

Graduate Programs in Southern Studies

The Center for the Study of Southern Culture offers two graduate degrees: the Master of Arts (MA) in Southern Studies and the Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Documentary Expression. The MA program began in 1986, and the MFA program celebrates its inaugural class this fall, 2017. Both programs bring together scholars, professors, and students from various backgrounds whose common interests involve the study of the U.S. South. Even with a combined average of 25-30 students, the programs are close-knit and interwoven. Students and professors work together in a relaxed but intellectually stimulating atmosphere.

The MA Curriculum

The Southern Studies curriculum incorporates numerous regional studies courses from various disciplines and departments, including African American Studies, Anthropology, Art History, Economics, English, Gender Studies, History, Journalism, Music, Political Science, Religion, and Sociology. Many of the classes offered by these departments are cross-listed for Southern Studies and are open to our students. All students must select courses from at least three academic disciplines (Southern Studies may be one), with a maximum of 12 hours in any single discipline, excluding Southern Studies.

There are three ways to earn the MA in Southern Studies: the thesis track, the documentary track, and the internship track.

Thesis Track

The thesis track requires 24 hours of coursework (including SST 601 and 602) and a minimum of six hours of the thesis course, SST 697. These thesis hours can be divided among multiple semesters or completed in one. Coursework must incorporate at least three disciplines (one may be Southern Studies) and may include two (and no more) Independent Studies (SST 605). A thesis must be a presentation of original scholarship in the form of a written work (80–120 pages). The thesis student must pass a final oral defense. Students should think about the thesis early in their program: using seminar papers to formulate a thesis project helps facilitate research and can contribute to timely completion of the master's degree.

Documentary Track

The documentary track for the Master of Arts degree requires 24 hours of coursework—including 601, 602, 533 (Fieldwork & Oral History), either 534 (Documentary Photography) or 537 (Introduction to Documentary Film-Making), and 6 hours of thesis. (Note: SST 533 is a prerequisite for both SST 534 and 537.) The thesis hours can be divided across multiple semesters or completed in one. As with the other two tracks, these courses must incorporate at least three disciplines (one may be Southern Studies) and may include two (and no more) Independent Study classes (SST 605). A final documentary project—using audio, still photography, film, or a combination thereof—must be presented, along with a self-reflective essay (40-60 pages) that chronicles the evolution of the student's thinking regarding the documentary process and the development of his/her final project. Students on this track assemble a committee to oversee their work, just as students on the thesis and internship track do.

Internship Track

This option requires a minimum of 36 hours, which includes SST 601, 602, and 30 hours of additional

coursework. The internship itself is at least six credit hours (SST 603). A student interested in pursuing this track should make arrangements with a suitable institution to set up the internship. Faculty members may participate in this process, but it is ultimately the student's responsibility to secure the position. Internships may not be completed as part of a student's regular employment. An on-campus faculty member will advise the student and generally oversee the project. A representative of the sponsoring institution will supervise the intern on site. Internship students will hold the internship for the duration of an entire semester, working approximately 20 hours a week. At the end of the internship, students will make an oral presentation about their work and write a 40-50 page essay that both recounts their experience and pursues, using academic resources, some research question that grows out of it. Students on the internship track assemble a three-member committee just as students on the other two tracks do.

The MFA Curriculum

The MFA requires 30 hours of coursework: 15 hours of content-based classes and 15 hours of thesis credit. (Note: students who enter the program with an MA in Southern Studies from UM complete only 9 hours of additional content-based courses because they may apply 6 hours of their earlier degree to this one. They may not repeat classes taken for credit while earning the MA.) MFA students must complete the following classes: SST 601, 533 (Fieldwork & Oral History), and either 534 (Documentary Photography) or 537 (Introduction to Documentary Film-Making). MFA students are not bound by the same requirement for interdisciplinary course selection that supervises the MA degree; all hours may be listed as SST, although students may take classes with other designations if they wish.

