

# College of Education & Human Services

## Family Science & Human Development



### FALL 2020 COURSE REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

To all students, faculty, & staff of the FSHD Department, please use the links & resources below to receive the most up-to-date information from Montclair State University.

#### MSU Coronavirus Website

- Read updates found on the **University Health Center News channel**.
- Get recommendations on how you can **stay healthy and well**.
- Get information **specifically for students**.
- Get information specifically for **faculty & employees**.
- Stay informed on **travel recommendations and regulations**.

We care about you & your mental health. Please see the below link for ways to help during this time.

- [Taking Care of Your Mental Health During COVID-19](#)
- [Dealing With Grief During COVID-19](#)
- [Grief During Social Distancing](#)
- [Conversations About Grief](#)

#### Questions/Comments/Concerns?

Students, if you have a specific question regarding one of your courses please contact your professor directly.

For any general FSHD questions, please email [FSHD@montclair.edu](mailto:FSHD@montclair.edu).

Dear FSHD Students,

Greetings to you, from the confines of my own home. As most of us have been home-bound since spring break, it is no doubt that Spring 2020 has been quite the semester. Life, as we knew it, was upheaved as faculty, staff, and students adjusted to the world of Zooms and virtual backgrounds, online assignments, and balancing life and school, all while participating in a fully online space and living in a physical one. These are some unusually stressful times, and it's OK to take a moment and acknowledge that. We can also acknowledge the great resilience and strength our FSHD students, faculty, and staff, and their loved ones have shown in weathering a pandemic.

Truthfully, in a world where nothing seems the same, there are still things that remain the same that we can cherish. We have FSHD students (and family members) who are essential healthcare and service workers, continuing to selflessly give their time and energy towards helping others. You have a team of faculty and staff who are student-focused and committed to support students to the finish line. And we still have many successes to celebrate - graduations, dissertation defenses, scholarship award winners, and your completion of this semester. This May 2020 newsletter is dedicated to celebrating you, our students.

To end, on behalf of the FSHD faculty, advisors, and staff, I want to extend a huge congratulations to our May 2020 graduates (all 206 undergrads and 8 PhD students)! We are extremely proud of you and grateful for the opportunity to have been a part of your journey. We know that you will do amazing things with your degree as you join the many past cohorts of impactful and successful FSHD alumni out there.

Wishing you all well, with the hope that you find things that bring you little nuggets of joy and peace, wherever you are.

Best,  
Dr. Lyndal Khaw  
Acting Department Chair of FSHD





**Kencia "Sunshine" Mele**  
**FSHD Doctoral Student**  
**Cohort 2018**



**FSHD PhD Scholarship Recipient**

Her Story: Kencia is a first generation college student & knew she wanted to receive her PhD one day. Kencia decided to study strong marriages & is excited to see how people in marriages longer than 10 years keep their relationships strong despite challenges.

Where is she going?: Kenica hopes to use her knowledge in the lower income communities to teach married couples & their families' conflict resolution. She hopes to go into the community to teach these courses in churches or local organizations.

Congratulations to the rest of our scholarship winners from FSHD!



Check out Kencia, Carlee, Christine, Natalie, & Seishu's stories here!



**Carlee Denholtz, M.S.**  
**FSHD Doctoral Student**  
**Cohort 2018**



**FSHD PhD Scholarship Recipient**

Her Story: After 10 + years working in the private sector designing employee health & wellness benefit programs, Carlee came back to MSU wanting to make a difference on a policy level for working families. Carlee attributes much of her success to the invaluable support she received during her time here.

Where is she going?: Carlee's goal is to take her local & state level advocacy for working families to the federal level, continuing to advocate for working families & to ensure that on a federal level that we are creating strong & supportive family leave policies.



**Christine Sun Yi**  
**FSHD Senior**  
**School Settings**



**Doris Ruslink Scholarship Recipient**

Her Story: Christine started the FSHD program, because she wanted a degree that would allow her to have a future career in teaching.

Where is she going?: Christine hopes to become a school teacher after graduation. She says she's learned so much at MSU from the wonderful professors & amazing people inside this department, that she wants to create that same learning environment for her future students.



