

## Georgia College's new Global Foodways Studies certificate a recipe for success

Georgia College's Global Foodways Studies certificate program blends history, culture and tradition with cooking encounters and fieldtrips sprinkled in. Add internships, study away and study abroad to the mix—and the result is a bona fide, multi-disciplinary program combining facts with fun and fills the tummy.

It's also the first certificate program of its kind in the state university system.

Based on Professor of history Dr. Craig Pascoe's popular "Southern Foodways and Traditions" course—the new program opens the door to a global fiesta of food. It also gives faculty new ways to teach history, sociology, anthropology and pretty much any subject you can think of, even beer.

This fall, an updated cooking kitchen in Chappell Hall is being used for culinary demonstrations and presentations from guest speakers and chefs. New courses explore the history of American and Meso-American cuisine. In the future, classes will also include East Asian and Jewish foods, BBQ pit masters and how race and barbecue shaped the American South. There'll be courses on Mexican foodways, celebration meals of the Nuevo South and nutrition.

"Food is instilled in the American mind. It stirs public excitement," Pascoe said. "We're teaching people about culture, about histories of peoples around the world, and we're using food to cement that in people's minds."

Pascoe's first class served up country ham and biscuits. This fascinated junior history major Elijah Lopez, who's from Manhattan in New York City. He decided to take two foodways classes this semester, after learning about the program from his advisor.

"She knew I was a Northerner, so I would enjoy seeing a different aspect," he said.

Lopez had never eaten salty southern ham. In the North, he said people prefer ham sweetened with maple, honey or brown sugar glazes. Instead of eating pork shoulder, rice and beans or oatmeal for breakfast, as his family enjoys, Lopez noted Southerners like grits.

"I'm enjoying this class and, of course, we get to eat," Lopez said. "I never thought of food as bonding people through history."

"I'm learning so much more than what I expected," he said. "It definitely gets you more engaged. A lot of people get dried out from the boringness of history books. That's why we have classes like this."

To get a certificate, students take Global Foodways Studies courses and complete a capstone experience like an internship or study abroad. Students go on field trips to businesses like Old Clinton BBQ in Gray, the Waffle House, farms and food banks. Next semester, the "Exploring the Ethnic South through Food" course will offer a spring break trip to Savannah and Sapelo Island where students will explore coastal Geechee food traditions like shrimp and okra, low country boils and other ethnic cuisines.

Students also get experience in managing food events. Over Labor Day weekend, about 30 students helped organize and run the first annual "Que for the Few" at Comfort Farms in Milledgeville. Students sold tickets, served barbecue and cleaned up—things people in the restaurant business need to know how to do, Pascoe



Students made deviled eggs recently in Pascoe's class.

said. They also helped judge the competition and tabulate scores.

In November, Pascoe's class will host a "Pop-Up Restaurant" at Chappell Hall. Satterfield's BBQ in Macon will serve its specialty dish for the campus and local community. Students will sell tickets, set up, serve and clean. Also in November, there'll be a reception for the Global Foodways Studies program. Students will be involved in planning the menu.

Functions like these give students "a sense of what it's like to run a food-focused event," Pascoe said. Experts expect jobs in the restaurant sector to grow 12 percent by 2026, he added.

### Did you know?

Dr. Jeff Fallis was recently named the first Poet Laureate of Athens by the Athens Cultural Affairs Commission.

Fallis—a newly-hired lecturer in Composition and World Literature at Georgia College—will hold the position for two years, until 2023.

"It's an amazing honor, but also a well-deserved one. This is a real tribute to the power of Dr. Fallis' writing, and it's a reminder of the importance of creative writers and creative writing to the quality of our lives," said Dr. Matthew Pangborn, professor and chair of Georgia College's English Department.

Traditionally, renowned poets were appointed for life as a member of the British royal household. Today, highly regarded poets are given honorary positions by a government body or institution to compose poems for special events.

Fallis has lived in Athens for "most of the last 25 years" and knows the community well. After getting a master's in creative writing from the University of Virginia, he got his Ph.D. at the University of Georgia. He currently commutes every day to Georgia College from Athens, so he'll be able to continue teaching and fulfill his duties as poet laureate.

"My poems lately seem to be about music, dogs, trees, walking, absence and presence, and the body," Fallis said. "I believe that poetry is important, because it reminds us of how strange and durable language is, and because it both reminds us of our past and allows us a way to imagine new futures."



### Georgia College welcomes Coverdell Scholar for fall

This year's Paul D. Coverdell Visiting Scholar brings his unique life and academic experience to Georgia College. His research focuses on refugee and migrant populations—a topic he knows about first-hand.

