

Na-Rae received her B.A. in English and International Relations from Hangdong University (South Korea) and Ph.D. in English from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. She is excited to join the English and Interdisciplinary Studies Departments at KSU. Na-Rae's interdisciplinary research and teaching focused on transnational Korean literature, Asian American literature, critical Asia studies, and theories of the novel.

ISD welcomes a new Student Assistant, Ethiopia Adera. She is an International Affairs Student, with a concentration in International Business, Economics and Policy. Welcome!



Dr. Na-Rae Kim



Ethiopia Adera

**Study Abroad with ISD:**

Costa Rica: 7/3-8/5 - Alan LeBaron

Mexico: 6/10-7/11 - Linda Niemann

Peru: 5/12-5/29-Ernesto Silva & Seneca Vaught

For info:

<http://dga.kennesaw.edu/educationabroad/>



Ernesto Silva & Seneca Vaught in Peru

**Faculty Publications, Awards and Grants**

Publications by Robbie Lieberman, "Beyond a Chilling Effect: The Impact of FBI Surveillance on African American Literature during the Hoover Era," *American Communist History* 14. A review essay, also available online: [www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/14743892.2016.1133771](http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/14743892.2016.1133771).

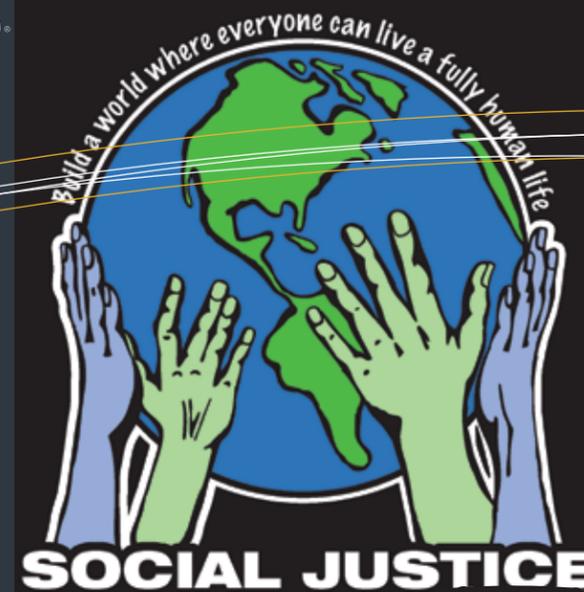
Co-edited with Robert Shaffer: "Activists, Writers and Expansive Ideas about Peace in the early Cold War Years:" a roundtable discussion at the annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians, 17, April 2015, St Louis, Missouri, *American Communist History* 15.

ISD affiliate Dr. Linda Niemann's new book, *Learning Spanish*, will be published by the University of New Mexico Press in the fall of 2017. Dr. Niemann has done study abroad trips to Mexico for well over a decade. This important book is in some respects the fruit of that work. It also grows out of her pre-academic life as a brake-woman on the railroad, where she frequently communicated with Hispanic men and women in the southwest who were hitching trains. This book grew out of her Faculty Renewal Semester in the Fall of 2015.

Tom Pynn contributed a chapter in *Beat Drama* entitled "Radical Ritual Performance in The Early Prophetic Poetry of Bob Kaufman.

Robert Owusu's book *Introduction to Religion* was published in 2016.

Congratulations to Dr. Ari Eisenberg who received a Manuscript Completion Grant to work on her book, *Save our Streets and Shelter our Homeless*, which addresses the causes, history and perceptions of homelessness in New York in the late twentieth century.



**ISD Awards at the Opening of the University**

ISD was well represented at the August Opening of the University Awards Ceremony on August 11, 2016.

Laura Davis was a finalist for the Excellence in Teaching Award. Congrats, Laura!

ISD Administrative Specialist Cherie K. Miller was awarded the Service to the Community Award. J. Steve Miller won the Part-time Faculty Award.



**What's New in ISD?**

This promises to be an exciting year for ISD. Our new Asian Studies major became official this semester, and we have already signed up dozens of students. Many more have become interested in the minor as well, and the program continues to receive much good publicity. We welcome a new joint appointed faculty member, Na-Rae Kim (see bio on page 4), who is adding several courses on Asian American literature and identity. Heeman Kim (Communications and ISD) is now the coordinator for Asian Studies, and Anne Richards (English & ISD) is coordinating Peace Studies. We are currently in the midst of two tenure track searches, one for Latino Studies and the other for Native American Studies. Both hires will be able to contribute to several ISD programs.

