

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

International Education



“India: Challenges and Opportunities” (9:30-11:00) *presenter: M.Kumar*

Vinod Kumar's latest film is a documentary about the challenges and opportunities facing the country in the coming decades, and the socioeconomic changes happening due to the rapid economic growth in the last decade.

“Anita” (11:10-1:10) *presenter: Prof. Hannah Padilla-Barajas*

One tragic morning in 1994, everything changes when Anita, an adolescent girl with Down Syndrome, is left alone, confused and helpless after the nearby Argentine Israelite Association is bombed. As Anita wanders through the city, she learns not only to care for herself, but touches the lives of those around her.

“Maria Full of Grace” (1:45-3:45) *presenter: Prof. H. Padilla-Barajas*

In a small village in Colombia, the pregnant seventeen-year-old Maria supports her family with her salary working in floriculture. She is fired and, with a total lack of perspective of finding a new job, she decides to accept the offer to work as a drug mule, flying to USA with sixty-two pellets of cocaine in her stomach. Once in New York, things do not happen as planned.

“Departures” (4:00-6:00) *presenter: Prof. Miyoko Hamanaka*

This Japanese drama by Yōjirō Takita won the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language film in 2009. Daigo Kobayashi is a devoted cellist in an orchestra that has just been dissolved. Upon moving back to his old hometown, he lands a new job as a "Nokanshi" or "encoffineer." The film follows his profound and sometimes comical journey with death as he uncovers the wonder, joy and meaning of life.