



SCHOOL

of

INDIVIDUALIZED

STUDY

FROM THE DESK of the DEAN

Dear Gallatin Parents,

I write to you at the beginning of a new semester, with the Gallatin School awchirl with new activities and the nation celebrating the inauguration of a new president. We have recently launched faculty searches in the fields of African-American studies; classics; community organizing; and law and human rights. Some exciting events organized by students and staff are:

- **Albert Gallatin's Birthday.** The Gallatin Student Council and Office of Student Life created a new event in honor of NYU's founder and our School's namesake, Albert Gallatin. January 29th marked his 248th birthday and we celebrated the occasion with festivities to welcome students back to school.
- **Black History Month.** Each February we host forums in which students, faculty, and administrators discuss crucial questions about race, culture, and history while also celebrating the achievements of people of color. This year's events examined the alliances that helped bring progress, including the strong connection between blacks and Jews during the civil rights movement.
- **The Gallatin Greening Committee.** Gallatin students, who have taken the lead at NYU in sustainability efforts, have formed a committee at Gallatin to suggest new initiatives and to propose ways to add the study of environmental policy to our curriculum. Our student cochair for this committee, Zoe Abram, recently partnered with Gallatin alumnus Adam Brock (BA '08) to present a University-wide conference on urban agriculture. The occasion included a panel moderated by Gallatin alumnus Jeremy Friedman (BA '06).
- **Lectures.** Just two of the lectures planned for this semester include the spring Albert Gallatin Lecture with *New York Times* Managing Editor Jill Abramson, "Why Quality Journalism Matters," as well as "100 Days Later," a panel to be presented in April that will discuss President Obama's first 100 days in office.

Events like these represent important community occasions in which exchanges on national issues help to draw us together. Please encourage your students to participate in Gallatin activities—it can make a big difference in their college experience. In addition, do not hesitate to call on me or my staff if you have questions or if we can help you and your student in any way.

Yours,

Susanne L. Wofford
Dean



MEET the FACULTY

George Shulman

GALLATIN PROFESSOR GEORGE SHULMAN has research and teaching interests in political thought and American studies. He teaches and writes on the history of European and American thought, emphasizing the role of narrative in culture and politics. His course offerings at Gallatin include: Race and American Nationhood; Theorizing Politics: Machiavelli, Marx, and Foucault; and Modern American Narratives, which examines how notable novelists and theorists depict crucial changes in 20th-century America.

“Teaching political and social thought appeals to me because politics are very important,” he states. “The stakes are very high in discussions of political issues; how we think and how we act really matter. It’s also exciting to see the range of opinions about political things—people really don’t agree, and it is very important for students to learn how to credit and negotiate those differences.”

He continues, “I love the exchange of ideas in a classroom. I love to be part of change—both to watch my students and to develop my own ideas by working them out with students. The whole interaction in a classroom is so political.”

Like his students, Shulman received his B.A. in individualized study; at Amherst College he focused his undergraduate work on political economy and American literature. He then received both his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley, where he studied political science and theory. Prior to joining the Gallatin faculty in 1994, Shulman taught at Washington University in St. Louis; Sarah Lawrence College; Yale University, where he taught political science and American studies at both the undergraduate and graduate levels; and The New School, where he spent four years on the graduate faculty in The New School for Social Research.

He published his first book, *Radicalism and Reverence: Gerrard Winstanley and the English Revolution* (University of California Press), in 1992. The book is an examination of the life and work of Winstanley, a 17th-century political theorist and radical Protestant. Shulman’s second book, *American Prophecy: Race and Redemption in American Political Culture*, was released in September by the University of Minnesota Press.

Focusing on the language that great American critics have used to engage the racial

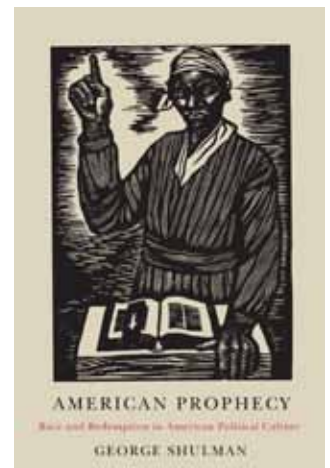
domination at the center of American history, *American Prophecy* explores the relationship of prophecy and race to American nationalism and democratic politics.

Shulman explains, “From Henry Thoreau, Frederick Douglass, and John Brown, to Eugene Debs, Martin Luther King, Jr., and James Baldwin—or to Jeremiah Wright on the left and Jerry Falwell on the right—I am trying to explore what is dangerous and yet also valuable in prophetic language. I focus on the issue of white supremacy and resistance to it as my way of exploring why and how this language is needed.”

