Duke Alumni


Faculty Fellows
The Faculty Fellows program was created in 2012 by Alumni Affairs to showcase Duke’s top faculty. Working with Duke Alumni Education and Regional Engagement programs, fellows provide quality educational programming online, on campus, and across the country to enrich the lives of Duke alumni and their families. Each Faculty Fellow serves a three-year term and will be asked to provide at least one on-campus, one online, and two regional engagements during each of their fellowship years.

Faculty Fellows are selected based on their abilities and contributions both in and out of the classroom, as well as for their commitment to the advancement of their academic disciplines. Whether they work in cutting edge research or provide insightful perspective on global issues, these faculty members are well-respected within the Duke community and their academic peers.

If you are interested in coordinating an educational experience with one of the Faculty Fellows, please contact Jennifer Chambers, Director of Alumni Education at 919-681-6216 or jennifer.chambers@daa.duke.edu.
What are the differences between the human mind and the minds of our evolutionary ancestors? How did our brains develop unique functions and capabilities? Associate Professor, Brian Hare, leads The Hominoid Psychology Research Group which studies the comparative evolutionary psychology of hominoids (human and non-human apes). Specifically, the team seeks to identify which features of our social problem-solving abilities have evolved since humans, bonobos, and chimpanzees shared a common ancestor. In addition, Hare’s work compares the psychology of various primates and non-primates to identify cases of psychological convergence. Hare and his team conduct non-invasive behavioral research in accredited African sanctuaries, accredited zoos, and the Duke Lemur Center.

Hare and his team also study the cognition of domestic dogs and other canids at the Duke Canine Cognition Center where people bring their dogs to participate in some of the same problem-solving games presented to great apes and children. Through their research Hare’s team hopes to gain more understanding about the effect of domestication on dog cognition, as well as to identify breed differences in problem-solving skills. Their over-arching goal is to understand the skills and limits of dog cognition in order to help dogs be more effective companion animals.

In his relatively short career, Hare has received a number of awards for his research, innovation and excellence in academia. Hare is a Pop Tech Science Fellow, recipient of the 2007 Young Innovator Award from the Smithsonian Institute, and the 2004 Sofia Kovalevskaja Award from the Alexander Humboldt Foundation in Germany. The Kovalevskaja Award allows researchers to spend five years building a team and conducting a project of their choice at a facility of their choice. Hare has also been honored with the Book Center Award for Excellence in Teaching from Harvard University.
D. SUNSHINE HILLYGUS

Professor, Department of Political Science  
Director, Duke Initiative on Survey Methodology

BIOGRAPHY

How do voters make up their minds in political campaigns? What is the role of surveys and statistics in American politics and society? Can we trust public opinion polls? What is the role of emerging communication technologies in electoral politics? Can we increase civic engagement among America’s youth? These and other important questions about the American voting population and democratic processes in the United States are the focus of Sunshine Hillygus’s research.

Professor Hillygus has published widely on topics of American political behavior, campaigns and elections, survey methods, public opinion, and information technology and politics. She is co-author of *The Persuadable Voter: Wedge Issues in Political Campaigns* and *The Hard Count: The Social and Political Challenges of the 2000 Census*.

Earning her PhD from Stanford in 2003, Hillygus taught at Harvard University, where she was the Frederick S. Danziger Associate Professor of Government and founding director of the Program on Survey Research. She joined Duke University in 2009 as an associate professor and became director of The Duke Initiative on Survey Methodology in 2010 at the Social Science Research Institute (SSRI). Hillygus’s work at the SSRI connects researchers with interests in numerous social and behavioral science areas, promotes collaboration across the Duke campus, and facilitates research teams’ activities to create cutting-edge work on some of the most complex and urgent questions facing social scientists today. She is the recipient of numerous grants from the National Science Foundation in support of her research.

Although a professor of political science, Hillygus doesn’t try to hide her passion for her alma mater, the University of Arkansas. She proudly displays her Arkansas pride with descriptions of her favorite memories on her Duke University website.
Where does human character originate? How do genes play a role in young people’s self-discipline, will-power, and problem-solving ability, and even their criminal behavior? How much does the character development of toddlers predict their life success 40 years later, in family life, work life, physical health, and financial success? How much can social experience alter character development? Within the fascinating interplay between nature and nurture, Terrie E. Moffitt investigates the origins of human character, beginning in early childhood. She directs longitudinal studies of children from thousands of families, following their behavioral development over decades.