Students may begin taking thesis hours upon arrival, provided that the Admissions Committee finds their project idea to be sufficiently developed. MFA students must complete a written prospectus (12-15 pages, plus bibliography) and have it approved by their three-person supervisory committee by the end of their second semester in the program. Final projects may take the form of still photography, film, oral history, audio recordings, or some combination thereof. They must also include a written component, approximately 50-75 pages in length, that both addresses the writer's process and situates his or her project within relevant scholarly discourse. As with the MA, students pass an oral defense in order to complete the degree.

Assembling an MA or MFA Committee

By the end of your second semester, you should be prepared to choose a project director and two other faculty members to serve as your supervising committee. You will work most closely with the director, but you need to consult periodically with the other members of the committee as well. Committee members may be from departments other than Southern Studies. The Southern Studies program expects students to complete the degree, regardless of track, by the end of the fourth semester of work. Once the committee exists, students should notify the Graduate Director of the membership.

Additional Guidelines, MA and MFA

INDEPENDENT STUDIES: students can only take two Independent Study courses (SST 605) per degree. We do not encourage first-semester students to take SST 605, in part because they need to familiarize themselves with graduate seminars and in part because faculty members, whom students typically will not know yet, must agree to supervise the independent study. Designing an independent

study is the task of the student, and a written syllabus, with clear expectations for final outcomes, should accompany the class.

SPECIAL TOPICS COURSES: students can repeat both SST 598 and SST 599 twice per degree.

INTERDISCIPLINARITY: students may not take more than 12 hours in any single discipline, excluding Southern Studies.

INTERNSHIPS: students on the thesis or the documentary track may also register for 3 or 6 hour internships at any point during their coursework. For three hours of credit, the student must work at least 10 hours per week for the duration of the semester and keep a weekly journal about his or her activities. For six hours of credit, the student must submit a research paper of 12–15 pages on a topic pertaining to the internship and work 12–15 hours per week per semester.

ADVISING: after the first semester, students enroll themselves using MyOleMiss during the regular registration windows. The Graduate Director serves as the adviser for each student in the program until he or she begins working more closely with a thesis supervisor.

On-Campus Resources

Library

*The **Archives and Special Collections** department in the **John D. Williams Library** was established in 1975 to collect and to house rare books, manuscripts, maps, noteworthy editions, and ephemera. The Archive contains several units with distinctive collecting and service responsibilities. The **Mississippi Collection** is one of the largest collections of books concerning Mississippi. The collection includes holdings of early works on Mississippi as well as comprehensive author collections of Mississippi writers Larry Brown, William Faulkner, Willie Morris, Eudora Welty, Tennessee Williams, Richard Wright, and others. The **Faulkner Collection** now ranks as one of the strongest research collections on Faulkner in the world. In addition the collection contains materials related to Mississippi's history and culture and the **African Americana Collection** of books, journals, and sheet music relating to African American culture and history. The Archive also maintains an extensive collection related to civil rights.

For an alphabetical list of many collections related to the South, visit:

<http://southernstudies.olemiss.edu/media/Special-Collections-List.pdf>

***The Blues Archive** contains recordings, books, journals, and memorabilia of blues music as well as the Goldstein Collection of written material on folklore. In addition, B. B. King donated his collection of blues, gospel, and jazz recordings by various artists.

***The Southern Media Archive** opened in 1994 as a division of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture. In August of 2000 the Southern Media Archive became a part of the Archives and Special Collections department in the John D. Williams Library. The Archive houses some movies and independent film collections plus numerous audio field recordings. The mission of the Archive is to identify, collect, preserve, and make accessible the cultural expression of the American South through various forms of documentary media.

***The Mississippi Home Movies Collection** provides the primary visual record of life in the state prior to World War II. From the earliest 8mm film shot in 1938 to Super-8 footage shot in 1990, family movies chronicle rural and town life throughout Mississippi.

