Global Studies News

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

This has been a spring semester unlike any other here at Loyola, but students, faculty, and staff continue to show remarkable resilience as we make it work. A few updates from Global Studies:

This has been a tremendously successful year for Loyola’s Fulbright applicants, and 12 students and alumni have advanced to the finalist stage. Of these, 6—50%!—are Global Studies majors! Congratulations to Michelle Boca ’20, Sara Doyle ’21, Erika Fajerman ’21, Kaylin Malmquist ’21, Emily Robinson ’21, and Katherine (Rin) Stockton-Juarez ’21 for being named Fulbright finalists. Final decisions are typically made in late spring and early summer, so good luck to all of our finalists! If you are considering applying for a Fulbright next year or beyond, be sure to check out: https://www.loyola.edu/department/national-fellowships.

GT 400 Capstone students are all working hard on virtual projects with their partner organizations. Some of these projects include opportunities for members of the Loyola community to get involved:

- On Monday, April 12th, GT 400 students will host a webinar in conjunction with the Baltimore City Human Trafficking Task Force. Details are still being finalized but keep an eye out for an invitation in your e-mail.

- On Saturday, April 17th, GT 400 students will host their second stream clean-up event at Stony Run, time TBD.

- Final presentations will take place via Zoom on Tuesday, April 27th at 8 AM and 10:50 AM and will be open to Global Studies faculty.

Dr. Stephanie Brizee, Director of Planned Giving, will host a USAJobs information session on Tuesday, April 13th at 6 PM on Zoom. This session is open to all Global Studies majors. If you are considering a career in the federal government and want to learn more about how federal hiring works, please join us!

The Sigma Iota Rho honor society induction will take place virtually at 2 PM on Tuesday, May 4th (Study Day). This year we will induct 19 Global Studies seniors—congrats to all!

I hope that the Easter break leaves you refreshed and ready for the final weeks of the semester. We still have a lot planned for Spring 2021.

Best,

Mary Kate Schneider, Ph.D.

Director, Global Studies Program
For Faculty:
How to Submit New Courses to Global Studies

Faculty who wish to submit courses for consideration to the Global Studies curriculum should e-mail the Director with the following:

- course name and number;
- a sample syllabus and the area(s) of the GT curriculum that the course would fulfill (for example: a new 300-level non-Western History course might serve as an Analytical course as well as a Topic 2 course).

Faculty from any department at Loyola may submit courses at any time. Courses are reviewed on a rolling basis.

NEW GLOBAL STUDIES COURSES

- HS 320 The Black Death in Global Perspective, HS Analytical
- HS 447 War Memory, HS Analytical and Topic 2
- LW 410 International Business law, Topic 1
- SC 202 Social Change and Social Power, Foundational option (course replaces SC 102)
- SC 203 Globalization and Society, Foundational option
- SC 441 Conflict Transformation and Reconciliation in Divided Societies, SC Analytical and Topic 2

GLOBAL STUDIES FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Dr. Mary Kate Schneider


Dr. Joan Ricart-Huguet


Dr. Michelle Gawerc


ALUMNI AND STUDENT NEWS

Thomas Mortimer, Class of 2023, is working with Dr. Ricart–Huguet on an independent study of Political Elites in Africa. This independent study will expose the student to historical and current literature on political elites in Africa. The research project behind this independent study asks a specific question that remains contested in political science: how were cabinets formed in post-colonial Africa? This will examine whether their composition was a result of patronage, as conventional wisdom suggests, or whether African leaders selected elites to become ministers based on education networks and their human capital.
Service Opportunities while Studying Abroad

Emily Robinson, Class of 2021

The Global Studies major has a way of opening our eyes to global challenges that we face even in our local communities. And as Global Studies majors, we are encouraged to have an abroad experience where many of us will spend months living, studying, and traveling abroad. Even for those of us who only had a few short months, the abroad experience is something of a fantasy: it opens your eyes to places you thought you would only see in storybooks and introduces you to hundreds of new people who all leave a mark on you. The cities in which we live and learn become like a second home, and we learn to love it like our own, embracing it in its faults and believing it truly is the best city on Earth. Because we only have a few short months we often overlook how the global challenges we learn about in the classroom plague these cities and states just as they plague our own some 4,000 or so miles away. It is for this reason that I encourage all students to find a service opportunity while they are abroad. Despite only being abroad for 42 days, I found an opportunity to work with Serve the City to repaint a senior citizen’s center. Our director explained that this sector of the population was often underserved and forgotten about by the state. This space was one of the few in Leuven where elderly residents could engage with their peers, and for many, this was the only interaction they had. What was supposed to be an hour turned into a day, and I learned more in those few hours about the girl from China I sat next to in Culture, Migration and Mobility (who coincidentally was the only other volunteer to show up) than I had in the month prior. Everything about our educations and backgrounds was so different that we never even thought to introduce ourselves, despite working in the same small group. But that day reminded me that it truly service which brings us closer to our community and our cities and if we truly want to love the city as it is we must be willing to move closer and see more than the beautiful buildings and peaceful cafes. Indeed, as St. Ignatius of Loyola said, “love is shown more in deeds than in words.” So, if you find that you have fallen in love with your new home, take some time to show it love. Make it a better place for the people who will stay long after you leave. Educate yourself on its shortcomings and do what you can to improve them. Something as small as a one-time service opportunity can remind you that no matter where you go, there is always space to learn, grow, and leave your mark.
Changing my Coffee Culture

