

Chairs Directory 2023–2024



English & Reading



Sharon Anthony

- MA in Instructional Design in English, University of Maryland, Baltimore
- BA in Interdisciplinary Studies, Interdisciplinary Emphasis – English and Public Policy, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Highlights:

- Co-Chair of Montgomery College General Education Standing Committee (2015–2017), and member of General Education Outcomes Assessment & General Education Course Certification work group
- Co-Chair of Chairs (2019–2022)
- Women’s Studies Coordinator, Germantown Campus (2005–2007), and English 101 Coordinator, Germantown Campus (2010–2015)
- Awarded Faculty Outstanding Service Award (2007), NISOD College Teaching Excellence Award (2008), “On Her Shoulders We Stand” Women’s Studies Program Award (2010), Mid-Atlantic Region Women’s Studies Association Certificate of Service (2010), and Germantown Excellence in Teaching Award (2012)

Germantown PK123; 240–567–7769

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Collegewide Disability Support Services



Shalawn Childs

- MA in Mental Health Counseling, Gallaudet University
- BS in Psychology, Washington State University
- AA in Interpreting (ASL), Seattle Central Community College

Highlights:

- DSS counselor for 10 years including working with Deaf and hard of hearing students
- Chair of Rockville Academic Appeals for 8 years; currently serving as part of the summer and virtual collegewide academic appeals committee; part of the academic appeals workgroup for academic regulations
- Experience in crisis intervention, academic advising and counseling, and teaching study skills
- Outstanding Faculty Award for Service 2020 - 2021
- National Counselors Certification (NCC)
- Nationally Certified Sign Language Interpreter (RID-NIC)

Rockville SV305V; 240–567–5061

shalawn.childs@montgomerycollege.edu

Mathematics, Statistics, and Data Science



Luc Desir

- MA in Mathematics, University of Maryland, College Park
- BS in Mathematics, York College of the City University of New York, graduated Summa Cum Laude

Highlights:

- Taught mathematics at the Rockville campus (1999-2022)
- Selected as a mentor to faculty in the Structured Remote Teaching Professional Development Institute (2020)
- Recognized with a Team Effort Award for the Math Pathways Redesign (2018), a Student Affairs Division Appreciation Award for Advising (2015), a National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development Excellence Award (2009), and an Outstanding Faculty Service Award (2008)

Germantown HT317; 240–567–5220

luc.desir@montgomerycollege.edu

Art (G & R)



Tendai Johnson

- MFA, Lamar Dodd School of Art, University of Georgia
- BFA, Lamar Dodd School of Art, University of Georgia

Highlights:

- Work has been exhibited in both national and international venues and has been a visiting artist/lecturer at numerous institutions including Yale Graduate School of Art and the Keisho Art Association, Japan
- Faculty at Moore College of Art & Design in Philadelphia for ten years
- Lives and works in his studio in Baltimore
- Chair since 2017 and Institutional Representative for NASAD (National Accreditation of Schools of Art & Design). Led in the application and Self-Study process that successfully awarded Montgomery College NASAD accreditation status in May 2021

Germantown
Rockville AR202; 240–567–7649

tendai.johnson@montgomerycollege.edu

Humanities



Jennifer Haydel

- MA in Political Science, University of Minnesota – Twin Cities
- BA in Integrated International Studies, Knox College
- Highlights:**
 - Co-Coordinates the Quantitative Reasoning in the Disciplines Program (QRiD)
 - Teaches in the Renaissance Scholars Honors Program
 - Provides Program Advising for the International Studies Program
 - Received the Transform Mid-Atlantic Civic Engagement Award, 2022
 - Received the Outstanding Full-Time Faculty Award, AY 2022-2023

Germantown HS140; 240–567–7756

jennifer.haydel@montgomerycollege.edu

Education and Social Sciences



Andrew Herst

- MS in Psychology, University of Maryland College Park
- BS in Psychology, University of Maryland College Park
- Highlights:**
 - Developed a veteran’s transition to college program
 - Coordinated the APA to help students from underrepresented populations begin their research careers in the psychological sciences

Germantown HS136; 240–567–3945

andrew.herst@montgomerycollege.edu

Collegewide Honors Director and Chair



Lucy E. Laufé

- **PhD in Anthropology and a Graduate Certificate Latin American Studies, University of Pittsburgh**
- **MA in Anthropology, Northwestern University**
- **BA in Anthropology, Grinnell College**

Highlights:

- Received a Fulbright–Hays I.I.E. Dissertation Research Grant to support doctoral research in Michoacán, Mexico, and a National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute Fellowship to study the Maya in Guatemala and Mexico
- MC’s Representative to the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, mentoring 17 of the college’s 18 winners of the Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship
- Past–President of the Maryland Collegiate Honors Council from 2013–2017, and a Board member 2005–2021
- Board Member, Co–Chair Major Scholarship Committee and Member of the Two–Year College Committee with the National Collegiate Honors Council, and recipient of the 2017 Ron Brandolini Award for Excellence at a Two–Year Institution

Rockville MT212; 240–567–7453 (office),
240–567–7417 (Commons)

lucy.laufe@montgomerycollege.edu

Chemical and Biological Sciences



Jennifer Capparella

- **MSPH in Epidemiology from Emory University**
- **BS in Biology from Syracuse University**

Highlights:

- Biology Department Coordinator, 2015–2021
- STEM Scholars Honors Co–Coordinator and honors faculty, 2017–2021
- Principles of Biology (BIOL 150) Course Coordinator, 2011–2020
- STEM Learning Assistant Program (LA) Mentor, 2014–2020
- Served on Germantown Campus Council and Germantown Faculty Senate
- Former Program Manager, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Germantown BE211A; 240–567–7730

jennifer.capparella@montgomerycollege.edu

Collegewide General Studies



Christina Gentile

- MA in Romance Languages & Literatures (Italian & Spanish), The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD
- BA, double major in English Language & Literature and Romance Languages & Literatures (Italian & Spanish), University of Maryland, College Park

