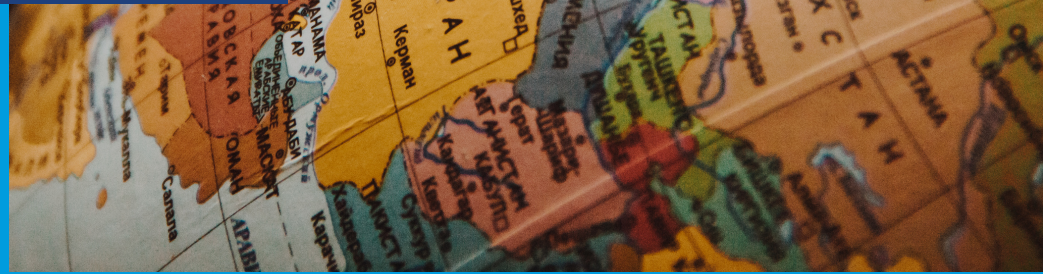




GLOBAL LEADERS OF PENN STATE

Global and International Studies
Monthly Email Newsletter



WELCOME

by Gianna Pinto, Managing Editor

Hello! Welcome to the March issue of *Global Leaders of Penn State*, the Global and International Studies (GLIS) program newsletter. To start, thank you so much for reading. For our fifth issue of the 2021–22 school year, we will spotlight international student Filipp Olenov, the Human Rights pathway course PHIL 108 Introduction to Social and Political Philosophy, Brazil's Carnaval, and clubs and organizations we think will interest GLIS majors.

If you have any feedback or would like to submit a story, please email glis@psu.edu. We look forward to hearing from you and cannot wait to show you all the opportunities that GLIS has to offer.

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PennState
College of the Liberal Arts

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

by Gianna Pinto



Filipp Olenov

“Although it may sound cheesy, don’t be afraid to look inside yourself for guidance and inner strength and listen to your inner voice for inspiration.”

Filipp Olenov '24

Hometown: Saint Petersburg, Russia

Filipp Olenov is an international student from Russia with a GLIS major and an Applied Linguistics minor (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages). Filipp considers himself to be a nontraditional student, as he has freelance work experience in interpreting and translation, as well as caregiving. According to Filipp, this has allowed him to understand the importance of cultural diversity and being an effective listener and communicator. He acknowledges that people tend to share complex, inspiring, and multilayered identities.

Filipp is a student ambassador to Global Alumni (SAGA), which helps reconnect international alumni from previous years to their alma mater. Filipp also assists students with foreign language skills via campus clubs. He has also worked as a student employee at kitchens across campus and arenas such as the Bryce Jordan Center and the Milton S. Eisenhower Auditorium. Filipp has also worked as a member of the stage crew at the Penn State School of Theatre.

As an international student, Filipp believes that his experiences push him to have a more cosmopolitan view on life, which is what he believes Penn State is all about. Lastly, Filipp wants to encourage all international students to aim high and be themselves when it comes to job interviews and other interview processes.

COURSE SPOTLIGHT

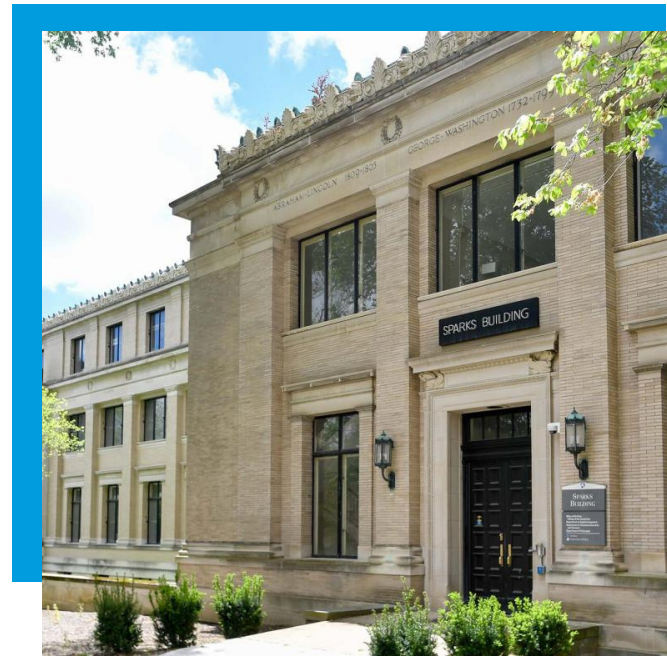
by Abigail Picozzi

PHIL 108 Introduction to Social and Political Philosophy Human Rights pathway

Have you ever contemplated why we follow laws and norms? Or better yet, how these laws and norms were created in the first place? If so, this course may be for you! PHIL 108 is an introductory Philosophy course that focuses on the different schools of thought behind laws, customs, and ideas of different aspects of society and politics. The topics in this course cover a variety of material, including analyses of freedom, the importance of freedom of speech, the controversy over bodily autonomy, the effectiveness of civil disobedience, and more. This course is part of the Human Rights pathway for GLIS majors, and rightfully so, as the ideologies behind the basis for many different fundamental human rights are explored and debated over the course of the class.

While any philosophy class is naturally thought-provoking, this one is especially so. Many of the laws we follow in the United States are taken for granted as morally "right," yet in PHIL 108, students are forced to evaluate why exactly we deem certain rules and restrictions as "right" and others "wrong." The professor does a great job of explaining the beliefs of different philosophers and politicians in her sections of the course, and thus, cultivates stimulating class discussion and debate. By setting aside a significant part of the class to discuss the information from each class, the floor is open to dive much deeper into why we agree or disagree with each new point of view presented. With weekly readings and discussion posts, each topic can be explored much more in depth than can be covered in a single seventy-five minute class, and each student has the opportunity to express their opinions on each topic.

