GINA GUERRIERI

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Position: Professor, Department of Communication

William Paterson University

Appointment: September 2002

Tenure: September 2007

### EDUCATION:

**Columbia University** New York, New York

***Master of Fine Arts*** degree in Film

**Loyola University** New Orleans, Louisiana

***Bachelor of Arts*** degree in Communications, ***Magna Cum Laude***

### ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE:

**Professor**

William Paterson University; Wayne, New Jersey

Courses taught include film & television production, screenwriting and cinema studies.

COMM 1190 Survey of Communication Practices & Studies

COMM 1200 Mass Communication

COMM 2200 Radio & Television

COMM 2260 Video Production & Editing

COMM 2270 Television Studio Production

COMM 2340 Film as a Medium

COMM 2350 Film as Cross-Cultural Communication

COMM 2390 Filmmaking I

COMM 3260 Advanced Television Production

COMM 3300 Internal Internship

COMM 3310 Filmmaking II

COMM 3320 Filmmaking III

COMM 3340 Documentary and Non-Fiction Film

COMM 3990 Media That Matter *(a selected-topics course)*

COMM 4250 Advanced Television Workshop

COMM 4310 Screenwriting

COMM 4340 Current Cinema

COMM 4350 Italian & Italian-American Cinema

COMM 4455 Media Production Capstone

COMM 4990 Independent Study, undergraduate

COMS 7000 Independent Study, graduate

**Adjunct Professor/Guest Lecturer Summer 2008 & 2010**

## The American University of Rome; Rome, Italy

Taught advertising course on multi-platform marketing.

**Adjunct Professor 1997 to 2002**

## Fordham University, New York

Developed and taught beginning & advanced screenwriting courses at Fordham’s Lincoln Center Campus.

**Digital Video Editor & Instructor 1996**

## Montage Group, Ltd.; New York, New York

## & Asia Broadcast Center (ABC); Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Taught non-linear editing software to film editors in NYC and Kuala Lumpur.

### TV, FILM & NEWSPAPER EXPERIENCE:

**Newspaper Promotional Copywriter 1989**

*The Times-Picayune* (daily newspaper), New Orleans, LA

Wrote promotional copy for news articles, feature stories, PSAs, market demographics, etc.

**Film Production Assistant 1988**

New Orleans, Louisiana

Jobs included work on *Miller’s Crossing*, *Johnny Handsome* and MTV’s Mardi Gras special.

**Television Commercial Producer & Copywriter 1984 to 1988**

WWL-TV, New Orleans CBS Affiliate

Wrote, directed and produced television commercials for local businesses in New Orleans.

### AWARDS, HONORS & CITATIONS:

**“Dark Light,”** short experimental film

What does depression FEEL like? “Dark Light” is a cinematic response to this question: it is a short experimental film that attempts to convey the experiential nature of depression.

**Peer Reviewed, Critical Recognition for “Dark Light”**

* **CINDY (Cinema in Industry) Awards** ***August 2016***

***Gold CINDY,*** “Personal Statement”

***Special Achievement,*** “Soundtrack”

***Special Achievement,*** “Production Design”

* **TELLY Awards** ***May 2016***

***Silver Telly (1st Place),*** “Low-Budget Short Film”

**Winter Film Awards**; New York, NY ***February 2016***

Selected to screen.

**U.S. Super 8 Film & Video Festival**; Rutgers, NJ ***February 2016***

***Honorable Mention***

* **WorldFest International Film Festival**; Houston, TX ***April 2016***

***Gold Remi Award***, “Independent Dramatic”

* **Passaic County Film Festival**; Wayne, New Jersey ***April 2016***

***1st Place (Best Short Film) & Grand Prize (“Best of Fest”)***

**Livermore Valley Film Fest, “Where Science Meets Art,”** Livermore, CA ***May 2016***

Selected to screen.

**Additional screenings of “Dark Light”**

**William Paterson University** ***October 2014***

Screened during WPU’s “Suicide Prevention Week,” sponsored by Campus Life and the Counseling, Health & Wellness Center.

