



Department of Global, International & Area Studies



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MESSAGE FROM DR. CHERNOTSKY

By now, I would hope that all of you have settled into the fall 2014 semester. The Department of Global, International & Area Studies (GIAS) has entered its sixth year and is continuing to move forward with efforts to expand its faculty and curriculum. We are located in Macy 103. The actual name of the department is confusing to some, so a brief history may be useful. Prior to the establishment of GIAS, International Studies was an independent program within the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences offering both a major and a minor since 2000. The minors in Islamic and Judaic Studies were housed in the Department of Religious Studies, while the minor in Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights operated independently within the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. With the creation of GIAS, each of these programs was brought under its umbrella. There is no GIAS degree per se; students enrolled in the department's respective programs continue to have their degrees noted accordingly. Students completing the major in International Studies graduate with a B.A. in International Studies. Minors are also identified individually.

All of our programs are interdisciplinary in character. This enables our students to acquire varying perspectives and appreciations. Our curricula are organized accordingly, so students have the opportunity to take courses that originate within the department, as well as applicable ones that are offered by other departments. While this may be complicated, it is also enriching. It is also the reason why it is important for students to consult with our academic advisers to insure that they are enrolled in the appropriate courses and are making steady progress in completing their courses of study.

This promises to be a busy year. Welcome to GIAS. I wish you all a productive and enjoyable semester.

MEET OUR FACULTY

While students enrolling in our courses have access to faculty across a number of departments and disciplines, there is a central GIAS faculty that forms the core of the department.

Dr. Harry Chernotsky is a political scientist who serves as Chair of the department. When not buried in paperwork or otherwise occupied (usually attending a meeting of some kind), he teaches a section of the introductory international studies course and the upper division international political economy. His office is in Macy 103B.

Dr. Charles Houck is an archeologist who serves as our Undergraduate Coordinator and is the primary point of contact for student-related issues and concerns. He teaches the introductory and seminar course in international studies, as well as upper division courses dealing with the origins of globalization and resistance movements that have arisen as a response to globalization. His office is in Macy 104. Dr. Houck's advising schedule often fills up in advance, so it is useful in planning ahead in setting appointments.

MEET OUR FACULTY (cont.)

Dr. Sebastian Cobarrubias is a geographer who is in his second year with GIAS. His research interests include border and migration policy, immigrant rights, social movements, global economic restructuring, as well as critical uses of cartography. His current research focuses on the externalization of border policy on the part of the European Union into Northern and Western Africa. He is teaching courses relating to development, sustainability and migration. His office is in Macy 108C. He is on leave for Fall 2014.

Dr. John Cox is an historian who begins his fourth year with GIAS, having relocated from Florida Gulf Coast University. He is a specialist in Holocaust and comparative genocide studies and is offering courses relating to these areas. He is also playing the key role in developing the Center for Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights Studies. His office is in Macy 108A.

Dr. Joyce Dalsheim is an anthropologist whose research and writing focus on issues relating to identity and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. She is beginning her third year as a permanent, full-time faculty member in the department, after having taught for us a number of years on a visiting and part-time basis. She is working on the development of our curriculum in peace and conflict studies. Her courses apply to a number of the programs housed within the department. Her office is in Macy 108D. She is on leave for Fall 2014.

Dr. Garth Green is an anthropologist who has been involved in our programs for a number of years, teaching an array of courses for International Studies and Anthropology. In addition to teaching the introductory and seminar courses in international studies, he offers courses on globalization and culture, food and globalization, the Caribbean and anthropological theory. His office is in Macy 103A.

Dr. Amal Khoury is a political scientist who joins us this year from Guilford College. Dr. Khoury received her Ph.D. in International Relations in 2006 from American University. She specializes in peace and conflict studies, with regional expertise relating to the Middle East. She is developing a number of new courses to fit within our new emerging peace and conflict studies concentration. Join us in welcoming Dr. Khoury. Her office is located in Barnard 202.

