

SGA appoints two new senators- pg 3

March 23, 2017

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Volume 92, Issue 10

#SUSPECTATOR

THE UNFILTERED, UNCENSORED VOICE OF THE STUDENTS.



Spring football is officially in session - pg 12

NEWS

CORE OUTDOORS



March 31st-April 2nd

ROCK CLIMBING

Pigeon Mountain \$85 Students/\$111 Staff
Visit shopcampusrec.valdosta.edu to sign up for trips.

Check The Rec Center's website for more upcoming events.

Announcements

Start of Registration

Don't forget! Registration starts April 3, in less than two weeks.

A tip from VSU Student Health Center

March 24 is World Tuberculosis (TB) Day. "Although important strides in TB prevention and control continue in the United States, the TB rate remained at 3 cases per 100,000 people during 2013-2015," according to the CDC. Completed a TB Screening Risk Assessment Form for VSU online or contact Student Health at (229) 333-5886 to learn about TB and cost of testing.

Tobacco and Smoke-Free Campus Policy

The use of all forms of tobacco products on property owned, leased, rented, in the possession of, or in any way used by the USG or its affiliates is prohibited.

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The deadline to apply is Friday, March 31, 2017.

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Questions? - tasullivan@valdosta.edu



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NEWS



MCT Campus

Students recieved help assembling their resumes to enter the workforce.

Students prepared for future with help from Career Opportunities

Darla Dunning

ASST. OPINIONS EDITOR
dldunning@valdosta.edu

The Office of Career Opportunities held a walk-in Resume Prep Day on March 22 to provide students with advice and feedback for their resumes. Students attended this event to prepare for the 2017 Spring Career Expo held on March 23.

Career specialists hold resume prep days every semester, and it is open to all students who are new at writing resumes or need their resumes checked for grammatical errors.

More than 75 students attended the walk-in resume event, and many felt it helped them tremendously.

“This is my first time attending this event,” Ryan Sulski, an engineering major, said. “I am applying for an engineering internship this summer, so I think this event could help improve my resume.”

Another student shared her thoughts over the resume event.

“I’m attending this event because I want someone to help proofread my resume for any grammatical errors,” Fatima Jackson, a psychology major, said.

Tiffany Soma, career counselor, was one of six career specialists assisting students with their resumes.

“I speak with students to determine the best layout/format for their resume based on

their particular experiences and skills,” Soma said. “I also point out any grammatical or spelling errors. I provide the student with resume resources as well, including our resume packet and resume templates if needed.”

Once a student has their resume prepped, they will be ready for the 2017 Spring Expo Event, which provides students the opportunity to seek a job, internship, co-op experience or just additional experience in networking with employers.

The Spring Expo Event has more than 40 vendors attend and meet with students. On average, more than 200 students attend to gain experience in job opportunities, according to Soma.

“This event is a great opportunity for all students to speak to company representatives and learn more about available positions or about the company organization in general,” Soma said of the Spring Career Expo.

There are employers from different career fields who attend the Spring Career Expo, such as health care, insurance, retail, nonprofits, government, social services, banking and businesses. The Office of Career Opportunities also recruits a large number of Fortune 500 employers.

“The event is free and open to all students and VSU alumni,” Soma said. “We just ask that students dress professionally and bring multiple copies of their resume.”

SGA takes two steps forward, one step back

Bills, finances among topics discussed and debated by senators

Juston Lewis
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR
justlewis@valdosta.edu

Growth and stagnation, the weekly SGA meeting featured both.

The start of the weekly meeting seemed promising as two new senators were voted in almost unanimously.

Clinesha Sims, a sophomore psychology major, was approved as well as D’Layna Jonas, a sophomore psychology major and Spanish minor.

The two senators were excited to join SGA and excited for the different things they can bring to the table for students.

“This will be the first step towards making a difference and getting SGA’s name and faces out there and make us accessible,” Sims said.

The majority of the meeting was spent discussing a new bill that would change the rules reqrding sentaors taking a leave of absence.

Jonas feels that maybe she can inspire or encourage other students to join SGA through her.

“Anyone who would like to be in SGA can be,” Jonas said.

After they were confirmed, the

agenda moved to the fund appropriation request for next year.

SGA is requesting \$19,673, which is more than \$10,000 less than the original request from a year ago. There was a short discussion breaking down why the funding was different this year, and it can be drawn to the new chamber of finance.

The majority of the meeting was spent discussing a new bill that would change the rules regarding senators taking a leave of absence.

The bill was drafted in the wake of Silas David returning to SGA after his leave of absence.

It was presented by Sen. Amea Thompson and Sen. Jacob Bell, and while they said they were not targeting Sen. David in the proposal, it did come a week after his return.

The bill suspends senators from presenting bills for one meeting after returning from a leave of absence.

It also gives senators the option of notifying the vice president of Student Affairs or an executive board member of their choosing when they need to take a leave of absence. However, it requires them to submit written notification to the secretary prior to taking the leave for documentation purposes.

The discussion of this bill went on for more than an hour before the senators came to a consensus.

The meeting was heated by discussion of David’s return from his hiatus.

David took offense to the bill and went into detail explaining the reason for his leave.

Other senators tried to reassure him that it was not directed at him, and Sen. Matthew Rowe suggested the bill be tabled, but it was combated by Sen. Jalah Morris and Sen. Joy Ihedioha saying it would still have to be addressed at the next meeting.

Once all the senators got their

points across, they voted, and it finally passed.

The bill suspends senators from presenting bills for one meeting after returning from a leave of absence.

SGA President Maya Mapp said she felt like the discussion should have been a lot shorter, and they weren’t helping students but was proud of the progress SGA has made under her leadership.

“I feel like SGA still has a long way to go, especially when it comes to servicing the students,” Mapp said. “With the two ladies that we added tonight and the senators that we’ve added, we have the right people in the senate . . . I think it will continue to grow and diversify. I’m very happy with it, but we have a long way to go.”

She also encouraged the discussions that they have. She said she thought it strengthens SGA as a whole.

“I encourage the challenges that they have together because I think it makes them stronger.”

The main focus of SGA is making sure the foundation of SGA is stable under the new constitution.

“You can’t serve something that isn’t built on the right foundation,” Mapp said.

