



# \*Winter 2021\* Honors Seminars

*Seminars are restricted to students currently enrolled in the College Honors Program through College of Letters and Science, or students in the College of Creative Studies.*

These **two-unit** courses provide an opportunity for research exploration in various disciplines and consider advanced studies beyond college. Honor seminars are 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> year students. To earn honors credit, seminars must be completed with a **letter grade** of B or higher. **Eligible students may take 8 units maximum of INT 84 seminars and 8 units maximum.**

\*Add codes are not required for most Honors Seminars, with a few exceptions (if you are prompted for an add code, please contact the **instructor for more information**)

***\*\*\*INT 84 Honors Seminars are lower-division and designed with first and second-year students in mind. First and second-year students in the Letters & Science Honors Program who have exceeded the "Senior" unit standing limitation for INT 84 may request an exception to bypass this restriction by emailing me at [kvonderlieth@ucsb.edu](mailto:kvonderlieth@ucsb.edu). Third and fourth-year students are not eligible to bypass the Senior unit standing restriction. Students who receive access to bypass the restriction must still enroll through GOLD during an active pass time while the course has space remaining.***

**\*Please note if your class is not a 10-week course the add/drop deadline may be earlier.**

## INT 84AH - "Special Relativity for Pedestrians "

- **Seminar Type:** Honors
- **Department:** Physics
- **Instructor:** Tengiz Bibilashvili
- **Instructor Email:** [tbib@physics.ucsb.edu](mailto:tbib@physics.ucsb.edu)
- **Day - Time - Room:** Wednesday 4:00-5:50 Online
- **Enroll Code:** 28209

**Course Description:** The goal of the seminar is to teach Special Relativity (SR) using Einstein Notation (EN). The class is designed for enthusiastic students with no or little background in SR. Prerequisite Physics 20, and 21, or at least concurrent enrollment in Physics 21. First we will see how EN is used in non-relativistic physics. Then we will learn SR using EN. At the end we will explore how relativistic kinematics is used in High Energy Experiments (HEX) in colliders (like LHC). Good grasp of EN will prepare students to better understand General Covariance of Physics laws like Maxwell's equations in Electromagnetism.

**Bio:** Dr. B aka Tengiz Bibilashvili earned his Ph. D. at Tbilisi State University. His Ph. D. thesis was about Non-equilibrium Quantum Field Diagrammatic. Later he focused on teaching physics and he prepared several Gold, Silver and Bronze Medal winners at the International Physics Olympiads based on physics problem solving.

## **INT 84AS- “Oral Interpreting: Hands On!”**

- **Seminar Type:** *Honors*
- **Department:** Spanish and Portuguese
- **Instructor:** Aline Alves Ferreira
- **Instructor Email:** [aferreira@spanport.ucsb.edu](mailto:aferreira@spanport.ucsb.edu)
- **Meeting Info:** Thursday 8:00-9:50 Online
- **Enrollment Code:** 66506

**Course Description:** This course comprises topics that are important to develop skills for interpreting into and from Spanish and/or Portuguese. Historical and current issues, terminology, ethical considerations and decision-making, the interpreter's roles and responsibilities, and the skills necessary to work in this field are emphasized.

**\*\*\* Please note that this seminar is for students that only speak - Spanish and/or Portuguese and English.\*\*\***

**Bio:** Dr. Aline Ferreira is the director of the Bilingualism, Translation, and Cognition Laboratory (Phelps Hall 4325), where she collects and analyzes reading and translation process data and measures different aspects of cognition. Ferreira was a post-doctoral research fellow in psychology at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada. Ferreira is the coeditor of the books *The Handbook of Translation and Cognition* (Wiley-Blackwell), *The Development of Translation Competence: Theories and Methodologies from Psycholinguistics and Cognitive Science* (Cambridge Scholars Publishing), and *Psycholinguistic and cognitive inquiries into translation and interpreting* (John Benjamins Publishing). She has also published studies in journals and books such as *Translation and Interpreting Studies* (John Benjamins Publishing), *Innovative Research and Practices in Second Language Acquisition and Bilingualism* (John Benjamins Publishing), *Reading and Writing* (Springer), *The Routledge Handbook of Translation and Linguistics* (Routledge), *Spanish Journal of Applied Linguistics* (John Benjamins Publishing), *Cadernos de Tradução*, and *Canadian Journal of Applied Linguistics* (among others – please see the complete list: <https://alineafe.wixsite.com/mysite>).

