

the Standard Deviation

Official Newsletter of the Manhattan College Department of Psychology

October 2020

Chair's Welcome



With our department's newsletter, *the Standard Deviation*, we continue to strive to give majors and minors an inside scoop on what's going on in the Department and in the field. Make sure you check out the interesting topics, our faculty highlight, recent accomplishments, and our alumni spotlight!

And, good luck with midterms, everyone!

--Dr. Moore



Course Spotlight:



Cultural Psychology (PSYC 348)

Taught by Dr. Nuwan Jayawickreme, *Cultural Psychology* takes the position that broad human similarities exist, but that there is also vast psychological variation that is observed across human groups. This course considers current theories and empirical research on culture, race, and ethnicity, and examines evidence suggesting that psychological processes are culture-and context-dependent. *This course also fulfills a non-Western culture requirement for the School of Liberal Arts core.



Dr. Maria Maust-Mohl
Associate Professor

Faculty Focus



***What is the focus of your research?**

The primary focus of my research is animal behavior and communication. Some of my recent work has focused on the vocalizations of Antillean manatees in Belize, including looking at changes in the activity patterns. I recently started working with staff in the reptile department at the Bronx Zoo to record and analyze vocalizations from different turtle species. I am also interested in human perceptions of animals, and I am excited to say that my colleagues and I recently had a paper accepted that evaluates factors that influence college students' attitudes about animals. We are planning to develop some new studies to examine perceptions of shelter animals.

***What do you do when you're not teaching or doing research?**

When I am not at work, I spend as much time as I can exploring the world with my family. I have two daughters who are 7 and 4, and it is amazing to see them grow and learn. I enjoy going to the movies, hiking, kayaking, snorkeling/scuba diving, and traveling to new places.

***Fun questions! What book are you reading right now? What is your can't-miss TV show? Have you seen any recent movies?**

I have recently been reading the book *Recursion* by Blake Crouch which has some interesting ideas about memory. October is my favorite time because I love horror films and am excited for the return of the show "The Walking Dead". However, the bulk of what I really watch are cartoons with my girls and it has been fun introducing them to classics such as "The Goonies"!

***Where did you earn your graduate degree?**

I received my PhD from the Graduate Center of CUNY in Biopsychology and Behavioral Neuroscience.

***What psychology courses do you teach?**

I teach a variety of different courses, including Roots Psychology: First Year Seminar; Statistics and Research Methods II; Cognition and Learning; Animal Cognition; Sensation and Perception; and Physiological Psychology.

***Can you tell us more about your Study Abroad course in the Bahamas?**

Next summer (2021), we are hoping to be able to return to Bimini! Students participating in the program will spend two weeks in Bimini, Bahamas to study the behavior and communication of spotted and bottlenose dolphins. The Bahamas project dolphin program is unique in that students gain first hand experience conducting research while swimming with wild dolphins. Students register for Sensation & Perception (PSYC 467) and will learn about the sensory systems of humans, dolphins and other species. The program is full of exciting experiences, so stay tuned for further details.
More info? Maria.maustmohl@manhattan.edu



Let's talk about the importance of VOTING

Our own Dr. Marin's research finds that voting in historically significant elections is meaningful for emerging adults (18 - 25 years) in defining aspects of the self. Political events and movements can be complicated, emotion-evoking, and personally relevant, as they encourage a reflection of values, beliefs, and worldviews.

Emerging adults make meaning of political events in different ways. For example, some emerging adults report that voting is meaningful because it is a way for them to individuate their beliefs about the world that are different from their parents' beliefs. Some emerging adults feel that voting in a crucial election allowed them to connect to a cohort identity during a historic time. In other words, emerging adults believed that their generation could make an impact and that their voices were being heard.

Dr. Marin's valuable research highlights development as central to understanding how people reason about politics and, consequently, how people make meaning of political experiences. Voting can be a meaningful way to connect to something larger than yourself!

(Marin, 2017; Marin & Leo, 2019)

Vote this November. Register now, don't delay!

Visit: <https://www.rockthevote.org>

If you are not 18 yet, find one person who can vote but may need some encouragement, and encourage them to vote!



It's time to make a change... apply for Psi Chi!

If you're looking for a great way to get involved, apply to be a member of **Psi Chi**, the international honor society in psychology. One of the largest honor societies in the United States, Psi Chi values superlative scholastic achievement and interest in the discipline of psychology.

The Manhattan College Chapter requires:

- 12 completed credits in psychology
- Declared major or minor in psychology
- An overall GPA of 3.4
- Psychology GPA of 3.4

How to apply (no later than Tuesday, October 6th at 3:00pm):

- Complete the application on the Psi Chi website, using this link: <https://www.psichi.org/page/JoinToday#.X3EsiSRq3Ds>
- Email a copy of your transcript in PDF format (an unofficial transcript downloaded from DegreeWorks is fine) to: Martha.mendezbaldwin@manhattan.edu. This is due by Oct. 6th at 3:00pm!
- Venmo \$90 (\$55 membership and \$35 chapter dues) to Martha.mendezbaldwin@manhattan.edu. This is due by Oct. 6th at 3:00pm. Make sure you type the email correctly and that you type PSI CHI DUES and YOUR NAME in the description box.



Let's get registered for SPRING courses!

