Global Studies News

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

30 September 2019

Welcome back! I hope that you have all enjoyed a restful and productive summer. We are already four weeks into the new school year, and Global Studies is looking forward to a year of thoughtful discussion, exciting events, and new opportunities. Some updates:

Our **2020 Hanway Lecture in Global Studies** will be on **Tuesday, 31 March 2020**, and our speaker this year will be Pulitzer Prize-winning author Viet Thanh Nguyen. Mr. Nguyen, a Vietnamese-American author, has written numerous books and short stories including *The Sympathizer* (2016), *Nothing Ever Dies: Vietnam and the Memory of War* (2016), and *The Refugees* (2017). We look forward to welcoming Mr. Nguyen and continuing the conversation on migration that has been taking place on Loyola’s campus.

All Global Studies seniors are invited to an **information session** on the **GT 400 Capstone course** on **Tuesday, 8 October 2019** from 3:15-3:45 PM in HU-250. Seniors must either attend this session or contact me directly to discuss the capstone.

On Thursday, 19 September 2019, we hosted a welcome-back event for the Global Studies steering committee and all current and potential Global Studies majors. We also welcomed a new member to the steering committee—Oghenetoja Okoh joins us from History.

The Global Studies major has a new required foundational course being offered for the first time this fall—**GT 201: Introduction to Global Studies**. This is the first time that Global Studies has had an intro course at Loyola, and all new Global Studies majors will be required to take this course. The course is designed to take an interdisciplinary approach to a broad variety of topics that students can expect to encounter across the Global Studies curriculum.

As you can see, lots of things are happening here. Wishing all of our students, faculty, and staff an excellent 2019-20 school year!

Best,

Mary Kate Schneider, Ph.D.

Director, Global Studies Program
GT COURSE SPOTLIGHT: STUDENT’S PERSPECTIVE OF HS 106

Kayla Williams, Class of 2022

I admire this world and all the countries that exist in this world today. I have always been eager to learn about Africa which is why I chose to take HS 106 as my lower-level history. Also known as, “Making of the Modern World: Africa”. The title is fitting because Africa was a key component in the development of the world. Dr. Okoh did a marvelous job with exploring this topic. I have learned so much in such a short amount of time. In this class, we focused on two key events which were the Rwandan Genocide and the overall relationship between Belgium and Africa. It is interesting to learn how vital this continent was in history, but it isn’t developing or even treated as such. This course opened my eyes to this continent’s history and its stance in this world. I am anxious to learn about different continents and their countries to discover what their stance in this world is.

ABDUL MATIN VICENTE VISIT TO LOYOLA

Dr. Fabio Mendez, Economics Department

Abdul Matin Vicente will visit campus from Nov. 11 to Nov. 15. This person was a Catholic, who later became a Muslim and a community leader. He was a molecular biologist, who then dedicated his life to a spiritual path dedicated to the poor, and to social justice. He is currently a leader within the Muslim community. His visit is funded by the Hanway Chair in Global Studies.

He will be hosting two lectures within the Economic Development class:

1- On the meaning of human development. In this lecture, we will discuss how material things are not enough for a happy, meaningful life. Instead, we explore the benefits of living a simple lifestyle, surrounded by family, community and nature, and complemented by spiritual development.

2- On development as a community experience: A documented tale of human development, as experienced by an indigenous community in Chile.

He may hold another lecture depending on interest. Dr. Mendez will have additional information available. Please contact him with any questions, concerns, or comments at fmendez1@loyola.edu.
For Faculty: How to Submit New Courses to Global Studies

Faculty wishing to submit new Global Studies courses should e-mail the Director with the following:

- course name and number;
- a sample syllabus (or detailed course description, if the syllabus does not yet exist), 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 may submit courses at any time and courses are reviewed on a rolling basis.

Fall 2019 Back To School Social

On September 19th the Global Studies program hosted a Back to School Social. The event was very successful, allowing students of each class to talk about favorite classes, internships, study abroad, and more. Dr. Okoh was also formally introduced as the new Steering Committee member representing History. This is a great event to mingle and get advice from other Global Studies majors.

