

Welcome Our New Faculty for 2019-20



Katreena Alder

Teaching Fellow

Communication Studies (Speech Communication) Department

M.A., Communication Studies, California State University, Sacramento

B.A., Ethnic Studies, California State University, Sacramento

Katreena Alder is a doctoral candidate in the Ph.D. program in communication, rhetoric and digital media at North Carolina State University, with research interests in Black film and media studies. During her time at North Carolina State, she taught courses in international and cross-cultural communication, introduction to film studies and public speaking. She enjoys watching films, trying new foods and reading in her spare time.

Khalil Andani

Assistant Professor, Part-time

Religion Department

MTS, Harvard University

M.Acc., University of Waterloo

B.S., Mathematics/Chartered Accountancy, University of Waterloo

Michael Augspurger

Visiting Assistant Professor

Physics Department

Ph.D., Mechanical Engineering, The University of Iowa

Ph.D., American Studies, The University of Iowa

M.S., Mechanical Engineering, The University of Iowa

M.A., American Studies, The University of Iowa

B.A., Rhodes College



Nicholas Benson

Visiting Assistant Professor

Communication Studies Department

M.A., Lifespan and Digital Communication, Old Dominion University

B.S., Mass Communication, State University of New York College at Oneonta

Originally from the Hudson Valley region of New York, Nicholas Benson studies the media industry with a focus on media franchises. Much of his work is concerned with the relationships between texts and the long-term management of media franchises. Besides watching movies and TV, he enjoys playing guitar, hiking and spending time with his family.



Angela Boelens

Visiting Assistant Professor
Business Administration Department

M.B.A., The University of Iowa
B.A., Business Administration, Western Illinois University

Angela Boelens began her career with Augustana as a part-time instructor in 2014 and now will serve as a full-time visiting assistant professor. She brings more than two decades of business leadership and not-for-profit board room experience into the classroom where her passion is to develop and inspire the next generation of leaders. During her professional career with Deere & Company, HNI Corporation and Iowa Health Systems, she has earned recognition as an ASQ Six Sigma Black Belt, PMI Project Management Professional, SMI Certified Purchasing Manager and APICS Certified Production and Inventory Management Manager. When not at work, Angela enjoys spending time with her family, traveling, running, and volunteering for local not-for-profit service organizations.



Ashley Burge

Assistant Professor
English Department

Ph.D., English Literature, The University of Alabama
M.A. and B.A., English Literature Communication Studies, University of Montevallo

Dr. Ashley Burge is a native of Birmingham, Alabama, and her research on race, gender, class, and sexuality in African American literature is greatly influenced by the rich civil rights history of her hometown. She completed her dissertation in 2019 from The University of Alabama on the works of Toni Morrison and several of her contemporaries. Her dissertation establishes a theoretical paradigm that interrogates spaces of resistance for tragic African American literary figures as a means to process trauma. In addition to studying 19th- and 20th-century African American literature, Ashley has studied the Black aesthetic, Black immigration, and Black foreign policy at the Black Europe Summer School in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Her essays have appeared in the *North Carolina Literary Review*, *The African American Encyclopedia of Culture*, and the critical anthology *Through Mama's Eyes*. Her current research and teaching interests are Black Feminism, Ecofeminism, Hip-Hop Culture, and Black horror. Her forever muses are Toni Morrison and Beyoncé. Ashley enjoys spending time with family and friends, traveling, and bingeing good TV and books. She has held teaching positions at The University of Alabama, The University of Alabama at Birmingham, and Wallace State Community College.



Barrie Chileen

Instructor, Part-time
Geography Department

M.A., Geography, Kansas State University
B.A., Environmental Studies and Geography, Augustana College

After graduating from Augustana in 2017 with majors in geography and environmental studies, Barrie Chileen attended Kansas State University to pursue a graduate degree in geography and a graduate certificate in Geographic Information Systems. Her research interests include paleoecology, post-fire vegetation dynamics, pollen analysis and wildfire in the western United States. In her free time, she enjoys hiking, botanizing, cooking and checking out the local music scene.

