Ericka Albaugh - Government and Legal Studies

Ericka Albaugh is an Associate Professor of Government. She joined the Bowdoin faculty in 2008. In the fall of 2019 she taught two courses titled “Buried Treasure, Hidden Curse? Politics of Natural Resource Extraction in Africa” and “States of Language and Languages of States”. Her research takes her to Africa, where she studies language politics and development. She works frequently with maps, and she is introducing mapping technologies and more active learning for students in her courses.

James Broda - Mathematics/QR

James Broda is the Assistant Director of the Quantitative Reasoning Program in the Center for Learning and Teaching. He joined the Bowdoin faculty in 2017. Dr. Broda's research examines the rich interplay between deterministic and stochastic dynamical systems. He has applied his research to problems in genetics, medical imaging, climate change, and disaster ecology. Dr. Broda taught a first-year seminar, Educated Guessing, as well as a course on quantitative reasoning in the fall of 2018. As a faculty fellow, he is interested in promoting critical discourse in the classroom through the quantitative analysis of social and economic justice.
Jeff Christmas- Music

Jeff Christmas is an Adjunct Lecturer of Music. He joined the Bowdoin faculty in 2015. In addition to teaching music theory Jeff is a baritone vocalist who enjoys a variety of styles—having sung opera with Boston Lyric Opera, Knoxville Opera, and Greenville Light Opera Works and also singing with everything from an Americana Trio (The New Vernacular, Knoxville, TN) to a Synth Pop Piano Rock band (Hudson K, Knoxville, TN). He regularly performs around Southern Maine as a vocalist, guitarist, bassist, and pianist. He taught a course on the Fundamentals of Music, Applied Voice lessons, and two musicianship labs in the fall of 2018 and integrated more culturally and musically inclusive class activities.

John Fitzgerald- Economics

John Fitzgerald is the William D. Shipman Professor of Economics. He joined the Bowdoin faculty in 1983. His current research focuses on empirical models of intergenerational links in health and income. He enjoys teaching courses in public economics (government taxing and spending), evaluation methods, microeconomics, and econometrics. In the fall of 2018 he taught “Economics of the Public Sector” and “Microeconomics”. During his fellowship he worked on ways to address the heterogeneity of student backgrounds in his classes.

Anya Golovkova- Religion

Anna A. (Anya) Golovkova is an Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Religion. She joined the Bowdoin faculty in 2017. Fall 2018, she taught a course titled “Introduction to the Study of Religion.” In addition to introducing students to diverse lived practices and ideas that have been associated with the term “religion,” she encourages them to critically reflect on their presuppositions as to what religion is (or ought to be). The course uses two Reacting to the Past role-playing games, in order to examine central topics for the academic study of religion in specific contexts. Golovkova is a scholar of Hinduism and Buddhism. Her book project, A Goddess for the Second Millennium, provides the first comprehensive study of the early history of the worship of Tripurasundari (the Beautiful Goddess of the Three Cities). Her second project examines later transformations that reshaped this tradition into what it is today: a devotional Tantric (i.e., esoteric) and Vedic (i.e., orthodox, socially normative) system of worship with a major role in institutional and devotional Hindu practice.
Erika Nyhus- Psychology/Neuroscience

Erika Nyhus is an Assistant Professor of Neuroscience and Psychology. She joined the Bowdoin faculty in 2013. Her research interests involve the neural processes involved in higher-level cognition, including executive functioning and episodic memory. In the fall of 2018, she taught Cognitive Neuroscience and integrated more student-led, active learning. She also designed 3-D models of a brain for every student in the course and utilizing technology allowed her students to view the skull of Phineas Gage which is on display in Boston, Massachusetts.

Emily Peterman – EOS

Emily Peterman is an Associate Professor of Earth and Oceanographic Science. She joined the Bowdoin faculty in 2012. Her research uses petrology, mineralogy, geochronology and geochemistry to quantify the timing and rates of metamorphic recrystallization, deformation, melting, and other aspects of crustal evolution. In the fall of 2018, she taught “Investigating Earth”. She designed the course to create a greater sense of belonging, to better engage her students, and to reduce the achievement gap for students through the use of selective study guides.

Patrick Rael- History

Patrick Rael is a Professor of History. He joined the Bowdoin faculty in 1995. a specialist in African-American history and the author of numerous essays and books. His most recent book, Eighty-Eight Years: The Long Death of Slavery in the United States, 1777-1865 (University of Georgia Press, 2015), explores the Atlantic history of slavery to understand the exceptionally long period of time it took to end chattel bondage in America. Through a long collaboration with Bowdoin’s Information Technology Division, Rael has explored the uses of technology in teaching history from his online simulation of the fugitive slave experience to creating historical maps using GIS. His online writing guides have assisted student writers for fifteen years. He has written extensively about teaching, has contributed to the development of African-American history curricula, and led seminars and workshops on teaching American history in primary and secondary schools. In in the fall of 2018 he taught “The Civil War Era” and “Historical Simulations”. His project focused on increasing engagement and skills required for success in college.
Stephanie Richards – Biology

Stephanie Richards is a Lecturer in Biology. In the fall of 2018 she taught a course on “Cancer Biology” for non-science majors, and “Scientific Reasoning in Biology” which is an introductory biology class. Her project focused on reducing the achievement gap and building the skill level of all students in the course in addition to promoting science as a part of students’ everyday lives.

Barbara Sawhill - Hispanic Studies

Barbara Sawhill is a Lecturer of Spanish. She returned to Bowdoin in 2017 after having taught at Oberlin College (Oberlin OH) for almost 20 years. Her interests include language pedagogy, student-centered learning, language technology and learning, open educational resources for language education and the importance of teaching listening in the 2nd language classroom. In the fall of 2018 she taught “Elementary Spanish I” and “Intermediate Spanish I”. Her project addressed the strengths and needs of heritage language speakers in Spanish classes and reimagined how languages are taught in the undergraduate classroom.

Jay Sosa- GSWS

Jay Sosa is an Assistant Professor of Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies. He is a cultural anthropologist whose research focuses on sexuality, statecraft, and public culture in São Paulo, Brazil. His current book project, Participatory Desires, examines how demands for LGBT political recognition in media, protests, and government institutions have served as a catalyst for broader shifts in Brazil’s ideological spectrum. Jay teaches courses on biopolitics, neoliberalism, public affect, and queer theory, as well as identity based social movements, democratization and human rights throughout the Americas. He taught a course on “Sex and State Power” and “Introduction to Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies” in the fall of 2018. His project focused on including more experiences and perspectives of transgender people and women of color in the global South.

Julia Venegas - Hispanic Studies

Julia Venegas is a Lecturer in Spanish. She works with students of Spanish to support them on their path toward proficiency and intercultural awareness, guided by her longstanding belief in the power of language learning to encourage intellectual exploration and strengthen achievement in all fields of inquiry. In the fall of 2018 she taught “Accelerated Elementary Spanish” and “Intermediate Spanish”. Her project focused on clear communication about expectations and learning goals for the course to improve achievement and retention.