

ENGLISH DEPT NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 1

AUGUST 19, 2020



Contact us at: English@sandiego.edu



Web: www.sandiego.edu/cas/english



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University
of San Diego®
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
Department of English

Important Dates

- **Aug 17:** Classes begin
- **Aug 20:** Mass of the Holy Spirit
- **Aug 25:** Alcalá Bazaar I
- **Aug 26:** Last Day to Add/Drop Classes
- **Aug 26:** Women's Equality Day
- **Aug 27:** Alcalá Bazaar II
- **Sep 2:** Full Moon
- **Sep 3:** Cropper Series: Jericho Brown
- **Sep 7:** Labor Day Holiday (no classes)
- **Sep 12:** Saturday Classes held (make-up for Monday, Labor Day)
- **Sep 13:** National Grandparents Day
- **Sep 19:** Rosh Hashana
- **Sep 22:** Fall Equinox (First Day of Autumn)
- **Sep 22:** California Native American Day



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English Dept Announcements

Department of English Statement of Solidarity

The English Department stands in solidarity with Black Lives Matter and the non-violent protestors who have fearlessly used their bodies and voices to demand justice for George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery. We mourn for those who have suffered and lost loved ones as a result of police brutality. We are outraged by the mounting state-sanctioned violence against black people and their communities; this crime of anti-blackness, as Cornel West reminds us, is a manifestation of the ideological "boot crushing the neck of American democracy." We salute all those who have taken to the streets or served as allies in this fight. We are inspired by the collective outcry against unchecked forms of institutionalized racism that continue to disproportionately effect the lives of black, brown, and indigenous communities in the U.S.

It is precisely in times like these that we witness the unique capacity of literature to remind us of the innate dignity of all human life. Moving forward, the English Department reaffirms its commitment to the enduring work of anti-racism. We recognize that our teaching,

research, and service must lean into the task of making our own institution accountable to its expressed mission to create a diverse and inclusive community guided by compassion and ethical conduct. As teachers and researchers, we take seriously our relationship to knowledge production and creation and remain steadfast in our dedication to educate and learn about advocacy, allyship, and social injustice in our classes.

For list of resources for funding, please visit: <http://smallaxe.net/sxlive/small-axe-stands-black-lives-matter-protestors?fbclid=IwAR0Uzsv1byWyw-FwCur78WK2INhIZHwDVVQ7BthaZg-ZiuC-u6VvgLTs56A>

Or visit:

Black Lives Matter:

https://secure.actblue.com/donate/ms_blm_homepage_2019

Reclaim the Block:

<https://secure.everyaction.com/zae4prEeKESHBy0MKXTIcQ2>

Black Visions Collective:

<https://secure.everyaction.com/4omQDAR0oUiUagTu0EG-Ig2>





English Dept Announcements

Word from our New English Department Chair

As of July 1, 2020, the English Department has a new Chair, Dr. Atreyee Phukan, Associate Professor, English.



Dear English majors, colleagues, and friends,

As I welcome you all to a new Fall semester and academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sr. Mary Hotz for serving as Interim Chair of English these past two years. I am deeply grateful for her mentorship and introduc-

tion into the machinery and cultural ethos of our incredibly rich department, and know that the grace and wisdom of her leadership will long outlast the temporariness typically associated with the meaning of “interim.” Please also join me in welcoming back from sabbatical Drs. Koonyong Kim, Marcelle Maese, and Ivan Ortiz—so great to have you back! Congratulations, as well, to Drs. Malachi Black and Amanda Moulder on receiving tenure this past June!

I spent the majority of the summer confined to the perimeter of my home indulging in stress baking, gardening, sketching, and prolonged yoga asanas, all while feeling hope-

lessly marooned from the world. Reading, as it always has, offered me great solace. Many years ago, I had bought Edward Said’s memoir, *Out of Place* (1999), when he passed away in 2003 as a way to hold on to an intellectual giant whose ideas had become indispensable to my own and whom I most admired for the kindness he showed to graduate students (like me) who flocked to his public lectures in NJ and NYC. This ambitious memoir, written during Said’s convalescence

in New York, France, and Egypt, draws from his childhood years in the Arab world and education in the U.S. against the political backdrop of World War II, the loss of Palestine and emergence of the Palestinian movement, the Lebanese Civil War, and the Oslo Peace Process. I had not read *Out of Place* until this summer; no doubt I felt pressingly drawn to a memoir whose writer had had a peripatetic upbringing similar to my own (I also grew up in the Arab world and was educated in U.S. institutions) and whose title seemed to capture the

