

New Faculty

Viewbook
2026-2027



MONTCLAIR
STATE UNIVERSITY

Alexandra Howell Abolo

College of the Arts

Art and Design, Fashion Studies
Associate Professor

- Ali comes from Drexel University where she served as an Associate Professor in Fashion Design. Prior to her role at Drexel, Ali was an Associate Professor in Fashion Merchandising and Design at Meredith College.
- Ali began her career as lecturer at Columbia College Chicago. She earned her BS in Human and Consumer Science and her MS in Apparel, Textiles, and Merchandising from Ohio University.
- Ali earned her doctorate in Design and the Human Environment from Oregon State University.



Alexander Davis

College of the Arts

Cali School of Music, Woodwinds

Assistant Teaching Professor

- Alexander joined Montclair in 2021 as an adjunct professor. A New York City-based bassoonist praised for playing “with poise and élan” (Cleveland Classical), Alex is the founder of Sugar Hill Salon, a Harlem-based chamber series spotlighting Black and Brown wind artistry, and a performer who holds bassoon positions in the International Contemporary Ensemble and Quintet of the Americas.
- Alex is a Doctoral Candidate of Music at Stony Brook University and holds a certificate in Orchestral Performance from Manhattan School of Music, an M.M. in Performance from Stony Brook University, and a B.A. from SUNY Fredonia.



Kyle Ritenauer

College of the Arts

Cali School of Music, Orchestral Studies
Assistant Professor

- Kyle has served as Interim Director of Orchestral Studies for the past four years. He conducted more than 30 performances over the past season for the New York City Ballet, serves on the artistic staff of the Manhattan School of Music, conducts at The Juilliard School, is Music Director of the Capital Philharmonic of New Jersey, and serves as Conducting Associate at the Pierre Monteux School.
- As a guest conductor, Kyle has appeared with the National Symphony Orchestra, New Jersey Symphony, Opera de Montréal, and numerous orchestras and opera companies throughout the United States and Canada.
- Kyle holds Master of Music and Bachelor of Music degrees from the Manhattan School of Music.



Ryan Kasprzak

College of the Arts

Theatre and Dance, Musical Theater

Assistant Professor

- Ryan was the founding Head of Acting for Musical Theatre at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts. He spent this past summer performing in *Something Rotten* at the Muny, directing and choreographing for Paper Mill Playhouse's New Voices concert, and working with choreographer Andy Blankenbuehler on a workshop of *The Princess Bride*.
- Career highlights include work as Dance Supervisor for *Hamilton*, a Chita Rivera Award nomination for Best Male Dancer in the original Broadway cast of *Bandstand*, and dance captain for the touring companies of *Billy Elliot* and *Fosse*.
- Ryan holds an MFA in Choreography from Wilson College and a BFA in Acting from Marymount Manhattan College.



Hatim Benhsain

College of Communication and Media

Animation, Film, and Television

Assistant Professor

- Hatim—who grew up in Rabat, Morocco—is a game creator, comic author, musician, programmer, composer, pixel artist, 2D animator, writer, theater maker, and community organizer.
- He has taught at NYU, Parsons, and St. John's.
- He is part of two Brooklyn-based collectives: *boshi's place* and *Games for my Computer*. He is currently working on coalescent || tidal rapture, a computer game about swimming and sex.
- His work has been recognized/shown by art game institutions including IGF, A MAZE, BAFTA, and EGW.



Paris Hall, Jr.

College of the Arts

Animation, Film and Television

Assistant Teaching Professor

- Paris is an Educator and CG Generalist with 19 years of professional experience working in commercials, film, television and experiential media.
- He has worked with the Animation & VFX academic community as an adjunct faculty member since 2022.
- You may have seen his work on TV, Steam and Netflix. His most recent project saw him leading the CG team behind Delta's Campaign for the 2026 Winter Olympics.