**Center for International Human Rights;** John Jay College, NYC ***April 2014***

Screening & panel discussion at CIHR [*http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/past-events*](http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/past-events)

*“Each academic year, CIHR invites renowned scholars and practitioners to address cutting-edge human rights topics. The focus of the 2013-2014 Seminar is on Mental Health and Human Rights.”*

[*http://johnjayresearch.org/cihr/*](http://johnjayresearch.org/cihr/)

**Enduring Freedom,** a feature-length, narrative screenplay

When a returning U.S. war vet and an Afghan refugee bond over wounds only they can understand, their families threaten to keep them apart. Can their overpowering need to connect transcend the politically-charged issues dividing their two worlds?

Peer Reviewed, Critical Recognition for Enduring Freedom

**Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences “Top 50” Nicholls semi-finalist *December 2013***

*“Standing above 7,251 submissions from 79 countries, these 50 scripts represent the best work from emerging writers.”*

[*https://www.facebook.com/notes/academy-nicholl-fellowships-in-screenwriting/2013-academy-nicholl-fellowships-top-50-screenplays/10151842744516452/*](https://www.facebook.com/notes/academy-nicholl-fellowships-in-screenwriting/2013-academy-nicholl-fellowships-top-50-screenplays/10151842744516452/)

**Sundance Feature Film Screenwriters Lab finalist *July 2012***

**“Academania!,”** a short narrative film

After trudging through day after day of his dull and lonely life, a stodgy old professor receives an unexpected gift that takes his life in a different direction. “Academania!” is about regaining the passion for life that makes it worth living!

Peer Reviewed, Critical Recognition for “Academania!”

***“Academania!” had its television debut in 2011 on PBS stations throughout the U.S.***

**BAMkids Film Festival**

Selected to screen. Brooklyn Academy of Music, Brooklyn, NY; March 2008

[www.bam.org](http://www.bam.org)

**Big Apple Film Festival**

Selected to screen. New York, NY; November 2007

[www.bigapplefilmfestival.com](http://www.bigapplefilmfestival.com)

* **CINE Film & Video Competition**

***CINE Golden Eagle Award,*** & ***CINE Special Jury Award***, short fiction category.

Washington, D.C.; Spring 2007

[www.cine.org](http://www.cine.org)

**Charlotte Film Festival**

Selected to screen. Charlotte, NC; September 2007

[www.charlottefilmfestival.org](http://www.charlottefilmfestival.org)

**Chicago International Children’s Film Festival**

***(an Academy Award-qualifying film festival)***

Selected to screen. Chicago, IL; October 2007

[www.cicff.org](http://www.cicff.org)

* **FADE IN Awards**

***Semi-finalist (one of the top 90 films out of 2,800 submissions)***

Beverly Hills, CA; June 2007

[www.fadeinonline.com](http://www.fadeinonline.com)

**Festival de la Cité**

Selected to screen. Lausanne, Switzerland; July 2007

[www.festivalcite.ch/](http://www.festivalcite.ch/)

**FilmColumbia Festival of Film**

Selected to screen. Chatham, NY; October 2008

[www.filmcolumbia.com](http://www.filmcolumbia.com)

**Hamptons International Film Festival**

***(an Academy Award-qualifying film festival)***

Selected to screen. East Hampton, NY; October 2008

[www.hamptonsfilmfest.org](http://www.hamptonsfilmfest.org)

**Heart of Gold International Film Festival**

Selected to screen. Queensland, Australia; October 2007

[www.heartofgold.com.au/](http://www.heartofgold.com.au/)

**Hoboken International Film Festival**

Selected to screen. Hoboken, NJ; June 2008

[www.hobokeninternationalfilmfestival.com](http://www.hobokeninternationalfilmfestival.com)

* **International Family Film Festival**

***Winner, Best Comedy Short Film.*** Hollywood, CA; February 2008

[www.iffilmfest.org](http://www.iffilmfest.org)

