2021–2022
NEW FACULTY BROCHURE

CONTACT US
100 O'Shaughnessy Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556
alweb@nd.edu
574-361-7085

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME
College of Arts and Letters

Study everything.
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COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS
The College of Arts and Letters is a liberal arts college—focused on cultivating understanding of the arts, humanities, and social sciences. The College is also at the heart of a research university—supportive of faculty and student efforts to be original, creative scholars. And, the College is deeply Catholic—embracing diversity of thought and encouraging faculty and students to use their gifts to build a vibrant, distinctive community tied to one of the world’s great intellectual traditions.

Nothing is more important to any of our aspirations than the quality of our hiring decisions. Faculty accomplishments—teaching our students, advancing research—determine our academic reputation. Their collaborative spirit allows us to better educate our students and build new programs and better departments. Their support for the University’s mission enables its standing as the premier Catholic research university. This brochure describes the new faculty who have joined the College of Arts and Letters this year. You will see they are an unusually accomplished group. Please join me in welcoming them to the College.

New Faculty 2021-2022
Art, Art History, and Design
Nooshin Hakim Javadi - MFA, University of Minnesota Assistant Professor
Javadi’s interdisciplinary practice utilizes sculpture, installation, and performance to investigate the material culture of conflict and displacement. Her research draws from personal and collective experience with political entropy and policed mobility. Javadi’s practice investigates these tensions considering how these experiences are internalized by the body. Javadi’s work has been shown in Walker Art Museum, Weisman Museum of Art, and Museum Fur Neue Kunst, among others. She is currently finishing the Jerome Award exhibition focusing on political games.

Anthropology
Tracie Canada - Ph.D., University of Virginia Assistant Professor
Canada is a cultural anthropologist who researches and teaches about sport, race, kinship, care, and the performing body, particularly in the United States. Her ethnographic work about American football foregrounds issues of anti-Black racism, racial capitalism, labor exploitation, and structural violence. Her first book, Tackling the Everyday: Race, Family, and Nation in Big-Time College Football, has been accepted as part of University of California Press’s Atelier: Ethnographic Inquiry in the Twenty-First Century series. The book will tell how Black college football players rely on various kin relations to navigate the institutional systems and everyday lived spaces that order, discipline, and enact violence against them.

Luis Luis Felipe R. Murillo - Ph.D., University of California, LA Assistant Professor
Murillo’s work is dedicated to the study of computing from an anthropological standpoint. His research examines questions of openness, ownership, and collaboration in software and hardware development. Based on ethnographic fieldwork with “ethical hackers” in community spaces throughout the Pacific Rim, he is currently working on a book project on the ethics of open source responses to social, political, and environmental issues. He has published on topics such as open data, open hardware, community-based radiation monitoring, and hacker culture as a contribution to social studies of science and technology. 2020 "Computing in / from the South" edited volume w/ Sareeta Amrute (Data and Society) in: Catalyst journal. 2019 "Hackerspace Network: Prefiguring Technopolitical Futures?" in: American Anthropologist. 2018 "What Does “Open Data” Mean for Ethnographic Research?" in: American Anthropologist.
Aidan Seale-Feldman - Ph.D., University of California, LA
Assistant Professor

East Asian Languages and Cultures
Jincheng Liu - Ph.D., Stanford University
Associate Professor of the Practice

John Lott - Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania
Teaching Professor

Center for the Study of Languages and Cultures
Eva Hoeckner
Assistant Teaching Professor
Hoeckner is originally from Germany and joins the CSLC having taught German at the Lycée Français de Chicago, Loyola University, and other domestic and international institutions. She will hold a joint appointment in the Department of German and Russian Languages and Literatures to promote undergraduate language learning at Notre Dame. She is excited about bringing her experience of working in international environments to the community of language learners at Notre Dame.

