



For Immediate Release
October 8, 2024

Clark College, Fort Vancouver Library partner for Penguin Talks series *Local thought leaders to address critical topics at lunchtime talks*

VANCOUVER, Wash.— Clark College and Fort Vancouver Regional Libraries are partnering to present Penguin Talks, a lunchtime speaker series on three consecutive Thursdays in October. The talks feature local experts who will share their knowledge and insights on critical topics impacting our community. Bring your lunch, and come ready to learn, discuss and engage with local thought leaders. These events are open to the public and provided at no cost.

All Penguin Talks will take place in the Columbia Room at Vancouver Community Library, 901 C Street, Vancouver. For information, visit:

<https://www.campusce.net/clark/course/course.aspx?catId=335> or

<https://fvrl.librarymarket.com/index.php/clark-college-penguin-talks> or call the library at (360) 906-5000.

Special accommodations may be requested no later than 15 days prior to the event using FVRL's [Disability Accommodation Request Form](#).

October 17, 12-1 p.m. The Power of Education with Dr. Terry Brown

Throughout his many years of experience in higher education, Dr. Terry Brown has witnessed the transformational power of education in the lives of students, their families, and the communities that higher educational institutions serve.



Dr. William “Terry” Brown joined Clark College in July 2024 as Vice President of Instruction. Prior to coming to Clark, he was Associate Vice President for Strategic Operations and Partnership Development at Connecticut State Community College, New Britain, Connecticut. Dr. Brown holds a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology from the University of Florida, a Master of Arts degree in clinical psychology and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in clinical psychology, both from the University of Delaware.

Dr. Brown brings with him more than 30 years of experience in both teaching and leading in colleges in Connecticut, Delaware and Tennessee. At Clark College, Dr. Brown oversees the college’s 650+ faculty members and the college’s instruction unit, including more than 100 academic and workforce programs including five bachelor of applied science degrees.

October 24, 12-1 p.m. [Red, White, and Brown: Race in the United States](#) with Melissa Williams



Explore the formation of race in the United States and its lasting consequences. Learn how to define systemic racism and beginning steps to mitigate its impacts.

Melissa Williams is Policy Associate for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion at the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges. She has almost 20 years of experience working in administrative leadership positions in higher education, including 13 years at Clark College. She serves on the Alumni Board of Clark College Foundation.

Oct. 31, 12-1 p.m. [Native American, Indigenous or Indian?](#) with Jhon Kuppens

Jhon Kuppens, enrolled member of the San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians Gabrielino/Tongva, will speak about American Indian tribal histories, sovereignty, federal trust responsibility, and rights. Kuppens will explore the impact of tribal politics, culture, law, jurisdiction, and values, while examining the legacy of historical trauma.

Kuppens holds a Master of Legal Studies degree in Indigenous Peoples Law from University of Oklahoma College of Law and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Science from Washington State University.



[About Clark College](#)

Founded in 1933, Clark College provides residents of Southwest Washington with affordable, high-quality academic and technical education. It is a public community college offering [more than 100 degree and certificate programs](#), including bachelor's and associate degrees; professional certificates; high school diplomas and GED preparation; and non-credit community and continuing education. Clark serves a wide range of students including high school students, displaced workers, veterans, parents, non-native English speakers, and mature learners. Approximately 45% of its students are in the first generation of their families to attend college. For more information: www.Clark.edu

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For additional information (media inquiries & photo requests):

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