

Radow College INNOVATIVE PEDAGOGY



KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY

NORMAN J. RADOW COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCE Office of Academic Innovation

2024-2025







DEAN'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the third annual publication of Radow College's *Innovative Pedagogy*. The individuals featured in this collection were nominated by their department chairs or school directors for their expertise in creating dynamic and effective learning environments that lead to improved student outcomes.

This recognition underscores our college's greatest asset—our faculty, whose contributions drive the university's mission and support our students. I am both impressed by and proud of the innovative educational methodologies highlighted in this publication.

These featured educators have demonstrated an ongoing commitment to enhancing students' learning experiences and their work not only fosters academic achievement but also cultivates critical thinking, creativity, and lifelong learning.

It is my hope that this publication will inspire continued dialogue and collaboration within our academic community, ultimately leading to sustained improvements in teaching and learning.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all those honored in this edition and express my gratitude for their unwavering dedication to educational innovation and excellence.

With appreciation,



FACU	LTY INDEX	PAGE 6	DARINA LEPADATU
PAGE 1 S	STEPHEN BARTLETT	PAGE 6	TANJA LINK
PAGE 1	MASONYA BENNETT	PAGE 6	FELICIA MAINELLA
PAGE 1 F	RED CARROLL	PAGE 7	PAUL N. MCDANIEL
PAGE 1	AKIKO DAVIS	PAGE 7	BARBARA NEUBY
PAGE 2 L	YDIA FERGUSON	PAGE 7	MARK PATTERSON
PAGE 2	MACARIO GARCIA	PAGE 7	JOSUE PINEIRO
PAGE 2	(ATARINA GEPHARDT	PAGE 8	TERRY POWIS
PAGE 2	ALICE F. GOODING	PAGE 8	KANU PRIYA SINGH
PAGE 3	JEFFREY GREENE	PAGE 8	JENNIFER PURCELL
PAGE 3	MEGAN HAUSER	PAGE 8	TERESA P. RACZEK
PAGE 3	ELIZABETH HETZEL	PAGE 9	JASON RHODES
PAGE 3	NANCY HOALST-PULLEN	PAGE 9	ALLEN D. ROBERTS
PAGE 4 F	POLLY HOWES	PAGE 9	THOMAS ROTNEM
PAGE 4 U	JLI INGRAM	PAGE 9	VANESSA SLINGER-FRIEDMAN
PAGE 4	OORIAN "LEE" JACKSON	PAGE 10	LAUREN TAGLIALATELA
PAGE 4	VENHUA JIN	PAGE 10	GRISELDA THOMAS
PAGE 5	SARAH JOHNSON	PAGE 10	LISA THOMPSON
PAGE 5	RANBIR KANG	PAGE 10	JUN TU
PAGE 5	SUSAN KIRKPATRICK SMITH	PAGE 11	ELAINE VENTER
PAGE 5 E	ELICIA LAIR	PAGE 11	LUCIE VIAKINNOU-BRINSON
PAGE 6	KEATON LAMLE	PAGE 11	KENNETH WILLIAMSON
		The Book of the Control of the Contr	

STEPHEN BARTLETT

Department of History & Philosophy

Professor Stephen Bartlett promotes student engagement with the "Study Abroad in Atlanta" assignment in his Origins of Great Traditions course. Taking advantage of the multicultural composition of the Atlanta metro area, students visit a variety of sites associated with the great religions of the world, interview practitioners, and review associated international cuisine. The immersive experience is capped off with a research paper on the history of the aspects they found most intriguing. Along with creating a portfolio documenting the assignment, students are encouraged to share their experiences with each other in group discussions and chat platforms. The assignment was impactful enough to earn it a "shout-out" on the Jeopardy! College Championship show (2022).



MASONYA BENNETT

Interdisciplinary Studies Department

Dr. Masonya Bennett approaches her Black and Minority Entrepreneurship course through an innovative community-centered learning model. By integrating service-learning projects with local Black and minority-owned businesses, Dr. Bennett creates authentic entrepreneurial experiences for her students. Students complete service hours with local businesses, develop business reports spotlighting minority enterprises, and interact with successful entrepreneurs like social media influencer Marley Ralph. Dr. Bennett leverages strategic partnerships with KSU's Entrepreneurship and Innovation Center and Center for Africana Studies to provide students with networking opportunities and real-world experience.