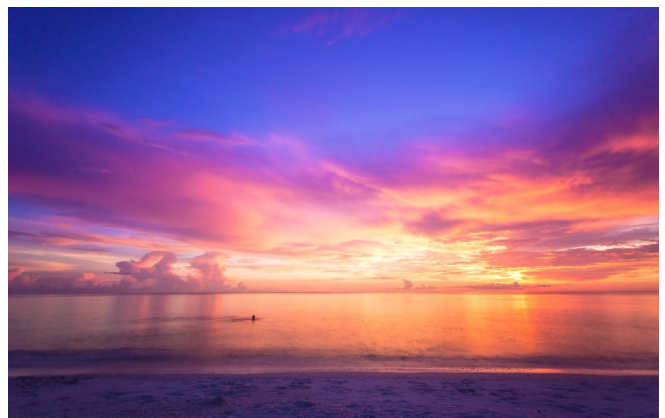
out of sync character of 2020. I had hoped to gather strength from Said’s illuminations on loss, exile, and displacement so as to grapple with my own sense of helplessness at the pace of cataclysmic global events. Unexpectedly, *Out of Place* turned out to be a sustained ode to language as a form of belonging, and reading it reminded me why I have always turned to the study and reading of literature as exercises in cultivating hope, finding beauty, and learning with humor. Though all of us have a different language through which we translate, absorb, and recall our unequal and disparate experiences, Said suggests that language is in the end the one unifying and powerful “place” from which the significance of our own humanity is shaped in direct connection with that of strangers and others. Language is the record that guarantees no (one’s) experience is too small or insignificant so as to be silenced, lost, or forgotten. Literature, by extension, is the record that illuminates how different voices and worlds can co-exist in the search for place and promise in a shared planet. In these extraordinary times, we are indeed fortunate to belong to a community that takes seriously the task of listening to and for humanity’s multitude in these ways: Reading widely, reading voraciously, we find place and promise.

I send my best wishes to everyone for a truly enriching semester of loving what we do in English. Though we will not be together just yet in the physical sense, please know that the English Department and the College of Arts and Sciences continues to care for all aspects of your personal and professional needs and are doing so merely in a different, and not insubstantial, medium. For questions and assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at phukana@sandiego.edu or visit during my zoom office hours (Monday 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.; Wednesday 2 – 4 p.m.; Thursday 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.; and by appointment).

Atreyee Phukan
Chair, English
Director, Interdisciplinary Humanities Program

**“I HAVE BEEN
UNABLE TO LIVE AN
UNCOMMITTED OR
SUSPENDED LIFE.
I HAVE NOT
HESITATED TO
DECLARE MY
AFFILIATION WITH
AN EXTREMELY
UNPOPULAR CAUSE.”**

—EDWARD SAID





English Dept Announcements

Cropper Series for 2020-2021

The Lindsay J. Cropper Center for Creative Writing at the University of San Diego is pleased to announce its lineup of readers for the Cropper Memorial Writers Series for the 2020/2021 academic year.

In a recent Statement of Solidarity written after the murder of George Floyd and in the wake of protests against police brutality, the Department of English noted that, "It is precisely in times like these that we witness the unique capacity of literature to remind us of the innate dignity of all human life." Since its inception in 2004, the Cropper Center has prioritized bringing a diversity of voices to campus, to both enliven our campus community's encounter with the written word, and, by extension, to help cultivate a collective understanding of the broad array of human experiences.

Guided by these values, and in light of the English Department's recent reaffirmation of its "commitment to the enduring work of anti-racism," the Cropper Center is proud to announce that the 2020/2021 Lindsay J. Cropper Memorial Writers Series will be a celebration of Black creative work exclusively. This fall, we will welcome the 2020 Pulitzer Prize winner for poetry, Jericho Brown, the essayist and memoirist Kiese Laymon, and the fiction writer Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah. In the Spring, we will host a reading with our very own faculty member, poet Alexis Jackson.

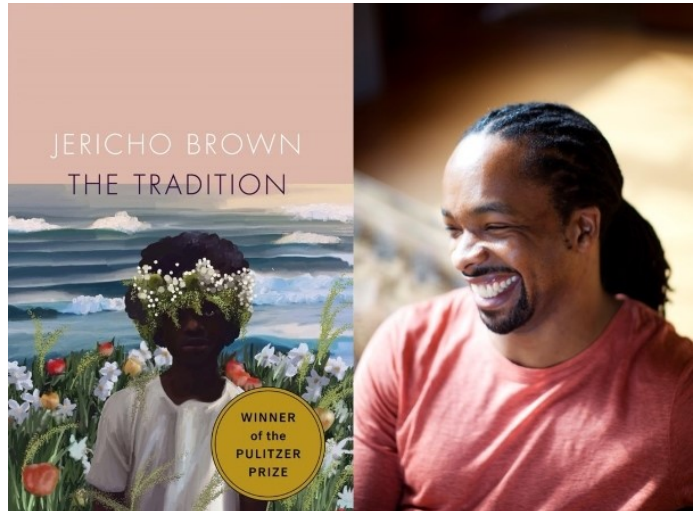
Full details of the fall events and speakers are below. If you have any questions, please contact Professor Brad Melekian, director of the Cropper Center, at melekian@sandiego.edu.

Please note that all fall readings and craft talks will take place on Zoom.

Fall Readings and Craft Talks

Thursday, September 3, 12:30 p.m.: Craft Talk and Reading with Poet Jericho Brown

Jericho Brown is author of *The Tradition* (Copper Canyon 2019), for which he won the Pulitzer Prize. He is the recipient of fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the Radcliffe Institute for



Advanced Study at Harvard, and the National Endowment for the Arts, and he is the winner of the Whiting Award. Brown's first book, *Please* (New Issues 2008), won the American Book Award. His second book, *The New Testament* (Copper Canyon 2014), won the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award. His third collection, *The Tradition* won the Paterson Poetry Prize and was a finalist for the National Book Award and the National Book Critics Circle Award. His poems have appeared in *The Bennington Review*, *Buzzfeed*, *Fence*, *jubilat*, *The New Republic*, *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *The Paris Review*, *TIME magazine*, and several volumes of *The Best American Poetry*. He is the director of the Creative Writing Program and a professor at Emory University.