Students enrolled in our programs also have the opportunity to engage talented faculty who lend their services to us on a part-time basis. **Prof. Robert Arnold** teaches for a number of units at UNC Charlotte and is offering our writing intensive course on politics and culture in literature. **Dr. Tamara Johnson**, who works in Academic Affairs, is teaching one of the sections of INTL 1101 and has also offered a course on global cities. **Dr. Gabriela Tarazona-Sevillano**, who has had considerable experience at other universities, enhances our offerings in human rights and political violence. **Dr. Kamila Valenta**, our newest part-time faculty, will be teaching Ethnic Conflict in a Changing World. Our HGHR program is also enriched by the work of **Prof. Lynette Deem**, who is teaching Women and Genocide, **Prof. Judy LaPietra**, who teaches an evening course on the legacy of the Holocaust and will be heading up our spring course/study tour to Auschwitz, and **Dr. Sarah Minslow**, who is offering a course on war and genocide in children's literature.

MEET OUR STAFF

Vicky Harris is the department's Office Manager/Administrative Support Associate. She joined us four years ago and does a fabulous job keeping everything (and everyone) together. You will encounter her when you stop by the office in Macy 103. She is eager to meet our students and affiliated faculty and is available to assist with any issues or questions that arise. Vicky is supported by our work-study assistants, **Matthew Bailey, Nicole Mondschein and Jaclyn Morton**.

ADVISING



We encourage all students to consult with faculty advisers periodically to insure that they are making appropriate academic progress or to address any issues or problems that may arise. While each student has been assigned a particular adviser, any adviser may assist with these matters. Sign-up sheets for each week are available inside the main office in Macy 103. We ask that you sign up a couple of days in advance whenever possible and to please notify us if you are unable to keep an appointment.

SPRING BREAK STUDY ABROAD: A JOURNEY TO AUSCHWITZ



We are very pleased to announce that GIAS is again organizing a study abroad trip for the spring break period. It revolves around a visit to Auschwitz, the former concentration camp in Poland. Last year's inaugural trip was extraordinary and we are delighted to offer additional students this opportunity. The program is **Bearing Witness to the Past: A Journey to Auschwitz** and will be held from February 27 - March 6, 2015. The trip is part of a three-credit hour topics course in Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights (HGHR 3050) for the spring semester. It will also involve a few class sessions that will be held prior to and after the trip, on Thursdays, 5:00—7:45 pm. Students interested in the trip must enroll in the course. The trip will be led by Professor LaPietra. The course is open to all students and is especially recommended

for students in GIAS programs. It applies to the requirements of the HGHR minor. In addition, the program may be considered to fulfill the international experience requirement for INTL majors pursuing either a European concentration or a Comparative Studies concentration for which the course is appropriate. INTL majors interested in this option are asked to meet with an adviser to determine eligibility. Please note that the deadline for applications is **October 31, 2014**. Be sure to get your application in as early as possible to receive full consideration. For more details and an application form, see <https://edabroad.uncc.edu/programs/europe/bearing-witness-past-journey-auschwitz#overview> or contact Professor LaPietra.

STUDY ABROAD ADVISING AGREEMENTS

One area that seems to be especially confusing to students is the Study Abroad Advising Agreement. This is the document that must be completed prior to the study abroad experience to insure that the courses taken will receive the appropriate credit at UNC Charlotte. The form is available in the Education Abroad office and is provided along with other materials to students pre-departure. A couple of points are worth emphasizing:

- a. Include all courses you might consider taking at the host institution to give you maximum flexibility. Sometimes scheduled courses are not offered, so you must identify possible substitutes.
- b. Often times, exact course equivalents at UNC Charlotte do not exist. In those cases, the Topics courses that exist in most departments (usually 3000, 3030 or 3050) serve as the equivalents and can be duly noted on the form.
- c. While we sign off on the form at the bottom as adviser and major department, authorized signatures for the individual course come from the departments that offer the equivalents. We provide the equivalents for INTL or HGHR courses.
- d. We cannot sign off on the form until all courses listed have received the necessary department authorizations.
- e. Once we sign off on the form, it must go to the Office of the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences (Fretwell 430) for approval.
- f. Do not wait until the last minute (we have had students coming by to get signatures the very day they are scheduled to leave the country, only to find that they have filled out the form incorrectly or the people they need to see are not on campus).
- g. A revised agreement can be filed upon your return if you wind up taking courses that were not listed initially. However, you should absolutely not wait until your return to complete and submit the form as you may find that you took courses that will not generate necessary credit.