FRED CARROLL

Interdisciplinary Studies Department

To improve student success, Dr. Fred Carroll overhauled his US History to 1877 survey course by adopting the core principles of backward design. While doing so, he shifted from a lecture-focused course to a flipped-classroom, team-based learning approach. This redesign more effectively aligned content and assessments with course objectives; significantly diminished lecturing in favor of active-learning activities and discussion; provided more frequent and structured formative assessments; and more intentionally fostered a welcoming learning community. His centerpiece assessment, a role-playing game where students debated whether colonial New York should declare independence from Great Britain, is considered a signature pedagogy in the field of history.



AKIKO DAVIS

Department of World Languages and Cultures

Professor Davis demonstrates a deep commitment to student success through innovative, student-centered teaching. She creatively integrates culturally rich content—such as Japanese folktales—and digital tools like Padlet to make learning more engaging and inclusive. Her impact is reflected in her outstanding student evaluations as well as recognitions such as being named an Expanding the NEST Innovator and the Asian Studies Outstanding Senior Faculty Mentor. Beyond the classroom, Professor Davis mentors students in the Japanese Speech Contest, supervises independent studies, and supports global engagement through study abroad. In 2024, she co-led an interdisciplinary study abroad program to Japan, fostering a collaboration with STEM and preparing students for global opportunities.



LYDIA FERGUSON WITH ELIZABETH HETZEL

Department of English

Professor Lydia Ferguson created the Aegis Digital Museum as a space for students to publish and archive course creations as a career-forward exercise in self-presentation and growth. The site may be found here:

https://aegisdigitalmuseum.kennesaw.edu

Professor Ferguson collaborated with Elizabeth Hetzel to provide opportunities for students in their classes to submit and publish works to this site. For instance, Professor Hetzel worked with a class to create digital archives related to student cultural heritage.

MACARIO GARCIA

Department of Geography & Anthropology

Dr. Mac Garcia teaches upper division courses like Anthropology of Gender and Colonialism and Incarceration, implementing active learning through assignments like oral histories and mutual aid projects. He partners with the KSU Women's Center and created a pen pal program with retirement facility residents. Dr. Garcia uses open-access resources to lessen students' financial burden and incorporates group work to reduce testing anxiety. He mentors undergraduate research projects at the Atlanta History Museum archives. Dr. Garcia has implemented peer-review editing, collaborative exams, and class activity leaders into his classroom rotations. He is also a lifelong learner currently taking classes in GIS and Spanish.



KATARINA GEPHARDT

Department of English

Dr. Katarina Gephardt redesigned her ENGL 2174 Survey of British Literature around the theme "Home and the World," which allows for a critical examination of the legacy of the British Empire. She used the COVE (Collaborative Organization for Virtual Education) platform, a public-facing digital humanities platform enabling projects such as text annotations and production of critical editions. The platform enabled her to diversify the assigned reading in that course, to reduce the cost to students, and, especially, to increase student engagement and discourage Al misuse in this course by incorporating iterative and public-facing components in the course.

ALICE F. GOODING

Department of Geography & Anthropology

Dr. Alice Gooding's communicative style, even in online settings, led one student to comment, "Dr. Gooding is very thorough in her online courses. I do not feel like I miss anything being online vs. in-person." She ensures material is engaging to aid retention, even in fully online environments. She incorporates field-based learning in courses such as Crime Scene Archaeology, where law enforcement officials speak to students. Dr. Gooding has expanded the bone cast collection for biological anthropology courses, ensuring hands-on learning. She trains law enforcement at the Forensic Anthropology Field Lab, using earned funds to purchase equipment for students. At the Georgia Academy of Science, one of her students was awarded Best Undergraduate Presentation in Anthropology.



