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English professor aims to connect Shakespeare with science

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English professor aims to connect Shakespeare with science

Dr. Perry Guevara, assistant professor of English, is focused on bridging the gap between the humanities and the sciences.

“I have always loved literature, but my distinctly interdisciplinary approach to scholarship is motivated by past experience in biomedical research, studying, at first, the genetic basis of Parkinson’s disease and, most recently, the narratives of patients undergoing deep brain stimulation for treatment resistant depression,” he notes.

Now, as a new member of Dominican’s faculty in the [English department](#), Guevara hopes to engage his students in research projects that foster conversation across disciplinary divides.

Guevara specializes in Shakespeare and early modern literature from the 16th through the 17th century. His additional expertise includes neuroscience, the medical humanities, eco-criticism, and sexuality studies.

Guevara, who joined the [School of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences](#) in August, received a Ph.D. from Emory University and M.A. with distinction from Georgetown University. He is presently at work on a book project, *Inhuman Depressions*, which brings together 16th and 17th-century literature, cognitive science, the history of medicine, and studies in gender and sexuality.

A recipient of grants from the Fulbright, the Folger Shakespeare Library, and the Scholars Program in Interdisciplinary Neuroscience Research, Guevara has shared his work at the Society for Literature, Science and the Arts, the Shakespeare Association of America, the South Atlantic Modern Language Association, the Hudson-Strode Program in Renaissance Studies, the Washington DC Queer Studies Symposium, and the Early Modern Interdisciplinary Group at the City University of New York.

Recent publications have appeared or are forthcoming in *Early Modern Culture* and *Lesser Living Creatures of the Renaissance*. This year, Guevara is teaching courses in composition, poetry, fiction, early modern drama, and animal studies. He is presently collaborating with the Marin Shakespeare Company to create more educational opportunities for students interested in British literature, the performing arts, and service learning through the company’s Shakespeare for Social Justice program.

Since 2003, Marin Shakespeare Company, which stages performances in the Forest Meadows Amphitheater on the Dominican campus, has offered weekly Shakespeare classes at San Quentin Prison, culminating in an annual performance of a Shakespeare play. The men also write and perform autobiographical theatre pieces inspired by their work with Shakespeare. Shakespeare for Social Justice also has programs at Solano Prison and the Marin County Community School.

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