Interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Theatre and Drama Program Associate Faculty

Associate Faculty are eligible to chair dissertations; at least two (of three) dissertation committee members must be on the Associate Faculty. Students are encouraged to think about the widest possible range of suitable faculty for course work, advising, and supervision of research, seeking expertise in their topical area(s), methodology, and theoretical approach. Multi-disciplinary involvement is the norm.  

updated fall 2023

School of Communication

Theatre & Performance Studies

- Bimbola Akinbola (Art History, Art Theory and Practice, Black studies, Diaspora Studies, Feminist theory, Queer theory, Visual cultures)
- Masi Asare (Black studies, Musical Theatre, Musical Theatre Writing, Sound Cultures, Voice)
- Dotun Ayobade (Black studies, Choreography, Dance, Gender Diversity and Equality, Performing Arts, Social Activism and Impact, Sound Cultures, Theatre History)
- Melissa Blanco Borelli (Critical Dance Studies, Popular Dance, Dance on Screen, Black performance in Latin/x America, Performative Writing, and Dance Devising/Choreography)
- Joshua Chambers-Letson (performance theory; law & performance; Asian American performance)
- Tracy C. Davis (historiography, 19th and 20th Century history, performance theory)
- Thomas DeFrantz (Black studies, Dance, Musical Theatre, Queer theory, Performance and Technology)
- Nadine George-Graves (African American studies, critical gender studies, performance studies, theatre history, and dance history)
- Marcela Fuentes (performance & digital technology; South American performance)
- E. Patrick Johnson (race, gender and sexuality studies, queer performance, performance ethnography)
- Susan A. Manning (critical dance studies, theatrical modernism and avant-garde performance in a transnational context)
- Dassia N. Posner (history and theory of directing, Russian theatre/performance, avant-garde theatre, performance analysis, dramaturgy, puppetry)
- Shayna Silverstein (embodiment, ethnographic methods, ethnomusicology, performance, popular culture, sound studies, and Middle Eastern studies)
- Elizabeth W. Son (Asian & Asian American theatre and performance, transnational/ diaspora studies, critical race studies, gender studies, trauma and memory)
- Jessica Thebus (Directing, Toy Theatre, Collaboration Techniques for Designers and Directors)
- Mary Zimmerman (presentational aesthetics, directing)
Communication Studies & Rhetoric

- Claudio Benzecry (globalization, sociology of culture and knowledge, Latin America, social theory, qualitative methods)
- Kalyani Chadha (journalistic practice, new media technologies, media globalization in Asia and India)
- Aymar Jean Christian (Black studies, Cinema-Film, Digital Media, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Media production, Queer theory, Social Media, Television)
- Dilip Gaonkar (rhetoric as an intellectual tradition [ancient roots and contemporary], global modernities)
- Angela G. Ray (rhetorical criticism, 19th-C popular lecturing, women’s rhetoric)
- Robert Hariman (rhetorical theory, critical study of public culture)

Radio/Television/Film

- Lakshmi Padmanabhan (experimental cinema and new media art, postcolonial theory and critical race theory, and queer feminisms)
- Miriam Petty (black popular culture & film)
- Ariel Rogers (Cinema-Film, Digital Media, Media analysis, Television, Spectatorship)
- Jeffrey Sconce (television, history of media technology, contemporary cinema)
- Jacob Smith (cultural history of media, sound and performance)
- Lynn Spigel (television history, film and television genre, media theory, feminist media studies, cultural theory)
- Neil Verma (Cinema-Film, Podcasts, Radio, Sound Cultures, Sound Design)
- Mimi White (film/TV theory, feminist theory, cultural studies)

Bienen School of Music

Music

- Linda Phyllis Austern (Shakespeare and music and other early modern European theatre, early opera, opera video, gender and sexuality)
- Ryan Dohoney (historical musicology, ethnomusicology, experimental music, and modern music)
- Inna Naroditskaya (ethnomusicology, Middle East, Russia, opera, gender)
- Jesse Rosenberg (opera, musicology)

Wienberg College of Arts and Sciences

Black Studies

- Marquis Bey (Black Feminist Theory, Trans and Nonbinary Studies, Critical Theory, Abolition)
- Martha Biondi (African American history)
- Mary Pattillo (Urban Sociology, Black Middle Class, Race and Policy, Housing,
Ethnography)

**Anthropology**
- Katherine Hoffman (oral performance, MENA region)
- Robert Launay (theories of anthropology, comparative social theory, Africa)
- Shalini Shankar (cultural anthropology, Americas)
- LaShandra Sullivan (Brazil and US South, protest and culture)
- Mary Weismantel (Latin America, ethnographic writing)
- Jessica Winegar (MENA, art and cultural politics)

**Art History**
- Krista Thompson (arts of the African diaspora, critical race theory)
- Christina Kiaer (art in Soviet Union and socialist world)
- Rebeca Zorach (Black Chicago, early modern Europe)