*The Cofield Studio operated in Oxford from the 1920s to the 1980s. The **Cofield Collection** contains many formal portraits of William Faulkner as well as informal pictures of the writer, his family and

friends, the town, and Lafayette County. The collection is both a documentary reflection of Oxford and the surrounding area and of Faulkner's fictitious Yoknapatawpha.

*Between 1961 and 1962, professional photographer and Faulkner enthusiast Martin J. Dain came to Oxford to document town and rural life in the hill county of North Mississippi. Dain made intimate portraits of daily life in the African American and white communities of Lafayette County. The **Dain Collection** is composed of 8,734 35mm black-and-white negatives, including over 100 photographs of William Faulkner at his home, Rowan Oak.

*The **Howard Collection**, containing approximately 160,000 black-and-white negatives from the studio of Vic Howard, documents everyday life in Harlan County, Kentucky, from the 1940s through the 1970s. Howard's images of African American and white Appalachians, coal miners, local musicians, and the patterns of everyday life provide one of the most comprehensive indigenous photographic collections of the Appalachian region in existence.

***The Modern Political Archive** contains the papers of Mississippi politicians, judges, lawyers, and political organizations. Congressional collections that are currently open to researchers include the files of John Sharp Williams, Pat Harrison, Thomas G. Abernethy, William M. Whittington, and James O. Eastland. Although they represent the public service careers of single individuals, these collections also document the efforts of Mississippi residents who wrote their congressmen to express opinions on a wide array of topics and for assistance negotiating the red tape of the federal bureaucracy.

If you have questions about using library resources, your first point of contact should be Amy E. Gibson, Research & Instruction Librarian and Professor (aemark1@gmail.com). She works particularly with graduate students in the humanities.

Computers

The Weir Hall computer labs have general use computers. The labs consist of a number of PCs and Macs as well as printers and scanners. The Center has a computer available for student use throughout the day in room 207 as well as scanners and a printer. The printer, along with other office machines including fax and copier, are not for *personal use*, however. Students are on their honor not to abuse printer privileges. For computer and related help, call the I.T. Help Desk at 915-5222.

Office of Research

The Office of Research assists graduate students in locating funding assistance for scholarly projects, and they offer travel grants of up to \$300. They also have a research library with access to varied grant opportunities.

Southern Studies Core Faculty and Staff

Simone Delorme

McMullan Assistant Professor of Southern Studies and Assistant Professor of Anthropology
Lamar Hall

sdelorme@olemiss.edu

x7421

Simone Delorme's research interests are Latin American and Caribbean migration, critical race theory, language ideologies and identity, inequality and stratification, political and legal anthropology, North American anthropology and Hispanics in the American South.

She earned her BA in political science from the University of Delaware in Newark. For her graduate

work, she earned an MA in Liberal Studies from the University of Delaware and an MA and PhD in anthropology from Rutgers. Her dissertation is “The Latinization of Orlando: Race, Class, and the Politics of Place.”

Brian Foster

Assistant Professor of Southern Studies and Assistant Professor of Sociology
Lamar Hall
x7421

Brian has a joint appointment in Sociology and Southern Studies. He earned his Bachelor’s degree in African American Studies from the University of Mississippi in 2011, his Master’s degree in sociology from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill in 2013, and his Ph.D. in sociology in 2017, also at UNC-Chapel Hill.

Brian’s work takes a critical, interdisciplinary, and multi-method approach to the study of race and inequality, with particular attention to post-soul (i.e., post-1970’s) black cultures in the rural American South. Brian has conducted fieldwork in several rural communities in central and northern Mississippi, including extensive work in the Mississippi Delta. Brian’s work has been supported by the National Institute for Child Health and Human Development, the Carolina Population Center, the National Science Foundation, and the American Sociological Association. Brian’s teaching focuses on race, place, inequality, and qualitative methods.

