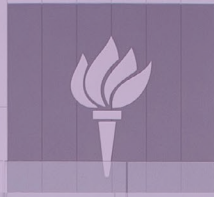


# NEW FACULTY

FALL 2021



جامعة نيويورك أبوظبي



NYU | ABU DHABI



**NYU Abu Dhabi** leadership and faculty are researchers, scholars, and artists of extraordinary distinction within and beyond their disciplines, and at the same time exceptional teachers, dedicated to supporting and challenging their students and to transforming them into intellectual colleagues. In addition to a growing cohort of full-time faculty, the University also draws talent from across NYU's global network and hosts visiting faculty from outstanding universities around the world.

Today NYU Abu Dhabi has a faculty of more than 300 experts who are drawn to the University by the quality and passion of our students, by a very favorable research environment, and, as importantly, by the institution's resolve to contribute significantly to the region and to shape a better world through education and research.

# DEANS



## AWAM AMKPA

**Dean of Arts and Humanities; Professor of Drama, Social and Cultural Analysis, NYUNY**

*PhD in Drama, University of Bristol, UK*

Awam Amkpa is the author of *Theatre and Postcolonial Desires* (Routledge, 2003). He is director of film documentaries and curator of photographic exhibitions and film festivals. Amkpa has written several articles on representations in Africa and its diasporas, representations, and modernisms in theater, postcolonial theater, and Black Atlantic films.

*Previously: Interim Dean of Arts and Humanities, NYUAD;*

*Affiliated: Drama, NYU, US*



## PAULA ENGLAND

**Dean of Social Science; Silver Professor; Professor of Sociology, NYUNY**

*PhD in Sociology, University of Chicago, US*

Paula England's research concerns gender inequality at work and at home; she has written on the sex gap in pay, occupational segregation, how couples divide housework, and the wage penalty for motherhood. Her more recent work deals with changing family patterns in the US and how they differ by social class. She studies the higher rates of unintended births among disadvantaged single young adults. She is also studying changes in sexual behavior among youth and young adults. England was President of the American Sociological Association in 2014-2015 and was editor of the *American Sociological Review* in 1994-1996. In 2018, she was elected to the US National Academy of Sciences and most recently, she was the chair of the Sociology department at NYUNY. She has been an affiliated faculty at NYU Abu Dhabi for several years, teaching courses for Social Research and Public Policy students.

*Silver Professor; Professor of Sociology, NYUNY*



# ARTS AND HUMANITIES

# ARTS AND HUMANITIES



## MANTHIA DIAWARA

**University Professor; Professor of Comparative Literature**

*PhD in Comparative Literature from Indiana University, US*

A native of Mali, Manthia Diawara is the author of *We Won't Budge: An African Exile in the World* (Basic Civitas Books, 2003), *Black-American Cinema: Aesthetics and Spectatorship* (ed. Routledge, 1993), *African Cinema: Politics and Culture* (Indiana University Press, 1992), and *In Search of Africa* (Harvard University Press, 1998). He has published widely on the topic of film and literature of the Black Diaspora. Professor Diawara also collaborated with Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o in making the documentary *Sembene Ousmane: The Making of the African Cinema*, and directed the German-produced documentary *Rouch in Reverse*.

*Affiliated from: Comparative Literature and Africana Studies, NYU, US*



## MIKHAIL XIFARAS

**Clinical Professor of Legal Studies**

*PhD in Philosophy, University of Franche-Comté, France*

Professor Mikhail Xifaras is a legal theorist and historian of legal thought. He has taught legal philosophy, property, and jurisprudence. Xifaras has been a regular Visiting Professor at Harvard Law school (2011-2015), Keio School of Law (2012-2018), Bruchman Law School, Tel Aviv University (2016; 2020), and NYUAD (2018-2020). He has published extensively on the theory of property, history of modern legal thought, legal theory, and political philosophy.

*Previously: Faculty of Law, Sciences Po Law School, France*



## DANIEL FOGAL

**Assistant Professor**

*PhD in Philosophy, NYU, US*

Daniel Fogal specializes in bioethics, metaethics, epistemology, and philosophy of language. Current and future work includes how best to understand the notion of rationality relevant to decision-making capacity and informed consent, the moral significance of irrational values and beliefs, the epistemological implications of the internet, and conceptual engineering in bioethics. Past research has included work on the nature of rationality, the nature of normative explanations, and the nature of both normative and motivating reasons. In addition to teaching and research, Fogal has been active in philosophical outreach programs and in organizing professional conferences and workshops.

