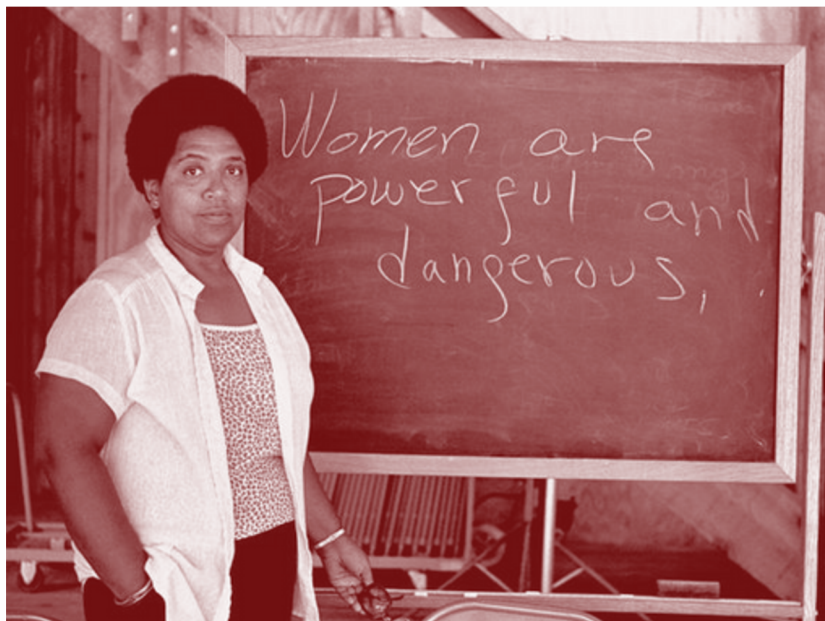


THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
**DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN'S
AND GENDER STUDIES**

NEWSLETTER



FALL 2024



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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dr. Leland Spencer



The womanist writer Alice Walker, in the classic *In Search of Our Mothers' Gardens*, affirms, “no person is your friend (or your kin) who demands your silence, or denies your right to grow and be perceived as fully blossomed as you were intended. Or who belittles in any fashion the gifts you labor so to bring into the world.” In WGST, we agree with Walker, and we celebrate the many gifts that feminist scholars and students endeavor to offer. We educate undergraduate and graduate students, equip our students to serve in the community, host empowering lectures and events, and conduct cutting-edge research that seeks to craft a better world for people of all genders and sexualities.

As a new Gamecock, I arrived in Columbia this summer. I am already so excited to be part of such a dynamic faculty and work alongside excellent staff and students. Thanks for engaging with our newsletter. We invite you to get involved with WGST: refer a student to study with us. Donate to one of our endowment funds, whether for student scholarships, public lectures, faculty research, or departmental support. Or drop us a line: we'd love to hear from you!

Warmly,

Leland G. Spencer, PhD

UPCOMING AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

DEADLINE JANUARY 31:

Women's and Gender Studies Faculty Teaching Award

Presented to a faculty member (tenure-track, teaching faculty or adjunct) for outstanding teaching in Women's and Gender Studies courses.

Women's and Gender Studies Graduate Student Teaching Award

Presented to a graduate student for outstanding teaching in Women's and Gender Studies courses.

DEADLINE MARCH 1:

Carol Jones Carlisle Award

Designed to assist faculty and professional staff in the conduct of women-centered research, which is consistent with the research mission of WGST to reconceptualize knowledge, create new knowledge, and/or reinterpret existing knowledge about women and their experiences through the lens of gender and the prism of diversity.

Dr. Mary Baskin-Waters Service-Learning Award

Recognizes USC faculty who have demonstrated a sustained commitment to excellence in service-learning and are recognized for their leadership in service-learning coursework and their commitment to the local community.

Dr. Lynn Weber Award

Presented to an academically talented undergraduate WGST student, with an emphasis on nominating underrepresented student populations and socioeconomically disadvantaged students.

NEW FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Cara Delay (She/Her)



Dr. Delay holds degrees from Boston College and Brandeis University. Her research analyzes health, gender, and culture in Europe and the United States, with a particular focus on reproduction, pregnancy, and childbirth. She is author or co-author of *Women, Reform, and Resistance in Ireland, 1850-1950* (Palgrave), *Irish Women and the Creation of Modern Catholicism, 1850-1950* (Manchester), *Birth Control: What Everyone Needs to Know* (Oxford), and *Catching Fire: Women's Health Activism in Ireland and the Global Movement for Reproductive Justice* (Oxford). She teaches courses in women's health, history, and reproduction.

An Interview with Dr. Delay by Jayla Porcha:

As I read over your bio, it was mentioned that your research analyzes health, gender and culture in Europe and the United States, with a particular focus on reproduction, pregnancy, and childbirth. What made you interested in those studies?

"It was my students. I did not really start my career that way. I started as a traditionally trained historian, but I was always interested in issues related to women and gender. I was working on a book on religion in Ireland, and looking at Catholic women. I started thinking about childbirth rituals. As I would teach women's history courses, students were always interested in childbirth. They wanted to know about pregnancy and childbirth, so I would do my research. I then realized there was not that much historical research out there, so I saw this gap that needed filling."

Recently, I have taken a global health course. My professor often mentions that we focus on things in the states instead of globally. When studying culture in Europe, what were some of the comparisons and differences?