Darren Grem

Assistant Professor of History and Southern Studies
310 Bishop Hall
degrem@olemiss.edu
x7148

Darren E. Grem earned his B.A. from Furman University and M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Georgia. He held postdoctoral fellowships at Yale University and Emory University before joining the faculty at the University of Mississippi in 2012 as Assistant Professor of History and Southern Studies.

Darren is the author of *The Blessings of Business: How Corporations Shaped Conservative Christianity*, a book that details how conservative evangelicals strategically used business leaders, organizations, methods, and money to advance their religious and political aspirations in twentieth-century America. With John Corrigan and Amanda Porterfield, Darren is editing a collection of essays that reconsider the role of business in American religious politics and culture, titled *The Business Turn in American Religious History* (Oxford University Press, under contract). Also, with Ted Ownby and James Thomas, he is editing an essay volume on southern religion and culture in honor of the career of Charles Reagan Wilson. Darren teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in twentieth-century U.S. history, southern history and southern studies, and modern politics and culture.

Adam Gussow

Associate Professor of English and Southern Studies
C213 Bondurant Hall
agussow@olemiss.edu
x7333

Adam Gussow has a joint appointment in English and Southern Studies. He teaches both graduate and

undergraduate courses, including 101, 402, and 602, and the cross-listed courses in English, including "The Blues Tradition in American Literature." Recent themes in his seminars have included "Southern Musicians' Autobiographies," "Freedom Summer 1964: Mississippi's Civil Right's Watershed," and "Robert Johnson, the Devil's Music, and the Blues." His research and teaching interests include blues music, literature, culture, and tourism; southern music (especially country, bluegrass, jazz, and blackface minstrelsy), African American literature and cultural politics; the Confederate battle flag; the persistence of the pastoral South idea and other southern mythologies; and the long arc from slavery and segregation through the Civil Rights movement and contemporary struggles for racial justice.

Adam has a Ph.D. and B.A from Princeton University (both in English) and an M.A. in English and Comparative Literature from Columbia University. Between graduate degrees, Gussow spent a decade as a blues harmonica instructor and performer, part of a Harlem-based duo called Satan and Adam. He continues to record albums here in Oxford, playing drums and harmonica with his two-man band, The Blues Doctors. His books include *Mister Satan's Apprentice: A Blues Memoir* (1998), *Seems Like Murder Here: Southern Violence and the Blues Tradition* (2000), and *Journeyman's Road: Modern Blues Lives from Faulkner's Mississippi to Post-9/11 New York* (2007). His forthcoming book is entitled *Beyond the Crossroads: The Devil and the Blues Tradition*.

Andy Harper

Instructional Assistant Professor of Southern Studies and Journalism
239 Kinard Hall
acharper@olemiss.edu
x1503

Andy Harper is the director of the Southern Documentary Project (SouthDocs), which produces documentary film and radio features as well as oral history projects. Dr. Harper holds a bachelor's degree in English from Millsaps College, a master's degree in history from the University of Southern Mississippi, and a PhD in history from Northern Arizona University. His specialties include environmental history, Mississippi history, and documentary studies.

Katie McKee

Associate Professor of English and McMullan Associate Professor of Southern Studies
216 Barnard Observatory
kmckee@olemiss.edu
x5993

Katie McKee has a joint appointment in English and Southern Studies. She teaches both graduate and undergraduate courses, including SST 101, 102, 401, 402, 601, and 602. Recent topics in her graduate seminars for English have included "The New Southern Studies," "The Global South," "Literary Regionalism," "Nineteenth-Century Women Writers," and "Nineteenth Century American Travel Writing." She is also the Graduate Program Coordinator for Southern Studies.

Katie has a BA from Centre College in Danville, Kentucky, and an MA and PhD in American literature from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She joined the Southern Studies faculty in 1997. She is coeditor with Deborah Barker of *American Cinema and the Southern Imaginary* (2011). Her research interests include 19th-century Southern literature, Global South studies, humor studies, the South in film, and Southern women writers.

