

From the Chair's Desk

Dr. Alyssa Zucker
Acting Chair

It has been my pleasure to temporarily step out of my role as Associate Chair of the Department into Acting Chair while Dr. Bonnie Moradi takes a well-deserved sabbatical this semester. Although I've long observed Bonnie hard at work, this semester has taught me the many, and varied, areas in which she has developed expertise over the past decade. I am even more grateful than usual for her sustained leadership of the Department as I attempt to fill her shoes.

The Fall semester has brought other personnel changes as well. Dr. Joanna Neville has transitioned from being an adjunct faculty member to a full-time position as Assistant Instructional Professor; Dr. Trysh Travis has returned from a three-year term as

Associate Dean of the College; and Amanda Bouquet has taken over as our administrator. You can read more about Joanna and Amanda in the pages ahead.

Another exciting development this Fall is that we launched three new undergraduate certificates in our Department: Community Engagement; Data, Science, and Technology in Sociocultural Contexts; and Violence Against Women. These 9-credit certificates will allow students who do not have the time to complete a minor or major with us the opportunity for focused study in these areas, which can help prepare them for a variety of careers.

We have hosted many wonderful events this semester. With our Mellon grant, we brought Dr. Kristie Soares (UF Women's Studies BA '06) for the presentation: Building a Community Engaged Career through Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies. Dr. Soares, a professor of Women's and Gender

Studies at the University of Colorado, Boulder, spoke to a packed house in the Ustler Atrium. Students were rapt as Dr. Soares generously shared their story and provided advice on developing one's career as a Women's Studies major. We also brought Dr. Suha Kudsieh from the National Endowment for the Humanities to speak to faculty and students across the University about external funding opportunities related to gender. Finally, we were delighted to co-sponsor several events with colleagues in African American Studies and Imagining Climate Change.

I am pleased that we are a vibrant hub for research, teaching, and collaboration. Please stop by for a visit if you are local. For those both near and far, feel free to follow us on LinkedIn, Instagram, and Facebook to continue to build networks and learn about our amazing faculty, students, alums, and events. All our social media handles are available here: <https://linktr.ee/wst.ufl>

Women's Studies Majors and Minors

Internship



Emma Sanchez ('24) is a Political Science major and a Women's Studies minor.

This past summer, I was one of eight fellows in the Frank Karel Public Interest Communications Fellowship in Washington, D.C., where I interned for Mary's Center in the Marketing and Communications department. Mary's Center was started by a Colombian immigrant, Maria Gomez, as a Maternal and Child Care clinic for Latina women fleeing dangerous situations in the 1980s.

Since then, Mary's Center has expanded to include various services in its Social Change Model, including access to bilingual education for better economic opportunities, and medical and social services, all under one roof. This model made me reflect on what I have learned from my Women's Studies courses about health inequities and how to eliminate barriers to care. Through this fellowship, I learned the importance of storytelling and community building as vital components in increasing health equity.

My experience at Mary's Center showed me the power of storytelling in inspiring action. People's stories illustrate to the public why advocating for others is in their interest. As a Women's Studies student, I learned that in supporting those most in need, we help everyone. During my time at Mary's Center, I observed this lesson implemented through the various resources provided to support their participants and, in turn, their community.

Mary's Center aims to inform and educate clients, potential donors, and supporters about the issues affecting this community and show how they can be part of the solution. We empower people to be the catalyst for change and part of the solution. Most of my work for the internship consisted of translating and creating social media content. We found that there is more engagement when followers see themselves authentically represented, which helps people feel included and educates them on available services.