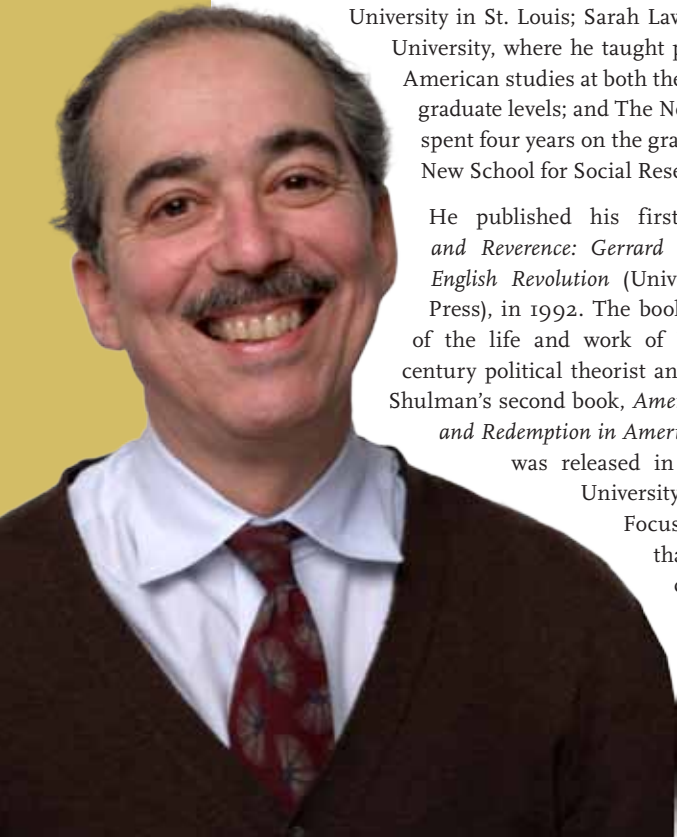
Shulman notes that the present political climate in the United States provides extraordinary learning opportunities for students taking his current courses. “One course I teach is about empire, about the relationship between imperial practices ‘outside’ and what happens ‘domestically’ to our republic,” he states. “The assumption of the U.S. as ‘a world power’—a euphemism for empire—is unchallenged, and the consequences are enormous. Another course I teach is about how we understand what ‘politics’ is, how the very sense of this activity has changed over time, and likewise how our understanding of ‘democratic’ and ‘democracy’ has changed, which is also pertinent to how we view and choose to engage in politics today.”

Shulman, who won a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship in 1997 and NYU’s Distinguished Teaching Award in 2003, was promoted this year to full professor at the Gallatin School. He strongly supports Gallatin’s dedication to developing independence in scholars, and he is continually impressed by his students’ maturity and commitment to their distinctive educational goals.

“Gallatin students want to take charge of their learning,” he states. “They don’t want to be pre-sorted, they resist compartments, and they want to figure things out for themselves. But it is also great to see them help each other figure out their paths, intellectually, politically, and practically. A community committed to the individuality of its members: that is very appealing to me!”



Shulman's second book was released in 2008.



SPOTLIGHT ON

Advising

BECAUSE GALLATIN STUDENTS CONSTRUCT AND PURSUE individualized courses of study—in which they utilize far more elements of NYU than do their counterparts pursuing traditional majors—one of the most important components of their education is advising. Gallatin's Office of Academic Advising fosters and supports close advising relationships and also offers a range of services that further assist our unique undergraduates.

THE PRIMARY ACADEMIC ADVISER

Upon entry into the School, each Gallatin student is assigned a primary academic adviser who shares the student's intellectual, professional, and creative interests; the pair then meets frequently as the student's program progresses. This adviser, who is either a member of NYU's faculty or a professional in the student's field of study, mentors the student as he or she chooses course work, develops a distinct academic concentration, and navigates opportunities for scholarly and vocational exploration. The primary adviser helps the student's education take shape and ensures that it has depth and breadth.



First-Year Class Adviser Rebecca Amato



Sophomore Class Adviser Lauren Kaminsky chats with a student about scholarship options.

concentration and preparing for the colloquium, and preprofessional panel discussions. These staff members also perform specialty duties, such as offering guidance on study abroad and graduate school options, providing prelaw and premedical advising, and helping students apply for national scholarships and fellowships such as the Fulbright and Rhodes.

BUILDING BRIDGES

Gallatin's advising staff also works in tandem with NYU's Wasserman Center for Career Development and liaises with other NYU schools and colleges to ensure that Gallatin students are aware of both the opportunities and constraints of study outside Gallatin. In addition, the Office of Academic Advising recently developed a successful peer mentoring pilot program that will be expanded in coming semesters, and is working with Gallatin's Office of Alumni Relations on alumni mentoring options.