If you're looking for a fascinating gen-ed or a Human Rights pathway course, PHIL 108 is a great option. Keep it in mind for upcoming scheduling appointments!



Sparks Building

INTERNATIONAL HOLIDAY SPOTLIGHT

by Maria Luiza Carvalho de Moraes

Brazil's Carnaval Begins April 20, 2022

Carnaval is the most famous, and biggest, holiday that is celebrated in Brazil. The date of Carnaval changes each year depending on when Easter falls within the Catholic Church's calendar. Typically, Carnaval will happen directly after Ash Wednesday, which is forty-six days before Easter. The official celebrations will last for about four days, with weeks of celebrations also occurring in the weeks leading up to Ash Wednesday and following it. In these celebrations, it is very typical for Brazilians to dress up in vibrant and colorful costumes. For many Brazilians, this is their chance to dress up since Halloween is not traditionally celebrated. The largest parade celebrations occur in Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, and Salvador. These celebrations generate a great deal of revenue and job opportunities for the citizens of Brazil. The parades also include dancers from samba schools, who practice all year round to be featured in the popular parades.

Different regions of Brazil have varying traditions when it comes to Carnaval. For example, in the northeastern city of Recife, there is a parade named the "Morning Rooster," which includes a float of a large rooster with thousands of dancers and parade participants following it through the streets. There are also parades that include "trios elétricos," which are certain floats with lighting and sound equipment and singers on top. It is very common for famous Brazilian singers to buy these floats and do their own concerts during the parade. The most famous music played during the Carnaval celebrations is samba, which is the most popular music genre native to Brazil.

Due to COVID-19, this year's Carnaval celebration will be held during the final week of April as opposed to its usual time at the end of February. This was a decision made by the Brazilian government to make the parties and parades a safer environment and slow the spread of the virus.



A photo of a parade celebration in Recife, Brazil.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS SPOTLIGHT

by Kelly Zahour

The Global Brigades Campus Council

The Global Brigades Campus Council organizes the activities of the existing Global Brigades clubs at Penn State University Park. They focus on international and local volunteering along with sustainable development and service. The Global Brigades Campus Council gives members unique educational opportunities in a variety of development-related fields, both on and off campus. For more information, email ejw36@psu.edu.



The Global Engagement Community

The Global Engagement Community aims to unite both international and domestic globally minded students. This group focuses on the goals of uniting cultures, the development of global competencies and citizenship traits along with global awareness of other cultures, perspectives, and languages. It seeks to expand the understanding of global issues, create conversations of cross-cultural ways of living at an individual level, promote inclusion, and encourage differences. For more information, email nla12@psu.edu.

Student Organization for Sustainable Development Goals

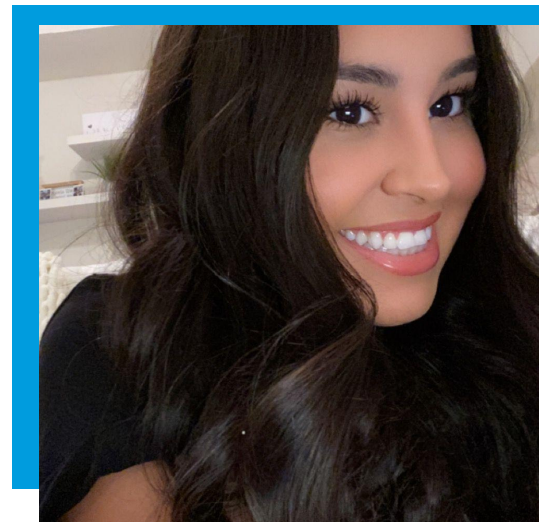
The Student Organization for Sustainable Development Goals (SOS) aims to spread the goals of the United Nations on sustainable development. SOS holds fundraisers throughout the year where the money is donated to the charity. For more information, email wvk5103@psu.edu.



WHY GLIS?

Emilie Baerga '22

Emilie chose to major in GLIS because she knew after her undergraduate studies, she wanted to go to law school. She's always been interested in immigration law and wanted to pick a major that would allow her to learn about global and international studies. GLIS has given her the opportunity to explore different studies and choose a desired pathway as well as learn about diverse topics through various perspectives. Through this major, Emilie has even been able to accomplish the Diversity Studies certificate that Penn State offers. With this major and certificate, she believes she will be a great applicant for law school and use these studies when dealing with immigration law as she has gained a deeper understanding of global relations and all that it entails. This program has offered Emilie so much and she is very thankful she chose this major.



Emilie Baerga



Abigail Picozzi

Abigail Picozzi '24

When deciding on her area of study at Penn State, Abbey Picozzi knew she wanted to do something that involved the international community. Traveling has always been a passion of hers and given that she has been studying French for six years, she wanted a major that would allow her to combine her interests and put her on a career path that she would genuinely enjoy. When she learned about GLIS, it was the obvious choice for her; she would be able to study different cultures and ideologies from around the world while also using credits toward a French double major. GLIS has provided Abbey with a great deal of insight into the inner workings of our increasingly globalized world, as well as a new appreciation for each different, yet fascinating culture around the globe. The different pathways provided an easy route to narrow her interests and find the topics she was most invested in, giving her the opportunity to study exactly what she wants in the major of her choice.



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GLIS and Spanish majors
Culture and Identity pathway
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Political Science minors
Senior

Global Leaders of Penn State is looking for content! If you are interested in submitting a story, please email us at glis@psu.edu.



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