**L. A. Shorts Fest (Los Angeles International Short Film Festival)**

***(an Academy Award-qualifying film festival)***

Selected to screen. Los Angeles, CA; September 2007  
 [www.lashortsfest.com](http://www.lashortsfest.com)

**Miami Short Film Festival**

Selected to screen. Miami, FL; November 2007

[www.miamishortfilmfestival.com](http://www.miamishortfilmfestival.com)

**New Orleans Film Festival**

Selected to screen. New Orleans, LA; October 2007

[www.neworleansfilmfest.com](http://www.neworleansfilmfest.com)

* **Official Best of Fest**

***Official Best of Fest Award;*** featured on “Romance” DVD. Seattle, WA; January 2010

[www.officialbestoffest.com](http://www.officialbestoffest.com)

* **“Official Best of Fest” on PBS**

***“Official Best of Fest” TV show; broadcast throughout the U.S. on local PBS stations, 2010 & 2011***

<http://www.officialbestoffest.com/tvshow/>

**Redemptive Film Festival**

Selected to screen. Virginia Beach, VA; November 2007

[www.redemptivefilms.com](http://www.redemptivefilms.com)

**Saint Ann’s “Shorts in Winter” Children’s Film Festival**

Selected to screen. Saint Ann’s School, Brooklyn, NY; November 2008

[www.saintanns.k12.ny.us](http://www.saintanns.k12.ny.us)

* **Staten Island Film Festival**

***Winner, Best Romantic Comedy Short.*** Staten Island, NY; June 2008

[www.sifilmfestival.org](http://www.sifilmfestival.org)

**United States Super 8 Film & Digital Video Festival**

Selected to screen. New Brunswick, NJ; February 2008

[www.njfilmfest.com](http://www.njfilmfest.com)

* **WorldFest: 40th Annual WorldFest Independent Film Festival**

***Bronze Remi Award,*** short film category. Houston, TX, April 2007

[www.worldfest.org](http://www.worldfest.org)

**“A Close Call,”** short narrative film

What happens when a suicidal teenager misdials a hotline number and reaches a sex phone operator instead?

**Peer Reviewed, Critical Recognition for “A Close Call”**

* **47th Annual CINE Awards**

***CINE Golden Eagle Award Winner,*** Short Film Category – Washington, DC, April 2006

**ION International Animation, Games & Short Film Festival**

Selected to screen. – Los Angeles, CA, December 2005

**FirstGlance 8 Philadelphia Film Festival**

Selected to screen. – Philadelphia, PA, May 2005

* **38th Annual WorldFest**

***Bronze Remi Award Winner,*** Short Film Category – Houston, TX, April 2005

* + **2005 U.S. Super 8 Film & Digital Video Festival**

***Tied for 1st place, “Best Short Film”*** – New Brunswick, NJ, February 2005

**New River International Film Festival**

Selected to screen. – Blacksburg, VA, April 2005

**Kansas City Filmmakers Jubilee**

Selected to screen. – Kansas City, MO, April 2005

**Waking Up in New Orleans**, a feature-length, narrative screenplay

Among a comical cast of characters in the sensual city of New Orleans, an annoying but endearing obsessive-compulsive learns to give up some control.

**Peer Reviewed, Critical Recognition for *Waking Up in New Orleans***

The Sundance Institute Feature Film Program Screenwriter’s Lab, 2003 – ***Finalist***

The Chesterfield Writer’s Film Project, 2002 – ***Finalist***

The Hollywood Symposium Contest, 2002 – ***Finalist***

**“Make Room For Mario,”** Columbia University thesis film

Within the confines of a nursing home, a spirited Cuban expatriate and a retired Navy officer struggle to hold onto their freedom, their dignity, and the good chair.