Moffitt’s exceptional grasp of complex developmental processes has resulted in groundbreaking research for her field. Dr. Moffitt’s article presenting an original theory about distinct types of adolescent offenders is one of the most important in criminology with over 7,000 citations. Her discoveries of the interaction between specific genes and life stress in predicting depression and violence have generated enormous controversy, resulting in several meta-analyses published in leading journals in psychiatry and medicine. Her newest research compares low self control versus high self control in a longitudinal study of toddlers through mid-life. Specific areas of investigation include credit ratings, conviction records, injury insurance claims, and even their biomarkers of heart disease risk.

For her valuable contributions to the fields of behavioral science, Moffitt has received the American Psychological Association’s Early Career Contribution Award, the Distinguished Career Award in Clinical Child Psychology, and has been inducted into the British Academy and the UK Academy of Medical Sciences. Her discoveries earned her the Stockholm Prize in Criminology in 2007 and the million dollar Jacobs Prize from Switzerland. In 2014 she was named one of the 400 most highly cited health scientists worldwide (Duke has 4 of these). When not doing research, she is a licensed clinical psychologist with a pro-bono neuropsychological practice, and she runs a 250-acre poison-ivy farm in North Carolina.
MARK ANTHONY NEAL
Professor, Department of African & African American Studies

BIOGRAPHY

Hip-hop music and gender relations within African American culture, urban sociology, black masculinity, and queer theory—these are just a few of the topics tackled by award-winning professor Mark Anthony Neal. Well known and respected for his pioneering research in African American, cultural, and gender studies, Neal delves deep into the fields of literary theory, social history, postmodern philosophy, and most notably, popular culture. As professor of Black Popular Culture at Duke, he specializes in the study of the music, television, film, and literature produced within the context of cultures in the African diaspora. His work demonstrates how this under-scrutinized area of knowledge profoundly impacts societal and cultural norms within the United States and around the world.

While Neal’s provocative writings and lectures challenge his audiences to engage with the ideologies of black popular culture, his express purpose is to promote positive dialogue and raise healthy inquiry around these important cultural topics.

Neal is the founder and managing editor of the blog NewBlackMan and he hosts the weekly webcast Left of Black in collaboration with the John Hope Franklin Center at Duke University. He was recognized as Hip-Hop Scholar of the Year in 2012 by the Beats and Life Foundation and received the Robert B. Cox Teaching Award from Duke University in 2010.

EDUCATION
State University of New York at Buffalo, American Studies, Ph.D., 1996
SUNY College at Fredonia, English, B.A. 1987

TOPICS
Black popular culture
Rethinking black masculinity in the contemporary world
Sexism and homophobia in Black communities
History of popular music including Motown, R&B, Rap, and Hip Hop

LINKS
newblackman.blogspot.com
www.huffingtonpost.com/mark-anthony-neal
leftofblack.tumblr.com

To request a Faculty Fellow speaker for your region, please contact Jennifer Chambers, Director of Alumni Education, at jennifer.chambers@daa.duke.edu or (919) 681-6216.
Mohamed Noor wants to answer one of the greatest unsolved questions in biology: How constant evolutionary change produces the discontinuous groups known as species. As technology improves Dr. Noor’s work gets closer to the answer. Recently, his research team used fruit fly species to understand the causes and evolutionary consequences of variation in rates of genetic recombination. Now, his team is working to determine the genetic features and evolutionary processes that allow hybridizing species to persist. From reframing foundational principles of biology to applying modern approaches like whole-genome sequencing, Noor explores a wide range of scientific topics to figure out what makes organisms similar and at the same time unique.

Dr. Noor’s innovative techniques are not limited to his research. He has developed a popular online course, “Introduction to Genetics and Evolution,” and uses the ‘flipped classroom” technique to deliver traditional lecture material online so that his class can discuss the material the next day. This allows Noor to interact with his 400 students and to address specific topics during his precious class time. In 2012, Dr. Noor was the recipient of the ADUTA award for teaching excellence, a student-nominated and selected award, given by the Duke Alumni Association.

