



Spring 2024 Class Descriptions and Bios

Thursday, February 29, 2024 - 1:30 p.m.

Otterbein & the Arts: Opening Doors to the World turns its attention to UKRAINE as our gateway country in Spring 2024. The Frank Museum of Art and Galleries will focus on ways of healing and connecting in difficult times through the work of Zaryana Bezu (Frank Museum), Olekskii Koval (Fisher Gallery), and exhibition curators Natalya Pavlyuk and her daughter Yustyna (Stichweh Gallery).

A Ukrainian-born fiber and mixed media artist, Bezu spent her childhood wandering Kyiv's aged, curved streets. Following the collapse of the Soviet Union, she turned for solace to Ukrainian Folklore's legends, myths, and stories that were woven into the city's fabric and cultural life. Also born and raised in Ukraine, enamel artist Oleksii Koval's mixed media techniques that incorporate hot enamel and etchings speak to the joy of exploring and communicating with the beauty and harmony of the natural world. His work is a call to care for the diversity of all living beings. Natalya and Yustyna Pavlyuk bring healing art therapy to the children of Ukraine during wartime through their *Art that Saves Lives* initiative. The curators meet in hospitals, shelters, and orphanages with children from all corners of Ukraine to arrive in Lviv, using artwork to help the young ones express their dreams, fears, and thoughts about war, and their aspirations for what life would be like after victory.



Dr. Janice Glowski is the director of The Frank Museum of Art and Galleries at Otterbein, where she also teaches art history and visual culture and museum and curatorial studies. She co-founded *Otterbein and the Arts: Opening Doors to the World* (ODW), a contemporary arts program and publication series, which has received funding from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEH), the Ohio Arts Council (OAC), University sources, and private donors. She curates contemporary art exhibitions across disciplines and has contributed scholarship to several international exhibition catalogs. In addition to museum-related work, Glowski researches, presents, and publishes on South Asian and Himalayan art.

Thursday, March 7, 2024 – 1:30 p.m.

Human Trafficking Collaboration in Ohio - Panel Discussion Otterbein University This panel presentation will provide the healthcare, legal and advocacy response to human trafficking, including a survivor expert. Ohio has developed a multidisciplinary collaboration to address human trafficking. Multiple state and local organizations have developed working relationships to identify victims, address the victims' immediate and ongoing needs, and hold perpetrators accountable. This collaboration includes the legal and healthcare systems, advocacy, and numerous community partners and individuals, as well as survivors. Each entity contributes their talents within their sphere of influence with one goal: to stop human trafficking and care for those impacted.



Ruth Downing MSN RN CNP SANE-A Director of Project Development Forensic Nursing Network Inc. - Ruth.Downing@ForensicNursingNetwork.org. Ruth is a forensic nurse, family nurse practitioner, and Otterbein alumna. She is co-founder of Forensic Nursing Network Inc. She has provided education and consulting services for healthcare and legal professionals in Ohio, nationally, and for national leaders in Peru. Her focus is on improving the

community response to violence including sexual assault, domestic violence, strangulation and human trafficking. She is grateful for the trafficking survivors who have shared their lived experiences and advice on how to provide trauma-informed care for those that may have complex trauma. Ruth shares their advice with healthcare professionals. She serves on many county, state and national committees and councils including the Ohio Attorney General's Human Trafficking Commission, the Central Ohio Reach and Restore Coalition, the Delaware County Against Human Trafficking Coalition, Chair of the Academy of Forensic Nursing's Human Trafficking Special Interest Group, and board member of Save Our Adolescents from Prostitution.



Linda Majeska Powers - Legal Director of the Ohio Human Trafficking Initiative Section Number: 216-787-3614 Linda.Powers@OhioOAG.gov. Linda serves as the Legal Director for the Ohio Trafficking Initiative. In her role, Linda assists task forces, criminal investigators and prosecutors in the criminal prosecution of human trafficking cases. She provides specialized instruction and training for law enforcement and prosecutors centering on

best practices in the investigation and prosecution of human trafficking cases. She also conducts community outreach on the subject of human trafficking. Linda previously served as a senior assistant attorney general in the Consumer Protection Section, where she specialized in prosecuting cases of elder and disabled financial exploitation, public corruption and complex white-collar fraud cases as a member of the Economic Crimes Unit. Before joining the Ohio Attorney General's Office, she was a prosecutor with the City of Elyria. Linda earned a Juris Doctor from the Western Michigan-Cooley College of Law, while she served with the Michigan Attorney General's Office in the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan and

founded the Crime Victim Advocacy Office in the Eaton County Prosecutor's Office. Linda received a dual degree from Michigan State University in the majors of James Madison-Justice, Morality and Constitutional Democracy and a Criminal Justice degree.

Stephanie Rollins is a human trafficking survivor. She currently works as a case manager for the Salvation Army and is a fierce advocate for survivors. Stephanie is an ambassador with Ohio AG Human Trafficking Commission's Healthcare Subcommittee. She recently received her high school diploma and is now in pursuit of her CDCA. Working at Gracehaven fueled Stephanie's passion to be the advocate she needed when she was working with teenager survivors. She became a voice for the voiceless. She continues to shine her amazing light educating others on awareness and prevention of human trafficking and helping others get to the next level of recovery.