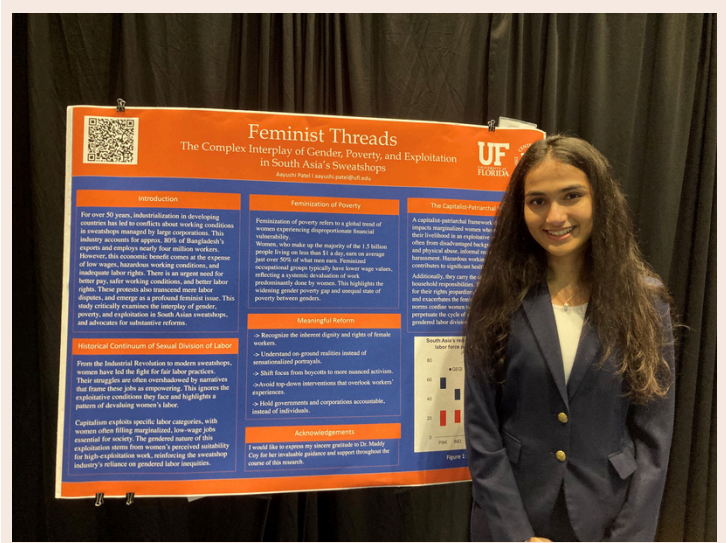
One of the most impactful lessons I took away was from a conversation with Allyn Brooks-LaSure from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. He spoke about the importance of bringing your community into every room you enter. This ensures that your community's needs are met and enriches the conversation with perspectives others might not have encountered before. It is about making sure everyone's voice is heard, including yours.

Reflecting on this experience, I can say that people and their stories attracted me to public interest communications. When people come together to forge connections, they help individuals find community with others and advance efforts to make a difference.

Engage in Experiential Learning

Mentored research

Last spring, I enrolled in Capstone Seminar, where I dedicated myself to researching a full-length independent project. The seminar provided a structured environment where I could develop my research skills and synthesize knowledge I have gained throughout my Women’s Studies major. I presented a research poster on this project, *Feminist Threads: The Complex Interplay of Gender, Poverty and Exploitation in South Asia’s Sweatshops*, at the Fall 2024 Undergrad Research Symposium. I engaged in stimulating discussions with attendees from all disciplines who showed genuine interest in my work and gained experience in distilling complex information into an engaging and accessible format. Additionally, it reinforced the importance of effectively articulating research to a broader audience and provided valuable professional experience.



Ayushi Patel (’25) is a triple major in Women’s Studies (Theories and Politics of Sexuality), Psychology, and Political Science.

CONGRATULATIONS

TO THE WOMEN’S STUDIES STUDENTS SELECTED FOR THE CLAS AND UNIVERSITY SCHOLARS PROGRAMS. THEY ARE CONDUCTING RESEARCH WITH DEPARTMENT FACULTY DURING THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR.

- KARLA CUBERO** working with Dr. Alyssa Zucker
- PARIS DANIELS** working with Dr. OG Murrell
- CAMILA DJURINSKY ZAPOLSKI** working with Dr. Hina Shaikh
- GARRETT JOHNSON** working with Dr. Joanna Neville
- REN KATZ** working with Dr. K.L. Broad
- AAYUSHI PATEL** working with Dr. Maddy Coy

CONGRATULATIONS

to our faculty who were awarded funding from the Department’s Mellon Foundation grant to work with Women’s Studies majors on research!

- Dr. Olivia Adams**
Chronic Vulvovaginal Pain Provider-Focused Fact Sheet Development of a Support Group for Chronic Vulvovaginal and Pelvic Pain Conditions
- Dr. Kendal Broad**
Young adult trans and queer activist response to Florida anti-LGBTQ+ legislation
- Dr. Maddy Coy**
Working with local specialist sexual and domestic violence organizations to capture their ‘practice-based evidence’
- Dr. Jillian Hernandez**
Full Set Project: Studying the Culture of Nails more info @fullsetproject on Instagram
- Dr. Hina Shaikh**
Gender, Race, and Justice in Florida’s K-9 units

Welcome New Faculty and Staff



The Department is thrilled to welcome Dr. Joanna Neville as a full time faculty member. After serving as an adjunct in our department for several years, Dr. Neville now holds the position of Assistant Instructional Professor and has also taken on the roles of Undergraduate Coordinator and Experiential Learning Coordinator. Dr. Neville is originally from Miami. She is a triple Gator and holds a B.A. in English, an M.A. in Women's Studies, and a Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Florida. Dr. Neville's research focuses on gender and sport as well as gender, family, and reproduction. She brings many years of experience teaching at both Santa Fe College and the University of Florida.

