**Director’s Note: Enriching International Opportunities**

What drew me to Northwestern in the fall of 2006 was the chance to take a leadership role in the transformation of the International Studies program. Two years later, I begin my new position as Director of International Studies at that wonderful moment when the period of establishing the groundwork for transformation has ended and energy can be directed at enrichment, community building and growth. Much is owed to the leadership of outgoing Director, Professor Karen Alter, who worked these past two years to build the necessary resources and strengthen commitments in WCAS to ensure a bright future for International Studies. Thanks to Karen, I receive the baton infused with inspiration and rigor.

Last year WCAS approved of a combined administrative structure for International and Area Studies Programs that includes International Studies, Asian and Middle East Studies, Latin American and Caribbean Studies and European Studies. We come to you this fall under our new logo - “IAS” – and welcome our new IAS Assistant Director Bianca Ramirez and our new IAS Program Assistant Victoria Schiffman.

With the groundwork laid, transformative change this year takes on new connotations as we enrich international curricular and research opportunities for undergraduates. Through the initiative of Christopher Hayden, Assistant to Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education, William Anthony, Director of Study Abroad, and support from Mary Finn, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Academic Affairs at WCAS, we have partnered to offer IS students a broader opportunity to participate in an expanded fall quarter Study Abroad Research Program (SARP). The Study Abroad Office launched SARP in 2002 to encourage students to think more deeply about incorporating a research component and cross-cultural learning of their study abroad experience. Robin Leephaibul, Assistant Director of Study Abroad and Bianca Ramirez have planned five pre-departure workshops that focus on studying and researching overseas. The workshops challenge students to think more critically about developing independent research projects abroad and require students to submit a research proposal upon completion of the program.

As part of our initiative to coordinate international research opportunities, we are also offering fellowship informational sessions in October for students to get an early start on learning about international fellowship opportunities and mentoring on how to put together a successful proposal. For those students abroad this fall, we are planning a returnee workshop series in early January to mentor IS students who want to apply for University research summer grants and help them locate faculty advisors for their projects.

We look forward to building our network of faculty affiliates and enriching the international experience at Northwestern. Alumni are an excellent resource and inspiration as students consider various international opportunities. On pages 5-7 some of our recent alumni and current students share their international research and internship experiences. We are working to establish an alumni mentorship program. For those of our readers who want to be a mentor, contact the IAS Assistant Director, Bianca Ramirez (b-ramirez@northwestern.edu).

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**Major Focus: The Summer Experience Abroad**

by Panagiota Tania Karas, 2011 Medill and International Studies

Imagine arriving at school one morning, only to find a row of police officers blocking you from entering. Imagine sitting outside every day for an entire year with the hope that you will be allowed access in order to complete your degree. Imagine seeing an entire 10 years pass by with little change in the school's policy – you are still denied entrance. This is a reality for Havva Kaplan and other Muslim women in Turkey who choose to wear the Islamic headscarf and therefore cannot enter public universities, work for the government or in the public sector. Kaplan was a third-year medical student at Istanbul University at the time of the 1998 Headscarf Ban. After a year of waiting outside her university in protest of the ban she and a few other women founded Ak-Der, an Istanbul-based women's organization opposing the ban.

My interest in Turkey was sparked after I took Religion 250: Intro to Islam last year for my International Studies major. I decided to spend this summer in a study abroad program in Turkey and developed an idea for a video project that stemmed from my academic majors in both international studies and journalism. I began research for my project after attending a lecture focused on Turkish Muslim women at Bilgi University. I wanted to find women who had been affected by the ban and document their experiences. With the help of my professor I found Ak-Der and set up interviews with several sharp, college-educated and headscarved women like Kaplan.

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We look forward to a new year of enriching international programming.

