

# Newsroom

February 14, 2018

Georgia Southern University

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# Department of Sociology and Anthropology hosts Anthropology Week

FEBRUARY 14, 2018

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology in the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences is hosting a series of events for Anthropology Week Feb. 12-15 in the Carroll Building on the Statesboro Campus.

Inspired by the American Anthropological Association's Anthropology Day, Georgia Southern's Department of Sociology and Anthropology expanded its programming to include a celebration in honor of Charles Darwin's birthday on Feb. 12, an anthropological twist on Valentine's Day on Feb. 14 and a day-long celebration of anthropology on Thursday, Feb. 15.

Highlights of the week's events include:

- **Feb. 14-15:** Have a happy Valentine's Day, with an anthropological twist. To raise funds for their organization, students in the Lambda Alpha Honors Society will be selling handmade chocolates and baked goods in the shape of hearts, brains, finches and turtles. Goods will be sold in the Carroll Building atrium from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **Feb. 14:** Assistant Professor of Anthropology Ryan McNutt, Ph.D., will present "Conflicted Pasts: An Introduction to Conflict Archaeology" during a Brown Bag Lecture at 1 p.m. in Carroll 2255.
- **Feb. 15:** Archaeologist Hannah Morris, one of the key team members and "underground astronauts" on the famous Rising Star Expedition, will offer a free public lecture describing her firsthand account of helping to recover the remains of a new species, *Homo naledi*, at 3:30 p.m. in Carroll 2227.
- **Feb. 15:** Enjoy a free showing of "Dawn of Humanity," a film featuring world-renowned paleoanthropologist and University alumnus Lee Berger at 6 p.m. in Carroll 2227. Georgia Southern social sciences graduate student Mpume Hlophe, who was part of the Rising Star Expedition, will be on hand to answer questions about the film. Refreshments will be available, and attendance verification will be available upon request. The film is open to the public.
- Throughout the week, anyone can take a photo in the Darwin Photo Booth or at the special "selfie station," located in the Carroll Building atrium.



"We see this as an opportunity for students to share in the exciting and diverse things that the Department of Sociology and Anthropology is doing," said Jennifer Sweeney Tookes, Ph.D., assistant professor of anthropology.

Anthropology Day, celebrated on Feb. 16, is a day for anthropologists around the world to share their excitement about their discipline with the public around them.

# Anthropology Week!

Carroll Building 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

An Interactive Week with the Anthropology Program!

## Monday, Feb. 12- Charles Darwin's Birthday

Take a selfie with this famous Scientist!

Brown Bag Lecture: "Better than Butter" - Dr. Heidi Altman @ 1:00 p.m. Rm 2255

## Tuesday, Feb. 13- Crafts, Food, Candies, and F-U-N

Tour Archaeology Research & Teaching Labs

Dr. Matthew Compton @ 1:00 p.m. Rm 1038

## Wednesday, Feb. 14- ♥ Valentine's Day! ♥

Buy handcrafted candy & cookies for loved ones!

Brown Bag Lecture: "Conflicted Pasts"- Dr. Ryan McNutt @ 1:00 p.m. Rm 2255

## Thursday, Feb. 15- World Anthropology Day!

**SPECIAL EVENTS: GSU Alum Dr. Lee Berger's GROUNDBREAKING archaeological find *Homo naledi***



Invited Lecture: Hannah Morris  
"Underground Astronaut"  
*Homo naledi* Carroll 2227 @ 3:30

Film: Dawn of Humanity  
The *Homo naledi* discovery story!  
FREE POPCORN!  
Carroll 2227 @ 6:00 p.m.

*Georgia Southern University, a public Carnegie Doctoral/Research institution founded in 1906, offers 142 degree programs serving more than 27,000 students through nine colleges on three campuses in Savannah, Statesboro, Hinesville and online instruction. A leader in higher education in southeast Georgia, the University provides a diverse student population with expert faculty, world-class scholarship and hands-on learning opportunities. Georgia Southern creates lifelong learners who serve as responsible scholars, leaders and stewards in their communities. Visit [GeorgiaSouthern.edu](http://GeorgiaSouthern.edu).*

# Special education undergraduates travel to Harvard University to share research

FEBRUARY 14, 2018



Georgia Southern University special education majors Kylie Brady and Rebecca Hinrichs are passionate about helping students with disabilities, as well as the studied benefits of appropriate classroom management. Their passions led to a presentation at Harvard University's annual National Collegiate Research Conference, the largest student-run research conference in the country, in January.