**Seishu Miyazawa**  
**FSHD Junior**  
**School Settings**



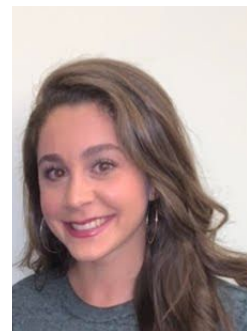
**Lois J. Guthrie Scholarship Recipient**

His Story: When entering MSU, Seishu knew he wanted to end up in a profession where he was able to help children. Through the FSHD department, Seishu will be able to work with elementary school children & teach them fundamental life lessons.

Where is he going?: While continuing his studies at MSU, Seishu plans to keep working as a sales associate. He wants to continue volunteering & eventually become a teacher, hopefully at his elementary school in Hackensack.



**Natalie Dahdah**  
**FSHD Junior**  
**Family Services**



**Katherine B. Hall Scholarship Recipient**

Her Story: Natalie decided to be part of the FSHD program, because she had very influential teachers throughout her educational experience in the Westwood Regional School District. She decided to apply to this MSU program because of its exceptional reputation.

Where is she going?: Natalie's plan is to complete her undergraduate degree as well as receive her masters. She hopes to make the most of her experience here.

## Recognizing our FSHD students on the MSU front line!

### Brianna Kovach

**FSHD Senior & Resident Assistant (RA)**



**What it's like being on campus:** "Campus is like a ghost town. It is very quiet. All residents have moved to either the Heights building or are living in the Village. We have a little over 100 students living in the Heights. I am happy that I stayed on campus to support and help out Res- Life as much as I can. Being in the role as an RA has helped me prepare for my future job as an educator, I didn't want to leave so easily. I am thankful that the Res-Life department let me stay on campus and work."

**How Brianna is coping with this:** "I am a Senior and saying goodbye to MSU in March was never part of my plan. I keep myself busy by doing at home workouts or running around campus, coloring books, painting, and watching movies. It is hard not being able to see my friends but I am thankful for technology and being able to Facetime and Zoom with them."

**Brianna's future plans:** "I will be doing my Clinical 2 experience in the fall in Newark, NJ. After graduation, I hope to find a job as an early childhood teacher and be a cheer coach for MSU or at some other high school."

### Alisa Hannah

**FSHD Junior & Resident Assistant (RA)**



**What it's like being on campus:** "Campus is currently a ghost town. There are only three buildings still open right now- The Village and The Heights to house the residents with not much place to go- so life is pretty quiet. I work and live in Dinallo Heights as an RA and SA to respond if and when a resident needs assistance. Now that all residents have been vacated or relocated within the two communities, there isn't much to do other than being on call.."

**How Alisa is coping with this:** "I keep updated on the pandemic, but I try not to watch the news too much.. It is very important to surround yourself with positive and encouraging people and messages during this time in the world...Reading my bible every morning also allows for me to start my days on a high note. I keep busy by staying on top of class assignments, working out, and facetimeing my friends and family..."

**Alisa's future plans:** "After graduation, I plan to take a year off to work at the Disney College Program in California! If I don't end up staying there for the rest of my life (because Disney is my entire life), then I plan to go to graduate school for higher education or counseling. While doing so, I also plan to get an assistantship somewhere in Student Affairs.."

**Thank you to all of our front line & essential workers,  
both in & out of our department!**



**We recognize & appreciate all of your efforts.  
Thank you for keeping our community going & for keeping it safe.**



## Congratulations to all of our graduating seniors!



Abdon, Michael A.  
 Abdul-Razzaq, Kareema S.  
 Acevedo, Brittney A.  
 Aiello, Anna N.  
 Alejo, Julissa  
 Alfano, Christian  
 Allen, AnnaJane E.  
 Almonte, Wheatherly C.  
 Alvarez, Bryany M.  
 Alvarez, Genevieve J.  
 Andrade, Ana M.  
 Antunez, Adriana  
 Arnold, Danielle V.  
 Askwith, Madilynn M.  
 Aulisi, Ava  
 Baluyut, Therese Ann E.  
 Barinas, Penelope  
 Batista, Victoria  
 Bedoya, Brigitte  
 Begum, Jebin  
 Bellardino, Alexis  
 Biasco, Taylor D.  
 Black, Emma E.  
 Boettger, Stephanie R.  
 Cabreja, Vivian  
 Calleiro, Aileen  
 Canfield, Jamie L.  
 Cangialosi, Kristina M.  
 Caravello, Katelyn R.  
 Carsillo, Tori L.  
 Carter, Gabrielle T.  
 Cerny, Caroline K.  
 Ciampi, Madelyn I.  
 Cirelli, Allison B.  
 Colon, Grace M.  
 Colone, Cristina M.  
 Cruz, Melissa A.  
 D'Innocenzo, Cristiana