*Affiliated from: Bioethics, NYU, US*



## GREGORY PARDLO

**Visiting Associate Professor, Literature and Creative Writing**

***MFA in Nonfiction, Columbia University, US***

Gregory Pardlo is an acclaimed poet and writer. He was awarded the 2015 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry and is the winner of the 2007 American Poetry Review/ Honickman Prize. He translated Niels Lyngsø's, *Pencil of Rays* and *Spiked Mace* from Danish. His work has appeared in renowned editorials, two editions of Best American Poetry, as well as anthologies including *Angles of Ascent*, *the Norton Anthology of Contemporary African American Poetry*. He is the recipient of fellowships from the NY Public Library's Cullman Center, the Guggenheim Foundation, the NY Foundation for the Arts, and a fellowship for translation from the National Endowment for the Arts. Other awards include the Civitella Ranieri Foundation, MacDowell, the Lotos Club Foundation and Cave Canem. He is Poetry Editor of *Virginia Quarterly Review* and Co-Director of the Institute for the Study of Global Racial Justice at Rutgers University-Camden. His most recent book is *Air Traffic*, a memoir in essays published by Knopf in 2018.

*Visiting from: Poetry/ Creative Nonfiction, Rutgers University-Camden, US*



## NATHALIE HANDAL

**Visiting Associate Professor of Practice in Literature & Creative Writing**

***MFA in Creative Writing, Bennington College, US***

Nathalie Handal is the author of seven collections of poetry, winner of the 2020 Palestine Book Award Winner and a finalist for the Foreword Book Award. The flash collection *The Republics*, lauded as "one of the most inventive books by one of today's most diverse writers," and winner of the Virginia Faulkner Award for Excellence in Writing and the Arab American Book Award. She has written eight plays and has promoted international literature through translation and research. She writes the literary travel column "The City and the Writer" for *Words without Borders* magazine and is the editor of the groundbreaking classic *The Poetry of Arab Women: A Contemporary Anthology*, winner of the PEN Oakland Josephine Miles Book Award, and named one of the top 10 Feminist Books by *The Guardian*; and co-editor of the W.W. Norton landmark anthology. She has taught, lectured, and given workshops globally.

*Visiting from: CSER and Comparative Literature, Columbia University, US*



## TERRI GEIS

**Visiting Associate Arts Professor, Art and Art History**

***PhD in Philosophy, Art History and Theory, University of Essex, UK***

Terri Geis is an art historian, independent curator, and museum educator. She specializes in women artists affiliated with Surrealism and the intersections between Surrealism and the Americas. Past projects include *In Wonderland: The Surrealist Adventures of Women Artists in Mexico and the United States* at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and *My Goddesses and My Monsters: Maria Martins and Surrealism in the 1940s in Debates on Surrealism in Latin America: Vivísimo Muerto* at the Getty Research Institute. Geis's work has also investigated Surrealism's connections with Afro-Caribbean art and culture, with multiple essays published in the *Revue Miranda*, *The International Encyclopedia of Surrealism* and others. With Manthia Diawara, Geis was awarded the 2021 senior fellowship through the Dedalus Foundation for a book project on Ted Joans.

*Visiting from: European Graduate School, Switzerland*

# ARTS AND HUMANITIES



## AUDE EPSTEIN

### Visiting Assistant Professor of Legal Studies

*PhD in Law, University of Nice, France*

Aude Epstein's research sheds a critical light on the use of business law to foster environmental protection animal welfare. She is now leading a research project on the ecologization of business law for the French Ministry of justice and the French Agency for environmental protection (ADEME). Her PhD dissertation, which deals with the use corporate disclosure as a tool to foster environmentally sound business practices, has received the Joinet Prize for private and comparative law (2015) and a three-year grant by the French Agency for environmental protection (ADEME). She has been particularly active developing the animal law clinic at Sorbonne University and Sciences Po.

