

English at George Mason University



think. learn. succeed.

Our Faculty

After graduating from college with a degree in forensic anthropology, **Courtney Brkic** spent a year in Bosnia helping to identify the bodies of those killed in the massacre of Srebrenica, one of the most brutal acts of genocide in Europe since World War II. In her acclaimed memoir *The Stone Fields*, Brkic weaves the story of this recovery of the identities of the dead with the recovery of her grandmother's own harrowing story in World War II Croatia. A gifted writer of fiction as well as non-fiction, Brkic is now working on a novel, a book of short stories, and the lyrics for an opera about the Bosnian war. ♡ **Carla Marcantonio** met celebrated director Pedro Almodóvar while studying film at New York University. She now assists the Spanish-speaking director with his interviews when he comes to the US. She translated the script of Almodóvar's movie *Broken*



COURTNEY BRKIC

Embraces into English and appeared on stage with the director and his leading lady, Penelope Cruz, during that movie's publicity tour. At Mason, she studies international film with a focus on film noir and melodrama. ♡ **Keith Clark**, who has long been committed to community service in Northern Virginia, mentors and tutors at-risk youth and provides meals on wheels for AIDS patients. The author of *Black Manhood in James Baldwin, Ernest J. Gaines and August Wilson*, Clark offers a range of teaching interests from African American literature to masculinity/gender studies. His current project is a book on the neglected African American writer Ann Petry. ♡



CARLA MARCANTONIO

Our Award-Winning Books

Alan Cheuse • *To Catch the Lightning*
GRUB STREET AWARD, 2008

Helon Habila • *Measuring Time*
VIRGINIA FICTION AWARD, 2008

Robert Matz • *The World of Shakespeare's Sonnets*
CHOICE OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC TEXT, 2008



KEITH CLARK

By the numbers...

- Number of students taught each year: about **12,000**
- Average number of students in an undergraduate course: **20**; in a graduate course: **12**
- Number of books published by faculty between 2005 and 2010: **35**
- Number of degrees, certificate programs, and minors housed by the department: **12**
- Satisfaction rating by undergrads: **97%**; by grad students: **94%**
- Number of alumni who have written the authorized sequels to *The Godfather*: **1**

Recent Courses

Crimes/Crises on TV	African Writers
Faulkner and Southern Fictions	Folklore of the Americas
Web Authoring and Design	Modern Drama
Shakespeare	New American Poetry
Graphic Novels	Second Language Acquisition

Undergraduate Program

English undergraduates can study the poetry of John Milton or the literature of the Middle East, and work with folklorists whose research extends from Mexico to Maine, or with experts in film from Hollywood to Bollywood. They can take cutting-edge courses in digital writing, writing workshops with internationally renowned poets and novelists, or learn how to teach English as a Second Language. And a lot more. The Mason English Department offers a major in English, and minors in English, Film and Media Studies, Linguistics, Writing, and Teaching English as a Second Language. Students can also prepare as middle and high school teachers of English through The Teaching Connection, a program offered in conjunction with Mason's College of Education and Human Development.

Graduate Programs

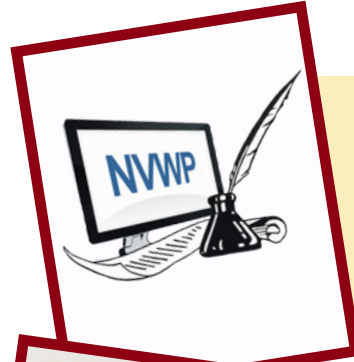
Mason's graduate degree and certificate programs in English address the needs and interests of a diverse cohort of students, including recent college graduates pursuing advanced studies in English as preparation for careers in writing, editing, or teaching; working professionals enhancing their credentials; and students planning to pursue doctoral studies or seeking to expand their knowledge of literature as an intrinsically rewarding pursuit. The department's programs emphasize knowledge across continents and disciplines in ways that help prepare students for the challenges of a complex, diverse, and global culture. These programs include an MA in Literature, Cultural Studies, Professional Writing and Rhetoric, or the Teaching of Writing and Literature; an MA or PhD in Linguistics; and an MFA in creative writing. Graduate certificates include Folklore Studies, Professional Writing and Rhetoric, and Teaching English as a Second Language.



Community Engagements...

Writing Project

Directed by English Department faculty and associated with the English Department, the Northern Virginia Writing Project seeks to improve writing and learning across Northern Virginia secondary schools. The Project is an affiliate of the National Writing Project.



Fall for the Book

George Mason University's annual festival of writing, Fall for the Book is organized by the English Department. Each September, the six-day festival brings more than 150 novelists, poets, historians, journalists, and more to campus. Past featured authors include Chinua Achebe, Mary Doty, Joseph Ellis, Khaled Hosseini, Walter Mosely, and Cornel West.



Folklore Archive

A project of the Folklore Program in the English Department, the Northern Virginia Folklife Archive houses over 1,200 papers, all gathered by students in the folklore classes at Mason, about folklore and folklife in Northern Virginia, the Mid-Atlantic region, and beyond.



Speech Accent Archive

A project of the Mason English Linguistics Program, the Speech Accent Archive is an online database containing audio samples of speakers of different languages reading the same passage in English. The archive is used worldwide by teachers of English as a Second Language, linguists, and even actors who need to learn an accent.



...with a global outreach

"The English department at Mason is incredibly diverse. Whatever you want to study, you'll find a professor here who knows the subject inside out."

—Carlos Rosales, '11

"Choosing English as my major opened doors to me around the world; I've recently been given the chance to teach English in Japan."

—Stefanie Juul, '10

Learn more at english.gmu.edu