

IDS DEPARTMENT Newsletter

OCTOBER 2023

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A WORD FROM THE DEPARTMENT CHAIR

DR. MARIA PRAMAGGIORE

Dear IDS Colleagues:

The midterm mark has passed, and we're on the fast track to the end of term. Amidst the intensity of this busy semester, I hope you find it gratifying, as I do, to have beautiful fall colors, the mountains, and another edition of our department newsletter to re-connect us to our mission as educators and remind us that there's more to life than email!

Maria

IDS DEPARTMENT
NEWSLETTER

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FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

KATHERINE LEDFORD

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/09/books/barbara-kingsolver-appalachia-books.html>

Katherine Ledford's recent book on Appalachia "*Writing Appalachia: An Anthology*" was reviewed in the NY Times by a world-renowned Appalachian based writer, Barbara Kingsolver in the "read your way around the world" series. Barbara regards Katherine's book as a work that is "too wonderful to miss" and states that "this book will put away the stereotype of Appalachians as a dull monoculture".

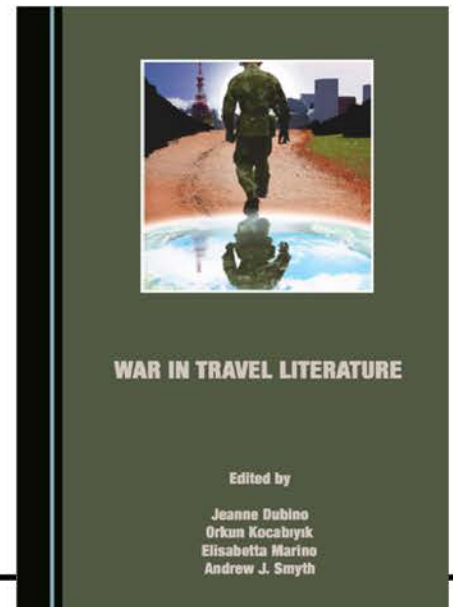


JEANNE DUBINO

Jeanne Dubino coedited a collection titled: *War in Travel Literature* alongside Orkun Kocabiyyik, Elisabetta Marino, and Andrew Smyth. This collection explores how war serves as a prominent theme and backdrop in travel writing, showcasing the diverse forms of such literature, including cookbooks and military magazines. It emphasizes the impact of war on travelers' motivations and experiences, offering a broader understanding of the influence of conflict on individuals and their worlds.

Check out the collection here:

<https://www.cambridgescholars.com/product/978-1-5275-0482-0>



TOM HANSELL

Tom Hansell has a sculpture and a video installation included in the *From These Hills* biennial exhibition at the William King Museum of Art in Abingdon, Virginia from October 5, 2023 to February 4, 2024.

Learn more:

<https://www.williamkingmuseum.org/exhibit/from-these-hills-contemporary-art-in-the-southern-appalachian-highlands-5/>

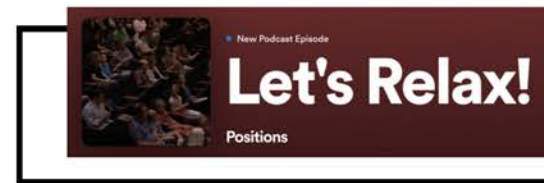


Contemporary Art in the Southern Appalachian Highlands



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

MARK NUNES



The second episode of the podcast Mark Nunes is producing called "Let's Relax" just went live. It is on "relaxed performance": an approach to theatre performance that creates space for diverse audience needs, and in doing so, challenges some of the social and cultural conventions around what "good" audience behavior looks like.

Check it out here:

Spotify: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/15hJl1qnmY93ZtsQU53kQ?si=UjpEQdVdTo-LfBBpYQqBFO>

Apple Podcasts: <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/lets-relax/id1689898661?i=1000632349802>

Lateral: <https://csalateral.org/podcasts/positions/lets-relax/>



HOLLY AMBLER

Holly Ambler

was nominated for the Richard N. Henson

Outstanding Advising Award for the College of Arts and Sciences

This student nominated award recognizes the phenomenal work and dedication you provide to your students each term. You play an integral role in student success at Appalachian State, and we cannot thank you enough for your hard work and devotion to our student population!

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

On October 18-20, Emily Escobedo Ramirez, Mariana Angeles Lemus, Zayna Sheridan, and Dex Williams presented research conducted with Prof.

Holly Ambler at the 10th Annual Residential College Society Symposium at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA. The title of their presentation is, "The Impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic on Engagement and Academic Motivation of College Students."



They discussed the results of focus group conversations conducted in Spring 2023 with current Watauga students, spanning the years 2020-2023. Their aim with this study was to hear from students about what is preventing them from engaging both socially and academically in college. What they learned seems universal to students in a variety of academic settings and their research will help advisors, residential college staff, and faculty support students in their academic journey as we continue to recover from COVID-19. The panel was well-received and a lively discussion followed their presentation.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOVEMBER 2 at 5:00 P.M.

Join the department at Venture to celebrate Jess Martell, who's tenure and promotion case is progressing with a resounding yes from IDS!

CAS STAFF AND FACULTY AWARDS CEREMONY

November 1, 2023

Parkway Ballroom (Room 420), Plemmons Student Union

Come support our IDS colleagues who have been nominated:

- Jim Burniston—CAS Outstanding Staff Member Award
- Tom Hansell—CAS Outstanding Engagement Award
- Jess Martell—CAS Strickland Award for Outstanding Junior Faculty Research
- Ann Pegelow Kaplan is nominated for Outstanding Faculty Advisor, awarded at a different ceremony!

PLEASE NOTE: the IDS department meeting has been rescheduled for Wednesday, November 8 at 12-1.30 in the Great Hall so department faculty can attend the CAS ceremony.

THOUGHTS FROM YOUR GA

Hi everyone! It's been so nice getting to know you all over the past couple weeks. I hope that you had a great fall break. Happy Midterm Season! I wish you all luck on your upcoming midterms. Make sure you take some time for destressing and self care! On that note and in light of Halloween coming up I leave you with these images of my dog Lilo in her costumes :)

Feel free to reach out and send me items for the newsletter!

Email me at :

Grindstafflf@appstate.edu



NEXT SUMMER: DR. JESSICA MARTELL WILL CO-LEAD A STUDY ABROAD EXPERIENCE CALLED HUMAN RIGHTS AND PEACEBUILDING IN IRELAND & NORTHERN IRELAND



May 28-June 16, 2024
Summer Session 1
6.0 Credit Hours

<https://www.belindawalzer.com/study-abroad-su24.html>

In this program, students will study how societies once divided by intense conflict come together once the violence is over. We will visit former conflict zones, peace walls, and other cultural sites in Dublin, Belfast, and Derry/Londonderry. Students will witness how legacies of conflict and reconciliation are etched into everyday spaces, such as the walls and murals of Belfast's sectarian neighborhoods, the elegant curves of Derry's Peace Bridge, and the grand lobby of Dublin's General Post Office, the site of the 1916 Easter Rising. In post-conflict zones where there may be no shared narrative about what happened, it is critical that we listen to multiple viewpoints, dwell in gray areas, and acknowledge differing opinions even in the search for consensus. Students will be encouraged to reflect and think critically about historical controversies, learn about the delicate process of peace-building, and appreciate the importance of trust and tolerance in divided political settings.