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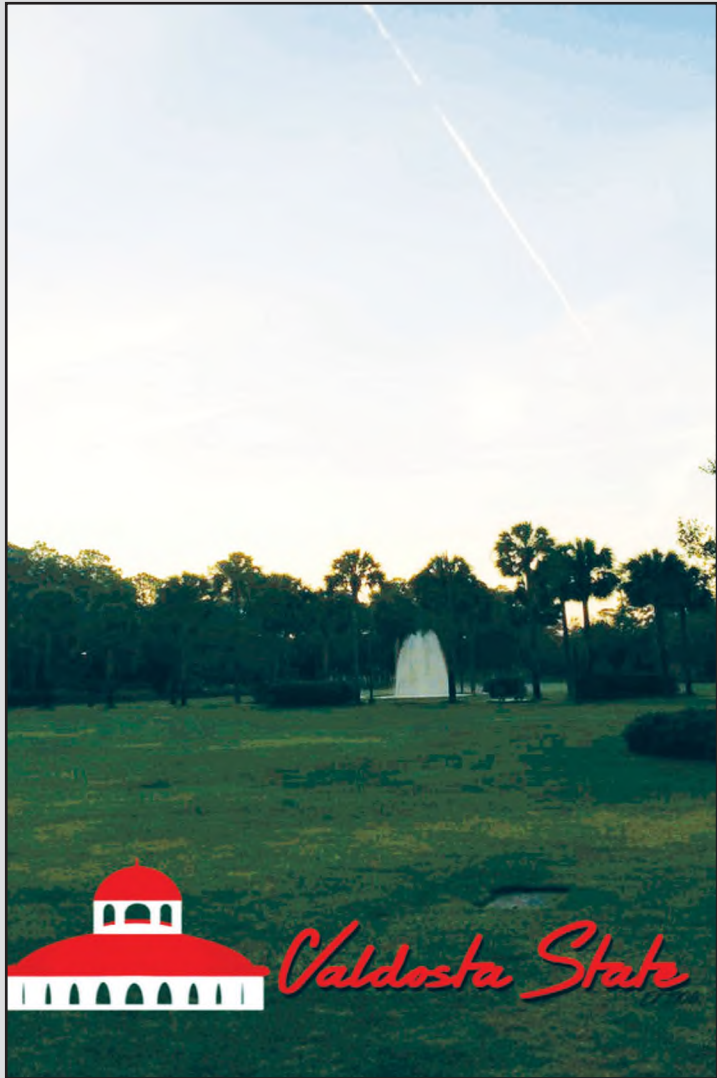
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OPINIONS

Our point of view...

Don't let senioritis get you graduate on time



Hunter Terrell/THE SPECTATOR

Early morning view from VSU front lawn.

As the end of the semester nears, it's time out for procrastination and stalling when it comes to doing homework and staying focused. A big mistake a lot of students make is feeling like it's ok to relax because it's almost time for summer and graduation. This is one of the biggest mistakes a student could make, especially a senior. Senioritis is common amongst those set to graduate at the end of the semester. They can see the light at the end of the tunnel, but putting in the extra effort to graduate seems easier said than done.

This school year may seem like it has flown by so fast, and it has. But classes are still very much in session. This is the time that could make or break a student's grades. By missing one assignment, or failing one test, you could find yourself sitting in the same course again next semester, or worse, not walking across the stage like you thought you would.

If you have been slacking in a class lately, this is the time to pick up the pace. If you're not doing well in this course, visit the Student Success Center on campus today. If you only spent an hour studying for your upcoming test, push yourself to spend two more. Double the amount of effort you're putting into your courses and finish out strong. Or, you may not have such an enjoyable summer after all.

This editorial was written by a member of the editorial staff and expresses the general opinion of The Spectator.



Hunter Terrell/THE SPECTATOR

(Left) A pile of cigarette butts sit on a ledge on the outside sidewalk of Hopper Hall. (Right) Public sign reminding VSU that there is zero tolerance of smoking on VSU property.

VSU needs to enforce smoke-free policy

Eboni' Register

STAFF WRITER

ebregister@valdosta.edu

As of Oct. 1, 2014, VSU reinforced the University System of Georgia Smoke Free Air Act of 2005. According to the Board of Regents, the Tobacco and Smoke-Free Campus Policy is intended to preserve and improve the health, comfort and environment of individuals on campus.

A non-smoking student expressed her views on the policy.

"I believe the policy that VSU holds isn't effective at all," Aleshia Barron, a sophomore criminal justice major, said. "Those who do smoke and choose to smoke on campus find a way to do so regardless of others and the policy."

Tobacco users on this campus are known to smoke in certain spots throughout main campus and other university buildings.

Being an open campus, I believe there is no way this "tobacco-free" policy can be controlled nor be successfully monitored.

From the library breezeway to the sidewalks surrounding VSU, there is not a clear understanding on where the campus ends and smoking permitted.

According to cdc.gov, the prevalence of tobacco users in the United States is highest

within the 25 to 44 and 45 to 64 age brackets, both being at 17 percent.

Also, education is a major factor, as 24 percent of smokers have less than a high school education, 34 percent only have a GED, 19 percent are high school graduates, 18 percent have some college credit, 16 percent have an associate degree and only 7 percent to 3 percent of smokers have an undergraduate or gradu-

Tobacco users on this campus are known to smoke in certain spots throughout main campus and other university buildings. Being an open campus, I believe there is no way this "tobacco-free" policy can be controlled nor be successfully monitored.

ate degree.

By these statistics, you can see the higher your education is the smaller your smoking bracket becomes.

Now, if you relate this to universities all over, specifically in Georgia with the Smoke-Free Campus Policy, there should be minimal concern for students smoking.

The comfort of our university is more at a risk from our professors who ages range from 25 to 64, ages estimated to be in the 34 percent of smokers in the U.S, according to cdc.gov, rather than the students who are singled out for vaping.

Millennials typically turn to vaping rather than cigarettes, which the Systems of Georgia still considers breaking policy.

A student who supports the Smoke-Free Campus Policy said VSU has not effectively administered the policy.

