

2022-2023 NEW FACULTY BROCHURE



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NOTRE DAME

College of Arts and Letters



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COLLEGE OF
ARTS AND LETTERS

Message from Sarah A. Mustillo I.A. O'Shaughnessy Dean

New Faculty 2022-2023

Anthropology

Art, Art History, and Design

Sarah Martin - MFA, University of Notre Dame
Assistant Professor

As a designer, storyteller, and researcher, Sarah Edmands Martin specializes in graphic storytelling and digital fable in contemporary, mediated spaces. Her work investigates the process of mining archival material in order to create counter narratives. A 2021-22 Research Fellow at Indiana University's Institute for Digital Arts + Humanities, a 2020 Design Incubation Fellow (NYC), and a 2019-22 Faculty Affiliate with IU's Center for Rural Engagement, she is also the author of two chapters in *Ethics in Design and Communication: New Critical Perspectives* (Bloomsbury 2020) and publishes with AIGA's *Eye on Design*. Her design work has been recognized by Print, Graphis, the Paris Design Awards, London International Creative, and the Creative Communication Awards. Her work has shown most recently at the Zuckerman Museum of Art, Grunwald Gallery of Art, the Corcoran Gallery of Art, Johnson Center for Fine Arts, the Merwin Gallery, the Harris Gallery, and the Galleries at Cleveland State.

Aaron Michka - Ph.D., University of Michigan
Assistant Professor

Michka is a cultural anthropologist of religion and the Middle East. His research examines how the politics of religious pluralism inform contemporary Christian approaches to the body, sites of dwelling, and the sacred. Drawing upon extensive ethnographic fieldwork conducted in a majority-Christian town in Upper Egypt, his first book project details the local, granular expressions of pluralism as lived by Coptic Orthodox, Coptic Catholic, Evangelical, and Pentecostal Christians. Michka's work also explores the tensions and points of overlap between the disciplines of anthropology and theology. Publications include: "Baptism in the Plural: Ethnographic Notes from a Coptic Ecumene." *Journal of the Canadian Society for Coptic Studies* 13(2021):47-64. "Priest and Ethnographer: Locating Theology in the Hierarchical Imagination of Orthodox Christianity," a book chapter for *Anthropologies of Orthodox Christianity* (under contract by Fordham University Press).

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.

Africana Studies

Scott Barton – Ph.D., New York University

Assistant Professor

Scott had a 25-year career as an executive chef and culinary educator. Ebony magazine named him one of the top 25 African American/Diaspora chefs. His research and publications focus on women's knowledge, the intersection of secular and sacred cuisine as a marker of identity politics, cultural heritage, political resistance, and self-determination in Northeastern Brazil, and in the Southern U.S. Scott has been a fellow at Instituto Tepoztlán, Vanderbilt's Issues in Critical Investigation, Fundação Palmares and has served as a board member of the Southern Foodways Alliance. Currently, Scott is a board member of The Association for the Study of Food and Society, Secretary/Treasurer of The Society for the Anthropology of Food and Nutrition, Co-Chair of the African Diaspora Religions Unit within the American Academy of Religion, and an advisory board member of The Indigo Diaspora Arts Alliance. "Radical Moves from the Margins: Enslaved Entertainments as Harvest Celebration in Northeastern Brazil," in *The Body Questions: Celebrating Flamenco's Tangled Roots*, Cambridge University Press, 2022. "Food and Faith" in *Black Food: Stories, Art, and Recipes from the African Diaspora*; Ten Speed Press, 2022. "Community-Engaged Pedagogy in a Time of Online Learning: Teaching Food & COVID-19", in *Food, Culture, and Society* 2022.