Kathryn Lancioni

College of Communication and Media

Strategic Communication

Social Media and Public Relations

Assistant Professor

- Kathryn is an educator, PR/Marketing practitioner and podcast host with nearly two decades of university teaching experience and three decades of industry experience.
- Her teaching spans topics of public relations, strategic communication, crisis communication, research, business communication and leadership.
- She holds a B.S. in Communication from Cornell University and an M.S. in Journalism from Columbia University.
- She is the creator and host of "The Gut Punch" podcast, the author of three communication textbooks and a frequent contributor to **Forbes**.



Kristy Aristy

College for Community Health

Social Work and Child Advocacy

Assistant Teaching Professor, Social Work

- PhD, Yeshiva University
- Specializations: Social welfare, behavioral health, community empowerment, substance use with gambling speciality



Roya Koshani

College for Community Health

Nutrition and Food Studies and Chemistry

Assistant Professor
Food Science/Chemistry

- PhD, University of Tehran
- Research Interests: Fundamental chemistry and microbiology, developing sustainable soft materials and processes using green chemistry



Victoria Osborne

College for Community Health

Social Work and Child Advocacy

Professor and MSW Director

- PhD, Washington University in St. Louis
- Research Interests: Behavioral health assessment and patient education in primary care settings, substance use disorder
- Specialization: Experiential learning in behavioral health training



Katharine Sperandio

College for Community Health

Counseling

Associate Teaching Professor, Addictions Counseling

- PhD, College of William and Mary
- Specialization: Addictions and recovery counseling, ethical issues, family systems counseling



Julia Coyne

College for Education and Engaged Learning
Educational Foundations

Associate Teaching Professor,
School Psychology

- Ph.D., Loyola University Chicago
- Specialization in school psychology, psychoeducational services, clinical practicum and internships, pediatric cognitive rehabilitation and traumatic brain injury



Nina Mauceri

College for Education and Engaged Learning

Teaching and Learning

Assistant Teaching Professor,
Alternate Route Teacher Education

- Ph.D., New York University
- Specialization: Teacher education, adult learning, equity-focused practice, and career changers entering the teaching profession.



Shaohua Fang

**College of Humanities and Social
Sciences**

School of Behavioral & Cognitive Sciences

Linguistics & Psychology

Assistant Professor

- PhD University of Pittsburgh
- Shaohua's research focuses on language processing and second language acquisition, with particular interests in psycholinguistics, bilingualism, and research methodology.



Zachary Maher

**College of Humanities and Social
Sciences**

School of Behavioral & Cognitive Sciences

Linguistics & Psychology

Assistant Professor

- PhD University of Maryland, College Park
- Zach is an interdisciplinary language scientist whose work focuses on morphosyntactic (grammatical) variation, including differences between African American Language (AAL) and Dominant ("Standard") American English.



Paul Agbaje

College of Science and Mathematics

Assistant Professor, School of Computing

Internet of all Things/Computer Engineering

- Ph.D. in Computer Science from University of Texas at Arlington
- Research focuses on machine learning, privacy, and systems security
- Completed two research internships at Los Alamos National Laboratory



Jesse Parron

College of Science and Mathematics

Lecturer, Teaching Faculty, School of Computing

- Master's in Computer Science from Montclair
- Graduate research focused on Robotics and conducting human-robot collaborative experiments
- Provides mentorship to students conducting research in the CRoSS Lab



Marlen Acosta Alamo

College of Science and Mathematics

Assistant Teaching Professor, Biology

Biological Statistics

- Ph.D. in Biology from The Graduate Center, City College of New York (CUNY)
- Graduate research focused on the consequences of changes in climate and habitat for community dissimilarity
- Strives to be an inclusive educator with a focus on active learning strategies



Raymond Haggerty

College of Science and Mathematics

Assistant Teaching Professor, Biology

Computational Biology & Microscopy

- Ph.D. in Bioinformatics and Computational Biology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC)
- Trained as a Postdoctoral Teaching Scholar at North Carolina State University (NCSU), designing and teaching cutting-edge biotechnology courses
- Employs universal design principles and active learning strategies to engage students and support their success