Dr. Noor has received several awards for research and mentoring as well as teaching. He has been active in the scientific community, including serving as president of the American Genetic Association and the Society for the Study of Evolution. He also served as chair of the NIH study section in Genetic Variation and Evolution and as editor of the journal Evolution.
EMMA RASIIEL
Associate Professor of the Practice, Department of Economics
Teaching Director, Duke Financial Economics Center
Director, Duke in New York Financial Markets and Institutions program
Director, Duke in London: Finance program

BIOGRAPHY

Whether it is the complexities of the credit crisis, the risk-taking behavior of the terminally ill, or the reasons for the lack of development of a new, more effective tuberculosis drug, Emma Rasiel can explain it all. Rasiel’s special areas of interest are behavioral finance and economics and her work explores the social, psychological, and economic considerations that go into decision-making processes, large and small, that impact us all.

Rasiel, an Associate Professor of the Practice in Economics, was named one of four great university instructors by Newsweek magazine in 2009, and she has twice received the Best Elective Teaching Award at the Fuqua School of Business. Before coming to Duke as a PhD candidate at the Fuqua School of Business, she traded bond options as an Executive Director in the London office of the investment bank, Goldman Sachs.

At Duke, Dr. Rasiel is the director of the Duke Financial Economics Center (DFE), which arranges extra-curricular financial education activities for students interested in finance careers, in conjunction with Duke’s Career Center and several corporate sponsors. She is the faculty director for the Duke in New York: Financial Markets and Institutions, and the Duke in London: Finance programs. She is also the director of admissions for the Master’s program in Economics for the Graduate School at Duke.

EDUCATION

Duke University, Fuqua School of Business, Ph.D., 2003
Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, M.B.A., 1990
University of Oxford, Mathematics, B.S., 1986

TOPICS

Behavioral Finance: How our innate psychological biases negatively impact our investment decisions
100 years of macroeconomic history: Where have we been, and where are we now?
The recent credit crisis: Does history always repeat itself?

LINKS

people.duke.edu/~ebr4/erasiel.htm
econ.duke.edu/DukeinNY
econ.duke.edu/ufes
bit.ly/duke-london-finance

Duke ALUMNI


[ Faculty Fellow through December 2017 ]

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How do we talk about 9/11 in a way that accurately reflects the beliefs of the perpetrators, explains why they attacked, and avoids conflating the religion of Islam with the ideology of al-Qaeda extremism? David Schanzer has answers to these questions and more. From the politics of Guantanamo and the ethics of enhanced interrogation, to the nuanced use of terms such as “jihad” and “radical Islam,” Schanzer tackles some of the most controversial and thought-provoking topics in domestic and foreign policy, national security, and strategic thinking.

David Schanzer is an Associate Professor of the Practice at Duke University’s Sanford School of Public Policy and Director of the Triangle Center on Terrorism and Homeland Security. He teaches courses, conducts research, and engages in public dialogue on counterterrorism strategy, counterterrorism law, homeland security, and public policy. Schanzer is the lead author of a widely cited National Institute of Justice study on domestic radicalization, “Anti-Terror Lessons of Muslim Americans” (2010), and of a report on “Improving Strategic Risk Management at the Department of Homeland Security.” He is a member of the Countering Violent Extremism Leadership Forum and has been a Research Fellow for the National Intelligence Council.

Prior to his academic appointments, Schanzer worked in all three branches of the federal government. He was the Democratic staff director for the House of Representatives Committee on Homeland Security; he served as the legislative director for Sen. Jean Carnahan; counsel to Sen. Joseph R. Biden Jr., and counsel to Sen. William S. Cohen. His positions in the Executive Branch include Special Counsel, Office of General Counsel, Department of Defense, and a trial attorney at the United States Department of Justice. Schanzer was also a clerk for U.S. District Judge Norma L. Shapiro and in the Office of the Solicitor General of the United States.
NEIL S. SIEGEL ’94, M.A.’95

David W. Ichel Professor of Law, School of Law
Professor, Department of Political Science
Co-Director, Program in Public Law, School of Law
Director, DC Summer Institute on Law and Policy

BIOGRAPHY

If you’ve ever desired to better understand the U.S. Constitution and how it impacts our political and legal systems, Neil S. Siegel has answers for you. As an expert on U.S. constitutional law, constitutional theory, and the federal courts, Professor Siegel guides students in examining the complexities of the U.S. Constitution, including the constitutional relationship between the federal government and the states (federalism), and the principles governing claims of discrimination based on race, sex, and sexual orientation.