Thursday, March 14 and 21, 2024 -1:30 p.m.

A Primer on Hazardous Waste and Otterbein's Environmental Science Curriculum

This presentation will look at the history of waste management, specifically hazardous wastes, that led to the adoption of a series of regulations in the 1970s and 1980s aimed at controlling environmental damage and public health impacts. The regulations included the Clean Water Act, Superfund, RCRA and TSCA. It will also look at the fundamental science related to impacts to environmental media from hazardous materials. Examples such as Times Beach, Love Canal and the East Palestine train derailment will be explored. The presentation will also include an overview of the curriculum used as part of the Otterbein's Environmental Science Program.



Dr. Kevin Svitana, PG, CP is a professor in the Department of Biology and Earth Sciences at Otterbein. He received a bachelor of science degree from Juniata College in 1981, his master's in science degree from West Virginia University in 1983 and a doctorate from The Ohio State University in 2005. Dr. Svitana teaches earth science classes that include Introduction to Environmental Science, Physical Geology; Environmental Geology, Hydrology, Introduction to GIS, Environmental Standards and Regulations and Environmental Auditing. He also teaches general education classes Garbage and Other Wastes which focuses on waste management issues and practices and Environmental Sustainability: Brown to Green, a Senior Year Experience class that focuses on redeveloping Brownfields as an example of how careers evolve.

Prior to becoming full-time faculty at Otterbein in 2007, Dr. Svitana worked as an environmental consultant. He worked on projects that included, assessment and remediation of leaking underground storage tanks, expert witness services, hazardous-waste assessment and remediation, Brownfield redevelopment and state led voluntary cleanup actions, coal mining projects, water supply development projects, petroleum development projects and sustainable resource management. He continues to provide Senior Project management for

remediation of contaminated sites for several corporations. The majority of these sites are involved with divestitures and acquisitions. He also is a program manager for a federal Superfund site in Pennsylvania.

Dr. Svitana is a licensed professional geologist in Pennsylvania, Kentucky, North Carolina and South Carolina. He is also an Ohio EPA Voluntary Action Program Certified Professional. He is a member of the Geological Society of America, and the American Institute of Professional Geologists. He is active with the National Groundwater Association, where he is on several advisory committees and is actively developing conferences and continuing education opportunities related to PFAS (man-made chemicals used in industry and consumer products), uncommon groundwater contaminants and conceptual site models.

Thursday, March 28, 2024 – 1:30 p.m.

Frogs and Friends

Learn about the amphibious sounds of spring as well as the general biology of frogs and their tadpoles



Dr. Sarah Bouchard is a physiological ecologist who specializes in reptile and amphibian nutrition. She has a very active research lab, with undergraduates who have conducted projects both in Ohio and Panama. Her most recent projects focus on the effects of environmental stressors on tadpole development. Dr. Bouchard teaches Ecology and Vertebrate Biology, as well as Gender and Biology for the Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies Program. She is also an active part of Zoo and Conservation Science program.

Thursday, April 4, 2024 – 1:30 p.m.

Social Media and the Shared Public Sphere

Most of us can't escape social media. Even if we want to disconnect, then we risk missing the family reunion, the next choir rehearsal or what's going on in our neighborhoods. But just as social media has the power to connect, it also can trap us in information silos that limit our ability to make good decisions. How can we respond to the human need to connect within a system that profits from discord and anger?



Dr. Hillary Warren is a professor and student media adviser in the department of communication. Her research includes social networks and the public sphere, with specific attention to how families use media to reinforce family distinctiveness. Her dissertation research tracked communication through social networks and how networks reinforce use communication to reinforce group

boundaries. Warren is also adviser of the award-winning T&C student media group and president-elect of the College Media Association.

Thursday, April 11, 2024 – 1:30 p.m.

Nutrition Needs for Seniors

With every lifecycle stage, nutritional demands on our bodies vary. From infancy to our time in retirement, our bodies require more of some things and less of others. Older adults are no exception to this rule. This class reviews some nutrition basics like *quantity* and *quality* of food choices. We explore some specific nutrition recommendations for older adults to help keep us healthy and strong.



Nadiya Timperman is a registered dietitian in Columbus. She's been in private practice working in corporate wellness and individual settings for over 21 years. In every environment, Nadiya helps individuals work towards achieving their personal health and fitness goals. Nadiya believes living healthfully with our demanding schedules is *simple*, just not *easy*. Something as intuitive as eating has become complicated and confusing, leaving most people at a loss with how to best nourish their own bodies. With that in mind, her nutrition philosophy is based on working with each person to create their personal roadmap to sustained health.

In recent years Nadiya has shifted her focus towards teaching. Nadiya is a faculty member at Otterbein. She coordinates the nutrition minor and manages curriculum content, teaching nutrition and public health classes in both the Health and Sport Science and Nursing departments. She loves engaging with the next generation of health professionals and sharing her passion about nutrition playing a vital role in all aspects of healthcare.

