

CONTRIBUTION to DIVERSITY

I believe all students have a right to pursue higher education, if that is what they desire, regardless of origin, race, age and gender. It is my obligation to guarantee “quality” education through a dedicated commitment to the development and progress of each individual student.

CONTRIBUTIONS INSIDE THE CLASSROOM:

Students learn best when they feel respected and valued in the process. Regardless of the artistic level of each student, each individual requires specific attention and may require different learning styles (visual, auditory and kinesthetic) in order to progress. To reach a students’ full artistic potential it is essential to address a class through group instruction as well as individualized clarifications and guidance in order to identify and address specific needs.

I organize group projects during different courses. In these, students have a clear parameter of guidelines to follow, but also have the chance to bring their own artistic originality. These are usually large scale projects, where each student is given a canvas to work on. At the end, all of the canvases are assembled together to create a single piece.



GUERNICA IN COLOR, COLOR THEORY CLASS, FEATHER RIVER COLLEGE, 2015

In the case of *Guernica in Color*, students had to apply color to the famous black & white painting by Picasso. They also had to following the “visual mixing” application of contemporary American artist Chuck Close. This technique consists applying abstract shapes of color into a grid. The distance of the viewer from the actual painting is key to the perception of the artwork. It is only from several feet away that the viewer will perceive the actual content of the painting.



MODERN LAST SUPPER, COLOR THEORY CLASS, FEATHER RIVER COLLEGE, 2017

In the case of *Modern Last Supper*, we transformed the famous fresco of *The Last Supper* by Leonardo da Vinci, into a contemporary setting. Each student posed in a similar position to each Apostol and through the use of Photoshop we added the students inside the painted room with modern masterpieces hanging from the walls while overlooking to the *Starry Night* by Van Gogh. Each student was given an 8'x 2' canvas, and the composition was broken down so each student was able to paint him/herself.



DIGITAL COMPOSITION OF MODERN LAST SUPPER

CONTRIBUTIONS OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM:

I'm originally from Spain and the only international faculty at Feather River College. Since I took the job, I became the advisor for the International and Cultural student club. As a result, between the students and myself, decided to create the FRC Cultural Fair in order to celebrate diversity through cultural awareness. Since then, it has become one of the most successful annual event on campus.



At the FRC Cultural Fair anyone is invited to present his/her culture. Usually, we have students representing the countries they are from, or the countries they have visited. However, the fair is also open to cultures in general not restricted by nationalities. For example, we have native students representing the Maidu (North American Tribe) and Hawaiian cultures, as well as the LGBTQ+ groups.

In order to ensure interaction through the booths where students and staff represent their cultures through food, dancing, games, etc. we combine two questions from every culture involved into a single questionnaire. Visitors that complete the form by asking each of the representatives gets a free t-shirt of the event. The day of the fair is a celebration day, and even the name of the school logo is change temporarily to 'celebrate diversity'.

