

MALS NEWSLETTER

August 2013

Housed and
Directed by
the
Department
of
Philosophy

Master of Arts in Liberal Studies Fall 2013

By Dr. Kiriake Xeroheмона-Director of MALS

The MALS program is designed for students who possess a strong desire for intellectual growth, thirst for challenge, and show an interest in interdisciplinary research. The program is interdisciplinary in nature and leads to continuous intellectual growth and sharpened critical thinking skills. It offers students an individualized program of graduate study that transcends traditional disciplinary boundaries and yet lies squarely within the venerable traditions of liberal education.

Our students are encouraged to explore a broad range of

subjects by drawing on fields in the humanities, social sciences, philosophy and the arts. Each student completes a minimum of 30 units of coursework as well as a capstone project (either a master's thesis or a shorter master's essay.)

Currently we offer the following options:

- the accelerated (4+1)MALS,
- the regular MALS with an interdisciplinary concentration,
- the MAL with concentration in Philosophy,
- the MALS with Museum Studies concentration.

The (4+1)MALS is an accelerated program for outstanding full time Liberal Studies or Philosophy majors with a current overall GPA of at least a 3.20. It affords the opportunity to earn a master's degree in only one additional year beyond the BA degree. Students interested in the program must apply before they start the last 30 credits of their BA degree program.

The regular MALS focuses on three different disciplines of the student's own choosing. It may be completed in 2 to 6 years and requires a GPA of at 3.00. No GRE is required.

MALS 4 different options

The MALS with concentration in philosophy allows students to concentrate in Philosophy instead of the three different disciplines. It may also be completed in 2 to 6 years and requires a GPA of 3.00. No GRE s required.

The MALS with Museum Studies concentration allows students who complete their graduate certificate in Museum Studies to earn a Master's degree with as little as 15 additional graduate credits.

In the near future, we anticipate more collaboration between the MALS and programs, such as Women's Studies, Cognitive Neuroscience, Labor Studies, the Wolfsonian, etc.

The core of the program consists of three or four Great Ideas Seminars (IDS) that examine the books, theories, and discoveries that have had the greatest influence in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences. The program culminates in the Capstone Project which is a Master's Thesis or Master's Essay that is on a topic related to the unifying theme of the student's concentration.

We admit throughout the year. The admission requirements are as follows:

- official transcripts.
- a personal statement describing goals and objectives in seeking the degree, and explaining how the MALS can meet your intellectual and educational goals and experiences.
- 2-3 letters of recommendation.
- a substantial writing sample (at least 8-10 pages long) that is judged by the admissions committee to be of satisfactory quality.
- a completed admission application form which can be found online at :<http://gradschool.fiu.edu/admissions.shtml>

If you are interested in learning more about the MALS program, please feel free to contact me and set up an appointment. Please call me at 305-348-7563 or email me at xerohemo@fiu.edu

Fall 2012 - Summer 2013 Highlights

5 students successfully completed their capstone projects and graduated.

16 students were accepted to the program.

1 lecture offered open to the public:

Dr. Susan Haack - *The Whole Truth and Nothing but the Truth* - June 20, 2013

3 IDS seminars were offered:

- Fall 2013 -IDS 6937- *Evil and Transgression*
- Spring 2013-IDS 6931- *Science and Philosophy*
- Summer 2013- IDS 6938 - *Truth and Deception*

VISIT US ONLINE AT:
<http://www.fiu.edu/~mals>

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Some Important Dates

- August 26: Classes begin
- August 29: Last day to submit Non-degree application for fall 2013
- September 3: Last day to add courses

• **September 20: Last day to apply for Fall 2013 graduation**

- September 25: Last day to submit the M3 form (only for students who complete a Master Thesis) to the College of Arts and Sciences
- Nov 4-17: Registration for Spring 2014

- January 6: Classes begin
- January 13: Last day to add courses

• **January 31: Last day to apply for Spring 2013 graduation**

- February 7: Last day to submit the M3 form (only for students who complete a Master Thesis) to the College of Arts and Sciences
- For more information please visit [DEADLINES FOR THESE](#)

Congratulations to the following MALS students for completing their Capstone Project:

Anthony Moreno
The Joycean Sublime

Isabel Sifuentes
Domestic Violence in Nicaragua

Mara Sharkey
Artistic Rebellion: Surrealism, Alchemy, Feminism and Mexico: Leonora Carrington and Remedios Varo

Irina Leyva Perez
Alchemy and Symbolism in the work of Carlos Esteves

Monica Santos
Zoroastrianism and Satan: A Question of Influence

Nicole Lipoid
Global Poetry through the lens of Philosophy and Social Psychology

Sarah Jacob
Shifting Consciousness towards Ecological Sustainability

USEFUL SITES:

- [MALS](#)
- [GRADUATE SCHOOL](#)
- [FIU](#)
- [FIU REGISTRAR](#)
- [Calendar 2013-2014](#)

Capstone Projects

2004-2013

The Joycean Sublime
 Anthony Moreno

Domestic Violence in Nicaragua: Could it be Eliminated?
 Isabel Sifuentes

Artistic Rebellion, Surrealism, Alchemy, Feminism, and Mexico: Leonora Carrington and Remedios Varo
 Mara Sharkey

Imagining Equality: Shifting Consciousness Towards Ecological Sustainability
 Sarah Jacob

Alchemy and Symbolism in the Works of Carlos Esteves
 Irina Leyva-Perez

Zoroastrianism and Satan: A Question of Influence
 Monica Santos

Global Poverty through the Lens of Philosophy and Social Psychology
 Nicole Llopis

Women's Roles: Ambivalence and Guilt
 Agostina Morgante

New American Zen: Examining American Women's Adaptation of Traditional Japanese Soto Zen Practice
 Courtney Just

Child Care Services, needs for Children and Providers
 Sue Demmings

Environmental Ethics
 Chris Barrett

Real Freedom for All: An Attempt to Guarantee the Conditions of Non-Interference
 Jilian D'allesio

A Call for a Cultural Sensitive Approach to Global Policy: A Look at the TRIPS agreement
 Shamelle Gonzalez

Identify, Dualism and the Ever Changing World?
 Megan Silvera

The Virgin of Guadalupe: Image of Superhero for Chicana Artists
 Nicole Stratten

A Cause for Reconsideration: The Contribution of African American Women Sororities in the Civil Rights Movement
 Shannon Moss

The Imagery of Migration
 Whitney Larkins

Macro Level Determinates of Opportunity and Necessity Entrepreneurship Rates
 Diana Hechevaria

Cultural Diversity and the European Integration Process
 Jelena Petrovic

Yantras and Fractals: Symbolic Representation of Oneness
 Illiana Hakes-Martinez

Femme Fatale: Evil Temptress or More?
 Jennifer Coccaro

Redefining Qualia in Relation to Religious and Aesthetic Experiences
 Tonieta Walters

The Hawaiian Paniolo: Music and Art Traditions
 Jan Marie Nelson

Frida Kahlo and Nahui Olin: Disintegration and Transformation
 Ana Martinez

The Amazing Race: Games, Play, the Uncanny and the Spectacle
 Adria Carey

Art and Religion
 Robert Axberg

IDS Seminars 2004-2013

Fall 2013 - *Beauty and the Sublime*
Dr. Kenton Harris

Summer 2013 - *Truth and Deception*
Dr. Kiriake Xerohemona

Spring 2013 - *The Age of Science*
Dr. Monika Piotrowska

Fall 2012 - *Evil and Transgression*
Dr. Kenneth Johnson

Summer 2012 - *Philosophy of Humor*
Dr. Brian Mondy

Spring 2012 - *Globalization and Justice*
Dr. Paul Warren

Fall 2011 - *The Idea of Civilization*
Dr. Daniel Guernsey

Summer 2011 - *Propaganda*
Dr. Sean Allen-Hermanson

Spring 2011 - *The Idea of Hope*
Dr. Kenton Harris

Fall 2010 - *Propaganda*
Dr. Sean Allen-Hermanson

Spring 2010 - *Globalization and Justice*
Dr. Paul Warren

Fall 2009 - *Truth and Deception*
Dr. Kiriake Xerohemona

Summer 2009 - *Intellectual Property Rights*
Dr. Jon Trearise

Spring 2009 - *Globalization and Justice*
Dr. Paul Warren

Fall 2008 - *Philosophy and Psychology*
Dr. Jennifer Matey

Spring 2008 - *Tragedy and Philosophy*
Dr. Ingvild Torsen

Fall 2007 - *Beauty and the Sublime*
Dr. Kenton Harris

Summer 2007 - *Neurophilosophy*
Dr. Sean Allen-Hermanson

Spring 2007 - *The Idea of Civilization*
Dr. Daniel Guernsey

Fall 2006 - *Justice*
Dr. Paul Warren

Summer 2006 - *Age of Science*
Dr. Paul Draper

Spring 2006 - *Human Nature*
Dr. Chris Grau

Fall 2005 - *Beauty and the Sublime*
Dr. Kenton Harris

Spring 2005 - *The Age of Science*
Dr. Paul Draper

Summer 2005 - *Social and Political Philosophy*
Dr. Kenneth Henley

Fall 2004 - *Politics and Society*
Dr. Paul Warren