Zachary Sell – Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Assistant Professor

Sell is a historian of slavery with an emphasis upon colonialism and capitalism in the nineteenth century. He is the author of the award-winning book *Trouble of the World: Slavery and Empire in the Age of Capital* which examines how U.S. slavery intersected with British colonial projects ranging from Australia, Belize, and India. He is also engaged in collaborative public humanities scholarship and was previously at Brown University's Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice (CSSJ) where he coordinated a collaboration between Firelight Films and CSSJ in support of a PBS documentary film series on the Atlantic slave trade directed by Stanley Nelson. *Trouble of the World: Slavery and Empire in the Age of Capital* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2021).

Economics

Jane Ryngaert – Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin

Assistant Professor

Ryngaert studies macroeconomic expectations with a particular focus on inflation expectations. Her work considers how people gather and process information about inflation, how inflation expectations respond to monetary policy, and how inflation expectations influence the economic decision-making of firms and consumers. "Do You Know that I Know that You Know...? Higher Order Beliefs in Survey Data" (with Olivier Coibion, Yuriy Gorodnichenko, and Saten Kumar), 2021. *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 136: 3, 1387-1446. "Inflation Disasters and Consumption", 2022. *Journal of Monetary Economics* 129:S, S67-S81.

Jonathan Tebes – Ph.D., Harvard University

Assistant Research Professor

Wilson Sheehan Lab for Economic Opportunity

Tebes studies various topics in labor and public economics related to economic mobility and poverty alleviation. His research has examined the impact of policing reforms on neighborhood crime and educational attainment, the effect of holistic adult mentoring services on labor market outcomes, how police violence affects civic engagement, and the impact of a comprehensive mentorship program on at-risk public high school students. "Police Violence and Civic Engagement" (with Desmond Ang), 2022. *American Political Science Review*, *Revise & Resubmit*. "The Effectiveness and Equity of Police Stops" (with Jeffrey Fagan), 2022. Working Paper (Job Market Paper).

German and Russian Languages and Literatures

Tetyana Shlikhar – Ph.D., University of Pittsburgh
Assistant Teaching Professor
Shlikhar’s research focuses on the study of film, cultural memory, ideology, and empire/nation relations. She is currently working on her book, *Parallel Realities in Russian and Ukrainian Historical Film*, in which she examines the ways in which post-Soviet historical film is used by state authorities to construct cultural identities, wherein contemporary films generate discourses that make history a site of contestation. Prof. Shlikhar’s research addresses the contrasting representations of a shared past in Russian and Ukrainian historical films and the ideological agendas suggested by the filmmakers. In her chapter “Russia on the Margins?” (Cinemasaurus 2020) she discusses the imperial implications in Russian cinema, the marginal image of Russia between East and West, as well as issues of shared history and Russian borderlines. “The Socialist Realist Hero Under Party Mentorship: The Biopolitics of Soviet State.” *International Journal of Russian Studies* (2022). “Russia on the Margins?.” *Cinemasaurus. Recent Russian Film in its Contemporary Context*. Edited by Nancy Condee, Aleksander Prokhorov, and Elena Prokhorova. Boston: Academic Studies Press, 2020.

History

Fr. Stephen Koeth, C.S.C. – Ph.D., Columbia University
Assistant Professor
Fr. Koeth is a historian of modern US urban history, with a particular focus on the religious and social dimensions of postwar suburbanization. His dissertation, “The Suburban Church: Catholic Parishes and Politics in Metropolitan New York, 1945–1985,” received the American Catholic Historical Association’s John Tracy Ellis Dissertation Award in 2019. He has published articles in *The Journal of Church and State* and *U.S. Catholic Historian*.

Music

Dror Baitel – DMA, The Juilliard School
Assistant Professor of the Practice
Baitel, a collaborative pianist, coach and conductor has established himself as a leading talent through his virtuosity and versatility across diverse musical genres. Feeling at home both in Classical music and musical theater, Baitel has worked on Broadway and Off-Broadway. Baitel was on the original music team of Lin Manuel Miranda’s *Hamilton*, as well as a pianist-conductor for the hit *Dear Evan Hansen*. Most recently, Baitel conducted the Memphis Symphony Orchestra and finished a one-year visiting position of music director of opera at the Scheidt School of music at the University of Memphis. Additional credits include *Mary Poppins* (Broadway debut), *Matilda*, and *The King and I*. His scholarly interests include the history of the American Musical Theater, the Golden Age of Musicals, Stephen Sondheim, and romantic operas.