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**"NO SOUND
BEATING ENDS
WHERE IT BEGAN.
NONE OF
THE BEATEN
END UP HOW
WE BEGAN."**

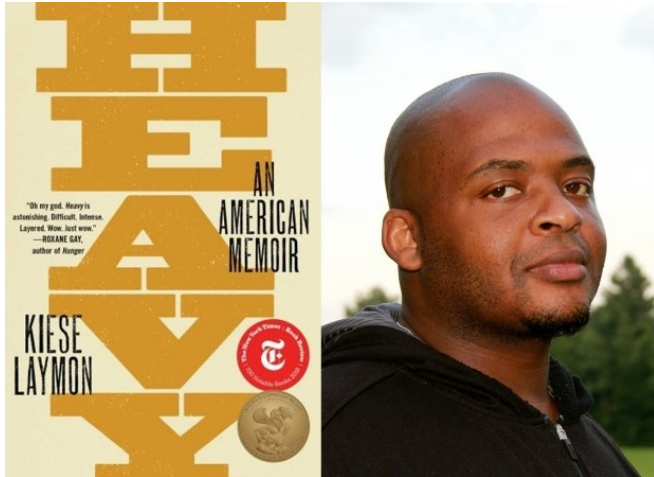
**—JERICHO BROWN,
*THE TRADITION***





English Dept Announcements

Cropper Series for 2020-2021, continued



Thursday, October 1, 12:30 p.m., Craft Talk and Reading with Kiese Laymon

Kiese Laymon is a Black southern writer from Jackson, Mississippi. In his observant, often hilarious work, Laymon does battle with the personal and the political: race and family, body and shame, poverty and place. His savage humor and clear-eyed perceptiveness have earned him comparisons to Ta-Nehisi Coates, Alice Walker, and Mark Twain. He is the author of the award-winning memoir *Heavy*, the groundbreaking essay collection *How to Slowly Kill Yourself and Others in America*, and the genre-defying novel *Long Division*. Laymon's powerful bestselling memoir, *Heavy: An American Memoir*, won the 2019 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Nonfiction, and the 2018 Christopher Isherwood Prize for Autobiographical Prose, and was named one of the 50 Best Memoirs of the Past 50 Years by *The New York Times*. It is a nominee for the Hurston/Wright Legacy Award in Nonfiction. *Heavy* was named a best book of 2018 by the *New York Times*, *Publishers Weekly*, *NPR*, *Broad-*

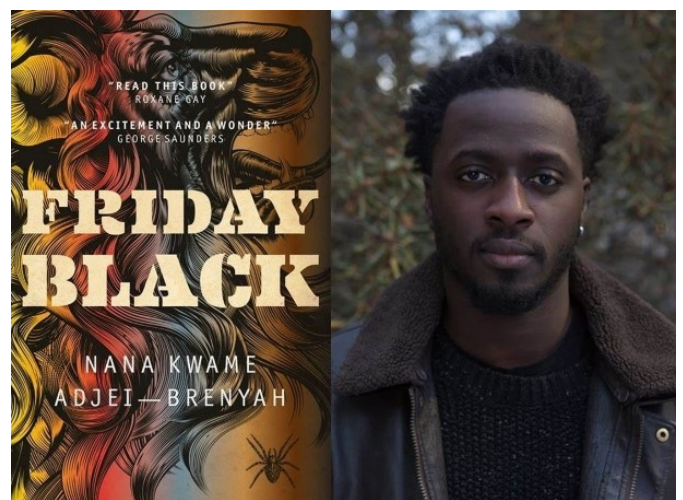
"I LEARNED YOU HAVEN'T READ ANYTHING IF YOU'VE ONLY READ SOMETHING ONCE OR TWICE. READING THINGS MORE THAN TWICE WAS THE READER VERSION OF REVISION."

— KIESE LAYMON

ly, *Buzzfeed*, *The Washington Post*, *Entertainment Weekly*, was named one of the 50 best memoirs since 1969 by *The New York Times*, and was a finalist for the 2018 Kirkus Prize for Nonfiction. The audiobook, read by the author, was named the Audible 2018 Audiobook of the Year.

Thursday, October 29, 12:30 p.m., Craft Talk and Reading with Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah

Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah is the *New York Times*-bestselling author of *Friday Black*. Originally from Spring Valley, New York, he graduated from SUNY Albany and went on to receive his MFA from Syracuse University. His work has appeared or is forthcoming from numerous publications, including the *New York Times Book Review*, *Esquire*, *Literary Hub*, the *Paris Review*, *Guernica*, and *Longreads*. He was selected by Colson Whitehead as one of the National Book Foundation's "5 Under 35" honorees, is the winner of the PEN/Jean Stein Book Award, and a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle's John Leonard Award for Best First Book and the Aspen Words Literary Prize.



We look forward to seeing you online for these virtual events! More info: www.sandiego.edu/cropper.