Taido Chino

Teaching Fellow Religion Department

Ph.D., Systematic Theology, University of Aberdeen
ThM, New Testament, Regent College
MDiv, Pastoral Ministry, Trinity International University
B.A., Psychology, Hendrix College



Terry Clayton

Instructor, Part-time Business Administration Department

M.S., Computer Science, Marycrest College
B.S., Computer Science, Marycrest International University

Terry Clayton has worked as a computer programmer, analyst and project manager for more than 30 years. His project history includes engineering and business system development for both large and small organizations. Most recently, he has focused on Web data integration and mobile application development using Visual Studio ASP.Net, C#, Java, JavaScript, PHP and SQL Server. He has provided academic instruction and professional training for more than 30 years. He enjoys sharing knowledge and experience and is constantly seeking new experiences. Terry has four children and four grandchildren and spends most of his spare time attending their music and sporting events.



Martin Coe

Professor Accounting Department

D.B.A. and M.B.A., St. Ambrose University
B.A., Accounting, St. Ambrose University

Dr. Martin (Marty) Coe joins Augustana as the inaugural Robert A. Hanson Endowed Chair in Data Analytics. He was a professor at Western Illinois University for 26 years, while also establishing a consulting firm. He hopes his knowledge, skills and experience, combined with his liberal arts education, will add value to the Augustana experience. He is a lifelong Quad Citian who enjoys spending time with his family, rooting for the Cubs and Bears, and walking his yellow lab, Bam.



Shaun Edmonds

Assistant Professor Kinesiology Department

Ph.D., Kinesiology, University of Maryland-College Park
M.A., Human Sexuality Studies, San Francisco State University
B.A., English Literature, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
A.S., Exercise Physiology and Personal Training, Parkland College

Dr. Shaun Edmonds' current academic interests focus on the socio-cultural dimensions of physical health and wellness, particularly for LGBT populations. Additionally, he is actively interested in continuing to bridge the gap between academics and practitioners in the strength and conditioning field. In his free time, Shaun enjoys baking, gym time, soap making, trying new beers and all varieties of gaming (video, board and tabletop).

Sunita George

Assistant Professor, Part-time

Geography Department

Ph.D. and M.A., Geography, University of Georgia

B.S., Geography, Madras University

Anthony Rayford Harrison

Diversity Fellow

Chemistry Department

B.S., Chemistry, Tuskegee University

B.S., Mathematics, Tuskegee University

B.S., Psychology, Tuskegee University

Takaaki (Taki) Hirakawa

Visiting Assistant Professor

Business Administration Department

Ph.D., Behavioral Economics, University of California-Santa Cruz

M.A, International Economics, University of California-Santa Cruz

M.S., Economics, University of Wisconsin-Madison

B.A., Economics, Macalester College



Tauheed Khan Mohd

Assistant Professor

Mathematics and Computer Science Department

M.S., The University of Toledo, Ohio

M.B.A., International Business, IIM Calcutta

B.Tech., Computer Engineering, Jamia Millia Islamia

Tauheed Khan Mohd worked for three years as software engineer in HCL. Technologies, India, followed by four years at a French multinational company SOPRA. He worked onsite for three months at AIRBUS in Toulouse, France, and managed its onboard application called Network Server System. Tauheed worked as a research assistant on an NSF-funded project called INITIATE, which helps attract high school students to STEM subjects. His areas of research are human-computer interaction, multimodal input, autonomous vehicles, and micro-controller devices, including Arduino and Raspberry Pi.

