

# the Standard Deviation

Official Newsletter of the Manhattan College Department of Psychology

October 2017

## Chair's Welcome:



Welcome to this issue of *the Standard Deviation*. With midterms upon us and Spring registration just ahead, try to take a few minutes to see what's going on in the Psych Department. We may not have Halloween candy, but we have cool topics, our faculty highlight, recent accomplishments, and our alumni spotlight!

Keep up your momentum!

--Dr. Moore



## Course Spotlight:



## *Psychology of Beauty and Art*

*(PSYC 330: Special Topics)*

This brand new special topics course will be taught in Spring 2018 by Dr. Jay Friedenber, who just wrote a new book on this subject! The course will examine the science and theory of aesthetics. We will look at what makes faces and bodies beautiful. In addition we will examine what is considered beautiful in all disciplines of the arts, including painting, music, dance, film, and architecture.

\*Offered Spring 2018 on T/W/F 10:00-10:50am

## Faculty Focus



**Dr. Kelly Marin**  
Associate Professor

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

I graduated from Emory University (Atlanta, Georgia) in 2008 with a Ph.D. in cognitive developmental psychology.

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

I teach Statistics, Motivation & Emotion, Psychology of Adolescence, Psychology of the Family, Introductory to Psychology II, and in the spring, I will be teaching Life Span Development for the first time, which I am very excited about.

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

When I was a junior at Texas State University, I took a Behavior Modification course. Over the course of the semester, we needed to modify one of our behaviors. I very much enjoyed the course, as we applied psychological principles to our lives. Across the semester we had to complete weekly personal reflections on our self-modification. I try to incorporate personal reflections into my courses and assignments because I find it to be a meaningful way for students to learn the course material and maybe even something about themselves.

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

The broad question that guides my work, which is relevant to each of us, is: how do we make sense of our experiences? I suggest that how individuals make sense of their experiences, and even more, gain self-understanding is through the telling and sharing of autobiographical memory narratives. In other words: stories about one's past. The stories I collect are either written or verbal accounts of usually very personal and emotional experiences. I believe that these narratives are the defining expression of who we are. Recently, I've become interested in political psychology. Specifically, how people make sense of important and historical political events they've experienced. This recent work has been challenging but also exciting, as it has taken me out of my comfort zone a bit.

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

Most of my time is spent playing with my two kids, Zoe (3 years) and Charlie (1 year). Zoe enjoys playing dress up and anything involving pretend, while Charlie enjoys playing with his toy animals and trucks. They both love to be read to, so I read a lot of children's books!

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

For fun, I go to the city to have dinner with friends. I also enjoy stand-up- when my husband I can get away, we like to go to Comedy Cellar for a show. I enjoy relaxing in front of the TV. I am currently in the first season of Ozarks with Jason Bateman. It's worth a watch. Like my kids, I really love to read (mostly fiction). I just started *Imagine Me Gone* by Adam Haslett, which captures a father's struggle with depression- and what it means for his family. The book unfolds across decades with each chapter reflecting a family member's perspective. So far, I've had a few tears, but also some laughs.



## Did You Know?

It's advising time for Spring 2018 registration! Advising is much more than choosing courses. Your psychology advisor can address so many questions you may have, inform you of interesting volunteer activities, and help you ponder some possible future career paths and graduate school options. Team up with us to get the most out of advising!

Registration begins on November 1<sup>st</sup>. Please sign up with your psychology advisor ahead of time, so you can best meet your Spring scheduling needs.

When preparing your schedule, consider some of our fantastic electives! This spring, broaden your knowledge base with elective courses like:

- \* *Psychology of Beauty and Art*
- \* *Psychological Testing*
- \* *Psychology of Women*
- \* *Psychology of Music*
- \* *Introduction to Social Services*

## Get Involved!



### Safe Halloween

On Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, Psych Club is sponsoring this annual event for children in the community, where they will trick-or-treat and participate in fun activities. Help Psych Club decorate, hand out candy, and color with the kids!

If interested, email [psychclub@manhattan.edu](mailto:psychclub@manhattan.edu)

### Aid for Puerto Rico

Psi Chi, Psychology Arches, and Psych Club are collecting these items to send to Puerto Rico: diapers, baby food, batteries, first aid supplies, and feminine hygiene products.

Collection boxes are located outside offices of Dr. Mendez-Baldwin (MEM 408) and Dr. Marin (DLS 448).

### Out of the Darkness Suicide Prevention Walk

Psych Club will be participating in the Out of the Darkness Suicide Prevention Walk on Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> in Battery Park. Sign in is at 9:00 AM and the walk is 11:30-2:00. Roommates, friends, family, teammates, and classmates are invited to join as well! To attend, email [psychclub@manhattan.edu](mailto:psychclub@manhattan.edu) BY October 19th.



## **Considering an Internship?**

Build skills, make connections, and challenge yourself with an internship!

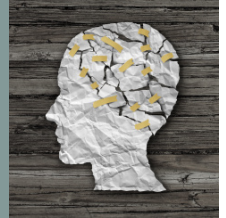
The Center for Career Development is there for you every step of the way. Check out Handshake to search for internship opportunities, and reach out to CCD to take the next steps toward your future.

### **Just a few interesting internship sites include:**

- \* NYC Department of Probation
- \* U.S. Department of Probation
- \* New York Presbyterian Hospital
- \* Bronx Psychiatric Hospital
- \* NY Psychiatric Hospital



## Alumni Spotlight



### Nicole McCarthy, B.A.

Nicole McCarthy is a proud graduate of Manhattan College. Majoring in psychology with a concentration in industrial-organizational psychology, Nicole earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in 2015 under the mentorship of Dr. Arno Kolz. Upon graduation, Nicole relocated to Los Angeles to pursue a career within the staffing/recruiting industry. Nicole currently works for Marcus & Millichap, the nation's leading commercial real estate investment sales firm.

After moving to Los Angeles, Nicole began her career at Mondo, a technology and creative professional services firm that focuses on placing individuals in both temporary and full-time positions. After initially being tasked with founding and spearheading Mondo's California office, Nicole was quickly promoted to Senior Account Director working with the firm's preferred national accounts all along the West Coast. Following her tenure at Mondo, she took an opportunity at Marcus & Millichap's Corporate Headquarters to partner with senior leadership on driving recruitment efforts for the firm. Currently, Nicole is responsible for all East Coast based recruitment efforts as it relates to experienced investment sales agents, mortgage originators, general staff members, and executive searches. Along with Nicole's passion for the staffing industry, she has been able to utilize her knowledge as a student of industrial-organization psychology to better place individuals in their optimal roles. She attributes her continued success to the personal, academic and professional support she received from the psychology department during her time at Manhattan College.

# 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.

James Reidel, Ph.D.

Robert Rivera, M.A.

Asghar Sajadian, Ph.D.

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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](mailto:zella.moore@manhattan.edu)