

Graduate Student Orientation
Kent State University

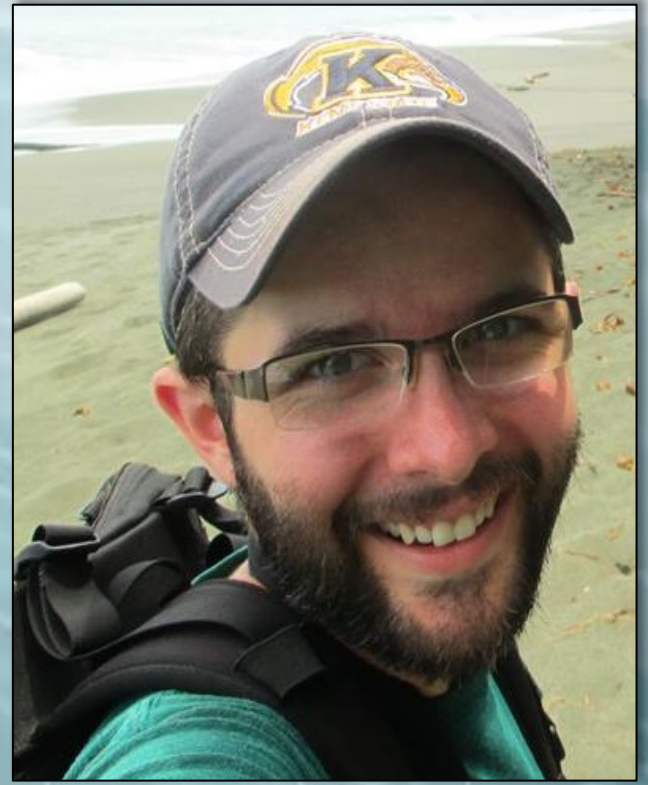


2019-2020
Teaching Fellows

**Learn more about
your
GSO
Teaching Fellows!**



Preya Bhattacharya
GSO Teaching Fellow



Morgan Chaney
GSO Teaching Fellow

Academic Program:
Ph.D., Political Science

Hometown:
Kolkata, India

Favorite Place in Kent:
Kent Free Library

Advice to New KSU Graduate Students:
"An important part of your graduate school is building your own support team and networking with people in your professional arena. But, do not lose sight of your individuality. It is what makes you... you!"

Academic Program:
Ph.D., Biomedical Sciences –
Biological Anthropology

Hometown:
Fairborn, Ohio, USA

Favorite Place in Kent:
My home, on my couch surrounded by my wife, our son, and our three cats!

Advice to New KSU Graduate Students:
"Take stock of how much money you'll have coming in and make up a formal budget early on. Then, monitor how much money you spend with an app or whiteboard... Additionally, make sure that you know about all of the awards that GSS gives out to sponsor conference travel and research!"



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Ashley Davis
GSO Teaching Fellow



Danielle French
GSO Teaching Fellow

Academic Program:

Ph.D., Biomedical Sciences –
Cellular/Molecular Biology

Hometown:

East Liverpool, Ohio, USA

Favorite Place in Kent:

Insomnia Cookies

Advice to New KSU Graduate Students:

“Never be afraid to ask questions!”

Academic Program:

Ph.D., English

Hometown:

Woodbridge, Virginia, USA

Favorite Place in Kent:

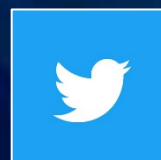
Scribbles Coffee Co.

Advice to New KSU Graduate Students:

“Don’t put your life on hold when starting a new program of study. Make friends, join a gym, and maintain all elements of health because your emotional, mental, and physical health are vital to your success in academia... You’re here at KSU for a reason, but you are also a multi-faceted person, so prioritize things that contribute to your overall wellbeing.”



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Rosann Gage
GSO Teaching Fellow

Academic Program:
Ph.D., English

Hometown:
Broadview Heights, Ohio, USA

Favorite Place in Kent:
Peace, Love, & Little Donuts

Advice to New KSU Graduate Students:
“Set daily, achievable goals to help you progress. There will be times when you need to get things done and you must be ready to throw yourself into the challenge and to ask for what you need. Empower yourself: The only person capable of making your life better is you. Learn to let go of things that keep you from your goals. When in doubt, breathe. Make connections with people and make it a point to keep contact with them. Enjoy what you do.”



Rhonda Hylton
GSO Teaching Fellow

Academic Program:
Ph.D., Curriculum and Instruction (with a focus on Literacy)

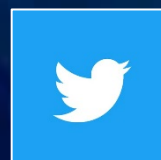
Hometown:
Atlanta, Georgia, USA

Favorite Place in Kent:
Downtown - there are lots of local restaurants that are so good!