*Visiting from: Faculty of Law, Paris Nanterre University, France*



## DAUNGYEWA UTARASINT

### Visiting Assistant Professor

*PhD in Political and Social Change, The Australian National University, Australia*

Daungyewa Utarasint research examines electoral and voting behavior, comparative politics, political violence, terrorism, ethnic and religious conflict, peace and conflict studies, and international relations, often with a focus on southern Thailand and the Asian region.

*Visiting from: Prince of Songkhla University, Thailand*



## GHAZI AL-MULAIFI

### Visiting Assistant Professor of Music

*PhD in Music, NYU, US*

Ghazi Al-Mulaifi is an applied-ethnomusicologist and a Venice Biennale artist, composer, Khaleeji-jazz musician, and ensemble leader. His research interests include Kuwaiti pearl diving music, the music of the Indian Ocean civilizations trade routes, global-jazz, and heritage production. His current musical efforts include performing with his ensemble Boom.Diwan where he and traditional Kuwaiti pearl diving musicians merge Kuwaiti bahri (sea) rhythms with global jazz traditions for the purpose of creating a new Kuwaiti music and engaging in a global musical dialog.

*Visiting from: The Public Authority for Applied Education and Training, Kuwait*





## MADELEINE WOLF

### Visiting Assistant Professor of French Studies

*PhD in Romance Languages and Literatures, Harvard*

Madeleine Wolf is a literary scholar and specialist in nineteenth-century French literature, history, and culture. Her research focuses on the literal and figurative roles of noise, dissonance, and disruption in French narrative and poetry. Her other research and teaching interests include digital humanities, literary cartography, representations of violence, French and Francophone film, and second language pedagogy. She also teaches beginning and advanced French, where she combines language instruction with cultural content and community-based learning.

*Visiting from: Harvard University, US*



## MICHAEL ALLISON

### Visiting Assistant Arts Professor of Interactive Media

*M.P.S. Interactive Telecommunications, NYU, US*

Michael Allison is a professional software engineer, XR developer and educator hailing from the world of creative technology. He worked for years as a creative technologist building site specific interactive experiences for major corporate clients. Eventually he spent several years as the head of technology at a creative tech firm where he was the technical lead on a wide range of projects from smart appliance prototypes to experimental retail products to XR experiences for experiential marketing. Allison has also worked with NYU Tandon School of Engineering and Emeritus to create an online professional certificate program for Unity-based XR development and graphics programming.

*Visiting from: Scatter, US*



## OREN HANNER

### Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy

*PhD in Buddhist Studies, University of Hamburg, Germany*

Oren Hanner is an expert in on Buddhist and Indian philosophy, studying these traditions from a cross-cultural perspective. He is particularly interested in different aspects of Buddhist ethics and action theory and the ways in which they can contribute to contemporary debates in these fields. At present, his research focuses on questions related to justice and collective agency. He is the editor of *Buddhism and Scepticism: Historical, Philosophical, and Comparative Perspectives* (Projekt Verlag, 2020) and book review editor for the *Journal of Buddhist Ethics*.

*Visiting from: Comparative Religion, The Hebrew University of JerUSlem, Israel*

# ARTS AND HUMANITIES



## SALILA KULSHRESHTHA

**Visiting Assistant Professor of History and Art and Art History**

*PhD in History, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India*

Salila Kulshreshtha teaches history, art, and art history with a special focus on South Asia. She is the author of the book, *From Temple to Museum: Colonial Collection and Uma Mahesvara Icon in Middle Ganga Valley* (Routledge: 2018). Some of her other publications include *Removable Heritage: Nalanda Beyond the Mahavihara*; *Between Shrines and Monuments: Heritage of Sacred Spaces in South Bihar*, and *Practices of Faith: Shrines of Ancient South Arabia*. She has also published with the online journal *wire.in*. Salila's research interests include religious iconography and temple spaces in South Asia, colonial archaeology, history of museums, material culture, and religious history of the Indian Ocean. Her current research project studies shrines and ancient sailing routes in the western Indian Ocean.

*Visiting from: University of Oxford, UK*



## SHAIKHA AL MAZROU

**Visiting Assistant Arts Professor of Visual Arts**

*MA in Fine Art, Chelsea College of Fine Art, University of the Arts London, UK*

Shaikha Al Mazrou is considered to be among the most dynamic and promising artists of her generation from the UAE. Her sculptural experimentations and investigations are expressions of materiality—articulations of tension and the interplay between form and content as well as an intuitive, keenly felt understanding of materials and their physical properties. She combines and evolves ideas from contemporary artistic movements similarly preoccupied with formal and material elements, from color theory to geometric abstraction.

