MAST Alumni Updates

Wende Ballew, ’11, whose non-profit, Reforming Arts, teaches theatre and American Studies in women’s prisons in Georgia, recently secured an MOU from the Georgia Department of Corrections to begin teaching college-accredited classes at Whitmore Women’s Facility in Hartwell, GA. Ballew is working on her prospectus and hopes to graduate in December from UGA with a PhD in Qualitative Research and Evaluation Methodologies.

Emmie Trull, ’15, accepted a new position as an Academic Advisor in KSU’s University College in Integrative Studies, and she recently became engaged to her fiancé, Lucas.

Fall 2019 Classes

History & Culture of the Americas: Dr. Rodolfo Aguilar; Wednesdays, 6:30-9:15pm

American Studies Methods: Dr. Rebecca Hill; online

Pop Culture in America: Hip Hop South: Dr. Regina Bradley; Thursdays, 5:00-7:45pm

America in Transnational Context - Feminism: Dr. Stacy Keltner; online

During Dr. Miriam Brown Spiers’s Identities and Social Groups: Native Americans class last semester, she asked her students to dive into recent literature by Native American women. MAST student Jennifer Simon was intrigued by the way that the symptomology of historic trauma was represented in the novella she chose, That Guy Wolf Dancing, by Elizabeth Cook-Lynn. Simon found that her background in publishing behavioral science books informed her medical research into what Cook-Lynn believed was the Native American path forward: healing through connecting with indigenous culture. She found that there had been multiple studies documenting the effectiveness of “cul-
Current Accepted Students; Deadline is July 1

Andrea Putala holds a B.A. in English with minors in Film and Gender and Women's Studies from KSU, and after graduating in 2018, she spent a year working in special education for a middle school. She is an avid reader, writer, and film buff. She loves to watch Disney, Star Wars, and science fiction films with her six year old daughter, Olive. She is passionate about popular culture and how it impacts women, specifically women of color and queer women. She is excited to be back at KSU and thrilled to be joining those in the MAST program.

Chester Wallace was born and raised in Morgan City, Louisiana, and grew up having a love of music and history. He is an accomplished pianist and teacher. He owns his own business in the Marietta area teaching piano, guitar, and ukulele. He has lived in the Atlanta area since 2002 and is a student of Atlanta history. His first book, published in July of 2018 under his pen name Chet Wallace, is Stories of the Winecoff Fire: A Dedication to the Memory of the 119. He has also written numerous articles for different publications. He is in the final publishing stages of completing his second book about his grandfather called Two Wings and a Star: The Life and Times of Sheriff Chester Baudoin.

New MAST Social Media Campaigns

Do you already follow us on social media? If you do, you might have noticed that we’ve recently launched a new campaign to bring your newsfeeds more and better-quality content to educate, stimulate, engage, and entertain. To that end, we’ve created three new series: #MusicMonday, #OntheFringeFriday, and #GradStudentTakeover, during which one of our MAST students takes over our accounts and show us what it’s like to spend a day in the life of a grad student. Follow American Studies Program at Kennesaw State University on Facebook and KSU American Studies on Instagram to learn more!