John Lott - Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania
Teaching Professor

Economics
Evan Mast - Ph.D., Stanford University
Assistant Professor

Davin Raiha - Ph.D., Stanford University
Associate Teaching Professor
Adrienne Sabety - Ph.D., Harvard University
Assistant Professor

Xavier Navarro Aquino - Ph.D., University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Assistant Professor
Aquino specializes in Contemporary Fiction, Creative Writing, Postcolonial Literature, and Caribbean Literature. He is the author of the forthcoming novel, Velorio (HarperCollins, 2022) with initial translation into Spanish for HarperCollins Español. His writing has appeared in Tin House, McSweeney’s Quarterly, Guernica, The Caribbean Writer, among others. Aquino’s work addresses the implications for countries that are postcolonial or have not transitioned from the colonial into the postcolonial while tracing the double consciousness of these liminal spaces to study the politics (body, psychological, and social) behind what it means to be postcolonial. His writing investigates the conflicts inherited from colonial legacies in relation to identity, place, culture, race, gender, and ideology.

Dionne Bremyer - Ph.D., Georgia State University
Associate Professor
Bremyer’s fiction and nonfiction investigates and questions received notions concerning the complex interplay of the social, personal, cultural, and national hybridity emergent in a postcolonial world. Attempting in part to “normalize” the lives and experiences of people of color, my fiction and nonfiction – which has been characterized as multicultural postcolonial literature – and also critique the overarching systems and frameworks that have traditionally functioned to devalue and “exoticize” particular groups of people and places. Dionne Irving Bremyer is the author of the novel Quint from 7.13 Books, and a short story collection Islands is forthcoming from Catapult Books in November 2022. Her work has appeared in Story, Boulevard, LitHub, Missouri Review, and New Delta Review, among other journals and magazines.

Ranjodh Singh Dhaliwal - Ph.D., University of California, Davis
Assistant Professor
Dhaliwal’s research, which traces the aesthetic and political entanglements of our technological cultures, lies at the intersections of science fiction studies, critical media theory, and histories and philosophies of science and technology. Illuminating the hard-coded political logics we take for granted in our contemporary digital cultures, Ranjodh demonstrates how politics and economics get baked into computer hardware and software. His current book project, Rendering: A Political Diagrammatology of Computation, investigates histories and theories of computing from the last two centuries to present a distinctly sociocultural understanding of computation as a politico-economic process. His other projects have him researching the entanglements between data and narratives, material histories of artificial intelligence, and new taxonomies of internet aesthetics.

Matthew Kilbane - Ph.D., Cornell University
Assistant Professor
Chanté Mouton Kinyon - Ph.D., National University of Ireland
Assistant Professor

Kinyon's primary research explores transnational African American literature and culture, with a particular interest in the way in which African American culture and literature intersects with Irish culture and literature. Her book project studies the influential representation Irish and African American artists have had on each other while theorizing the ways in which these artists signified and conceptualized race and marginality. The 2019–2021 Moreau Postdoctoral Fellow, Kinyon was previously the 2018–2019 NEH Fellow at the Keogh–Naughton Institute for Irish Studies and a four-year recipient of the Galway Research Fellowship for doctoral studies. Forthcoming, Kinyon’s article “Foregrounding (Lost) Rituals in the Irish and Harlem Renaissances: John Millington Synge, Zora Neale Hurston, and The Transatlantic Gesture,” will be published in Modern Drama in 2021, as will the introduction she wrote for Black Matters: African American College Students and Graduates Tell Their Life Stories, a book currently under contract with Cornell University Press.

Philosophy

Stephen Ogden - Ph.D., Yale University
Assistant Professor

Ogden's primary area of research is in classical Islamic philosophy, especially Ibn Rushd (Averroes) and Ibn Sina (Avicenna). I am also interested in how this tradition inherited and transformed Graeco-Roman philosophy and impacted other traditions (e.g., in the West). Averroes on Intellect: From Aristotelian Origins to Aquinas's Critique (Oxford University Press, forthcoming). "Avicenna's Emanated Abstraction," Philosophers’ Imprint 20 (2020). "Averroes’s Unity Argument against Multiple Intellects," Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie 103 (online 2020).