JEFFREY GREENE

Department of English

Professor Jeff Greene teaches courses in creative/professional writing that help students find their authorial voice and submit their work outside of the classroom as a student success activity. In his fiction writing courses, he teaches students how to navigate the process of submitting fiction for publication. In his internship courses, he asks students to interview career experts as part of the process of building a professional identity. He has presented on this work to an audience of English administrators at the annual Modern Language Association/American Departments of English summer leadership seminar.



MEGAN HAUSER

School of Government and International Affairs

Dr. Megan Hauser strives to find ways to get students to engage with the changing world in her International Relations, Global Issues, and American Government classes. She incorporates current events journals into these classes so students can engage with the news, look for connections to class concepts, and reflect on how the events relate to their own lives. She also utilizes assignments fro which students analyze the ways their Congressional Representatives use social media to engage with constituents, and examine proposed and implemented bills in the Georgia Assembly. This facilitates critical thinking and analytical skills and helps students see the relevance of the material to citizenship and global awareness.

ELIZABETH HETZEL WITH LYDIA FERGUSON

Department of English

Professor Elizabeth Hetzel created the Aegis Digital Museum as a space for students to publish and archive course creations as a career-forward exercise in self-presentation and growth. The site may be found here:

https://aegisdigitalmuseum.kennesaw.edu

Professor Hetzel collaborated with Lydia Ferguson to provide opportunities for students in their classes to submit and publish works to this site. For instance, Professor Hetzel worked with a class to create digital archives related to student cultural heritage.





NANCY HOALST-PULLEN

Department of Geography & Anthropology

Dr. Nancy Hoalst-Pullen mentors and supervises students as the GSS internship coordinator, placing them in real job experiences with industry partners. Feedback from site supervisors is positive, with many students offered positions following their internships. She elevates the Professionalism and Ethics course by bringing in guest speakers, including program alumni. Dr. Hoalst-Pullen promotes active learning through events like Drone Flight Day and GSS Night. Her Biogeography course offers hands-on field-based learning at the KSU Field Station, Arboretum, and Tree Ring Lab. She maintains the Biogeography Inventory Research and Dendrology Studies (BIRDS) initiative, tracking tree species and environmental changes at KSU.



POLLY HOWES

School of Communication & Media

Dr. Howes strives to ensure that her courses are timely and are connected to students' preparation for industry. She developed and offered two timely special PR courses: one in Al and one on the Olympics. Her engagement with students demonstrates an emphasis on application and relevance. Finally, as evidenced by the her recognition from the PR Division of AEJMC, she pursues excellence by incorporating SOTL.

ULI INGRAM

Department of Geography & Anthropology

Professor Uli Ingram utilizes the latest pedagogical technologies to ensure efficacious teaching and learning. She monitors student performance through uHoo Analytics and midterm grades, and she has secured multiple Affordable Learning Georgia ALG Open Educational Resources grants to develop no-cost textbooks and teaching materials. Professor Ingram provides hands-on learning as the geography internship coordinator, GIS lab coordinator, and manager of the 3D printing lab, where students integrate GIS and 3D printing to develop innovative research projects, such as designing waterproof geocache containers and conducting spatial analysis of body dumping sites. She is experimenting with AI to create teaching materials, funded through a collaborative ALG grant.



DORIAN "LEE" JACKSON

Department of World Languages and Cultures Dr. Jackson's teaching reflects a strong commitment to student success, innovative curriculum development, and reflective teaching. He skillfully manages a wide range of courses and continuously enhances the curriculum to meet student needs. His revisions-such as integrating accessibility features and streamlining grading through online platforms—have improved clarity and efficiency, directly addressing student feedback. Student evaluations consistently highlight his ability to foster critical thinking and prepare students for real-world experiences, particularly through his leadership for the PEGS Costa Rica study abroad trip and his supervision of internships. Beyond instruction, Dr. Jackson led the WLC Microcredentials Taskforce, bringing four Microcredentials to full fruition.



WENHUA JIN

Department of World Languages and Cultures

Dr. Jin's teaching is marked by her innovative use of technology and studentcentered pedagogy. She skillfully integrates AI tools for audio assignments and the LINE Chinese app to support skill development, enhancing engagement and practical application. Her revisions to course materials deepen students' connections to the content. Dr. Jin demonstrated strong leadership by supervising five independent studies and advising undergraduates. Her direction of the One-on-One Language Partner program, which connected more than 40 students with peers in China, significantly enriched students' intercultural learning. She also led the Chinese Club and Discussion Table, expanding opportunities for cultural exchange outside the classroom.