Dr. Neville appreciates that Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies is inherently interdisciplinary. Given her own diverse training background,

Dr. Neville draws from different fields of study to investigate and unravel productions of knowledge. She uses learning activities in class to demonstrate conceptual material in a hands-on manner and prioritizes the incorporation of new modalities and techniques into her instruction and assignment practices. Further, her holistic approach to teaching recognizes each student as a person with a busy life, and she is committed to students' mental health and providing support when she is able.

Dr. Neville regularly teaches WST 2322: Introduction to Health Disparities online, reaching a wide variety of learners, including residential UF students, UF Online students, and high school students who are dually enrolled. She recently undertook a full update of the online, asynchronous class WST 3371: Women, Leadership and Diversity in the Global Environment; she worked with the Center for Online Instruction and Production on this course revamp and looks forward to offering it in Spring 2025. Dr. Neville's face-to-face classes include WST 2612: Social Science Perspectives on Gender and Sexuality; WST 3015: Interdisciplinary Perspectives in Women's Studies, and WST 4704: Discrimination and Health.

As she takes on the role of Undergraduate Coordinator, Dr. Neville is happy to support students by answering any questions they might have about Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies. In her spare time, Dr. Neville enjoys playing ultimate frisbee and thinking and talking about non-traditional healing modalities like acupuncture.

Amanda Bouquet joined our Department in June 2024 in the role of Administrative Specialist II, otherwise known as "all things office." Amanda earned her B.A. from the University of Florida, majoring in International Studies with a focus on Latin America and the Caribbean. She also completed a minor in Spanish and a certificate in Holocaust Studies. Prior to joining us, Amanda worked for the Bud Shorstein Center for Jewish Studies at UF. She brings experience with budget management, web design and editing, and social media creation. When she's not in the office, Amanda enjoys watching movies and you can find her around town using her Regal Unlimited movie pass. Impressively, she is fluent in three languages: English, Spanish, and Portuguese. So, if you haven't met Amanda yet, please stop by the office to say hello, hola, or olá.



With an Attitude of Gratitude

Thanks to everyone whose generosity helps us to continue to thrive, including the following donors:

- ♥ Gregory R. Allen
- ♥ American Association of University Women, Gainesville Chapter
- ♥ Arts Association of Alachua County
- ♥ Association for Academic Women
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- ♥ Kourtney J. Temple & Jason D. Temple
- ♥ Gemma Torcivia
- ♥ Donna J. Tuckey
- ♥ Cheryl J. Ulmer & John M. Ulmer
- ♥ Kathryn Chicone Ustler
- ♥ Dr. Julia R. Varnes
- ♥ Jennifer S. Vasani
- ♥ Dr. Marta L. Wayne & Dr. Charles F. Baer
- ♥ Brittany L. Weeks
- ♥ Deborah Whippen
- ♥ Robert Wilder
- ♥ John H. Williams, Jr.
- ♥ Catherine F. Wright & James M. Wright
- ♥ Sarah Ashley Wutzler
- ♥ Chuck Woods
- ♥ Vada Allen Yeomans
- ♥ Dr. Alyssa Zucker

Gifts are used to fund conferences, educational travel for graduate students, scholarship funds, speaker honoraria, and exhibit support.

Alum Spotlight: Jacky Akhter



Jacky Akhter ('08) graduated UF with a major in Women's Studies and minors in Zoology and International Humanitarian Assistance.

What is a voice? How do we utilize that voice to better the society we live in? These are questions I have struggled with since an early age and am still defining to this day. My Bachelor's in Women's Studies from UF was instrumental in helping me discover my voice and learn how to use it in both personal and professional settings.

I come from a large family in a small village in Chittagong, Bangladesh, where the expectations for a "good Bengali woman" are to obey your parents, live by the dictates of your religion and community, marry well, and have children. Family is central to our identity, and out of respect for our family, we learn to live within the expected roles of a "good woman." My parents are illiterate and poor, and when we moved to America as first-generation immigrants, the focus in our house was on survival: how to extend our minimum-wage paychecks to meet our immediate needs for food and shelter. There was no space to think beyond survival: topics such

as gender roles and stereotypes, class privileges, and power dynamics were lived roles we experienced but were not topics we discussed. Instead, I encountered these topics in high school while reading books such as *The Handmaid's Tale* and *Beloved*. Ideas about gender roles and power dynamics in these books resonated with me and made me question my understanding of the world and my place in it.