**Peer Reviewed, Critical Recognition for “Make Room For Mario”**

1998 Chicago Silver Images Film Festival – ***Best of the Festival***, Student Category

1997 Certamen Internacional de Cine Amateur Ciutat d’Igualada (Barcelona)

***Grand Prize*** & ***“Special Jury Prize for film best promoting human dignity & values”***

1997 Hiroshima International Amateur Film Festival – ***Mainichi Shimbun Prize***

1997 IAC International Film & Video Competition, Manchester, England – ***Gold Seal***

1996 Student Academy Awards – ***Regional Semi-Finalist***, Dramatic Category

1996 Aspen Filmfest/Shortsfest – ***Best Student Film***

1996 CINE (Council on International Non-theatrical Events) – ***CINE Golden Eagle***

1996 New York Exposition of Short Film & Video – ***Finalist***, Narrative Program

1996 Brooklyn Arts Council’s Annual Film & Video Festival – ***3rd Prize***, Narrative Film

1996 Worldfest: Houston International Film Festival – ***Finalist***

1995 Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art – ***Award for Excellence in Film***

**Additional Screenings of “Make Room For Mario”**

Bay Area Multicultural Film & Video Festival, San Francisco, December 1996

Big Muddy Film Festival, Carbondale, Illinois, February 1996

Cine Estudiantil ’96, Chicano/Latino/Native American Student Film Festival, San Diego, March 1996

Columbia University: chosen by C.U. Film Division Faculty for “Best Student Shorts,” May 1995

Festival ¡Cine Latino! Film Festival, San Francisco, September 1996

Florida Film Festival, June 1996

Göteborg Film Festival, Sweden, February 1996

Independent Feature Film Market (IFFM), Bravo/IFC Student Showcase, September 1995

International Festival of Film Schools, Mexico City, October 1995

New Orleans Film & Video Festival, October 1995

Palm Springs International Short Film Festival, August 1996

PhilaFilm, Philadelphia International Film Festival, July 1996

South Beach Film Festival, April 1996

## Taos Talking Picture Festival, New Mexico, April 1996

#### XicanIndie FilmFest, Denver, April 2001

**SCHOLARLY & CREATIVE ACTIVITIES:**

“2016 Veterans Day @WPU,” short video tribute 2016

My students and I shot a video tribute on Veterans Day 2016 as our students, faculty & staff gathered on Zanfino Plaza to honor our nation’s servicemen and servicewomen.

“The Dark Light Project” (mental health public awareness campaign) 2013 – 2016

& “Dark Light,” short film & film festival presentations

Guest Lecturer, Screenwriting Workshops for Girl Scouts, Troop 24 (Wyckoff, NJ) 2016

The Cutting Room Floor, feature-length screenplay (rough draft) 2019

Cassatt, feature-length screenplay (rough draft) 2017

Nina’s Spell, feature-length screenplay (rough draft) 2014

Enduring Freedom, feature-length screenplay (final drafts) 2012 – 2013

“The David Zuckerman Show,” a short video which opened Act II 2013  
 of Exquisite Potential, the WPU NJ Playwright's Contest Winner

Director, staged reading of Exquisite Potential, a WPU NJ Playwright's Contestant 2012

Lemon Tree, feature-length screenplay (rough draft) 2012

Guest Lecturer, Screenwriting Workshop, Spring Writers Conference, WPU Dept of English 2011