SARAH JOHNSON

School of Communication & Media

Professor Johnson exemplifies striving fo excellence in her teaching. She has incorporated a number of innovative strategies and materials in her lessons, including feedback on syllabus redesigns, the use of uHoo Learning Analytics to track learners, and a focus on industry-relevant course redesigns. Her work is improving the student learning experience in her courses.



RANBIR KANG

Department of Geography & Anthropology Dr. Ranbir Kang is part of an Affordable Learning Georgia grant to provide open access resources for Introduction to GIS. He advocates for undergraduate research, offering opportunities through programs like First Year Scholars, Sophomore Scholars, Federal Work Study, and Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity grants. Dr. Kang supervises directed applied research students who use LiDAR and GIS technologies, presenting their research at the Student Scholar Symposium. He includes active learning in courses like Introduction to Landforms, engaging students with fluvial processes on KSU's campus. His students learn point cloud analysis, making them industry competitive and career ready.

SUSAN KIRKPATRICK SMITH

Department of Geography & Anthropology

Dr. Susan Kirkpatrick Smith offers anthropology majors opportunities to travel to the Institute for Aegean Prehistory Study Center for East Crete to conduct bioarchaeological research. Students engage in high impact practices like international education, undergraduate research, capstone experiences, and intensive writing. This program is the only undergraduate bioarchaeology field school offered by a USG institution. Dr. Smith is the anthropology program and internship coordinator, engaging with site supervisors at the Funk Heritage Center and Edwards-Pitman Firm. Her students worked on 3D printed skulls for educational purposes, presenting at the Student Scholar Symposium and Georgia Academy of Science.



ELICIA LAIR

Department of Psychological Science

Dr. Elicia Lair's Social Psychology students take a hands-on, creative, and playful approach to exploring human behavior. Through three project portfolios-focused on identity, persuasion, and social norms-students engage with key concepts in ways that are personal, interactive, and dynamic. Instead of simply memorizing theories, they bring them to life through self-directed projects, creative applications, and the use of cutting-edge AI tools, reinforcing the link between theory and realworld application. Whether designing persuasive media, composing Al-generated music, or analyzing social behaviors, students shape their own learning experience. This not only makes learning more meaningful but helps students develop adaptability and problem-solving skills that extend beyond the classroom.



KEATON LAMLE

Department of English

Dr. Keaton Lamle, as part of his investment in Global Education and High-Impact Practices, created a new course that he's offering through the Oaxaca Program, Literature of Food and Travel. This entailed new reading assignments, writing prompts, and high stakes projects, in addition to extra lecture sessions. The class incorporates goal-directed practice in on-the-ground research followed by targeted feedback sessions to promote student success.

DARINA LEPADATU

School of Conflict Management, Peacebuilding and Development

Dr. Darina Lepadatu's pedagogy tries to challenge students to understand people from different cultures. In her doctoral course, Qualitative Methods in International Conflict Management, her students engage in virtual international research for their qualitative projects, such as analyzing framing narratives of conflict by conducting content analysis of social media posts, deepfake images and videos, memes and cartoons, newspaper articles, and UN speeches related to conflicts across the world. In the Introduction to Sociology course, Dr. Lepadatu organized an Intercultural Engagement Activity through which groups of KSU students virtually met with Romanian students to discuss their experiences as college students and engage in comparative discussions about their societies.



TANJA LINK

Department of Sociology & Criminal Justice Dr. Tanja Link, as the Criminal Justice Internship Coordinator, cultivates innovative programs and courses that extend learning beyond the traditional classroom and engage students directly with criminal justice-affected youth and adults. Perhaps the most significant of these is the New Connections Project (NCP), which brings together university students and incarcerated individuals, most recently adults in Transitional Centers and juveniles in Youth Detention Centers, to learn alongside one another. This unique co-learning opportunity introduces KSU students to key players in prison education and the Georgia Department of Corrections, as well as provides opportunities to connect with returned citizens to learn more about the transformative importance of education for justice-impacted individuals.



