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A 1973 Newsletter, Revitalized.

Student Spotlight

Andrea Guardiola is a women's and gender studies major from Austin, Texas. She has been heavily involved in mutual aid in recent months — something that proved useful amidst the Texas storm. Guardiola stated that it was “devastating to watch already struggling people have to bear the weight of their governments shortcomings,” adding that “what happened in Texas was evidence that communal care and mutual aid are true sources of power and in tough times are more reliable than whatever we have in place right now.”

As for the WGST major, Guardiola said that “it’s unsettling when I tell people I’m a gender studies major [and] I’m confronted by the fact that a lot of people don’t know about the really important and essential stuff I’m learning about...People think it’s genuinely just studying women and men’s relationships to each other and it’s so much more.” Guardiola listed sexuality, race, disability, colonization, reproduction, and power dynamics among the many things she’s learned about as a major.

As for non-WGST students, Guardiola wishes that they could all understand this simple statement: “Contradicting truths exist.” Women’s and gender studies is full of contradictions and teaches students that nothing is as black-and-white as they might think. Guardiola wishes that kind of lesson would expand to other majors as well.

Upcoming Events

Héctor Plascencia's visit to Dr. Borges' class

March 8th @ 2pm

Zoom Meeting ID: 867 2254 6677

Passcode: 932881

Tournées Film Festival

March 9th - April 14th

Dr. Deva Woody on Reckoning: BLM and the Necessity of Social Movements

March 12th @ 3pm

Dr. Harriet Washington on medicine apartheid and the coronavirus vaccine

March 15 @ 3:30pm

Women's History Month Event

March 26th @ 3pm - 5pm

Feminist News, Today

LMU will begin allowing students back onto campus and into the library following Spring Break.

LMU also plans to open for academics and campus life in the fall. Students have mixed feelings about opening up campus, and some are hoping to keep a virtual option for next semester. The extent to which LMU will allow students to take part in their own reopening plan is currently unclear.

Biden has been in office for over a month now.

During that time, he’s backtracked on a number of campaign promises, including his original stimulus proposal (including \$2000 stimulus checks and a \$15 minimum wage) and his plan to cancel certain student loan debt. He’s also allowed a migrant child detention facility to open and has already deported hundreds of immigrants.

Vaccines are underway. Over two million Californians are now fully vaccinated, and a few million more have received their first dose but not the second. LMU has also been approved to be a vaccination site in the coming weeks. But even with an increasing number of available vaccinations, people are facing structural barriers to receiving it, such as immigration status, access to transportation, and the ability to take time off of work.

Angelica Ross visited campus for First Amendment Week.

Ross, who is an actress and trans rights advocate, spoke about her own path to self-love, noting that she is a “genius” in what she does. Her confidence was contagious.

Texas’s storm has had a national impact.

One third of LMU’s students are from out of state, including a handful from Texas who have been directly impacted by the storm, the power outages, and the food shortages. The storm has impacted students in other states as well. For example, Colorado has been struggling to stock its produce shelves as a direct result.

Email hlaplant@lion.lmu.edu or jboaz@lion.lmu.edu for any suggestions, news, or on campus events related to gender studies, thanks!