Ted Ownby

Center Director and Professor of History and Southern Studies

209 Barnard Observatory

hsownby@olemiss.edu

x5993

Ted Ownby has had a joint appointment in Southern Studies and History since 1988 and currently serves as director of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture. In History, he teaches courses in Southern History since 1900, Southern Religious History, and graduate courses in a range of topics. In Southern Studies, he has taught undergraduate survey and seminar courses, graduate courses, and special topics courses such as “Southern Autobiography” and “Images and Image-makers in Southern Culture.”

As a scholar, Ted has written two books, *Subduing Satan: Religion, Recreation, and Manhood in the Rural South, 1865–1920* and *American Dreams in Mississippi: Consumers, Poverty, and Culture, 1830–1998*, and edited four books, *Black and White: Cultural Interaction in the Antebellum South*, *The Role of Ideas in the Civil Rights South*, *Manners and Southern History* and *The Civil Rights Movement in Mississippi*. With Nancy Bercau, he coedited the Gender volume of the *New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture* and with Charles Reagan Wilson, he is coedited the recently released *Mississippi Encyclopedia*. With John T. Edge and Elizabeth Engelhardt, he coedited *The Larder*. His specialties include gender, religion, family life, consumers, and the contemporary South.

Jodi Skipper**ON LEAVE, 2017-18**

Associate Professor of Anthropology and Southern Studies

Lamar Hall

jskippe1@olemiss.edu

x7421

Jodi Skipper has a joint appointment in Anthropology and Southern Studies. She received her doctorate in Anthropology from The University of Texas at Austin. Her current research explores how African Americans are historically represented through material culture and how that interacts with the production of heritage in tourism spaces. She teaches courses about the Politics of Southern Heritage Tourism and on the African Diaspora.

Catarina Passidomo Townes**ON LEAVE, SPRING 2018**

Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Southern Studies

Barnard Observatory

cpassidomo@gmail.com

x5993

Catarina has a joint appointment in Anthropology and Southern Studies. She earned a B.A. in Sociology and Anthropology from Washington and Lee in 2004, where her undergraduate thesis examined the connections between early American jazz music and African American identity. Catarina earned a M.A. in Environmental Anthropology from the University of Georgia in 2009. Her thesis

investigated social capital within a network of local food producers in Athens, Georgia. Her doctorate in Human Geography, also from UGA, was an ethnographic study of food justice organizations in post-Katrina New Orleans.

Catarina joined the faculty of the University of Mississippi in 2014. She is interested primarily in studying food systems to better understand and contest broader social systems and phenomena. Through work with her students and the Southern Foodways Alliance, she is investigating the connections between the food system and: migration between the Global South and the U.S. South; structural racism; economic inequality; and demographic and culinary changes in the American South. Catarina has published articles in *Urban Studies*; *Geoforum*; *Agriculture and Human Values*; *The Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems and Community Development*; and *ACME*. She teaches Geography 101, Southern Foodways (SST 555), and other courses in Anthropology and Southern Studies.

David Wharton

Director of Documentary Projects and Assistant Professor of Southern Studies
Barnard Observatory
dwharton@olemiss.edu
x5993

David Wharton serves as Director of Documentary Studies at the Center. He teaches both graduate and undergraduate courses, including SST 101, 401, and 601, a fieldwork course and a documentary photography course. Students in the latter two courses explore various aspects of life in Oxford and North Mississippi through photography, recorded interviews, participant observation, and informed common sense.

David has a BA from Colgate University in Hamilton, New York, an MFA in photography from the University of Texas at Austin, and a PhD in American Studies, also from UT-Austin. He joined the SST faculty in 1999 after teaching American Studies courses at the University of Texas at San Antonio. He is the author of *The Soul of a Small Texas Town: Photographs, Memories, and History from McDade* (2000), *Small Town South* (2012), and *The Power of Belief: Spiritual Landscapes from the Rural South* (2016). David's photographs have been exhibited throughout the United States and in group exhibitions in Europe and Latin America. His research interests include the rural and small-town South (especially the social and cultural landscapes of such places), the region's spiritual landscapes, and tourism in the South. A selection of his photographs can be seen at www.davidwharton-southernphotographs.com.