FELICIA MAINELLA

Interdisciplinary Studies Department

Dr. Felicia Mainella integrates experiential learning in an asynchronous delivery in her course Building and Leading Effective Teams. Her pedagogical method emphasizes real-world application by requiring students to maintain analytical journals about teams they actively participate in, bridging theoretical concepts with lived experience. Dr. Mainella adapts traditional team-building activities for online environments while maintaining rigor and authenticity, and her reflective practice has led to insights about clarifying virtual collaboration expectations and distinguishing between different types of team assignments. This iterative approach to course design shows her dedication to creating a supportive learning community where students develop skills for their current and future professional contexts.



PAUL N. MCDANIEL

Department of Geography & Anthropology

Dr. Paul N. McDaniel teaches geography courses like World Regional Geography, Geography of Europe, Cultural Geography, and Health Geography, exposing students to geographic perspectives early on. He integrates geospatial technologies into his courses, preparing students for future careers. Dr. McDaniel shared his approach to integrating ArcGIS Online in assignments through a SoTL publication. He won the Faculty Award for Outstanding Online Teaching, recognizing his commitment to engaging students, building presence, fostering community, and promoting student success in the virtual environment. He coauthored the nomination packet that led to the geography and geospatial programs winning the USG Regents' Teaching Excellence Award.



BARBARA NEUBY



School of Government and International Affairs

In Dr. Barbara Neuby's Organization Theory graduate course, students choose a mission from a short list and then create their own organization using the main themes from every school of theory they have studied. They must build the structure, the hierarchy, assign duties to each position in the hierarchy, describe the power arrangement, establish personnel rules, form a set of cultural values, explain how they will acquire environmental resources, produce services, and describe how they will give back to society. Students are then required to critique and vote on each other's organizations. Through this experience, they learn more and improve their own creations.

MARK PATTERSON



Dr. Mark Patterson coordinates the general education course Introduction to Landforms, providing non-STEM majors with a science alternative. He conducted a year-long SoTL study on teaching interventions, published in the Journal of Geography in Higher Education. Another SoTL study by Dr. Patterson examined student procrastination rates, resulting in a predictive model with 80% accuracy. He works with colleagues on an Affordable Learning Georgia grant to develop a TILT framework for Introduction to GIS, aiming to improve pass rates. Dr. Patterson co-edits The Geographic Bulletin, targeting student research. His work supports the university's liberal arts mission and enhances student outcomes.



JOSUE PINEIRO



Department of History & Philosophy

Dr. Pineiro strives to create a classroom environment that empowers students to take ownership of their learning journey by emphasizing dialogue and by cultivating a sense of community of inquiry. To achieve this, he employs student-directed discussions, student-led workshops, and spontaneous group work on philosophical problems that arise organically. Another core practice is "ungrading," which avoids the use of grades on assignments and focuses on providing rich feedback on student work. This allows students to experiment and take risks they would otherwise not take. Such risks—even when they don't pay off in their favor—become an educational experience by showing students their weaknesses, or lack of understanding, and opening opportunities for growth.



TERRY POWIS

Department of Geography & Anthropology

Dr. Terry Powis prioritizes diverse learning styles through lectures, discussions, debates, quest lecturers, and hands-on exercises that develop students' analytical and critical thinking skills. He has established local and international field sites for valuable hands-on experiences in archaeology. Dr. Powis mentors students by offering career advice and professional guidance. He involves students as field school staff in his research at the Cummings site and hosts Archaeology Day with New South and Associates, providing hands-on experiences. He participates in public archaeology events in Georgia and Belize, exposing students to ongoing research. Dr. Powis supervises graduate and post-graduate students at his Belize field site.

KANU PRIYA SINGH

Department of Technical Communication and Interactive Design

Dr. Singh, who joined KSU in fall 2024, has already proven herself to be an adept and reflective teacher. This semester and last fall, she taught Ethnography for Designers and Usability Testing. From this teaching experience she made several astute assessments about her assignments and grading practices, she initiated feedback and made impactful revisions to her courses. Her changes from one semester to the next, bolstered by her willingness to share her own work with students, provided her learners with exceptional experiences.



