

the Standard Deviation

Official Newsletter of the Manhattan College Department of Psychology

March 2018

Chair's Welcome:



We are about halfway through the Spring term, and it's an exciting time for the department. Advising and registration are upon us, summer planning is underway, and excellent events are taking shape! So, consult the newsletter for cool topics, our faculty highlight, recent accomplishments, our alumni spotlight, and fresh announcements!

It'll be summer before you know it...

--Dr. Moore

Course Spotlight:



Cognition & Learning (PSYC 340)

This course examines the concept of the mind and mental processes associated with the cognitive perspective in psychology. Students learn and discuss the theoretical and empirical perspectives of different mental activities, such as perception, attention, learning, memory, and problem solving. Students also have the opportunity to experience cognitive research as we think through and participate in cognitive experiments to evaluate the mind.

**Fall 2018: Offered M/Th, 9:30-10:45
with Dr. Maria Maust-Mohl

Faculty Focus



Dr. Arno Kolz
Associate Professor

***Where did you go to school?**

I graduated from the University of Akron with a Ph.D. in I/O Psychology in 1994.

***Which psychology courses do you teach?**

I currently teach courses in Industrial Psychology, Organizational Psychology, and Forensic Psychology. I also teach several sections of Roots: Psychology each year. In the past, I have taught courses in Consumer Psychology, Human Relations, and Organizational Development.

***Which undergraduate course did you find most influential, and why?**

This will seem odd for a psychologist, but the answer is Cultural Anthropology. It really opened my eyes to the diversity of human behavior around the world, and challenged my assumptions about what is “normal”.

Furthermore, the professor became a role model for me. He taught with a self-deprecating and approachable style that made students very comfortable. He also liked to spark debates on controversial issues. When I began teaching, I quite deliberately patterned my style after him.

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

There is a common thread that runs through my research, news sources I read, and even some of my hobbies. I like to predict things. As a result, most of my research has focused on cognitive and personality predictors of work performance. I have also done some research on organizational predictors of counterproductive workplace behavior. I also enjoy helping students develop their own research ideas and interests.

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

I have two children. Kayleigh is 18 and is a freshman in college. She and I have a lot of common interests, such as a similar taste in music and games. I also have a son, Kameron, who 16 and autistic. While it is hard to share activities with Kameron the way I do with Kayleigh, I can safely say that nothing has challenged me more, and helped me grow as a person, than having a special needs child.

***Now for some fun! What do you do for entertainment?**

I enjoy going to concerts and out to eat. I also like playing games such as Civilization, Magic, and even a little D and D now and then. I read a lot of sci-fi and fantasy books, such as the Song of Ice and Fire series, and anything by Brandon Sanderson. I am a big fan of all the Boston sports teams and rarely miss watching a game. Finally, I am really into fantasy baseball, and am co-commissioner of a fantasy baseball league that has been running for 28 years.



Bahamas Study Abroad Trip!

June 17-28, 2018

I think that dolphin is smiling at you!

Looking for a fun adventure this summer? Come to the Bahamas for two weeks, join our field research team, and take part in a unique opportunity to observe and swim with wild dolphins up-close, in their natural habitats.

Students who join our team for two weeks (June 17-28, 2018) will study the anatomy and physiology of sensory systems, social behavior, and communication of wild dolphins in the Bahamas. Participants must know how to swim and snorkel, but otherwise no special skill or experience is required to participate. Participants will register for PSYC 367: Sensation & Perception (3 credits) or EVST 400 (3 credits).

Trip fees will include (estimated \$3600):

- ❖ Tuition
- ❖ Two week accommodation and meals at the Sea Crest Hotel
- ❖ Daily trips on a 42' boat to observe dolphins
- ❖ Ground transportations
- ❖ Trip insurance

Questions? Please contact maria.maustmohl@manhattan.edu or visit the Study Abroad Office.

Who's Who?

Guess your faculty members by our baby pictures!



A



B



C



D



E



F



G



H



I

A = DY B = MM-M C = AK D = JF E = KF F = ZM G = NJ H = MM-B I = KM

Noberini Psychology Colloquium



Eric Angel Ramos

Ph.D. Candidate at CUNY- Graduate Center

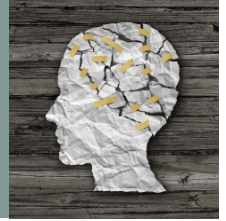
April 3rd, 2018

3:30pm, Hayden 100

Join us on April 3rd at 3:30pm in Hayden 100 as our Noberini Psychology Colloquium speaker Eric Angel Ramos gives an interesting talk on life as a Ph.D. student at CUNY and researching marine mammals in Belize and Mexico!

Eric Angel Ramos is a Ph.D. student in Animal Behavior and Comparative Psychology. Since 2011, he has led research trips with students and volunteers to study the behavior of bottlenose dolphins and Antillean manatees in Belize, and has been a field scientist for the Oceanic Society. His research focuses on behavioral ecology, communication, and conservation of marine mammals in Belize and Mexico. He piloted the use of Unmanned Aerial Systems for observing and tracking bottlenose dolphins and Antillean manatees to conduct studies on their communication and behavior in the wild. He serves as a guest scientist for The Whales of Guerrero Research Project in Guerrero, Mexico, studying dolphins and humpback whales. Recently, he published on the skin diseases of bottlenose dolphins and reviewed the presence of aquatic mammals in Belize.