Jessica Wilkerson

Assistant Professor in History and Southern Studies
318 Bishop Hall
jcwilker@olemiss.edu
x6945

Jessica Wilkerson has a joint appointment in History and Southern Studies. She has an MA in Women's History from Sarah Lawrence College and a PhD in History from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is currently working on her book manuscript called *Where Movements Meet: From the War on Poverty to Grassroots Feminism in the Appalachian South*. The project, based on her dissertation, received the OAH Lerner-Scott Prize and the Labor and Working-Class History's Herbert Gutman Prize. She is also working on an edited volume of oral history interviews that

document the lives and histories of southern women in the twentieth century. She has published articles in *Southern Cultures* and *Working U.S.A.: The Journal of Labor and Society*, and she contributed to *North Carolina Women: Their Lives and Times—Volume 2* (University of Georgia Press). Her research interests include Southern women's history, working-class history, U.S. social movements, Appalachian history, and oral history.

Southern Foodways Alliance

www.southernfoodways.com

sfa@olemiss.edu

Barnard Observatory, Big Tower

The Southern Foodways Alliance is an institute of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture. The SFA documents and celebrates the diverse food cultures of the American South. We set a common table where black and white, rich and poor—all who gather—may consider our history and our future in a spirit of reconciliation. We have a lean (not very mean) staff: Director, John T. Edge; Associate Director, Mary Beth Lasseter; Assistant Director, Melissa Hall; Managing Editor, Sara Camp Arnold; Project Coordinator, Afton Thomas; Office Manager, Jenna Grem.

John T. Edge

johnt@southernfoodways.org

John T. holds an M.A. in Southern Studies from the University of Mississippi and an MFA in Creative Nonfiction from Goucher College. The author or editor of a dozen books, including the foodways volume of the *New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture*, he most recently released *The Potlikker Papers*, a history of Southern food, published by The Penguin Press. He has won three James Beard Foundation awards, including the MFK Fisher Distinguished Writing Award and serves as an editor in residence at the Rivendell Writer's Colony in Sewanee, Tennessee.

Melissa Booth Hall

melissa@southernfoodways.org

Melissa Booth Hall is the SFA's assistant director. She holds a J.D. from Northern Kentucky University and a B.A. in English from Centre College. In 2003 she volunteered at the SFA's Fall Symposium... 13 1/2 gallons of pimento cheese and 1000 deviled eggs later, she was hooked. Since joining the SFA's staff, Melissa has led field trips and Summer Symposia, organized countless Potlikker Film Festivals across the region (and beyond), and served as operations manager for Fall Symposiums. These days, her focus is SFA outreach, donor relations, and long-range planning.

Mary Beth Lasseter

marybeth@southernfoodways.org

Mary Beth Lasseter is a South Georgia native who found her way to a Southern Studies MA after first earning a degree from the University of Notre Dame and spending a year of AmeriCorps service in Tuskegee, Alabama. She wrote her master's thesis on Elvis Presley, and how he changed ideas about white Southern womanhood. Post-Elvis study has been less entertaining—crunching numbers for an MBA was no fun—but she has recently returned to Oxford with her engineer husband, Ned Mitchell, and their four children. Mary Beth is currently the associate director for the Southern Foodways Alliance.

Ava Lowreyava@southernfoodways.org

Ava Lowrey is the SFA's Pihakis Foodways Documentary Fellow. She is a graduate of New York University's Tisch School of the Arts and Duke University's MFA in Experimental and Documentary Arts. Ava's work has been featured in *The New York Times*, *Rolling Stone Magazine*, and CNN, and her short documentaries have screened at festivals across the country. A native of Alexander City, Alabama, Ava's films often focus on her Southern roots, sharing untold stories centered in the South.