Gallatin's comprehensive approach to advising employs the expertise of both scholars and professionals, and it ensures that students use all the resources available to them as they make their education their own. Encourage your student to take advantage of the many different kinds of advising we offer. To learn more visit www.nyu.edu/gallatin/current/ba/advising.

SAVE the DATES

Spring Recess

Monday, March 16, 2009 –
Saturday, March 21, 2009

*NYU in Your Neighborhood: Long Island, NY

Monday, March 23, 2009
Westbury Manor, Westbury, NY

*NYU in Your Neighborhood: Greenwich, CT

Tuesday, March 31, 2009
Bruce Museum, Greenwich, CT

Gallatin Arts Festival

Tuesday, March 31, 2009 –
Friday, April 3, 2009

Last Day of Spring Semester Classes

Monday, May 4, 2009

Spring Semester Final Exams

Wednesday, May 6, 2009 –
Wednesday, May 13, 2009

2009 Gallatin Graduation Ceremony

Tuesday, May 12, 2009
Lincoln Center, Avery Fisher Hall

2009 NYU Commencement

Wednesday, May 13, 2009
Yankee Stadium

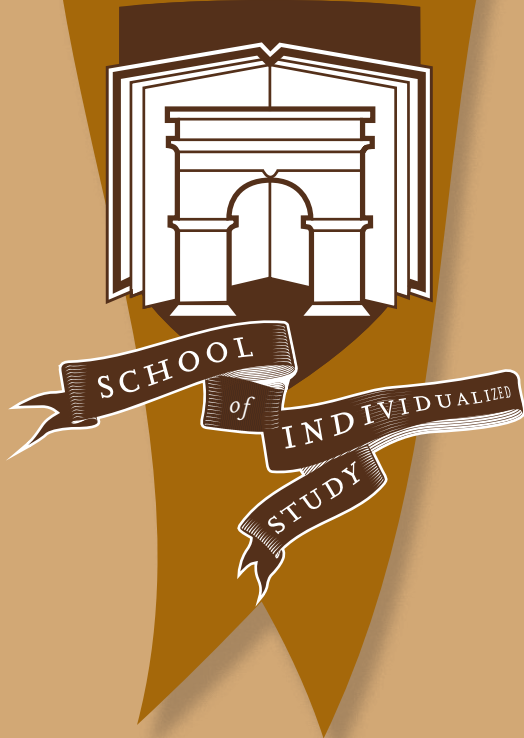
For complete information about
All-University Commencement, visit
www.nyu.edu/commencement.

* Gallatin parents receive complimentary admission to NYU in Your Neighborhood regional events. To RSVP or learn about speakers and themes, visit www.nyu.edu/alumni/events/regionals.shtml or call 212-998-6973.

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GALLATIN



USEFUL RESOURCES for PARENTS

- The NYU Student Resource Center provides information and support through *The Parent and Family Resource Guide* and the Parent Helpline. Visit www.nyu.edu/parents.guide, call 212-998-4219, or e-mail parents@nyu.edu.
- Join the NYU Parents one-way listserv and receive e-mail updates on important deadlines, parent-related happenings, and campus news. Send a blank e-mail to join-src-parents@lists.nyu.edu.
- What is the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)? Learn more about what it means to you as a parent or guardian at www.nyu.edu/gallatin/pdf/ferpa-parents.pdf.
- Questions about tuition payments? Visit www.nyu.edu/bursar. Questions about your student's financial aid package? Visit www.nyu.edu/financial.aid.
- Curious about campus events? See the NYU Events Calendar at <http://events.nyu.edu>, which lists events held throughout the University. To see Gallatin School events, go to www.nyu.edu/gallatin and click on Calendar.
- Learn more about NYU's health and wellness services, including new programs and insurance information, at www.nyu.edu/shc/about/info.parents.html.
- Learn more about NYU's emergency preparedness system by viewing the parent fact sheet on www.nyu.edu/public.safety/safety/parentfactsheet.html.
- NYU parents receive several issues of *NYU Today* by mail each year. View more content online at www.nyu.edu/nyutoday or enjoy a full year's subscription (\$12 for 12 issues) by e-mailing nyutoday@nyu.edu. Parents can also sign up for daily free e-delivery of the *Washington Square News*, NYU's student newspaper, at www.nyunews.com.
- The *NYU Minute* is an e-letter from the NYU Division of Student Affairs. All members of the NYU community, including parents and families, may subscribe at www.nyu.edu/student.affairs/publications/minute.
- The NYU Parents' Committee is part of the University's ongoing efforts to build and strengthen relationships with the greater NYU community. Members host events, advise the University on ways to engage parents, and provide leadership and financial support to increase participation in the Parents Fund. Visit www.nyu.edu/parents.guide/serv-act-committee.html.