~Galya Ruffer

Major Focus continued from page 1

Though over 90 percent Muslim, Turkey is a strictly secular state that views headscarved women as a political protest against secularism. Through my research I found that many women had varying experiences with the ban. Neslihan Akbulut, Secretary-General of Ak-Der explained that she, like Kaplan, was enrolled at a university during the time of the ban but rather than actively protest, as Kaplan had done, Akbulut instead removed her headscarf and wore hats in class.

She also noted that other Muslim women wore wigs to school to cover their hair, and some even wore wigs over their Islamic headscarf. Even though the faculty generally frowned upon these practices, Akbulut was able to complete her studies at Bilgi University.

During my research I was struck at the lengths women went to protect their religious beliefs. All the women I spoke with expressed a sense of attachment to their headscarves extending beyond religion – often identifying their headscarf as an extension of their body. I learned that women who could afford an overseas education opted to study abroad in countries where they could wear their headscarf without harassment, but the vast majority of women discontinued their college studies altogether. Akbulut noted that over the years women have become fearful and not protesting the ban as loudly as they used to. An entire ten years have passed since the 1998 ban and many women have found themselves unemployed, without a degree and a sense of helpless in the face of a secular state. Kaplan, former head of Ak-Der and now a practicing doctor, finally completed her degree abroad many years after her unveiled classmates and said, “I believe as a Muslim that I need to struggle…I get tired and bored and I am often hurting”, yet she refuses to compromise her beliefs. Kaplan works in a private hospital in Turkey and wears her headscarf to work. She is often asked to remove it but has so far never complied though she knows she faces the possibility of losing her job.

My research abroad, though initially unplanned, taught me a great deal about human rights and standing up for what one believes in. I was inspired by the courage of these women and look forward to completing the editing process of my video project and sharing my work with my fellow students.

Fatma Nesibe, an early 19th-century Turkish feminist, believes women in Turkey are on the eve of a revolution. They still have a long way to go, but human rights are on their side. As Akbulut and I shared tea and Turkish pastries one day, she put down her teacup and said firmly, “I don’t want the state to see me as a woman who wears a headscarf. I want the state to see me as an equal citizen.”
The International Studies Program would like to welcome Professor Jonathan Caverley! Professor Caverley joins the Political Science department as an assistant professor and will teach classes in the International Studies core curriculum such as International Relations and American Foreign Policy and expand our International Security thematic cluster course offerings with upper level seminars on national security. A former submarine officer, he was also the Assistant Professor of Naval Science here at Northwestern from 2000 to 2003, when he taught undergraduate classes in Naval Engineering and in Leadership and Management.

Professor Caverley’s current research examines the distribution of the costs of security within democracies, and its contribution to military aggressiveness. He also studies the globalization of the defense industry, and the role of technology in international politics. Professor Caverley has a PhD and MPP from the University of Chicago, and received his BA in History and Literature from Harvard College. He comes to Northwestern from a fellowship with the International Security Program at Harvard’s Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs.

With his military background and his research, Professor Caverley takes a more long-term perspective on American foreign policy, believing that despite its current reputation, the Bush Administration has not strayed too far from American foreign policy traditions. Caverley is also skeptical of reports of American international decline, claiming that globalization and technological advances do not necessarily level the international political playing field, but in general deliver outsized benefits to the United States.

Fun fact about Professor Caverley: before joining the Navy, he was a travel guide writer specializing in the U.K., Switzerland, Austria, Morocco, and Tunisia.

Interested in advanced seminars to deepen your knowledge of International Studies?

Do you have a research idea that you would like to conduct fieldwork for?

Are you prepared to take your studies to the next level?

The International Studies Department is currently looking for especially driven and exceptional students for the Honors Program in International Studies. The Honors Program in International Studies is for outstanding and engaged majors who wish to take on the challenge of actively researching and writing about a topic in international studies. Participants in the Honors Program are required to have a deeper level of language competence than the IS adjunct major itself. Students accepted into the honors program enroll in a 3-quarter-long seminar (spring junior year and fall and winter senior year) during which they plan, research, and write their theses. Honors students who want to take on the unique challenge of primary research are strongly encouraged to apply for University research support and conduct research either during study abroad or in the summer after junior year, though this is not required for honors.