English Dept Announcements

Save the Date! English Career Event: Create Your Future in Content Creation & Production

Save the date for English's fall career event, to be held on Tuesday, October 20, 2020, 12:30-1:30pm. "Create Your Future in Content Creation & Production" will feature panelists, one of which is Lauren Cody Hoffman, 2013 (English, with

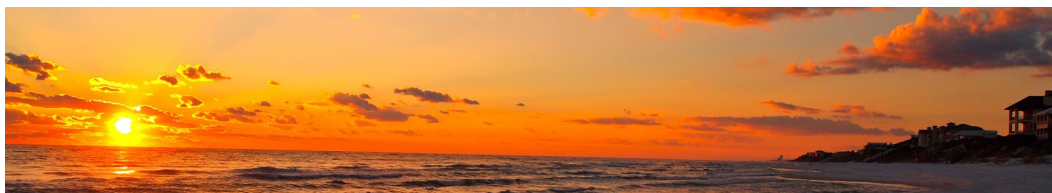
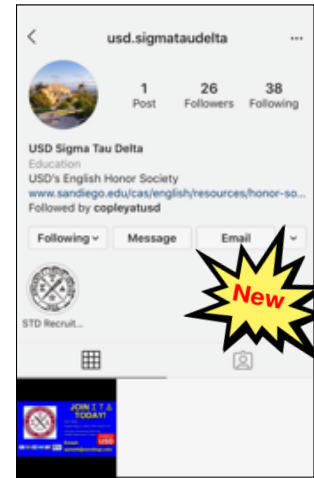
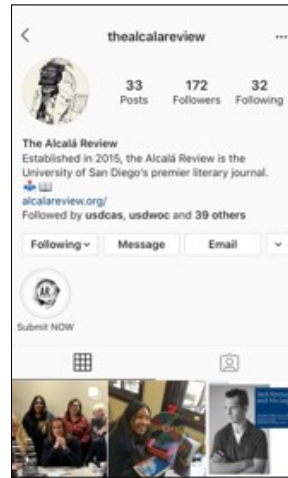
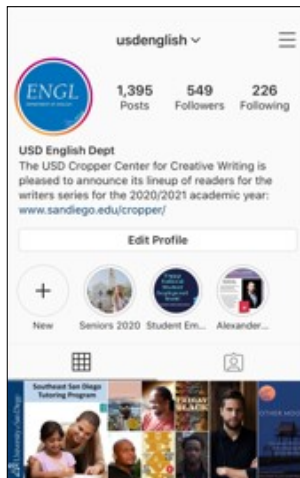
Creative Writing emphasis). Look for full details to be announced soon! For more information, please contact Dr Timothy Randell at trandell@sandiego.edu.



English and Related Instagram Accounts

Are you following these Instagram accounts to explore all things English-related? Check them out at:

- www.Instagram.com/USDWritingCenter
- www.Instagram.com/TheAlcalaReview
- www.Instagram.com/USD.SigmaTauDelta



Sign Up for the Humanities Center's Newsletter!

If you would like to receive the **Humanities Center newsletter**, please contact the general email, humanitiescenter@sandiego.edu to register.



About the Humanities Center

Watch this video to see what the Humanities Center is all about! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rdAYqYfWKVI&list=PL_aZr_SrZqZfCVKyMTNiqhYXGJn-5mE-&index=2&t=0s

(or on HC page, scroll to bottom right: <https://www.sandiego.edu/cas/humanities-center/>.) Sneak peek: the *Alcalá Review* is featured!

**"PEOPLE SAY
'SELL YOUR SOUL'
LIKE IT'S EASY.
BUT YOUR SOUL
IS YOURS AND
IT'S NOT FOR SALE.
EVEN IF YOU TRY,
IT'LL STILL BE THERE,
WAITING FOR YOU
TO REMEMBER IT."
— NANA KWAME
ADJEI-BRENYAH**



Student News

Welcome English Majors & Minors!

The English Department welcomes the following new English majors & minors:

- **Lucia Brotherton**, English and History double-major
- **Eden Van Saun**, English major, with History and Spanish minors

Welcome to the Department of English!



**"PREJUDICE IS
A BURDEN
THAT CONFUSES
THE PAST,
THREATENS
THE FUTURE
AND RENDERS
THE PRESENT
INACCESSIBLE."**

—MAYA ANGELOU



Earn Units Tutoring Kids Remotely

If you currently have less than 18 units in your schedule, you can earn more units by registering to tutor local elementary and middle school kids remotely in **USD's Southeast San Diego Tutoring Program** (ENGL 292/492), sponsored by the English Department. By tutoring for only 3, 6, or 9 hours a week—for only 10 weeks over the semester—you can earn 1, 2, or 3 academic units. You decide the number of hours and the times during the week that fit your schedule.

You will feel great making a difference in the lives of children who need your help. To participate, you need only tutor regularly and write a one-page guided reflection on your experiences each week. In return, you gain:

- Academic units to speed you toward graduation
- Up to 3 COMPASS points (if you declare a major in the College of Arts and Sciences)
- Valuable knowledge and experience working with children
- Real-life work experience (put it on your resume!) to further your career

Duties at the schools include tutoring children in basic reading, writing, and math (one-on-one or in small groups) and assist-

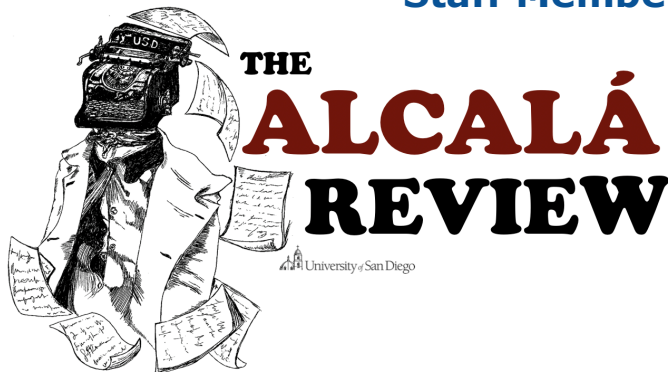
ing teachers with daily classroom activities. All undergraduates, regardless of major, are welcome to register (tell a friend!).