“My research is on western Europe, so I’ll mostly be talking about that. They have more of a cultural understanding that state funding is important. State education is important. For example, Ireland just passed free contraception for some people. There is definitely I think more of a recognition that sometimes people need help in their lives. Sometimes the state is going to provide that. Whereas in the United States, it is still really controversial. It is regional here in the United States, so different states have different policies. It is hard to even study that here in the United States because you have state policies and federal policies, whereas in Europe it is more at the national level.”

You have written more than 30 scholarly journal articles and have been the co-author of many books. What is the biggest takeaway that you want you readers to understand about your research?

“There are sometimes a lot of voices that are involved in speaking about reproductive health and sexual health. A lot of these voices have economic interests, or political interests. I think overall, it is to listen to women and people who can become pregnant themselves.

I really want to shift the focus away from these top down approaches... policy making, etc. What do actual people need and want, and their thoughts. That is why I do a lot of interviews with people, to elevate those voices.”

It was a pleasure to interview Dr. Delay, and learn more about her research and studies. She is very passionate about her studies, and has made influential findings. We are so excited to see all that she contributes to our department!

NEW FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Flora Oswald (She/Her)

Dr. Oswald received her dual PhD in Social Psychology and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies from Penn State. Dr. Oswald's program of research focuses broadly on liberation through a feminist lens, with specific areas of interest including: liberating marginalized group members from health disparities through a focus on social determinants of health; fat liberation and upward resistance among fat people; abolitionist politics and liberation from carceral systems; and sexual liberation, particularly liberating marginalized group members from systems of sexualized violence.



An Interview with Dr. Oswald by Sierra Perry:

I see your research focuses broadly on liberation through a feminist lens. What made you interested in those studies?

"I began my career in pure sexuality research, with my early work focused on sexuality generally rather than through a feminist lens specifically. Over time, as I examined the impact of stigma on health outcomes, particularly related to sexuality, my focus expanded. I started thinking about various forms of oppression, including sexual stigma, fatphobia, and incarceration. My research shifted toward understanding how these oppressions influence people's well-being. Ultimately, I embraced a broader lens of liberation to address multiple systems of oppression simultaneously, rather than tackling them individually. I found this liberation-focused approach to be the most effective and generalizable way to disrupt these interconnected systems."

What guidance would you offer to students interested in or pursuing research in the areas of social determinants of health, abolition, stigma, sexualized violence, and social perception that you wish you had known when you first started?

“I emphasize the importance of actively seeking or creating research opportunities, even if they aren't readily available. Reflecting on my own experience attending a small teaching-focused institution in Canada with no research labs or faculty engaged in research, I stress that students shouldn't wait for opportunities to come to them. Instead, I encourage them to reach out to researchers whose work they admire, noting that academics appreciate hearing from people who are inspired by their work. My advice is to start building connections as early as possible—whether by emailing researchers, engaging in research, or finding other ways to get involved. I am actively seeking graduate and undergraduate mentees/research assistants -- my email is floswald@sc.edu!”

Your work focuses on feminist methodologies, philosophies of science, and meta-science, particularly in relation to the open science movement. How do you see feminist approaches contributing to or reshaping the open science movement?

“I believe feminist approaches could significantly contribute to reshaping the Open Science movement, though there are challenges. While Open Science aims to promote transparency, accessibility, and replicability, it often assumes that all research can follow these practices, which may not be the case for feminist research. Feminist methods aren't fully supported by the current structure of Open Science. I argue that feminist approaches, such as collaboration could enrich Open Science, but the movement has not fully embraced these contributions. To foster change, I suggest a disruption in the power structures of Open Science and greater inclusion of feminist voices—not just extracting feminist knowledge, but genuinely integrating feminist researchers into the conversation.”

In what ways can feminist critiques help address potential biases in scientific research and data sharing practices within this movement?

“I believe feminist critiques can play a crucial role in addressing biases in scientific research and data sharing practices. They highlight gaps in the Open Science movement, especially regarding how it deals with qualitative research and the ethical concerns of marginalized groups. Feminist perspectives have already begun to reshape open science by fostering discussions on how to engage with open science principles—like transparency and data sharing—in ways that protect participants' safety and address ethical concerns. I've noticed that special issues of journals, such as *Psychology of Women Quarterly*, have started important conversations about how to reconcile feminist research with open science practices. However, I think more work is needed to tackle broader structural issues in open science, particularly around accessibility. Current systems of data sharing, pre-registration, and research dissemination may not fit well with qualitative research, complicating how findings can be shared and who can access them. My view is that feminist critiques are especially important at the structural level, as they challenge power dynamics and advocate for making knowledge more accessible to the public, rather than restricting it to those within academic institutions. Feminist approaches, in my opinion, can help reshape these systems to ensure that open science aligns more closely with ethical and equitable practices.”

We thank Dr. Oswald for sharing her insights with us for this interview. Her work has shed valuable light on these important issues, and she continues to provide thoughtful perspectives on these topics and others. We look forward to seeing how her research continues to influence the field and inspire future conversations.

NEW FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Leland Spencer (He/Him)



Dr. Spencer has a BA in Communication Studies from Mount Union College (now known as University of Mount Union), an MA in Communication from the University of Cincinnati and a PhD from the University of Georgia with a graduate certificate in Women's Studies from UGA as well. Leland's research interests are in feminist rhetoric, gender, sexuality, gender identity, and religious communication.