Applying for the Honors Program

Admission to the honors program is competitive. Outstanding International Studies majors must apply their junior year, but may apply in their sophomore year if they plan on spending their junior year abroad. The deadline for applying to the Honors Program this year is February 6, 2009. Acceptance into the program is based on strength of the proposed research and the student’s demonstrated ability as an independent and critical thinker. Students are also required to maintain a cumulative GPA above 3.5 in the major and overall throughout the program. Students apply by submitting a thesis topic proposal that includes a research question and describes how the student’s background prepares them for this particular research (not to exceed 3 pages). Applicants must also submit a transcript including a calculation of their major and overall GPA. Prof. Galya Ruffer, Director of International Studies is available to meet with students as they work to develop their proposals. Students should also seek advice from other faculty at Northwestern. For an application form please stop by the International Studies office or download the application on our website.

For more information about the Honors Program in International Studies please join us for an informational session on

Wednesday, December 3, 2008
University Hall Room 022
12:00pm - 1:00pm
Food and Refreshments will be provided
The IS Program Welcomes New Staff

Bianca Ramirez is the new Assistant Director for International and Area studies. She has been at the University for two years working for both the International Studies Program and the Asian & Middle East Studies program as an undergraduate advisor and program assistant. Prior to joining Northwestern she worked as a Project Coordinator for the Environmental and Conservation Program at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago where she worked closely with a local NGO in Peru, CIMA-Cordillera Azul to protect cultural diversity and land security, and to integrate improved quality of life into the management of Cordillera Azul National Park. She also worked with the interactive program expeditions@fieldmuseum™, which follows Field Museum scientists as they conduct groundbreaking scientific research around the world through dispatches, interactive and photos. Academically her interests lie in the socio-cultural experiences of transnational communities, particularly in the U.S.

Bianca earned her Master of Arts from the University of Chicago in 2008. Her thesis was entitled, “Success in the City of Neighborhoods: The National Museum of Mexican Art”. Bianca’s thesis asks how the Mexican Fine Arts Center (recently renamed the National Museum of Mexican Art (“NMMA”)) in Chicago continues to succeed at a time when many nationalistic Latino cultural centers are being forced to seek a broader audience by enlarging their focus to encompass pan-Latino projects. She argues that the NMMA’s success is due to its dual function as a museum and also as a grassroots community center which organizes cultural festivals, lectures and after-school programs. In this regard, she focuses particularly on the notion of Mexicanidad and examines how the kinds of socio-spatial relations produced between the NMMA and residents of the surrounding Pilsen neighborhood contribute to a sense of Mexican identity and culture for this underprivileged immigrant community.

Bianca is excited to tackle on her new role as Assistant Director and strongly believes in the importance of attaining a global perspective in academia and expanding the horizons of students through international and interdisciplinary programming.

Victoria Schiffman is the new Program Assistant for International and Area Studies. Victoria is a graduate of Washington University in St. Louis with a BA in International Studies and Spanish. She was a Varsity Coxswain at the Wash U Club Team and a member of Sigma Iota Rho, the International Studies Honorary. She studied abroad in Madrid, Spain during her junior year and upon graduation returned to Southern Spain to teach English at CEIP Las Marinas for a year.

Prior to joining Northwestern Victoria was an intern at the photography department at the Art Institute of Chicago where she conducted research for upcoming exhibitions. Victoria is very excited to be here and can’t wait to meet everyone!