Steering Committee changes beginning in Fall 2019

Due to becoming the chair of the History Department, Dr. Scalenghe will be stepping down from the steering committee beginning in Fall 2019. Thank you to Dr. Scalenghe for all your contributions to the Global Studies program! Dr. Okoh of the History Department will be taking over as the History representative to the steering committee. Dr. Okoh has been at Loyola since the Fall of 2018 and specializes in 20th century African and African diaspora history. Dr. Okoh’s biography can be seen at loyola.edu/academics/history/faculty/okoh.
GLOBAL STUDIES FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Dr. David Carey—John Simon Guggenheim Foundation, 2019—2020


Article Published April 2019. doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780199366439.013.52

Dr. Andrew Ross


Dr. Michelle Gawerc


The Journey of Immigrant Children

MONDAY, OCT. 21
6:30 P.M.
McGUIRE HALL

Presenters:
Silvia Delgado and William Guzmán

Teresa Almeida and Emilia Alcántara

Attorneys and Volunteers with the Esperanza Center

Rev. Leo J. O’Donovan, S.J.
Director of the Institute for Catholic Social Thought and Community Engagement

Scott Ross, J.D. - Moderator

Free and open to the public. For more information or to request special accommodations, contact Campus Ministry@loyola.edu / 410-516-2222.
Kathryn Strang is currently studying abroad in Greece. Below is a picture of the Island of Poros, and underneath is a picture the Acropolis at night.

Dr. Mary Kate Schneider will be hosting an information session on Tuesday October 8 from 3:15 to 3:45pm in HU-250.

Information on the Capstone project is going to be made during this meeting so please plan on attending or contacting Dr. Schneider directly if you can not make it so you can benefit from any questions you and your peers may have.

Join Dr. Carey, Dr. Castillo and Filmmaker Dr. Jeffrey Gould on Monday, October 21, 5:30—pm in the Loyola Notre Dame Library Auditorium to view the Documentary, Port Triumph. Port Triumph provides a window into the landscape of tropical industrialization and offers insight into the global defeat of labor and the transition to neoliberalism.
Lessons Learned from a Bike Named Butterfly

Natalie Lana, class of 2020

Bicycles are central to the Belgian culture. As the most popular mode of transportation, bikers proudly take priority over cars and other vehicles on the Fourteenth Century cobblestone streets in the student city of Leuven. They are a means of getting to class, to the grocery store, and to the park. Unsung heroes clad in turquoise Deliveroo jackets ride their trusty bicycles, bringing the joy of pizza and burritos to doorsteps all over the city. Everyone has a bike. You will see young parents speeding through town with newborn babies mounted behind them, or with carriages holding up to three toddlers in front. You will see students, professors, old and young people riding along those charming and peaceful city streets. Once you get your bike, it’s like you’ve earned your place in this society. You are an active participant in Belgian culture. You expect to ride away into the sunset, without a worry in the world. Just you and your bike. Cruising.

However, after the wide eyes and wonder begin to wear off and the weather makes a turn for the worse, the cobblestone studded hills of the Leuven campus can be strenuous and oftentimes can discourage you from even mounting your bike in the first place. And when your bike hasn’t been getting the service it needs, it won’t take you up those hills. There’s this constant rattling sound, and you can’t figure out where it’s coming from. Your headlight has been broken since October and your tires feel like Jell-O beneath you. When you are trying to take that rusty old bike up a hill, drenched in sweat beneath your heavy winter layers, your legs screaming from cycling up that damned cobblestone, all you want to do is give up and let your bike sail freely backwards down the hill.

You’ll eventually give up on biking. You walk instead. This isn’t necessarily bad; you like walking. You have time to take in your surroundings. You can take short cuts through buildings. Things are easier, but slower. Less exciting. You start to forget about how good it feels when the wind blows through your hair as you cruise down a nicely paved road. You forget the silly feeling of bumping along cobblestones. You forget about the satisfying sensation of sailing by pedestrians, knowing that you will make it to class on time. You forget about the good parts of cycling.