"Tobacco of any sort should not be allowed on campus," Zhane Hicks, a sophomore biology major, said. "It's enforced in the policy but not in campus everyday lifestyle. I never see campus police or anyone stop people who smoke everyday on campus. If you're going to have a policy, enforce it VSU."

According to the Tobacco and Smoke-Free Campus policy, "Tobacco Products" is defined as cigarettes, cigars, pipes, all forms of smokeless tobacco, clove cigarettes and any other smoking devices that use tobacco such as hookahs or simulate the use of tobacco such as electronic cigarettes."

Vaping was once an alternative choice for those who can't indulge in smoking habits around others.

Aside from vaping's usually pleasant scent and the offensive stench of burning tobacco, VSU could just be going for a more proficient and unpolluted style of campus living.

Students, professors and visitors alike need to be mindful of the policy, as VSU needs to do more to make sure people are respecting the policy as well.

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Contact Us

VSU Spectator

Hopper Hall, Room 1238

1500 N. Patterson St.

Valdosta, GA 31698

Newsroom

(229) 333-5688

Advertising

(229) 333-5686

Business

(229) 333-5686

Fax

(229) 249-2618

E-mail

spec@valdosta.edu

Adv. email

Spec_Advertising@valdosta.edu

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OPINIONS



Julie Jernigan/ THE SPECTATOR

The Valdosta Chevrolet Buick car dealership may face changes in the next few months.

Layoffs at General Motors promises new jobs

Julie Jernigan

ASST. COPY EDITOR
jjjernigan@valdosta.edu

General Motors is looking to retain and add jobs in the U.S., promising to add 3,000 more jobs because of its 4-year contract with United Automobile Workers in Michigan, according to Detroit Free Press. Workers laid off from GM's Lansing Delta Township plant may fill some of these new positions.

The company is shifting production to its Tennessee plant in order to build the new GMC Acadia SUV, but the Buick Enclave Chevrolet Traverse will continue building at the Lansing plant, Tom Wickham, GM spokesperson, told CNBC.

President Donald Trump repeatedly urged GM and other makers to bring in more jobs to

the U.S. rather than outsourcing to boost the U.S. economy, but retaining and hiring positions in GM plants is not directly related to any of President Trump's new policies, CEO Mary Barra of GM said in a public statement on March 15.

"The job commitments announced today demonstrate the confidence we have in our products, our people and an overall positive outlook for the auto industry and the U.S. economy," Barra said in the public statement.

The cuts were due to the low demand of cars, and the company wanted to focus on what consumers were buying, according to CNBC.

GM recently sold two of its major European brands, Opel and Vauxhall, to the PSA Group, a French automaker. A move that

would make GM less global but more profitable because the company has struggled in that market for two decades, according to The Washington Post.

GM will invest more in "core automotive business and in new technologies that are enabling us to lead the future of personal mobility," Barra said.

The company has come a long way since the recession in 2007, when it declared bankruptcy and needed saving by the U.S. government. Last year alone, its revenue rose 9.2 percent, according to Seeking Alpha.

Whether this is the work of President Trump is irrelevant. More jobs support the flow of consumerism, which in turn boosts our economy and helps lessen the national debt.

Now, how is that not positive?

Nike Pro encourages diversity with new hijabs

Darla Dunning

ASST. OPINIONS EDITOR
ddunning@valdosta.edu

The Nike Pro Hijab is set to release in the spring of 2018.

The head cover was developed after multiple Muslim women complained about wearing the traditional head scarf while competing in sports.

According to Nike.com, the design process took 13 months to complete and is being used as a prototype to see if Muslim women are able to work out while wearing it.

"The hijab will cost \$35 and will come in gray, black and obsidian," Valeria Safironova of The

New York Times reported. "The material will be made of a lightweight, stretchy mesh polyester."

Nike announced the Pro Hijab after promoting a campaign featuring five women from the Middle East who are professional athletes. In the campaign, Nike asked, "What will they say about you?" A campaign that highlighted the gender division in sports, as female athletes participating

in sports face a male dominated society.

The five women in the campaign were also the first individuals to wear the Nike Pro Hijab. Zahra Lari, the United Arab Emirates' first international skater, is part of the campaign and is already wearing the Pro Hijab on the ice.

Nike announced the Pro Hijab after promoting a campaign featuring five women from the Middle East who are professional athletes.

Lari shared her thoughts on the Pro Hijab with Vogue Arabia.

"People may think or tell you that you can't do certain things, but I'm going to show them you absolutely can," Lari told Vogue Arabia. "I am covered, I am Muslim, I am from a desert country and I'm doing a winter sport."

A VSU student gave her opinion on Nike's sports

hijab.

"I'm really glad Nike did this," Elizabeth Wilson, a sophomore psychology major, said. "It will allow Muslim women to be active in sports and feel great while participating."

Multiple companies have tried creating a hijab for Muslim women to wear, but Nike is the only one to successfully reach out to women from different parts of the Arab world.

Free the nipple movement; stop shaming public breastfeeding

Shanice Barnes

STAFF WRITER
ddunning@valdosta.edu

Seeking equal opportunity for women, is the main goal for the free the nipple campaign.

Gender equality has been a huge problem since the beginning of time.

This campaign tries to break the barrier and prove that men and women should have equal opportunities.

The free the nipple campaign brings awareness to everyone about the harsh reality of the stereotypes women face on a daily basis.

It's about women having the option to do as they please.

Lina Esco, founder of the free the nipple campaign said, "I came up with the movement the free the nipple campaign because it's engaging and funny, and the fuel we needed to start a serious dialogue about gender equality."

Women should have the right to do what they want with their bodies, and not what men approve of.

"If a guy can walk around with no shirt, why can't I?" Marlee Curts, sophomore, dance major said.

Breasts were not created as a sexual organ. The sole purpose for the women's breasts is to feed their child.

Saying women should put away their breast when feeding

YouTuber tries to shed light on touchy subjects

Alex Dunn

ASST. FEATURES EDITOR
eadunn@valdosta.edu

Chubbs, a YouTuber since 2015, creates videos that are as entertaining as they are controversial.

Chubbs' YouTube channel features videos covering a large range of topics, such as bullying, drugs, race, feminism, sex and popular BuzzFeed videos.

His channel is known for its comedy, which has him basically poking fun and pointing out the inaccuracies of other videos posted online.