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Fellowships and Undergraduate Research Grants Deadlines

Undergraduate Research Grants (www.northwestern.edu/undergrad-research)
2008-09 Academic-Year Grant Deadlines:
- Tuesday, October 7
- Tuesday, November 4
- Tuesday, December 2
- Tuesday, January 20
- Tuesday, February 24
- Friday, March 13, 2009 (Summer Grant Deadline)

Immersion Language Grants (http://www.northwestern.edu/immersion)
- Friday, January 30, 2009

Circumnavigators Club Travel-Study Grant
- Friday, November 30, 2008

External Fellowships for International Programs:
- October 15, 2008, Freeman-ASIA (for spring 2009 study abroad)
- November 1, 2008, Harriman Foreign Service Fellowship (for summer 2009)
- November 1, 2008, Public Policy and International Affairs Fellowship (for summer 2009)
- December 1, 2008, Overseas Press Club Scholarships
  - January 5, 2009, Truman Scholarship—Internal (for those planning careers in public service)
  - January 25, 2009, Critical Language Scholarships for Intensive Summer Institutes (for summer 2009)
  - January 31, 2009, De Kármán Fellowship (tuition support for senior year)
- January 31, 2009, DAAD Summer University Course Grant (for summer 2009 in Germany)
- January 31, 2009, DAAD Research Internships in Science and Engineering (for summer 2009 in Germany)
- February 6, 2009, Humanity in Action (summer 2009 human rights program in Europe)
- April 30, 2009, Registration for 2009 NU British/Irish Scholarship Nomination Process (for 2010-11 graduate study abroad)
- May 1, 2009, Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship—Date Varies by District (for 2010-11 graduate study and service abroad)
- May 31, 2009, Registration for 2009 NU Fulbright Process—Preferred (for 2010-11 research, teaching, or graduate study abroad)

Don’t miss our informational session on these unique opportunities!

**Monday, October 6, 2008**
**University Hall 020**
**12pm - 1pm**
Graduation can be a time of excitement, relief and anticipation to start a new chapter in your life. The International Studies Program has begun new initiatives to foster a stronger relationship with our alumni and provide career mentorship opportunities with our majors. One of the most common questions we receive from students at the International Studies office is “What can I do with the International Studies adjunct major once I graduate?” There is no simple answer to this question and in fact, as interdisciplinary students, our majors follow a variety of paths after graduation. The IS curriculum prepares students for a wide field of professional opportunities. After graduation our majors move on to work in the private, public and non-profit spheres.

Kate Kashdan, WCAS ’08, is working at Troutman Sanders, LLP. Angie Bergman, WCAS ’08, accepted a position as a Consultant for Alvarez & Marsal Business Consulting in Chicago—a boutique firm based out of NYC. She hopes to gain the professional experience and finance skill set to ultimately help her effectively manage an international non-profit. Maureen Johannigman, CMN ’08, secured a position as a Program Specialist at After School Matters where she manages all of the Advanced Arts programs that run out of Gallery 37. ASM is a Chicago non-profit that creates a network of out-of-school opportunities for teens in underserved communities and partners with the City of Chicago, and community organizations to give students jobs-training and experience in everything from performing and visual arts to sports, technology and communication.

Some go abroad for research and professional opportunities. Hongju Lee, WCAS ’08, studied the Emerging Legal and Economic Structure in Tsinghua University in China with the support of a grant from Dean Dipak Jain of the Kellogg School of Management. Linda Rosa, WCAS ’08, traveled to Karachi, Pakistan in July and is currently working with the Citizens Archive of Pakistan’s Oral History Project. Ema Pasic, WCAS ’08, traveled to Beijing and spent the summer working for a company doing corporate hospitality for the Olympics.

Others take advantage of public service opportunities at home. Aimee O’Malley, WCAS ’08, an Honors student in International Studies was hired by the Obama/Biden campaign as the Deputy Operations Director, in charge of Get Out the Vote operations in Ohio.

Major Updates

The summer provides a great opportunity for International Studies majors to carry out independent research projects, enroll in study abroad programs and secure internship opportunities. Many of these projects also serve as the launching pad for future projects. Recently we asked our students to send us updates about their summer activities and their plans for the upcoming year. Keep reading to find out where in the world they’ve been and what they have been up to.