Alumni Spotlight



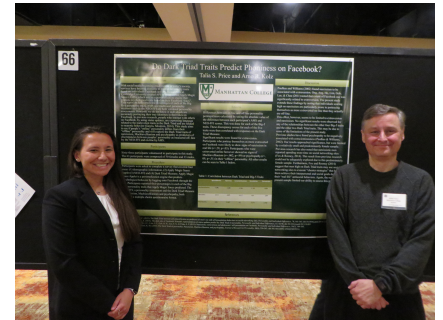
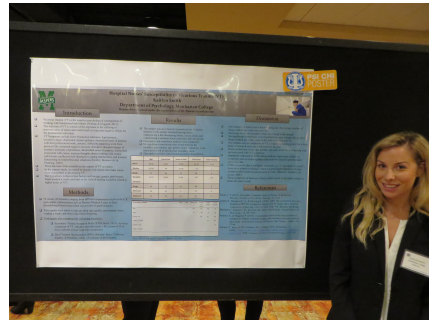
Elena Rotondo, M.S.

Elena Rotondo is a proud graduate of Manhattan College, class of 2013. Elena earned her Bachelor of Science in Psychology and completed two research assistantships under Drs. Kelly Marin and Jay Friedenber. Following graduation from Manhattan College, Elena pursued graduate studies in behavioral neuroscience at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Elena is currently finishing her doctorate in neuroscience in the Behavioral and Systems Neuroscience program at Rutgers University- New Brunswick.

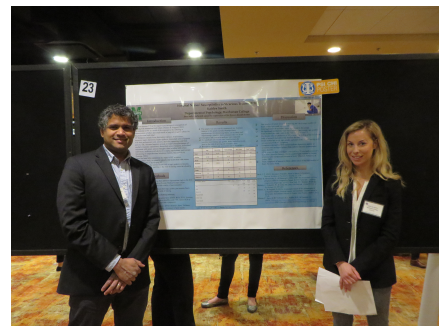
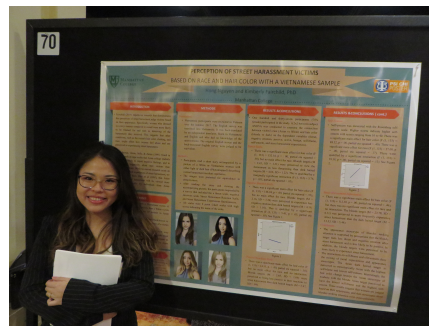
After graduating from Manhattan College, Elena began her graduate program in neuroscience at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She earned her master's degree for her original research describing novel molecular mechanisms in the brain that enable the storage of memories, and was awarded the Graduate Student Excellence Fellowship for her work. Now completing her doctorate in neuroscience at Rutgers University, Elena's research is aimed at manipulating molecules in the brain in order to enhance the strength and level of detail of memory. She is confident that her work will facilitate the development of new treatment strategies for populations with learning and memory impairments. Elena is also currently co-chairing the Rutgers Sensory Research Network, which promotes interdisciplinary discussion and collaboration among scientists working with sensory systems. Elena attributes her success in neuroscience research to her time at Manhattan College, where she received personalized attention in classes, excellent mentorship, and research opportunities that allowed her to explore her passion and focus her interests.

CHECK OUT YOUR PEERS IN ACTION!

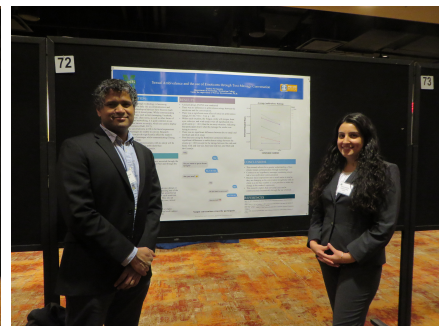
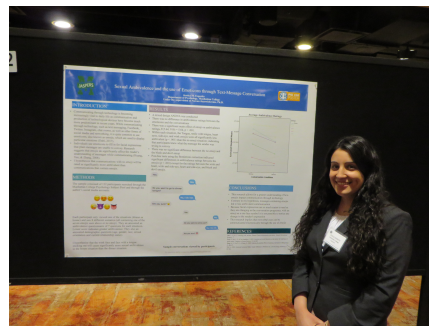
In early March, several MC psych majors presented their research at the Eastern Psychological Association's (EPA) annual conference, in Philadelphia, PA! Here's a bit about each presentation:



Jessica Esposito and Dr. Nuwan Jayawickreme: Sexual Ambivalence and the Use of Emoticons through Text Message Conversations.



Kaitlyn Smith and Dr. Nuwan Jayawickreme: Hospital Nurses' Susceptibility to Vicarious Trauma



Hong Nguyen and Dr. Kim Fairchild: Perceptions of Street Harassment Victims Based on Race and Hair Color



Talia Price and Dr. Arno Kolz: Do Dark Triad Traits Predict Phoniness on Facebook?

****You've heard that research experience is important— but do you know how to get involved? Reach out to psych faculty members to form these relationships! This is the time to discuss a possible research assistantship for the Fall term. But don't wait... it's a selective process, and spots go fast!**

Faculty at a Glance



Full-time Faculty:

Kim Fairchild, Ph.D.

Jay Friedenber, 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.

Stephen Keolamphu, Ph.D.

James Reidel, Ph.D.

Robert Rivera, M.A.

Asghar Sajadian, Ph.D.

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