Darmochwal, Alexis K.  
 Darwish, Yousef K.  
 Dawson, Myashia S.  
 Deliman, Carly F.  
 DeLuccia, Brianna M.  
 DeTrollo, Alyssa  
 DiChiara, Brianna L.  
 Digeronimo, Brianna P.  
 Ditkowsky, Elissa M.  
 Duffy, Kristen  
 Edelstein, Rebecca B.  
 Elezaby, Kamal  
 Elliott, Annisa S.  
 Escobar, Karina  
 Eskenazi, Tamar I.  
 Esser, Cheyenne S.  
 Fekete, Jamie L.  
 Ferlano, Amanda  
 Fernandez, Cindy  
 Fernandez, Lauren R.  
 Ferreira, Kayla M.  
 Finn, Kasey T.  
 Frank, Carly H.  
 Franke, Madison E.  
 Frasso, Cristina G.  
 Freeman, Maddie G.  
 Frieman, Rachel E.  
 Frischman, Brooke I.  
 Frost, Leora R.  
 Galassa, Dana M.  
 Garbich, Gitana I.  
 Gayle, Ava G.  
 Geczi, Alyssa M.  
 Gelberg, Amanda C.  
 Gilyard, Deidre N.  
 Goncalves, Daniela  
 Gonzalez, Heather R.  
 Gordon, Jonae  
 Gough, Brianna N.

Graham, Mary H.  
 Graves, Jihana  
 Hartos, Olivia C.  
 Hayes, Michael  
 Helwani, Nadine G.  
 Hwang, Ava S.  
 Ibrahim, Hanan  
 Incremona, Samantha L.  
 Jimenez, Alexis A.  
 Johnson, Grace M.  
 Joseph, Daniela  
 Joshi, Rajeshri  
 Karram, Tatiana  
 Kaschak, Emily M.  
 Kearns, Olivia R.  
 Kelley, Charitie E.  
 Kelly, Christine G.  
 Khan, Shazena  
 King-Wiggins, Nyshea  
 Kleiner, Kevin  
 Kocovski, Cortney F.  
 Kohlstock, Mariah  
 Kruegel, Alexandra  
 Kyle, Lauren E.  
 LaBar, Shelby  
 Lachky, Brittany A.  
 Lampard, Taylor C.  
 Languidey, Andrea F.  
 Larkin, Colleen  
 Leader, Shelby  
 Lee, Angela J.  
 Liccardo, Sarah E.  
 Lichtenberger, Emily J.  
 Lindsey, Jayda N.  
 Lombardi, Alexa A.  
 Lyu, Hyelim  
 Mantilla, Liliana P.  
 Manzo, Lilly  
 Marcinczuk, Renee E.

Marquez, Ashley M.  
 Martin, Jacqueline  
 Martinez, Maria  
 Matera, Christa A.  
 Matos, Elizabeth R.  
 Mauro, Alyssa J.  
 McGarry, Meghan A.  
 McNamara, Rachel E.  
 Mena, Brigitte  
 Menoscal, Rebecca  
 Meyers, Sarah J.  
 Miele, Shelby C.  
 Mitchell, Ajanae'  
 Mocci, Jessica S.  
 Mohd Jaber, Esraa O.  
 Molina, Jaritza W.  
 Morgan, Kelly A.  
 Nagy, Kristen M.  
 Newman, Cortney J.  
 Nikiperowicz, Heather  
 Nunziato, Remi N.  
 O'Connor, Kristen N.  
 Ojeda, Deborah  
 Orlandino, Amanda N.  
 Palermo, Christina  
 Pareja, Jazmyn A.  
 Parmeshwar, Nerissa K.  
 Pasquale, Adriana  
 Pastor, Heather M.  
 Patel, Arti  
 Pena, Stephanie  
 Perez, Kimberly G.  
 Polillio, Rose V.  
 Pronesti, Leamarie  
 Reich, David A.  
 Reynolds, Alexius K.  
 Rocha, Fabiana  
 Rodriguez, Dina L.  
 Rodriguez, Jasiah