I joined the Women's Studies program not only as an internal revolt to the expected role of a good woman but also to help me gain a voice to help others. When I entered the US school system, I spoke no English: I spent my days in silence, becoming a quiet, reserved person who often did not ask questions and lingered in the background. Growing up in a world where I saw a woman's role as very restrictive, I wanted to cultivate a strong voice that could potentially help others, especially other women in my community. Classes such as Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Women, Transnational Feminism, Gender and Development, and Global Violence Against Women helped me understand concepts such as gender roles and stereotypes, sexuality, inequity, bias, class privilege, and power dynamics. They helped me recognize that imbalances of power affect not only women but all minority groups, not only in America but also globally. These courses helped me cultivate a language I could use to develop the agency to help change the world around me.

My Women's Studies major helped steer me directly toward a career in medicine. Although I always had a strong desire to help others, as a child, I never wanted to be a physician. In Bengali culture, physicians are placed on pedestals and seen as smart and influential authority figures; I have to admit I never thought I could be one myself! How can a quiet, compliant woman be a strong, powerful voice, especially in a position of authority? However, through my Women's Studies courses, I saw myself as a person with the agency who could help others by going beyond my expected role. Not only that, but my internship in Bangladesh during my senior year led to my thesis paper exploring the role of gender and poverty in healthcare, especially

within the framework of structural violence experienced by minority populations. The concepts of structural violence (the idea that the very structure/infrastructure of society creates power dynamics to benefit one group of people over another) and the role of poverty in health fundamentally changed the way I view our healthcare system. For example, everything within the US healthcare system is geared towards people who can read and write. Something as simple as filling out paperwork before a doctor's visit is a struggle for illiterate patients like my parents. This creates an invisible barrier for patients; they will forgo healthcare or be unable to give accurate answers because they cannot overcome the expectation of literacy in our healthcare system.

Poverty also has devastating impacts on people's ability to access healthcare. For example, I recently had a liver transplant patient who was non-compliant with her immunosuppressive medications, which led to her developing acute rejection of her transplanted liver. She became noncompliant because she had lost her insurance and could no longer afford her medications. Even in healthcare, especially in healthcare, the poor suffer, and we must use our agentic voice as physicians to help them access care. This patient did not know to whom to turn to regain her health insurance. However, the transplant team worked with her to find services that would help her cover her medications, at least until she could afford new health insurance. Although this may seem far removed from the topics of Women's Studies, at the root of the problem is poverty and inequality of access to health care. It is important to understand the underlying reason my patient developed acute rejection to help remedy the problem.



Finally, just recently, I was struck again by the prominent role gender plays in medicine. During a panel discussion on the dos and don'ts of job interviews at a nationally renowned medical center, the Chair of the Pathology department called on all of the female attendees to pay attention to how they respond to job postings. She stated that in her many years of hiring staff Pathologists, she noticed that female physicians often do not apply for jobs in which they do not meet all the qualifications on the job postings, unlike their male counterparts, thereby limiting their job options even before the application process starts. A gender gap also exists in male and female physician compensation, with female physicians being paid less than their male colleagues with similar levels of education and experience. Female physicians are also 2.6 times more likely to participate in additional, unpaid at-home work than men. This leads to higher rates of burnout in female physicians, causing them to work part-time or even leave medicine altogether.

I would not be the person or the physician I am today if I hadn't done my Women's Studies major at UF. After I finished my BA, I left home to travel extensively to complete a Master's of Science in Biomedical Sciences, Doctor of Medicine (MD), a residency in Pathology, a fellowship in Cytopathology, and am now completing a fellowship in Gastrointestinal/Liver Pathology. All of my accomplishments are framed within the concepts I learned during my time at UF, because concepts such as gender roles and gender stereotypes, structural violence, and economic inequalities permeate all aspects of our lives. I am forever thankful that I was introduced to these concepts at the beginning of my career, early in my own personal growth. I hope to continue to use the concepts I learned to not only use my voice to create agency for myself but also to understand and reframe our healthcare system using those concepts to be a voice of agency for my patients.

