MESSAGE FROM DR. CHERNOTSKY

As we move toward the close of the fall semester, I wish you the best of luck in completing your classes and upcoming exams. This semester has been a busy one. In addition to an array of activities and events, our various curriculum proposals have finally made it through the system and will become operative beginning spring 2016 for new students entering GIAS programs. The changes in the structures of the International Studies major, International Studies minor and Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights Studies minor are rather considerable. Students already enrolled will maintain their current courses of study and will not be forced to make any changes. Students who declared the INTL major, INTL minor, or HGHHR minor during the calendar year 2015 may be eligible to switch to the new system. Any adjustments will require the formal approval of an adviser through a face-to-face meeting. Even as we have eliminated the minors in both Judaic and Islamic Studies, we will continue to support those students currently enrolled in those programs so that they can complete their requirements. We are very excited about all these changes, as we believe they will facilitate the further growth and development of the department and the quality of the educational experience we offer our students. Information regarding the new curricula is now available through the GIAS website under the Advising tab. Special congratulations to all our graduating seniors!

SPEAKERS AND PROGRAMS

The fall semester brought a number of speakers and programs to the campus that were sponsored or co-sponsored by GIAS. These included:

GIAS / Anthropology Colloquium Series: Human Differences Across Time and Space — Fall 2015

♦ The Long Shadow of Totemism: Anthropology of the Secular, speaker: Dr. Gregory Starrett, Professor of Anthropology, September 1, 2015
♦ Counter-Cartographies, speakers: Tim Stallman, Cartographer and Lize Mogel, Artist, October 6, 2015
♦ Tales of the ex-Apes, speaker: Jon Marks, Professor of Anthropology, November 3, 2015

The International Speaker Series continued, co-sponsored by GIAS along with the World Affairs Council of Charlotte, the Office of International Programs and Atkins Library. We heard from:

♦ Matthew Bishop, Senior Editor and former Globalization Editor of The Economist (December 2015)

GIAS faculty Drs. Maribel Casas-Cortés, John Cox, Joyce Dalsheim, Charles Houck & Gabriela Tarazona-Sevillano led a discussion on Beyond the Headlines: Is the Migrant / Refugee Crisis a European Problem? This event took place on September 24, 2015.
SPEAKERS AND PROGRAMS (CONT.)

Combatting Misogyny and Patriarchy on the Campuses and in Society, speaker: Melissa Siegel Barrios, Information and Education Coordinator / Mecklenburg County, November 9, 2015.

Army of Crime, a film presenting the true story of an anti-Nazi resistance group in France, November 11, 2015.

As part of International Education Week, on November 18, there was a panel discussion on Refugees and Immigration in Europe and the Americas. Panelists included Muriel Blaive, Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes (ÚSTR) Prague, Czech Republic, Jill Massino, UNC Charlotte Department of History and John Cox, UNC Charlotte Department of Global, International & Area Studies.

Dialogue with Local Holocaust Survivor Suly Chenkin, December 1, 2015.

Islam and Islamophobia in the World Today, speaker: Keith Stringfellow, History teacher and Holocaust researcher, Charlotte Islamic Academy, December 2, 2015.

WORLD QUEST

The department once again fielded a team for World Quest, the international trivia contest sponsored by the World Affairs Council of Charlotte on November 18 at the Hilton Center City. This year’s categories included Great Decisions, World Flags, Cuba—Then and Now, Geography: Where in the World are You? Capitals and Landmarks, History: Korean War, Iran Nuclear Talks, Greece Economic Crisis, and International Inventors and Innovations That Changed the World. More than fifty teams representing academic institutions, local agencies and businesses participated in the highly competitive contest. While rather challenging, World Quest always provides a considerable amount of fun and enjoyment. Members of the team were INTL graduate Koffi Yao-Kouame along with Professors Cox, Houck, Valenta and Chernotsky and INTL Majors Nathan Lane and Lara Al-Nadi.

SPRING AND SUMMER COURSES

We recently completed our intensive three week advising for the spring semester. While we saw a great many of you during this period, not all students came in for an advising session. GIAS advisers continue to be available during their regular office hours until the end of fall classes. If you would like to see an adviser, come by the office (Macy 103) and sign up for an appointment. This is the best way to insure that requirements are being met. We also urge all students to monitor their general degree requirements closely to avoid any “surprises” as they move toward graduation.

The schedule of classes for summer school will be posted in early December. All GIAS summer courses will be on-line. GIAS is planning to offer INTL 1101—Introduction to International Studies, INTL 2301—Introduction to European Studies, INTL 3111—Politics and Culture in Literature (writing intensive), INTL 3125—Food and Globalization and HGHR 2100—Introduction to Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights in the first session. In the second session, we will offer another INTL 1101—Introduction to International Studies, HGHR 3050-UO1—Resistance During the Holocaust and HGHR 3050-UO2—Refugees in Literature and Film. Additional courses for our majors and minors offered by other departments will also be available.