Siegel has an impressive résumé spanning both political and legal arenas. In addition to his professorship at Duke Law School, he serves as Co-Director of the Duke Program in Public Law and as Director of the DC Summer Institute on Law and Policy. He served as Special Counsel to then-Senator Joseph R. Biden during the confirmation hearings of Supreme Court Justices John G. Roberts (2005) and Samuel A. Alito (2006). He also clerked for Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg at the U.S. Supreme Court during the October 2003 term, and for J. Harvie Wilkinson III of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit from June 2001 to June 2002. During the Supreme Court's October 2002 term, he served as a Bristow Fellow in the Office of the Solicitor General at the U.S. Department of Justice.

With a BA in economics and political science, an MA in economics, a JD, and a PhD in jurisprudence and social policy, Siegel’s academic expertise and real-world experience combine to give him a unique perspective and comprehensive understanding of constitutional law.

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley, J.D., 2001
University of California, Berkeley, Ph.D., 2001
Duke University, Economics, M.A., 1995
Duke University, Economics and Political Science, summa cum laude, B.A., 1994

TOPICS

Contemporary issues in constitutional law (federalism, abortion, contraception, race equality, sex equality, same sex marriage, Affordable Care Act)

Constitutional law and the politics of the Affordable Care Act

The jurisprudence of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Judicial statesmanship, a core dimension of the judicial role

Contraceptive coverage, religious liberty, and the Hobby Lobby case

Pregnancy discrimination as sex discrimination

The constitutionality of affirmative action in higher education

LINKS

law.duke.edu/fac/siegel
bit.ly/siegel-video
bit.ly/siegel-video2

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Intrigued by the evolution of ethical and moral codes? Curious how biology and neurology contribute to our views on morality? Walter Sinnott-Armstrong unlocks insights into the connections between how the human brain works and how people perceive right and wrong both individually and as a society at the intersection of meta-ethics, philosophy, religion, and neuroscience.

A widely published author, Professor Sinnott-Armstrong’s writings cover a variety of topics including empirical moral psychology and neuroscience, philosophy of law, epistemology, philosophy of religion, and informal logic. His most recent works include *Morality Without God?* and *Moral Skepticisms*. Sinnott-Armstrong’s current research investigates moral psychology and brain science, as well as uses of neuroscience in legal systems.

In addition to his professorial roles in philosophy and ethics, Sinnott-Armstrong serves as core faculty in the Duke Institute for Brain Sciences, the Duke Center for Cognitive Neuroscience, and the Duke Center for Interdisciplinary Decision Sciences. He is also resource faculty at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, a partner investigator at the Oxford Centre for Neuroethics and a research scientist with The Mind Research Network. He is co-chair of the Board of Officers of the American Philosophical Association and has been co-director of the MacArthur Law and Neuroscience Project.
Interested in learning about English Literature through the lens of history — from an expert on both? Victor Strandberg is one of the most long-standing professors at Duke with more than 50 years of teaching experience. A true expert in his field, Strandberg guides his students through the words and worlds of the great American authors, adding rich insight through historical context and cultural relevance.

Strandberg’s love of literature blossomed in his youth and his passion for his subject has never waned. The first in his family to attend college, Strandberg found his entry into the teaching profession a bit of a surprise. He savors the opportunity to teach eager students and help them discover the same satisfaction he has found in literary pursuits. Every sabbatical year, Strandberg has spent a semester abroad as a Fulbright professor teaching American Literature. He has taught at the Universities of Uppsala, Louvain, and Mannheim, in the Czech Republic, at Kobe College in Japan, and in Marrakech, Morocco.

Throughout his prestigious academic career, Strandberg has published many scholarly works including *The Poetic Vision of Robert Penn Warren* (Kentucky, 1977), *Religious Psychology in American Literature: The Relevance of William James* (Studia Humanitatis, 1981), and *A Faulkner Overview: Six Perspectives* (Kennikat Press, 1981), together with numerous essays on American literature. His most recent book is *Greek Mind/Jewish Soul: The Conflicted Art of Cynthia Ozick* (University of Wisconsin Press, 1994). His work is freely available online at the dukespace website.