“Academania!” short film & film festival presentations 2007 – 2011

“A Close Call,” short film & film festival presentations 2005 – 2006

###### SERVICE:

* ***University level***
  + *Member, Faculty Senate 2016 to 2017*
  + *Member, Faculty Senate “UCC Area 5” Council 2018 to 2020*
  + *Member, Faculty Senate Governance Council 2016 to 2017*
  + *Member, University Range Adjustment Committee 2015-2016*
  + *Member, WPU Student Veteran’s Task Force 2014 to 2017*
  + *Participant, WPU Veteran’s Day Ceremony 2011 to 2017*
  + *Presenter/Reader, WPU Veteran’s Day Ceremony 2011 to 2013*
  + *Vice President of Negotiations, AFT local 1796 2008 to 2010*
  + *Organizer & Presenter, AFT Local 1796 Workshops 2008 to 2010*
  + *Chair & founding member, WPU SDccc  
     (SaveDarfur Campus & Community Campaign) 2006 to 2008*
  + *Campus Organizer, “Spring Into Action Week” 2007 & 2008*
  + *Member, Faculty Senate Undergraduate Curriculum Committee 2005 to 2006*
  + *Member, Faculty Senate Research Council Committee 2004 to 2005*
  + *Member, American Democracy Project 2005 to 2007*
* ***College level***
  + *Member, College of Arts & Communication Curriculum Committee 2016 to 2017*
  + *College Representative for Library Advisory Committee 2004 to 2015*
  + *Member, Cross-Cultural Arts Festival Committee 2011 to 2013*
  + *Co-hosted (w/Kristen Evangelista, Dir, Ben Shahn Galleries) a film screening of  
    “George Tice: Seeing Beyond the Moment” & moderated post-screening Q & A 2013*
  + *Chair, Center for Creative Activity & Research Committee 2005 to 2006*
  + *Member, Center for Creative Activity & Research Committee 2004 to 2006*
* ***Department level***
  + *Academic Advisor 2004 to Present*
  + *Co-moderator (w/Nicholas Hirshon) for WP Society of Professional Journalists’ screening 2019  
    of “Josheph Pulitzer: Voice of the People” and Q & A with director Robert Seidman*
  + *Faculty Senate Department Representative 2016 to 2017*
  + *Coordinator for “Media Studies/Media Production” Major 2014 to 2015*
  + *Member, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee 2003 to Present*
  + *Member, Technology Committee 2003 to 2016*
  + *Faculty Advisor to “Divide & Conquer,” student-led WPBN-TV show 2010 to 2012*
  + *Faculty Advisor, Student Film Association 2009 to 2013*
  + *Guest Lecturer, Screenwriting Workshops for SFA (Student Film Assoc.) 2009 to 2013*
  + *Interim Faculty Advisor, WPU Student Film Association 2007 to 2008*
  + *Faculty Advisor, WPBN-TV student club 2004 to 2007*
  + *Library Liaison 2002 to Present*
  + *Member, WPBN-TV Board 2002 to 2007*
  + *Member, Faculty Retention & Tenure Review Committee 2007 to Present*
  + *Department Representative to AFT Local 1796 2005 to 2008 & 2010 to 2018\**

*\*served as V.P. of Negotiations, 2008 to 2010*

* ***Community Service***
* ***“The Dark Light Project”*** *2013 to Present*

*In 2013, I founded “The Dark Light Project,” a public awareness campaign designed to help fight the stigma surrounding mental illness, and mentored a group of WPU student volunteers from 2013 to 2016. Our work included:*

* *A website:* [*www.thedarklightproject.org*](http://www.thedarklightproject.org)*, providing mental health resources & information*
* *“Dark Light,” a short experimental film*
* *“Dark Light” IndieGoGo fundraising campaign*
* *“Dark Light” promotional fundraising video*

*I continue to be an outspoken advocate for mental health issues on campus and off, and to maintain our website.*

* + *Taught Screenwriting Workshops to Girl Scouts Troop 24 (Wyckoff, NJ) 2016*
  + *Activist & Speaker on the genocide in Darfur 2005 to 2008  
     (at campus teach-ins & WPU student clubs and on WPBN TV shows)*
  + *Organizer of trips with WPU students to “Save Darfur” rallies in NYC 2008*
  + *Organizer of bus trip with WPU students to the “Rally for Darfur” in D.C. 2006*
  + *Organizer of trip with WPU students to the White Birch Senior Center, NJ 2006*
  + *Team Leader & Mentor to WPU student volunteers, New York Cares Volunteer Day 2005*
  + *Community Volunteer (and/or Team Leader) for four NYC service organizations: 1995 to Present  
    (New York Cares, Project Sunshine, Free Arts, & the NYC chapter of the ASPCA)*