## **INT 84BC - “Yoga: Theory, Culture & Practice”**

- **Seminar Type:** *Honors*
- **Department:** Black Studies
- **Instructor:** Roberto Strongman
- **Instructor Email:** [rstrongman@ucsb.edu](mailto:rstrongman@ucsb.edu)
- **Day - Time - Room:** Asynchronous Online
- **Enroll Code:** 28274

**Course Description:** Yoga is a Sanskrit term that can be best translated as "Integration." The course aims to develop an integral understanding of the history of yogic knowledges with roots in South Asia, creolization with XIX Century European body culture during the era of British imperialism, and a capitalist and often culturally-appropriative global spread in the late XX Century and beyond. This historical and philosophical material will be "yoked" (a cognate of "yoga") with a physical asana practice in order to bring "union" to the budding scholar, fomenting a balanced, equanimous and holistic body-mind.

**Bio:** Ph.D. Literature (UCSD 2003). I am a scholar of embodiment, specializing in trance states. My latest book "Queering Black Atlantic Religions" (Duke UP, 2019) speaks to my interest in fomenting an awareness of the unity within the body-mind construct, the goal of "yoga." In addition to my academic credentials, I am also a certified yoga instructor at the 500-hour level (the highest recognizable credential in the field).

## INT 84BI - "What is Nature?"

- **Seminar Type:** *Honors*
- **Department:** History of Art & Architecture
- **Instructor:** Volker M. Welter
- **Instructor Email:** [welter@arthistory.ucsb.edu](mailto:welter@arthistory.ucsb.edu)
- **Day - Time - Room:** Tuesday 9:00-10:50 Online
- **Enroll Code:** 57976

**\*\*Students commit to weekly readings and active participation in the scheduled weekly two-hour discussions; there will be no lectures or writing assignments. The discussion-based format requires synchronous (real-time) teaching if the seminar has to be taught fully or partially online. It will be the students' responsibility to ensure that they are able to participate in the scheduled class meetings should public health concerns stipulate online teaching. Please bear this in mind when you enroll for this elective seminar.**

**Course Description:** We recognize nature when we see it, yet trying to describe it leads to vexing questions. What separates nature from artifacts? Is nature always 'good' and 'organic' better? What about humanity's ingenuity in designing the 'artificial' (art, architecture, technology)? This seminar will read and discuss historic and contemporary Western accounts of nature, the natural, and their opposites.

**Bio:** Professor Volker M. Welter teaches modern architectural history and theory in the Department of the History of Art & Architecture. One of his interests is the often strenuous relationship between architecture and the natural world, and how architecture and design manipulate the latter for good or bad.

## INT 84BJ - "How Muslims, Jews, and Christians lived together (Intellectual and Social History of the Iberian Peninsula)"

- **Seminar Type:** *Honors*
- **Department:** Spanish and Portuguese
- **Instructor:** Antonio Cortijo
- **Instructor Email:** [cortijo@ucsb.edu](mailto:cortijo@ucsb.edu)

- **Day - Time - Room:** Tuesday 8:00-9:50 Online
- **Enroll Code:** 65326

**Course Description:** This seminar explores the intellectual and social history of the Iberian Peninsula through the ages. Particular attention will be paid to the fact the the Iberian Peninsula was unique in that it allowed different religions (Islam, Judaism, Christianity) to live together for over 800 hundred years and this has shaped the development of Spain as a modern European nation. In addition, attention will be paid to the Spanish creation of a the first modern globalized economy in the 16th-17th centuries by incorporating the American, East-Asian and European markets. From the Middle Ages to the contemporary European Union, issues of religion, “convivencia” (co-existence), nationalism, and economy will be explored.

**Bio:** Antonio Cortijo Ocaña analyzes in his research the ideological structures and tensions that have forged the Modern Period across the Atlantic and across the languages and cultures of the Iberian Peninsula. He deals with issues such as nation building, power and ideology, religion and economy in the late medieval through 18th centuries, as well as with the larger topic of the relevance of Humanism in the creation of the modern nations. He is the author of over 50 books.