*Visiting from: College of Fine Arts and Design, University of Sharjah, UAE*



## SUPHAN KIRMIZIALTIN

**Visiting Assistant Professor**

*PhD in History, University of Texas at Austin, US*

Suphan Kirmizialtin is a historian of the Ottoman Middle East. She also studies the emergence of women's print media in Ottoman lands and its contribution to the creation of a civil public space in the Empire. Her current research focuses on text recognition and textual analytics of Ottoman Turkish print media. Her most recent study on the HTR applications for Ottoman Turkish entails the automated transcription of Ottoman Turkish print texts to modern Turkish. She is also working on applying the same technology to the British Indian office documents from the 19th century with the goal of making these texts available for higher-order text analysis.

*Visiting from: Zayed University Abu Dhabi, UAE*



## TINA SHERWELL

### Visiting Assistant Professor of Art and Art History

*PhD in Communication and Image Studies, University of Kent, UK*

Tina Sherwell previously worked on the Tate Online with their digital archives. She won the prize of Alexandria Biennale in 2001 for her map series and is the author of various texts on Palestinian art published in catalogues, journals and books, including monograph on Sliman Mansour for which she was also the curator of the retrospective Exhibition: Terrains of Belonging in 2011. Her recent publications include: "Time Loop in Palestinian Video Art;" Constellation of the Moving Image, Ed. B. Makhoul. "Contemplation on Public Art in Palestine," Henrich Boell Foundation Kiel Muthesius, Germany. She has undertaken consultancy work for various organizations including UNESCO, Birzeit University Museum and The Danish Centre for Culture and Development.

*Visiting from: Faculty of Art, Music and Design, Birzeit University, Palestine*



## EMILY COLE

### Visiting Lecturer of Writing

*PhD in Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, University of California, US*

Emily Cole is a historian and archaeologist who specializes in the social landscape of the Eastern Mediterranean in the first millennia BC and AD. Drawing on a variety of disciplinary approaches, Cole focuses on mechanisms of communication at play in the ancient world. Through an exploration of multilingual texts spanning ancient Egyptian history, Cole demonstrated how translation practices were deployed by local elites as an act of resistance against Ptolemaic Greek rule. She is the co-director of the Northeast Fayyūm Lakeshore Project in Egypt. She is conducting fieldwork at a series of sites in the region to learn more about the means by which smaller settlements were integral to creating a network of larger sites in the Fayyūm. Her work has been funded by the Rust Family Foundation and others. Future fieldwork will examine intersite interaction through the exchange of both ideas and goods.

*Visiting from: Center for the Tebtunis Papyri, The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley, US*



## AMY BETH KAROLL

### Visiting Lecturer of Writing

*PhD in Near Eastern Languages and Cultures (NELC), University of California, US*

Amy Beth Karoll has worked on a wide array of collaborative research projects, leading teams, fostering an environment of learning, designing and teaching various lessons and trainings in instructional technology, and testing user experience on various platforms. She has worked with the Center for Digital Humanities as a Research and Instructional Technology Consultant, collaborating with teaching professionals on instructional and research projects. She has also developed documentation to help with user experience on various instructional technologies. Amy was at the W.F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research in JerUSlem as an ECA Predoctoral Fellow in fall 2018. Her research focuses on landscapes of change and mobility during the transition from the Early to Middle Bronze Age

*Visiting from: University of California, Los Angeles, US*



ENGINEERING



## MARWA CHAFII

### Associate Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering

*PhD in wireless communications, CentraleSupélec, France*

Marwa Chafii's research interests include advanced waveform design, machine learning for wireless communications, and indoor localization. Since 2019, she has served as Associate Editor at IEEE Communications Letters where she received the Best Editor Award in 2020. She is currently vice-chair of the IEEE ComSoc ETI on Machine Learning for Communications, leading the Education working group of the ETI on Integrated Sensing and Communications, research lead at Women in AI, and managing the Gender Committee of the AI4EU community.