Tutoring begins the week of Monday, September 14, so please contact Tim Randell (trandell@sandiego.edu) right away (Tuesday, September 8 at the latest!) with the times/days of your availability Monday thru Friday, 8am-5pm. You may also learn more about the program at our website: <https://www.sandiego.edu/cas/english/affiliated-programs/southeast-san-diego-tutoring-program.php>.





Student News



Staff Members Wanted for *The Alcalá Review*

Established in 2015, *The Alcalá Review* is the University of San Diego's official literary journal, an annual print publication that features student works of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, photography, and visual art. Staff members review submissions, design the journal's layout, organize literary events, compose original content, and help foster the literary and artistic community on campus. All majors are welcome. Positions available include general staff members as well as Poetry Editor, Fiction Editor, Nonfiction Editor, and Chief Copyeditor. To join, or for more information, please visit alcalareview.org or email alcalareview@gmail.com by September 4.



Sigma Tau Delta, English Honor Society

English majors and minors!

If you've completed 2 courses above English 121 and have a major GPA of 3.4 or above and a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above, apply for Sigma Tau Delta! Sigma Tau Delta is an international English Honors Society. Every semester we hold a variety of fun English-themed events, including trivia nights, movie screenings, and even an annual formal ball. Come join our community of literature lovers today and further your connections with our English department! For more information, email ejewett@sandiego.edu or look at our Instagram, [@usd.sigmataudelta](https://www.instagram.com/usd.sigmataudelta).

**SIGMA TAU
DELTA**

INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH
HONOR SOCIETY



**"YOU ARE
GROWING INTO
CONSCIOUSNESS,
AND MY WISH FOR
YOU IS THAT YOU
FEEL NO NEED
TO CONSTRICT
YOURSELF TO MAKE
OTHER PEOPLE
COMFORTABLE."**

**—TA-NEHISI
COATES**

Watch our new "commercial" on our Instagram saved stories!



Student News

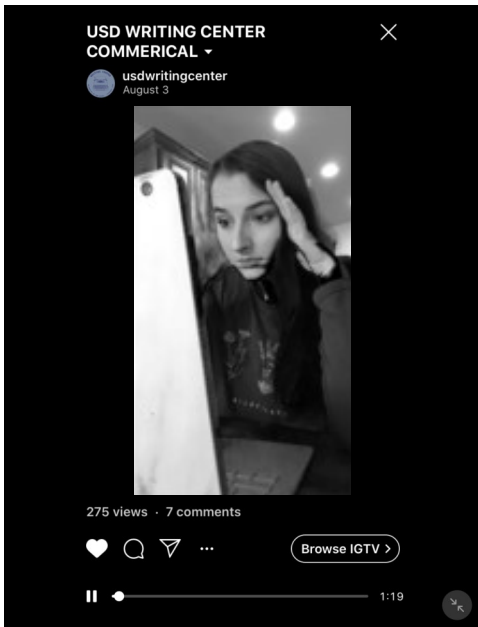
Update from the Writing Center

The Writing Center will be operating online again for the Fall 2020 semester. The services and goals of the center remain the same as they would in-person, but reformatted to a virtual setting to offer assistance to student writers in their writing process remotely. The official opening date for the center is Wednesday, September 2, 2020.

How do you schedule an appointment and access online appointments with the Writing Center? Check out this video with instructions: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aHWMYf4DfY&feature=youtu.be>.

More on the Writing Center services at: <https://www.sandiego.edu/cas/writing/writing-center/>.

Watch the Writing Center's new promotional ad, via Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/p/CDc0PWipRKS/>.



Writing Center promotional on Instagram!
<https://www.instagram.com/p/CDc0PWipRKS/>



USD's new Learning Commons building on Aug 13, 2020. Landscaping being planted alongside the sidewalk as the building is completed. The new home of the Writing Center will be on the second floor!



**"EVERYTHING
 I'VE EVER DONE,
 IN THE
 WRITING WORLD,
 HAS BEEN
 TO EXPAND
 ARTICULATION,
 RATHER THAN
 TO CLOSE IT."**

—TONI MORRISON



Student News

Humanities Center's Black Lives Matter Course: Interdisciplinary Perspectives (HUMN 294)

The Humanities Center hosts one unit, pass/fail seminar classes. These are interdisciplinary humanities courses - sometimes team taught - offered to undergraduate students regardless of major and without any prerequisites, and the classes can "pop up" at any time.

Featured this fall is "HUMN 294 Black Lives Matter: Interdisciplinary Perspectives" of which English's very own **Dr. Carlton Floyd** is one of the instructors. The Humanities Center is thrilled to offer this introductory course focusing on the Black Lives Matter movement. The course joins the nationwide effort to deconstruct anti-Blackness, dismantle white supremacy, center Black resistance, and build solidarity movements that support the wellness and self-determination of Black communities. This co-taught course will offer insights into the complex histories of Black people in the US while centering Black wisdom, joy, and antiracist practice. Taught by more than 20 faculty from across the university, the course will give you breadth of information about BLM from a variety of disciplines across the campus and engage you in critical, transformative reflection. This is only the second course of its kind and will be taught primarily by faculty

of color.