Chubbs likes to take original commercials and put his own voiceover in the videos. He comments on the content throughout the video and occasionally stops it all together when he gets heated on a particular part.

Many of his uploads are centered around awareness commercials, such as anti-drugs, bullying and racial and gender equality ads, that completely miss the ball with their arguments.

Chubbs' main goal for his channel is to entertain people with his video commentary. He stresses that he is not making fun of the individuals themselves in the videos but more of what they're doing and what the video is representing.

Chubbs is what you would call a liberal: someone who is in favor for and respects individual rights and freedoms.

He likes to find controversial

videos and bring his own opinions to the table with what the advertisement is about.

This channel would be perfect for people who agree with Chubbs and think some topics just need to be lightened up, not to make fun of the certain subject per say but to offer comic relief.

However, Chubbs can sometimes get over-enthusiastic in his commentary, cursing a lot and throwing general insults at the people in the video. Although it can become extreme, his overall channel offers more laughs than insults.

Under every video, Chubbs has a disclaimer saying, "Please don't go out of your way to witch hunt or hate on anyone I talk about in my videos; this channel is to entertain people and I usually focus on joking about what the people are doing not the individual themselves; please don't go spreading hate; it's all for laughs and goofs not to start any serious hate."

His content is not meant to offend but to entertain.

Of course, not everyone will agree with his opinions, but that is the point of creating the channel in the first place, to share his own views.

Chubbs is just trying to lighten the mood on certain topics that are having a big impact on society.

These topics are taken seriously, but he is trying to offer some comic relief on the subjects.

their child is completely offensive.

Why should women be breast shamed for providing their child with the proper nutrition?

The argument many men and a few women seem to have, is that it's inappropriate to whip out their breast in public because kids are around.

Kids only know what they are taught; they do not initially associate breasts with sex.

Many instill the idea of breast being sexual just because men sexualize into children's minds; therefore the child begins to associate breast with being inappropriate.

In recent social experiments all over the web, people have been trying to prove just how biased men and a few women are about breast.

In the social experiments they would have two women showing not nipple, but cleavage in completely different ways.

The first women would be feeding her child, and while doing so gets shamed by many men walking pass her telling her how disgusting she is for showing not nipple, but cleavage when feeding her child.

Many would scream "there's children around, go in the bathroom and cover those up," as if breast feeding is not natural.

The second women sitting in the same spot as the woman feeding her child, showed off

the same amount of cleavage the other women did by wearing a low cut shirt.

This women was not shamed though, instead she was praised by men telling her how beautiful she was.

Why is it ok for a women to show off cleavage wearing low-cut shirts, but not ok for a women to show cleavage when feeding her child?

The difference is men associate it with sex.

It's unattractive for women to feed their baby's in front of them because they can't picture themselves having sex with them because of the baby.

"I dont really see a problem with breast feeding in public. As long as you're not peeling your shirt off at like a park or something, breast shaming is not really necessary," said Bryan Hughes, senior biology major.

Breast shaming is a huge problem and free the nipple campaign is trying to show people just how much of a problem it is.

It all correlates with slut shaming and all other slander that women face.

Women are human beings, not objects. Gender inequality is real.

Let us be open-minded and not forget that the free the nipple campaign is all about creating equal opportunities for women.



Holi Festival

VSU's Department of Student Diversity and Inclusion hosted a Holi Festival with the Society of International Students on the Palms Quad at 6 p.m. on March 22. Students were given colored powder to throw in the air to celebrate the beginning of Spring.

Pictured above is the aftermath of color explosion.

Pictured below is Ravi Patel tossing the colored powder up in celebration.

Photos by Seth Willard



FEATURES

Competition takes art of all kinds

Edward Rella
STAFF WRITER
etrella@valdosta.edu

On March 20 at 6 p.m., VSU held the opening reception to its 19th Annual Juried VSU Student Art Competition at the Dedo Maranville Fine Arts Gallery sponsored by Binders.

VSU hired an outside juror to select and award the best pieces in the show, all of which were submitted by VSU students.

Binders awarded \$500 between the top four submissions and six merit awards to the honorable mentions.

Coming in first place was a cyanotype photograph by Lauren Alexandria Jones, titled "Nigerian Queen." Second place was an ink drawing by Mary VanLandingham, titled "Rotary Dial." Third

place was a cone six oxidation ceramic by Abigail Trella, titled "BBD." Fourth place was a charcoal drawing by Eboni Patterson, titled "Extroverted Introvert."

Patterson said her inspiration for "Extroverted Introvert" came from her obsession with elephants.

"They get their strength from their mantle, their minds," Patterson said. "They have a certain type of socialness and loyalty to them. I feel like the characteristics they have reflect me."

The large drawing features a closed body posture but a very open and accepting facial expression, which Patterson said gives the drawing its name.

The opening night had a large crowd, around 60 people came to admire the works of art around the gallery.

Any type of art was accepted

in the show: ceramics, interior designs, paintings, embroidery, photography etc. The judge and juror, Julie Guyot, admired the "diverse collection" of arts submitted and ultimately, chose the ones that "held you, made personal statements." She also gave advice to aspiring artists.

"Make sure it [the artwork] is finished and presented professionally," Guyot said.

"[I] really enjoyed the show," she said.

While the art gallery is regularly open to the public, the art shows retain their layouts for three weeks, letting viewers come and go to admire the works of art. The Dedo Maranville Fine Arts Gallery has a final Spring Senior Exhibition beginning on April 15 at 1 p.m. for opening reception.



See what we're listening to this week on spotify @VSUSpectator



Alex Dunn
ASST. FEATURES EDITOR
eadunn@valdosta.edu

Here comes the smart condom

There is now wearable technology for the bedroom, the i.Con: a smart condom that records performance in real time and is said to be the future of sex.

The i.Con will be sold exclusively by British Condoms, a company advertised as having the widest range of condoms in the United Kingdom.

The i.Con is not an actual condom, but a ring that sits at the base of one. The company said it's reusable and will have a one year warranty.

According to Geoffrey Smith of Fortune.com, this new invention does a variety of things, but the main function is measuring intercourse sessions. It records how many calories were burned during sex, the total number and speed of thrust, frequency of sessions and the total duration of each session.