Political Science

Erin Rossiter - Ph.D., Washington University, St. Louis
Assistant Professor

Rossiter broadly studies the dynamics of interpersonal political communications and the consequences such communications have for American political behavior, with a specific interest in political discussion and polarization. Her research agenda also involves advancing quantitative methodologies, namely text-as-data and experimental methods, for settings involving interpersonal communication. Her current work experimentally examines the consequences of conversations that cross partisan lines on how Americans feel about opposing party members." Articles: “So Many Questions, So Little Time: Integrating Adaptive Personality Inventories into Public Opinion Research.” Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology.

Psychology

Theodore Beauchaine - Ph.D., Stony Brook University
William K. Warren Foundation Professor of Psychology

Beauchaine’s research addresses how inherited temperamental predispositions render some children especially vulnerable to adult adjustment problems when they are raised in contexts of risk, and how adult outcomes for such children differ by sex. Boys with ADHD, for example, are at high risk for antisocial behavior and substance abuse in adulthood when they incur maltreatment and are reared in high-risk neighborhoods, whereas girls with ADHD who face the same adversities are vulnerable to self-harm and suicide attempts. This research provides leverage points for strengthening families in Beauchaine’s primary prevention work. Bell ZE, Fristad MA, Youngstrom EA, Arnold LE, Beauchaine TP (2021). Prospective prediction of externalizing psychopathology by hyperactivity-impulsivity versus inattention: An empirical test of trait impulsivity theory. Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. Advance online publication. Beauchaine TP, Ben-David I, Bos M (2020). ADHD, financial distress, and suicide in adulthood: A population study. Science Advances, 6, eaba1551. Beauchaine TP, Hinshaw SP, Bridge JA (2019). Nonsuicidal self-injury and suicidal behaviors in girls: The case for targeted prevention in preadolescence. Clinical Psychological Science, 7, 643–667.

Music

Berthold Hoeckner - Ph.D., Cornell University
J.W. Van Gorkom Professor of Music

Hoeckner taught at the University of Chicago from 1994 until 2021 as a Professor of Music and Humanities in the Department of Music and the College, also serving as associate faculty in the Department of Cinema and Media Studies, and as affiliate faculty in the Department of Germanic Studies. His scholarly interests include music since 1800, opera, song, aesthetics, Adorno, music and visual culture, and the social and cognitive psychology of music. His most recent book Film, Music, Memory was published in 2019 by the University of Chicago Press in the Cinema and Modernity Series edited by Tom Gunning.
Teresa Ober - Ph.D., City University of New York
Assistant Research Professor

Ober’s current research broadly overlaps with the areas of educational psychology and the learning sciences, as well as applied developmental and cognitive psychology. As a current Assistant Research Professor working in the Learning Analytics and Measurement in Behavioral Sciences (LAMBS) Lab under the direction of Dr. Ying Cheng and the Center for Research Computing (CRC) under the leadership of Dr. Paul Brenner, Dr. Ober’s current projects are focused on deriving rigorous methods for studying factors associated with learning, such as engagement, as well as understanding how associations between these factors and learning outcomes differ depending on aspects of the learner or context. Considering how these associations may differ particularly for underserved and underrepresented students in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) is a theme that permeates several current projects.


Jenny Padilla - Ph.D., Pennsylvania State University
Assistant Professor

Grounded in developmental, family systems, and cultural-ecological perspectives, Dr. Padilla’s research focuses on families as a context of development and psychological adjustment, primarily in adolescence and young adulthood. With respect to the larger contexts of family systems dynamics, she is most interested in the role of sociocultural ecology. A major goal of her research is to advance understanding of the diversity of youth and family experiences within the Latinx population and larger family context factors as well as the cultural practices and values within families that impact family roles and relationships and youth well-being. To address questions about changes in multiple individuals, dyads and larger family systems—within their changing contexts—she is also interested in advance psychological research methods, particularly quantitative analytic approaches (e.g., multilevel models, actor-partner interdependence models, multtrait-multimethod confirmatory factor analysis) for capturing complex family dynamics. In working with longitudinal family data, she utilizes multilevel models to capture variation at the within-person, between-person, and between-family levels. Padilla, J., Vazquez, E. J., Updegraff, K. A., McHale, S. M., & Umaña-Taylor, A. J. (2020). Mexican-origin youth’s ethnic-racial identity development: The role of siblings. Developmental Psychology, 57(2), 302-308. doi: 10.1037.deve0001072.


