



NCAD 140-34132, Spring 2024
Wednesdays, 10:30-11:45, January 31 – May 22, 2024, *via Zoom*
Student/Office Hours 10 – 10:30 AM Wednesdays

NCAD 140 Forum on Local and Global Topics (FLGT) is a **free**, non-credit course from the Older Adult Program (OAP) in the Continuing Education Division. Our classes are open to anyone 55+ years of age residing in California. The FLGT course covers diverse topics, taught by several instructors, in various settings. You may enroll in multiple sections and for as many semesters as you like. We focus on enrichment and making connections among classmates. *There is no homework. No pop quizzes. No exams and no grades.* **The specific focus of Section 34132 is Potpourri (A sampler of topics).**

I have been teaching in the Older Adults Program since 2009. Fresh out of college with a Master of Arts degree in Fine Arts and Humanities, I taught Art History and Art Appreciation on campus at West Valley College and the temporary locations of Mission College. Then I spent 30+ years creating and delivering training in various electronics technologies as well as editing technical documentation and organizing conferences and trade shows. That enabled me to travel throughout the Americas and Europe, always arranging to spend time exploring local sights and sites and museums, etc. The Older Adults Program allows me to continue learning many things in a diverse range of subjects and sharing those interests with other people in a relaxed environment focused on enrichment.

This section of NCAD140 FLGT meets via ZOOM The goal is to stimulate your curiosity and imagination by presenting a series of different topics. Each class includes context information, watching documentaries, and discussion. It's a wonderful way to gain new insights into modern life.

My students are primarily "independent adults" living in their own homes or in retirement communities in Santa Clara County. Most are college educated, many with advanced degrees and specialized knowledge. All my students bring their lively curiosity and wisdom to share with their classmates. One of the many pleasures of participating in the Older Adult Program is that we all come from diverse backgrounds, with a wide variety of life experiences and expertise. Sharing enriches all of us. Your experiences and opinions are valuable and contribute significantly to the rewards of enrollment. You may expect—and deserve—to be treated respectfully with regard for equity and inclusion. For students with hearing impairment, I include closed captions and live transcript whenever possible.

To enroll in classes in the Older Adult Program, you must be 55+ years old and be a California resident.



To enroll in Section 34132, you must be able to attend class via ZOOM with a stable Internet connection.
We have Open Enrollment



Although we meet online, it is important to acknowledge that West Valley College sits on the land of the Ohlone and the Muwekma people. For thousands of years, these Indigenous peoples occupied this land and used this beautiful location as their home. By offering this Land Acknowledgment, we remember that the Ohlone and Muwekma people continue to reside in this region.

- Instructor: Janet (Jan) Masters
- My faculty page: [Janet Masters Faculty link](#)
- Email Janet.masters@wvm.edu or jemasters@earthlink.net
- Cell phone: (650) 861-1769
- Office/Student Hours: Thursdays 10-10:30 AM; Monday, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays: 12:30-1 PM; Tuesdays 2:30-3 PM; All office hours use the [same ZOOM LINK](#)



- We won't be perfect. We will view mistakes as opportunities to gain experience.
- We will all strive to contribute regularly to ensure all members of our class have many opportunities to see/listen, reflect, and respond to all ideas.
- Disagreements are natural; but we will treat one another with dignity and respect. If you sense a negative emotion surfacing within yourself, step away for a while; reflect on what is happening; then return and respond by focusing on the issue, not the person.

- Access to a stable Internet connection (preferably a “wired” connection with an Ethernet cable.)

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Identify and discuss topics in worldwide current events, government, economics, culture, geography, and history.