Ryan Kopatich

Teaching Fellow

Psychology Department

M.S., Applied Probability and Statistics, Northern Illinois University

M.S., Experimental Psychology, Western Illinois University

B.A., Psychology, Augustana College



Sarah Lashley

Assistant Professor Environmental Studies Program

Ph.D. and M.S., Natural Resources and Environment, University of Michigan
B.A., Environmental Studies, Allegheny College

Dr. Sarah Lashley's research interests focus on the intersection of environmental justice and conflict management. She is particularly interested in enabling nonprofit organizations, community groups and government agencies to create and implement more productive and equitable conflict management processes in environmental justice situations. Sarah previously served as assistant professor of environmental studies and the director of the Center for Teaching and Learning at Centre College. She enjoys running, yoga and making ice cream.



Elizabeth Lawrence

Assistant Professor History Department

Ph.D. and M.A., East Asian Languages and Cultures, Columbia University
B.A., History and English, Grinnell College

Dr. Elizabeth Lawrence is a historian of modern China with cross-disciplinary interests in heritage studies and material culture. Her research broadly explores how individuals and communities relate to the past and its material traces under specific historical conditions. She is working on a cultural history of the art of seal carving. Her book explains why this esoteric field on antiquarian calligraphic expression first emerged and how its practitioners secured for it a privileged heritage status despite the waves of iconoclasm that swept China in the 20th century. Other topics of interest include sexual violence in public memory and the intersection of nature and culture in the production of landscape. She previously taught at Ball State University. Elizabeth values her family, enjoys coffee and aspires to become a Midwest gardener.

Lauryn Lehman

Research and Instruction Librarian and Instructor Thomas Tredway Library

M.S., Library and Information Science, University of Illinois
M.A., African Studies, University of Illinois
B.A., Anthropology, University of South Carolina



Nicole Lehpamer

Teaching Fellow

Sociology and Anthropology Department

M.A., Sociology, DePaul University

B.A., Biology and Spanish, Augustana College

Nicole Lehpamer is finishing her dissertation in sociology at Michigan State University. Her dissertation addresses a key concern for sociologists: the ways in which social relationships are associated with health outcomes over time among the elderly, elucidating the causal mechanisms for which social network characteristics both directly and indirectly affect health outcomes through the exchange of social support resources. Her general research interests include the sociology of health and medicine, sex and gender, family, mixed-methodology, and scholarship in teaching and learning. In her spare time, Nicole enjoys spending time with her nieces, swimming, attempting DIY projects, binge-watching crime documentaries, and taking her dog, Dexter, to the dog park.



Mark Lohman

Technical Director

Theatre Department

M.F.A., Scenic Design, Western Illinois University

B.A., Theatre Arts, The University of Iowa

Briana Lueders

Instructor/Clinical Supervisor, Part-time

Communication Sciences and Disorders

M.A., Communication Sciences and Disorders, Truman State University

B.A., Communication Sciences and Disorders, Augustana College



Maruice Mangum

Visiting Associate Professor

Political Science Department

Ph.D., Political Science, Louisiana State University

M.A., Political Science, The Ohio State University

B.S., Political Science, The University of Iowa

Dr. Maruice Mangum is a scholar in the fields of African-American politics, race and politics, and political behavior, publishing on public opinion and political participation. He has published in *American Politics Research*, *Party Politics*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Social Science Quarterly*, *Politics and Religion*, *Policy Studies Journal*, *Polity*, *Journal of Race and Policy*, *Journal of Black Studies*, *American Review of Politics*, *National Political Science Review*, *Social Sciences* and other journals. In 2015 and 2011, he won the Distinguished Teaching Award at Texas Southern University. In 2007, the National Conference of Black Political Scientists selected him as the recipient of the Anna J. Cooper Teaching Award for Excellence in Teaching. In his spare time, he enjoys traveling, dining out, and watching television, movies and sports, especially mixed martial arts.



Amanda Meiners

**Instructor, Part-time
Education Department**

M.S., Mathematics, Western Illinois University

B.S., Mathematics: Secondary Education, Western Illinois University

Amanda Meiners is a doctoral candidate in The University of Iowa's Teaching and Learning Department, focusing on mathematics and special education. She previously taught high school mathematics. As part of her work, teaching and research at The University of Iowa, she has collaboratively designed and implemented professional development sessions for in-service and pre-service mathematics teachers. Her research areas focus on mindset, persistence and the use of multiple strategies in STEAM-powered classrooms.