This is a 1-unit course that meets online for just 6 weeks. Each week, students will attend a 2-hour class and an additional 1-hour discussion section. This course will be offered only on a Pass/No Credit basis. Course dates: Six Tuesdays (Sept 8, 15, 22, 29 and Oct 6, 13). Meeting time: 12:15-2:15 pm.

To find out more about the Humanities Center's seminar and pop-up courses, go to: <https://www.sandiego.edu/cas/humanities-center/interdisciplinary-curriculum/seminars-courses.php>. Students can register for the seminars online and contact the professors with any questions.

**"IT IS CERTAIN,
IN ANY CASE,
THAT IGNORANCE,
ALLIED
WITH POWER,
IS THE MOST
FEROCIOUS ENEMY
JUSTICE
CAN HAVE."**

—JAMES BALDWIN

Black Lives Matter
Interdisciplinary Perspectives
Fall 2020 Humanities Center Seminar (HUMN 294)

BLACK
LIVES
MATTER

Heading the call of the #BlackLivesMatter movement and global network, this course joins the nationwide effort to deconstruct anti-Blackness, dismantle white supremacy, center Black resistance and build solidarity movements that support the wellness and self-determination of Black communities. This collaborative, team-taught course will contextualize the complex histories of Black people in the US and center Black wisdom, joy and antiracist praxis. Students will be exposed to a range of interdisciplinary analyses of the movement for Black lives and engaged in critical, transformative reflection.

This course is offered through USD's Humanities Center and is taught by a diverse team of faculty from across the university with expertise covering history, philosophy, ethnic studies, theology and religious studies, engineering, communication studies, biology, architecture, art history, sociology, political science, environmental sciences and more.

Fall 2020 Seminar: HUMN 294

Dates: Tuesdays at 12:15-2:15 p.m. PDT
September 8 - October 13
Additional discussion session dates/times: TBD

Contact: May Fu, PhD
Department of Ethnic Studies
mfu@sandiego.edu

Jillian Tullis, PhD
Department of Communication Studies
jtullis@sandiego.edu

Details: One (1) unit of credit
Pass/no credit only
Classes will be held online only

BLM Course Schedule

Themes and Speakers

BLACK
LIVES
MATTER

Week 1 – September 8: Unpacking Race
Corey Barnes, PhD | Philosophy – On the Nature of Racism
David Miller, PhD | History – Black History Matters: A Short History of Race in the U.S.
T.J. Tallie, PhD | History – Black Queer Lives Matter
Odesma Dalrymple, PhD | Industrial and Systems Engineering – Performing Blackness in an Anti-Black World
Tezeru Teshome, PhD | Theatre – Performing Blackness in an Anti-Black World

Week 2 – September 15: The Problem of a Colorblind Society
Gail Baker, PhD | Vice President and Provost – Colorblind: Rethinking Race
Indrani Ganguly-Fitzgerald, PhD | Biology – Genetics and Race: Falsehoods in the Name of Science
Aarti Ivanic, PhD | Marketing – The Un(Intended) Consequences of Colorblind Racism
Alex Mejia, PhD | Integrated Engineering – Colorblind Racism in Engineering Education

Week 3 – September 22: Living in a Police State
Greg Prieto, PhD | Sociology – Defund the Police, Refund Poor Communities
Shannon Stuyves, PhD | Art, Architecture + Art History – The Racialization of Property and its Destruction
Carlton Floyd, PhD | English – Justice: Neither Blind Nor Just
Jesse Mills, PhD | Ethnic Studies – Thin Lines of Blue, Black, and Other Colors

Week 4 – September 29: Black Lives Matter
Jamall Galloway, PhD | Theology and Religious Studies – A Theological Dialogue About the Bombing in Birmingham
Josef Diaz, PhD | Ethnic Studies – On Statues and the Movements for Black Lives
Channon Miller, PhD | History – A Herstory of Anti-Black State Violence in America
Angela Nurse, PhD | Sociology – What Do Clothes Have to Do with Black Lives Matter?

Week 5 – October 6: Black Wellness and Health
Rev. Christopher Carter, PhD | Theology and Religious Studies – When Black Lives are “Essential” but Don’t Matter
Martha Fuller, PhD | School of Nursing – Black Health Matters
Drew Talley, PhD | Environmental and Ocean Sciences – Environmental Racism
Kristopher Hall, PhD | Counseling & Marital and Family Therapy – Sick and Tired of Being Sick and Tired: The Mental Health Costs of Blackness

Week 6 – October 13: Local Resistance and Global Solidarity
Cory Gooding, PhD | Political Science and International Relations – Black Immigrants and the Movement for Black Lives
Farrah Karapetian, MFA | Art, Architecture + Art History – Centering the Subject: Photography in and as Unrest
Angel Hinzo, PhD | Ethnic Studies – BLM in Decolonial Futures
Antonietta Mercado, PhD | Communication Studies – The Streets Speak: Black Lives Matter as a Global Social Justice Movement



Alumni News

Luree Scott to UC Riverside

Luree Scott, English/Theatre double major (2020), will begin the UC Riverside low-residency fiction MFA in Creative Writing Program in Fall 2020. Congratulations, Luree!