Rosenthal, Sara D.  
 Rota, Christopher R.  
 Rudden, Cassidy A.  
 Sage, Samantha J.  
 Salguero, Victoria M.  
 Salters, Satia F.  
 Santana, Ruth  
 Sautter, Nicole C.  
 Schmidt, Jessica N.  
 Sciabarasi, Julia M.  
 Seidle, Monica M.  
 Shea, Hayley F.  
 Shukaitis, Caroline  
 Silfa Carrasco, Katherine  
 Sinatra, Kaleigh R.  
 Skwirut, Cassie A.  
 Smith, Alyvia B.  
 Soriano, Stephanie  
 Souman, Maha M.  
 Squillace, Michelle L.  
 Strom, Savannah J.  
 Sturla, Victoria M.  
 Sweeny, Kaitlyn E.  
 Szyzkiewicz, Victoria A.  
 Tapia, Veronica  
 Taylor, Kelsie R.  
 Tell, Christa  
 Thomas, Mikekelle S.  
 Trajceski, Gabriela  
 Trujillo, Samantha K.  
 Valladares, Bertha I.  
 VanderPloeg, Brittany L.  
 Vega, Erika N.  
 Velli, Rose M.  
 Vitiello, Ashley A.  
 Wang, Ling  
 White, Schyler M.  
 Wichik, Daniela  
 Williams, Deshonna B.  
 Williams, Tiffany  
 Wiltshire, Ayanna N.  
 Winfough, Lauren K.  
 Winget, Abbey D.  
 Winn, Keeley S.  
 Wisdom, Brittany K.  
 Yang, Stephanie H.  
 Zapata, Emily  
 Zarzecka, Wioleta  
 Zevallos, Julyssa  
 Zulla, Alexandra L.

**We are proud & excited for you to represent  
 the FSHD department out in the world!**



Congratulations to all of our PhD students who are graduating this semester!  
 Thank you for all of your hard work & dedication over the years.  
 We wish you the best!



**Jacqueline Bible**

***Dissertation Title:*** The Influence of Heteronormativity on Sexual Health Disparities in Queer and Heterosexual Women

***Dissertation Chair:*** Dr. Brad van Eeden-Moorefield

**Shaniqua Bradley**

***Dissertation Title:*** “People Think it’s Easy because I Smile, but It’s Not Easy.” A Phenomenological Study of Single Parents/Guardians Raising an Adolescent Who is Enrolled in Special Education and Engaging in Risk Behaviors

***Dissertation Chair:*** Dr. Sara Goldstein

**Diana Cedeno**

***Dissertation Title:*** From Social Exclusion to Social Inclusion a Feminist Action Research Intervention for Low-Income Latina Mothers

***Dissertation Chair:*** Dr. David Schwarzer

**Stephanie Compasso**

***Dissertation Title:*** The Impact of Social Support, School Connectedness, and Community Disorganization on Academic Outcomes Among Black and Hispanic Adolescents in Urban Low-Income, School Districts

***Dissertation Chair:*** Dr. Pauline Garcia-Reid

**Jennifer Pax**

***Dissertation Title:*** Young Adult Future Outlook in the Context of Parent Advice, Parent-Young Adult Closeness, and Young Adult Ability Self-concept

***Dissertation Chair:*** Dr. Miriam Linver

**Rebecca Swann Jackson**

***Dissertation Title:*** Tag-Team Back Again: Using Memory as Method to Understand the Intergenerational Transmission of Egalitarian Parenting in my Black Family

***Dissertation Chair:*** Dr. Jennifer Urban

**Keisha Wint**

***Dissertation Title:*** The Beginning: Exploring Educational Experiences of Black Boys in State-funded Preschool Programs

***Dissertation Chair:*** Dr. Pauline Garcia-Reid

**Soo-Bin You**

***Dissertation Title:*** Korean Immigrant Parents' Experience of Parenting Young Adult Children

***Dissertation Chair:*** Dr. Olena Nesteruk