Susie Méndez

**Visiting Faculty Tutor in the Reading/Writing Center
Learning Commons Department**

M.A. and B.A., Writing, Rhetoric and Discourse, DePaul University

A.A., College of Lake County

Christopher Moyer

**Visiting Assistant Professor
Psychology Department**

Ph.D. and M.A., Counseling Psychology, University of Illinois

B.A., Psychology, Colby-Sawyer College

Breanna Nickel

**Teaching Fellow
Religion Department**

Ph.D., Theology, University of Notre Dame

M.A., Religion, Yale Divinity School

B.A., Bible/Religion/Philosophy and Peace/Justice/Conflict Studies, Goshen College



Endre Rice

**Adjunct Instructor
Music Department**

M.M., Jazz Studies, University of Arkansas

B.A., Instrumental Performance, Columbia College

A.A., Jazz Studies, American River College

A.A., General Music, American River College

Endre Rice is a 19-year member and featured soloist of the legendary Count Basie Orchestra. He also has worked as a freelance artist in New York City and Chicago. His performance credits include playing lead trumpet with Al Jarreau, Aretha Franklin and Rubin Studdard, as well as Tony Award winners Audra McDonald, Lillias White and Andrea McArdle. During the past 25 years, he also devoted his time to promoting jazz education by conducting clinics and master classes throughout the United States, Europe and Asia.



Fredy Rodriguez-Mejia

Visiting Assistant Professor

Sociology and Anthropology Department

Ph.D. and M.A., Anthropology, Michigan State University

M.A., Applied Anthropology, Northern Arizona University

B.A., Anthropology, University of Delaware

After graduating from Michigan State University, Dr. Fredy Rodriguez-Mejia served as an assistant professor at MSU for two years. He then served as a postdoctoral researcher at Purdue University for one year. His research interests include identity formation at the intersection of gendered, ethnic and class-based struggles among the Ch'orti' Maya of Western Honduras; indigenous social movements in Latin America; anthropology of tourism; and undergraduate education. He enjoys coffee shops, reading, nature walks, road trips, and spending time with his wife, three cats and family.

Ellen Santos

Assistant Professor, Part-time

Public Health Program

Ph.D., Epidemiology, University of Arizona

M.S., Epidemiology, University of Arizona

B.A., Biology, Augustana College



Jonathan Schacherer

Teaching Fellow

Psychology Department

B.S., Psychology, The University of Iowa

Jonathan Schacherer is a Ph.D. candidate in psychological and brain sciences at The University of Iowa. His primary research interests concern constraints on flexible behavior, particularly the difficulty associated with coordinating or switching between multiple tasks. Recently, he has begun to assess how these processes are disrupted in children with ADHD and how medication and cognitive training can help to ameliorate some of these deficits. In his free time, Jonathan enjoys cheering on his favorite sports teams (St. Louis Cardinals and Iowa Hawkeyes), trying to play basketball despite his extreme lack of coordination, and challenging his friends to Mario Kart or Super Smash Bros.



Jonathan Schneider

Visiting Assistant Professor

Mathematics and Computer Science Department

Ph.D. and M.S., Mathematics, University of Illinois, Chicago

B.A., Mathematics, Swarthmore College

Dr. Jonathan Schneider began teaching college mathematics in 2006 while a graduate student at the University of Illinois Chicago. His area of research is knot theory (the mathematical description and classification of knots, as one would tie with string) with particular focus in higher-dimensional knot analogs. He also enjoys writing about higher-dimensional solid geometry, the topology of origami and the combinatorics of the card game SET—all topics accessible to the imaginative undergraduate.

Jasmine Yarish

Visiting Assistant Professor

Political Science Department

Ph.D., Political Science, University of California

M.A., Political Theory, University of Essex

B.A., Political Science and French & Francophone Studies, William Smith College