An Interview with Dr. Spencer by Emma Galluccio:

Dr. Spencer, thank you so much for taking the time to meet with me today. To begin, how did you get your start in Women's and Gender Studies? Where did that initial passion come from, and why was it something you chose to pursue?

"I have been interested in gender for a long time. I first became aware of gender when I was a teenager, when I noticed adults in my life who were treated differently just because of their gender, which I knew was unfair. Without really understanding what it meant, I started calling myself a feminist. Then I went off to college, and I majored in communication. Some of my favorite professors were teaching Gender Studies electives, and I thought they sounded interesting, so I started taking elective Gender Studies courses. There was not a Gender Studies major available, but there was a minor. So, I said, let me add a minor. Then, I wrote my undergraduate senior thesis on gendered images for God, so I got really interested in feminist theology."

Over the course of your studies, you've focused on communication in the context of gender, queer studies, and sexuality. How are theories of gender and sexuality intertwined within the realm of communication and communication studies? What importance does gender and sexuality play in mass media communication and within interpersonal communications?

"I'll just say that when you think about communication or the way communication is often understood, it is the transmission of information. I say something and send it to you, and then you hear it, decode it, and receive it, which is one way to think about communication. It's also an incomplete way to imagine communication because it's much more powerful than that. I often introduce to my students the idea of communication by talking about that transmission model, but then immediately complicating it. At the most complex level, we start to think about communication as the social construction of reality. When we talk about gender and sexuality, we must remember that we've made it up— we've constructed these categories. Whenever a norm has been created, there's also then room to challenge it, to recreate it, to create it differently, so we're not stuck with what we have. We can imagine individually, collectively, politically, culturally, different ways, more life-giving ways, of doing gender together and doing life together."

You are the author of *Women Bishops and Rhetorics of Shalom* — could you tell me more about your research regarding religious rhetoric and how gender and sexuality theories correlated with that? While studying communication and gender, where did the interest of religious rhetoric, ideals, and women's roles in the church start to manifest for you?

"A lot of my early work focused on women in leadership in the church. If you had to summarize all my work on gender, sexuality and religion, it comes down to this question:

how do people who have been excluded by their religious tradition find or create ways to thrive in those spaces? I've asked that question about queer and trans people. I've asked that question about women in leadership. My question was, really, how do these women work in patriarchal institutions, who are part of a class that's only had the right to work in that space as an ordained clergy person for a few decades? How do they rise to the top of the profession, and then, how do they navigate the leadership challenges that anyone in those positions faces? What I found in studying the sermons, speeches, and writings, but mostly sermons, of these three women, was, across the board, they focused on justice. They had different emphases relevant to their personal lives, the context of their work, etc. I summarized all of that in this concept of *shalom*. Of course, one way of thinking about this concept from the Jewish tradition is that it means peace. It's not just an absence of violence, but it's a positive presence of peace. Shalom refers to the completeness and wholeness of creation, and that's the concept that I found that united the rhetorical work of these three women bishops.”

From your studies, to research, to educating and advising, what are some aspects of your career that make you the proudest, and what do you hope students and others have been able to learn through your dedication to this field?

“I'm probably the proudest of my work with students who succeed in ways that they didn't imagine. When I was at Miami [University], I taught a First Year Seminar in civil rights rhetoric, and I had some people in that class who were first generation college students who weren't even sure they were going to stay in school. They said, “We'll just try this for a semester and see how it goes” and couple of people from that class declared me as their advisor, stuck with me for the whole time, finished a degree, and became the first people in their families to have a four-year degree.

I'm most proud of the student successes that I've been privileged to walk alongside. I certainly don't take credit for those situations—I'm lucky to be involved. I'm happy to be a participant in the journey, a co-creator of the experience for people, and that's been exciting and fulfilling for me.”

As the new chair of the Department of Women’s and Gender Studies here at USC, what are your hopes for this Department? How does your area of study and research continue to pose importance for WGST and our Department?

“One of my goals for the department includes growing the major—we have a fantastic major, we have wonderful students in the major, and we want more students. We want more people to know that Women's and Gender Studies is an exciting, growing, dynamic field. We want more people to know that you can get a job with a Women's and Gender Studies degree. Yes, you can get a job with this degree, and it also makes you a better person. It makes you a better family member, it makes you a better partner, it makes you a better parent, it makes you a better citizen, a better community member. I want people to be thoughtful about their work, their involvement, and their existence. I want people to go into all those spaces, because gender happens in all of them, and say, how do we make this space more inclusive? How do we expand who is involved here and included here? How do we how do we make this context better than what it is? This is an important question for people to ask in their jobs and in all those other places. I want more people to know that this is a useful degree and that it makes you a better human being.”

This interview provided an intriguing glimpse into Dr. Spencer’s origins in the field, and we are so excited to see the positive direction our department will be taken in under his leadership!

NEW AFFILIATE FACULTY

We welcome our new affiliate faculty members for Fall 2024!

To learn more about becoming an affiliate faculty member, visit our [Affiliate Faculty webpage](#).



Dr. Veronica Gonzalez (They/She)

Dr. Gonzalez's research centers on social justice, gender-based violence (GBV), and the enduring impacts of colonial legacies on Latinx populations. With a focus on intimate partner violence (IPV), victimization, colorism, and mental illness stigma, their interdisciplinary, qualitative, and community-engaged approach seeks to unpack the complex dynamics that sustain these issues. Veronica's work is informed by lived experiences, including growing up in rural agricultural communities and overcoming systemic barriers as a non-traditional student. Their research aims to develop culturally sensitive interventions that address the needs of marginalized communities.



