

**5<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Student Research Symposium**



*An interdisciplinary  
meeting of the minds*

**May 13, 2014**

## About the Symposium

**Woodland Community College's Student Research Symposium** is organized every spring to highlight the diverse research interests of our students. The student research featured in the symposium includes both primary and secondary research in the social sciences, natural sciences, and humanities.

The symposium also features the pilot study results of original research proposals by the students in **Social Science Research Methods**. Students in this course design research projects and collect data using surveys, interviews, and archival analysis. They will use their pilot study findings to create research proposals that they can use to complete a senior honors thesis at a four-year institution.

Presentations are organized by the course for which the research was conducted. More information about the courses can be found at the end of this program.

# **BIOL 6 – Introductory Microbiology**

**Dr. Ralph Robinson**

## **A look into Scarlet Fever**

By Jennie Amaral

## **All About Parasitic Leishmania**

By MJ Hayes

## **History of consumption, phthisis, scrofula, and the White Plague: Different Names, Same Killer**

By Jason Hubbart

## **HIV virus**

By Yedilssew Woldemariam

## **Infectious disease: Malaria**

By Manpreet Kaur

## **Leprosy**

By Harkanwardeep Kaur

## **Rabies**

By Deborah Adam

## **The Cat-Scratch Disease**

By Jocelyn Solis

## **Viral Meningitis**

By Hana Taye

## **Yellow Fever**

By Amandeep Gosal

## **ENGL 1A – College Composition and Reading**

Prof. Kelly Kadi

### **Rehabilitation of the U.S. Prison System**

By Jena Harris

## **ENGL 51 – Preparatory Composition and Reading**

Prof. Noel Bruening

### ***Las Posadas Mexicanas***

By Olga Torres

### **Sikh Wedding**

By Amandeep Kaur

## **MESA Program**

Veronica Torres, Director

### **GRID Alternatives Internship: How does solar power work with GRID Alternatives?**

By Gustavo Angel

## *Featured Program: MESA* (Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement)

This year the symposium includes a display on GRID Alternatives by MESA student Angel Gustavo.

### **What is MESA?**

Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) is nationally recognized for its innovative and effective academic development program. Since 1970, MESA has helped students become scientists, engineers and mathematicians, filling an urgent need for qualified technical professionals. The MESA program has served students by providing support such as classes, hands-on competitions, counseling, transfer support, and a community environment to students from middle school through four-year college.

Most MESA students are the first in their families to attend college. Most are low-income and attend (or have attended) low-performing schools with few resources. MESA serves students community college students through the MESA Community College Program (MCCP), an academic preparation program that assists California community colleges' educationally disadvantaged students to succeed in math, science, and engineering so they can transfer to four-year colleges or universities and attain four-year degrees in math, engineering, and science fields. This support is especially crucial to students who come from low-performing high schools. The MCCP is a partnership between MESA and the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office.

### **For more information:**

Visit <http://wcc.yccd.edu/student/MESA/> or contact Director Veronica C. Torres: 530-668-2528 or [vtorres@yccd.edu](mailto:vtorres@yccd.edu).

# PSYCH/SOC 8 – Social Science Research Methods

Prof. Nili Kirschner

## **African American Representations: Racial stereotypes in movies today**

By Alyssa Friedrichs

## **Are You a "Macho" Man? The effect of education on *machismo***

By Delia Zamudio

## **Attitudes towards Homosexuality among Second Generation Latinos**

By Angelique Torres

## **Benefits of pet ownership for women: A qualitative study**

By Angelica Rivera

## **Effects of Race on Attitudes towards Teen Pregnancy**

By Maria Cisneros

## **Gender Roles in the Workplace: A study of attitudes across generations**

By Becky Bentley

## **Got self-esteem and sex? Relationship between young women's self esteem and sex drive**

By Yer Her

## **Homosexual hate crimes in the movies and the news: A longitudinal content analysis**

By Monica Montes

**Let's (not) talk about sex: Secondary vs. post-secondary textbook discourse about intersex**

By Jaclyn Benson

**Mind Melodies: Effects of music on memory**

By Brianne Hannah

**News & Views: The effect of news consumption on views of punishments**

By Misbah Naseer

**Nipping 'tudes in the bud: Parental decisions about school age children's media consumption**

By David Rodriguez

**Popular Parenting: Content analysis of parenting roles in popular magazines**

By Elizabeth Jones

**Pursuit of Happiness & the American Dream: How Belief in the American Dream Affects Life Satisfaction**

By Jeffery Wata

**Roleplaying Gender Dynamics: Does the fantasy become reality?**

By K. Erik Souza

**Sex Acceptance in the American Culture**

By Jose Angel Orejel

**The effects of anonymity on conformity: An online experiment**

By Patricia Manzo Sandoval

**The Gentle Giant: An obscure interplay between horses and a person's emotional well-being**

By Kate Noble

**The link between TV programming and eating habits**

By Ian Demment

**The Power of Education: Higher education affecting parenting habits**

By Stephanie Hiett

**Unhappy Marriages and Happy Divorces? Effects of parental marital status on adult offspring**

By Cindy Jimenez

**Worshipping the Cult of True Womanhood: Religiosity and adherence to traditional gender roles**

By Stephani Salazar Madrid

## **SOCIL 2 – Social Problems**

**Prof. Nili Kirschner**

**A Sociological Perspective on Prison Reform**

By David Rodriguez, Maricarmen Suarez, Angelique Torres,  
and Morgan Wright

**Environmental pollution and its effects a community's health**

By Carrie Beattie and Lynette Cortes



## **Feeding for Profit: Effects of industrial food production on Americans' health**

By Brandon Baeza

## **Inequality in Schools: Poor Child Left Behind**

By Jose Ayala-Artiga, Michelle Benoit-Souza, Emma Brunson, Kristy Gleason, Ashley Mann, K. Erik Souza