Dr. Chafii was previously an Associate Professor at ENSEA, France, where she held a Chair of Excellence on Artificial Intelligence from CY Initiative. She received the prize of the best PhD in France in the fields of Signal, Image & Vision, and she has been nominated in the top 10 Rising Stars in Computer Networking and Communications by N2Women in 2020.



## NIKOLAOS KARATHANASOPOULOS

### Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering

*Ph.D in Mechanical and Process Engineering, ETH Zurich, Switzerland*

Nikolaos Karathanasopoulos is interested in the mechanics and design of advanced materials and structures. His research interests include the analysis, simulation, and design of helical structures, the development of advanced materials commonly known as «metamaterials» with extra-ordinary mechanical and functional attributes, as well as the use of artificial intelligence in engineering. His research has received support from private and public European organizations, including the Novartis Research Institute and the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions.

*Previously: Research Associate, ETH Zurich, Switzerland*



## KHULOOD ALAWADI

### Lecturer of Engineering Design

*M.S. in Innovation Design Engineering, Imperial College London, UK*

Khulood Alawadi is an interdisciplinary designer passionate about working at the intersections of design with science, engineering and society and exploring tools for merging them. She is committed to recontextualising design for communities and environments that are seldom designed for, motivated by personal experiences and world events. Previously, she worked as a designer, maker and communicator for science research institutes, cultural organisations and healthcare providers. Her IDE group project, *Fallback: Designing of Global Internet Shutdowns*, has been featured in multiple publications including Dezeen, Creative Applications, ACM Interaction and awarded the Core77 Student Notable in the Design for Social Impact category. In the RCA x CERN Grand Challenge collaboration, her group project, KALA: A cross-cultural language game, was a finalist in the Social and Economic Disparities category.

*Previously: Assistant Director, Research Visualization, Design and Manufacturing, NYU Abu Dhabi, UAE*



SCIENCE



## JON RYAN SPROUSE

**Professor of Psychology**

*PhD in Linguistics, University of Maryland-College Park, US*

Jon Sprouse is an experimental syntactician. His research starts from two working hypotheses: (i) that there is an underlying combinatorics to human language syntax, and (ii) that this combinatorics is implemented in the human brain. His research seeks to explore the hypothesis space of possible combinatorial systems that is proposed in theoretical syntax, and to use methods from experimental syntax to collect evidence that can shift probability mass around in that hypothesis space, such as acceptability judgments, EEG, fMRI, and even computational modeling. His work has been recognized by the Linguistic Society of America with the award for the best paper in Language (2012), the Early Career award (2013), and the inaugural C. L. Baker (mid-career) award (2020).

*Department of Linguistics, University of Connecticut, US*



## ELENA BERETTA

**Clinical Professor of Mathematics**

*M.S Mathematics, Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy*

Elena Beretta has taught in several Italian universities including “La Sapienza” in Rome, and the University of Florence and conducted researches in centers and foreign universities including the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute in Berkeley, the Mittag-Leffler Institute in Stockholm, the Schroedinger Institute in Wien, Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris and Rutgers University. Her research interests focus mainly on the study of inverse problems for partial differential equations with applications to geophysics, seismology, medical imaging and non-destructive testing of materials. Beretta has directed several research projects and has been invited as the plenary speaker in several conferences.

*Previously: Associate Professor of Mathematics, Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy*



## PEKKA OLAVI SANTTILA

**Professor of Psychology**

*PhD in Psychology, Abo Akademi University, Finland*

Pekka Olavi Santtila's research is focused on legal and forensic psychology with a particular interest in investigative issues and forensic sexology. His current research projects focus on improving the quality of forensic interviews with children and establishing the maximum distance and minimum lighting conditions during a crime event that allow a later correct identification by a witness. He is also interested in the effects of abuse experiences and how decisions are made in abuse investigations. Professor Santtila has provided investigative advice to the police, acted as an expert witness in numerous legal cases, and consulted child sexual abuse investigations. He is a licensed psychologist and specialist in legal psychology. In the past, he served as Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Psychology, and Theology at the Åbo Akademi University in Finland.

