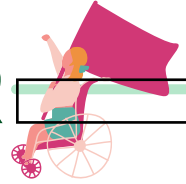




WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES



FALL 2022 NEWSLETTER



A LETTER FROM THE PROGRAM

Date December 5, 2022

Dear WGST Community,

As we prepare to put another semester behind us, we wanted to take a minute to share some program news and updates with you.

(Continued on page 2)

Table of Contents

Letter from WGST Program	1-3
Graduate Students	4-5
Events	6-7
NWSA Feature	8
Who we Are	9

A LETTER FROM THE PROGRAM (CONTINUED)

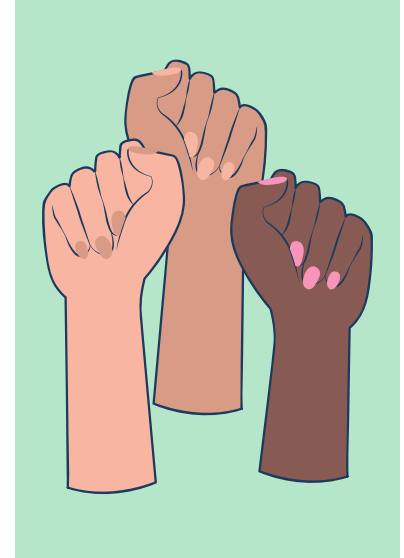


Dr. Megan Morrissey,
Program Director

We've had full classes this fall semester, both in our undergraduate and graduate programs and will be offering a slate of exciting courses in the spring that include Queer Theory, Queer Ecologies, Feminist Methods and Methodologies, and Feminist and Womanist Theories with Dr. Serena Wilcox; as well as our Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies course with Dr. Elisha Oliver. There is still space in these classes! Students, please register if you're looking for a unique elective; faculty, please spread the word to your students. If you'd like more information about these, or any of the other cool courses we are offering for program credit, please email us to learn more!

We continue to work on developing our curriculum for our undergraduate students who are minoring in LGBTQ Studies and Women's and Gender Studies. In the spring, a newly formed curriculum committee will begin the work of examining our offerings and providing some suggestions for how to update these degrees to provide the best possible options for our students. We will also be seeking student input on this as we move forward. We are excited to hear you're your ideas as we move forward!

Related to this, I will begin hosting Coffee Hours in the spring that will be open to all students and faculty who would like to drop-in and share ideas and feedback they have about the program with me and other WGST community members. The Coffee Hours will be held on every Monday of Spring semester between 10:00-11:00 at a location TBD. Please keep a look out for an announcement in early Spring about these!



(Continued on page 3)



A LETTER FROM THE PROGRAM (CONTINUED)

This fall semester we are also excited and proud to graduate five Master's students including Elaina Cassity, Cynthia Ekhaton, Meg Langlitz, Bayley Votaw, and Dominique Weaver. We are sad to be losing such vibrant members of our community but are so very proud of their accomplishments and excited to see all the ways they will make an impact. I look forward to finding ways to bring them back for networking events with our current students and finding other ways to keep them involved in our program, even though they have moved beyond completing coursework.

As we say goodbye to the students named above, we are also preparing to welcome four new graduate students in the spring including three international students. This will be the last year the program will accept admissions in the spring semester as we move toward a model where we will have a single cohort starting in the fall semester of each year. It is never too early to start thinking about graduate school and I am happy to talk with students who might be interested in learning more about this option. Please spread the word that will begin reviewing applications for Fall 2023 beginning on January 15th and will continue to do so on a rolling basis.

Finally, like many things these days, our relocation into our new office suites (GAB 117 and GAB 119) has taken longer than expected. Nevertheless, the new space is almost ready for us, and we hope to start spring semester there. Once we are finally moved in, we plan to host a joint open house with International Studies with whom we will be sharing this space.

I wish you all a restful and restorative winter break and look forward to continuing the program's work in the spring semester. See you in January!