**Asian American Studies**
- Nitasha Sharma (music and culture, comparative race and indigeneity, also Black Studies)
- Tara Fickle (game studies)
- Michelle Huang (Asian American literature)
- Shalini Shankar (ethnography of Asia America)
- Ji-Yeon Yuh (Asian American diaspora, oral history)

**Classics**
- Sara Monoson (ancient Greek politics and political theory)
- Marianne Hopman (ancient Greek theatre, environmental humanities)

**English**
- Katharine Breen (Medieval English literature including drama, medieval reading practices)
- Nick Davis (film, gender & sexuality, 20th-C US, African-American lit & drama)
- Harris Feinsod (literature of the Americas, environmental humanities)
- Christine Froula (modernist literature, feminist theory)
- James Hodge (Digital Media Studies; Digital Aesthetics; Media Theory and History; Film Theory and History; Literary and Critical Theory)
- Michelle N. Huang (Critical Race & Ethnicity Studies, Asian American Literature, American: 20th Century, Gender Studies, Science & Literature)
- Lauren Jackson (African American Literature, Critical Race & Ethnicity Studies, American: 20th Century, creative nonfiction)
- Rebecca Johnson (MENA, Arabic literature and culture, global modernities)
• Justin L. Mann (20th c African American Literature, science fiction)
• Jeffrey Masten (Renaissance drama, queer theory)
• Evan Mwangi (20th Century Anglophone African Literature, Gender Studies, Language Technologies, Critical Race & Ethnicity Studies, Diaspora Studies, Modern, Literary Theory, Postcolonial)
• Kalyan Nadaminti (contemporary literature in transnational context, US empire)
• Susan Phillips (Medieval and Renaissance drama, manuscript and early print culture)
• Sarah Schulman (novelist, playwright, creative nonfiction, history of AIDS activism)
• Vivasvan Soni (18th-C British literature, theories of tragedy, sentimentalism, philosophy and literature)
• Wendy Wall (Early modern English literature and culture, 1500-1700)
• Will West (premodern drama, theories of performance)
• Ivy Wilson (African American literature, music and visual culture)
• Kelly Wisecup (Indigenous and Native literature and culture, early American literature)

French and Italian
• Scott Durham (20th-C French drama)
• Christopher Bush (interrelations Asian and European literature and culture)
• Doris Garraway (French Caribbean literature and culture)
• Nasrin Qader (Francophone African and MENA literature and culture)

German
• Sam Weber (critical and media theory)
• Anna Parkinson (20th c German literature and culture, Jewish-German relations, South Africa)
• Erica Weitzman (ethics and aesthetics in long 19th century)

History
• Peter Carroll, History (19th-20th-C China, urbanism, gender)
• Lydia Burnett (early modern Europe, environmental humanities)
• Deborah Cohen (Britain and its Empire)
• Brett Gadsden (20th c African American history)
• Leslie Harris (Black women’s history, 19th c Black history in the US)
• Laura Hein (20th c Japan, memory and memorialization)
• Daniel Immerwahr (US empire)
• Doug Kiel (Native American History and Politics, Indigeneity, Settler Colonialism, 20th Century U.S., Global Indigenous Studies)
• Rajiv Kinra (early modern India, art and politics)
• Tessie Liu (18-20th - C France, critical dance studies)
• Kate Masur (19th c Black history in the US, public humanities)
• Edward Muir (Italian Renaissance, ritual behavior and performance, feuding)
• Amy Stanley (modern Japan, women’s history)
• Keith Woodhouse (environmental humanities)

**Latina/o Studies**
• Ana Aparicio (cultural anthropology, youth, policy, and race/ethnicity, also Anthropology)
• Geraldo Cadava (history of Latinos in the US, also History)
• John Marquez (borderlands history, also Black Studies)
• Meridith Rúa (communities of color in urban US, Puerto Ricans in Chicago)

**Philosophy**
• Penelope Deutscher (critical theory, Continental philosophy)
• Sanford Goldberg (social epistemology)
• Jennifer Lackey (prison education)
• José Medina (critical race theory, feminist and queer theory)
• Rachel Zuckert (Kantian aesthetics and ethics)

**Slavic Languages and Literatures**
• Ilya Kutik (film poetics, 18th and 20th-C Russian poetry)
• Nina Gourianova (literature and art in the Soviet Union)

**Sociology**
• Gary Alan Fine (sociology of art, folklore, performance criticism, qualitative field methods)
• Hector Carillo (sociology of sexuality in Latin America and Latinx US)

**Spanish & Portuguese**
• Jeffrey K. Coleman (Spanish Theatre, Catalan Theatre, Black European Studies, Afro-Spanish Studies, and Spanish Wine)
• Emily Maguire (literature and culture in Cuba, Latin America and Caribbean)
• Alexandra Uslenghi (visual culture in Latin American modernism)

**Kellogg School of Management**
**Management and Organizations**
• Brian Uzzi (social networks and creativity, business models of creative industries)