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**DEPARTMENT OF GENDER, SEXUALITY
AND WOMEN'S STUDIES**

Liberal Arts *and* Sciences



The Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Call for Proposals for Awards and Grants

We invite students and faculty to submit proposals for the following awards and grants:



AAUW Gainesville Student Grant:

The AAUW Gainesville Branch Student Grant provides up to \$1000 to support women's studies students to conduct research, education, or initiatives that align with AAUW's mission:

<https://www.aauw.org/> and

<https://gainesville-fl.aauw.net>



CHARLES T. WOODS, JR.

Charles T. Woods

Faculty Grant:

The Charles T. Woods Faculty Grant supports faculty research or service intervention projects that benefit LGBTQ+ communities.

Grants of up to \$6,000 will be awarded that can be used over a period of one academic year in the form of salary (e.g., summer, course release) or reimbursement

for expenses required for the project. All projects should clearly connect research and praxis, with an applied component that benefits LGBTQ+ communities.

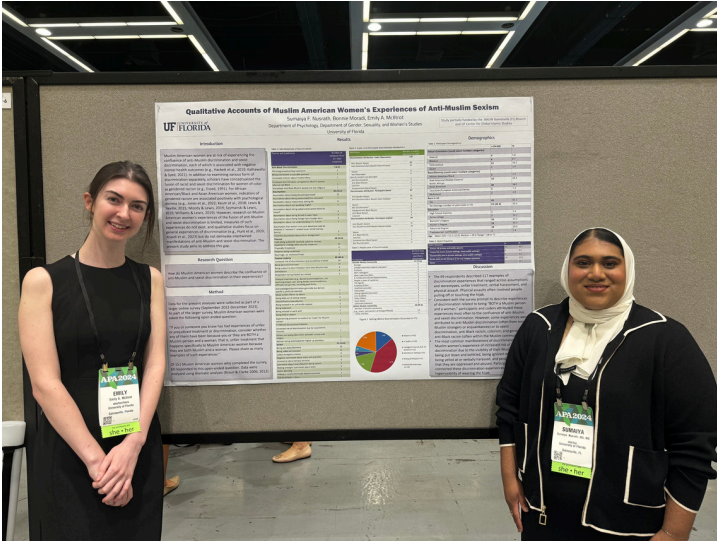
Charles T. Woods Student Grant:

The Charles T. Woods Student Grant supports student research or service/community projects that benefit LGBTQ+ communities. Grants of up to \$4,000 will be awarded that can be used over a period of one academic year in the form of salary (e.g., summer, graduate assistantship) or reimbursement for expenses required for the project. All projects should clearly connect research and praxis, with an applied component that benefits LGBTQ+ communities.

All proposals are due March 14, 2025, and should be submitted via the application portal on the Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies website. Please visit <https://wst.ufl.edu/funding/> for more information.



Picture-Perfect: Highlights from the Semester



Graduate certificate students Sumaiya Nusrath (right) and Emily McIltrout present their work, co-authored with Department Chair Bonnie Moradi, at the annual convention of the American Psychological Association in Seattle, WA. This project was supported by an Association for American University Women grant through our Department and by the Center for Global Islamic Studies.



Dr. Kristie Soares presents on community engaged careers for Women's Studies majors.



First year MA Candidates after their Proseminar Project Presentations. From left to right: Rae Landingin, Bella Adams, Kay Yehezkely, Marie Vazquez, Alexander Ozoani, and Sharlyen Lopez.



Dr. Jillian Hernandez (left) at UTEM (Universidad Tecnológica Metropolitana) in Santiago, Chile during her Fulbright Specialist Project on The Social Image of Gender

Follow Us!



Alum Spotlight: Lauren Smith



Lauren Smith ('13) earned an MA in Women's Studies at UF.

My Women's Studies degree remains one of the best decisions I've ever made!

I joined the Women's Studies MA program in Fall 2011 after teaching in a rural classroom for 2 years following undergrad. My thesis examined the literature about feminist ethics of care and questioned if/how they are practiced by nonprofits serving at-risk youth. Professor Trysh Travis was my advisor, taught me how to write like a grownup, and remains a good friend.