Dr. Alexandria Herrera (She/Her)

Dr. Herrera is an Assistant Professor of Latin American History and International and Area Studies. Her research interests are in the history of public health, reproductive justice, medical experimentation, and gender and sexuality studies in the Americas. Herrera is also interested in the reproductive and medical experiences of Latinos/as and members of the Latin American Diaspora in the United States.



Dr. Allison Marsh (She/Her)

Dr. Marsh combines her interests in engineering, history, and museum objects to tell stories of technology through historical artifacts. Her main research interests revolve around how the general public comes to understand complex engineering ideas. During the 2024-25 academic year, Dr. Marsh will be the [NEH Fellow](#) in residence at the Linda Hall Library for Science, Engineering, and Technology in Kansas City, MO.

NEW STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Tristan Johnson

(She/Her)

Event Planner & Office Manager



What initially drew you to work for this department, and what do you love most about your job?

My love for the academic side of the Department has encouraged me to increase my involvement outside of my classes. Until this year, that capacity was limited, but I knew that I would do well in this role as a result of my prior experiences with event planning as well as organizational and leadership experience. What I love most is feeling like I am well-suited to the position, so I am not only able to do my job, but try to excel at it and push myself to do more.

What are some personal achievements that you have accomplished since working with the Department?

Learning how to edit the website was a requirement, but definitely felt like an accomplishment and it feels like a cool part of my job. This newsletter has also been in progress since August, so seeing it as a finished project fills me with a lot of pride. Additionally, I have been working diligently to improve our social media presence through regular posts, so make sure you check out the Department on all platforms (see page 28 for details)! A project that I am proud of that is still ongoing is organizing outreach efforts to campus organizations and local businesses for collaboration. Stay tuned!

Why do you believe that students and faculty should be a part of this amazing department?

As a student and as an employee, I have been able to witness how truly interdisciplinary, passionate, and dedicated we are as a collective. To be a part of WGST at USC is to be a part of something bigger, something seeking “to contribute to understandings of inequality and diversity in contemporary and historical contexts and work to build a world based on cooperation, community, and justice for all” to quote our new mission statement. Becoming a part of Women’s and Gender Studies is to see yourself and your interests reflected in what we have to offer and what we are working towards together.

What has been your most memorable moment in the department?

Completing my community service internship for WGST 499 was an incredibly memorable experience. I had the opportunity to work with an amazing group of people. My 499 internship gave me the opportunity to merge both sides of my academic interests and grow! Now, I love being able to look back on the experience positively and talk to prospective majors about the work I did and how rewarding the experience was as a whole.

What future developments do you hope to see within the department?

I hope that through efforts we are already working towards with recruitment that we are able to grow our numbers in both the major and minor. The more people that we are able to reach through these efforts will also increase the number of people who are able to see just how rewarding our academic program can be!

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Dr. Deborah Billings in *Frontiers in Public Health*

Editorial: Global perspectives on the health inequities in sexual, reproductive, and maternal health post Roe v. Wade

Read it here: <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpubh.2024.1488924>



Dr. Deborah Billings in *Frontiers in Public Health*

Qualitative analysis of anti-abortion discourse used in arguments for a 6-week abortion ban in South Carolina

Read it here: <https://doi.org/10.3389/fgwh.2023.1124132>

Dr. Deborah Billings in *Midwifery*

Identifying anticipated challenges when implementing Group Care: context-analyses across seven countries to develop an Anticipated Challenges Framework

Read it here: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.midw.2024.104166>



Dr. Cara Delay in *History of Pharmacy and Pharmaceuticals*

“Utterly Impossible”: Investigating Drug-Related Abortions in South Carolina, 1872-1972

Read it here: <https://doi.org/10.3368/hopp.65.2.242>



Dr. Julia Elliott in *The Georgia Review*

Read her story, All The Other Demons, [here!](#)

Dr. Julia Elliott, *Hellions*

Learn more about or purchase her book, coming April 2025 at tinhouse.com!

Dr. Julia Elliott in *Conjunctions 82: Revenants, The Ghost Issue*

This special issue contains spooky tales by Margaret Atwood, Carmen Maria Machado, Ben Okri, and more. Visit the [Conjunctions site](#) to learn more!

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Dr. Greg Forter

Time After (Postfeminist) Time: Gender, Capital, and Helen Phillips's *The Need*

Read it here: <https://doi.org/10.1353/dia.2023.a923441>

**TIME AFTER
(POSTFEMINIST)
TIME: GENDER,
CAPITAL, AND HELEN
PHILLIPS'S *THE NEED***

Dr. Annette Madlock in *Semioethics as Existential Dialogue*

A womanist ethic of care and semioethics: Shared ethical and moral expression

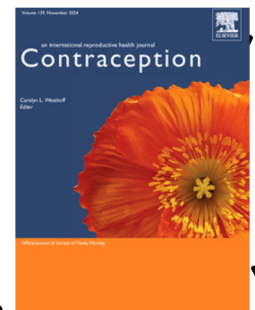
Read the abstract here:

www.taylorfrancis.com/chapters/edit/10.4324/9781003349709-13/womanist-ethic-care-semioethics-annette-madlock

Dr. Emily Mann in *Contraception*

Beyond stigma: Clinician bias in contraceptive counseling to sexual and gender minority youth

Read it here: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.contraception.2024.110718>



Dr. Emily Mann in *Journal of Pediatric & Adolescent Gynecology*

Clinician perspectives on adolescent contraceptive counseling following Dobbs v. Jackson: Implications for young people's contraceptive autonomy

Read it here: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpag.2024.10.007>

Dr. Emily Mann in *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health*

**PERSPECTIVES
on Sexual and Reproductive Health**

Exploring adolescent-facing clinicians' perceptions of their contraceptive counseling and use of shared decision-making: A qualitative study.