You forget about how much you loved your bike the day you brought it home. That sweet rusty forest green cruiser with the word “Butterfly” etched into the seat stole your heart the second you saw it standing there, sad and alone like the last pick in middle school in gym class. You forget about how special you felt to be here, in Leuven, Belgium, riding your bike, immersed into the culture of the small student city. Nothing could compare to that first ride home from the shop, racing your new friends back to the house through the late summer breeze with the faint smell of waffles and adventure in the air.

For some reason, you forgot. Your poor lonely bike has been abandoned, locked up in the tin roof shed behind your student building. You let your fear of the hills and the cobblestones and your broken headlight and deflated tires get in the way of you and your bike.

But, you will find, those hills are much easier to climb when your bike is in better shape. All you have to do is take it into the shop. Get the tires checked, the headlights fixed, figure out what that rattling sound is. It’s simple, really. It’s just work. Every day, you have to make sure that your bike is doing okay. It might be a little rusty and out of date, but it gets you where you need to go, and it is an important part of your experience. There is a lot to be grateful for.

You, like your bike, are probably not perfect. During your experience abroad, you will have self-doubt. You will compare your situation to others, and you will feel inferior. You might stop taking care of yourself. Know that you are not alone. People might not want to talk about it, but everyone struggles in life. Even when you are young and privileged enough to study in a foreign country for an entire year, life doesn’t stop being hard. You will face challenges that you never expected to encounter. That is okay. But don’t let the challenge outweigh the reward.

When you study abroad, you really have to learn how to take care of yourself. This is beyond being able to make your own food, do your own laundry, or keep your room organized. One thing that I was not aware of before I came abroad is that if you do anything, you absolutely must be actively engaged in the maintenance of your own mental health.

It’s easy to forget about. With all of the world traveling, new experiences, and interesting people you will meet, it can be easy to forget about the reality of mental health. As much as you want to be having the time of your life with no worries and good vibes only, the reality is that no matter where you are in your life, you will al-
There will be times when you feel alone. You realize that your friends and your family and everything you know about life exists an ocean away, and nobody in your current environment can understand your home.

There will be times when you feel less-than. You may be taking some master level classes and be blown away that some people are able to actively engage in the classes that make you feel like you’re drowning. Your “straight A’s student” elitist ego will probably be shattered, and your GPA may dip below Dean’s List expectations.

There will be times when nothing seems to be going right. Life can often feel like a constant uphill battle. But it’s important to remember that there’s nothing wrong with going uphill. Once you make it to the top, you might be sweaty and tired, but you can be sure to rest a little easier knowing all that you have overcome, and having gained the confidence to push through some difficult hills in the road.

Since I’ve been in Belgium, I have been able to experience the reality of highs and lows in life.

So, if I were to give one piece of advice to a new student studying abroad, it would be to never lose that feeling you get when you ride your bike for the very first time. Hold onto that joy, and let it propel you forward into a cycle of growth. You are so incredibly lucky to have this experience, but you are still living real life. It’s not always going to be easy. You will go through highs and lows. That is okay. The human psyche may not be as simple as filling up your bike tires, or getting a new bulb for your headlight, but, like your bike, your mental health deserves your attention and care. Treat yourself with love and compassion, and know that things will turn out okay.

And please, for the love of God, don’t believe everything you see on Instagram.

2020 HANWAY LECTURE

Each year Global Studies hosts a lecture each year in which a speaker is chosen for their significant insight into today’s global society. The Hanway Lecture is an endowed series which has been made possible by a gift from Ellen and Ed Hanway. More can be seen on the global studies website www.loyola.edu/join-us/hanway-lecture. This year, the lecture will be held on Tuesday, March 31, 2020. Viet Thanh Nguyen, author of The Sympathizer, winner of the 2016 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, will be our guest speaker. Viet Thanh Nguyen was born in Viet Nam and emigrated to the US in 1975 with his family into a refugee camp in Indiantown Gap, PA. He received a degree from UC Berkeley in English and Ethnic Studies. He received his Ph.D. also from Berkeley and lives in LA where he holds a teaching position with the University of Southern California. To read more about Viet Thanh Nguyen and his award winning books, go to his website: vietnguyen.info.