

Tempo

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The Art of Psychology

Interest in philosophical studies began thousands of years ago with ancient civilizations. Aristotle, Plato, Socrates and Seneca were Greek and Roman philosophers noted for their views on, “living with a healthy mind in a healthy body.”

The masters of modern scientific behavioral study formulated the art of psychology in the late 19th and early 20th century. Ivan Pavlov experimented with classical conditioning; B.F. Skinner explored behaviorism; and Sigmund Freud delved into psychoanalysis.

These analysts laid the groundwork for probing behavior and attitude, and scrutinized their inquiries with analysis and hypothesis. These studies paved the path for the psychology we study today.

The Psychology Department

Dr. Carole Beckford, chair of the psychology department, and a member of the American Psychology Association, has been teaching at Touro College for thirty years. She was appointed by the late Touro College president Bernard Lander.

Dr. Beckford was a Hunter College (City of the University of New York) sophomore when she took her first psychology class. She was instantly mesmerized by the teacher and the content of the class. She continued her studies in psychology pursuing a doctorate in “social personality psychology,” which deals with how a group affects behavior.

Dr. Beckford began her academic career at NYSCAS as an adjunct instructor and was promoted to chairperson in 2003. Just a few years prior in 2000, psychology was developed into a major degree.

“The psychology department has evolved over the last 20 years. Even before it became a department, that offered a major, we had



**Dr. Carole Beckford,
Chairwoman of the
Psychology Department**

highly motivated students. I have been fortunate to work with bright students and I am so proud of all they have accomplished,” stated Dr. Beckford.

Under Dr. Beckford’s leadership, the department that primarily offered support courses for other majors evolved into one of the largest departments in the college offering a major. Its mission is to provide a strong foundation for graduate study and professional success. Mentoring students is high on Dr. Beckford’s list of professional priorities.

Psychology students who are enrolled in the honors sequence are required to prepare a faculty supervised senior honors project usually within the last two semesters. The project requires research which prepares the student for graduate school. All psychology majors have the option of completing an internship. Students in the project will serve as interns and shadow an elementary school

psychologist and attend workshops. Dr. Beckford arranges and vets all the connections with outside agencies making sure it’s a good match for the student. “Students who graduated with a degree in psychology have pursued their Master’s in Social Work (MSW), School Psychology, Mental Health Counseling, and Industrial Psychology at graduate schools such as Touro College, Columbia, Brooklyn College, Yeshiva University, and New York University,” stated Beckford.

Touro College Chapter of Psi Chi, The International Honor Society in Psychology

Dr. Beckford is especially proud of the Touro Chapter of Psi Chi, the International Honor Society in Psychology, and the Psychology Club.

In 2012, a subchapter of the Psi Chi was established by Dr. Beckford. The society was

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NEW YORK SCHOOL OF CAREER & APPLIED STUDIES

A DIVISION OF TOURO COLLEGE

Where Knowledge and Values Meet

THE DEAN'S MESSAGE

Dean Eva Spinelli-Sexter



Last March, I participated with the Women's Leadership Council celebrating Women's History Month. I sat on a panel moderated by Dean Donne Kampel, with Vice Presidents Nadja Graff and Marian Stoltz-Loike and Dean Sabra Brock. We discussed our role models growing up, our goals for the future and how we would maneuver through the world to achieve those goals. We never know what greatness anyone will achieve, but I feel a special kindred spirit to those students who strive harder, invest more effort and sacrifice time, to earn their place in our society. Hard work and determination always pay off.

As spring turns to summer and graduation is upon us, I will look proudly into a sea of smiling faces, always wondering where your future will take you and I know that you will carry a large part of NYSCAS with you wherever you go.

With Warm Wishes,

E. Spinelli

Communication and Speech Professor Gena Bardwell Named Interim Director of General Education

Communication and Speech Assistant Professor Gena Bardwell has been appointed the Interim Director of NYSCAS General Education. For the past 18 years, Bardwell has been teaching on the undergraduate and graduate level at Touro College.

"We will explore how we are presenting general education in all courses. I will be relying on the feedback from my colleagues. We will move forward to make sure all the students are learning. General Education broadly enhances a student's academic experience beyond one's major. In today's market students prepare rigorously to graduate and they must also prepare for demanding careers, which often require transferable skills. Through a well executed General Education program colleges have the opportunity to offer employers skilled graduates, who are conversant in a variety of career competences," stated Bardwell.



The Art of Psychology

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vetted by teachers and deemed appropriate for the student body.