Our department continues to gain recognition for its commitment to, and expertise in, diversity. Two faculty members will serve as fellows in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, where they will get support for projects aimed at improving the campus climate and contributing to the success of students and faculty of color. Roxanne Donovan (Psychology and ISD) is implementing a mentoring program for faculty women of color, and Seneca Vaught (History and ISD) is researching ways to "center" anti-racism at Kennesaw State. Griselda Thomas (English and ISD) has been asked by the Dean of the College

**Interdisciplinary Studies @ Kennesaw State**

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of Humanities and Social Sciences to head a task force that will develop recommendations for improving the climate in our college. MAST alumnus Yen Rodriguez has just been hired as Assistant Director of Multicultural Student Affairs. Congratulations, Yen!

ISD had a good showing at the awards ceremony that accompanied the opening of the university in August. Laura Davis was a finalist for the Excellence in Teaching Award and our own Cherie Miller, admin extraordinaire, won the KSU Foundation award for community service. Her partner, Steve Miller, who teaches in Religious Studies as well as in University College, won the part time faculty teaching award. What a pair!

In an effort to continue getting the word out about what our department has to offer, we are planning a student mixer for Tuesday, October 18, from 12-2 in the Leadership Room of the Student Center. In attendance will be faculty from all of our programs, alumni, students, and visitors from the community who work in organizations to which ISD has some connection. Please spread the word and come visit to find out about any of our minors, majors, certificates, and other programs, such as Peace Corps Prep. There will be a scavenger hunt with prizes as well as pizza for all. If you have questions or ideas, please contact our other admin extraordinaire, Ashley McFarland, who is coordinating the planning for this event.

**Robbie Lieberman, Chair**

*Please consider donating to the ISD Foundation account #310120 IDS for this year-end.*



Diversity  
Social Justice  
Community Engagement

**Interdisciplinary Studies Department**

**Student Mixer**

**October 18th**  
12-2pm  
Leadership Room,  
Student Center

**Learn more about us**

- African & African Diaspora Studies
- Asian Studies
- American Studies
- Gender & Women's Studies
- Latin/Latin American Studies
- Peace Studies
- Religious Studies
- Science, Technology, & Society
- Peace Corps Prep

**Get the scoop**

- Study Abroad Opportunities
- Certificates
- Internships
- Events
- Student Groups
- Research Symposiums

**free pizza!**





**Elizabeth Henley, GTA**

In addition to being an incoming student to Kennesaw State's American Studies master's program, Elizabeth Hensley is proud to be working in ISD alongside visiting professor Dr. Rudy Aguilar in a section of the class American Identities. I grew up in Southern California and recently received my B.A. in Human Communication, an interdisciplinary blend of humanities and communication studies at California State University, Monterey Bay. I am proud to utilize the knowledge I gained in this major as well as my professional experience as a journalist, writing coach and CRLA Certified Level 1 Tutor. I am also passionate about research. This October I will present my work in oral history at the Oral History Association's 50th anniversary meeting in Long Beach, CA.

**Deniz Gumustekin** joins the faculty teaching PAX. She is from Turkey and holds BA from USC, a MA in Political Science from GSU and currently doing her PhD in International Conflict Management in KSU. She worked for the International Rescue Committee in Atlanta and participated in international missions and conferences. Her research interests are intra-national conflicts, in particular the cases of Kurds and Tamils. This fits into her interest in the international dimensions of internal conflicts, ethno-nationalist terrorism, and terrorist groups at both national and international levels, crossing the boundaries between International Relations and Comparative Politics.



**Stefanos Milkidis, GTA**



This is my first year teaching as a GTA in ISD and my third year in the School of Art & Design. I teach "American Identities" and "Art in Society." A Greek national, born and raised in Thessaloniki, I completed a BFA at Staffordshire University, UK. I also hold an MA in Fine Arts from Central St. Martin's College in London, and an MFA in Visual Arts from Rutgers. I am a student in the MAST program expected to graduate in May, 2017. My research focuses on LGBT history in America, queer theory, visual culture, and urban studies. My experiences of navigating through different cultures, academic disciplines, social realities, and politics have made me who I am today: immigrant, activist, feminist, and human rights advocate.

**Pranaya Rana** has a Ph.D. in the International Conflict Management from KSU '16. His research interests include refugee empowerment, humanitarian work, and peacebuilding. He is a former Lieutenant from the Nepalese Army Elite Forces. He has served as a U.N. Peacekeeper in post-earthquake Haiti, a Refugee Resettlement Program Officer in Connecticut and worked with the Carter Center in 2013 as a program support for elections monitoring and local governance programs in Nepal. Pranaya currently serves as a Consumer Education and Enrollment Specialist at Georgians for a Healthy Future, a Georgia based public health advocacy organization.