According to British Condom's website, the i.Con records these by using a Nano-chip and sensors to record multiple variables when in

use. The i.Con app downloads the data, and the history clears to prepare for the next sexual encounter.

Like all technology, the i.Con needs to be charged, which is done by plugging it into a computer.

British Condoms said charging takes about one hour, and it lasts from six to eight hours.

All the data recorded during sessions can be downloaded and kept anonymous, or the data can be shared.

The ring comes in one size, but it has an adjustment feature. This aspect is said to ensure maximum comfort, according to the company's website.

The i.Con is in its final testing stages, with the anticipated release to be later this year. British Condoms will be the only company selling this product initially, and it can be purchased through the company's website for £59.99, which is about \$75.

However, the company said, given the huge amount of interest around the world, the i.Con is expected to become available in stores worldwide.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Mr. VSU has earned his title

Julia Rodriguez
MANAGING EDITOR
jlrdriguez@valdosta.edu

Jordan Surat-Jones, a junior business management major, is better known as Mr. VSU around campus.

Surat-Jones has come a long way to get to VSU. He was originally born in Babylon, New York on Long Island, and his family now lives in Kennesaw.

The name Mr. VSU came about in what Surat-Jones describes as a funny story. In the fall, when Dr. Kelly

Brown appointed him to a spirit and traditions committee, he explained to everyone the different things he is involved in around campus, and Dr. Brown deemed him Mr. VSU.

"I told some of my friends about it, and the name just stuck," Surat-Jones said. "At first I didn't like the name; in high school I was definitely not Mr. School spirit, but it grew on me."

Attending most athletic events and promoting for multiple organizations, Surat-Jones maintains his role of Mr. VSU.

His involvement, which earned him his title, started his freshmen year with the Emerging Leaders Program and the ultimate Frisbee

team. In the spring, he rushed and is now a brother, rush chairmen and alumni relations correspondent of the Delta Chi Fraternity.

Additionally, Surat-Jones is an orientation leader for the school and a student assistant in the Office of Admissions. This year, he became a university ambassador and had a hand in the Fire Pit

at this year's home playoff game," Surat-Jones said.

Whenever Surat-Jones has time from attending various events at VSU, he likes to devote his free time to activities that are enjoyable and relaxing.

Surat-Jones likes to watch movies, listen to music and cook. He says he can spend hours lying in bed listening to different types of music and watching movies. Cooking has always been a relaxing part of free time for him. Whether it is a simple meal or cooking chicken Parmesan, he always enjoys doing it.

Surat-Jones said he hopes people will want to follow in his footsteps, and that students at VSU need to work together to create an environment where everyone loves being a part of this school.

Surat-Jones said VSU is on the right track because more students have become involved.

"This past year we've already seen a rise in attendance at athletic events, more participation during homecoming from various student organizations [and] philanthropic contributions have also increased," Surat-Jones said.

Surat-Jones said he believes people see what he does as Mr. VSU, and they realize the potential they themselves have.

"I told some of my friends about it, and the name just stuck,"

- Jordan Surat-Jones

student section's beginnings.

Surat-Jones' girlfriend, senior Kayla Robles, said the name suits him.

"He represents what being a VSU Blazer is all about, and that's being involved, passionate, and impactful," Robles said.

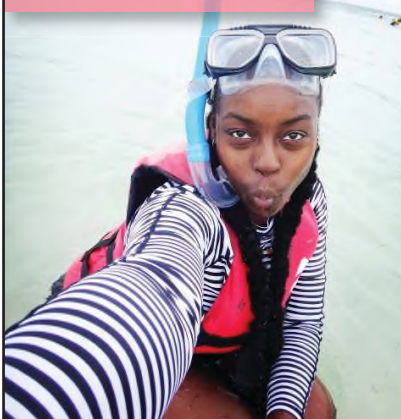
Surat-Jones has spoken in front of hundreds of students at orientations, led chants and cheers at football and basketball games, starred in numerous VSU videos and even gave Dr. Carvajal his campus tour.

"I guess a good, memorable moment, if I had to narrow it down, would be leading the football team onto the field wearing the national championship ring



Surat-Jones and his girlfriend, Kayla Robles, at an event put on by his fraternity. Courtesy of Jordan surat-jones

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FEATURES

FASHION

Paris fashion week: it's a look

Jacorey Moon

CONTRIBUTOR

jxmoon@valdosta.edu

Paris fashion week did not disappoint.

From Louis Vuitton to Chanel, Paris Fashion Week is the time for a fashion house to announce its big debut for the upcoming season. Here are some of the fashion trends seen during Paris Fashion Week for Fall/Winter 2017:

Track Pants. The millennial consumer is really into looking effortlessly chic, and that's exactly what the "dressed up" track pants outfit provides.

Track pants provide a nonchalant appearance, while adding a heel or a simple coat takes the look from errand running to runway model.

Puffer Coats. What was once just a piece of outerwear to keep a

consumer toasty has now become a closet staple.

Ranging from oversized, to long-line, to cropped, the puffer has come a long way. Puffer coats are offered by many luxury brands, therefore making it one of the most universal trends for the upcoming Fall/Winter.

The '80s. Yes, the "glory years" your mom and dad relive. Whether it's through a series of cardboard boxes, or told by mouth, it's returning.

Well, not the neon colors, but pretty much everything else.

Shoulder pads, oversized blazers and BIG everything were popular during Paris Fashion Week. Some of the '80s trends we're seeing again would be socks worn with a "9-5" pump, high-waist leather pants and shoulder pad dresses.

Now, the average millennial

will be able to experience what their parents experienced back then.

Power Suits. Women becoming more powerful and going for better jobs in the '80s introduced the power suit.

The power suit is a complex piece of fashion. It is baggy, yet it is still business appropriate.

Also, this suit empowered women to feel like women, while still competing with men to get what they deserved. Pair this suit with a baggy trench coat, socks and a pair of pumps for a high fashion twist.

Fashion is forever evolving and so is fashion's ideal girl. No more is fashion a safe haven for the average girl, but instead, designers want to see women push the envelope and be more risqué. With that being said, get right or get all the way left.



Courtesy of Pexels.com

Erin Turner

STAFF WRITER

epturner@valdosta.edu

Spaghetti is a staple meal in many households. Not only because of the delicious marinara sauce, but also because of the easy process making it.