Brady and Hinrichs presented information on their seven-week observations of partnering with K-12 schools, in which they examined the effectiveness of positive and negative behavior management techniques. Specifically, their focus was on students with disabilities who are taught within inclusion classrooms, or general education courses with peers, outfitted with certified teachers who assist with differentiated learning.

"Within the realm of our research, the positive behavior management system included more positive redirections," said Brady. "Instead of telling

a student not to do something, the teacher would tell them what they should be doing and why. Teachers would also verbally praise students when they were doing the right thing."

Positive behavior management also incorporates a philosophy of teaching expected behaviors. Brady used the example of teaching students how to properly walk in a hallway at school.

"It may seem silly to teach them how to walk down the hallway, but it is a behavior that you expect students know when really they may not," she said. "It is important to teach those expected behaviors to ensure that students are aware and have been exposed to the behavior you would like for them to display."

Negative behavior management often includes repercussions for not following rules or expected behaviors.

"Instead of rewarding the students for showing good behavior you want them to display, the teachers practicing the negative management approach would punish students for undesirable or unruly behavior," Hinrichs explained.

During their observations, Brady and Hinrichs agreed that students within an inclusion classroom frequently remained on task when they were being praised, given incentives and redirected in a positive manner in comparison to students who were punished, reprimanded or had privileges taken away.

"The students all loved the reward systems in place, and they enjoyed the positive encouragement, regardless of whether they had a disability or not," said Hinrichs. "Yet, most students would shut down after being reprimanded or experiencing negative management."

The use of a positive behavior management system becomes more vital when working with students with disabilities.

“Often these students struggle and may get discouraged because they think they cannot do something,” said Hinrichs. “It is important to show them they can accomplish their goals, and even if they are just taking small steps, it is important to reward and show them that their progress is celebrated.”

Noting that their research provided qualitative support for positive behavior management systems, Brady and Hinrichs said that they were excited to share their experiences and observations with students, faculty and administrators from around the nation during the conference. They both hope to continue conducting research while working in their careers.

“I think many teachers complete this form of research without even realizing it,” said Brady. “For me, I think positive behavior management is something I will want to model in my own classroom and keep data on the reactions students are having. I can use that data to compare year after year and review my notes if I feel like reactions are changing. That’s a part of being a teacher—constantly growing and researching to meet the needs of your students.”

Brady and Hinrichs are both seniors and are scheduled to graduate in May.

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# College of Education hosts 6th annual International Critical Media Literacy Conference

FEBRUARY 14, 2018



**SAVANNAH, Ga. (Feb. 14, 2018)** – Georgia Southern’s College of Education will host the 6th annual International Critical Media Literacy Conference on Feb. 23-24 at the Coastal Georgia Center in Savannah, Georgia.

This multidisciplinary conference is designed to aid educational leaders, teachers, advocates and others interested in understanding mass media and its impact on the events that shape the daily lives of society. Through the promotion of critical media literacy, this conference is set to further unearth social inequalities influenced by mass media and to foster participatory democracy in the 21st century.

Keynote speaker, Warren Crichlow, Ph.D., invites attendees to discover what he calls “acoustic activism.” Crichlow argues that sound can be a powerful site for expanding educational imaginations and creative cultural practices for social change. In his presentation, “Acoustic Activism as Critical Education: Willful Subjects, Cultural Practice, Social Change,” he will examine the boundary-pushing musical itinerary of multi-talented African-American composer, Julius Eastman.

This year, the International Critical Media Literacy Conference has partnered with the Action Coalition for Media Education, an independently funded network that teaches effective methods for engaging, challenging and creating media for individuals and communities in an effort to empower them.

To register for the conference, visit [GeorgiaSouthern.edu/conted/criticalmedia](http://GeorgiaSouthern.edu/conted/criticalmedia).

For additional information about this conference from the Georgia Southern Division of Continuing Education, contact Deedee Southerlin, Ed.D., at 912-478-5555 or [medialit@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:medialit@georgiasouthern.edu).

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