

Meet Our Faculty Mentors



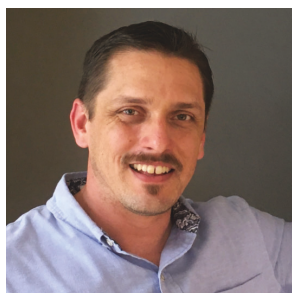
Professor Shawn Bates is an associate professor of psychology and neuroscience at Chico State. His interests include higher learning and research that could potentially benefit individuals suffering from addiction, behavioral neuroscience, adolescence, social environment, stress, and psychopharmacology. Currently, he is using in vivo electrophysiology to examine how stress affects cognition in males and females. His long-term research goals involve exploring long-lasting effects of psychoactive drugs in adolescence, including recreational substances like opioids and psychostimulants, but also those with more clinical relevance, such as ketamine and ADHD drugs like methylphenidate.



Professor Brian Brazeal is a professor of Anthropology and has worked at Chico State since 2007, a position which he took after finishing a PhD at the University of Chicago. Dr. Brazeal's research has focused on anthropology of religion, and visual anthropology, the latter of which has led to him running the Advanced Laboratory for Visual Anthropology.



Professor Molly Calhoun is an Assistant Professor of Social Work. Her research interests include the intersection of race, power, and privilege in housing policy, innovative housing models, the effects of neoliberalism on social work, and rapid rehousing for college students. She primarily teaches social policy, program development, evaluation, and foundational social work practice. Before her Ph.D., She spent over 15 years in community-based practice and was the Executive Director of the University of Denver's Bridge Project. She holds a BA in Psychology from Colorado College, an MSW from the University of Denver, and a Ph.D. in Social Work from the University of Minnesota.



Professor Gerald Manuel Cobián is an assistant professor of biological sciences at Chico State. He is a microbial ecologist interested in plant-fungal interactions. His research interests include plant fungal interactions, biogeography, phylogenetics, and community assembly. His past research has mainly focused on foliar fungal endophytes (fungi that live inside the leaves of plants) and the biogeography of their interactions in an attempt to describe how changing environments influence plant-fungal interactions and explain the assembly processes of fungal communities.



Professor Kristen Gorman is a professor of Biological Sciences with a focus on genetics, cellular biology, and comparative biology. She received her Bachelor of Science from the University of Washington, and her PhD from Simon Fraser University. Her research has focused on developmental correlates to scoliosis; the genetic architecture of scoliosis; cellular characteristics of scoliosis bone cells.



Professor Keiko Goto is originally from Japan. She was born in Gunma Prefecture, which is famous for hot springs and tough women. She holds a bachelor's degree in food science and technology from Kyoto University and a PhD in nutritional sciences from Cornell University. As a nutritionist, Goto has worked in various countries such as Guatemala, Indonesia, Jamaica, the Philippines, and Tanzania, and has developed a deep appreciation of diversity in people and food. Her current research interests include food and culture, international nutrition, and food behaviors.



Professor Shelley R. Hart is an associate professor in the Department of Child Development, a research associate in the Department of Mental Health, Bloomberg School of Public Health at the Johns Hopkins University; and a nationally certified school psychologist. Her scholarship has focused primarily on mood disorders and suicide in school-aged children. Her most recent work focuses on qualitative research regarding the mental health experiences of ethnic minority youth in Butte County. To date, Hart has authored over 50 publications and has over 75 presentations at local, regional, and national conferences.



Professor Kim Jaxon is a professor of English and coordinator of undergraduate research for Undergraduate Education. Her research focuses on literacy, digital literacy, and teacher education. She received her PhD in Language & Literacy, Society & Culture from UC Berkley's Graduate School of Education.



Professor April Kamp-Whittaker is a professor of anthropology. Dr. Kamp-Whittaker is an expert in public archaeology, focusing on WWII Japanese American Internment, the archaeology of inequality and childhood, prehistoric and historic urbanism, and digital anthropology. Her museum studies expertise includes appropriate museology, museum interpretation, digital storytelling, and community collaboration. She leads the Amache Field School in Archaeology and Heritage Management for the University of Denver (DU) Amache Project, integrating public archaeology with museum studies and practical museum training. She received her PhD from Arizona State University



Professor Linda Kline has worked at Chico State since 1990. She received her PhD in environmental psychology from Colorado State University in 1984. Kline actively involves students in research knowing that each project is better with the input and efforts of persons with varied backgrounds and perspectives. Her effort to understand challenges of first generation college students and to take action to remove equity gaps in graduation rates created a perfect connection with her student mentees. Kline is also active in investigating components of human- animal interaction.