At the induction ceremony members receive a certificate and pin indicating the eliteness of the society. Membership in the honors society also serves as an advantage for graduate school admission and professional acknowledgement. The society was founded in 1929 for the purposes of encouraging, stimulating and maintaining excellence in scholarship and advancing the science of psychology.

The 2016 nominees were inducted on April 12th in a ceremony attended by members of the Touro community. Professors Carole Beckford, Yannie Ten Broeke and Sharon Kahn explained the principles of the society, while welcoming the new members: Guendalina Almicci ('16), Nathan Baron ('16), Denise Bennett ('16), Kendra Britton ('16), Arletty Fernandez ('16), Yehuda Morrison ('16), Mary Parris ('17), Leeohr Yacobi ('16), Ronda Ramos ('16), Bryce Breedyk ('17), and Lenin Ortega ('00). (Dean Ortega was our first "Alumnus Inductee" in Touro College history!)

The Psychology Club

Yehuda Morrison and Penina Adelstein (pictured above) are co-presidents of the Psychology Club. Together they organize the monthly meeting and recruit speakers who are informed and can offer some insight into the major. Past speakers include Touro College professor and novelist Lester Eckman, who penned novels recalling the Holocaust, and an NYU film student and director. The psychology meetings are well attended with up to 50 or more students attentively listening to the speakers and discussing philosophical studies. If you are interested in joining the club speak to a psychology professor at NYSCAS or simply attend a meeting. "We welcome everyone, even if you are not a psychology major," stated the co-presidents.

Co-president Yehuda Morrison is graduating this June and has applied to graduate schools in the New York City area. The son of a rabbi, Morrison was born in South Africa, and moved to the United States. For ten years, he worked in Emergency Medical Services (EMS) until an injury sustained in a car accident forced him to undergo spinal surgery. "It gave me a new perspective on life," stated Morrison. "I became very inter-



The Psychology Club - seated in front are co-presidents Yehuda Morrison and Penina Adelstein and (standing) Psychology Club advisor Professor Morris Bronstein.

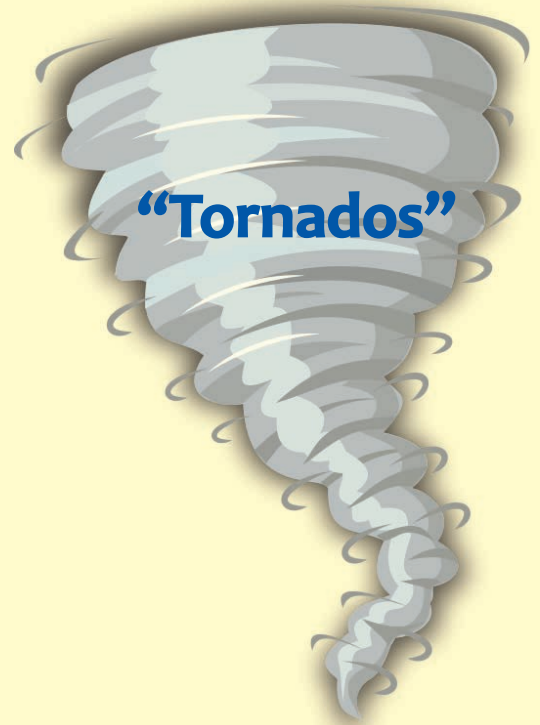
ested in neuropsychology, which deals with the assessment of traumatic brain injury. That is the field I would like to become involved in. The professors at NYSCAS were amazing and I thoroughly enjoyed learning about psychology and see myself making a career out of my major," Morrison stated. "In business, and in life, you need to un-

derstand a person's psyche. Psychology, is truly a fascinating field to work in," stated Dr. Beckford.



Inductees were instructed to sign the Psi Chi Chapter book before receiving their pin and welcomed into the Psi Chi Honor Society. (Bottom photo) Psychology Professors Yannie Ten Broeke, Carole Beckford and Sharon Kahn.

NYSCAS Basketball Team



Bronx born Michael Taylor attended NYSCAS years ago, but left because he wanted to play basketball. At the time, Touro did not have a basketball team. After a few years of trying to find an academic fit, Taylor found himself back at NYSCAS when he heard they had a budding basketball team. Taylor always found Touro affordable, personable and characteristically friendly. The small classes and personal attention from the faculty and staff left a lasting impression on him.

Taylor attended basketball tryouts for the position of guard, but was chosen as small forward. He averages about 13 points a game. Basketball was a childhood sport for Taylor. He could be found at neighborhood courts from sunup to sundown. He enjoyed the creativity of the game 'tailoring' it to his own perfection.