Read it here: <https://doi.org/10.1111/psrh.12283>

Dr. Emily Mann in *Women's Reproductive Health*

Medicaid-insured women's perceptions of obstetric care quality: Implications for reproductive health equity.

Read it here: <https://doi.org/10.1080/23293691.2024.2377958>



FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Dr. Leah McClimans

Patient-Centered Measurement: Ethics, Epistemology, and Dialogue in Contemporary Medicine

Read it here: doi.org/10.1093/oso/9780197572078.001.0001



Dr. Flora Oswald in *Analyses of Social Issues and Public Policy*

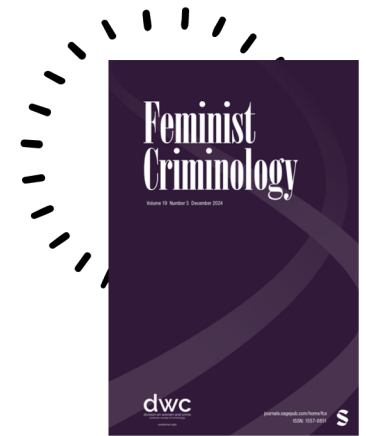
Development and validation of the Abolitionist Ideology Scale with abolitionist-identifying and nationally representative samples

Read it here: <https://doi.org/10.1111/asap.12430>

Dr. Sarah Rogers in *Feminist Criminology*

Strains and Self-Harm: A Look at LGBTQ, Transgender, and Non-Binary College Students

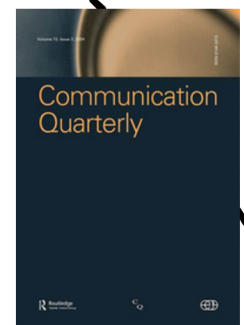
Read it here: <https://doi.org/10.1177/15570851241265940>



Dr. Sarah Rogers in *Psychology & Sexuality*

Fear of Victimization Among LGBTQ Students at Latine-Focused Institutions v. Predominately White Institutions: An Examination Across Sexuality, Gender Identity, Race, and Ethnicity

Read it here: <https://doi.org/10.1080/19419899.2024.2412008>



Dr. Leland Spencer in *Communication Quarterly*

The road from Teamsterville: Locating alternate approaches to the ethnography of communication

Read it here: <https://doi.org/10.1080/01463373.2024.2383437>

Dr. Leland Spencer in *Journal of Communication & Religion*

Atheism and rhetorical studies: A rethinking. Access is available with a USC login [here](#).

Dr. Leland Spencer in *Western Journal of Communication*

The Try Guys Try Image Repair: Apologia in the Age of Influencers and Digital Media

Read it here: <https://doi.org/10.1080/10570314.2024.2396010>

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

The WGST faculty have revised and updated the department's mission statement:

Women's and Gender Studies (WGST) at the University of South Carolina promotes an interdisciplinary and intersectional understanding of diverse human experiences by focusing on the study of gender and sexuality. By examining power, privilege, and oppression, WGST faculty and students explore dynamics related but not limited to gender, sexuality, race, class, age, ability, body size, and religion in historical, social, and cultural contexts. Informed by feminist, queer, postcolonial, anti-carceral, and anti-racist approaches, WGST facilitates the centering of marginalized populations in research, highlighting axes of oppression, resistance, and agency. Through its research mission, WGST challenges dominant knowledge paradigms and co-constructs new knowledge. Through its teaching mission, WGST empowers students to think critically, communicate effectively, solve problems, embrace diverse forms of knowledge and knowing, and interpret complex human experiences. Furthering the activist tradition, WGST serves local, state, national, and global communities by acting as a resource and guide for issues related to gender and sexuality. In pursuit of our goals, WGST aspires to excellence and distinction in research/scholarship, teaching, and service. We seek to contribute to understandings of inequality and diversity in contemporary and historical contexts and work to build a world based on cooperation, community, and justice for all.

SAVE THE DATE:

The 8th Annual Dr. Mary Baskin-Waters Lecture

Tuesday, March 25, 2025 at 6 PM

Portraits of Women's Philanthropy:

Understanding Giving

Through a Gender Lens

**Featuring: Dr. Elizabeth Dale,
Grand Valley State University**



STUDENT PODCAST: WGST UNBOXED

This podcast works to centralize the voices of women, examine contemporary social phenomena, and engage in community.

Fall 2024 Episodes:

1st Annual South Carolina WGST Summer Institute

In this episode, hear lecturers, community members, and students from all over the state discuss the 1st Annual WGST Summer Institute and its impact!

Department Updates and the Importance of Voting

In this episode, we delve into some departmental updates for the fall semester and speak to Tristan Johnson, our new Event Planner and Office Manager and Undergraduate Assistant Olivia Tiseth, about the importance of voting and how your vote is your voice for change!

Centering Black Women in Psychology and Human Services

In this episode, we speak with Dr. Shaneen Dials-Corujo, professor at Benedict College, to discuss her professional background, research areas, involvement in professional organizations, and key takeaways from her studies.