"I was born in Iran, and my family left when I was about five months old," said Dr. Amir Moheet, Coverdell Scholar. "My parents were politically active, and that didn't sit well with certain people over there. We were refugees and received asylum in the United States."

Although he admits he grew up "privileged" compared to many other refugees, his family's experience shaped his life in many ways.

It led him to study political science and research democratization, authoritarianism and global migration. While working on his Ph.D. he received a highly competitive David L. Boren Overseas Doctoral Fieldwork and Critical Language Fellowship in Ankara and Istanbul, Turkey.

"I was fortunate enough to receive this doctoral fellowship which allowed me to go overseas for a year to study advanced Persian and Turkish," he said. "The fellowship also requires you to serve a minimum of one year with the federal government once it's completed."

Moheet chose to work at the agency that was responsible for helping his family into the U.S. years before. "I worked for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Refugee, Asylum and International Operations Directorate," said Moheet. "It was a great experience to literally occupy the same positions in an agency that was responsible for granting my family access to come to the United States."

He left DHS to pursue his passion in academia and to use his skills to dive into areas like human rights and social justice for refugees.

"I'm working on a book that looks at cultures of resistance globally, Borderlands, migrant justice and human mobility," said Moheet.

"Migrants, refugees and asylum seekers are among the most vulnerable populations in the world. In a lot of cases, they lack the legal protections. We've seen that from what's happened in the last couple of years," said he said. "I worked on some of those issues."

This semester he's teaching a course called Global Migration where students will be exposed to all aspects of international migration and human mobility.

"I've been living in the Middle East for the past three years, and in Turkey specifically, which has the largest refugee population in the world," Moheet said. "I've worked with a good friend of mine, a lawyer who works with LGBTQ refugees and LGBTQ Turks who are attempting to obtain some measure of justice and express their human rights."

"That's a lot of what I attempt to bring to my class examining and analyzing the ways in which all refugees pursue justice," he said.

Moheet holds a Ph.D. in political science from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. He has taught across the departments of political science and ethnic studies at the University of Hawai'i and was a visiting scholar at Bilkent University in Turkey.

The Paul D. Coverdell Chair in Policy Studies was established in 2008 and occupied by Dr. Roger Coate, professor of political science and public administration, for its first decade. In 2018, the endowed position was transitioned into a visiting scholar program.



Dr. Amir Moheet teaches his class.

### Join us for Piano Studio Recital: Jazz Inspired

On Sunday, Sept. 26, Georgia College will hold a Piano Studio Recital, "Jazz Inspired," at 3 p.m. in Magnolia Ballroom at the Student Activities Center.

Dr. Owen Lovell will lead students from the Georgia College Piano Studio program in a concert of jazz-inspired solo pieces.

Students were challenged to learn and memorize a new composition in six weeks, an achievement that requires work ethic and discipline.

They'll perform less-known jazz by women



Magnolia Ballroom, Student Activities Center • 3 p.m.

and other underrepresented composers. Students will be joined on stage by faculty pianists, piano studio alumni and prospective piano majors.

Performances will be on the rebuilt 1889 "Burrell" Steinway model A grand piano in Magnolia Ballroom.

This concert will also be livestreamed at [facebook.com/GCMusicDepartment](https://www.facebook.com/GCMusicDepartment).

A \$5 donation is encouraged. All proceeds benefit music scholarships or the GC Department of Music through GCSU Foundation, Inc.

For more information, please email [sic@gcsu.edu](mailto:sic@gcsu.edu) or call 478-445-8289.

## What's going on in Bobcat Territory?

Visit [frontpage.gcsu.edu/calendar](https://frontpage.gcsu.edu/calendar)

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>21</b></p> <p>5 p.m.- Georgia College Leadership Programs will host a panel of journalists for a discussion of "Media Literacy and the Future of Democracy" in Peabody Auditorium. Panelists include Richard T. Griffiths, vice president and senior editorial director (ret.) at CNN, Rose Scott, host and executive producer at WABE Atlanta, and Greg Bluestein, political reporter for the Atlanta Journal-Constitution.</p> <p>7 p.m.- Come out and enjoy our GC Jazz Jam Session on the lawn of the GC Depot, presented by Jazz at Georgia College. The GC Jazz Session is open to all members of the community.</p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>6 p.m.- Learn more about the Supreme Court's recent rulings with scholars and professionals in Arts &amp; Sciences Auditorium.</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>6 p.m.- GC Volleyball vs. Augusta.</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>3 p.m.- GC Volleyball vs. USC Aiken.</p>