Patrick Yim – DMA, Stony Brook University
Assistant Professor
Violinist Patrick Yim maintains an active international career as violinist and teacher. He has demonstrated a continued commitment to the music of our time through commissioning, performing, and recording the works of contemporary composers. He is also an active proponent of Chinese violin works from the 20th century to the present day and has worked in blending the Western violin with other musical traditions through his commission and concert program curation work. Recent publications include 1) *Memory: Patrick Yim Plays Works for Solo Violin*, Navona Records, 2020 and 2) *Digital Mist: Works for Violin and Piano*, Naxos Records, 2022.

Philosophy

Joel David Hamkins – Ph.D., University of California at Berkeley
Professor

Hamkins is a mathematician and philosopher who undertakes research on the ample boundaries between philosophy and mathematics, focussing especially on the mathematics and philosophy of the infinite. He works on a broad spectrum of topics in logic and the philosophy of mathematics, including mathematical and philosophical logic, modal logic, set theory and the philosophy of set theory, infinitary computability, infinitary decision theory, and the theory of infinite games, including infinite chess, infinite checkers, infinite Wordle, and many more. His recent books include *Lectures on the Philosophy of Mathematics*, 2021, MIT Press, based on his lectures at Oxford University, and *Proof and the Art of Mathematics*, 2020, MIT Press.

Barbara Montero – Ph.D., University of Chicago
Professor

Montero's research considers two different notions of 'body': body as the physical or material substance of the world, and body as the moving, breathing, flesh and blood instrument that we use when we run, walk, dance, or play. One side of this bifurcation comprises her work on physicalism, dualism and naturalism, topics which are woven into her forthcoming book, *Things that Matter: Metaphysics in a Post-Physical World* (Oxford University Press); the other side comprises her work on proprioception, aesthetics, memory and the role of consciousness in expert action, the latter of which is the central focus of her book *Thought in Action: Expertise and the Conscious Mind* (Oxford University Press, 2016) and *Continuous Improvement: Intertwining Mind and Body in Athletic Expertise* (Oxford University Press, 2022), which is co-authored with the psychologists John Toner and Aidan Moran. She is also author of *Philosophy of Mind: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford University Press, 2022).

Political Science

Angela McCarthy – Ph.D., Louisiana State University
Assistant Teaching Professor

McCarthy specializes in Political Behavior and Public Opinion. She has dedicated much of her time to undergraduate teaching. Her teaching interests include Ethics, Morality Policy, Religion and Politics, Contemporary Issues in Public Opinion, and Research Methods.

Rachel Porter – Ph.D., UNC at Chapel Hill
Assistant Professor

Porter's research interests include American political institutions and political methodology, with a particular focus on Congress, elite behavior, and methods for computational social science. Most recently, her work has sought to explore and explain the rising success of political amateurs in elections for the U.S. House of Representatives. Porter, Rachel and Tyler Steelman. 2021. No Experience Required: Early Donations and Amateur Success in Congressional Primary Elections, *Conditionally Accepted at Legislative Studies Quarterly*. McDonald, Maura, Rachel Porter and Sarah Treul. 2020. "Running as a Woman? Gender and the 2018 Congressional Election." *Political Research Quarterly*, 73(4): 967-987

Program of Liberal Studies

Arman Schwarz – Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley
Assistant Professor

Schwartz's scholarship explores European and American art music, especially opera, from the mid-nineteenth century to the present. Major methodological interests include the aesthetics of modernism; new approaches to timbre and acoustic materiality; media studies and the history of sound technology; Italian cultural studies; and, most recently, theories of character, spectatorship, emotion, and form. He is currently at work on a second monograph entitled *Music and Idealism in Italy, 1880-1950*, as well as a co-edited essay collection, *Sonic Circulations, 1900-1950*, which aims to reimagine the relationship between musical and scientific knowledge in the early twentieth century. From 2017 to 2021, he served as Executive Editor of *The Opera Quarterly*. Puccini's *Soundscapes: Realism and Modernity in Italian Opera* (Olschki, 2016). *Giacomo Puccini and His World* (Princeton University Press, 2016). Co-edited with Emanuele Senici.