Activism Through Art: Giving Girls the Space to Create and Be Heard

Undergraduate students Emma Galluccio and Emma Laing speak with Dr. Olga Ivashkevich, professor of Art Education, as well as graduate students Anna Suarez and Maggie Moskal about our experiences working with WWBI & the Juvenile Arbitration Program Arts and Digital Media Workshop.



Future Topics:

Women in Music
Queer Criminology
Reproductive Justice
Queer-Owned Businesses
Women in Sports
IPV
Women in Leadership

Listen Here:

<https://spoti.fi/4h7Zhsr>

FALL SPOTLIGHTS

Awards, Honors, and Achievements



Dr. Frances Ashe-Goins

Dr. Ashe-Goins received a Daisy Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2024 South Carolina Nurses Association conference in October, titled *The Transformation: Nurses Igniting Change*.



Dr. Deborah L. Billings

Dr. Billings was a principal collaborator for the global implementation research done for Group Care 1000 (GC_1000) from 2020-June 2024. She hosted a podcast, helped to write a toolkit, and contributed to a special issue of *The Practising Midwife*.



Dr. Dawn Campbell

Dr. Campbell was featured in an article on the USC Libraries' recent acquisition of the original scripts of the hit 1970s television series "Wonder Woman", discussing the role comics and Wonder Woman have played in her Women's and Gender Studies courses.



Dr. Ed Madden

Dr. Ed Madden was featured in a Daily Gamecock article: *South Carolina Poets weigh in on State Poet Laureate Vacancy*, drawing from his experiences as the City of Columbia Poet Laureate from 2015-2023.



Dr. Leah McClimans

Dr. McClimans' book was positively reviewed in *Quality of Life Research*: With humour, personal anecdotes and a clear voice McClimans writes a truly interdisciplinary book that should be of interest to philosophers, health outcome researchers and anyone interested in evidence-based, patient-centered medicine.

FALL SPOTLIGHTS

Awards, Honors, and Achievements

Dr. Leah McLimans and Dr. Lauren Sklaroff

Drs. McClimans and Sklaroff were the inaugural recipients of the 2024 SCoer Track Two Faculty Awards, given to faculty who have prior experience with affordable learning materials and can serve as mentors for Track One honorees.

Dr. Sarah Rogers

Dr. Rogers has received the American Society of Criminology, Division on Critical Criminology & Social Justice (DCCSJ) Teaching Award as well as the USC Thank a Teacher Certificate of Appreciation, which recognizes faculty for going the extra mile; challenging and inspiring students to make a difference in their educational journey!

Dr. Leland Spencer

Dr. Spencer transitioned to a new role as President of the Organization for the Study of Communication, Language, and Gender, founded in 1978. He will serve in this role for two years.

Dr. Suzanne Swan

Dr. Swan was interviewed for an informative NPR article on college campus drink spiking. Read it here: www.npr.org/2024/09/05/nx-s1-5087871/safety-drink-spiking-tips-college

Dr. Jaclyn S. Wong

Dr. Wong's book, *Equal Partners? How Dual-Professional Couples Make Career, Relationship, and Family Decisions* received a 2024 ASA Sex & Gender Section Distinguished Book Award Honorable Mention!

WGST EMPLOYMENT PATHWAYS

WGST Majors and Minors are often asked: ‘What will you do with that degree?’. Our student workers set out to compile a (brief) list to help dispel the idea that Women’s and Gender Studies is not a “useful” degree. We hope this list can serve as a resource when sharing all that we do in WGST.

Career Sectors WGST is Applicable To:

- Academia
- Advocacy
- Arts
- Business
- Criminal Justice
- Community Organizing
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Education
- Government
- Grant Writing
- Human Resources
- International Policy
- Journalism
- Law
- Medicine
- Non-Profits
- Non-Governmental Organizations
- Policy
- Public Health
- Research
- Social Work
- Women’s Health
- Writing

Career Examples for WGST Graduates:

- Archivist
- Business Consultant or Owner
- Clinical Social Worker
- Community Outreach Coordinator
- Diversity and Inclusion Manager
- Editor
- Health Clinic Coordinator
- Human Rights Advocate
- Journalist
- Lawyer
- Lobbyist
- Marketing Specialist
- Nurse Practitioner
- Professor
- Public Relations Manager
- Research Consultant
- Sexual Health Educator
- Title IX Coordinator
- Town Manager
- Union Organizer
- Victims' Rights Advocate
- Volunteer Coordinator

SPRING 2025 COURSE OFFERINGS

Undergraduate Courses:

WGST 112: Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies

WGST 113: Women's Health

WGST 210: Human Life Cycle in Different Cultures

WGST 298: Topic: Ethics and the Body

WGST 300: Sex and Gender

WGST 301: Psychology of Marriage

WGST 304: Race, Class, Gender, and Sexuality

WGST 308: African-American Feminist Theory

WGST 311: Women, Minorities, and the Mass Media

WGST 352: Gender and Politics

WGST 388: Cultures, Pregnancy, and Birth

WGST 392: Global Women's Health

WGST 398: Topic: Arab Women Writers

WGST 430-001: Topic: Prejudice in 20th Century America

WGST 430-002: Topic: Women Love Power: Gender in South Asia

WGST 432: Men and Masculinities

WGST 437: Women Writers

WGST 454: Women and the Law

WGST 499: Community Service Internship

WGST 551: Adolescent Mentoring

WGST 554: Women, Gender, and Crime

WGST 555: Language and Gender

WGST 598-001: Topic: Gender Issues in China

WGST 598-002: Topic: Queer Criminology

Graduate Courses:

WGST 551: Adolescent Mentoring

WGST 554: Women, Gender, and Crime

WGST 555: Language and Gender

WGST 598-001: Topic: Gender Issues in China

WGST 598-002: Topic: Queer Criminology

**WGST 796: Topic: Population Perspectives of Gender, Sexuality,
and Health**

WGST 797: Seminar in Women's Studies

FALL 2024 WGST EVENTS

FAMILY WEEKEND

WOMEN'S HISTORY JEOPARDY!

