

## FELLOWS STUDY MARRIAGE, STRESS IN SOLDIERS

**The MARIAL Center welcomes a new postdoctoral fellow, whose research focuses on the history of marriage in America, and a new graduate fellow, who will be studying the role of narratives in soldiers suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder.**

Kristin Ceello received her PhD in history from the University of Virginia. Her dissertation is titled “Making Marriage Work: Marital Success and Failure in the United States, 1920–1980.” At MARIAL she will work on revising the manuscript, which is under contract to be published by the University of North Carolina press.

Her book explores how Americans came to understand marriage as an institution that couples, especially wives, need to work at in order to succeed.

Ceello comes to MARIAL from Canada, where she taught at Wilfrid Laurier University and the University of Toronto at Mississauga.

Erin Finley is a new graduate fellow from anthropology. She will be interviewing soldiers at a Texas military base who have returned from war and are being treated for post-traumatic stress disorder. She wants to see if their ability to tell coherent stories

about their experiences has an effect on reducing their post-traumatic stress.

Meanwhile, former postdoctoral fellow Drew Whitelegg, who organized MARIAL’s “Myths of the American Family” conference at Emory last March, has been named director of special projects.

Director Bradd Shore said Whitelegg will search for opportunities for special workshops and conferences that MARIAL can host. He will then organize and implement the events.

“He did a great job with our Myths of the American Family conference in the spring,”

said Shore. “He’s very organized and focused.”

Whitelegg joined MARIAL four years ago as a postdoctoral fellow, focusing his research on the family lives of flight attendants. His book “Working the Skies” will be published next year by New York University Press.

Whitelegg is a native of the United Kingdom. He holds a doctorate in urban geography from King’s College in London. ■

An upcoming book explores how Americans came to understand marriage as an institution that couples—especially wives—need to work at in order to succeed.

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### Myth and Ritual in American Life



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