Heather Wiebe- Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley

Teaching Professor

Wiebe is a music historian with a focus on the twentieth century. Her work has been concerned particularly with mid-20th-century British music and culture, exploring issues of memory, feeling, and the political efficacy of the arts. Her forthcoming second book, *Mobilizing Music in Wartime British Film*, examines music in relation to the concept of total war, asking how music was used to conceptualize war's reach into cultural and emotional life, and how the Second World War helped shape our understanding of culture's use value. More broadly, her research has addressed opera from the nineteenth century to the present, medievalism and other 20th-century revivals of the musical past, and issues of ritual, tradition, and affect in music's production of citizenship and community. *Mobilizing Music in Wartime British Film* (Oxford University Press, Music/Media series, forthcoming). 'Morale as Sonic Force: Listen to Britain and Total War,' *Sound Studies* 7 (2021): 24-41.

Psychology

Taylor Nicoletti - Ph.D., Wheaton College

Assistant Clinical Professor

Nicoletti's research interests include treatment engagement among Black families, trauma-informed care, and social determinants of health. She is currently in collaboration with University of Chicago researchers developing a measure to assess historical trauma among Black children and adolescents. Dr. Nicoletti is particularly interested in a combination of clinical practice and research, teaching, and training with a focus on the population-based care, prevention, and health promotion of historically marginalized children and families.

Romance Languages and Literatures

Laura Banella - Ph.D., Duke University

Assistant Professor

Banella is an assistant professor in Italian. Her research interests lie in medieval Italian literature. Her research has focused on Dante and Boccaccio and on the books transmitting their works (13th-16th c.). She has also worked on reception, the history of literary criticism, Renaissance literature, and the female auctor. *Rime e libri delle rime di Dante tra Medioevo e primo Rinascimento* (Rome: Edizioni di storia e letteratura, 2020). *La 'Vita nuova' del Boccaccio. Fortuna e tradizione* (Rome-Padua: Antenore, 2017). "Dante, la nascita dell'Italia e della letteratura italiana: il racconto delle origini nelle storie della letteratura risorgimentali." *Giornale Storico della Letteratura Italiana* 194 n° 647 (2017): 321-59.

Claire Reising - Ph.D., New York University

Assistant Teaching Professor

Reising's interest in French language and literature began at Notre Dame, where she completed her B.A. and M.A. Reising specializes in contemporary Francophone literature and theater, with an emphasis on migration and literature, and she has experience in teaching courses for French-language acquisition. She was awarded a Fulbright grant to research diasporic writers in Montreal for her dissertation. At Notre Dame, she is looking forward to teaching language and literature courses and serving as Associate Director of Undergraduate Studies in French.

Keith Schaefer - Ph.D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Assistant Teaching Professor

Schaefer's research focuses on the intersections of religious and secular thought in Spanish narrative, especially in the works of Miguel de Unamuno. In teaching, his interests are Second Language Acquisition and teaching Spanish for specific purposes.

Theology

Kristi Haas – Ph.D., University of Notre Dame

Assistant Teaching Professor

Haas conducts research in the area of twentieth-century Catholic systematic theology. She has particular expertise in the thought of Louis Bouyer (1913–2004) and the development of Catholic ecological theology. More broadly, her research and teaching consider dynamic features of ecclesial life, such as charisma and prayer, in transformative dialogue with contemporary challenges. “Conversion of Memory and Hope for Peace: The Peacemaking Homilies of St. Bernardino of Siena, 1427.” In *The Surprise of Reconciliation in the Catholic Tradition*, edited by J.J. Carney and Laurie Johnston, 95–108. Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 2018; “Full and Emptied: Interpreting Christ’s Divinity for Theologies of Religion.” *Lumen et Vita* 4, no. 1 (2014): 1–19.