Kathryn Strang, Class of 2021

We all know the feeling of waking up groggy and exhausted. Stumbling to the kitchen, eyes barely open and turning on the coffee maker or popping a k-cup in the Keurig. The morning goes on from there and we’re out the door rushing to work and school or zoom meetings in this day and age. Typically, my next stop is to a Starbucks or a Dunkin’ where I in one breath spew my complicated order to the barista. After bumping into friends or acquaintances I say a quick hello as we all wait for our names to be called. Once I hear Kathryn or some sort of a variation of that, I dash off to my next meeting or class, frantically drinking my coffee to feel energized. I never stop and take a moment to appreciate what I am drinking, who I am seeing, or even what I am doing. I am always racing against time to get assignments completed and meetings done. Then I went to Greece.

As cliche as it sounds, ~abroad changed me~ but what I mean is in terms of how I drink my coffee. Greece is full of coffee shops, sweet little shops with an abundance of seating, and some of the most exquisite coffee the world has to offer. In my first few days in Greece, I would notice how many people were in these shops all day long. Greek people would be relaxing outside in the sunlight sipping on a coffee while playing chess against a friend. I could not fathom this at first. Didn’t these people have jobs or things to do? As time went on and I became more familiar with Greece I started to sit in these same coffee shops every afternoon with Loyola friends. We would set up all of our laptops and study, write papers, and complete homework assignments. Of course, we ordered coffees, but we were not there for the coffee we were there to do work. Greek patrons would also be in these shops giving us strange looks. These Greek patrons would be students our age, but instead of doing homework and studying they’d be drinking coffee, chatting, playing cards, laughing, and dare I say having fun. I became envious of these students. They were so relaxed and carefree. They drank their coffee with a purpose, the sole purpose to enjoy it. I took a hard look at the culture I was raised in. I was drinking my coffee but not enjoying it. I was always in a rush and in America I rarely sat down to drink my coffee unless it was a planned meeting. Go go go, was all I knew. I so desperately wanted what my Greek counterparts had, a relaxing carefree cup of coffee. So, I changed my coffee drinking habits. It started in Greece, I would go to the shops with my friends and instead of opening our computers, we would order, drink our coffee and enjoy it with lively conversations and sometimes games. It was a refreshing change of pace and taught me to enjoy the small moments that life has to offer. Since being back in the US I wanted to emulate this energy, but with Covid, plans had to change. I now calmly make my coffee in the morning at home and take a moment to appreciate my drink and the life I have. It is important to slow down and enjoy the small things.
Working Abroad during a Pandemic

Father Charles Borges, History Department

I was glad to have been able to travel to India on December 30 from the US. I had booked tickets on British Airways earlier, but they were canceled and I had to book on Air India. As of now, India is not open to tourism. Only Indians and Overseas Citizens of India can travel to India. I was very impressed by the services on Air India. All had to have with them the results of a Covid 19 test taken within the past 72 hours before boarding. Ours was a Washington DC - New Delhi non-stop 15 hours flight. Every seat was filled and we were advised to observe all the safety precautions during the flight, like wearing of masks, avoiding talking to each other or with the crew, and refraining from moving around the aircraft. Given the situation, we all complied. We had to fill in a number of forms regarding our onward travel schedules. Within three hours of my arrival in New Delhi, I took another three hours flight to Pune, where my home is.

I quarantined for a week on arrival at the large Jesuit house, De Nobili College, which is the center for theology and philosophy studies for those studying for the Catholic priesthood. I had spent six years in this place in the 1970s while taking degrees in these two subjects.

Unlike the US, people in India are casual about the wearing of masks and keeping social distance. The lockdown was strictly maintained in the early stages and we have pictures of police brutality in maintaining that. Thousands of migrant workers walked hundreds of miles to their homes then since worksites closed and the future was uncertain.

I have been in Goa for two months now and the mood has been very relaxed with regard to Covid 19. This is a tourist location on the west coast of India, south of Mumbai, and a former Portuguese colony. The architecture, relaxed lifestyle, unique blend of Indian and foreign cultures, and the many popular beaches make this a very must-see place in India. Most visitors to this state are found not wearing masks and unconcerned about the general guidelines. The numbers of cases have spiked suddenly in some of the 30 states in India, Goa included. I travel about on public transport and am very careful about the precautions. At times I advise others to don their masks.

The government has opened since March 1 the receiving of the Covid 19 vaccines to all its citizens in the 60 years and above category. The response has been guarded so far. I availed myself of the Covishield vaccine. The Covaxin is also being used, both indigenously prepared and these do not require sub-zero storage. India has been exporting its vaccines to a number of countries that do not have their own locally manufactured ones.

Churches have services in person, and it is good to see the strict adherence to the mandatory requirements for those who attend. The pandemic has affected all countries globally and each country is coping as best as it can. India with its over 1.3 billion population is a success story of how cases and fatalities to the sickness have been curtailed and how its locally manufactured vaccines are proving to be safe and easily available to all.