. He teaches in the History Department and is the faculty advisor for AGS. Dr. Yoshino was nominated for and has received an Advisor of the Year Award from the state organization of Alpha Gamma Sigma thanks to his students glowing recommendation.

So when you’re not teaching, what are you doing?

I’m fully involved with the Honors Society and I’m very proud of their accomplishments, especially this year’s group.

Okay, and what do you like to do away from school?

My wife and I like to go fly-fishing in the Western United States.

What is your advice for students?

If you want to be a good student, learn to be a good student. Good students are not born.

Do you have a favorite quote?

Frederick the Great said “Audacity, always audacity.” I think that’s a good way to approach life.

Favorite book?

One I constantly revisit is The Wars of America by Robert Leckie.

Favorite movie?

To Kill A Mockingbird. It’s hard to beat Harper Lee and it’s hard to beat Gregory Peck.

One of Dr. Yoshino’s students and AGS president, Ian Lemle, says of Yoshino, he “has been a mentor, professor, and in some ways a friend to me since we met in 2004. Whenever I have needed to ask him a question about class, club matters, or even if I just need to chat I knew that he had an open door policy. In the classroom Dr. Yoshino challenges his students to think beyond the text and to insert their own insights into classroom discussions. Having taken more than a few of his classes I can safely say that he is both an engaging lecturer, who easily inserts relevant stories in with the pertinent information which makes the class all the more relevant. In his capacity as one of the Honors Humanities professors he challenges students to see beyond the words on the page, to dig deeper into the material.”

Congratulations to our Transfer Students

Several of our honors students—past and present—are moving on! Here’s where they’re headed:

Corinne Airtalk—Cal Baptist
Adam Balogh—UC Berkeley
John Fay—UC Berkeley
Tricia Frost—Cal Poly Pomona
Jean Hamilton—Cal Poly Pomona
Guo Inuigie—UCLA
Diana Lara—UCLA/UC Berkeley

Ian Lemle—UCLA
Shannon Luster—UCLA
Joe Mason—Cal State San Bernardino
Antonio Padilla—Assumption Seminary
Raylyn Rollins—Cal State Fullerton
School of Public Relations
Amy Willis—UCLA

Congratulations to these students and to the many others at RCC who will be moving on to Transfer Institutions next year!

Student Profile: Audrey Avila by Shannon Luster

How do you feel about being chosen for the student profile?

I’m glad about being chosen. I did not expect it but I feel honored.

Which honors courses are you taking?

I am taking English 1B with Professor Zapata and History 7 with Professor Pierce.

How do you handle the workload?

Time management is the key. I work ½ mornings and ½ nights at the salon, which is very convenient because it is close to the campus. Whenever I am not in classes, I study for classes before or after my actual class. But I don’t like late night studying.

What are your educational goals?

I am pursuing my BA in business and I am unsure about my Masters. I was planning on going to Berkeley, but I will do more research about schools. By the fall of 2008, I will be looking around for schools.

How did you get to community college?

I started school because I was ready to do something. Before, I was bored. Now, I know you need school, which doesn’t hold you back. I started the Honors Program last fall and plan to take more honors classes.

What do you like about teaching an Honors class?

Obviously the caliber of students that we encounter, and also the fact that we’re able to give them more difficult assignments and use more innovative techniques. The seminar style is more interesting for professors and great for students to participate in that pedagogy.

You’re a Ph.D. What is your area of expertise?

American history. My first field of interest is Modern Military History and Policy. My second field of interest is American Technological History.

What sparked your interest in history?

I don’t know. My parents encouraged me to read and I read the usual gamut when I was in the single digits. Probably somewhere around 16 I read The Guns of August by Barbara Tuchman one summer between farm work, and that pretty much hooked me on history. That’s the mark of a really good writer—to really change a reader.

Favorite book?

I read The Virgin Suicides in Junior High and really liked the book at the time.

“Audrey has the temperament of a real scholar, in that she is willing to challenge established thinking, she has a natural spirit of investigation, and she likes to write.”

—Dr. Daniel Clark, Audrey’s faculty mentor
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You taught honors classes before there was an Honors program. Tell us about that.

When I first came here in 1986 I was approached by Chuck Kane, the president of the college at the time, and asked if I’d be interested in teaching an honors course. I said yes as long as I could manufacture the course I’d teach. I was able to get valuable information from Tom Johnson who had taught honors courses before I did. I did make some changes, such as moving the class from after dinner to during the day in order to cater to the type of student I thought we were looking for, but I carry on part of his tradition.

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- Gus Iniguez—UCLA
- Diana Lara—UCLA/UC Berkeley

Ian Leme—UCLA
Shannon Luster—UCLA
Joe Mason—Cal State San Bernardino
Antonio Padilla—Assumption Seminary
Raylyn Rollo—Cal State Fullerton, School of Public Relations
Amy Williams—UCL

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  English 1BH  V. Zapata
  Philosophy 10H  C. Rocco
  History 6H  A. Péfíle

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Ellen Drinkwater
Counselor, Riverside City College