The sauce is simmered to perfection and packed with flavor, while the noodles are cooked until firm and the ideal consistency for the perfect spaghetti! Whether you're trying out the recipe for yourself or if you're cooking for your friends, this recipe is sure to have your taste buds begging for more.

Ingredients:

- Prego Spaghetti Sauce
- Ground Beef
- Seasoning Salt
- Pepper
- Spaghetti Noodles
- 1/2 onion-diced
- 1 clove of Garlic
- 1 can crushed tomatoes
- 1 tablespoon Sugar
- 1 tablespoon Italian Seasoning
- 1 teaspoon Cayenne Pepper
- 1 tablespoon Olive Oil
- 1 teaspoon Salt
- Basil

Steps

1. First, fill a large pot halfway

with water and let heat until it comes to a hard boil. Pour in 1 tablespoon of olive oil and add 1 teaspoon of salt to water.

2. Begin to cook ground beef.

Season with seasoning salt and pepper and cook well. Add onions to beef and cook until they are translucent.

3. Add in Prego Spaghetti Sauce with beef. Let mixture heat up. Season with seasoning salt, garlic, Italian seasoning, and cayenne pepper. Also add 1 tablespoon of sugar. Add more if desired.

4. Add 1 can of crushed tomatoes to sauce. Stir sauce well.

5. Cover sauce and let simmer on low-med heat.

6. When water is boiling, add desired amount of noodles to water. Let noodles become Al Dente. About 9 minutes.

7. Once they've reached Al Dente, pour noodles into a strainer and rinse with cool water to prevent sticking.

8. Finally, uncover sauce, sprinkle with basil and enjoy!

*Once you've mastered regular spaghetti, you can start adding meatballs to the recipe!



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ENTERTAINMENT



Beauty and the backlash: An Alabama town bans the movie

Julie Jernigan
ASST. COPY EDITOR
jjernigan@valdosta.edu

While full movie theaters sang “Beauty and the Beast’s” “Be Our Guest” on March 17, one Alabama drive-in stayed silent.

The owner of the Henagar theater, Carol Laney, banned the live action remake when director Bill Condon told Attitude Magazine there would be “an exclusively gay moment” in the film.

In response, Laney cited Henagar theater’s religious beliefs on Facebook.

“We are first and foremost Christians,” Laney said on the

Henagar theater Facebook page, which has since been removed. “We will not compromise on what the Bible teaches.”

Spoiler Alert: Vulture reported the “gay moment” happens when Lefou starts dancing with a woman but then switches to a man for all of two seconds.

“I have family members that are homosexuals,” Laney told The New York Times. “I have a relationship with them. I love them. It does not mean I’m a bigot. I’m not judging them when I tell you that God’s word says this; that’s not me. That’s God’s word.”

She also told The Times she is standing firm in her decision to never show the film.

“When companies continually force their views on us, we need to take a stand,” Laney’s stated in the Facebook post.

Laney went on to say that if movies are not appropriate for her grandchildren, who are 8 and 11, then her theater has no reason to show it.

“If I can’t sit through a movie with God or Jesus sitting by me, then we have no business showing it,” her Facebook post stated.

Laney ended by stating her drive-in will continue to show family orientated movies, and she thanked everyone for their support.

The truth about ‘Zootopia’ is out of the cage

Jyrell Wynn
CONTRIBUTOR
jdwynn@valdosta.edu

With the release of the remake of “Beauty and the Beast,” Disney continues to reuse property from the past that receives little recognition for their creator. On March 21, screenwriter Gary Goldman filed a federal lawsuit against Disney for plagiarizing his idea for their film “Zootopia.”

A veteran in the film business, Goldman wrote screenplays for “Total Recall,” “Big Trouble in Little China,” and “Next.” According to Variety, “Goldman charged the company of stealing character designs, themes, dialogues and the title ‘Zootopia’ from a project he developed in 2000.”

In the lawsuit, his accusations included Disney having a long history of stealing ideas, with “Zootopia” being the most recent example, and creating a culture that encourages stealing the ideas

of others.

In August of 2009, he wrote a live-action film treatment called “Looney,” which was the first movie in a planned “Zootopia” franchise, involved a cartoon animal world that reflected human society through classes and power structures.

Similarities between the Disney version and Goldman version of “Zootopia” include Goldman’s version having an optimistic squirrel named Mimi and Disney with the bunny character of Judy, and the themes of chasing your dreams and fighting stereotypes are evident in both versions. Goldman also said the plot is the exact: the protagonist pursues a career without the support of her parent, using intelligence and dedication to take on the big city, and then overcoming prejudice in the end.

A Disney spokesman rejected the claim due to “false allegations” and called Goldman’s lawsuit an “unprincipled attempt to claim success for a successful film he didn’t create.”

Blurry lines in hip-hop: Influence vs. manipulation

Kevin Paul
CONTRIBUTOR
kpaul@valdosta.edu

The lines between influence and manipulation in today’s hip-hop industry are blurry.

Some of hip-hop’s most prominent figures such as Drake and Kanye West have both been criticized for stealing content within their careers. Throughout history, influence has been a guideline within hip-hop as artists use pop culture to create distinctive records. One of the most common dilemmas within the industry is measuring how far influence stretches until it’s considered stealing.

Starting with Drake’s “Hotline Bling,” the “Views” single shattered through airwaves, going viral by obtaining one billion views on YouTube and potentially giving Drake his second highest charting single on Billboard Hot 100, trailing behind “One Dance.” The five times platinum record was praised initially but soon began to receive claims of manipulating D.R.A.M’s “Cha Cha,” splitting waves of fans into a debate on its originality. Drake denied accusations of stealing from the “Broccoli” and “Cash Machine” artist, but stated that on a “riddim” like that, “everyone has to do a song on that.”

Kanye West also received criticism over his 2013 release of “Yeezus,” with Travis Scott

serving as an executive producer on the album for tracks such as “Guilt Trip” and “New Slaves.” The general reception wasn’t as strong as Kanye’s previous efforts, “My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy” or “808’s and Heartbreak,” leading listeners to believe that guidance from Rick Rubin and Travis Scott altered the initial vision for “Yeezus.” One example of this visionary change is “Bound 2,” a heavily sampled pitch-shifted record having an alternate R&B rendition floating throughout YouTube. Although both Rick Rubin and Travis Scott are both admired for their production and influence, the sudden shift in music initially left fans feeling abrasive.

