

Fall, 2011



RIO HONDO HONORS TRANSFER PROGRAM

## What's Up with Honors

### Rio Hondo Honors Students Earn Multiple Scholarships and Honors



As happens every year, Rio Hondo Honors Transfer Program students earned numerous awards last Spring. Guillermo Bustamante and Susana Placencia, both pictured above, were the recipients of the Judge Carlos and Felicia Rodriguez Scholarships. Guillermo and Susana each were awarded \$5,000. Guillermo is currently attending King's College in New York while Susana attends USC. Carolyn Vera was named to the Phi Theta Kappa All-California Academic First Team while Samuel Lopez

was named to the All-Academic Second Team. Carolyn currently attends UC Berkeley while Samuel attends Cal State Fullerton. Recent Rio Hondo Honors graduate Tim Aguilar was accepted into the UC Riverside Honors Program. Congratulations to Guillermo, Susana, Carolyn, Samuel and Tim! Many of our students were successful in gaining admission to their schools of choice. The Rio Hondo Honors Transfer Program sent students to UCs in Berkeley, Los Angeles, Irvine, Davis, Santa

Barbara, and Riverside, Cal State Long Beach and Fullerton, and the University of Southern California. In the increasingly competitive world of college admissions, each of the graduates credited the Honors Program with both preparing them for transfer to their new school and making them more competitive in admissions. Please contact Colin or Martha for more information on the Judge Rodriguez and PTK Scholarships. Congratulations to all those who successfully completed the Honors Program!

#### Contact Information:

**Colin Young**, Honors Coordinator

Office: A221B      [cyoung@riohondo.edu](mailto:cyoung@riohondo.edu)

**Martha DeLaMora**, Honors Counselor

Office: A119      [mdelamora@riohondo.edu](mailto:mdelamora@riohondo.edu)





You are almost a Transfer Student. You will be applying for admission in the Fall prior to the year you transfer. It is never too soon to start researching and planning for a smooth transfer.

Whether you are just beginning your educational journey here at Rio Hondo, or if you are ready to apply for transfer to a university for Fall 2012, keep in mind that giving yourself time to research your options and resources is an important part of the process.

If you are looking at transferring to UCLA, keep in mind that although we only require a 3.2 transferable GPA to complete Honors Program, the average GPA for admitted students last year was a 3.7.

Having an alternate major that is not impacted continues to be very important.

Equally important is the completion of all required major preparation outlined on [www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org), and to go one step further and also check the departmental website for additional recommendations.

### Things to Look Into

- When filing a UC application, indicate if you completed the Honors

Program (the universities sometimes call it TAP, Honors Scholars, or Honors Transfer Program). You can also mention it in your personal statement.



- **Scholarships** are available at Rio Hondo College and through the university you will be attending as well as through community or outside agencies.
- Rio Hondo Scholarships to be aware of include:
  - o Departmental Scholarships as well as those given by various groups on campus.
  - o The Carlos Rodriguez and Felicia Rodriguez Honors Scholarships, two at \$5000.
  - o Phi Theta Kappa awards are given to two students every year.
  - o HTCC (Honors Transfer Council of California) Scholarships which are awarded in March at the Honors Student Research Conference held at UCI, [www.honorstcc.org](http://www.honorstcc.org) (Plan to attend as a presenter or participant!)
  - o UCLA bound students should

seek information about:

- o The STOMP (Student Transfer Opportunity & Mentorship Program) Conference which is held in spring, the SITE (Summer Intensive Transfer Experience), and AAP (Academic Advancement Program).
- o Obtaining a UCLA Library Card, WHILE you are still at Rio Hondo.
- o **UCLA** Applicants can benefit from information on:
  - o Choosing an alternate major that you meet prep for.
  - o TAP (Transfer Alliance Program) Scholarships (\$5000 and renewable) [www.tap.ucla.edu](http://www.tap.ucla.edu)
  - o UCLA Alumni and Latino Alumni Association Scholarships (There are many other groups that award students).
  - o Make your counseling appointments early each semester. Call us at (562) 908-3410 or stop by the Counseling Department to make an appointment. Have a great semester!



## Requirements to Complete the Honors Transfer Program

1. Attend an honors orientation before or during the first semester you take honors classes.
2. Meet with the Honors Counselor twice every semester while you are in the program. You should meet with the Honors Counselor **three** times during the semester in which you are applying to schools for transfer.
3. Earn an A or B in Eng. 101 or Eng. 201.
4. Complete six honors classes with a grade of C or better.
5. Achieve an overall GPA of at least 3.2 for all transferable courses.
6. Complete all general education courses required by the transfer school.
7. Fulfill all prerequisites for your major required by the transfer school.
8. Participate in an exit interview with Honors Program staff members.

## Faculty Spotlight—Theresa Freije, English

Rio Hondo enjoys a very high level of teaching in its Honors Transfer Program. This was clearly highlighted when Theresa Freije, English Professor, was awarded the first Honors Transfer Society (HTS) Award for Honors Professor of the Year. Ms. Freije is in her 14th year at Rio Hondo and teaches the Honors courses in Advanced Composition & Critical Thinking & Approaches to Literature. Theresa received both her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in English at Cal State Fullerton and greatly enjoyed her time at a summer program at Cambridge University in Great

Britain. She was most interested in short stories and drama as literature in graduate school. Theresa particular enjoys teaching Honors classes because the students have a genuine interest in learning and are immediately ready to engage in class discussion. They also aren't afraid to complete all the class requirements. Ms. Freije was immensely honored to receive the HTS Award, particular because it came from her students. She credits her teaching success to her willingness to always listen and learn from students and provide a welcoming atmosphere in which stu-



dents feel free to participate and become deeply engaged in class.