Jenna Masonjenna@southernfoodways.org

Jenna is the SFA's office manager and blog editor. She earned her B.A. and M.A. in Spanish at the University of Georgia, where she then taught as a Spanish instructor. Before signing on at SFA, she also taught speed-reading and English as a second language.

Sara Camp Milamsaracamp@southernfoodways.org

Sara Camp Milam is the the SFA's managing editor. She has a B.A. in Spanish from Princeton University and an M.A. in folklore from UNC-Chapel Hill.

Afton Thomasafton@southernfoodways.org

Afton grew up in the Midwest. She considers herself fortunate to say she's helped prepare a holiday meal where she was one of five generations in the kitchen. Now, she enjoys cooking for family gatherings with her mother and maternal grandmother. Her academic training is in theatre and professionally she has worked in human resources, events, and children's theatre--all of which have prepared her for her current position as project coordinator with the SFA.

Center Staff and Institutional Affiliates**Brett Bonner**brett@livingblues.com

234-8023

Brett Bonner is the editor of *Living Blues* magazine. He holds a bachelor's degree in psychology, sociology, and philosophy from the University of Mississippi, as well as a master's degree in sociology. He has worked at *Living Blues* for nearly 30 years and has written extensively about the blues. As the editor he handles all story, review, and photography assignments and also decides the theme and scope of each issue.

Rebecca Lauck Cleary
215 Barnard Observatory
rebeccac@go.olemiss.edu
x3369

Rebecca is the senior staff assistant and website administrator. A Lafayette, Louisiana native, she earned a journalism degree from the University of Mississippi. She was a communications specialist for University Communications from 2005 to 2013. She assists with registration of students, writing for the *Southern Register*, and various other tasks.

Donna Crenshaw
Barnard Observatory 111
sdp@olemiss.edu
x 3364

Donna Crenshaw is the Center's Administrative Secretary. One of her many duties is managing the financial affairs for the Center. This encompasses monitoring budgets, processing accounts payable and accounts receivable, payroll, purchases, travel requests, requests for payment, personnel forms, and the preparation and maintenance of grant applications. She is originally from Missouri but was raised in Omaha, Nebraska on a small farm just outside the city limits. She moved to Oxford in November 2016.

Margaret M M Gaffney
Barnard Observatory 106
mmmg@olemiss.edu
x5993

Margaret is a part-time staff assistant. She recently returned to Oxford, where she spent some of her childhood. She received her BA from Bowdoin College in German, Theater and Dance. She spent the last fourteen years making films. Margaret schedules the various rooms in Barnard and helps make sure everything is in running order.

Nikki Neely
Director of Development for the College of Liberal Arts
nlneely@olemiss.edu
x6678

Nikki is the Director of Development for the Center and for the College of Liberal Arts. Before working at UM, she was associate director of foundation and corporate relations at Emory University in Atlanta. She earned a bachelor of arts in studio art in 2004 and a master of arts in journalism in 2007 from the University of Mississippi.

John Rash
Producer/Director, SouthDocs
Kinard Hall, Wing D
jfrash@olemiss.edu
x1304

John Rash is a filmmaker, photographer, and video artist who earned his MFA in Experimental and Documentary Art from Duke University in 2014. He has worked as a freelance photographer and college instructor for more than 15 years in both the United States and China. His work often explores cultural outsiders and environmental topics through non-traditional narratives and visual storytelling. As Producer / Director at the Southern Documentary Project John explores the modern stories and various histories of the American South through photographs, films, and audio productions.

James G. Thomas, Jr.

East Turret, Barnard Observatory

jgthomas@olemiss.edu

James Thomas is the Center for the Study of Southern Culture's associate director for publications. He has a BA in philosophy and English and an MA in Southern Studies, both from the University of Mississippi. In 2003 Thomas returned to Oxford from New York City, where he was working as a magazine editor, and began work at the Center as managing editor of *The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture*. He has contributed to and edited books and journals on a wide range of topics, from southern writers Barry Hannah and William Faulkner to Lebanese immigration to the Mississippi Delta and science and medicine in the American South.

