

THE WOW FACTOR

Captivating Stories of the Foothill Faculty

Foothill Online Sociology Program Named #1 in the Country

Congratulations to **John Fox** and **Patricia Gibbs** our awesome sociology faculty! Based on data from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) through our multi-point methodology to find out which schools could be called the best online colleges for sociology. Foothill's program was ranked #1.

For more details: <https://www.onlinecolleges.com/social-science/sociology.html>

Robert Cormia Creates Authentic Learning Opportunities for the Community

Robert Cormia, PSME Engineering faculty, mentors a half-dozen Palo Alto High School and Gunn High School students in the Authentic Advanced Research (AAR) program, where students conduct research in a topic of their interest, present results in a technical poster session, and are published in an electronic journal. Robert's students are working in computational chemistry and materials science, environmental impacts of climate change, and novel approaches to energy generation.

In addition, Robert developed a nanoscience course (NANO10) that is offered at Palo Alto High School through the FH Dual Enrollment Program. This course provides 11th and 12th grade high school students with an engaging introduction to nanotechnology.



Great Actions at the Teaching and Learning Center



Supplemental learning instructor, **Katie Ha**, of the Teaching and Learning Center (TLC), began working for Foothill just a few years ago. Since then, Katie has transformed the center into a vibrant and dynamic place for students to find support in areas of reading and writing. She spearheaded the embedded tutoring program. Under her leadership, the TLC has opened to students working on college applications and now offers peer tutoring to students in discipline-specific classes.

Fun fact about Katie: she has summited six of the seven highest peaks on the planet.

Natasha Mancuso Participates as a Fellow in the EPIC Partnership

Natasha Mancuso, a Business faculty member is a current fellow in The Education Partnership for Internationalizing Curriculum (EPIC), which is a competitive fellowship program that brings together 12 community college faculty from Foothill, DeAnza and San Mateo colleges to work collaboratively with colleagues at Stanford for one academic year. Fellow projects are aimed at internationalizing course curricula as well as innovative curricular materials for use in community college classrooms.

<https://sgs.stanford.edu/outreach/about>

One of the projects features Natasha Mancuso's Principles of Marketing class (BUSI59) where she assisted students in developing a Kahoot! Formative assessment game <https://kahoot.it/> that illustrates the challenges of international branding and selling products in foreign markets. Natasha will continue to work with the students to create a framework and hands-on exercises to demonstrate successful product adaptation in a foreign market.

A New Personal Training Certificate Program

Thank you to **Don Mac Neil** for his contribution to develop a new certification in Personal Training in Kinesiology and Athletics.

Foothill now offers a Personal Trainer Certificate. Don Mac Neil developed a Personal Trainer certificate and worked to establish relationships with local gyms and fitness centers. Students complete a series of courses and are placed in paid internships in local fitness clubs and gyms. Students also receive hands-on experience working with a variety of calibrated personal fitness tools. The certificate also supports the AS and ADT in Kinesiology.



Jeff Schinske Makes History at Foothill



Biology instructor **Jeff Schinske** has been selected as the 2018 recipient of the [Outstanding Undergraduate Science Teaching Award](#) (OUSTA) from the Society for College Science Teaching. He is the *first* community college instructor to win the award! Jeff will accept his award and present at the National Science Teachers Association conference in March.

Here's what the students had to say:

"Jeff consistently demonstrated this dynamic classroom environment through the organization of the class as he reflected on his own teaching and designed activities to truly engage each and every student, addressing the needs of all diverse learners in the process."

"Being in Professor Schinske's class made me feel as though I was actually a part of something instead of just another random student trying to make it through the system on my own."

"I am a first generation college graduate and a first-generation immigrant, so I am well aware of the educational barriers that exist in this country. I am also aware of the value of teachers, like Mr. Schinske, who not only want to educate their students but also seek to empower them."

Engaging Students through Photography

Photography instructor **Ron Herman** was invited to be a guest lecturer for the “Camera as Witness: International Human Rights” class at Stanford University. He spoke about ethics in documenting across cultures. Ron drew from his personal photography experiences in Myanmar, Senegal and Cuba to engage the students in conversation on contentious social issues.



Foothill Faculty Provide Unique Opportunities with Global Brigade

In 2011-2012, Foothill College made its first Global Brigade expedition to Honduras with the help of biology instructor **Lisa Schultheis** and two students. The Global Brigade used this unique opportunity to provide healthcare to rural villagers and since then, has continued to bring a group of pre-health students and dental hygiene students to the remote areas of Central America every year. The students work alongside local doctors and dentists who know the local culture and the language, assisting and shadowing them as they administer dental and medical care in a holistic approach. Various BHS tenured and adjunct faculty from Biology, Dental Hygiene, Respiratory Therapy, EMS, as well as the BHS Dean, have participated in the Global Brigade. **Phyllis Spragge**, who has attended all 6 Brigades, developed a corresponding online course, which teaches students basic concepts in the delivery of medical care and community health. **Karen Erickson** and **Lisa Schultheis** are also co-advisors of the Global Brigade Club and have both attended several trips to Central America.