After graduation, I moved to DC to start my "real" career. I will not lie: the first couple years were doozies. The first job I got was in sales for an experiential learning nonprofit; it was awful. I thought I hated sales, but turns out what I didn't like was the program itself. I quit after a year and

got a random communications job via a temp agency so I could pay rent.

It was obvious I was not going to find the "perfect job" for my Women's Studies interest anytime soon, so I found a well-known DC girls' empowerment nonprofit (Girls Inc.) that could not afford me and offered to work for free for them as much as I could. They were beyond grateful, and that opportunity changed everything for me. About a month into volunteering, they asked me to run a pilot project for them; this got the attention of the communications firm sponsoring the project. I flexed my networking muscles hard, and eventually the director of the firm emailed me about a tech startup where he was on the board. That is how I ended up on the founding team of a venture capital-backed tech startup (the last place on earth I imagined myself!).

I stayed there for 7 years learning what it means to build a tech company and scale it from the ground up; I learned how to sell technology to people who dislike most technology, but desperately need it. That sales experience got me another (better) sales job eventually, and that job got me where I am now: Sales Director at Clean Catalog, a higher education software company bringing in over \$2M annually, with a fantastic culture and work-life balance.

My best advice is:

1. Befriend and keep in touch with professors, classmates, and coworkers. Turn network contacts into substantive relationships. Opportunities come faster through personal networks than any others.
2. Be loud and proud about your Women's Studies degree. It's real evidence you "walk the walk" when it comes to the monumental issues and injustices facing our world. People recognize and respect that, especially as the workplace becomes more diverse than ever before.
3. You don't need an MBA or any other degree to get started on a great career in the private sector! Seek opportunity wherever you can and be willing to jump in and learn.

Book Nook:

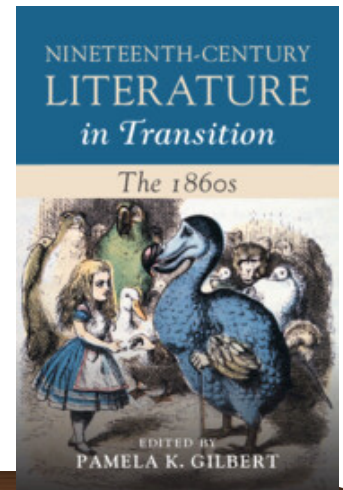
Recently Published Books



Michael Bernhard, Amie Kreppel and Carlos de la Torre, eds. *Still the Age of Populism? Re-examining Theories and Concepts*, Routledge, 2024



Rachel Carrico, *Dancing the Politics of Pleasure at the New Orleans Second Line*, University of Illinois Press, 2024



Pamela Gilbert (Editor), *Nineteenth-Century Literature in Transition: The 1860s*, Cambridge University Press, 2024

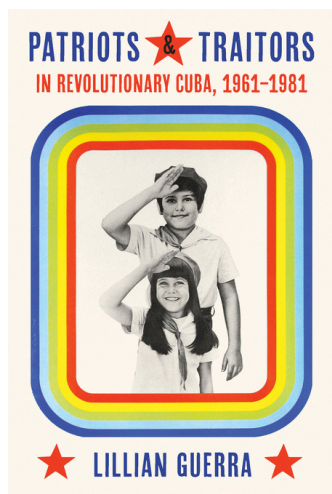


Kathleen Colverson, Arati Joshi, Fallon Y Riaño Jiménez, and Steven Franzel, *Addressing Gender Inequities in Accessing Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services*, Burleigh Dodds Science Publishing, 2024

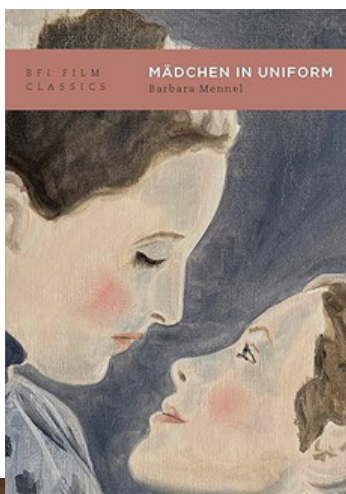


Paola Uparela, *Invaginaciones Coloniales: Mirada, genitalidad y (de)generación en la Modernidad temprana [Colonial Invaginations: Gaze, Genitality and (De)generation in the Early Modernity]*, Iberoamericana Vervuert, 2024
Winner of the Klaus D. Vervuert Hispanic Essay Award for the best book by Iberoamericana Vervuert and the Cervantes Institute

