

● **ANA MARÍA ÁLVAREZ**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR **THEATRE AND DANCE****EDUCATION**  
MFA | UCLA**RESEARCH**

Blending concert, social and traditional dance forms with activism and theater to address timely and enduring issues surrounding identity, immigration, migration, race and transformative justice.

I hope to live this life fully and courageously and that those who I share this journey with and have the privilege of impacting feel more free and fully self expressed!

● **MYSIA ANDERSON**ASSISTANT PROFESSOR **THEATRE AND DANCE****EDUCATION**  
Ph.D. | Brown University**RESEARCH**

Blending Black feminism, performance theory and environmental justice, exploring how African Diasporic people respond to a historical continuum of environmental crises through art, community activism and world-making.

As an artist-scholar, I have found an intellectual and creative home within performance studies.

● **RYAN BESSETT**ASSOCIATE TEACHING PROFESSOR **LITERATURE****EDUCATION**  
Ph.D. | University of Arizona**RESEARCH**

Examining language variation in different domains such as phonology, lexis and grammar across several monolingual and bilingual contexts.

Sigan su pasión, lean mucho y, sobre todo, desarrollen su habilidad de pensar críticamente.

● **AYSAN CELIK**ASSISTANT PROFESSOR **THEATRE AND DANCE****EDUCATION**  
B.A. | UCLA  
Cert. | ART Institute at Harvard University**RESEARCH**

New scripted plays, comedy, classical texts, documentary theater, devised theater and evolution of form.

My hope is that my students and I can work on forms that empower them to free their artistic voice and engage with their communities through theater and performance in such a way that honors their intentions and dreams.

● **JESSICA D'ELENA-TWEED**ASSISTANT TEACHING PROFESSOR **VISUAL ARTS****EDUCATION**  
MFA | California Institute of the Arts**RESEARCH**

A multi-disciplinary artist, designer and educator, who has worked professionally as a graphic designer, art director and creative director. She is the founder and creative director of Mome, an educational non-profit promoting youth arts engagement and is independent creative director and designer at PostDesign.

● **BRIGHT GYAMFI**ASSISTANT PROFESSOR **HISTORY****EDUCATION**  
Ph.D. | Northwestern University**RESEARCH**

Focus on exploring unacknowledged contributions of West African scholars and pressing debates about institutional racism and inequality within African Studies.

I want to share my research work ... and collaborate on projects that would enrich our local communities. Our scholarly contributions should extend beyond the walls of the academy.



## ● SARA KOZAMEH

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR **HISTORY**



### EDUCATION

Ph.D. | New York University

### RESEARCH

Blends the study of popular mobilization, race, the working class and social change. Her dissertation focused on agrarian reform and its role in shaping revolutionary Cuba between 1958 and 1970.

I look forward to designing courses that are embedded in the local history and Latino community.

## ● JULIA LEWANDOSKI

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR **HISTORY**



### EDUCATION

Ph.D. | UC Berkeley

### RESEARCH

Indigenous nations as they engaged with European empires and emerging nation-states in the 18th and 19th century United States.

I believe that non-Native scholars like myself have a responsibility to combat myths that support Indigenous erasure and ongoing settler occupation. Historians can make a meaningful difference in the present by telling the truth about the past.

## ● RISHIKA MEHRISHI

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR **THEATRE AND DANCE**



### EDUCATION

Ph.D. | Stanford University

### RESEARCH

Focus on theater and performance as it intersects with theories of the nonhuman, new materialism, critical engagement of the Global South and transnational studies. Her current book project, "Animal Entanglements: Interspecies Performance in South Asia," explores relationships between humans and nonhumans in performance.

## ● SILPA MUKHERJEE

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR **LITERATURE**



### EDUCATION

Ph.D. | University of Pittsburgh

### RESEARCH

Feminist media histories, reconceptualizing the history of Hindi cinema in the 1970s and 80s, and connecting the dots between film and organized crime in "contraband film culture."

I'm fascinated by the possibility of learning from the people whose everyday lives are moderated by the border. I look forward to organizing events with amateur filmmakers from across the border.

## ● KAROLA OBERMUELLER

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR **MUSIC**



### EDUCATION

Ph.D. | Harvard University

### RESEARCH

Deeply rooted in a compositional language that converses with music of other times while meaningfully engaging with current topics around social justice and political activism.

The arts and humanities are excellent ways to explore the most important questions, and to grow strong and brave while doing so.

## ● MATANA ROBERTS

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR **MUSIC**



### EDUCATION

M.M. | New England Conservatory of Music

### RESEARCH

Performer, composer and artist, they are regarded as one of the most important musicians working in jazz and improvisation-based music today with a practice that integrates jazz, creative music, contemporary music and sound art fields.

## ● CHRISTOPHER SHIELDS

PROFESSOR **PHILOSOPHY**



### EDUCATION

Ph.D. | Cornell University

### RESEARCH

History of philosophy (ancient Greek and Roman philosophy, especially Plato, Aristotle, and the Stoics), with secondary concentrations devoted to the scholastic philosophers (especially St. Thomas Aquinas and Francisco Suárez) and contemporary issues in metaphysics, epistemology and philosophy of mind.

I take myself to be a cog in a wonderful machine, a world-class university, without which the world could not be as wonderful as it is.

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