Becca Walton

Barnard Observatory

rwalton@olemiss.edu

Becca Walton, originally from East Tennessee, holds an undergraduate degree in American Studies and History from the University of Virginia and received a Master's in Southern Studies from UM. While in graduate school she worked at the Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation and at Rowan Oak. She has experience in nonprofit and arts management, working for the Charlottesville and Charleston Symphonies and the Piccolo Spoleto Festival. Before joining the Center staff, she served as grant writer and development officer for the American College of the Building Arts in Charleston, South Carolina. Becca began work as Associate Director for Projects in September 2011. She is responsible for coordinating collaborations between Center institutes and outside partners, outreach programs such as the Gilder-Jordan Lecture Series, public relations, annual giving initiatives, and the Center's web and social media presence.

Melanie Young

Jackson Avenue Center

melanie@livingblues.com

Melanie Young first began working with *Living Blues* in 2009 as the circulation manager. At the same time, she had an editorial internship with the publication. Since then, she's been a contributing writer for *Living Blues* and even wrote her Southern Studies master's thesis on the magazine in 2012. In 2008, Young earned her bachelor's degree in English Literature at the University of Southern Mississippi. As publication manager, Young's duties include managing the day-to-day tasks necessary to the upkeep of the magazine, which consists of subscription services, publishing, distribution, marketing and accounting. In addition, Young also trains and supervises graduate assistants and student workers.

Course Listings

Course listings change frequently. Please visit individual department websites for lists of their classes and the MyOleMiss portion of the University's website for the most accurate offerings by semester. In advance of each registration period, we will publish a list of classes that we can accept for graduate credit during the upcoming term. We encourage students to locate additional possibilities on their own, but also to consult with the graduate director before registering.

SOUTHERN STUDIES (SST)

533. Studies in Documentary Fieldwork: Training in basic field research techniques of oral history and documentary photography. Students will record interviews and make documentary photographs that explore a pre-assigned topic in southern culture. Prerequisite for SST 534 and SST 537.

534. Studies in Documentary Photography: Prerequisite is SST 533.

537. Documenting the South in Film. Prerequisite is SST 533.

555. Foodways and Southern Culture.

598, 599. Special Topics: Interdisciplinary study of specialized topics in Southern culture. May be repeated (twice) for credit.

601. Graduate Seminar I: Multidisciplinary reading and research seminar in Southern Studies. Students will read and discuss a common core of readings while pursuing research in their individual areas of interest.

602. Graduate Seminar II: Reading, discussion, and research and writing course focused on exploring various perspectives on Southern society, its development and its institutions, social classes, and ethnic and racial groups. Outcome of this course is typically a thesis or internship proposal.

603. Internship: Supervised research and work at an on or off-campus cultural institution. Interns are required to maintain a journal of their fieldwork experiences. Students receiving nine hours of credit must submit a final research paper of approximately 40 pages and devote 20 hours per week to the internship; students receiving six hours of credit must devote 12-15 hours per week to the internship and write a 12-15 page research paper; students receiving three hours of credit work 10 hours a week and prepare a weekly journal.

605. Advanced Individual Study: Students develop their own course of study in consultation with a supervising professor.

611. Regionalism

612. Globalization and the U.S. South

697: Thesis

Theses and Internships

Most Southern Studies student theses are available through the University library. You can access a complete list from our website here:

<http://southernstudies.olemiss.edu/media/Theses-and-Internships1.pdf>

Topic headings include these: History & Civil Rights, People & Places, Literature & Film, Art & Architecture, Music & Entertainment, Religion, Sports & Recreation, Politics, and Foodways. A list of the locations at which people have completed internships also appears on the website.