## INT 84BO - “Literature and Politics”

- **Seminar Type:** Honors
- **Department:** Spanish and Portuguese
- **Instructor:** Silvia Bermúdez
- **Instructor Email:** bermudez@spanport.ucsb.edu
- **Day - Time - Room:** Tuesday 3:00-4:50 Online
- **Enroll Code:** 57992

**Course Description:** This seminar examines political figures/ authors, major literary and musical texts from Latin America, the Iberian Peninsula (particularly those in Spanish and Galician), from the 19th Century to the present by considering them in their historical and political contexts and within four modules that invite students to explore diverse and enduring social issues and political concerns such as poverty, immigration, racism, Afro Latin American identities, and equal rights, among others.

**Bio:** Silvia Bermúdez is Professor of literature and cultural studies in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese where she teaches courses on contemporary Iberian Studies, popular music, and poetic discourses. Her two recent publications are the book *Rocking the Boat: Migration and Race in Contemporary Spanish Music* (2018) and of the co-edited volume *Cartographies of Madrid: Contesting Urban Space at the Crossroads of the Global South and Global North* (2019).

## INT 84BV – “The Microbial Ocean”

- **Seminar Type:** Honors
- **Department:** EEMB
- **Instructor:** Alyson Santoro
- **Instructor Email:** asantoro@ucsb.edu
- **Meeting Info:** Wednesday 10:00-11:50 Online
- **Enrollment Code:** 66498

**Course Description:** This seminar explores the critical role that the most abundant living entities in the ocean--microbes--have on climate and ecosystems.

**Bio:** Alyson Santoro is an Associate Professor in the Department of Ecology, Evolution and Marine Biology. Her research focuses on the role of microbes in marine ecosystems. She is interested in cultivating new microbes and discovering novel ways of tracking their activity. A particular focus of her lab is the marine archaea, a largely uncultured group of microbes. In pursuit of her research, she has spent nearly a year of her life at sea including expeditions to Micronesia, Cuba, and the Equatorial Pacific.

## INT 84CA - "Lions, Tigers, and Bears: Coexisting with Large Carnivores in the 21st Century"

- **Seminar Type:** Honors
- **Department:** Environmental Studies
- **Instructor:** Peter Alagona
- **Instructor Email:** alagona@es.ucsb.edu
- **Day - Time - Room:** Wednesday 4:00-5:50 Online
- **Enroll Code:** 59675

**Course Description:** Of all the grim trends that define the sixth mass extinction of life on Earth, few are more widespread or consequential than the loss of large carnivores. Due to their diets and behaviors, large carnivores exert outsized influence on the ecosystems they inhabit. Yet today, for these same reasons, they rank among the world's most endangered--and controversial--groups of animals. This seminar will explore the history, ecology, politics, and management of human conflict and coexistence with large carnivores around the world.

**Bio:** Peter Alagona is an environmental historian and associate professor in the Environmental Studies Program at UCSB. He is also the founder and facilitator of the California Grizzly Research Network.

## INT 84CB - "Solar Energy and the Future Energy Challenge"

- **Seminar Type:** Honors
- **Department:** Chemistry and Biochemistry
- **Instructor:** Thuc-Quyen Nguyen
- **Instructor Email:** quyen@chem.ucsb.edu
- **Day - Time - Room:** Monday 1:00-2:50 Online
- **Enroll Code:** 61234

**Course Description:** The development of alternative energy sources is now recognized by government, society and the global community as an urgent need. Solar energy is one of the solutions to the future energy challenge. Among various types of solar cells, solution-processed organic solar cells potentially offer low cost, large area, flexible, and light-weight alternative energy sources. In this seminar series, I will give an overview of the current progress and challenges in solar cell technologies with the emphasis on solution-processed organic solar cells

and their potential applications in energy-efficient buildings and greenhouses. Then, I will discuss recent progress at UCSB on the development of materials and solar cell devices.