Dr. Megan Morrissey
WGST & LGBTQ Studies Programs, Director



SUMMER & FALL 2022 GRADUATE STUDENTS

BAYLEY VOTAW

Bayley will be graduating in the Fall of 2022 with a Master's of Art in Women's and Gender Studies. With the support of her family, friends, peers, and professors, Bayley has reached the end of their graduate school experience at UNT and completed their special problem, titled, "I Am (Not?) a Robot': A Postmodern Feminist Analysis of Blade Runner 2049." She would like to give thanks to those who showed her new possibilities for the present and future, and to those who helped them grow as a feminist, a scholar, and an instructor along the way.



she/her/they/them

MEG LANGLITZ

Meg will be graduating in the Fall of 2022 with a Master's of Art in Women's and Gender Studies. Meg successfully defended an expressive thesis titled "Just Reproduction: Explorations of Struggle, Resistance, and Empowerment Imbued in Labor and Birth in Black Bodies." After graduation, she is focusing on public health initiatives pertaining to reproductive justice.



she/her/hers

ELAINA CASSITY

Elaina will be graduating in the Fall of 2022 with a Master's of Art in Women's and Gender Studies. Elaina's special problem, a paper which uses rhetorical analysis, is entitled "As American as Apple Pie: Performances of Racialized 'Good' Citizenship and Brown Precarity in 13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi". After she graduates, her plan is to take a gap year, during which she plans to move to Colorado and volunteer before applying to PhD programs.



she/her/hers

CYNTHIA EKHATOR

Cynthia is a User Experience Designer and a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion enthusiast who is interested in the intersection of social inclusion and technology in the workplace. In her time with the WGST program, she was able to expand her design horizon to be more inclusive, was challenged to shift from her comfort zone, through the thought processing theories and methods that challenged her to see the world from an intersectional lens. She has internship experience as the Communications, Diversity and Equity Intern at FedEx Trade Networks. After graduating, she plans to continue her advocacy through Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion strategies that can be translated into bold statements in the workplace and society at large.



she/her
"Women's rights are human rights"



she/her

NORA RIZVI

Nora graduated with a Master's of Arts in Women's and Gender Studies in the Summer of 2022. Nora has a background in international studies and policy work. She has experience working with many different nonprofits especially refugee and immigrant-based ones. She would love to work to connect gender-based issues and refugee/policy work.

ABBEY ROACH

Abbey graduated with a Master's of Art in Women's and Gender Studies in the Summer of 2022 with a primary focus on reproductive justice. Currently, Abbey resides in Washington, DC., where she actively volunteers for Women's March, The National Action Network, the American Civil Liberties Union, and six other non-profit organizations. Before acceptance into the WGST program at The University of North Texas, Abbey coached high school strength and conditioning, track, and volleyball. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Kinesiology and an Associates of Science degree in Health Promotion. Her experience coaching strength and conditioning led her to pursue Women and Gender Studies, providing her a platform to speak on the injustice ingrained in sports.



she/her/they/them

WGST EVENT SNAPSHOTS

1980s
Representational Pressures, Departures and Beginnings
 November 14, 2022
 University of North Texas 2022 Building, Denton, TX



Presented by
 • Phyllis K. Klotz, Ph.D., Professor, Department of English
 • Phyllis K. Klotz, Ph.D., Professor, Department of English
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 • Phyllis K. Klotz, Ph.D., Professor, Department of English

WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES
MEET & GREET

WGST students, staff, faculty, affiliated community members, and friends are invited to meet and connect as we welcome the start of another school year!

SEE YOU THERE!
 5:00 p.m.
 September 2, 2022

Harvest House
 223 E. Hickory St.
 Denton, TX 76201

Please join us for...

WGST HAPPY HOUR

Come kick off the new school year with drinks (alcoholic & non-alcoholic options available) and community. Partners & kids welcome!

Harvest House
 Friday, September 2nd
 5 PM to 8 PM

Please contact wgst@unt.edu with questions or requests.

Presented by WGST

Comics Gazing While Black: The Politics of Looking and Seeing

Monday, April 18 | 12-1pm
 GAB 154

Presenters include:
 Dr. Sasha Sanders
 (Communication Studies)
 Dr. Jo Devita-McEligott
 (English)

- What does it mean to read comics while Black?
- How do comics reflect oppression and trouble the politics of the genre?
- How can looking at comics be subversive, radical, or otherwise political?
- What does it mean to look back at racial images?