*Affiliated from: Psychology, NYU Shanghai, China*



## TERRY HARRISON

**Silver Professor; Professor of Anthropology**

*PhD in Anthropology, University of London, UK*

Terry Harrison is a biological anthropologist specializing in primate and human paleontology, evolutionary morphology, and paleoecology with extensive paleontological fieldwork experience in Europe, East Africa, and Asia. He is currently co-directing a field project at the renowned early hominin site of Laetoli in northern Tanzania and is also working on several projects on fossil apes from the Miocene and Plio-Pleistocene of China and East Africa. As Director of the Center for the Study of Human Origins, his role is to enhance and facilitate research on all fields of biological anthropology and archaeology that are broadly related to the study of human origins, with the aim to foster and support multidisciplinary investigations, with an emphasis on the development of collaborative projects, fieldwork, and state-of-the-art laboratory research. In addition, the Center also aims to promote a greater understanding and appreciation of the study of human origins among the academic community and the public at large.

*Affiliated from: Anthropology, NYU, US*



## AZZAM MOURAD

**Visiting Professor of Computer Science**

*PhD in Electrical and Computer Engineering, Concordia University, Canada*

Azzam Mourad's publications include more than 100 research papers in top tier international peer-reviewed books, journals and conferences focusing on security, service, network and computation optimization and management in emerging technologies including internet of things, cloud/fog/edge computing, vehicular and mobile systems and networks, and federated learning. Mourad won the LAU research excellence award in 2017. He is also a senior IEEE member and serves/served as Associate Editor for the IEEE Network, TPC member of several prestigious conferences and as technical reviewer of several highly ranked journals.

*Visiting from: Assistant Professor, American University of Beirut*



## MIKLÓS RUSZINKÓ

**Visiting Professor of Mathematics**

*PhD in Mathematics, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Hungary*

Miklós Ruzinkó is currently a scientific advisor at the Alfréd Rényi Institute of Mathematics. He held a postdoctoral position in Cambridge and has taught in several US and Hungarian Universities. He has conducted research at Bielefeld University, Mittag-Leffler Institute in Stockholm and Microsoft Research - Redmond, among others.

His research interests focus mainly on graph and hypergraph theory including Ramsey-Turán type problems and coding theory. In problem solving, he likes to combine methods from different mathematical disciplines, including probability theory, geometry, algebra. He presented plenary lectures in several conferences and gave invited talks, counting Emory, Georgia Tech, Rutgers.

*Visiting from: Pázmány Péter Catholic University, Hungary*





## SPIROS PERGANTIS

### Visiting Professor of Chemistry

*PhD in Chemistry, University of British Columbia, Canada*

Spiros Pergantis's thesis involved the development of new analytical techniques for arsenic speciation analysis in environmental and biological samples. His research interests include: Metal Speciation Analysis, Novel Metal Species Identification, Metal Species – Biomolecule Interactions, Nanoparticle Determination Using Single Particle ICP-MS, Advances in Sonic – Spray Ionization Mass Spectrometry and Collaborative Applications of Molecular and Atomic Mass Spectrometry.

*Visiting from: Department of Chemistry, University of Crete, Greece.*



## YUEFAN DENG

### Visiting Professor of Mathematics

*PhD in Theoretical Physics, Columbia University, US*

Yuefan Deng's research covers parallel computing, molecular dynamics, Monte Carlo methods, and biomedical engineering. The latest focus is on the multi-scale modeling of platelet activations and aggregations (funded by US NIH, New York State, and IBM) on supercomputers, parallel optimization algorithms, and supercomputer network topologies. He publishes widely in diverse fields of physics, computational mathematics, and biomedical engineering. He has supervised nearly 30 doctoral theses in applied mathematics and physics.

Professor Deng has taught more than 15,000 students ordinary differential equations and numerical analysis. He is the recipient (2016) of the State University of New York Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching.

*Visiting from: Stony Brook University, US*



## PIERO NICOLINI

### Visiting Associate Professor of Physics

*PhD in Theoretical Physics, University of Bologna, Italy*

Piero Nicolini is a theoretical physicist of fundamental interactions. His research interests focus on classical and quantum gravity, black holes, cosmology, particle physics and mathematical modelling. He has published papers on string inspired dilaton gravity models, plasma physics, quantum field theory effects in atomic systems, cosmology, neutrino oscillations, and fractal properties of a quantum spacetime. Professor Nicolini is best known for having first proposed noncommutative geometry as a tool for studying the Hawking's black hole radiation beyond the semiclassical limit. He has been inducted in the top 2% of world's scientists for citation impact and has been the recipient of an array of research grants and awards, including the Carl-Wilhelm-Fück Prize. Nicolini is currently the editor of the book *"Touring the Planck scale – Antonio Aurilia Memorial Volume"*. His research focuses on the spontaneous dimensional reduction and on phenomena one expects to have taken place in the early Universe soon after the Big Bang.

