

Honors Portfolio

Franco Barba

English Comp II Honors
Public Speaking Honors
World Religions Honors
Art Appreciation Honors

Experience

In the beginning I never expected to participate or complete an honors program. I was always a good student but I never saw myself as an exceptional one. School was an ends to a mean; get a degree and get a higher paying job. It wasn't until I began my life as a college student at San Francisco Community College that I began to realize that my interests in academia went beyond just simply receiving a degree. My encounter with Doctor Lindsay Hutton at NWACC that I was really pushed into taking advantage of my academic capacities and discipline.

Doctor Hutton truly pushed me to participate in the Honors Program at NWACC, she recognized potential in me that I did not know was there. It was through her recommendation that I engaged in the Honors Program. Now that I have Completed a degree and fulfilled the Honors Program I am truly grateful. School has become much more than I could ever imagine and my experience at NWACC and the Honors Program has truly been an eye-opening inspiration that pushed my academic talents to a higher level.

In the Classroom

During my participation in Honors courses I encountered an atmosphere where my fellow classmates wanted to dig deeper into the topics that we discussed. This kind of mentality allows for critical analysis of the course topics and more importantly it allows for each and every one of us to break down barriers and in return build understanding through intelligent conversation. Topics of race, gender, sexuality, politics were all on then list and we created a space that allowed for us to tear down misconceptions. We built understanding because we care, we carried our experiences and our wits into the classroom where we were able to flourish.

To be in an Honors course into to bring to table unique and intelligent perspectives. It goes beyond showing up and getting an “A”, it pushes you to think outside the box and speak on topics that are very controversial in a manner that invokes intellectual dialect. Getting an “A” is one thing but being in Honors courses means that you bring more to the table, a capacity for innovative thinking that brings change to the world for the better.

My Advice

The biggest misconception with Honors courses is that it is more work. Simply put false, Honors courses will push you to think critically and grow as a person. It will allow you to exercise your intellectual capacities and push you to learn more about the world and potentially yourself. The unfiltered truth is that the Honors program will demand from you participation and the inclusion of your own personal experiences and intelligence. Start with one class, see how it makes you feel, if you are a highly driven individual with discipline and an open mind then the Honors course at NWACC is the perfect place for you.



Whatever you decide good luck with your future endeavors!