"We learn a lot from our diverse teammates. Their sense of humor is different and you can learn new cultural ways. I actually hung out with one of the players, Mendel Ivry, who is Jewish, and he took me out to eat in a Jewish delicatessen. The food was delicious. I also spent time with Pablo Rivera, an older student, and a veteran who served in Iraq. He taught us how he transitioned from fighting in Iraq to shooting hoops on a court in Baruch College, playing for the Tornados. I began to appreciate the diversity of



Pablo Rivera

people's lives. When we come together to play, we play for a common goal, to win. Everyone makes sacrifices for the team and so did I. As a team we play as one," stated Taylor.

Taylor may apply to the Touro College Graduate School of Business for his Master's in Business Administration, which will make him eligible to continue playing for another year. Then Taylor says, "he would like to get into coaching the team." When he graduates he hopes to enter the marketing field, specifically music/or sports. "Right now I have a friend who is making hip-hop music and I hope to help him market his products," Taylor stated.



Tornado's Mike Taylor

He enjoys the academic atmosphere at the college and how the faculty are approachable and friendly. "They are like a family in many ways," Taylor stated.

"I like the direction the team is going and hopefully one day we will be a top competitor in any

division," stated Taylor. As an independent team the Tornados hope to apply for division status.

"Our coach, Irv Bader, is very knowledgeable and understanding. He is open to suggestions from the players. He treats everyone with respect. We know he cares about the players because he consistently inquires about our well being. All the way around it has been a positive experience being a NYSCAS student and playing for the team," Taylor happily stated.

Mendel Ivry attends college at the Ave J campus in Brooklyn. He decided to register for Touro after listening to his relatives rave about the school. Ivry aspires to be a dentist and is taking health science classes. He is carrying a high GPA and is also a member of the basketball team. Ivry runs offense placing players in position. "The teammates are great," stated Ivry. "There are many students from different backgrounds and we make it work. We look out for each other and have each other's back. That's what the meaning of a teammate is. We push each other to do better on the court and in class. It is first class support," stated Ivry.

"Next year we will be entering a different league which is more competitive and more teams will be playing. We have won most of the games we played in the 2015-2016 season which makes us all very excited about the future," Ivry stated.

For more information about the Touro Tornados or to join the team contact Coach Irv Bader at 718-261-2267.

Step Up and Step Back: The Touro College Improvisation Group



The Touro College Improvisation Group of 2016: (l-r) Prof. Wicke, Mary Parris, Luba Lysenko, Ivette Gonzalez, Khory Richardson, Latonya Lidge, Matt Lederman, Deba Young, David Fletcher, Robert Alston, Prof. Jason Carvell, and Instructor Laurabeth Greenwald.

Actor and professor Jason Carvell (Art Department) holds his hands up to an imaginary vision in the sky. He speaks slowly and softly as he describes what he feels almost having us believe he is really touching an object. He bows his head and steps back. One-by-one the students of the Touro Improvisation Group repeat his performance, each with their own imagery. It is quite inventive and stimulating to watch the students tap into their own creative mode as they extend their hands forward producing shapes. The Improvisation Group, which will become a class offered by NYCAS in September 2016 (GCAN521), was the brain child of Professors Hal Wicke and Jason Carvell. They both saw a need for a group that could enhance education and bring in a tool to accentuate the socialization skills of the students. “Communication between students leads to a diverse thought basis and student body,” stated Wicke.

The Improvisation Group offers academics with a twist of comedic



delight, serious thought, and an almost zen like approach in bringing intuition to the surface through the exploration of the senses.

Wicke explained the joys and rigors

of improvisation and the rewards of freeing up the mind. “Together, the company works like a well-oiled machine almost anticipating each other’s moves and synchronizing together. We are thinking actors and

very conscious of our techniques. The learning matrix for this course rediscovers the concept of play to develop an understanding of how it enhances the learning process. Using Bloom’s Taxonomy and the Socratic Seminar, the theatre games and improvisation will illuminate, expand, and physicalize vocabulary and foundations which stimulate the senses and creativity.”

For most of the students this is their first chance at acting. “It really is a freeing experience,” explained group member David Fletcher. “Everyone sees a difference in me and I owe everything to the group. They have brought out a creative side of my personality.” Fletcher also participated in the annual “Springing into Poetry Festival” at NYCAS.

For more information about the the Richard Green Communication Club and/or the Improvisation Group, contact Professor Hal Wicke at henry.wicke@touro.edu.

Women's Leadership Council

To celebrate Women's Leadership in the month of March, The Women's Leadership Council decided to hold a panel discussion on the role of women in academics. The Interim Director of General Education, Gena Bardwell, opened up the ceremonies by introducing the panelists.