**Dr. George Stickel**



After a career in education, particularly science education and teacher preparation (teaching and administration), I became semi-retired in 2015. This semester I am teaching the STS course with sections on Mind, Brain and Consciousness-a long-term interest. I also tutor chemistry at Chattahoochee Tech, work with K-12 teachers adopting new science, mathematics, and social studies materials, volunteer at Tellus Science Museum (Cartersville), and at the Southern Museum of Civil War & Railroad History (Kennesaw). Currently am working on an article in philosophy that addresses the impact of the founders of American pragmatism on neuroscience. My schedule will permit opportunities to visit daughters at Penn State, Charlotte, NC, and Linz, Austria.

**Johann Weber** joins the faculty teaching STS with a focus on transportation. He received his Ph.D. at Georgia Tech in Public Policy, and a B.A. in Sociology and Philosophy from the College of Wooster. His research focuses on local municipal decisionmaking, specifically the informal governance networks responsible for alternative transportation implementation. He's a passionate sustainable transportation advocate and spends his time mountain biking, hiking and working at a global tech company.



**Holly Bradfield** is the Director of Health for Peacebuilding Solutions which works to create sustainable, community led, long term solutions for vulnerable populations in communities, post conflict and post disaster. Currently they are working on projects in Haiti, Nepal, and Jordan. She is a Ph.D. student at Georgia State in Political Science and is teaching the GWST 1102: Love and Sex class. Her law career focus has been on women's rights including the prevention of, protection from and response to domestic violence, the protection of children who have been victims of neglect, physical abuse and sexual abuse, and addressing the treatment needs of the mentally ill.



Congratulations to Walt Tillman as he successfully defended his thesis, "Time and Nationhood: The United States and Indigenous Nations," advised by Dr. Heather Pincock and Dr. Katie Walkiewicz (via Skype) in Summer 2016.



Gabriel Greaves defended his MAST thesis, "Hidden Black and Brown Bridges: Influences of Martin Luther King and Dr. Justo Gonzalez on one another in the civil rights era," advised by Dr. Seneca Vaught and Dr. Jaime Cruz-Ortiz in Summer 2016. Congrats, Gabriel! i

**Consider Attending the Latin American Film Festival from 9/27 to 10/25**

2016 Latin American Film Festival  
Co-Sponsored with the Consuls General of Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, and Peru

Tues, October 4 5:00-7:00 pm (SO 3030)  
Cuatro Puntos Cardinales /Four Cardinal Points  
Country: El Salvador

Tues, October 11 5:00-7:00 pm (SO 1019)  
El Abrazo de la Serpiente / Embrace of the Serpent  
Country: Colombia

Thurs, October 13 5:00-7:00 pm (SO 1019)  
Cápsulas / Capsules  
Country: Guatemala

Tues, October 18 5:00 - 7:00 pm (SO 3030)  
Generación Spielberg / Generation Spielberg  
Country: Mexico

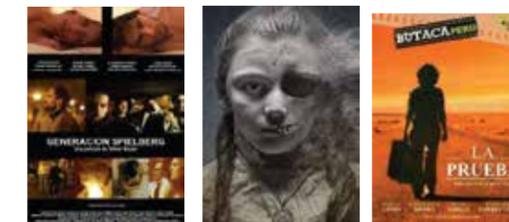


Thurs, October 20 5-7:00 pm (SO 1019)  
Resurrección / Resurrection  
Country: Argentina

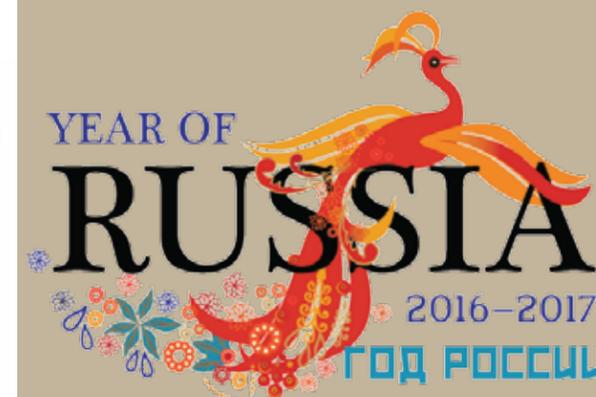
Tues, October 25 5-7:00 pm (SO 1019)  
La Prueba / The Trial (2006)  
Country: Peru



<http://dga.kennesaw.edu/lafilmfest/>



**Everything You Treasure:  
For a World Free from Nuclear Weapons**



<http://dga.kennesaw.edu/yearof/russia/>