I received the 100 Projects for Peace grant and have spent the summer in Cairo (where I studied abroad last fall). I have been interning for the organization Tadamon, The Egyptian and Refugee Multicultural Council, and have assisted them with and funded their website creation and several pilot projects, including a children’s arts-based program focused on promoting diversity (especially among the Egyptian and African communities in Cairo) and a women’s handicraft income-generating project.

~Emily Eisenhart, WCAS 2009

I had a great summer internship in downtown Chicago at JPMorgan Private Bank and was made a full-time offer! I’m really excited and look forward to the school year starting too!

~Jessica Chu, WCAS 2009

I had a great summer internship at the Smithsonian Institution. I worked at the Office of Policy and Analysis creating surveys, interviewing visitors, and working with curators at a number of SI museums. This upcoming Winter/Spring semester I will be studying in Paris and plan on working in London thereafter.

~Patience Baach, WCAS 2010

I’m currently on study abroad in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and here I have an unpaid internship translating news articles for the website of a Spanish-speaking Jewish radio station, called Radio Jai.

~Tara Kalmanson, Medill 2010

I’m currently in Spain studying and traveling. I am enrolled in a language institute in Salamanca.

~Sarah Smierciak, WCAS 2011

I am currently interning at Lily’s Talent Agency - they’re known as the “best talent agency in Chicago!” I will be studying abroad in Toledo, Spain this fall through a University of Chicago program.

~Liezl Rivadelo, Comm, 2010

I have been studying Hebrew at Hebrew University in Jerusalem in the summer and will be studying abroad at Hebrew University/Rothberg International School for the fall.

~Courtney Sharpe, WCAS 2009

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Major Updates continued from page 5

Last year I studied abroad at LSE in London over the summer. This summer I secured a summer internship at Deutsche Bank in Hong Kong. I feel that the International Studies Program is a great fit for me because I am an international student from Mumbai, India currently entering my senior year at Northwestern.
~Divya Bharwani, WCAS 2009

I’m currently working on my International Studies Thesis in Buenos Aires with a grant from WCAS and another from the department of Latin American and Caribbean Studies. My project involves interviewing itinerant vendors on the city’s subway system to understand their perspective on their role in the informal economy.
~Cecily Harwitt, WCAS 2009

This summer, I volunteered for The Dominican Republic Education and Mentoring (DREAM) Project as a teacher in a summer school in Cabarete, Dominican Republic. I received a Northwestern University Summer Internship Grant to intern for this organization. I will spend this Fall Quarter in Barcelona, Spain on the Consortium for Advanced Studies in Barcelona program.
~AJ Rudin, WCAS 2010

This coming winter and spring quarters I will studying abroad in France.
~Tiffany Mathiason, WCAS 2010

I just finished my third summer working as a Summer Hire at the U.S. Department of State in the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs. This past summer I was working in the office of Economic Policy and Summit Coordination aiding in the planning for the upcoming (April 17-19, 2009) Summit of the Americas, as well as promoting the proposed US-Colombia Free Trade Agreement. More specifically, I had the opportunity to speak with Congressman Engle, the chairman of the subcommittee on Western Hemisphere Affairs about why it is that Congress isn’t voting on FTA.
~Rachel Alba, Comm 2010

I studied abroad this summer on the ENGAGE Uganda Program in Gulu, Uganda and it was one of the most valuable experiences of my life!
~Madeline Greenn, SESP 2010

I received a Ford Foundation research grant for this summer, to do research on disabilities in Asia! I also went to Calcutta and have started The Amber Initiative, a campaign to raise awareness about sex trafficking issues. We set up a website www.theamberinitiative.com too, with a lot more information!
~Meixi Ng, SESP 2011

I will be studying abroad for fall and winter quarters at Waseda University in Tokyo, Japan, through the Earlham College Japan Study program.
~Sean Pavlik, WCAS 2010

I spent this summer working at Target’s headquarters in Minneapolis, where I was one of seven out of 350 interns to receive an excellence award. I also received an offer of full-time employment upon graduation. I plan to attend law school upon graduation in the fall of 2009.
~Matthew Linder, WCAS 2009

Lee F. Anderson Grants are due Winter Quarter 2008

The Lee F. Anderson Award Memorial Global Education & Engagement Grant will provide funding for a Northwestern University junior or senior who demonstrates initiative and commitment in making a difference in the world. The grant will support student engagement, volunteerism or service projects either locally or abroad.