Nick Cohn in San Diego Union-Tribune

Nicholas Cohn, English major (2020) wrote a piece that was published in the San Diego Union-Tribune: "San Diego's Class of 2020: 'I was crying for all the memories that I would not make!.'" He wrote about the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on his senior year and reflects on his time as a student. Read the article at: <https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/opinion/story/2020-06-12/university-of-san-diego-coronavirus-pandemic-2020-commentary> Congratulations, Nick!

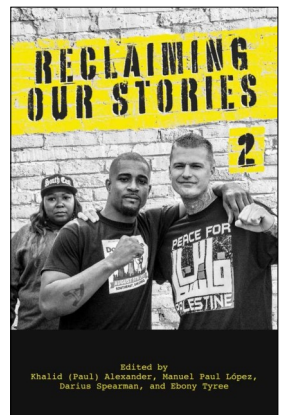
Ebony Tyree's New Book in Union-Tribune



Ebony Tyree, English major alumna (& former USD professor) has new book, *Reclaiming Our Stories 2*, one that she edited with several others. Writers from Encanto, City Heights, & Barrio Logan recount struggles & personal triumphs.

"It's all interconnected, the human experience, and it's written from the perspective of communities that are often marginalized and forgotten," Tyree said. Read the San Diego U-T article at: <https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/communities/san-diego/story/2020-07-01/personal-essays-document-life-in-san-diego-marginalized-communities>

Congratulations, Ebony!!



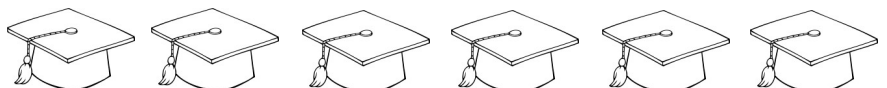
Writers of the new book "Reclaiming Our Stories 2," a project of the nonprofit Pillars of the Community. (Courtesy of Pillars of the Community)

"IT'S ALL INTERCONNECTED, THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE, AND IT'S WRITTEN FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF COMMUNITIES THAT ARE OFTEN MARGINALIZED AND FORGOTTEN,"

—EBONY TYREE



English alumni: Send us your updates & photos! Please email to English@saniego.edu. We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you—





Faculty News

Dr. Caywood to Serve as Interim Director, Humanities Center



Cindy Caywood will serve as interim director of the Humanities Center in Fall, 2020, while the permanent director, Brian Clack of Philosophy, is on sabbatical. (Fred Robinson will replace her in the Spring semester.) While most of

the programming will be held virtually, the semester is rich with many exciting events that include a special gallery exhibit on Chicano Park to mark its 50th anniversary; a pop-up course on Anti-Racism as Spiritual Praxis, taught by Christopher Carter and Seth Schoen (both from THRS); and a Faculty Series that Dr. Caywood has organized entitled: "All Change Here: Pandemics and Transformation." A calendar of the semester's events will soon be available.

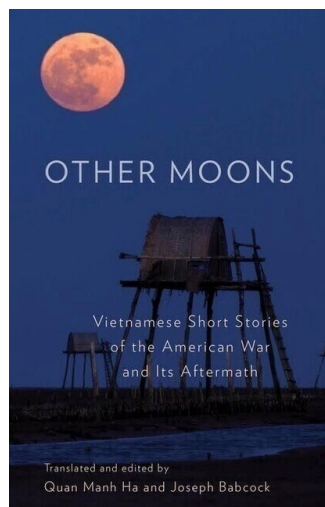
Joseph Babcock: New Book Project

Joseph Babcock, faculty, has a book project, *Other Moons*, published this month with Columbia University Press. It's an anthology of short fiction about the war in Vietnam by Vietnamese writers; he served as translator and editor of the anthology with his friend Quan Manh Ha, who teaches at the University of Montana.

This is the first time that any of these stories have appeared in English; it's an opportunity for English-speaking readers to experience how Vietnamese writers (many of them veterans of the war themselves) continue to think about and remember the conflict.

<http://cup.columbia.edu/book/other-moons/9780231196093>

Congratulations,
Joe!



**"STOLEN BODIES
WORKING
STOLEN LAND.
IT WAS
AN ENGINE THAT
DID NOT STOP,
ITS HUNGRY BOILER
FED WITH BLOOD."**

**—COLSON
WHITEHEAD,
THE UNDERGROUND
RAILROAD**

HUMANITIES CENTER

All Change Here
Pandemics and Transformation

Wednesdays at 4 p.m.
August 26, September 2, 9, 16, 23
Virtual event via Zoom

August 26: *Transforming a Country*

- Del Dickson, PhD, JD | Political Science and International Relations
- Alan Gin, PhD | Economics

September 2: *Transforming Teaching*

- Jeffrey Malecki, DMA | Music and Director Bands and Music Education
- Joe Provost, PhD | Chemistry

September 9: *Transforming a City: London's Great Plague of 1665*

- Cynthia Caywood, PhD | English
- Terry Bird, PhD | Biology

September 16: *Transforming History*

- Colin Fisher, PhD | History
- Derrick Cartwright, PhD | Art, Architecture + Art History and Director of University Galleries

September 23: *Transforming Faith*

- Mike Kelly, PhD | Philosophy
- Jamall Calloway, PhD | Theology and Religious Studies

Feared enough to figure among the four dreaded horsemen of the Apocalypse, pandemics bring with them both destruction and rebirth. This multi-faceted and interdisciplinary series of panel discussions explores how pandemics forever change the worlds of those who survive their metamorphic energy.

