PMMA Newsletter
December 2, 2020

Reflection Time: Protect your energy. Who or what is adding to your life and purpose in a positive way? Who or what is taking from your purpose and your peace?

Fordham University Updates:

Reminder that Fall student course evaluations are due by December 5th! To access the evaluations go to my.fordham > student tab > course evaluations

December Testing deadline for the final test of the fall semester is Friday, December 18. Testing is available on every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.
To reserve a spot for on-campus testing, please use these links RH Campus Testing Sign up and LC Campus Testing Sign up. If you are tested off campus, please upload a copy of your negative test results using the Fordham Student Health Portal, which is found on my.fordham.edu under the My Apps tab.

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, December 8th at 6:00 PM.
Register here!
Fall semester graduate classes continue through the week of December 14th. Our last newsletter will be sent out on December 16th and will start up again in January 2021!

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

LANCE STRATE

Professor Lance Strate has been teaching at Fordham since the fall of 1989. From the start, Strate has focused on the media and communications realm and has been a part of the Public Media program since its beginning. "The best thing about the program is the students," he said. "They’re bright and engaged and it is simply a pleasure to be able to have discussions on interesting topics with them. The thing that always makes your day is to have students who make you look good."

In addition to teaching undergraduate students, Professor Strate will be teaching the "Technology and Public Communication" class for the PMMA in the Spring semester. Strate said he tries to present his students with a media ecology approach that helps to understand the nature of technology and how it affects individuals, society, and culture. "The hope is that the students can be thoughtful and reflective," he said. "It’s the kind of thinking and approach that is useful in any area. It always helps you see things in a
new way, and understanding how so many things we take for granted are interconnected." Professor Strate stands by looking at media and technology through this ecology view because it leads to a broader and deeper understanding. "What I'm doing is very much focused on trying to understand what it is to be human and then how can we maintain our humanity in this environment that is so full of new technologies and just constantly transforming itself and transforming us," he explained.

As for remote learning, Professor Strate said he has adjusted well to virtual teaching and thinks there are some benefits. "I would rather be with students. I mean, I would just rather be in the same place because there's not substitute for human contact," he said. "Everything's a trade-off. There's a benefit and there's a cost. We don't want to get sick with a pandemic so it makes sense to do class remotely."

*Faculty 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!*
RECHAEI IKWUAGWU

Rechael graduated from George Washington University in 2014. She received her Bachelor's degree in International Affairs with a double concentration in Africa as a region and International Development and minored in socio-cultural Anthropology. After college, Rechael served as a teaching assistant for a year in France where she taught kids between the ages of six and ten in French public schools.

Right now, Rechael works for a local initiative support corporation called LISC, which stands for Local Initiatives Support Corporation. In the PMMA program, Rechael is on the Strategic Communications track. She said she chose strategic communications because she always felt like communications was ingrained in her work one way or another. “I wanted more of a formal structure of like how to think about the various issues that are
related to it," she said. "I think that having experience is great, but also having the educational framing and structure to accompany that experience makes you more well-rounded and that's what I want." With her master's degree, Rechael hopes to work for a larger non-profit one day or try out the public relations space.

Rechael said she is really enjoying the PMMA program so far especially because of the support she feels from the faculty. "There's just this overwhelming commitment to the learning process and I think that's really what's different," she said. "I think in other schools there's more of an emphasis on like perform to achieve and I don't think there's anything wrong with that, but sometimes I really appreciate the emphasis on the actual learning process and what you're retaining." When she's not studying or working Rechael usually loves to travel, but since that isn't an option right now she has found new ways to have fun like doing monthly running challenges, cooking, and going to the wine store.

---

**CAPSTONE SPOTLIGHT**

**RAFIQUE LOUISON'S DOCUMENTARY ON WFUV**

Rafique Louison was in the 2019 PMMA class. He shot a 20-minute documentary about our on-campus public media partner, WFUV, for his capstone project. Working with the PMMA program director Dr. Beth Knobel as mentor, Rafique interviewed staff members, students, and alumni about many facets of WFUV--Fordham's on-campus National Public Radio affiliate. His capstone covers the station's role as one of the nation's premiere adult alternative radio stations, as well as the role that its news and sports departments play in serving as a laboratory for generations of Fordham students.

