Film series continues to bring cultural understanding to Tech

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The Institute for Hispanic and International Communication and the Department for Electronic Media at Texas Tech will host a film screening and discussion from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday in Mass Communications building Room 101.

The institute and department will show "Las Vidas Posibles," which translates to "Possible Lives" in English - a film directed by Sandra Gugliotta.

The film tells the story of a lady on a desperate mission to find her husband who mysteriously disappears during a business trip to Patagonia, Argentina, according to the event's news release. She identifies a man who looks identical to her husband, but he has a different name and a wife.

"I have viewed the film myself, and I think the film is very suspenseful, as well as a great learning experience for students," said Robert Peaslee, a mass communications professor who organized the film screening and panel discussion.

Immediately after the film, four panelists will discuss and answer questions moderated by Kent Wilkinson, director of the Institute for Hispanic and International Communication.

"The film would be a great way for students to practice their foreign language skills," said Gary Elbow, associate vice provost for Academic Affairs at Tech.

The film includes Spanish dialogue with English subtitles, said Elbow, who will be a panelist at the discussion.

"Las Vidas Posibles" is part of the Global Lens Film Series, a program intended to promote the cross-cultural understanding through the medium of cinema and distribution through schools and cultural institutions in the
United States, Peaslee said.

It is the second of three films hosted by the Institute for Hispanic and International Communication and the Department for Electronic Media, he said. The first film, focusing on Macedonia, was shown in February and the third will be shown April 21, and will focus on Iran.

"Students may find it easier to understand social issues through the film versus the classroom, living in a strong media culture," said Julian Perez, a classical and modern languages and literature professor from Argentina.

Watching the film will give students a view on the culture of Argentina and an opportunity to discuss their opinions, said Perez, who also will be a panelist.

Students should be aware the film is intended to express true content in a cross-cultural society, he said, including some nudity and sexuality.

"We hope students will come and support the department," Peaslee said, "as well as enjoy a vibrant film full of suspense and educational value."

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