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Message from Dr. Chernotsky

I want to welcome all of you to the fall 2011 semester. The Department of Global, International & Area Studies (GIAS) is entering its third year and will continue 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. 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.

Once again, welcome. 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 some kind of meeting), he teaches a section of the introductory international studies course and the upper division international political economy. His office is in Macy 103B. (cont pg 2)

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.



African Elephant
Location: Tanzania Africa

“Students enrolled in our programs also have the opportunity to engage talented faculty who lend their services to us on a part-time basis.”



Asia

Meet the Faculty (cont.)

Dr. John Cox is an historian who begins his first semester with GIAS, having relocated from Florida Gulf Coast University. He is a specialist in holocaust and comparative genocide and will be teaching courses and playing the key role in developing the Center for Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights and other programmatic initiatives in these areas. His office is in Macy 108A.

Dr. Joyce Dalsheim is an anthropologist who joined the department full-time last fall, after teaching part-time for a number of years. She is focusing on the development of our programs in peace and conflict studies. Her courses apply to a number of the programs housed within the department. Among other things, Dr. Dalsheim offers courses on Israel and Palestine, Muslims and Jews, and Cultures and Conflicts. Her office is in Macy 108D.

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.

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. Iain Bolton** has added considerably to our curriculum by offering classes in comparative regional development, comparative international conflict and global security. **Prof. Brandon Kirkley** offers the popular globalization and digital media, which is offered as an on-line course. **Prof. Robert Arnold** has taught for a number of units at UNC Charlotte and is now offering our writing intensive course on politics and culture in literature. **Dr. Gabriela Tarazona-Sevillano**, who has had considerable experience at other universities, has returned again this year to enhance our offerings in human rights and political violence. Returning for their second years with GIAS are: **Dr. Heather McCullough**, teaching a course on global information practices; **Dr. Amy Hall**, teaching a course on global tourism; and **Prof. Judy LaPietra** offering an evening course on the legacy of the holocaust. **Prof. Lynette Deem**, who is currently teaching the introductory HGHR class, will offer a new course on women and genocide in the spring. We also extend our welcome to two new full-time members of the Department of Political Science who will be developing some courses specifically for our curriculum – **Dr. Courtenay Conrad**, in the area of human rights, and **Dr. Justin Conrad**, in the area of terrorism.

Meet the Staff

Vicky Harris is the department’s Office Manager/Administrative Support Associate. She joined us last year and does a fabulous job keeping everything going. 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 also available to assist with any issues or questions that arise. Vicky is ably supported by our longstanding work-study assistant, **Bianca Jones**. We also welcome two new work-study assistants, **Yancy Guzman** and **Sarah Fricke**.

Advising

As noted above, 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 by the latter part of the previous week. 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.

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:

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- We cannot sign off on the form until all courses listed have received the necessary department authorizations.
- Once we sign off on the form, it must go to the Office of the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences (Fretwell building, 4th floor)) for approval.
- 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).
- 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.

Hope this helps.

Website

The department's website can be accessed at <http://gias.uncc.edu>. Information regarding our faculty, programs, events and curricula are available. 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. The website can be a bit cumbersome to navigate at times, as it incorporates a number of different programs. We are continuing to work on simplifying navigation and should have an improved version in place before too long.

Facebook Page

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: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php/gid=101217669379>



"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."



St. Basil's Cathedral
Location: Moscow, Russia



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Your Connection to the World!

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
[WWW.GIAS.UNCC.EDU](http://www.gias.uncc.edu)

Fowler Scholarship

We would like to remind you that the Fowler International Scholarship is available for 2012-13. The deadline for applications is January 30, 2012. 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.

<http://gias.uncc.edu/International-Studies/scholarships.html>

<http://politicalscience.uncc.edu/ug-scholarships-a-awards-mainmenu-33/29-the-robert-g-fowler-jr-esquire-international-scholarship.html>

Some Upcoming Events

FROM FEAR TO FAITH: ADVANCING AMERICAN VOICES OF RELIGIOUS PLURALISM: Tuesday, September 13 at 7:00pm in McKnight Hall (Cone Center). A panel discussion sponsored by Clergy Beyond Borders, Mecklenburg Ministries and a number of partners (including our own Center for Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights) to consider the importance of advancing religious pluralism and dialogue.

STUDY ABROAD FAIR: Wednesday, September 14 from 10am-2:30pm on the walkway between the CHHS and COE buildings (rain site-Lucas Room). Representatives from an array of study abroad programs will be available to answer all your questions. Don't miss this opportunity to begin exploring your options.

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL: Saturday, September 24 from 10am-6pm 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.

ALINA FERNANDEZ (daughter of Fidel Castro): Monday, September 26 at 7:00pm. McKnight Hall (Cone Center). A first-person account of growing up in Cuba.

STUDENT ASSOCIATION MEETING: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

We are looking to re-constitute our GIAS Student Association and invite all students to consider participating. This organization is designed to give students the opportunity to generate some of their own programming and to organize events that will promote greater interaction outside the classroom. Dr. Houck serves as faculty adviser. All students interested in assuming some leadership in getting the association under way this year are invited to attend an organizational meeting on **Monday, September 26 at 3:30-4:430 in Barnard 244 (Anthropology Conference Room).**