School of Government and International Affairs

JENNIFER PURCELL

Dr. Jennifer Purcell advances student success through a vertically integrated project (VIP) team model. Her VIP research team provides project-based learning opportunities for students enrolled in her program evaluation and public policy courses as well as First-Year Scholars, Honors Scholars, and graduate research assistants. The VIP research team is cross-disciplinary and engages community partners, practitioners, and faculty colleagues who provide diverse insights and expanded opportunities for collaboration to address real-world problems. Projects span multiple years and provide faculty-supported research experience, including dissemination through presentations and publications, peer-to-peer mentoring, and leadership development for students.



TERESA P. RACZEK

Department of Geography & Anthropology

Dr. Teresa Raczek's classes are essential to the anthropology curriculum. She creates high-impact practice activities like carving steatite, creating Instagram-like posts of artifacts, and researching artifacts using published site reports. These hands-on experiences improve student outcomes and career readiness. Dr. Raczek offered a unique Maymester course, "The Material Life of Museums," where students visited local museums and met professionals, leading to internships and job offers. She co-authored a SoTL article, "Teaching Interventions in Online Lab-based Physical Geography General Education Courses," contributing to student success in KSU and USG's general education curriculum.



JASON RHODES

Department of Geography & Anthropology

Dr. Jason Rhodes teaches upper-division elective courses in sustainability, such as Geographies of Sustainable Agriculture and Geography of Clothing, providing hands-on learning through visits to the KSU Food Forest and interviews with garment workers at Brac University in Dhaka, Bangladesh. He supervises directed applied research students, offering community engagement opportunities in sustainable urban agriculture and sustainable fashion. Dr. Rhodes maintains strong relationships with community partners, showing students real-world applications of classroom learning. His work with EcoOwls and the Geography Student Club provides campus-wide learning opportunities around sustainability.



ALLEN D. ROBERTS

School of Government and International Affairs

Dr. Allen D. Roberts teaches geography, geospatial sciences, and land surveying courses like Photogrammetry and Drone Analysis, Terrain Analysis, and Surveying Computations and Adjustments. He ensures students receive timely information, such as ASPRS Positional Accuracy Standards. His Geospatial Sciences Practice course serves as a capstone for GSS majors, adopting ArcGIS Pro-based labs and developing projects with industry partners. Dr. Roberts mentored students on a directed applied research project with Environment Sandy Springs, working on "Information to Improve Sandy Springs Tree Ordinance," a citizen science project addressing climate change and biodiversity loss.

THOMAS ROTNEM

School of Government and International Affairs

Dr. Thomas Rotnem's "Comparative Democratization" course offers a three-week simulation experience that allows students to reflect upon the theories and praxis of democratization while assuming various roles in a hypothetical, democratizing society. Given a variety of socio-economic, demographic, historical, and ethnic data, students discuss and debate the advantages and disadvantages of the most effective transitional trajectory, the role of mobilized social groups, type of government, electoral law, party system, etc. Students also submit a briefing paper that discusses their initial positions on issues, alliance formation strategies, as well as policy recommendations put forward at the forum. Students also reflect upon likely problems attending system consolidation.



VANESSA SLINGER-FRIEDMAN



Department of Geography & Anthropology

Dr. Vanessa Slinger-Friedman teaches Senior Seminar in Geography, in which students create graduation portfolios for internships, graduate school, and employment. She offers Teaching Climate Change, expanding the department's footprint into graduate education. Dr. Slinger-Friedman supervises interns at OwlSwap, providing high-impact practice work experiences in sustainable fashion. She mentors Peace Corps Prep students at the KSU Food Forest, preparing them for Peace Corps applications and deployment. The KSU Food Forest and OwlSwap are designated as Living Learning Labs, offering experiential education opportunities. Her efforts led to the geography and geospatial sciences programs receiving the USG Teaching Excellence Award.