Ms. Freije recommends

that the best way to succeed in college is to make sure to show up at every class meeting, stay in touch with the professor, work with others in class, and fully utilize all available campus resources. Congratulations to Ms. Freije for her teaching award & her great contributions to Rio Hondo!

## Phi Theta Kappa Returns to Rio Hondo College



PHI THETA KAPPA  
HONOR SOCIETY

After almost a decade with an inactive chapter, Rio Hondo College will be resurrecting the Beta Epsilon Epsilon Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the International Honors Society. Until 2002, Rio Hondo had an active chapter of the international honors society dedicated solely to two year colleges. Phi Theta Kappa is associ-

ated with Phi Beta Kappa, the equivalent organization for four year schools. The society is focused on leadership, service, and the completion of an academic project by chapter members. We encourage you to attend the Phi Theta Kappa orientation for the Beta Epsilon Epsilon Chapter on Wednesday, October 26th at 1PM

in A225. Pizza will be provided! To RSVP for the event and for more information on Phi Theta Kappa, please e-mail Honors Coordinator Colin Young at [cyoung@riohondo.edu](mailto:cyoung@riohondo.edu). You can also find more information at Phi Theta Kappa's website at [www.ptk.org](http://www.ptk.org)

## Students invited to present their papers at UC Irvine

You're invited to the upcoming **Student Research Conference** featuring *your* presentations! This annual event is located on the campus of UC Irvine on Saturday, March 31st. This is the only opportunity *in the country* for community college students to publicly present a research project/

paper and have their abstract printed in a journal! There are opportunities not only for individuals to present, but groups as well. There is always a wonderful poster presentation if you'd like to present your work in that medium. For more information go to [www.honorstcc.org](http://www.honorstcc.org) or speak to

Colin Young, Honors Transfer Program Director—Room A221A or [cyoung@riohondo.edu](mailto:cyoung@riohondo.edu)



# RIO HONDO HONORS TRANSFER PROGRAM

Save The Date:  
TAP/Transfer Day at  
UCLA

**Friday., Nov.18th,  
8:30AM—3:00PM**

*Sign-up in the  
transfer center*

**We're on the web at:  
[www.riohondo.edu/honors](http://www.riohondo.edu/honors)**

**Visit the Transfer Center  
website at:  
[www.riohondo.edu/transfercenter](http://www.riohondo.edu/transfercenter)**

## Spring 2012 Honors Course Offerings

History (HIST) 144H	VALDIVIA	MW 9:40AM
History (HIST) 159H	LAZARO	TTH 11:15AM
Psychology (PSY) 210H	SMITH	MW 9:40 AM
Philosophy (PHIL) 101H	PRESTON	TTH 8:05 AM
Sociology (SOC) 101H	BRUTLAG	TTH 8:05 AM
Economics (ECON) 102H	JAVANMARD	TTH 9:40 AM
Anthropology (ANTH) 102H	PFEIFFER	TTH 11:15AM
English (ENGL) 127H	ECKSTROM	MW 8:05 AM
English (ENGL) 201H	FREIJE	MW 12:50PM
English (ENGL) 201H	ARNOLD	W 7:00PM
Literature (LIT) 102H	CALLINAN	MW 8:05AM
Literature (LIT) 145H	OSMAN	MW 2:20PM
Literature (LIT) 146BH	PACHECO	MW 11:15AM
Spanish (SPAN) 201H	DE LOS SANTOS	TTH 9:00AM
Astronomy (ASTR) 110H	HIGHFILL	MW 9:40AM
Math (MATH) 130H	ESQUIVEL	MW 11:15AM
Art (ART) 106H	LEWIS	MW 12:50PM

## Join the Honors Transfer Society

## Thank You and Best of Luck to Ned Lazaro



The **Honors Transfer Society** is an on-campus club for members of the honors program. The main purpose of the club is to facilitate communication between students and faculty to assist students in the transfer process by sponsoring on and off campus activities. It also happens to be a lot of fun! Students wishing to join HTS are required to have a 3.0 GPA. The

HTS participates in many on-campus activities including RiOlympics, Club Scene, pizza sales, sponsoring blood drives, etc. We have also developed a relationship with Mill Elementary School whereby members of HTS volunteer their time at the school assisting students who are struggling with their reading skills. This semester the HTS members are collecting items for Thanksgiving baskets to be distributed to families in the area. If you would like to join HTS, we meet every Thursday this semester from 2:30—3:30PM in A214. Hope to see you there!

Contact the President of HTS, Linda Gonzalez, at [honorstranfersciety@gmail.com](mailto:honorstranfersciety@gmail.com), for more information on HTS.

The founder of the Rio Hondo Honors Transfer Program, Ned Lazaro, will be enjoying a well-deserved retirement at the end of this school year. Ned was director of the Honors Transfer Program from 1996-2006 and was instrumental in making the Honors Transfer Program into the success it is today. Ned has taught History and Political Science for over 35 years at Rio Hondo and has been a regular Honors Professor in his courses on American History and the History of Minorities in the United States. We sincerely thank Ned for all his work for Rio Hondo and wish him the best in retirement!

