Reflection Time: Instead of looking at your problems and asking "why is this happening to me?" try to instead ask "what is this trying to teach me?"

Fordham University Updates:

Welcome back! We hope you have a restful break and we are excited to get this new semester started!

Make sure to join the Fordham CMS LinkedIn group to stay up to date on job opportunities, networking, and more!

COVID testing precautions for the Spring semester require students to have a negative COVID-19 test prior to being allowed on campus.

- if you are in New York or in a state contiguous to New York (Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania or Vermont), you must have negative test results within seven days prior to your arrival at Fordham
- if you are in a state that is NOT contiguous to New York (including if outside of the United States), you must have a test 3 days prior to your departure AND a test on
day 4 to opt out of the 10-day New York state travel quarantine; you must also complete the Fordham Quarantine Form.

To make an appointment to get tested on campus click here.

Last day to add/drop a class is February 9th! Accelerated students should reach out to Michelle O'Dwyer if they need to add/drop a class.

Have friends or family interested in applying to the M.A in Public Media program? Invite them to the upcoming PMMA Virtual Information Session on Tuesday, February 9th at 12 PM. Register here!

Lastly, scroll down https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/1950s-tv-show-set-stage-modern-distance-learning-180976734/ for a rare chance to see and hear Professor Paul Levinson in 1976 as he discusses the current Smithsonian article is about Sunrise Semester as an early example of distance education with Neil Postman.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT
DANA ROBERSON

Dana Roberson joins the Fordham PMMA faculty as the Video Narrative professor this Spring semester. Her experience with video and the news industry spans three decades with impressive work at companies like CBS News, Dan Rather’s production company, WNYC and WNET. She is now serving as an executive producer of PBS Newshour Weekend. As a result of her many experiences, Roberson has accumulated a background in audio, video, and investigative narrative stories. Roberson said she became aware of the Fordham PMMA program through their partnership with WNET, New York’s
public television powerhouse. “It’s a great sort of pipeline for students, for me to get to them and them to get to know me,” she said. “I’m just excited to kind of have any sort of tentacles that I can to reach out to fresh young talent and give them all the opportunities that I can.”

Roberson said she is excited to be around creative young minds and looks forward to seeing what the class creates. “There are so many different ways to visually tell a story and I’m hoping we can explore a little bit of all of those ways,” she said. Due to the mix of students from both the Strategic Communication and Journalism tracks, Roberson looks forward to seeing how students’ track backgrounds affect what they create. “We’ll be talking about what the difference between a more journalistically sound story that you might do for a news program looks like versus a kind of video narrative you might do for something that’s a little more like an advocacy or campaign ad,” she said. As a whole, Roberson said she hopes her students find a video narrative form that they feel comfortable with and learn the different ways to convey stories that they want to talk about. “I’m pretty sure I’m going to learn as much from them as they will learn from me,” she said.

Roberson said she has adjusted to the remote learning challenges and continues to think of new ways to make the experience better. “I think it kind of gives us a new opportunity,” she said. “You’re learning skills that no one has had to do before. You’re learning how to do interviews differently in terms of using zoom and there’s sort of all these new techniques that everyone’s learning how to do on the fly and still producing content and that’s a really valuable skill.”

Facility spotlights will be a regular feature of this newsletter. We’d like to shine the spotlight on as many people as possible, so if you’re interested in sharing your story, please send us an email here!
MIRANDA STUCK

Miranda Stuck recently became the new PMMA Graduate Assistant and is excited to take on her new role. She is a 2020 graduate from the Alvin Ailey Dance Program at Fordham University where she received her Bachelor’s in Fine Arts of Dance Performance with a minor in Fashion Studies. “My training with the professional division at the Ailey school and experience with academics at Fordham University was everything I hoped for,” she said. “Being a part of Ailey’s legacy was extremely fulfilling as a pre-professional dancer due
to the immense impact his school, choreography, and passion has left on the modern dance world. I feel truly blessed for how my time at Ailey has shaped not only my technical and physical self, but also my perspective on how I view dance and inspiration.”

Prior to enrolling in the PMMA, Stuck had been a part of many inspiring dance performances including being one of 24 dancers that performed at the Lincoln Center fountain this past September as a tribute to the lives lost in 9/11 and tragedies that occurred due to the pandemic and racial injustice. Currently, Stuck is studying multi-platform journalism in the PMMA program. “I've always loved telling stories, but it was always through using my body through physical movement,” she explained. “To be able to tell stories through a lot more different mediums like writing, video, and audio are all really interesting to me.” Stuck said she has loved learning how to use her voice through her writing and is excited to be around so many creative minds. “I've had a really amazing experience,” she said. “I think the faculty have so much real-life experience that they're really willing and happy to share with us.” Stuck said she hopes to continue with her dance performance on major stages, but also use her newfound journalism skills. “I'm hoping to intermingle both industries,” she said. “I feel that a lot of journalism and creativity in the arts actually overlap. I would love to be on Broadway and perform and at the same time be in a journalism role where I could use the platform of journalism to share the arts more.”