On the panel sat Touro College's most prestigious female leaders: Executive Ad-

ministrative Dean and Vice President of the New York School of Career and Applied Studies, Eva Spinelli-Sexter; Vice President of the Division of Graduate Studies, Nadja Graff; Dean of the Graduate School of Business, Sabra Brock; Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, Donne Kampel; Dean of the Lander College for Women and Vice President of Online Education, Marian Stoltz-Loike.

Dean Donne Kampel was the moderator and kept the questions flowing by bringing up such topics as the glass ceiling for women in America, raising a family and having a corporate position, and the values that are instilled in each and every one of us.



(l-r) Vice President of the Division of Graduate Studies, Nadja Graff; Dean of the Graduate School of Business, Sabra Brock; Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, Donne Kampel; Executive Administrative Dean and Vice President of the New York School of Career and Applied Studies, Eva Spinelli-Sexter; Dean of the Lander College for Women and Vice President of Online Education, Marian Stoltz-Loike.

The panel came from diverse backgrounds bringing experience and advice to the seminar. One strong theme that was widely discussed was the ability for women to have a career and a family. Each panel member had their own story to tell about how they balanced a career and family.

The panel also discussed a woman's place in the workforce – which had advanced – but not far enough; there is still work to be done and bridges to be crossed. Women

should help women succeed, was a message conveyed by the panel. They all agreed that women walk a fine line in the workforce having their voices heard.

The Women's Council was founded five years ago and continues to evolve as the role of women increase their visibility in governing and business.

Renaissance Professor Ronald Brown Wanders the Town

The bustling streets of Manhattan hold archeological secrets and architectural treasures. Built on decades of evolving cultures and communities the buildings, houses of worship and store fronts hold the past close inside their foundations, brick exterior and walls. Many of the building structures have been covered up by false fronts or signage that hide their valuable history. Others are standing in full view, crumbling and deteriorating, destroying the history of those communities who once inhabited the neighborhood.

Looking at New York City's history, at the turn of the twentieth century, the diversity of cultures was amazing. The Jewish people walked through the gates of Ellis Island, in the 1900s, and settled on the Lower East Side; African Americans turned Harlem into a Renaissance of Jazz and Poetry in the 1920s; the Chinese created their own Chinatown on Mott Street; and later in the century the Dominicans inhabited Washington Heights, and the list goes on.

Many boroughs and neighborhoods are shaped by their inhabitants. Some buildings, with their inscriptions and hieroglyphics engraved on their cornerstones and gargoyles jutting from their structure – remain a mystery. Yet historians, who study the past, may have the key to unlock such secrets.

Dr. Ronald Brown, Touro College History Professor and NYC Historical Society tour guide has researched the history of New York City for the past 25 years. A world traveler, Brown has lived abroad in many location but calls New York his home. He teaches at Dov Revel, a vibrant



Dr. Ronald Brown (center) with students on a field trip to the Statue of Liberty.

campus tucked away in Forest Hills, Queens. Brown's classes on NYC history are very popular. As a hands-on teacher Brown is known to take his classes on meandering field trips exploring the streets of the boroughs, especially Manhattan.

Brown not only teaches history but lives it as well. He is a licensed New York City tour guide, docent at the New York Historical Society, a featured speaker at the New York Council for the Humanities, author of three books on the city and a frequent presenter at historical societies, libraries, churches, synagogues, and clubs – all on the history of New York City.

"Dr. Brown knows how to make the streets come alive," stated one of his students. "I never liked history but Dr. Brown makes it exciting," the student remarked. Another of his Forest Hills students said "Now when I take my children to Manhattan I can tell them about the history of the buildings and streets."

Brown conducts many different tours but likes "Fifth Avenue during the Gilded Age," "Harlem during the African-American Renaissance," and "Jewish Lower East Side" tours, the best.

"All the trips are very popular but my Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island tours are quite informative," stated Brown.

Last April, Brown combined his classes, "The History of New York City," "Immigration Experience," "American Labor History," and "Introduction to American History," for a field trip to the Statue of Liberty.

The students left from the Forest Hills Subway Station at 9 AM. They went through security and boarded the ferry for the short ride to the statue. After a class

photograph the students walked around the statue admiring both the glorious views of Governor's Island, Brooklyn, Manhattan, and New Jersey.

The ongoing restoration of the immigration center offered new surprises. The galleries on the third floor were filled with the items immigrants brought with them: shoeshine boxes, sewing machines, Hebrew prayer books and Catholic rosary beads.

By four o'clock the students boarded the ferry in Battery Park, where Dr. Brown gave his last bit of historical information on New York City during the War of 1812.

