

2017

Student & Faculty Profiles: 2017 Study Abroad - Brazil

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STUDENT META-DATA

Kayla Bledsoe (Class of 2020): Kayla participated in the Women’s Rights and Empowerment ‘Brazil’ Project during the first year of her study at Marian University. Kayla has served as an education director for the Boys and Girls Club, working with kids at IPS School 109 who are enrolled in the Indiana Kids Program. The program requires elementary children to complete 20 service hours and 10 hours of career education. Kayla plans volunteer opportunities, schedules guest speakers to help them learn about different careers, and assists them with homework. After traveling to Brazil, Kayla lived in the Dorothy Day House, where students serve as ambassadors of peace and justice on campus. For her research on women’s equality and empowerment, Kayla explored the history of LGBT rights in the United States and Rio Grande de Sol, Brazil, and public perceptions of the LGBT community.



Elizabeth Hilt (Class of 2017): Elizabeth finished up her degree in secondary education at Marian University, just after participating in the Women’s Rights and Empowerment ‘Brazil’ Project. She was awarded the Senior Award for Outstanding Achievement in Secondary Education, and the Sister Mary Carol Schroeder Memorial Award. Liz was part of the Marian University Marching Band since her first year, and also led the band as Drum Major in her last two years. In addition to band, Liz took part in numerous volunteer activities and served as the President of the Model United Nations student group on campus, working with fellow delegates to represent Sudan, Egypt, and Latvia at National and Regional Conferences. For her research on women’s equality and empowerment, Liz assessed gender differences in secondary education.



Maresa Kelly (Class of 2020): Maresa Kelly participating in the Women’s Empowerment ‘Brazil’ Project at the end of her first year at Marian. She has been a member of the San Damiano (a faith based community program), the president of the Catholic Relief Services chapter on campus, the Vice President of Mission and Identity of the Student Government, a member of the speech team, and Vice President of the Campus Ministry Council. As a San Damiano Scholar, Maresa is committed to being a leader of faith. Marian University’s San Damiano Scholars Program for Church Leadership educates and forms college students who have a love for their Church. It’s for students interested in becoming leaders in parishes, education, health care, business, law, and not-for-profits. For this next year, Maresa will also have the opportunity to live in the Dorothy Day House. She first became interested in this experience because she was very much interested in bridging the inequality gap between genders and hoped to do mission work abroad. This project and course provided a perfect opportunity to combine her two passions. For her research on women’s equality and empowerment, Maresa looked at the perception of women’s beauty in the United States and Brazil.



Marah Leonfils (Class of 2017): Marah completed her degree in communications with a minor in peace and justice studies just after participating the Marian Women’s Rights and Empowerment ‘Brazil’ Project. During her studies she lived in the Dorothy Day Peace and Justice House, a vibrant hub of student culture and civic discussion. The community is modeled after principles embraced by Dorothy Day and the Catholic Worker Movement including nonviolence, simple living, hospitality, community involvement, daily prayer. With the Dorothy Day House, Marah was an ambassador of peace and justice, hosting movies, dinners, and speakers on campus. As President of the Union for Black Identify Club, Marah organized “Chime In” – a safe space for students to discuss issues of racism. In addition to these activities, Marah was part of the Marian Speech team and worked in the Speaking Center as a senior, where she found joy helping peers discover or refine their oration capabilities no matter where they were in the speech creation process. For her research on women’s equality and empowerment, Marah examined black women in literature.



FACULTY META-DATA

HOLLY A. GASTINEAU-GRIMES, PH.D.



EDUCATION

Ph.D. Political Science, 2012, Purdue University
M.A. Political Science, 2002, University of South Carolina
B.A. Political Science / Anthropology, 2000, Purdue University

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **Assistant Professor**, Marian University, Indianapolis, IN, 2015-Present
Teach International Relations, Politics of Development, Public Policy and women
- **Visiting Assistant Professor**, Marian University, Indianapolis, IN, 2013-2015
- **Research Consultant, Laurel Weldon**, Short Term Projects 2013
- **Teaching and Research Assistant, Purdue University**, 2004-2012
- **Assistant Editor/Editorial Program Assistant**, Wiley Publishing, Indianapolis, IN, 2002-2004
- **Editorial Intern *Journal of Politics***, Government and International Studies, SC, 2000-2002

SELECTED PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

“Liberal Welfare States: Nurturing Migration Policy in Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia,” Western Political Science Association, April 2015.

“Care and Migration: Public Good or Bad?” Winchester International ‘Gender, History and Society’ Conference, September 2014.

“An International Solution for a Domestic Problem: The Demand for Migrant Care Workers,” American Political Science Association, August 2014.

SELECTED HONORS AND SERVICES

- OASIS, Post-Election Lecture, March 2017
- Politically (IN)gaged IUPUI and Marian Webinar, January 2017
- Indiana Campus Connect Election Engagement Grant, September-December 2016
- Chair and Discussant, Midwest Political Science Association Conference, April 2014
- Marian Bonaventure Research/Travel Grant Recipient, Fall 2014

- American Political Science Association Women and Politics, 2013 Best Dissertation Nomination

MARY ELLEN LENNON, PH.D.



EDUCATION

Ph.D. American Studies, 2003, Harvard University

M.A. English, 1997, Harvard University

B.A. History, 1994, State University of New York at Binghamton

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **Assistant Professor**, Marian University, Indianapolis, IN, 2008-present
Teach world history, U.S. history with specialization in women's history
- **Fulbright Lecturer**, University of Ouagadougou, 2007-2008
- **Assistant Professor**, Bard High School Early College, 2004-2008
- **Visiting Assistant Professor**, University of Iowa, 2003-2004
- **History and Literature Tutor**, Harvard University, 2001-2003

SELECTED PAPERS

“A Question of Relevancy: New York Museums and the Black Arts Movement, 1968-1971,” in *New Thoughts on the Black Arts Movement*, edited by Lisa Collins and Margo Crawford (New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2006)

SELECTED HONORS

- *Marian University Padua Teaching Award, 2010*
- *Marian University Faculty Development Grant, 2009, 2010*
- *J. William Fulbright Fellowship Award, Burkina Faso, 2007-2008*
- *Korean Society Korean Studies Fellowship for Study and Research, Summer 2007*
- *Fulbright-Hays Fellowship for Australian Seminar Abroad, Summer 2006*
- *American Forum for Global Education Scholarship, Spring 2006*
- *The National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute, “War and Morality,” U.S. Naval Academy, 2004*
- *National Humanities Center Summer Institute in Literary Studies Fellowship, Yale, 2003*
- *Bowdoin Prize for Most Outstanding Essay by a Harvard Graduate Student, 2000*
- *Harvard University Graduate Society Fellowship, 1999*
- *Derek Bok Center Certificate of Distinction in Teaching Award, 1998, 1999*
- *Charles Warren Center Summer Grant for Research, 1998, 1999*
- *History of American Civilization Summer Grant for Research, 1998*
- *Harvard University Graduate School Council Summer Grant for Research, 1998*
- *Jacob Javits National Fellowship, 1994-1999*