Mary Hirschfeld – Ph.D., University of Notre Dame and Ph.D., Harvard University

Associate Professor

Hirschfeld draws on her expertise as both an economist and a theologian to construct a theological economics rooted in the thought of St. Thomas Aquinas. This approach allows for a synthesis that can draw on the best insights from economics, while also highlighting the limitations of modern economic analysis. Using this framework, Dr. Hirschfeld has published articles on economic injustice, the financial system, the technocratic paradigm, and the challenges of understanding agency in a complex global system. *Aquinas and the Market: Toward a Humane Economy* (Harvard University Press, 2018). *Rethinking Economic Inequality: A Theological Perspective* (JRE, 2019); *Reflections on the Financial Crisis: Aquinas on the Proper Role of Finance* (JSCE, 2015); *Standard of Living and Economic Virtue: Forging a Link between St. Thomas Aquinas and the Twenty-First century* (JSCE, 2006).

Daniel Machiela – Ph.D., University of Notre Dame

Associate Professor

Machiela is a historian of the literature and cultural institutions of ancient Judaism, with a concentration on early Jewish biblical interpretation and the Dead Sea Scrolls.

His current research focuses especially on the understudied Dead Sea Scrolls written in Aramaic, with many of his recent publications exploring this literature and its historical background. Contributions to this topic include two monographs on a scroll called the Genesis Apocryphon (published with Brill in 2009 and Mohr Siebeck in 2018) and a forthcoming book on the entire corpus of Aramaic Dead Sea Scrolls (to be published open-access by Brill, in cooperation with the Israel Antiquities Authority), along with many articles in journals and edited collections. Machiela occasionally publishes on other, related areas, such as Hebrew language and New Testament. He is at the beginning stages of commentary projects on the Genesis Apocryphon (Oxford University Press) and the deuterocanonical book of Tobit (Yale University Press).

Visiting Faculty

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

Medieval Institute

Andrew Faulkner – Ph.D., Oxford University
Guest Professor

Mireille Pardon – Ph.D., Yale University
Visiting Assistant Professor and Mellon Fellow

University Writing Program

Aaron Bremyer – M.A., Emporia State University
Visiting Instructor

Fellows

Kellogg Institute for International Studies

Katherine Bersch – Davidson College
*Nancy Akers and J. Mason Wallace Assistant Professor of
Political Science*

Alejandro Bonvecchi – Torcuato Di Tella University
Ordinary Assistant Professor

Natália Bueno – Emory University
Assistant Professor of Political Science

Vladimir Chlouba – Ph.D., Ohio State University

Malu A. C. Gatto – Institute of the Americas at
University College London
Assistant Professor of Latin American Politics

Margarita López-Maya – Center for Development
Studies, Universidad Central de Venezuela (CENDES-
UCV)
Emeritus Professor-Researcher

Vitor Martins Dias – Ph.D., Indiana University
Bloomington

Danielle Terrazas Williams – University of Leeds
Lecturer of History

Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Study (NDIAS)

Emmalon Davis – University of Michigan – Ann Arbor
Assistant Professor of Philosophy

Brett Gadsden – Northwestern University
Associate Professor of History

Eliza Gettel – Villanova University
Albert R. Lepage Assistant Professor of History

Gregory Haake, C.S.C. – University of Notre Dame
Associate Professor of French and Francophone Studies

Theresa Rocha Beardall – University of Washington
Assistant Professor of Sociology

Mechtild Widrich – School of the Art Institute of
Chicago
Professor of Art History, Theory, and Criticism

Karrie Koesel – University of Notre Dame
Associate Professor of Political Science

Elisabeth Köll – University of Notre Dame
William Payden Collegiate Professor

Carlos Lozada
Journalist and Author

Thom Browne
Fashion Designer