Welcome to Our New Visiting Assistant Professor
by Dr. Patrick Whitmarsh

My name is Patrick, and I’m excited to be joining the Environmental Studies department at Wofford as Visiting Assistant Professor of Environmental Humanities. I came to Spartanburg from the greater Boston area, where I was a Lecturer in the History and Literature program at Harvard, although I’m originally from the Great Lakes region of Western New York. As a native Buffalonian and longtime New Englander, I’ve often enjoyed the shores of Lakes Erie and Ontario, the Finger Lakes of Upstate New York, and the trails of the Middlesex Fells in Massachusetts. Having recently arrived in South Carolina, I look forward to exploring more of the state, and would welcome any suggestions for places to visit! I’m also always happy to talk about the Great Lakes and New England. Pro tip if you ever visit Western New York: if you call them “Buffalo wings” people will know you’re from out of town; they’re “chicken wings,” or just “wings.”

As a teacher, I’m eager to work with students on scientific and social topics in U.S. literature and culture. More specifically, my classes often address representations of nonhuman environments in cultural narratives (including literature, film, and visual art) and the ways that human history is deeply entangled with environmental history. I’m committed to discussing the pressing dilemmas of climate change, environmental exploitation, and the human impact on planetary systems, and I’m excited to explore these themes with students in ENVS 202: Introduction to Environmental Humanities this fall. Outside of academia, I’m a big fan of heavy metal, horror, and science fiction. If any of those are your jam, or if you want to talk about environmental issues or humanities, or if you just want to say hi, please stop by my office in the Chandler Center. I look forward to meeting you!

If you’re interested in learning more about me or my work, you can read something I wrote about science fiction here and listen to me talk about environmental history, science, and speculative fiction on episode 5 of the podcast The Art and Artifice of Prediction (available on Spotify).

In May, Dr. Telligman took a group of students to Copenhagen as part of her Sustainability Science course to explore the culture of sustainability in Denmark.

The muscadine vineyard in the Goodall Garden will be ready for harvest in the next weeks. If you venture to Glendale, be sure to enjoy a few.
Upcoming Events and Opportunities

**September 9th**

**Application Deadline**

**2 Urban Farmers Needed:** The Wofford Sustainability Committee seeks to hire 2 student farmers to grow food at the Hub City Farmers' Market Urban Farm. Students' primary responsibilities will be to help grow food and maintain the farm but will also help plan for the upcoming growing season and develop educational programs for the community. Supervisors are farm manager Ben Lea, and Dr. Amy Telligman. Farm or garden experience desirable but not necessary. 7-10 hrs/week, starting pay $9/hr. Please send a letter of application, your resume, and the contact information for at least one professional reference to Dr. Amy Telligman, telligmanal@wofford.edu. In your letter of application, please list three goals for the experience, indicating what you hope to get from the job.

**TA positions for ENVS:** ENVS needs 4 TA's for various lab classes. Apply on Handshake.

**September 17th**

**9:00-11:00am**

**Duncan Park**

**PAL Trail Clean Up at Duncan Park:** Bring your gloves and tools for fighting the invasive plant species and join PAL and Trees Coalition for the clean-up day. Register here to let them know you are coming.

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**PROFILE OF THE WEEK:**

*Arizona State University – Master of Sustainable Solutions*

Arizona State University offers a master’s degree in Sustainable Solutions (MSUS) that uses sustainability principles and approaches to prepare students for a variety of fields, addressing complex human and environmental challenges.

According to their website, “Students with an MSUS will have the knowledge base and skill sets to bring sustainability solutions to corporate, government, and NGO sectors.” The program offers students the ability to specialize in one of four tracks: policy and administration, technology and society, international development, and nonprofit organization.

The MSUS program uniquely offers a capstone experience, in which students will do an internship, applied project or workshop in lieu of a thesis, gaining practical experience in today's competitive and knowledge intensive job market.

*Arizona State University – School of Sustainability*