Diyunugalage Neranjaka Jayarathne

College of Science and Mathematics

Assistant Teaching Professor, Mathematics

- Ph.D. in from Texas Tech University
- Research focuses on geometric mechanics, optimal control, control systems theory, and computational statecraft
- Passionate about integrating emerging technologies into math education



Dolores Termini

College of Science and Mathematics

Assistant Teaching Professor, Physics and Astronomy

- Ph.D. in Materials Science & Engineering from NJIT
- Graduate research focused on terahertz computed tomography and time-domain spectroscopy to evaluate 3D-printed materials
- Dedicated to delivering hands-on, inquiry-based STEM content to students



Jeffrey Augugliaro

Feliciano School of Business

Management, Assistant Professor

AI and Management

Ph.D. in Management from Baruch College and an MSW in Social Policy from Columbia University.

15+ years of rich entrepreneurial experience, Dr. Augugliaro has established many successful companies spanning a diverse array of industries, including concert promotion, marketing, and gaming.

His research expertise lies in understanding the interplay between metatheory and research impact and how impact can be directed at creating the ideal organizational form capable of maximizing the social good



Robert Hutchinson

Feliciano School of Business

Accounting and Finance: Real Estate

Associate Teaching Professor

Degrees: MS - Environmental Policy Studies, NJIT

MIP - Infrastructure Planning, NJIT

MBA - City University of New York, Zicklin School of Business

20+ years of interdisciplinary experience in planning, sustainability, real estate, infrastructure, mass transit, renewable energy, resiliency, disaster recovery, and higher education.



Tessie Krishna

Feliciano School of Business

Assistant Teaching Professor *Economics*

- Tessie earned her doctorate in Economics from Rutgers University in 2024, with a dissertation focused on juvenile justice reform and recidivism. She joins from San Diego State University, where she completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Center for Health Economics and Policy Studies, working on the impact of substance policies on youth risky behaviors and health.
- Her research primarily focuses on the economics of crime, risky behaviors, and health economics.



Jhoniel Santiago

School of Nursing

Assistant Teaching Professor

Nursing

Degrees: BSN, MSN (Nursing Education) - Montclair State University

Cardiothoracic ICU nurse at St. Joseph's University Medical Center with CCRN and PCCN certifications. Currently pursuing a Doctor of Nursing Education.



Maksym Lazirko

SBUS

Accounting and Finance

Assistant Professor, Accounting and Audit Analytics

- Max joins from Rutgers having earned his doctorate in 2025 with a dissertation titled “Cryptocurrency Chronicles”.
- He serves as AE of the *Journal of Forensic Accounting Research (JFAR)* , and published in journals such as the *British Accounting Review (BAR)*, #1 IF in Accounting, 2024 JCR).
- Interested in Design Science Research (DSR) for emerging technologies, ie, Quantum,VR, Blockchain, and AI. NJ native.



Zhijing Xu

School of Nursing

Assistant Professor

Aging

Degrees: PhD, MS, BS (Nursing) - Fudan University

- Research focuses on health management for older adults with cardiometabolic conditions and dementia care.
- Bridges biological, behavioral, and community health perspectives in aging.
- Postdoctoral associate at NYU Rory Meyers College of Nursing; Previously Assistant Professor at Shanghai Jiao Tong University.



Theresa Corbin

University Libraries

Student Success Librarian, M.L.I.S.

- Theresa Corbin is an award-winning librarian from Louisiana, where she taught a course in Library Science that saw a high student approval rating from her nearly 800 students.
- Theresa loves helping students find the tools and build the skills and confidence they need to thrive in their academic adventure and beyond.
- Before she found her home in academic libraries, she worked in publishing, journalism, graphic design, and public libraries.