Check out the documentary here!
FORDHAM & NYC EVENTS

PMMA Virtual Holiday Celebration
Monday, December 14, 7:30PM

The PMMA cohort and faculty will gather to celebrate the season on Monday 12/14 at 7:30 pm, after Garrett's class and before the Public Journalism/Strat Comm classes. Fun will include a holiday giveaway and some kind of Secret Santa. Stay tuned for more details on that from our GAs.

Details to follow.

Fordham CMS & WFUV Present a Conversation with Mike Breen and Michael Kay
Wednesday, December 9, 12PM

In partnership with WFUV, two of Fordham's finest - Mike Breen and Michael Kay, will be joining us for a virtual sports journalism event moderated by our students, with PMMA's very own Kelly Bright ’21 as a co-host. Michael Kay FCRH ’82 is the voice of the New York Yankees and Mike Breen FCRH ’83 covers the National Basketball League and other sports.

Click here for the zoom link (Meeting ID: 853 3558 6102, Passcode: 635357)

Alvin Ailey Opening Night Virtual Benefit
Wednesday, December 2, 7:30PM

Ailey's winter Opening Night Virtual Benefit will celebrate the global impact of
Revelations, a topical, enduring and seminal choreographic work. This is the 60th anniversary of the Revelations performance.

Click here to register for a ticket. It's free!

In Conversation with Steven L. Sears
Thursday, December 3, 4PM

Please join us for a Zoom discussion and Q & A with special guest, Writer/Producer/Showrunner, Steven L. Sears. A couple of his works include Xena: Warrior Princess, Swamp Thing and many others. Join us as he shares his insights on working in the television industry for nearly four decades.

Click here for the zoom link!

GSAS Dialogues with the Dean: Office Hours
Thursday, December 3 & Wednesday December 16

Dr. Tyler Stovall, Dean of the Graduate School, welcomes an opportunity to engage directly with members of the GSAS student community to gain a more in-depth understanding of what might be on students’ minds at this juncture. Please join Dean Stovall for a one-on-one
conversation in an office hours appointment!

Use [this form](#) to schedule an appointment!

*office hours appointments are scheduled on a first come, first serve basis

---

### 4th Annual Women + Media Career Summit

**Wednesday, December 2 through Friday, December 4**

Join us for three days of inspiration, motivation, and connection at our **4th Annual Women + Media Career Summit.** Presented virtually this year, the Summit is designed to help students and recent graduates break into the media business and be successful in their early careers. You’ll hear wisdom and actionable advice from trailblazers across the industry, and have the opportunity to network with recruiters from leading media organizations.

Click [here](#) to register

---

### GSAS Dialogues with the Dean: Student Town Hall

**Monday, December 7, 12PM**

Dr. Tyler Stovall, Dean of the Graduate School, welcomes an opportunity to engage directly with members of the GSAS student community to gain a more in-depth understanding of what might be on students’ minds at this juncture. Please join Dean Stovall and other members of the GSAS staff in dialogue at a GSAS Student Town
Advancing BIPOC Leadership with Jim St. Germain  
*December, 3, 4PM*

Please join Fordham’s Graduate Body for Cultural Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (CDEI) for their upcoming speaker series focused on advancing BIPOC leadership and preparing graduate students of all backgrounds for anti-racist careers. This week features, Jim St. Germain, cofounder of *Preparing Leaders of Tomorrow*, a nonprofit that provides mentoring for at-risk youth. He has advised local, state, and federal officials on issues related to juvenile justice, mental health, substance use, and education.

Click [here](#) for the zoom link!

---

Advancing BIPOC Leadership with Eleanor Seaton  
*December, 10, 4PM*

Please join Fordham’s Graduate Body for Cultural Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (CDEI) for their upcoming speaker series focused on advancing BIPOC leadership and preparing graduate students of all backgrounds for anti-racist careers. Eleanor Seaton is a developmental psychologist studying racial discrimination and racial identity among Black youth. An advocate for anti-racist research in her own field, she will impart wisdom that empowers graduate students of
all racial backgrounds to engage with their disciplines in ways that promote racial justice.

Click [here](#) for zoom link!
with one winner named to receive a $20,000 cash prize.

Click the following links for more information and how to enter:
comedy fellowship information & drama fellowship information

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 & Julia Werner
PMMA '21

Copyright © 2019 Fordham University, all rights reserved.
For comments or suggestions, please email mwilliams150@fordham.edu

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.