



September/October 2012

Department of Global, International & Area Studies

Message from Dr. Chernotsky

By now, I would hope that all of you have settled into the fall 2012 semester and are preparing diligently for the first set of exams that have been scheduled for many of your classes. The Department of Global, International & Area Studies (GIAS) has entered its fourth 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.

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.

Inside this issue:

Message from Dr. Chernotsky	1
Meet our Faculty and Staff	1-2
Advising	2
Spring Break Study Abroad	3
Study Abroad Advising Agreements	3
Website	3
Facebook Page	4
Upcoming Events	4
Fowler Scholarship	4

Special points of interest:

- Meet the Faculty and Staff
- Advising
- Spring Break Study Abroad
- Study Abroad Advising Agreements
- Upcoming Events
- Fowler Scholarship

Meet Our Faculty (cont.)

Dr. John Cox is an historian who begins his second 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. His office is in Macy 108A.

Dr. Joyce Dalsheim is an anthropologist who is beginning her first year as a permanent, full-time faculty member in the department. She has been teaching with us for a number of years on a visiting and part-time basis. She is focusing 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.

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. Joining us for the first time this semester are **Dr. Tamara Johnson**, who is teaching a course on global cities, and **Dr. Sarah Minslow**, who is offering a course on war and genocide in children's literature. We also welcome back a number of other faculty who have been with us previously. **Prof. Iain Bolton** adds 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** teaches for a number of units at UNC Charlotte and is offering our writing intensive course on politics and culture in literature. **Dr. Gabriela Tarazona-Sevillano**, who has had considerable experience at other universities, returns to enhance our offerings in human rights and political violence. **Prof. Judy LaPietra** is again offering an evening course on the legacy of the Holocaust. **Dr. Heather McCullough**, **Dr. Amy Hall** and **Prof. Lynette Deem** will be joining us again in the spring.

Meet Our Staff

Vicky Harris is the department's Office Manager/Administrative Support Associate. She joined us two years ago and does a fabulous job keeping everything 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 also available to assist with any issues or questions that arise. Vicky is supported by our new work-study assistants, **Amber Suits** and **Parth Patel**.

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 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.

Spring Break Study Abroad

We are very pleased to announce that GIAS has organized its first study abroad trip for the spring break period. It revolves around a visit to Auschwitz, the former concentration camp in Poland. The program is **Bearing Witness to the Past: A Journey to Auschwitz** and will be held from **March 1 - March 8, 2013**. 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 (February 12, 19, 26, March 26 -5:00-7:45pm). Students interested in the trip must enroll in the course. The trip will be led by Professors LaPietra and Cox. The course is open to all students and is especially recommended for students in GIAS programs. The course will apply 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 **November 1, 2012**. For more details and an application form, see <https://edabroad.uncc.edu/programs/europe/bearing-witness-past-journey-auschwitz> or contact Professor LaPietra or Professor Cox.

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 building, 4th floor)) 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.

Hope this helps.

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 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>

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/>

Mark Your Calendars: Some Upcoming Events

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL: Saturday, September 29 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

PHILIP COGGAN, The Economist: Tuesday, October 23 from 3:30-5:00 pm in Atkins Library, Halton Reading Room. Mr. Coggan, a reporter for The Economist, will address the issue of money and debt in today's global economy. 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.

MARIA PACHECO, The Sinapi Foundation: Wednesday, October 24 from 3:30-5:00pm in CHHS 281. A Fulbright Scholar and Aspen Fellow, Ms. Pacheco will be speaking on "Women's Empowerment and Challenges in Guatemala" and her work to transform cycles of poverty into cycles of prosperity. The presentation is sponsored by the Sinapi Foundation in cooperation with the Department of Global, International & Area Studies; the Center for Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights; and the Office of International Programs.

MOHAMMED BAMYEH, University of Pittsburgh: Thursday, November 1 from 3:30-5:00pm. Dr. Bamyeh, a sociologist, will be speaking on Islamic law. Sponsored by Center for Professional and Applied Ethics and the Department of Global, International & Area Studies.

FILM-SHOWING, Defiance: Thursday, November 15 from 3:30—6:00pm in Denny 120. Based on an extraordinary true story, this action-packed drama profiles four brothers who fight back against Nazi soldiers and create a hidden community in the woods of Belarus during World War II in order to protect more than 1,000 Jewish refugees.

Fowler Scholarship

We would like to remind you that the Fowler International Scholarship is available for 2013-14 with a minimum award of \$4000. The deadline for applications is February 1, 2013. 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.

<https://gias.uncc.edu/Student-Resourses/Fowler-Scholarship.html>

<http://politicalscience.uncc.edu/Honors-Scholarships-and-Awards/the-robert-g-fowler-jr-esquire-international-scholarship.html>