It's time for Spring 2021 registration!

Registration begins on November 2nd. Please sign up with your psychology advisor ahead of time, so we can best meet your Spring scheduling needs. We'll be reaching out to you soon, so be on the lookout!

Want to get involved in faculty-led research programs?

Now's the time to reach out to faculty to form these relationships. You'll need to get onboard with a faculty member before advising time to be considered for a research assistantship. Spots are very limited. Because it's a selective process, don't wait too long, or spots will be taken!

Grad School Talk!

Join us on Wednesday, October 7th at 12:00 to talk about some of the most popular areas of graduate school training, and where they can take you!

Some of the areas we'll discuss include:

- *Clinical/Counseling Psychology
- *I/O Psychology
- *Developmental Psych
- *Neuroscience/Cognitive Psych
- *Social/Personality Psych
- *School Psychology
- *Social Work
- *Mental Health Counseling
- *Occupational Therapy
- *Family & Marriage Counseling
- *School Counseling (guidance counseling)
- *Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)


Zoom code: 848 6163 1000

Passcode: 073163

Upcoming Event!



Gear up this month for an exciting Noberini Colloquium!




THE PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT AND
PSYCHOLOGY CLUB PRESENTS

Noberini
Psychology
Colloquium

**Beyond Research: The
Public Health
Approach To Mental
Health**

Tuesday October 6TH
3:30PM

Join Us Virtually
meet.google.com/vgk-ebvo-ukg
(US) +1 320-803-0167
PIN: 381 254 424#



SPEAKER
**Amber
Bailey**
MANHATTAN COLLEGE ALUMNA
B.S. PSYCHOLOGY 2015

For More Information Contact Dr. Maria Maust-Mohl
maria.maustmohl@manhattan.edu

Did you know?



Dr. Kelly Marin

Dr. Marin is one of the leaders of Manhattan College's Middle States Commission on Higher Education accreditation team, which is preparing for our upcoming re-accreditation process. That's a *huge* task, and such an honor!

Dr. Zella Moore

Dr. Moore recently published a chapter on mindfulness in sport contexts in the 2-volume text, *Handbook of Sport Psychology*.

Dr. Danielle Young

Dr. Young recently published an article on transgendered individuals' legal right, in the journal *Social Psychological & Personality Science*.

Dr. Nuwan Jayawickreme

Dr. Nuwan is currently co-editing a special issue of *Asian American Journal of Psychology* on psychosocial interventions that promote health and well-being in forcibly displaced Asian populations.

Psi Chi members: Upcoming meeting!

Psi Chi will have it's first meeting of the semester on Wednesday, October 14th at 12:00pm. The meeting is open to current members of Psi Chi. We will be planning this semester's virtual events and holding elections. Please join us for this first event of the new academic year!

For more info, contact:

martha.mendez-baldwin@manhattan.edu

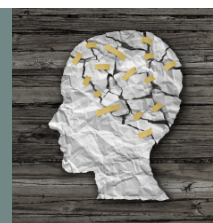


Victoria Argento, M.A.

Ph.D. Candidate in Clinical Psychology

Victoria Argento is finishing up her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at Hofstra University In New York. Majoring in Psychology and Philosophy with a minor in Italian, she earned her B.A. with honors in 2015 under the mentorship of Dr. Zella Moore and Dr. Martha Mendez-Baldwin. After graduation, Victoria immediately began her doctoral training at Hofstra, and is now in her final year of the program. She also recently defended her doctoral dissertation, entitled, "Examination of the Relationship between Trauma, Guilt and Moral Injury."

Alumni Spotlight



During her graduate education, she has served as a member of Hofstra's Phobia and Trauma Clinic, providing treatment primarily to individuals struggling with various anxiety and post-traumatic related distress. She has also worked with the Nassau County Veterans Court to provide evidence-based treatments to court-mandated veterans. She gained additional training through externship placements at Hofstra Student Counseling and the Brooklyn VA. In addition to her clinical responsibilities, Victoria served as both President and Executive Committee Member for the Graduate Students in Clinical Psychology at Hofstra. Her research has been focused on examining the prevalence of trauma-related guilt and moral injury in individuals with PTSD. She is now on internship at the Center for Motivation and Change through the Derner Internship Consortium where she provides individual and group psychotherapy to individuals struggling with substance use and related disorders.

Faculty at a Glance



Full-time Faculty:

Kim Fairchild, Ph.D.

Jay Friedenberg, Ph.D.

Nuwan Jayawickreme, Ph.D.

Arno Kolz, Ph.D.

Kelly Marin, Ph.D.

Maria Maust-Mohl, Ph.D.

Martha Mendez-Baldwin, Ph.D.

Zella Moore, Psy.D.

Danielle Young, Ph.D.

Adjunct Faculty:

Faith Florer, Ph.D.

Asghar Sajadian, Ph.D.

Kristin Palmieri, M.A.

Jennifer Pisco, M.A.

Follow us on social media!

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ManhattanCollegePsychology>

Twitter: @MC_Psychology

Learn more about our department on our homepage:

<https://manhattan.edu/academics/schools-and-departments/school-of-liberal-arts/.psychology-dept/index.php>

Something you'd like to see in an upcoming issue of *the Standard Deviation*? Let us know!

Email: zella.moore@manhattan.edu