Even though both of these musical recordings are viewed as distant from the original artist’s discography, they were eventually praised as the dust settled. When examining “Hotline Bling” and “On Sight,” the saving grace for their actions seems to be their intentions, as both Drake and Kanye brought unique sounds that headlined the music industry during release. The belief that certain hip-hop tracks manipulate their origins should be based off of their intentions, rather than the elements that they may consist of. There is always the possibility of piracy within the industry, but as long as recognition and credit are given, influence should know no bounds.

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SPORTS

On the Court



Seth Willard/THE SPECTATOR

VSU Men's Tennis beat Nebraska-Kearny eight sets to one in Valdosta on Monday. The team improved to 7-4 overall on the season. The women's team also beat Nebraska-Kearny 7-2. The women are now 7-5 overall. Bea Morales Hernandez (above) won her singles match 6-1. Eden Peleg (top right) and Xavier Pineda (right) won both of their matches. The teams' next matches are March 24 against North Alabama in Pensacola, Florida.

SPORTS

Analysis

Basketball season gone like a thief in the night

Kyle Dawson

SPORTS EDITOR

kkdawson@valdosta.edu

As many Blazer fans have turned their attention to other sports, basketball season at VSU was here one second, and then gone the next. People have come up to me dozens of times asking what happened to our basketball teams. I hate to tell them the answer: they both lost in the first round of the NCAA Division II Tournament.

A lot of the confusion can be attributed to spring break. While most students, faculty and staff were starting their spring break on a beach, taking a cruise, or at a ski resort, Coach Mike Helfer and the VSU Men's Basketball team were in Hunstville, Alabama, suffering a heartbreaking loss to Rollins College. The Women's team had just lost to Benedict College in St. Petersburg, Florida, the day before.

The early exits were a surprise to many. The men were regular season champions in the Gulf South Conference, and the women were the GSC Tournament Champions. Most fans expected them to at least get past the first round.

The men's team will lose eight seniors to graduation. They have worked hard for the success they've had this year. They saw more conference wins this year than overall wins in any of the past three years. It's safe to say Helfer will be in rebuild mode this offseason.

Coach Carley Kuhns, however, will have her entire team back. The women doubled last year's win total this season, and they will be poised to be the favorite in the GSC next year.

After covering the teams down the stretch, I am most disappointed in the losses for the players. This season has been the most exciting in Titledown in my four years here.

The Complex was full of energy, especially during the second half of the season. With the emergence of the Fire Pit this

school year, all sporting events have been more energized. However, with the proximity of the student section to the court, they could affect games a lot more this basketball season.

Whether it was dressing up in elaborate costumes, shouting insults at a certain player or dancing along to "Bad and Boujee" or Beyoncé, the Fire Pit was a weapon both for attendance and performance on the court. Along with Sports Information Director Matt Malone's PA skills, they made the games a lot of fun for the fans.

However, as the saying goes, time flies when you're having fun. I've asked myself many times, did this basketball season even happen? It seems like it was just yesterday the men were losing to Florida State by 28 points and everyone wondered if basketball was going to be worth watching in Valdosta.

Even if it seemed like a blur, the season definitely happened. There's a huge pile of awards to prove it.

Jeremiah Hill was selected to the National Association of Basketball Coaches Division II All-America team, All-District team and he'll play in the NABC DII All-Star game in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Hill was also selected to the DII Conference Commissioner's Association All-South Region First Team. Along with Beau Justice, Hill was selected to the GSC All-Tournament team, and he was named to the GSC All-Conference First Team, while Saadiq Muhammad was named to the second team. Hill was also named GSC Player of the Year. Helfer was named GSC Coach of the Year and All-District Coach of the Year.

Kuhns was named GSC Coach of the Year, while Madi Mitchell was named to the GSC All-Conference First Team along with Kenya Samone' Dixon. The duo was also named to the GSC All-Tournament team, and Mitchell was the tournament MVP. Mitchell was then selected to the All-

South Region First Team, while Samone' Dixon was named to the second team. Mitchell was also awarded an All American honorable mention by the Women's Basketball Coaches Association.

The teams earned so many awards that I probably missed some, and they're probably being given new ones as you're reading this.

Next will come the news of graduating seniors moving on and new recruits coming to the Azalea City, but the triumphs of Hill, who gained access to the 1,000-point club in just three seasons at VSU, shouldn't be forgotten. The success of Kuhns should be remembered as she won coach of the year and led her team to a conference championship victory in her first season as a head coach.

2016-2017 will go down as the year we all met Beau Justice, who looks ready to eclipse the standard set by his brother and former VSU shooting guard, Blake. The season will be known as Madi Mitchell's emergence as a leader, scoring the second most points in the conference and leading the Blazers to a GSC Championship.

The question is, will anyone remember the two teams next year, five years from now, 10 years from now and so on? They will have a point of reference hanging from the rafters in the Complex.

As for now, however, all we can do is hoist the GSC banners and try our best to remember one of the most fleeting, albeit best, basketball seasons VSU has had in recent history.



Seth Willard/THE SPECTATOR

Forward Juston Simon, (above) will be missed next year after graduating.

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SPORTS



Seth Willard/THE SPECTATOR

VSU started spring practice Tuesday in shells. The team is losing starters on both sides of the ball, but Adam Robles (above) returns, who started at quarterback for most games last year.

Spring football is in the air

Juston Lewis

ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

justlewis@valdosta.edu

Four months after heartbreak, VSU Football is springing into the swing of things.

Head Coach Kerwin Bell looked poised to take the Blazers on a deep playoff run in his first season as head coach. The Blazers won seven of their last eight games in the regular season before losing in the first round of the NCAA Division-II Playoffs to UNC-Pembroke at home.

VSU only lost by three points in the 24-21 final. However, they never led in the game, and they trailed by as many as 17 points in the first half.

"We feel like we didn't quite live up to where we needed to be," Bell said on the playoff loss. "That certainly isn't our expectation to lose like that in the first-round."