SEPTEMBER 20TH

TIME: 3:30-5PM

LOCATION:
CLOSE-HIPP 502

Women's and Gender Studies
College of Arts and Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA



2024 Adrenée Glover Freeman Lecture
STRENGTH OF A WOMAN

AN EXPLORATION OF THE INTERSECTIONS OF
BLACK WOMANHOOD
DR. SHANEEN DIALS-CORUJO



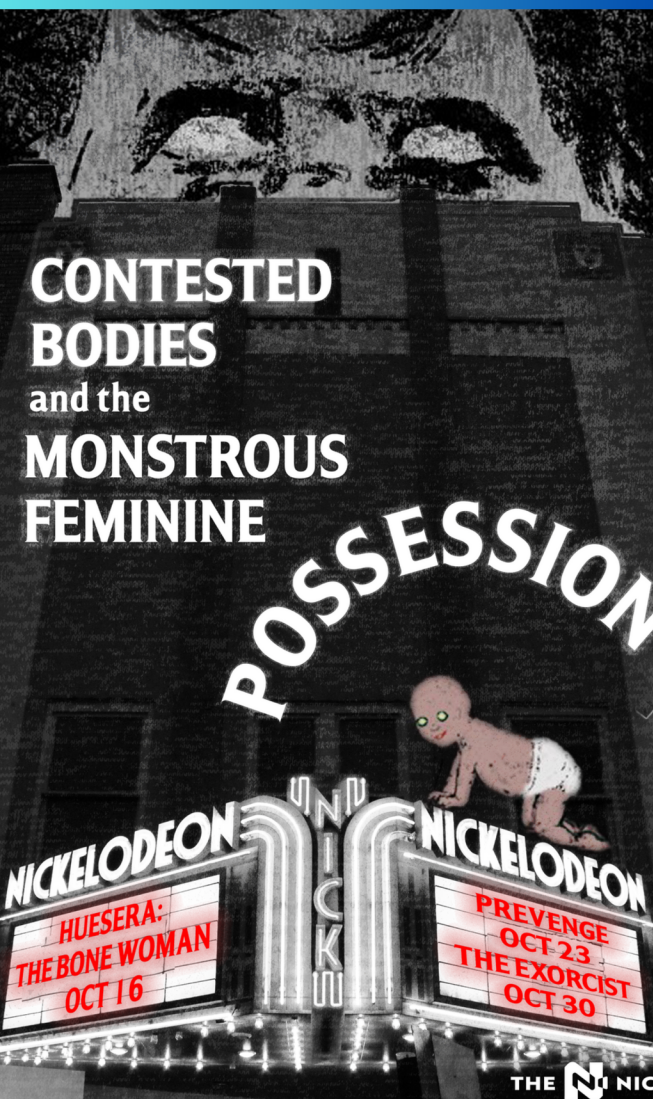
The Adrenée Glover Freeman Lecture in African American Women's Studies was established in 1993 in memory of Adrenée Glover Freeman, a Columbia attorney who was active in civic affairs and served on the Community Advisory Board of the Women's and Gender Studies Department. Each year the lecture is given by a prominent African American woman.

This year's lecture dives into the complex and multifaceted experiences of Black womanhood, highlighting the unique challenges and resilient strength that arise at the intersection of race, gender, and socio-economic status. Join us for an enlightening exploration that challenges stereotypes and uplifts the narratives of Black women, affirming that their strength is not only a personal journey but a powerful, collective force for societal change!

October 8th at 5:30pm
1705 College Street
Close-Hipp Building ♦ 8th Floor
Eastview Room

Free and open to the public
REGISTER HERE
bit.ly/freemancoruj

Women's and Gender Studies
College of Arts and Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA



FALL 2024 COMMUNITY & PARTNER EVENTS

26TH ANNUAL ROBERT SMALLS LECTURE

Keynote Speaker: Bree Newsome Bass

Community Organizer and Activist who removed the Confederate Battle Flag from the South Carolina State House.



Bree Newsome is a contemporary civil rights icon who first garnered national attention for her daring act of peaceful disobedience in June 2015. Following the brutal murder of nine black parishioners at Mother Emmanuel Church in Charleston, S.C., Bree climbed the flagpole at the South Carolina statehouse and pulled down the Confederate Battle flag as a protest against racist symbolism. Her arrest galvanized public opinion and led to the permanent removal of the flag.

As a recognized and celebrated voice on the topics of injustice and racial discrimination, Bree brings to light the importance of leadership development in building and sustaining social movements.