Highlights:

- Served on the General Studies Leadership Team, Virtual Campus Implementation Team, Achieving the Dream Data Team, Achieving the Dream Core Team, the OER Z-Degree Cross-functional Committee, the General Studies ePortfolio Pilot, and the Transfer Scholarship Coordinating Committee
- Served as the World Languages coordinator and Digital Language Lab Liaison on the Rockville Campus
- Awarded the Montgomery College Outstanding Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching & Advising (2017) and NISOD Excellence Award (2018)
- Translated materials for National Geographic Television & Film, USPS, and the Library of Congress

Rockville MT609; 240–567–7425

christina.gentile@montgomerycollege.edu

Counseling and Advising



Katie Mount

- MEd in Counseling and Personnel Services, University of Maryland
- BA in Communications, Elon University

Highlights:

- Specializes in working with first-year students, academically at-risk students and veterans
- Helped lead the department and the discipline through the acquisition and implementation of Starfish
- Was previously an academic advisor at Western Carolina University and University of Maryland University College, European and Stateside divisions
- Awarded the Montgomery College Faculty Outstanding Service Award for AY 2014–2015 and the 2016 NISOD Excellence Award

Germantown SA240D; 240–567–6966

katie.mount@montgomerycollege.edu

Collegewide Early Childhood Education Programs



**Sonia Pruneda–
Hernandez**

- EdD in Education with a concentration in Early Childhood Education and focused research on Child Care Providers at Community Colleges, Walden University
- MS in Education with a concentration in Education of Young Children, Nova Southeastern University
- BS in Spanish with minor in Sociology, University of North Florida
- AA in General Studies, Big Bend Community College

Highlights:

- National presenter on eliminating barriers for early childhood educators at community colleges, supporting nontraditional students, and developing pathways from noncredit to credit
- 2020 UMBC Maryland Early Childhood Leadership Program Advisory Committee Member
- 2019 Appointed to Governors Early Childhood Education Taskforce Team
- 2019 ACCT Northeast Region Faculty Member of the Year
- 2018 Dale P. Parnell Distinguished Faculty
- 2016 NISOD Excellence Award
- 2015 Outstanding Faculty of the Year

Rockville SV406M; 240–567–4168

sonia.pruneda-hernandez@montgomerycollege.edu

Collegewide Health Enhancement, Exercise Science and Physical Education



Elizabeth Ridings

- MA in Exercise Science & Fitness Management, University of Connecticut
- BS in Exercise Physiology, James Madison University

Highlights:

- Worked in the health and fitness industry for ten years prior to becoming a full-time faculty member at Montgomery College
- Experience managing fitness and wellness programs in collegiate, commercial and corporate settings
- Certified by the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) as a Certified Exercise Physiologist and as a Physical Activity in Public Health Specialist

Rockville PE236A; 240–567–7576

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Performing Arts (G & R)



Alvin F. Trask

- Master of Music, Howard University
- Additional studies at the Thelonious Monk Institute, Dolo, Italy, and the Eastman School of Music
- Bachelor of Music, Louisiana State University

Highlights:

- Visiting Evaluator for National Association of Schools of Music
- Active performer in the Washington Metropolitan area and the Mid-Atlantic Region

Rockville TA124; 240-567-7551

alvin.trask@montgomerycollege.edu

Business, Economics, Accounting, Computer Applications, Hospitality Management and Paralegal Studies (G & T)



Margaret Tabiri

- DBA, University of Maryland Global Campus
- MS in Business (Finance focus); Johns Hopkins University
- MS in Education (Math focus); Johns Hopkins University
- BA in Economics; North Carolina State University

Highlights:

- Corporate experience as a financial analyst, contracts manager, and financial consultant.
- Skilled in teaching Mathematics, Statistics, Finance, Business and Management
- Department Chair 2023 – present
- Collegewide Course Coordinator 2020 - present
- Collegewide Curriculum Committee (2020 – present)
- Quality Assurance Design & Delivery Badge holder

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 Germantown HT418; 240-567-7847

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Physical Sciences, Engineering, Computer Science, Cybersecurity and Networking (G & T)



Alla Webb

- PhD in Systems Engineering, George Washington University
- MS in Computer Science, Johns Hopkins University
- BS & MS in Mechanical Engineering, State Technical University, St. Petersburg, Russia

Highlights:

- Computer Science and Program Coordinator (2013–2020)
- Served as Principal Investigator (PI) of the American Association of Colleges and Universities Teaching to Increase Diversity and Equity in STEM (TIDES) Grant at MC and co-Principal Investigator of a Perkins Grant
- 2018 NISOD Excellence Award
- 2017 Outstanding Faculty Award Recipient

Germantown SA220Q; 240–567–7934

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English Language for Academic Purposes (ELAP), Linguistics, and Communication Studies



Page Whittenburg

- MA in French Language and Literature (concentration in Applied Linguistics)
- BA in Romance Languages, University of Maryland, College Park

Highlights:

- Germantown Campus Coordinator, American English Language Program (now English Language for Academic Purposes), 1999-2013
- Faculty Outstanding Service Award, 2005-2006
- NISOD Faculty Excellence Award, 2007
- Chair, Collegewide Curriculum Committee, 2013-2016
- Co-Chair, Faculty Council, 2016-2018
- Served on Academic Regulations and Standards, 2018-2022

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