One of the things that hurt the

Blazers down the stretch was the quarterback competition between Adam Robles and Roland Rivers. The same competition has the potential to stretch into this season for VSU, with Robles opening the spring practice as the starter and Rivers being sidelined with a nagging injury from last season.

Rivers started last season but was benched in the second game of the season after struggling against North Alabama. This opened the door for Bell to use Robles, who showed promise. The UNA game launched a quarterback competition between the two that would last the entire season.

The competition effectively ended when Rivers suffered an injury against Florida Tech with two regular season games remaining. The injury did not keep Rivers from dressing out, and he seemed available for the final games of the season. He even warmed up

on the sidelines before and during the playoff game.

However, Rivers was not dressed for the first day of spring practice and took no reps at quarterback. With the first game of the season being nearly six months away, there is no rush or premium on Rivers' return.

One player who could be directly affected by the quarterbacks' play is senior wide receiver Dallas Baldner.

Baldner was second in receptions, receiving yards and yards per game for the Blazers last season.

He was a part of the recruiting class that came in after the Blazers' last championship in 2012. He attributes his coming to VSU to the hopes of winning a championship, and four years later that has not changed.

The only thing that has changed for Baldner is going from an underclassman with sparse playing

time to being the top receiving target and playmaker for VSU.

"Since I am going into my last year, I am really taking everything into consideration and slowing my mindset down to focus on the little things," Baldner said. "In the weight room or the classroom, I am just making sure I am on top of all my things . . . so that when I come out to practice I can just play the game I love."

Unlike the upperclassmen, the 31 signing-day signees or young redshirt players might suffer from a lack of experience, but Baldner wants to be a leader they can look up to.

"Being really vocal but also leading by example, making sure I'm doing everything right and do all of the little things so that the younger guys can see what I'm doing right, that'll build a tradition for when I leave here," Baldner said.

Bell said he thinks two of those

younger players might have the offensive impact that GSC Freshman of the Year Cedric Hollingshed had.

"Deandre Butler and Isaiah Johnson, we redshirted both of those guys last year. We think they could give us that big play ability that we are lacking on offense," Bell said. "We're going to give them a lot of carries this off-season and see if they can produce for us."

With the Blazers losing key pieces on both sides of the ball, it will take more than pure talent. The Blazers are going to have to get back to playing like a family if they hope to win another title.

"It's just going to take everyone buying in and getting in the same routine," Baldner said. "We have a lot of great players and a lot of big assets on this team. I think right now we're just going to focus on coming together."

The VSU Department of Philosophy & Religious Studies encourages you to take these courses Fall 2017!

• Fall '17 Philosophy Course Offerings •

PHIL 2010 Fundamentals of Philosophy

81704 A	TR 9:30-10:45AM	SANTAS
81705 B	TR 11:00AM-12:15PM	SANTAS
81706 C	MW 3:30-4:45PM	PEACE
81707 D	TR 12:30-1:45PM	PEACE
81708 E	MWF 10:00-10:50AM	JAMES
81709 IA	8/14-12/04 • ONLINE*	HACKETT

- 81714 • PHIL 2030 A • ETHICS & CONTEMP SOCIETY • ONLINE* • HACKETT
- 81715 • PHIL 3110 A • AESTHETICS • TR 12:30-1:45PM • HARMON
- 81716 • PHIL 3140 A • ETHICS & LAW • TR 11:00AM-12:15PM • PEACE
- 81717 • PHIL 3300 A • PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION • MW 2:00-3:15PM • SERRAN-PAGAN
- 81718 • PHIL 3610 A • NATIVE AMERICAN THOUGHT & CULTURE • MW 2:00-3:15PM • LOVERN
- 81719 • PHIL 3640 A • ENVIRONMENTAL PHILOSOPHY • ONLINE HYBRID • MW 12:00-12:50PM • SANTAS
- 81720 • PHIL 4120 A • ETHICS AND PUBLIC POLICY • TR 3:30-4:45PM • JAMES
- 81721 • PHIL 4800 A • AFRICAN TO AFRICAN AMERICAN PHILOSOPHY • MW 3:30-4:45PM • LOVERN
- 81722 • PHIL 4800 B • FATE, FREE WILL, AND TIME • MW 2:00-3:15PM • SANTAS
- 81723 • PHIL 4800 IA • WOMEN PHILOSOPHERS • ONLINE* • LOVERN

PHIL 2020 Principles of Logic & Argumentation

81710 A	TR 9:30-10:45am	JAMES
82534 AA* *	TR 9:30-10:45am	JAMES
* * Note: Reserved for FLC students		
81711 B	TR 11:00AM-12:15PM	JAMES
81712 C	TR 2:00-3:15PM	HARMON
81713 IA	Online*	LOVERN

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• Fall '17 Religious Course Offerings •

REL 2020 World Religions

81724 A	MWF 11:00-11:50AM	SERRAN-PAGAN
81725 B	MWF 1:00- 1:50PM	SERRAN-PAGAN
81726 C	MWF 10:00-10:50AM	DOWNING
81727 D	TR 11:00AM-12:15PM	TURLEY
81728 IA	ONLINE*	JOHNSON

- 81729 • REL 3270 IA • HUMAN QUEST FOR FAITH • ONLINE* • DOWNING
- 81730 • REL 3300 A • PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION • MW 2:00-3:15PM • SERRAN-PAGAN
- 81731 • REL 3330 IA • NEW TESTAMENT • ONLINE • JOHNSON
- 82571 • REL 3504 A • ARCHAEOLOGY OF ANCIENT ISRAEL • TR 9:30-10:45AM • DOWNING
- 81733 • REL 3520 A • ISLAM • TR 11:00AM-12:15PM • SERRAN-PAGAN
- 81734 • REL 3610 IA • NATIVE AMERICAN THOUGHT & CULTURE • MW 2:00-3:15PM • LOVERN
- 81735 • REL 4700 A • AFRICAN TO AFRICAN AMERICAN PHILOSOPHY • MW 3:30-4:45PM • LOVERN
- 81736 • REL 4700 IA • WOMEN PHILOSOPHERS • ONLINE* • LOVERN

VSU Department of Philosophy & Religious Studies • Ashley Hall • 229.333.5949