*Visiting from: Institute for Theoretical Physics, Goethe-University, Frankfurt, Germany*

# SCIENCE



## DANIA ZANTOUT

### Lecturer of Mathematics

*PhD in Mathematical Sciences, Clemson University, US*

Dania Zantout research interests lie broadly in the theory of automorphic forms and their L- functions which is an ideal meeting ground for analytical, algebraic and geometrical techniques. In particular, her work used the geometry of moduli spaces in order to analytically describe cuspidal liftings from spaces of elliptic modular forms to spaces of Siegel modular forms.

Dania brings a wealth of experience in teaching a wide variety of math courses. This experience combined with the breadth and depth of her PhD program provided her with strong skills for teaching math courses at all undergraduate levels and for communicating mathematics to a culturally diverse student body. Her teaching pedagogy focuses on the implementation of research-informed instructional practices and evidence-based techniques in the successful delivery of content that ensure effective transfer of knowledge. She is enthusiastic about developing math outreach activities to serve the university and the community vision towards STEM excellence based on her relevant experiences and observations in US.



## MOUMENA CHAQFEH

### Lecturer of Computer Science

*PhD in Track of Network Engineering, College of Information Technology, United Arab Emirates University, UAE*

Moumena Chaqfeh's research focuses on large-scale networks including the World Wide Web and Vehicular Networks. Additionally, she is interested in Information and Communication Technologies for Development and has worked on multiple research projects at the Roadway, Transportation, and Traffic Safety Research Center at UAEU. She is currently working on accelerating web pages for less fortunate users who can only afford low-end phones. Additionally, she is exploring different challenges in mixed traffic environments where conventional vehicles interact with autonomous vehicles that will exploit real roads in the near future.

*Previously: Research Assistant, NYU Abu Dhabi, UAE*



# SOCIAL SCIENCE

# SOCIAL SCIENCE



## PAULINE RUTSAERT

### Associate Professor of Practice of Economics

*PhD in Economics, Cornell University, US*

Pauline Rutsaert's expertise is in the fields of Industrial Organisation, especially Competition and Regulatory Economics, Industrial and Strategic Trade Policy, Innovation and R&D. She started her career in the Netherlands as a post-graduate research fellow at the Tinbergen Institute and then moved on as a consultant at the Netherlands Economic Institute. She later moved to the UK where she worked as Senior Economic Advisor at the Office of Communications (Ofcom) and as a Research Leader at RAND Europe. She teaches Microeconomics and Industrial Organisation.

*Previously: Homerton College, University of Cambridge, UK*



## KRISTIN SURAK

### Visiting Associate Professor of Social Research and Public Policy

*PhD in Sociology, University of California, Los Angeles, US*

Kristin Surak researches international migration, nationalism, and political sociology. She writes regularly for popular outlets, including the London Review of Books, New Statesman, New Left Review, and the Washington Post. She is the author of *Making Tea, Making Japan: Cultural Nationalism in Practice*. This received the Book of the Year Award from the American Sociological Association's Asian Section. She has been a fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, Fung Global Fellow at Princeton, the Sainsbury Institute for Japanese Arts and Cultures, and has been a Visiting Professor at the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies. She is a Lifetime Fellow of Clare Hall, University of Cambridge. The American Academy of Political and Social Science has recognized her scholarship, which has been funded by the German Science Foundation, Japan Foundation, Fulbright-Hays Foundation, and Leverhulme Foundation, among others. Her forthcoming book *Citizenship 4 Sale: Millionaires, Microstates, and Mobility* will be published by Harvard University Press in 2021.

*Visiting from: Political Sociology, London School of Economics, UK*



## KORHAN KOCAK

### Assistant Professor of Political Science

*PhD in Politics, Princeton University, US*

Korhan Kocak's research focuses on mass political behavior including voting and social movements, using formal theory, social choice theory, empirical methods, and experiments. His work has appeared in the *British Journal of Political Science* and *Comparative Political Studies*; and has been funded by Princeton University's Research Program in Political Economy.