Also an accomplished filmmaker and musician, Bree skillfully outlines the relationship between activism and art, and captivates audiences as she describes in cinematic detail the heroic gestures of ordinary people on the front lines of activism.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

7 P.M.

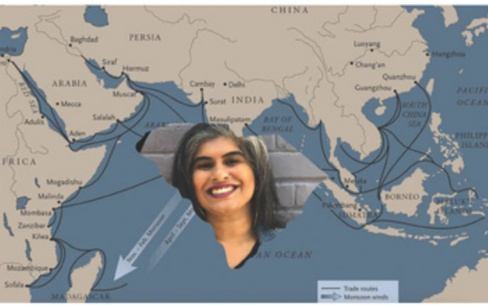
LUMPKIN AUDITORIUM - 8TH FLOOR, CLOSE-HIPP BUILDING

RECEPTION TO FOLLOW THE LECTURE

The Muslim South Launch Event

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 09 EAST AFRICAN, ASIAN, MUSLIM FOODWAYS IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Join us for an evening of delicious East African Asian food catered from Atlanta and to hear from Omme-Salma Raheemullah, a community organizer, policy researcher, and an advocate for food justice. Raheemullah will discuss the historical and cultural links between East Africa, South Asia, and Islam across the Indian Ocean world and its connections to the present-day American South. She will discuss her experience, archival research, and oral history work about the small community in South Carolina, which was published by South Asian American Digital Archive.



Humanities Collaborative
College of Arts and Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

University of South Carolina, South Carolina State University, Allen University, & Lenoir Rhyne College

PREPARING FOR OUR BLACK JOBS:

Women, Innovation, and Equality in the 21st Century
November 2 | 9:30 AM - 4 PM

David H. Swinton Center | 1616 Oak Street Columbia, SC 29204

A one-day workshop, with speakers and conversations about your preferred future as a young Black woman.

This focus on Black women is funded by a Mellon Foundation grant through the University of South Carolina Women's and Gender Studies Department.

There is no charge. Complete the registration form by October 11th. Acceptance will be sent on or before October 18th.



Register Now!

south of my dreams
finding my american home



F. K. CLEMENTI

BOOK TALK + SIGNING with F. K. Clementi

Join us for a talk and signing with local author and USC professor F.K. Clementi. She will be in conversation with poet and MFA instructor Nicola Waldron.

OCT 15 @ 6pm
All Good Books

A SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF THE S.C. NORMAL SCHOOL

featuring **Alexandria Russell** and poetry reading by **Jennifer Bartell Boykin**

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2024
4 p.m. Reception, Museum of Education
5 p.m. Lecture, Rutledge Chapel



Please RSVP using the QR Code!

2024 WITTEN LECTURE

TALK AND BOOK SIGNING WITH AUTHOR & ARTIST

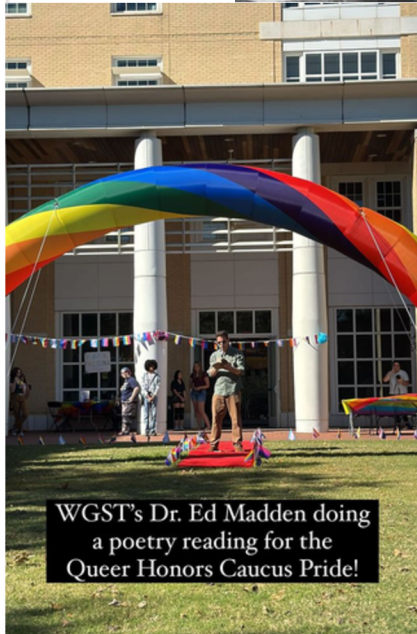
EBONY FLOWERS

Ebony Flowers is a cartoonist, author and educator, author of the graphic novel *Hot Comb*, and winner of multiple publishing awards.



The Art of Remembering in Creative Practice

6:30 p.m. Monday, October 21
Lumpkin Auditorium
Close-Hipp Floor 8
1705 College Street
University of South Carolina
Talk, Q&A and book signing. Free and open to the public.



WGST's Dr. Ed Madden doing a poetry reading for the Queer Honors Caucus Pride!

BOOK TOUR

Meet the Authors @ Q&A

Sunday, November 17th @ 3:15pm

Trans Kids, Our Kids: Stories and Resources from the Frontlines of the Movement for Transgender Youth

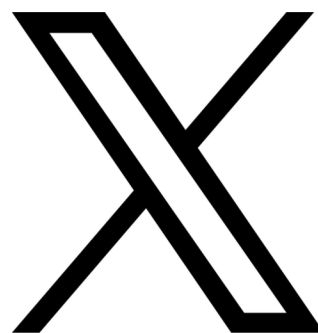
Authors: **Jasmin Beach-Ferrara, Adam Polaski, Alexis Stratton**

Trans Kids, Our Kids shares the stories of transgender youth and their families, exploring the choices they are making to survive in today's environment. The book also gives voice to the medical providers who are providing care to transgender youth, as well as the activists, teachers and faith leaders who are leading the resistance efforts. Trans Kids aims to both narrativize the pain and fear experienced by everyday Americans in this cultural moment, as well as highlighting the courage, hope, and resilience of transgender and LGBTQ+ youth, their families, and the people who support them.

CONNECT WITH US!



[@UOFSCWGST](https://www.instagram.com/UOFSCWGST)



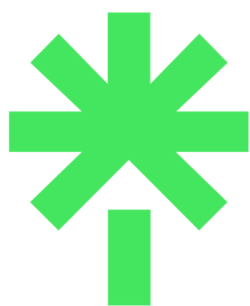
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