More information can be found at <https://wgst.unt.edu>



THE UNT INTERNATIONAL STUDIES PROGRAM PRESENTS
 A STUDENT-CENTERED MEET & GREET WITH INTERNATIONAL JOURNALIST, FILMMAKER, & ACTIVIST
PREETHI NALLU

FOUNDER OF RESIST JOURNALISM & THE WINNER OF THE EUROPEAN UNION'S 2018 MOUNTAIN MEDAL AWARD, SHE WILL HOST THIS MEET & GREET OPEN TO ALL UNT STUDENTS TO TALK ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR CAREERS IN JOURNALISM AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION, FACTORIAL STORYTELLING AND GAMING, AS WELL AS ALUMNIUM TAKING AND ANOTHER REFUGEE/IMMIGRATION RELATED TOPICS. THANKS WILL BE PROVIDED.

THIS EVENT WILL BE HELD IN PERSON AND ONLINE VIA ZOOM. PLEASE CONTACT DR. NANCY STOCKDALE AT stockdale@unt.edu FOR MORE INFORMATION.

MONDAY, JANUARY 24TH, 2022, 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM
 IN PERSON AT MARQUIS HALL #130
 ON ZOOM AT [HTTPS://UNT.ZOOM.US/J/87641965318](https://unt.zoom.us/j/87641965318)

International Studies thanks our co-sponsors: the Departments of History, Anthropology, & Media Arts, the Women's & Gender Studies Program, & the Mayborn School of Journalism.

Masks are highly encouraged in person.



THE UNT INTERNATIONAL STUDIES PROGRAM PRESENTS
 A STUDENT-CENTERED MEET & GREET WITH JOURNALIST AND AUTHOR
PATRICK STRICKLAND
 UNT ALUM (BA 2010)

PATRICK STRICKLAND IS A JOURNALIST & AUTHOR FROM NORTH TEXAS WHO HAS REPORTED FROM SOME 177 COUNTRIES ACROSS EUROPE, THE MIDDLE EAST, & NORTH AMERICA. HIS REPORTAGE HAS APPEARED IN THE NEW YORK REVIEW OF BOOKS, THE NATION, THE NEW REPUBLIC, POLITICO, THE GUARDIAN, VOICE, IN THESE POWERS, JAZZERA, BRIDGE BROWARD, HE IS THE AUTHOR OF ALPHIA ALPHIA AND THE HARBINGER AND HE IS CURRENTLY THE NEW EDITOR OF THE JOURNAL OF THE FUTURE.

HE WILL HOST THIS MEET & GREET - OPEN TO ALL UNT STUDENTS - TO TALK ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR CREATING INTERNATIONAL CAREERS IN JOURNALISM & OTHER FORMS OF WRITING, AS WELL AS EXPERIENCES AS A FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENT AT UNT. THANKS WILL BE PROVIDED.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND, 2022, 11:30AM – 1:00PM
 IN PERSON AT MARQUIS HALL #130
 ON ZOOM AT [HTTPS://UNT.ZOOM.US/J/8006436042](https://unt.zoom.us/j/8006436042)

Please contact Dr. Nancy Stockdale at stockdale@unt.edu for more information.



femflicks FALL 2022

THE BOXERS OF BRULE
 November 19th

UNT | COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SOCIAL SCIENCES

femflicks FALL 2022

ON THE DIVIDE
 September 21st

UNT | COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SOCIAL SCIENCES

femflicks FALL 2022

WITHOUT A WHISPER
 November 19th

UNT | COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SOCIAL SCIENCES

femflicks FALL 2022

FORBIDDEN: UNDOCUMENTED AND QUEER IN RURAL AMERICA
 October 19th

UNT | COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SOCIAL SCIENCES

UNT & TWU HAPPY HOUR

We hope you can join us for...

a casual get-together to meet & network with UNT & TWU Women's and Gender Studies faculty and graduate students