*Previously: Post-Doctoral Associate, NYU Abu Dhabi, UAE*



## AYESHA MASOOD

**Assistant Professor of Social Research and Public Policy**

*PhD Information Science, Cornell University*

Ayesha Masood's dissertation research project on women doctors' representation in health workforce was funded by Wenner-Gren Foundation and American Institute of Pakistan Studies. Her research, broadly situated in feminist and critical methodologies, focuses on issues related to gender in organizations, evidence-based health policy, managing human resources in health and policy implementation. Her work has been published in top-ranked journals of the world including *Gender Work & Organization*, *Organization, Sex Roles and Gender, Place and Culture*. Her current research interests include cultural influences on network formation, front-line bureaucracy, and evidence-based health policy formulation.

*PhD in Sociocultural Anthropology, Arizona State University, US*



## RANA ALMUTAWA

**Assistant Professor/ Emerging Scholar of Social Research and Public Policy**

*PhD in Oriental Studies (Middle Eastern Studies), University of Oxford, UK*

Rana AlMutawa is an Emirati researcher and is currently researching how Dubai's citizens and residents form place-attachments, belonging and community in the city, and particularly within its so-called "glitzy" and "consumerist" spaces. Her other research interests include culture and society in the Arabian Arabian Gulf; urban ethnography; nationalism and ethnic diversity in the Arabian Arabian Gulf; education in the Arabian Gulf; gender and feminism in the Arabian Gulf.

Her Ph.D was on Middle Eastern Studies with a focus primarily on the construction of national identity.



## MUHAMMAD AZFAR NISAR

**Visiting Associate Professor of Social Research and Public Policy**

*PhD in Public Administration and Policy, Arizona State University, US*

Muhammad Azfar Nisar's transdisciplinary research focuses on theoretically understanding and empirically analyzing how and why public policies, especially those aimed at addressing social inequities, fail to achieve intended results. His research has received multiple international awards and has been published in top journals of the world. His forthcoming book from Cambridge University Press is entitled *Governing Thirdness: State, Society and non-binary identities in Pakistan*. Nisar serves on the Editorial Board of multiple top public management journals and has provided policy advice to multiple local and international organizations. His current research interests focus on understanding the strategies citizen use in contesting burdensom policies of the state, the role played by space and material artifacts in influencing access to social services of the state, and understanding local policy perspectives in the developing world.

*Visiting from: Lahore University of Management Sciences, Pakistan*

# SOCIAL SCIENCE



## PETER THURLOW

### Visiting Associate Professor of Practice in Economics

*PhD in Economics, University of Toronto, Canada*

Peter Thurlow is a practicing economist, advising entities from governments to ministries, central banks and governors. He previously worked in a research position at the Bank of Canada where he pursued theoretical and empirical work on the credit channel of the monetary policy transmission mechanism.

Thurlow joined the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs as an Economic Advisor, and was elected to be the Deputy Chair of the Economic Committee of APEC. He then took a position advising the Minister of Finance in Kosovo, while leading a team of young Kosovar macroeconomists. In that role, he led the development of Kosovo's first medium-term fiscal plan, and on the basis of that the donors pledged 2 billion Euros of support. During his multifaceted career, he has developed teams, a modeling framework, and products to give advice on medium and long-term fiscal plans.

*Visiting from: Department of Finance, Abu Dhabi, UAE*



## TETYANA SUROVTSEVA

### Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics

*PhD in Economics, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Spain*

Tetyana Surovtseva is an economist working on labor, immigration and gender economics. Her interests include furthering our understanding of the outcomes and behaviours of immigrants in the destination labor market. In her work, she studies the returns of immigrants' particular skills at the destination. She seeks to uncover the underlying causes of immigrant-native wage gap, as well as, analysing the impact of immigrant networks on their assimilation patterns. She is also the Principal Investigator for a project that studies the causes of gender career diversion, with a particular focus on the role of firms' gender composition. She specializes in teaching Microeconomics, Applied Econometrics and Statistics.

*Visiting from: Department of Economics and Business, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Spain*



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