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES STUDENT ASSOCIATION (ISSA)

Efforts are underway to activate our International Studies Student Association (ISSA). The organization is open to all students and is designed to give you the opportunity to become better acquainted with one another and to plan activities and events. An initial interest meeting has been held and plans are underway for another meeting. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Dr. Houck. As you read on through the newsletter, you will see that Dr. Houck has established a separate FACEBOOK page for ISSA. We encourage you to get involved.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: SOME PROGRAMS AND EVENTS



Pedro Rodriguez Sanchez: *Strength Training for Specialized Work: Restoration of Old Havana*, was held on Monday, August 25 from 12:30-1:45 pm in Storrs 290. This event was sponsored by: The School of Architecture, the Department of History, The Public History Program, The College of Engineering, The Civil Engineering Department, The Department of Language and Culture Studies, The Latin American Studies Program, The Office of International Programs and the Department of Global, International & Area Studies.

STORIES AND MUSIC FROM THE VIOLINS OF HOPE: Thursday, September 11, 2014, at 7:30 pm. The performance will be held in the Belk Theater, Robinson Hall. *Violins of Hope* tells the remarkable stories of violins played by Jewish musicians during the Holocaust and recovered and restored by Israeli violinmaker Amnon Weinstein. This event is FREE, but reservations are required. Stories and Music from the Violins of Hope is presented in partnership with the UNC Charlotte Center for Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights Studies.

FALL STUDY ABROAD FAIR: Wednesday, September 17, 2014, from 10:00 am until 2:30 pm. The Office of Education Abroad of the Office of International Programs will be hosting the Annual Fall Study Abroad Fair in the walk way between the COED and CHHS buildings. This event will give students a chance to talk with the education abroad staff, faculty, and students, concerning the numerous programs UNC Charlotte offers for study abroad experiences.

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL: Saturday, September 20 from 10:00 am until 6:00 pm in and around the Student Activities Center (SAC). This is a whole day of music, art, entertainment and food featuring participation by Charlotte's many international communities.

DR. BADRUL ALAM: Thursday, September 25 from 3:30-5:00 pm, Atkins Library, Halton Reading Room. Dr. Badrul Alam (author of *Contours of India's Foreign Policy: Changes and Challenges*) is from Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) University in New Delhi, India. He will discuss current affairs between India and the United States and share insights from his 2014 book which explores elements of India's foreign policy. This is part of the university's International Speakers Series sponsored by the Office of International Programs, the Charlotte World Affairs Council, the Department of Global, International & Area Studies, and Atkins Library.

DR. KATHERINE KAUP: Thursday, October 16 from 3:30-5:00 pm, Atkins Library, Halton Reading Room. Dr. Kaup is the author of *Creating the Zhuang: Ethnic Politics in China* and James B. Duke Professor of Asian Studies and Political Science, Furman University. This is part of the university's International Speakers Series sponsored by the Office of International Programs, the Charlotte World Affairs Council, the Department of Global, International & Area Studies, and Atkins Library.

RAMON GIL-CASARES: Thursday, November 20 from 3:30-5:00 pm, Atkins Library, Halton Reading Room. Ramon Gil-Casares is the Ambassador of Spain to the United States. Join the discussion on the relationship between Spain and the United States with Ambassador Gil-Casares at this International Education Week installment of the International Speaker Series.

Other events will be announced as they are scheduled.

FOWLER SCHOLARSHIP



We would like to remind you that the Fowler International Scholarship is available for 2015-16 with a minimum award of \$4,000. The deadline for applications is **February 6, 2015**. The award is open to students majoring in either International Studies or Political Science who are considering a career in law or international affairs. Eligibility requirements and application procedures are noted on the web. Eligible students are strongly encouraged to apply for this prestigious award.

For more information: <http://gias.uncc.edu/student-resources/fowler-scholarship>

To apply: [Application](#)

GIAS WEBSITE

The department's website can be accessed at <http://gias.uncc.edu>. Information is available regarding our faculty, programs, events, and curricula. We also post detailed information regarding advising procedures for registration and the courses we will offer each semester. Students are especially invited to follow the links provided to a number of academic support services that are available across campus.

FACEBOOK PAGES

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/>

Dr. Houck has also just created a FACEBOOK page for ISSA – the International Studies Student Association. He is anxious to get many of you involved in planning events and activities. This is a great way to meet other students – please get involved. <https://www.facebook.com/UNCCISSA>

Students are certainly welcome to join all groups.