## **Is our system really fair? Political reform and sociological solutions**

By Jaclyn Benson, Maen Bin Said, Christine Dawson, Ian Demment, Andrea Green, and Jeffery Wata

## **Using the Sociological Perspective to Address Poverty in our Society**

By Anahid Lopez, Edwin Ortega, Marissa Ortiz, Paula Pascual, Alva Pulido, and Umar Sarwar

# **SOCIL 6 – Sociology of Sex & Gender**

**Prof. Shane Logan**

## **Gender in Ballroom Dancing: Masculine or Feminine? Both!**

By Alyssa Friedrichs

## **Gender in Law Enforcement: A Difference of Perspectives**

By Myquela Rodriguez-Benitez

## **Unmasking gender norms in costume play**

By Lynette Cortes

## *Featured Courses*

*Students conducted the research presented at the symposium for a variety of classes offered at WCC.*

### **BIOL 6—Introductory Microbiology (4 units) CSU/UC**

History, structure, metabolism, genetics, and ecology of microscopic life forms; their relationship to disease, immunology, agriculture, and industry. Laboratory emphasizes the development of techniques for the detection, isolation, and identification of both harmless and pathogenic species. Prerequisite: BIOL 1 or 15.

**CSU Breadth:** Area B2

**IGETC:** Area 5B

**Semester offered:** Fall and Spring

### **ENGL 1A – College Composition and Reading (4 units) CSU/UC**

Development of analytical reading and the writing of college-level essays, including critical analysis, rhetorical forms, and collegiate research. Prerequisite: Satisfactory score on Placement Exam or a grade of “C” or better in ENGL 51.

**WCC GE:** Writing Competency Graduation Requirement

**CSU Breadth:** Area A1

**IGETC:** Area 1A

**Semester offered:** Fall and Spring

### **ENGL 51 – Preparatory Composition and Reading (4 units)**

Improving reading skills and writing pre-college level essays; includes basic writing elements, rhetorical modes, and a review of sentence structure and mechanics. Concurrent enrollment in READ 70 is recommended. Prerequisite: ENGL 105 or ESL 105, 105R, with a grade of “C” or better, or satisfactory score on Placement Examination.

**Semester offered:** Fall and Spring

## **PSYCH/SOCIL 8—Social Science Research Methods (3 units) CSU/UC**

Covers basic issues in design and implementation of social science research.

Topics include the scientific method, ethics, research design, basic descriptive and inferential statistics, and qualitative and quantitative methodologies.

**Prerequisite:** SOCIL 1    **Skill Advisories:** Computer Skills, Language, Math

*As of Fall 2014, this course will no longer be cross-listed with PSYCH 8. Psych majors should take PSYCH 7 (Prerequisites: PSYCH 1A and STAT 1).*

**WCC GE:** Area D2

**CSU Breadth:** Area D7

**IGETC:** Area 4G

**C-ID #:** SOCI 120

**Semester offered:** Spring

## **SOCIL 2—Social Problems (3 units) CSU/UC**

Survey of social problems in present-day American culture and application of sociological theory and analysis to issues such as poverty, racism, crime, healthcare, education, and the environment.

**Skill Advisory:** Language

**WCC GE:** Area B

**CSU Breadth:** Area D0

**IGETC:** Area 4J

**C-ID #:** SOCI 115

**Semester offered:** Fall and Spring

## **SOCIL 6—Sociology of Sex and Gender (3 units) CSU/UC**

Sociological analysis of the construction, reproduction, and consequences of sex categories and gender roles. Emphasis on how gender designation of male and female impacts an individual's life, including violence and abuse, sexual harassment, hate crimes, wage differentials and unequal opportunities.

**Skill Advisory:** Language

**WCC GE:** Area B

**CSU Breadth:** Area D4

**IGETC:** Area 4D

**C-ID #:** SOCI 140

**Semester offered:** Spring

## Special Thanks

Dr. Angela Fairchilds, former WCC President

Monica Chahal, Dean of Instruction

Prof. Noel Bruening, English

Prof. Kelly Kadi, English

Prof. Shane Logan, Sociology

Dr. Ralph Robinson, Biology

Peter Skillman, YCCD Webmaster

Veronica Torres, MESA Director

Ana Villagrana, Secretary to the President

For additional information about the student research symposium,  
contact faculty coordinator Nili Kirschner  
([nili.kirschner@yccd.edu](mailto:nili.kirschner@yccd.edu))  
or visit the WCC Sociology Homepage  
<http://wcc.yccd.edu/academics/sociology.aspx>