Anne Schaefer - Ph.D., University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
Associate Teaching Professor

Schaefer focuses her research on the aesthetics of the tale in eighteenth century French literature, especially by authors Crétillon fils, J-P Marmontel et N-E Réif de la Bretonne. She has published the following articles (under Steinberg): “Éros éclairé ? Entre connaissance de l’amour et l’amour de la connaissance, des contes de fées au conte de Crétillon fils » in Revue Alkemie n°15 (1790) de Rétif de la Bretonne ou l’économie narrative des ‘Converseuses’ », in Inter-Lignes, Revue de la Faculté libre des Lettres de l’Institut Catholique de Toulouse – n°12 ; « L’argent » (ISSN : 1959-6995), Toulouse (2014), 45-62. She is also interested in second language acquisition and is completing a certification in French for Specific Purposes offered by the Institut Français and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Paris-Ile de France.
Sociology

Steven Alvarado - Ph.D., University of Wisconsin, Madison
Assistant Professor


Theology

Terrence Ehrman, C.S.C. - Ph.D., The Catholic University of America
Assistant Teaching Professor


Rebecca Ruvalcaba - MDiv., University of Notre Dame
Assistant Professor of the Practice

Ruvalcaba’s primary interests are in Multicultural Theology and New Evangelization; U.S. Latino/Hispanic Traditional and Lived Experience Theology; Theology and Ministry of the Deacon; and Pastoral Formation. Presentations and Retreats on topics of: Walking With Women of the Bible; La Virgen de Guadalupe the message; Mary’s Fiat; ‘No Soy Nadie’ respuesta de Juan Diego; and others.

Sociology

Anna Haskins – Ph.D., University of Wisconsin, Madison
Associate Professor

Haskins’ research examines how three of America’s most powerful social institutions—the education system, the family, and the criminal justice system—connect and interact in ways that both preserve and mitigate social inequality, with emphases on early educational outcomes, intergenerational impacts, and disparities by race/ethnicity. Her current projects explore the meso-level processes through which schools inhibit or promote institutional engagement among system-involved families, as well as studying more complicated intersections between schooling and punishment such as public attitudes around college-in–prison programs. Anna is a former elementary school teacher and prior to coming to Notre Dame she was an assistant professor of sociology at Cornell University. “Schools as Surveilling Institutions? Paternal Incarceration, System Avoidance and Parental Involvement in Schooling.” American Sociological Review 82: 657-684. “Paternal Incarceration and Schooling Contexts: Intersecting Inequalities of Educational Opportunity.” ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science 674: 134-162.

Sociology

Simone Zhang - Ph.D., Princeton University
Assistant Professor

Zhang’s research examines how organizations and institutions make decisions that shape people’s access to resources, support, and justice. She is particularly interested in how predictive algorithms intervene in these processes. Her recent projects have examined how algorithmic risk assessments shape courtroom debates about cash bail and pretrial release; how government agencies organize waiting lists for federal housing vouchers; and public perceptions of institutional uses of predictive modeling.

