FELLOWS SOCIETY





Research Sharing Luncheon

11:30 AM - 1 PM | Nancy H. Marcus Great Hall, 4th floor, HSF Monday, February 3, Spring 2020

Register Now: http://bit.ly/FellowsLunch2-3-20 **For more information visit:** gradschool.fsu.edu/fellows-society

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Andrew Gardner, American Religious History

The World Religions Paradigm

One approach scholar's have utilized to study the category of "religion" is through the "World Religions Paradigm." This model seeks to study sometimes five or sometimes eleven of the largest and most well-known religious traditions. The 19th and 20th century development of this approach to the study of religion held a Christian bias that privileged the analysis of sacred texts and emphasized the importance of belief and doctrine. My presentation today shows that the "World Religions Paradigm" was also the product of student interest. College students in the 19th century desired to learn about other belief systems in comparison to Christianity. My presentation seeks to reflect on the question: What role do students play in shaping the disciplines in which we teach?

Aigars Larionovs, Dance (MFA)

Living Choreography: The Role of presence in Practice and Performance

Living Choreography is an approach to dance-making that forms a synthesis between in-the-moment decision-making and set movement material. By looking at studio practice as continuous research of the physical and mental capabilities of the dancers, I explore potential avenues for showcasing real-time development in performance settings. The work revolves around the metaphor of a road with a beginning, but no end. Cast-members are put into movement situations inspired by the interactions in capoeira (an Afro-Brazilian movement art) and mixed martial arts. Through constant practice and physical investigation, the performance becomes the manifestation of the research and the dancer becomes its medium.





Olga Romero Mestas, Spanish

Literature and resistance in the Caribbean and Philippines in the late 19th Century

In my research, I analyze how writers saw the promotion of agriculture and industry as the ideal way to relate man with nature. Small farmers started re-defining their relationship with the land to resist plantation owners and redefine the national identity; land became a new form of Motherland. My research explores the need for proper interdisciplinary studies approach to the study of the environmental resistance channels built in fragmented and colonial societies, due to its relations with the socio-political practice and the transformation of the environment that persists till present day. The cultural network developed by a group of intellectuals and producers was part of the confrontation with colonialism and authorities, as it is today in postcolonial contexts.