LAUREN TAGLIALATELA

Department of Psychological Science

Dr. Taglialatela created and delivered Navigating Challenges: The Psychology of Student Success as a capstone class. Using a teamwork approach to mimic real-world career and graduate laboratory settings, students navigated the IRB process, created online surveys in Qualtrics, recruited through KSU's SONA system, and analyzed data using SPSS. Students also met with KSU's Career Development and Planning office, updated their LinkedIn profiles, completed two or more micro-credentials, revised their resume or CV, and gave multiple 2-minute class talks throughout the semester regarding progress on their research project experiences related to the Pathways to Success.

GRISELDA THOMAS

Interdisciplinary Studies Department

Dr. Griselda Thomas's piloting of the Inside-Out educational model for the: Community Exchange course connects KSU students with incarcerated and transitional students in Atlanta. Working with the directors of a campus initiative to bring the national Clemente program to KSU, Dr. Thomas created a powerful experiential learning environment that transcends traditional classroom boundaries, establishing a framework for ongoing educational exchanges across diverse communities by creating meaningful seminar-style interactions between college and transitional students. This fosters mutual learning and growth that breaks down societal barriers, providing personal transformations for all participants.



LISA THOMPSON

Department of Sociology & Criminal Justice

Dr. Lisa Thompson centers her courses on student engagement through critical thinking, experiential learning, and thoughtful discourse. In her Foundations of Criminal Justice course, students learn the fundamental principles of crime and justice. They participate in activities that culminate in a two-day mock trial, in which every student takes on a role ranging from judges and attorneys to jurors and reporters, each tailored to engage students while meeting them at their comfort level. Class time is dedicated to lectures that balance both course material and student-generated questions, so students feel they are participating in a tailor-made learning experience. Students note that these hands-on activities and discussions of current events help show real-world connections to the content

JUN TU

Department of Geography & Anthropology

Dr. Jun Tu prioritizes high-quality teaching through undergraduate research, which has led to several co-authored presentations at the Student Scholar Symposium and a second-place award at the Georgia Geospatial Association student map competition. He supervised 57 research projects in Introduction to Environmental Studies. Dr. Tu integrates his research into the classroom and mentors graduate students in Integrative Biology and Chemical Sciences. He focuses on advancing practical knowledge around public health, COVID-19, soil contaminants, and climate change. One project related to community climate resiliency in Georgia developed a GIS dashboard to disseminate data publicly. These practices provide students with the necessary research and technical skills for their professions.



ELAINE VENTER

School of Communication & Media

Professor Venter works diligently to ensure industry relevance of her teaching. Perhaps this is most clearly evident in the ways that she has implemented a variety of innovative assignments to make her course Writing for Public Communication connect seamlessly with Media and Entertainment majors. She demonstrates skill in adapting assignments, incorporating new technologies, and responding to students' needs.



LUCIE VIAKINNOU-BRINSON

Department of World Languages and Cultures

Dr. Viakinnou-Brinson integrates active, student-centered strategies, such as role-plays, Vlog projects, and virtual exchanges, to foster real-world language application and build community, particularly in online settings. Her live review sessions and reflective portfolios promote both language acquisition and a growth mindset. Her high-impact projects, including a Virtual Museum, effectively blend cultural content with critical thinking. Her leadership in 2024, Dr. Viakinnou-Brinson also co-led the Africa/Europe Study Abroad Program, providing transformative global learning experiences for French Majors.

KENNETH WILLIAMSON

Department of Geography & Anthropology

Dr. Ken Williamson utilizes high-impact practices such as undergraduate research and collaborative projects in his anthropology and Black studies courses to expand students' professional toolkits and foster career-readiness. He mentors underrepresented students, supporting them at KSU and after graduation with graduate school placement and employment opportunities. Dr. Williamson participated in the Fulbright-Hays Group Project Abroad, "Fostering Afro-Brazilian Curriculum Development and Research Abroad," in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil, generating curricular materials on Brazilian religion, Candomblé, and women's empowerment.



OFFICE OF ACADEMIC INNOVATION



CONTACT INFORMATION



oai@kennesaw.edu



5086 Social Sciences Building



kennesaw.edu/radow/academic-innovation/



Radow College INNOVATIVE PEDAGOGY



KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY

NORMAN J. RADOW COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCE Office of Academic Innovation

2024-2025