Tickets at: <http://usd-humanities-center.eventbrite.com>

For more information: humanitiescenter@sandiego.edu | www.sandiego.edu/humanities-center





Faculty News

Dr. Floyd Worked with Keck Fellowship Recipient



This summer, Professors **Carlton Floyd (English)** and Thomas Reifer (Sociology) had a wonderful opportunity to work with the incredibly talented McNair Scholar, Keck Fellowship Recipient, and Interdisciplinary Humanities major, Alyssa Mugavero. Mugavero is pursuing an inquiry into the role of empathy in education and media. During the summer, Mugavero, supported by McNair, critically engaged over eight texts from a variety of disciplinary (English, Sociology, Education) and cultural frames focused on education, and composed an annotated bibliography that will help shape her future work with Dr. Atreyee Phukan (English and Interdisciplinary Humanities) on media. We are appreciative and energized by the work of this emerging scholar, and fully expect her project, "If we could change ourselves," we can change the world: Empathy and the Possibilities for Transformative Education," to substantively and productively influence the educational arena.

**"THERE
ARE YEARS
THAT ASK
QUESTIONS
AND YEARS
THAT ANSWER."**

**—ZORA NEALE
HURSTON**

CAS Beginning of Year Reception



English faculty, you are invited to the College of Arts and Sciences' **Beginning of the Year Reception**, to be held this Friday, August 21, 2020, from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. via Zoom (link on English Calendar, or email Carla).

English Dept. Faculty Meeting

The English Department faculty meeting on Wednesday, September 16, 2020, 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. is a department-wide meeting, for all adjunct and tenured/tenure-track full-time faculty. Mark your calendars! Zoom link will be emailed out (or email Carla).





Other Announcements

USD Professor's Son Pravin Wilkins: Playwright, Poet, & Writer



Pravin Wilkins (USD Political Science Professor Vidya Nadkarni's son) is a playwright, poet, fiction writer & educator from San Diego, California. He is a recent graduate of Carnegie Mellon's School of Drama, where he received his MFA in Dramatic Writing, and his first full-length play was recently selected as a 2020

finalist in the Eugene O'Neill National Playwrights competition. From performing spoken word poetry at #NoDAPL fundraisers to putting up an award-winning play (#takebackgraffitihall) in support of UC San Diego protests against the closure of the University Art Gallery to his more current work surrounding NFL player protests against police brutality and systemic racism, his writing consistently engages with race & class struggle (as well as the many intersections between). He plans to spend much of his time as a City

Books Writer-in-Residence (<https://citybookspgh.com/residency/>) returning to a novel he began as an undergraduate honors thesis project, titled "Burning in the Melting Pot." He is thrilled to be a part of Pittsburgh's literary & creative communities. All profits from the sale of Prav's Picks (<https://citybookspgh.com/pravspicks/>) will be donated to the Bukit Bail Fund of Pittsburgh (<https://www.bukitbailfund.org/home>), except where noted. *



Audition Notice for Fall 2020 USD Undergrad Theatre Production

The Fall 2020 undergraduate Theatre production will be an original play, *Calling My Children Home* (written by Mike Sears and directed by Lisa Berger) rehearsed thru Zoom and then filmed for presentation online. Actors will also participate in the playmaking process by attending production meetings with the Creative Team.

The Play: this podcast (<https://www.thisamericanlife.org/597/one-last-thing-before-i-go/act-one-0>) serves as the inspiration for this play. Please listen to it before you audition.

Five Actors are needed for this production: 2 men and 2 women, with one role that is genderless.

What to Submit: please record a short monologue on your phone that includes the following:

- Please state your name, your major (if you have one), and year in school.
- The monologue should

be 1 1/2 minutes long. (NO LONGER!)

- Please find an environment that supports the story you're telling. For example: If your story takes place in a backyard, film your story in a backyard.
- The story should have a clear beginning, middle, and end.
- Please tell a story either real or imagined with the theme: My Unfinished Story. Tell a story from the first person perspective that speaks to a relationship that is unresolved.

How to Submit: please upload and submit all audition videos to lberger@sandiego.edu. In the subject line you must include the following: *Calling My Children Home* Video Submission. YOU MUST SUBMIT YOUR AUDITION NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 14th.

Tentative Rehearsal Schedule: Sept 24, 25, 29 (Rehearsal times TBD); Oct 1, 2, 6, 8, 9, 13, 15, 16, 20, 22, 23, 27, 29, 30 (Rehearsal times TBD). Additional Sunday evening rehearsals in October possibly added when needed. Additional production meetings with the creative team TBD. This play is a series of monologues. We will begin with table work with all actors in attendance and then move into one-on-one staggered rehearsals.

Interested in Stage Managing? We are also looking for a Stage Manager for this production! If you are interested, please reach out to both Lisa Berger (lberger@sandiego.edu) and Nate Parde (nparde@sandiego.edu) for more information.

**"AND THIS,
OUR LIFE,
EXEMPT FROM PUBLIC
HAUNT, FINDS
TONGUES IN TREES,
BOOKS IN THE
RUNNING BROOKS,
SERMONS IN STONES,
AND GOOD IN
EVERYTHING."**

**—WILLIAM
SHAKESPEARE**