**Bio:** Thuc-Quyen Nguyen is the Director of the Center for Polymers and Organic Solids (CPOS) and the professor in the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry at the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB). Professor Nguyen received her B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees in Physical Chemistry from the University of California, Los Angeles. She was a research associate in the Department of Chemistry and the Nanocenter at Columbia University. She joined the faculty of the Chemistry and Biochemistry Department at UCSB in July 2004. She is co-authored over 240 publications that received over 20,000 citations. Recognition for her research includes the 2005 Office of Naval Research Young Investigator Award, the 2006 National Science Foundation CAREER Award, the 2007 Harold Plous Award, the 2008 Camille Dreyfus Teacher Scholar Award, the 2009 Alfred Sloan Research Fellows, the 2010 National Science Foundation American Competitiveness and Innovation Fellows, the 2015 Alexander von Humboldt Senior Research Award, the 2016 Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry, the 2019 Hall of Fame - Advanced Materials, the 2019 Beaufort Visiting Scholar, St John's College, Cambridge University, the 2019 Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), and the 2015-2019 World's Most Influential Scientific Minds; Top 1% Highly Cited Researchers in Materials Science by Thomson Reuters and Clarivate Analytics.

Her current research interests are doping in organic semiconductors, charge transport in organic semiconductors, bioelectronics, and device physics of organic solar cells, ratchets, transistors, and photodetectors.

## INT 84CC - "Art From Machines: Computer Numerical Control in the Hands of Creators"

- **Seminar Type:** *Honors*
- **Department:** Theater and Dance
- **Instructor:** Greg Mitchell
- **Instructor Email:** gmitchell@ucsb.edu
- **Day - Time - Room:** Tuesday 1:00-2:50 Online **\*This seminar originally was going to meet face to face but has moved to Online as of November 13th.**
- **Enroll Code:** 67025

**Course Description:** Contemporary design and art such as sculpture and installation often integrate diverse kinds of 21st century technologies into their creation and execution. Some of those technologies that were once out of the reach of individual or unfunded artists are now becoming ubiquitous. We'll introduce the class to technological processes, machines, and applications that integrate computer control with creative work by using them to iterate real world objects. We'll extrapolate how these processes can be used to design studio sized fabrications and structures that are scale-able to impressive physical creations.

**Bio:** Greg Mitchell is an Associate Professor of Theatre Design. His work in Scenic Design, Lighting Design, Art Direction for Television, Projection, and Video Design has been seen around the world.

Professor Mitchell's recent projects have included Scenic, Lighting, and Costume designs for Arjuna's Dilemma, the first western style opera in Nepal. The Jazz-fusion cross cultural work was created as site specific production in one of the world's oldest Hindu temples, a UNESCO site at Patan Durbar Square in Kathmandu.

He collaborated with Opera Panama and the Panama Symphony Orchestra to design a site specific production of Macbeth in Panama City in the 400 year old ruin of the Convento de las Monjas Concepciones. In addition to scenery designed to accommodate the fragile archaeological site, he projection mapped the interior of the structure to create a media design that aligned with the architecture.

In Dublin, Ireland Professor Mitchell created an installation performing space in the Boys School at Smock Alley, the oldest extant theatre in Ireland, for the Creative Artists Collaborative involving a three story tall sculptural work and a projection mapping of the medieval architecture.

Recently he worked with Ping Chong and Company as a lighting and video projection designer on the new documentary-theatre production of Aan Yátx'u Sáani: Noble People of the Land.

Theatre work includes Off-Broadway productions in New York City including Classical Theatre of Harlem's Tartuffe Supreme, Classic Stage Company's Tempest Tossed, Baruch Performing Arts The Actors Rap, 321 Arts A Night in the Mind of Jim Jones. Other notable New York productions encompass years of collaboration with the site specific Brave New World Rep which yielded a large scale immersive production of Shakespeare's The Tempest on the Coney Island Boardwalk, The Merry Wives of Windsor (Terrace), Lynn Nottage's Fabulation, and Fahrenheit 451 presented at the Prospect Park Amphitheatre as part of Celebrate Brooklyn's 2010 Season. He has designed numerous other productions in the city for organizations including Three Graces Theatre, New York Theatre Experiment, The New York International Fringe Festival, and the New York Musical Festival.

