

Texas Tech 2023-2024 Fulbright Scholar Award Recipients



Costica Bradatan

Project Summary: Dissent is fundamental for the health of a community's democratic life. It is vital in politics, but equally important for our intellectual, ethical, and spiritual well-being. If democracy is not to become an empty word, a vigorous practice of dissent is necessary, and it should be encouraged and cultivated. Rooted in the history of Western philosophy, and taking Diogenes the Cynic as a model, this interdisciplinary project seeks to spell out the rules of one of the most difficult and demanding of arts: that of swimming against the current. The project will pay particular attention to cases of philosophical dissent as a form of political resistance in Eastern Europe (Arthur Koestler, Václav Havel, Herta Muller, Adam Michnik).

Host Country: Romania, 2023-2024



Erik Bucy

Project Summary: Crisis, Credibility, and the Press: Media Performance and Democratic Resilience. This scholarly project explores the implications of media crises in the US and UK, from the 2011 News of the World phone hacking scandal in the UK to the Dominion Voting Systems lawsuit against FOX News following the 2020 presidential election in the US. Unlike political scandals, which have received sustained scholarly examination, the subject of press misconduct has flown largely under the radar of academic analysis outside of articles and tracts about the tabloid press – this despite significant harms to privacy and costs to information integrity. This project aims to rectify this deficit in the scholarly literature while introducing a model of press-priming that explains how audiences, in the wake of media scandal, evaluate the press critically and process news about media performance. During his year in the UK, Bucy will be affiliated with the Department of Communication and Media at Loughborough University, where he will take part in research activities at the Centre for Research in Communication and Culture, guest speak in classes, give public talks, and engage with the University's Institute of Advanced Studies.

Host Country: United Kingdom, Loughborough University, Fall 2023-2024



Dorothy Chansky

Project Summary: Dr. Chansky will spend spring of 2024 at the University of Łódź in Poland in the Department of North American Literature and Culture, where she will teach two courses about the work of African American women playwrights. Most American drama offerings in Poland's universities deal with texts by canonical male writers and treat these as literature. Dr. Chansky's classes will bring work from the margins to the center and will consider production and performance (embodiment and reception) as well as textuality. Drama cannot be divorced from culture, and questions of context are crucial, in order to avoid ahistorical readings and to think about revivals of plays. Additionally, Dr. Chansky will begin early research on a potential book project (her sixth), this one about reading. Conversations with Polish students and colleagues about learning to read in a second or third or fourth language will help with an anticipated chapter on that topic. She will also attend, in her capacity as a practicing theatre critic, as much theatre as she can in Warsaw, Cracow, Bucharest, Berlin, and Munich to build understanding of how politically driven productions in parts of Europe differ artistically from many in North America.

Host Country: Poland, University of Łódź, Spring 2024





Benaissa Chidmi

Project Summary: The project's goal is threefold. First, it aims to identify the significant variables affecting firms' performance and business environment in Morocco using Enterprise Survey data from World Bank. Second, the project will explore whether there are differences in firms' performance and business environment across the eight Moroccan regions considered in the survey and across the manufacturing and services sectors. Finally, the project will compare Moroccan firms' performance and business environment with countries from the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and the European countries on the north side of the Mediterranean Sea.

Host Country: Morocco, Spring & Summer 2024



Yvonne Racz

Project Summary: Adapting Classical and Cultural Dance Knowledge to Advance Inclusive Teaching and Anatomy Awareness in Hungary and U.S.A. Teaching and learning anatomical and cultural awareness within the disciplined aesthetic is an accessible path to creating an inclusive dance class. I follow a pedagogical approach that utilizes functional anatomy awareness in a Balanchine-inspired class combined with folk dancing as an art form that crosses over to understand and respect other cultures and traditions. For this project, I propose to teach anatomical awareness infused with ballet technique and traditional folk dance for young dancers in two institutions in Budapest, Hungary. This project aims to provide a deeper understanding of global human anatomy to address implicit bias and exclusivity while supporting appreciation for world dances that can break language barriers, build relationships, and maintain cultural relevance.

Host Country: Hungary, Spring 2024 (January-April)



Reagan Ribordy

Project Summary: The Fulbright International Education Administrators program is a fully-funded opportunity for U.S. higher education administrators to participate in an intensive two-week seminar to learn about other countries' higher education systems. By participating in a Fulbright IEA seminar, you can build your institution's capacity for international education, gain a cross-cultural perspective, and open doors to collaboration with colleagues and students throughout the world. Activities will include campus visits to a wide range of universities and briefings from faculty and administrators at public and private higher education institutions as well as from leading education experts and government officials.

Host Country: France, October 2023