For an application please visit the IS office or go to www.northwestern.edu/intstudy

I received the Naomi Marfleet Cramer scholarship last year from the School of Comm. It’s a prestigious all-school award presented to one student in SoC each year. I’m currently conducting an honors thesis for my major in Performance Studies. The topic of my thesis is derived from my International Studies courses and focuses on the Cuban-American relations in 1959.
~Sydney Howe, Comm 2009

I was accepted to the University of Utah College of Law and have started classes this week.
~Elin Lindstrom, WCAS 2008

This summer was an amazing experience for me because I received a WCAS summer grant which allowed me to travel to Chile and do research for my sociology thesis. My thesis is a social movement analysis focused on participation by university students. I met many people who were helpful for my thesis but also got to learn more about the Chilean culture in the process.
~Veronica Navarrete, WCAS 2009

I received the State Department Critical Language Scholarship to study Arabic for two months in Oman this summer.
~Kathryn Wendeln, WCAS 2010

This past summer I studied abroad in Beijing China with the Northwestern IPE department. I was part of the Emerging Legal and Economic Structures. I received a $2,000 grant from the Immersion Languages Grant in order to alleviate some of the costs of the program.
~Casey Rubinoff, WCAS 2009

I actually was able to take a summer course called International Developmental Economics at the London School of Economics. I loved the diversity of London.
~Hansang Cho, WCAS 2009

I have been interning with ABC News in Jerusalem and am a reporter. I write articles and cover major events for the internet. My articles can be found on abcnws.com when they come out, or all my articles can be found by searching my name on the abc site.
~Rachel Lebowitz, Medill 2010

I had an internship with the Rocky Mountain News in Denver as a reporter and covered the DNC.
~Carrie Porter, Medill 2009
International Studies Courses for the 2008-2009 Academic Year

The following are courses offered through the International Studies Program. For a full list of courses that count towards the major please visit www.northwestern.edu/intstudy.

INTL ST 201-1 Global History I

Fall Quarter, Professor Georgi Derlugian
This is the first part of a double-segment course that introduces you to thinking globally, systemically, and evolutionary. We now lay the foundation of your becoming a world affairs expert, and we have to start digging very deep, perhaps down to the extinct mammoths. We shall discuss only the organizational logics of various historical systems that pre-date the modern world: tribal chiefdoms, the first temple communities, the agrarian world-empires which are traditionally called “ancient civilizations”, and their “barbarian” peripheries in the woods of Europe, the steppes of Asia, and the deserts of Arabia. In short, all the diversity of social organization and civilizations that had existed before the first European globalization of the 1500s.

INTL ST 201-2 Global History II

Spring Quarter, Professor Georgi Derlugian
This course examines the key processes of our contemporary epoch, or the “short 20th century” (1914 to 1991), taking them, as Stephen Jay Gould prescribed, in the whole system of relations. Starting with the mutual suicide of the great powers in the First World War, the class traces the effects of newer, much bigger and invasive governments and economic corporations. Students try to figure out what caused the two world wars; the nature of fascism, populism, the New Deal, and communism; how the former colonies became independent states, and what came out of their programs of national development and modernization. The course investigates the institutions that ensured the long peace of the Cold War and how their breakdown released the newest globalization. It also speculates what might come out of globalization. This course counts toward the Weinberg College historical studies distribution requirement.

