2005-2006 IS CURRICULUM AND EVENTS TO FOCUS ON GLOBALIZATION

In this age of globalization and the expansion of transnational markets new links between global citizens have dramatically shaped how we interact and see ourselves in the world. Common institutions and organizations have drawn geographically and culturally distant landscapes together into what looks like a single society of shared culture and consciousness. Yet, as Joseph Stiglitz, former director of the World Trade Organization, explains, “Few subjects have polarized people throughout the world as much as globalization.” Many have argued that globalization promises the expansion of liberty, individual choice, and economic prosperity while others have noted the destruction of native traditions and the impoverishment of marginal societies by the whims of Western capitalist markets. As scholars of economy, science, politics and culture, we hope to describe and explain the complex processes of globalization, their effects on social conditions and economies, and the ways that citizens have struggled to culturally define themselves, their traditions, and their communities as new members of the "global village.” Globalization is undeniably here, affecting us every day in visible and invisible ways. Yet how do we make sense of the large divides it creates? In an age when only 500 million of our earth’s 5 billion inhabitants, or a mere 10%, are able to escape poverty, how do we see ourselves as “global citizens,” at a Pennsylvania university? What skills should we develop as individuals and as groups to better prepare ourselves for the demands and changes produced by globalization?

Shippensburg’s International Studies minor takes up these questions in 2005-6 with its year-long exploration of the new institutions, new social networks, and new cultural movements that have enable unprecedented forms of transnational connections. While we will study globalization as a reality, we will also engage it as a site of debate that has developed through history, across multiple academic fields of study, and amongst a wide range of political and cultural viewpoints. We will offer IS minors and the campus community an opportunity to learn more about globalization by presenting speakers, a film series, and a senior capstone seminar. Our theme is dedicated to furthering an understanding of globalization and challenging us to be active agents in its future. Globalization is here; it’s time to make ourselves ready for it.

Upcoming IS Event! A Grand Strategy for the Middle East: Dr. Larry Goodson
“Why We Are Losing in Iraq and What We Can Do About It”
Wed., March 30, 7:30 OM Chapel

Dr. Goodson is the General Dwight D. Eisenhower Chair of National Security and Professor of Middle East Studies in the Department of National Security and Strategy at the US Army War College. From March to August 2004 he was the US Central Command (CENTCOM) Fellow, where he conducted research and advised General John Abizaid, the CENTCOM Commander. He is the author of Afghanistan’s Endless War: State Failure, Regional Politics, and the Rise of the Taliban (University of Washington Press, 2001), which appeared on the New York Times bestseller list.
Study Abroad Trips Scheduled

The following are study abroad courses planned for Spring and Summer 2005.

Dr. Neil Brasher of the Political Science Department is traveling to Greece, Italy & Belgium. The focus of study will be “Evolution of the European Government and Society.”

Dr. George Pomeroy of the Geography Department will be traveling to China. The focus of study will be 600 years of Urban Planning and Development.

Dr. Janet Ruby of the Art Department will be traveling to Spain. The focus of study will be a “Visual Journey through Spain.”

Dr. Deborah Montuori of the English Department will be traveling to Britain. The focus of study will be “The London Stage.”

The International Studies Department would like to wish all faculty and students safe travel as they experience new places during these once in a lifetime trips!

TRAVEL SERIES PRESENTATION SUCCESSFUL

The International Travel Series is an annual program presented by SU faculty and sponsored by the SU International Education Council. To promote this year’s theme, Dr. Paul Marr of Geography made an enlightening presentation on Feb. 10 on his travel experience in Morocco. About 100 students plus some faculty and local residents attended the speech, which was followed by an exciting Q & A session. Any faculty member who has an informative travel experience to offer may contact Dr. Julie Bao at jqbao@shp.edu.

Upcoming Events

Dr. John Lipski- Foreign/Tarzan Talk
(Perception of languages as spoken by foreigners, with examples in many languages.)
Tues., March 29 @ 7 pm, DHC 151

Dr. Larry P. Goodson
“A Grand Strategy for the Middle East: Why We Are Losing in Iraq and What We Can Do About It”
Wed., March 30 @ 7:30
OM Chapel

Keren Batiyov, M.A.
"Olive Harvest in Occupied Palestine: An International Solidarity Movement Report"
Mon., April 18 @ 6:30 PM CUB Lounges

Dr. Sherifa Zuhur
US Army War College
“Post 9/11 Saudi Arabia”
April 27 @ 7:30pm
Old Main Chapel