When she isn't taking up dancing opportunities and studying for school, Stuck said she loves to sing, listen to music, take photos, and explore different areas of New York. However, Stuck confessed she desperately misses going to shows and can't wait for the arts to come back. “I'll probably feel so emotional because it's been so long, but I think a lot of people are really hungry to get it back,” she said.

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**FORDHAM & NYC EVENTS**

**Ignatian Spirituality and Yoga**

*Mondays & Tuesdays at 7PM*

Ignatian Spirituality and Yoga offers a quiet and reflective opportunity to pray with your body in a most holy and sacred space. It weaves the art and practice of movement, reflection and meditation, and
spiritual exercise. Weather permitted, Ignatian Spirituality and Yoga will sometimes be held on the Church Lawn or the Lincoln Center Plaza. It will be available weekly, however, through Zoom.

Zoom link here (meeting ID: 649 961 650)

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Fordham Center for Ethics Education Spring 2021 Discussion Series
February 10 & 22nd

Fordham’s Center for Ethics Education invites you to save the dates for our Spring 2021 online discussion series on Advancing Health and Social Justice!

Click here to register!

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LinkedIn Learning Challenge:
Black History Month
Starts Tuesday, February 9th

In celebration of Black History Month, we invite you to participate in LinkedIn Learning’s Black History Month Challenge, where we’ll be spotlighting some of the incredible courses taught by black authors on topics in business, technology, art, music, and science.

Challenge yourself to participate each day and to discover new courses. Each day’s activity can be completed in ~5 minutes. Initial each day when you’ve completed to keep yourself on track.

Click here for the learning calendar!
New York Music Month Events

New York Music Month Extended Play is a way for musicians, industry, and fans to tune into New York's one-of-a-kind music scene safely from their homes. Learn to create your own music or record a podcast, hear from up-and-coming NYC artists, take a masterclass from industry experts, or join a workshop to hone your music business skills – all for free.

Click here to learn more!

New York African Film Festival (NYAFF)
February 4-14

Presented by Film at Lincoln Center and African Film Festival, Inc., this year's NYAFF will showcase ten features and 21 short films from Africa, Europe, North America, and South America. The event will be presented under the banner “Notes from Home: Recurring Dreams & Women’s Voices” in FLC’s Virtual Cinema from February 4 to 14 and in the Maysles Documentary Center Virtual Cinema from February 18 to March 4.

Click here for more information!

1 Minute Film Festival
DEADLINE: Sunday, February 28th
Zoom Event: Thursday, March 25th

Make any kind of film comedy, drama, moc-doc, or whatever you want! It can even be done on your iPhone, it's the idea that counts. Your film can’t be over 60 seconds long and you must currently be
enrolled as a Fordham student.

Films will be judged for creativity and originality by a panel of Fordham film/TV professors.

Entry fee: $5 (all money will go towards gift card prizes for winning films)

Email submissions to:
fordhamnyftsa@gmail.com

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**JOB / GENERAL OPPORTUNITIES**

**DEADLINE:** Fordham Foundry Pitch Challenge Application ($20,000 prize)

*Wednesday, February 10th
Virtual Event: Saturday, March 27th*

Fordham Foundry’s 5th Annual Pitch Challenge is open to all members of the Fordham community. The Pitch Challenge is one of the Foundry’s signature events designed to identify, nurture and showcase Fordham’s entrepreneurial talent!

Come and make a 5-minute pitch of your idea/start-up for a business or social venture. The Pitch Challenge is open to all Fordham students and alumni and the winners will share in the $20,000 prize money.

[Click here to register and learn more](#)
Join the Fordham Business Development Collaboratory Spring Session

*Begins February 15*

We are a student-run organization at Fordham through the Social Innovation Collaboratory offering free consulting services to small Bronx businesses. We are seeking students across both campuses to join our team to help small business owners bounce back from the impact of the Coronavirus.

We wanted to let students know about our Spring Session that starts on February 15th. I was hoping these flyers could be distributed to students in the Communication & Media Studies Department.

To learn more email:
fbdc@fordham.edu
Poynter has launched its Internship Database, designed to be the go-to place for students seeking paid summer, fall and spring internships. The goal is to create the nation’s premier collection of journalism and communications internships.

Students can browse our listings and employers can add their own. The database is updated and refreshed weekly.

Humans Institute Research Assistant at the New York Botanical Garden

DEADLINE: Friday, February 26th

The Humanities Institute is excited to expand its innovative programming with a Food Studies Initiative. This new Food Studies Initiative aims to create opportunities for the Garden’s Bronx neighbors to share their stories and cultural traditions around growing and preparing food by documenting and archiving these untold food narratives. In addition to capturing oral histories, the Food Studies Initiative will present public lecture programs, including conversations with chefs, online seminars, workshops and symposia.

Click here for more information on how to apply!
The PMMA spent our first week back in a Fundamentals of Digital Design Intensive. We spent four days discussing website and app design and ended the program by developing campaign ideas that promoted a social issue! Above are some of the apps and websites that were created.

Don’t forget to check out Handshake for job & internship opportunities throughout the semester!

If you’re looking for more personalized career guidance, please contact Megan McDonald with Fordham Career Services at mmcdonald21@fordham.edu.

That’s it for now. Thank you for reading!

Morgan Williams
PMMA ’21