Sociology

Rebecca Ruvalcaba - MDiv., University of Notre Dame
Assistant Professor of the Practice

Ruvalcaba’s primary interests are in Multicultural Theology and New Evangelization; U.S. Latino/Hispanic Traditional and Lived Experience Theology; Theology and Ministry of the Deacon; and Pastoral Formation. Presentations and Retreats on topics of: Walking With Women of the Bible; La Virgen de Guadalupe the message; Mary’s Fiat; ‘No Soy Nadie’ respuesta de Juan Diego; and others.
Jeffrey Wickes - Ph.D., University of Notre Dame
Associate Professor of the Practice

University Writing Program

Whitney James - Ph.D., Texas Christian University
Assistant Teaching Professor

Michelle Marvin - Ph.D., University of Notre Dame
Assistant Teaching Professor
Marvin studies the dialogue between science and religion with a focus on understanding the rhetorical strategies disciplinary thinkers use in their work. Specifically, her research brings together Catholic theological scholarship, neuroscientific research, and literature from writing studies to address cultural issues related to identity and memory, such as Alzheimer's disease. She is also involved in cross-institutional work to strengthen the antiracist pedagogy and assessment in the Writing Center. Marvin uses inclusive pedagogical approaches to instruct students on writing and rhetoric, and she specializes in scientific writing. Marvin, Michelle A. “Memory Altering Technologies and the Capacity to Forgive: Westworld and Volf in Dialogue.” Zygon 55, no. 3 (2020): 713–732.
Visiting Faculty

Classics

Alyson Melzer - Ph.D., Stanford University
Visiting Assistant Professor

Yoko Kawamura - Ph.D., Marquette University
Visiting Assistant Teaching Professor

Keith Schaefer - Ph.D., University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
Visiting Assistant Teaching Professor

Clare Reising - Ph.D., Yale University
Visiting Assistant Teaching Professor

Medieval Institute

Mohammad Ballan - Ph.D., University of Chicago
Mellon Fellow

Kosta Simic - Ph.D., Australian Catholic University
Byzantine Postdoctoral Fellow

Annie Killian - Ph.D., Yale University
Public Humanities Postdoctoral Fellow

East Asian Languages and Cultures

Yoko Kawamura - Ph.D., Marquette University
Visiting Assistant Teaching Professor

Kevin Mulholland - Ph.D., University of Michigan
Visiting Assistant Professor

Romance Languages and Literatures

Alyson Melzer - Ph.D., Marquette University
Visiting Assistant Professor

Economics

Cora Bennett - Ph.D., University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Visiting Assistant Teaching Professor

Jordi Paniagua - University of Valencia, Spain
Assistant Professor of Applied Economics

Julio Juárez Gámiz - Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México
Fulbright-Garcia Robles COMEXUS Mexico Studies Chair, Associate Professor, Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Sciences and Humanities

Román José García Montoya - Princeton University
Postdoctoral Research Associate, Bobst Center and Department of Politics

Julio Juárez Gámiz - Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México
Fulbright-Garcia Robles COMEXUS Mexico Studies Chair, Associate Professor, Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Sciences and Humanities

Jordi Paniagua - University of Valencia, Spain
Assistant Professor of Applied Economics

Meanoumi Soumano - University of Bamako, Mali
Assistant Professor of Administrative and Political Sciences

Francisco Urbina - Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
Assistant Professor of Public Law

Kellogg Institute for International Studies

Sebastian Elischer - University of Florida
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César Estrada - Universidad Jesuita de Guadalajara (ITESO)
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Francisco Urbina - Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
Assistant Professor of Public Law

Fellows

Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Study (NDIAS)

Scott Barton
Adjunct Assistant Professor of Food Studies

Reginald Dwayne Betts
Lawyer and Poet

Jennifer Forestal - Loyola University, Chicago
Helen Houlan Rigali Assistant Professor of Political Science

John Golden - The University of Texas at Austin School of Law
Edward S. Knight Chair in Law, Entrepreneurialism and Innovation

Jason McLachlan - University of Notre Dame
Associate Professor of Biological Sciences

Mary Phillips - Lehman College, City University of New York
Associate Professor of Africana Studies

John Schwenkler - Florida State University
Professor of Philosophy

Roy Scranton - University of Notre Dame
Associate Professor of English

LaKisha Simmons - University of Michigan
Associate Professor of History & Women's and Gender Studies

Rebecca Stumpf - University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Professor of Anthropology

Apryl Williams - University of Michigan
Assistant Professor of Communication and Media

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