Advice to New KSU Graduate Students:
“Trust your journey! Have a long-term goal in mind and work every day to reach it. Stay in touch with your advisor and maintain a good relationship with him/her. Speak up for yourself - if you want to write or present with faculty, tell them! Find friends inside (and outside) of our program and maintain good relationships with them even after coursework is done.”



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Jennifer Mani

GSO Teaching Fellow



Phaedra Norrell

GSO Teaching Fellow

Academic Program:

Ph.D., Counselor Education and Supervision

Hometown:

Melbourne, Florida, USA

Favorite Place in Kent:

Taco Tantos

Advice to New KSU Graduate Students:

“Talk with your professors early and often.”

Academic Program:

Ph.D., Biomedical Sciences – Neuroscience

Hometown:

Tuscola, Illinois, USA

Favorite Place in Kent:

Barflyy

Advice to New KSU Graduate Students:

“Take care of you - and this doesn't just mean eat well and drink water. Set aside time each day so you can do something that relieves your stress. Whether it be hitting the gym or playing video games, taking care of yourself in the short term will give you the energy that you need to succeed long term.”



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Noel-Marie Plonski

GSO Teaching Fellow



Victoria Reynolds

GSO Teaching Fellow

Academic Program:

Ph.D., Biomedical Sciences –
Cellular/Molecular Biology

Hometown:

Chesterland, Ohio, USA

Favorite Place in Kent:

Wild Papaya

Advice to New KSU Graduate Students:

“Take time to enjoy your time spent as a graduate student and get as involved as you can in extra curricular activities and events. Also, try to stay focused on what gives you joy about future career goals that can get you through some of the tougher days.”

Academic Program:

Ph.D., Sociology

Hometown:

Parma, Ohio, USA

Favorite Place in Kent:

Tree City Coffee

Advice to New KSU Graduate Students:

“Don’t be nervous if you don’t know exactly what you want to do in your career. Graduate school is a process that allows you to figure out your passions and create a plan for your future. Also, never underestimate the power of friendships to help you get through stressful times!”



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Julien Roland
GSO Teaching Fellow



Sommer Sterud
GSO Teaching Fellow

Academic Program:
Ph.D., Translation Studies

Hometown:
Bordeaux, France

Favorite Place in Kent:
Scribbles Coffee Co.

Advice to New KSU Graduate Students:
“Your world can easily become one-dimensional: same department, same schedule, same people. I think it is important to do a few things to spice things up a bit. Join an organization, go to a Cavs game or a yoga class... and keep in touch with people you met at GSO (graduate student socials are a great way to do that)!!! GSO is a unique opportunity to meet people with diverse interests and backgrounds.”

Academic Program:
Ph.D., English –
Literacy, Rhetoric, and Social Practice

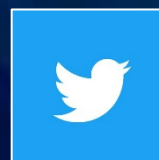
Hometown:
Steubenville, Ohio, USA

Favorite Place in Kent:
Ray's Place

Advice to New KSU Graduate Students:
“Everyone in graduate school is smart. This can be maddening as you find your place in an often very competitive arena, but remember ‘everyone’ includes you. When professors and peers push back on your ideas, they are merely being helpful... Learning how to take constructive criticism is essential to grad students' sanity and success.”



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Shakhnoza Yakubova

GSO Teaching Fellow

Academic Program:

Ph.D., Higher Education Administration

Hometown:

Almaty, Kazakhstan

Favorite Place in Kent:

Running trails

Advice to New KSU Graduate Students:

“You may make it smooth through your graduate school journey or you may encounter roadblocks too. Do not question whether you belong to here or not. Because you do.”



Nisreen Yamany

GSO Teaching Fellow

Academic Program:

Ph.D., English

Hometown:

Makkah (Mecca), Saudi Arabia

Favorite Place in Kent:

Fred Fuller Park and Franklin Mills
Riveredge Park, Bent Tree, and Kent Free
Library

Advice to New KSU Graduate Students:

“Don't be afraid to ask questions and ask for help when you need it. It's only smart to acknowledge your own limits and to seek guidance and help.. For international students: Enjoy this journey, be open to expanding your horizons. You will gain not only a degree but also new life-changing experiences. “



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Kyle Reynolds

Director of Graduate Student Services

Academic Department:
Division of Graduate Studies

Hometown:
Twinsburg, Ohio, USA

Favorite Place in Kent:
Troy Grille

Advice to New KSU Graduate Students:
“Take advantage of opportunities to present your research on campus at events like the Three Minute Thesis Competition and the Graduate Research Symposium.”



Odeh Halaseh

Graduate Assistant, Graduate Studies

Academic Program:
Ph.D., Political Science

Hometown:
Akron, Ohio, USA

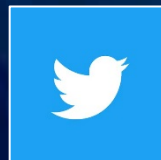
Favorite Place in Kent:
Coffee Shops:
Tree City Coffee *or* Bent Tree

Advice to New KSU Graduate Students:
“Graduate school is a marathon, not a sprint. Do not get discouraged by minor setbacks.”



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