PHI BETA DELTA

The Department was well represented at the induction ceremony of the Mu chapter of Phi Beta Delta, the Honor Society for International Scholars on November 19. Congratulations to new International Studies inductees: Jean Barriga and Rachel Nagem.
STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

TOKYO: FROM SAMURAI CAPITAL TO MODERN METROPOLIS

We are pleased to report that GIAS is offering a number of study abroad opportunities, in addition to others that are offered through the university's Office of Education Abroad. This spring, students in our Asian studies concentration are participating in the Tokyo: From Samurai Capital to Modern Metropolis program. This is originating in the Department of History (HIST 3002), with cross-listed sections available through International Studies (INTL 3000) and Japanese Studies (JAPN 2209). This spring semester course includes a visit to Tokyo over the spring break period. The application deadline was November 2. Check out the link just below for more information.


IN SEARCH OF THE PAST: A HOLOCAUST JOURNEY

Available for summer 2016 is In Search of the Past: A Holocaust Journey that will be directed by Prof. Judy LaPietra. The program will incorporate visits to Krakow (to tour the former Jewish ghetto and Oskar Schindler’s factory) and Oswiecim, Poland (the site of the World War II era Auschwitz concentration camp) and to Berlin (to tour a number of venues associated with the Holocaust). This program is an enhanced version of our Bearing Witness to the Past that was previously offered over spring break. Given its new curriculum and added pieces, students in previous programs will be eligible to receive academic credit. Check out the link below for more information.


URBAN AGRICULTURE: FOOD, INEQUALITY, AND SUSTAINABILITY IN SOUTH AFRICA

We are also pleased to announce that GIAS will offer a second summer study abroad trip to South Africa. The program is Urban Agriculture: Food, Inequality, and Sustainability in South Africa and will be held from July 9 - August 1, 2016. The trip will be led by Professor Tamara Johnson. The course is open to all students and is especially recommended for students in GIAS programs. The program may be considered to fulfill the international experience requirement for INTL majors pursuing either the African concentration or an appropriate Comparative Studies concentration. INTL majors interested in this option are asked to meet with an adviser to determine eligibility. Please note that the deadline for applications is February 8, 2016. For more details and an application form, see http://studyabroad.uncc.edu/?go=foodjustice or contact Professor Johnson.
FACEBOOK

Please note that we have a GIAS FACEBOOK page. Dr. Houck is our administrator and seeks to use the site to enable students (present and past) to stay connected and to foster discussion of timely issues. If you have not joined, please consider doing so by accessing the following link: https://www.facebook.com/groups/101217669379/

Dr. Cox has established a separate FACEBOOK page for students particularly interested in matters relating to the Holocaust, genocide and human rights. http://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/248661328484817/

FOWLER SCHOLARSHIP

The Fowler International Scholarship for 2016-17 is reserved for qualified students majoring in either International Studies or Political Science. As you may know, the university has gone to a centralized application process for all scholarships this year. A full description of the Fowler award and the necessary application information are available at this centralized site—scholarships.uncc.edu. We urge all qualified candidates to strongly consider applying for this prestigious award. Applications require the submission of an original essay and letters of recommendation. The minimum award is $4000. The deadline is February 5, 2016.

CELEBRATE SENIORS DAY

On November 19, the Department hosted its Celebrate Seniors Day to recognize students graduating in December from GIAS programs. Students were treated to a pizza lunch and were given a small token to remember the time they have spent with us.
We would like to congratulate the following students who have applied for graduation in December.

**INTERNATIONAL STUDIES MAJORS**

Banks, Sara K.  
Berry, Mirage M.  
Brown, Matthew A.  
Burke, James W.  
Caceres, Tirza  
Chiu, Joey C.  
Corbett, Michael  
Crawford, Avanel A.  
Eluhi Lukungu, Patrick  
Esmahan Cea, Adriana  
Greene, Benjamin P.  
Kelmhofer, Benjamin  
Kramer, Justin B.  
Lowery, Brianna C.  
Meite, Lombeko  
Morales, Marisela D.  
Nguyen, Anthony  
Polk, Heather D.  
Richardson, Amanda J.  
Sabirova, Elza  
Seck, Yakhya  
Swain, Myeisha  
Yesgosh, Jessica N.

**MINORS**

**HOLOCAUST, GENOCIDE & HUMAN RIGHTS**

Carrough, Kayla A.  
Morales, Marisela D.  
Rikard, Kayla R.  
Wheatley, Justinn A.W.

**INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**

Barrantes, Asgod G.  
Pizzorni, Piera-Sophia F.  
Rackliffe, Kyle A.

**ISLAMIC STUDIES**

Nall, Lindsay A.

**SPRING SEMESTER**

Please remember that the spring semester begins on Monday, January 11, 2016.

Have a safe and restful break!!