Professor Stephen Lewis is a professor of Latin American History and Latin American studies. Hired at Chico State in 1998, he has published on the Mexican Revolution, state and nation building in the state of Chiapas, and the history of Mexican indigenismo.



Professor David McCoy earned his bachelors degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders from the University of Minnesota, his master's degree in Speech Sciences and Audiology at Purdue University, and his PhD in Communication Sciences and Disorders from Florida State University. His current research interests include early intervention, training and education of parents with young children, language and social emotional development, and stuttering.



Professor Eileen M. Morris holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with an option in legal studies and with a minor in Religious Studies, as well as a Master of Arts in Political Science. Since the program's pilot year, she has been serving as a team teacher for the multidisciplinary First-Year Experience U-Course program. She also teaches political science and public administration seminars. She is an alumnus of CSU Chico.



Professor Hadil Mustafa is a professor of Embedded Systems and Computer Architecture. After earning her BA in Chemical Engineering at the University of Jordan, she completed an MA in Electrical and Computer Engineering at California State University, Los Angeles, and a PhD in the same subject at University of California, Irvine.



Professor Sarah Smith is an Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice. She has a Ph.D. in Criminology, Law and Society from the University of California, Irvine. She earned a BA in Sociology from the College of William and Mary and a MA in Sociology from George Washington University. Her research focuses on gender, race, and crime. Her work explores alternative approaches to justice, including restorative justice.



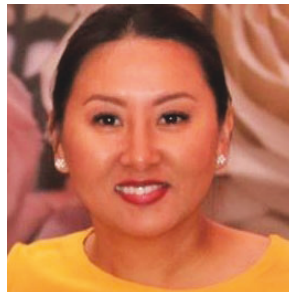
Professor Susan Roll is the associate dean of Graduate Studies and a professor in the School of Social Work. She received her MSW from Arizona State University and her PhD in Social Work from University of Denver. Roll's teaching and research interests focus on poverty and income inequality. She studies how social welfare policies either support or create barriers for families to be financially stable. She also works on how we teach and learn about poverty through innovative pedagogy and experiential learning.



Professor Richard Tillquist is an assistant professor of Computer Science. His work has focused on the behavior of metric dimension on Hamming graphs and on graphs with community structure, on characteristics of truncated metric dimension, and on applications of metric dimension as a tool for generating embeddings of symbolic data for use in downstream machine learning models..



Professor Charles Turner has been a faculty member in the Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice since 2000. Professor Turner earned his PhD in Political Science from Claremont Graduate University. His research and teaching interests include American political institutions (namely the Presidency, Congress, and the Courts) as well as state & local government.



Professor Judy Vang was raised in Oroville and received her bachelor's and master's degrees from Chico State's School of Social Work, and her doctoral degree from Portland State University Graduate School of Social Work. Vang's research interests include mental health, juvenile delinquency, refugee/immigrants, HIV/AIDS, and the educational experiences of students of color. Her past research has included suicide among Hmong Youth, Hmong parents' understanding of the juvenile justice system, HIV, social work education.



Professor Alisa Wade is an assistant professor of history at Chico State and a historian of early America, with a focus on the intersections of the history of gender and capitalism in the eighteenth century. Her research focuses on the intersections of gender history and capitalism in the eighteenth century. Previous projects have analyzed the economic experiences of widows, patterns of women's investing, and the gendered implications of class consolidation in the revolutionary era and early republic.



Professor Lori M. Weber has been a faculty member in the Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice since 1999. Dr. Weber earned her bachelors and master's degrees in Political Science and Economics from Minnesota State University, Mankato and her doctorate in Political Science from University of Colorado at Boulder. Her research and teaching interests include political methodology, civic engagement, food politics, and public opinion and deliberative democratic theory.