INTL ST 390: Special Topics, International Terrorism

Winter Quarter, Professor Jonathan Schachter
This course will introduce students to the concepts, goals, strategies, problems, and ideologies associated with contemporary and historic terrorist groups. Emphasis will be placed on terrorist motives and on how terrorist actions have affected the course of history and current foreign and domestic policies. We will use various criteria to examine different types of terrorist organizations -- motives, means, objectives, geography, and others. Students will learn why terrorism continues to be chosen as a mechanism for change in the United States and around the world, and how governments can work to limit its effects. Among the topics covered will be terrorist group structures, the role of the media, facts and fiction about weapons of mass destruction, the use of torture in counter-terrorism, and the impact of 9/11 on foreign and domestic policy.

INTL ST 394: Professional Linkage Seminar: Sources of Change in National Security Policy

Spring Quarter, Dr. Kenette Benedict
How is national security policy formulated in a democracy? The values and process of democracy often stop at a country’s borders. In the United States, foreign policy and national security policy have been the province of a relatively small group of political, academic, business, and civic leaders—a foreign policy establishment—with close ties to the President and the Executive Branch. While the Congress has the power of the purse to fund national security policies, in fact, a relatively small number of people tend to be involved in formulating and executing policy. This course will examine some of the past practices and assumptions about national security and foreign policy making in the U.S. and ask whether these practices reflect the values and practices of democracy. Who should participate in policy making? How do changes come about in foreign policy and national security policy? Are values, as well as interests, expressed in U.S. policies?

Kenette Benedict specializes in international security issues, sources of conflict, and the reduction of the threats posed by nuclear weapons. Before becoming executive director of the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists in October 2005, Benedict was director of international peace and security at the MacArthur Foundation. Based on her experience at a major foundation that sought to bring about change in thinking about international security, Kenette Benedict, Ph.D. will offer reflections on projects that attempted to change policy frameworks.

INTL ST 395: Integrating Project Seminar

Winter Quarter & Spring Quarter, Professors Lemasle, Dalgic, Maruster
This seminar focuses on the theoretical frameworks and methodologies students learned in the core curriculum of international studies by examining a case study of an international problem today. Students use these frameworks to pursue a research project that draws upon their regional concentration and thematic cluster coursework. Students come together in a conference format to present their final projects to the class. The seminar assumes that students have completed a substantial portion of the International Studies core curriculum, including the Thematic and Regional clusters before the seminar begins. It is intended to allow students to combine all of these perspectives, as well as the various research and communication skills to solve a complex real world problem at a sophisticated level. The seminar is also intended to be a transitional experience to graduate and professional school levels of scholarly commitment of time and effort and to life-long learning in international studies.
Sandra Dickinson, WCAS ’08, has been interning with the Student Conservation Association as a Congressional Intern. The Student Conservation Association (SCA) is a nonprofit organization that offers conservation internships and summer trail crew opportunities to more than 3,000 people each year. She spent the summer working in the Management office at the Statue of Liberty National Monument and Ellis Island learning how policy impacts the National Park Service and this fall will intern at Connecticut Congressman Christopher Shays office in DC.

The International Studies Program is home to students from all schools at the University ranging from the Medill School of Journalism, the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, the Henry and Leigh Bienen School of Music, the McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science, the School of Communication and the School of Education and Social Policy. Our students come with many different backgrounds and academic disciplines but they all share a common interest in seeing politics and economics existing in social, environmental, and cultural contexts. In an increasingly global world they are presented with a variety of opportunities and the IS program gives them the tools to carve their own paths. If you have recently graduated send us your updates for our upcoming newsletters. We are always looking to share our graduates’ experiences and develop programming around the projects our majors undertake.

~Bianca Ramirez
Assistant Director, International and Area Studies

Advising Hours for Fall Quarter 2008

Galya Ruffer, J.D., Ph.D.
Director of International Studies Program
Walk-in hours
Tuesdays: 11:00-12:00 & 2:00-4:00
Thursdays: 12:00-3:00

Bianca Ramirez
Assistant Director of International & Area Studies
By appointment only
Mondays 2:00-4:30
Tuesdays 10-11:30 & 3:30-4:30
Wednesdays 10:00-12:00