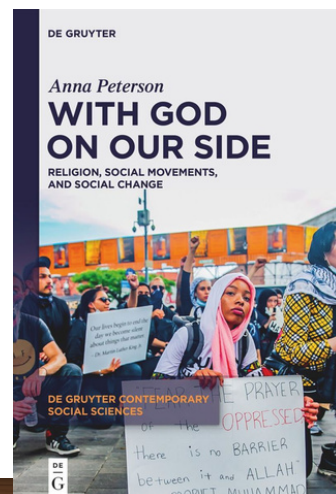
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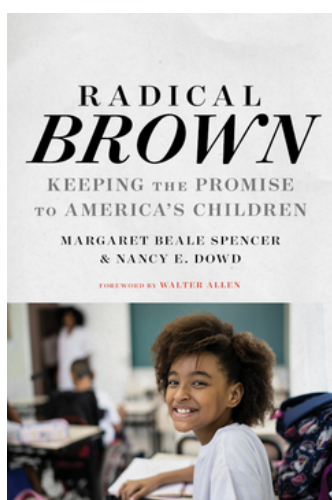
Lillian Guerra, *Patriots and Traitors in Revolutionary Cuba, 1961-1981*, University of Pittsburgh Press, 2023



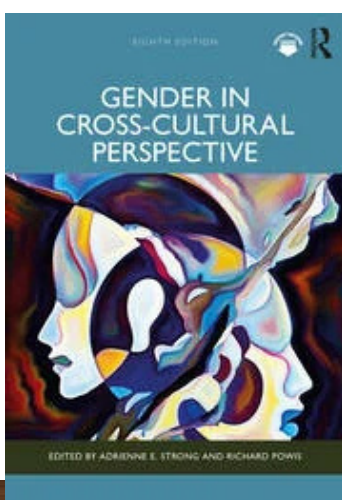
Barbara Menzel, *Mädchen in Uniform*, Bloomsbury, 2024.



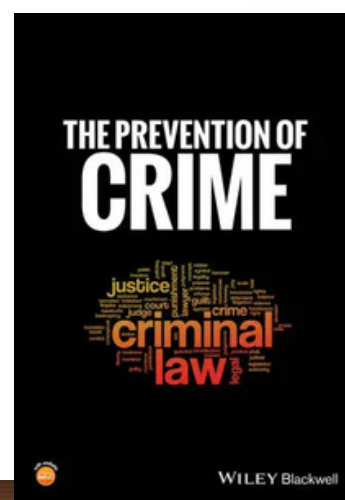
Anna Peterson, *With God on Our Side: Religion, Social Movements, and Social Change*, De Gruyter, 2024



Margaret Beale Spencer and Nancy Dowd, *Radical Brown*, Harvard Education Press, 2024



Adrienne Strong and Richard Powis, *Gender in Cross-Cultural Perspective*, 8th Edition, Routledge, 2024



Abigail Fagan and Delbert Elliot, *The Prevention of Crime*, 2nd Edition, Wiley, 2024

Welcome New Graduate Students

We are delighted to welcome six new students to our MA program this year.



Bella Adams holds a B.A. in English and Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies from the University of Florida. She is broadly interested in theories of feminism, postcoloniality, and film. For her thesis, Bella is interested in analyzing nationalist ideologies of gender, sexuality, class, and race in satirical American popular film and television.



Rae Landingin is a first-generation Filipinx scholar, organizer, and creative. Their research examines how alternative systems and spaces, like queer nightlife and cultural arts rooted in Black and Brown diasporic contexts, generate critical knowledge and sustain communities. Rae received their BA in Journalism and Media Studies with a minor in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies at Rutgers University, New Brunswick in 2017, and is an alum of the Douglass Residential College.