WHEN: Thursday, April 21st @ 4:00pm
 WHERE: Harvest House

Please reach out to LT Brooks-Poll (UNT WGST Program Coordinator) with any questions!
 Email: ltb@unt.edu
 Program Phone: 940.540.2090



WGST EVENT SNAPSHOTS CONTINUED

This September, we enthusiastically welcomed Dr. Yakin Ertürk for two on-campus / zoom events. Dr. Ertürk is a Turkish sociologist with a dynamic career as a political activist and advocate as well as scholar. She has served the United Nations as a special rapporteur on violence against women, examining the intersections of state, cultural, and family gender violence. She has also served the Council of Europe Committee on the Prevention of Torture and the UN Research Institute for Social Development.

Dr. Ertürk hosted a student-centered Meet and Greet event to talk about careers and other relevant professionalization topics as well as a formal talk called, "Women's Human Rights in Times of Global Crisis: Achievements and Backlash." These well-attended events brought together UNT attendees from across campus as well as outside community members - both events were a success all around!



Dinner with faculty from accross campus



Dr. Ertürk & Dr. Özlem Altıok enjoying dinner



Dr. Ertürk & Dr. Altıok at the speaking event



Dr. Ertürk's Talk



NATIONAL WOMEN'S STUDIES ASSOCIATION 2022

In November, WGST was excited and honored to attend the 2022 National Women's Studies Association (NWSA) conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Three of our WGST MA students made their debut into the world of academic conferencing! Bayley Votaw (they/she) and Elaina Cassity (she/her) presented their research on a well-attended panel titled, "The Liminality of WGST/LGBTQ Studies in the U.S. South: The Possibility of Teaching to Transgress," which was chaired by our Director, Dr. Megan Morrissey (she/they). Annie Heffley (they/them) & our Program Coordinator, LJ Brooks-Hall (she/they), ran a recruitment table advertising our WGST & LGBTQ Studies programs to the national audience of faculty, staff, and students attending the conference. Witnessing the overwhelming joy our students both brought and received at NWSA was the highlight of the event!





WHO WE ARE



940-565-2098

P.O. BOX 305097, DENTON, TX 76203

WMST@UNT.EDU



Dr. Megan Morrissey,
Program Director



Dr. Özlem Altıok,
Principal Lecturer



Dr. Serena Wilcox,
Visiting Lecturer



Dr. Elisha Oliver
Adjunct



LJ Brooks-Hall, MA, MS
Program Coordinator



Elaina Cassity, TA &
graduate assistant



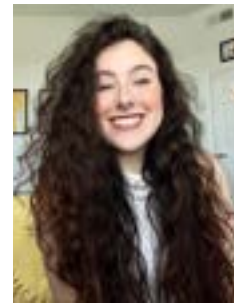
Bayley Votaw,
Teaching Assistant



Sar Fenske,
Teaching Assistant



Mars Smietana,
Undergraduate program
ambassador



Claire Colgrove,
Student Assistant

Advisory Board Members: Dr. Rachel Moran (History), Dr. Suzanne Enck (Communication Studies), Dr. Joanna Davis-McElligatt (English), Dr. Özlem Altıok (International Studies & WGST), Dr. Jara Carrington (Anthropology), Dr. Megan Morrissey (Communication Studies)

OUR MISSION



The Women's and Gender Studies program at UNT promotes teaching, research, and outreach with a critical focus aimed at interrogating gender-related stereotypes, especially as our identities intersect with sexuality, race, and ethnicity in a global context. Our program's interdisciplinary scholarship supports and sustains campus-wide discussions in areas including, but not limited to: global contexts, feminist approaches, women's social movements, feminist activism, and explorations of the connections among gender, class, ethnicity and race in social and cultural constructs. The LGBTQ program is dedicated to UNT's mission of advancing educational excellence and by preparing students to become thoughtful, engaged citizens of the world. The minor provides a comprehensive, interdisciplinary examination of the diversity of global gender and sexual identities, communities, practices, and politics. Courses explore Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer + identified (LGBTQ+) individuals; their families and communities; their cultures and subcultures; their histories; institutions; languages; and literatures; their economics and politics; modes of representation; and their complex relations to the culture and experience of a heterosexual majority.