She holds her bachelors of science in dietetics from the University of Dayton and two master's degrees from the University of Tennessee, one in Nutrition Science and the other in Public Health.

In her free time, Nadiya loves to hike, garden, cook and spend time with her family.

Thursday, April 18, 2024 – 1:30 p.m.

Peasants of the World Migrate! The United States and the 'New' Immigration

This presentation will examine the turn of the twentieth century immigration to the United States. Between the 1880s and 1924, approximately 25 million people came to the United States. This was the largest migration stream the U.S. had experienced up to this point in time. These immigrants and migrants came primarily from southern and eastern Europe and they

were dubbed the “new” immigrants to distinguish them from the early-to-mid-nineteenth century migration primarily from China, Ireland, Great Britain, Germany, and northern Europe. The session will explore how the Industrial Revolution spurred migration; the experience of the “new” immigrants and migrants in the United States; the creation of community and solidarity among these newcomers; the racist nativism that they faced; and the passage in 1921 and 1924 of federal legislation that effectively ended immigration from southern and eastern Europe. We will finish with how and why racist and xenophobic ideas that emerged during the first two decades of the twentieth century have returned in our current debate about immigration.



Dr. Anthony DeStefanis specializes in modern U.S. history with an emphasis on labor and the working class and immigration, race, and ethnicity. He earned his PhD in history at the College of William and Mary. At Otterbein, he teaches courses on U.S. labor and working-class history, immigration, race, and ethnicity, the African American civil rights movement, the history of sexuality, and the Cold War. He also offers a team-taught course on the history and literature of the Vietnam War and does a travel course to Vietnam and Cambodia.

DeStefanis grew up in Providence, Rhode Island in a working-class family where his grandparents and great-grandparents all immigrating to the United States from Italy. This family history helps to explain his interest in labor and working-class history and immigration. He graduated from Rhode Island College, moved to Virginia for graduate school, and his first teaching jobs were in Florida. He came to Columbus in 2008 when he was hired at Otterbein and has enjoyed exploring Ohio and the Midwest. In his free time, he likes to cook, run, read, practice yoga, go to live concerts, and work on his house in Old Town East, one of the oldest neighborhoods in Columbus.

Thursday, April 25, 2024 – 1:30 p.m., Church of the Messiah, 51 N. State St.

The Life I Love is Making Music with My Friends

A time of music appreciation. Johnny will share his experience of connecting people through the universal language of music. Come hear stories and songs, learn about the power of the human voice, and how finding your passion can be forever life-changing.



Johnny Steiner is a musician, a fitness enthusiast, and a self-proclaimed, positivist. He holds a BA in voice with a minor in business and marketing from Otterbein. He is the Director of Worship, Arts, and Music at Church of the Messiah UMC in Westerville. Johnny conducted the Saint Charles Preparatory School Chorus for eighteen years, and has conducted at North Community Lutheran Church and North Congregational UCC in Columbus.

For seven years, he was the music and artistic director for Vaud-Villities, the longest running show of its kind in the United States.

Johnny has sung on stage with Barry Manilow, comedian Bob Newhart, and Pulitzer-Prize winning composer Marvin Hamlisch.

He has decades of experience in the theater. His favorite roles include “Billy” in *Carousel*, and “Curly” in *Oklahoma!* In 2005, Johnny received rave reviews playing the title role of ‘Will’ in *The Will Rogers Follies*. He has been featured in several ad campaigns for the Kroger Company and for the Ohio State Fair, and done extensive voice-over work for McGraw-Hill Education.

Johnny performs year-round, doing his part to keep the Great American Songbook alive. He has eight albums of music to his credit, most recently releasing *Last Call* in 2019. When he’s not making music, Johnny is an active fitness enthusiast. He is a certified group-fitness instructor for the YMCA, and can be seen running races all around Central Ohio.

Thursday, May 2, 2024 – 1:30 p.m.

How I Became a Writer and Avoided a Fiery Death in the Steel Mill

Robin will talk about his life as a writer - the challenges and the successes. He’ll add humor and discuss growing up in a blue-collar home in a blue-collar area - the Ohio River Valley - and making the transition to writer. His dad was a West Virginia steelworker who encouraged him to get out of the Valley and go to college. Part of the talk will include the transition from newsroom to novelist. Also, he currently has a podcast - *Dead Before Deadline* - which is about his time on the crime beat.



Robin Yocum is currently an American Crime Fiction writer who was born, raised and educated in Ohio. His formative years were spent in the Ohio river towns of Steubenville and Brilliant. He received a bachelor degree in journalism from BGSU in 1978.

He immediately started working in journalism and ended up at the Columbus Dispatch in 1980 where he was an investigative and crime reporter until 1991. During his tenure at the Dispatch he received over 30 local, state and national journalism awards for investigative reporting and feature writing.

His book, *Favorite Sons* was named 2011 Book of the Year for Mystery/Suspense by USA book news. A later book *A Brilliant Death* was a Barnes and Noble #1 best seller and a finalist for both the 2017 Edgar Award and the Silver Falchion Award for best adult mystery.