Sharlyen Lopez's research interests include immigration, migranhood, and reproductive politics. Before coming to UF, she received a BA in Chicana & Chicano Studies and Feminist Studies from UC Santa Barbara, where she researched racial stereotypes of women of color in popular movies. Sharlyen hopes to use her background to highlight social, cultural, and political discrimination against Latin Americans in the United States and advocate for equitable treatment across all areas of life.



Chukwuebuka Alexander Ozoani has worked as a researcher and paralegal. He obtained his bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Nigeria, Nsukka. He hopes to use feminist epistemologies to find better explanations for suicide among gender minorities and, by extension, coping strategies for minority stressors. He is a Global Peter Drucker 2024 Gold Award winner.



Marie Vazquez earned her bachelor's degree in Women's Studies and Psychology from the University of Florida, where she developed a passion for understanding the intersections of mental health, identity, and resilience. Her research now focuses on examining resilience and coping strategies among LGBTQ+ individuals, with a specific interest in how these strategies foster queer joy and enhance mental well-being.



Kay Yehezkely holds a bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of Florida. Her current research interests include gendered political socialization, critical girlhood studies, and feminist political thought. Kay hopes to explore stories that are often overlooked in her developing thesis project which focuses on the effects of gendered experiences in childhood on political beliefs in adulthood.

Welcome Back MA Candidates

We are delighted to welcome back our second-year MA candidates as they continue their endeavors and their theses and projects.



Sonbol Bahramikamangar is passionate about domestic violence advocacy and prevention. She completed the Florida Domestic Violence Core Competency Training and now serves as a Prevention Advocate for Education and Youth with Peaceful Paths, where she supports shelter initiatives and youth education. Under the guidance of Dr. Maddy Coy, her M.A. research explores cultural and religious forces that perpetuate violence against Kurdish women in Iran.



Mary Kate Di Fresco is writing her thesis under the advising of Dr. Alyssa Zucker. Mary Kate's M.A. research explores the use of eco-memory in its relation to gardens and intergenerational healing. Outside of the Department, Mary Kate has been organizing the Gainesville Climate Café and working with local organizers to create a comprehensive web of climate action in Gainesville.



Amya Ellison has interests in Black Feminism, grassroots organizing and activism, radical healing theory and collective liberation. They are currently working on their M.A. project under the supervision of Dr. Cinnamon Williams, exploring Black women's experiences with misogynoir at predominantly white institutions, to provide insight into support programs that are necessary for collective well-being in these spaces.



Alexandria Gibson is working on her M.A. thesis under the supervision of Dr. Olivia Adams. She created an oral history archive with the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program, titled "Sitting at the Feet of Elders" that traces the prevalence of traditional healing among women in the Afro-Caribbean diaspora. Alexandria presented at the Sex Down South '24 Conference and was awarded a grant from the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Gainesville Branch for her research.



Whitney Rodríguez Minda is working on her M.A. project on black sexualities and other types of sex work and labor, and on archival research on Sinnamon Love's career as a professional sexual performance artist. Her project is supervised by Dr. Jillian Hernandez and Dr. Anita Anantharam.



Zuzu Tadeushuk is working on her thesis examining theories of embodiment, visibility, and modeling, advised by Dr. Jillian Hernandez. She is interested in phenomenology as a method to describe the experience of the model body. Zuzu presented her work at two academic conferences this Fall.

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Two Graduate Certificates Offered in the Department

Students pursuing graduate work in the Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies will become acquainted with various feminist (and other appropriate) theoretical approaches and methodologies for examining the role of gender in cultural systems. Gender will be understood in intersection with other categories, including race, ethnicity, social class, sexuality, religion, ability, age, and nationality.

The Women's Studies Certificate (WST) is designed for graduate students from any discipline who wish to focus on interdisciplinary issues related to feminist theory and practice.

The Gender and Development (GAD) certificate is designed for graduate students from any discipline who wish to focus on issues related to gender and development.

Graduate and professional students from all colleges at UF are eligible to enroll in either certificate program offered in the Department.

Applications for the certificate must be submitted to the Department's Graduate Coordinator, Dr. Kendal Broad. For more information visit the Department's graduate certificate page at <http://wst.ufl.edu/graduate-studies/graduate-certificates/>