Professor Mitchell's regional theatre work spans hundreds of productions around the country including a multiple productions in Anchorage and Juneau Alaska for Perseverance Theatre Company, in Maine at the Pensobscot Theatre Company, and Theatre at Monmouth, and seasons as the resident designer at Washington DC's Source Theatre Company and Washington Stage Guild. Elsewhere his theatre designs have been seen at Mac-Haydn (NY), Curtain Call (NY), Alpine Theatre Project (MT), The Kennedy Center (DC), The Studio Theatre, (DC), African Continuum Theatre Company (DC), Tsunami Theatre (DC), Washington Shakespeare Company (DC), Imagination Stage (MD), Rep Stage (MD), Sierra Rep (CA), Summer Rep (CA), Hackmatack Playhouse (ME), American Stage Festival (NH), Playhouse on the Square (TN), Texas Shakespeare Festival (TX), Bristol Riverside Theatre (PA), Capital Playhouse (WA), and The Historic Iao Theatre (HI).

Design for opera includes international productions in Nepal, Panama, and the costumes for Tannhauser in Tirana Albania for their national theatre Teatri Kombetar i Operas dhe i Baletit. He has worked on the development of new operas including a commission for the Princess Sophia about the sinking of a passenger ship off the Alaskan coast in 1918, and Llantos about the intersection of Gypsies and Jews during the inquisition. He has designed multiple productions for the Capital City Opera (DC), Juilliard Opera (NY), New Opera NYC (NY), and Opera Modesto (CA), and Chicago Opera Theatre (upcoming).

As an art director and assistant art director, Professor Mitchell has worked on projects for ESPN, CNBC, MTV, and VH1.

In educational theatre, Professor Mitchell has served as guest artist, lecturer, or faculty member at the University of Maine at Orono, Whitman College, Fort Lewis College, Catholic University, CUNY Laguardia, and Kathmandu University School of the Arts.

His work outside of the theatre includes planning and designing events, architectural spaces, and interactive installations for clients such as Heineken, Pink, The Food Network, Vornado Realty NYC, among many others. The range of this work spans turning a half acre of New York's meat packing district into a Pumpkin Patch for Old Navy to multi-story interactive incendiary art for Nevada's Burning Man.

Professor Mitchell is a proud member of USA Local 829, the union of stage designers. His work has been nominated for several awards including the Helen Hayes Award, Broadwayworld Awards, and Indy Awards.

## INT 84CD - "Naked Shakes" - How to Read Shakespeare - Twelfth Night"

- **Seminar Type:** Honors
- **Department:** Theater and Dance
- **Instructor:** Irwin Appel
- **Instructor Email:** irwinappel@ucsb.edu
- **Day - Time - Room:** Tuesdays 3:00 - 4:50 Online
- **Enroll Code:** 74534

**Course Description:** This seminar will focus on the reading of one Shakespeare play, the comedy "Twelfth Night," going deep into textual work from the point of view of the theater artist. The seminar will culminate with a reading of an abridged version of the play in which students can invite friends and family to attend. No previous acting experience required! All that is necessary is a willingness and desire to read aloud and work on the play together.

**Bio:** Irwin Appel is Professor and Chair of the Department of Theater and Dance at UCSB. As a professional director, Equity actor and composer/sound designer, he has worked throughout the United States, as well as internationally in China and Europe. He is the artistic director of Naked Shakes, presenting actor-based Shakespeare plays at UCSB, nationally and internationally since 2006. He is a graduate of Princeton University and The Juilliard School.

## INT 84ZB - "Causes and Consequences of Sea-Level Rise: A Geologic Perspective"

- **Seminar Type:** Honors
- **Department:** Department of Earth Science

- **Instructor:** Alex Simms
- **Instructor Email:** asimms@geol.ucsb.edu
- **Day - Time - Room:** Tuesday & Thursday 4:00-4:50 \*First 5 weeks of the quarter

**\*Possible Fieldtrip** “We hope to have a weekend fieldtrip. If COVID conditions allow us to take the fieldtrip we will only meet Tuesdays and Thursdays for the first 5 weeks of the quarter. If we are not able to take the fieldtrip we will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays for the full 10 weeks of the quarter.”

- **Enroll Code:** 66746

**Course Description:** We will discuss the causes of sea-level rise at several different time scales and its influence on the natural and geologic system

**Bio:** Dr. Simms grew up in Oklahoma but became interested in the sea during Graduate School at Rice University. After a short stint at Oklahoma State University, Dr. Simms came to UCSB in 2010. His research interests are on coastlines and how they responded to past disturbances including sea-level changes. He has studying the coastlines of Texas, California, Scotland, and Antarctica during his career.