



GLOBAL LEADERS OF PENN STATE

Global and International Studies
Monthly Email Newsletter

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WELCOME

by Abigail Picozzi, Managing Editor

Hello! Welcome to the November edition of the Global and International Studies Newsletter for the 2022-23 school year. We're so excited to continue sharing stories from the GLIS community! In this issue, we have a highlight on relevant upcoming events, a student spotlight on Annette Wienken '23, an alumna spotlight from Cristina Cebotaru '21, a course spotlight from the Culture and Identity pathway, a feature on clubs and organizations similar to the GLIS community, and a Why GLIS? featuring fourth-year student Valentina Vallejo: a new member of our newsletter team!

Thanks for reading! 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.



UPCOMING EVENTS

by Cheyenne Hennen

Thursday, November 3, 7:00–9:00 p.m. **Foster Auditorium (102 Paterno Library)**

The Department of Asian Studies, in collaboration with The Institute for Korean Studies and University Libraries, will be hosting a film screening of *Comfort*.

The film tells the detailed life story of KIM Soonak, a survivor of the "comfort women system," post-war Korean brothels, U.S. camptown prostitution, and so much more.

For more information, email Jooyeon Rhee (jxr5820@psu.edu), or Ran Zwigenberg (ruz12@psu.edu).



Comfort (2020), directed by Emmanuel Moonchil Park

Saturday, November 5, 1:00–8:00 p.m. **Chambers Building**

Penn State Global and the Sustainability Institute have partnered to host the very first global sustainability mini conference, "Global Sustainable Action: It Starts With Us," at Penn State University Park.

This half-day conference aims to provide a platform to raise global awareness, expand commitment to sustainable actions, deepen intercultural understanding, and foster respect for diversity and difference.

The conference is open to ALL Penn State students, staff, faculty, and community members. To learn more or get involved, visit sites.psu.edu/globalsustainableaction.

Thursday, November 17, 7:00–8:00 p.m. **Zoom**

"Understanding Mindful Presence"

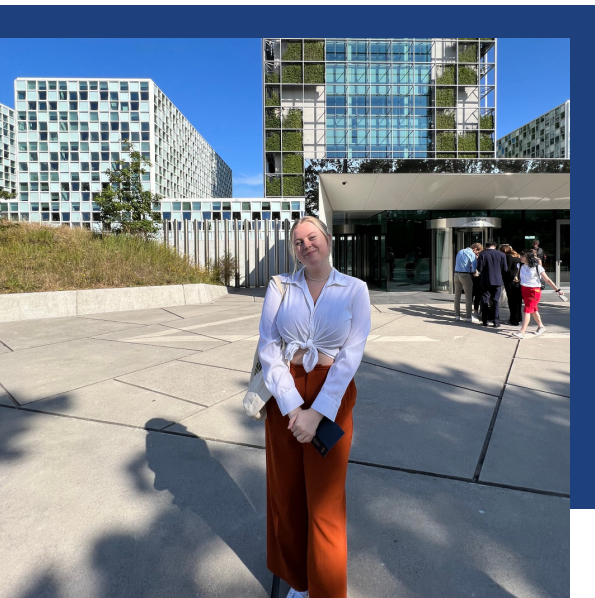
Institute for Korean Studies Meditation Series with Dr. Grace Song

Join the Institute for Korean Studies for a monthly guided meditation session and short talk.
*No prior experience required.

For more information and the Zoom link, email Jooyeon Rhee at jxr5820@psu.edu.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

by Maria Luiza Carvalho de Moraes



Annette Wienken at the International Criminal Court in The Hague, Netherlands

Annette Grace Wienken '23 GLIS Major

For five weeks this summer, Annette studied abroad in the Netherlands for the Dutch Criminal and Social Justice program. She had the opportunity to witness a trial at the International Criminal Court (Ali Muhammad Ali Abd-Al-Rahman for crimes against humanity and genocide in the Darfur region of Sudan), participate in a Model UN conference with students from across the globe, and interview people from all walks of life, such as correctional officers, asylum seekers, sex workers, social workers, and more. This type of hands-on learning experience was life changing for her, deepening her understanding of human rights, which is her focus in GLIS. She cannot wait to apply her new knowledge, experiences, and wisdom to her final year of studies, and to her career after graduating this May.

On this faculty-led study abroad program, she had the chance to interview many people, including former sex workers at a female-owned brothel. She got first-hand insight on the discrimination women face on a daily basis in this line of work. One of the most impactful interviews she had was with two women who were victims of sex trafficking and sexual exploitation. She got to hear their personal experiences, and the two women even explained how they managed to escape. They told Annette they do these types of interviews often to raise awareness and share their stories.

Annette knew she wanted to study abroad while at Penn State, but more specifically, she wanted to find a trip relevant to her pathway (Human Rights) in GLIS. She was originally signed up for the Anne Frank House program, also taking place in Rotterdam and Amsterdam, but the two programs ended up being combined into one. She believes the knowledge she gained first-hand from the combination of these programs will benefit her greatly in her future career aspirations.

ALUMNA SPOTLIGHT

by Abbey Picozzi



Cristina Cebotaru

Cristina Cebotaru '21 New York University

Over this past summer, I had the opportunity to meet with GLIS alumna Cristina Cebotaru and discuss what her post-graduation life is like. She had lots to share with me about her experience at Penn State, as well as her current situation in graduate school at NYU.

Tell me about your experience with GLIS at Penn State; what was your pathway? Any minors?

I switched to the GLIS program in the fall of 2019, so during my second year. I graduated in May 2021 with a bachelor of science degree in GLIS (Global Conflict pathway) and a minor in Psychology with a focus on neuroscience.

What has your graduate school experience been like so far?

When I was applying to graduate school in fall of 2020, I didn't really know what was going to happen; I felt like so much of the world was still up in the air. I ended up taking a gap semester in the fall of 2021 and working at a law firm. Then, I started graduate school at NYU pursuing a master of arts degree in international relations. I think that graduate school is a really good opportunity for those who are looking to study a topic in depth. I've learned so much already.

I hear you have a very interesting internship at the moment. Tell me all about it!

Yes, right now I'm completing an internship at the United Nations, which came out of nowhere. When I applied, I didn't even expect to hear back; I had already accepted an internship with a think tank in Washington, D.C., but when the UN offered me an interview, I couldn't turn it down. Now, I'm a political affairs intern in the Office of Counter-Terrorism. It's fantastic; I've learned a lot and have really gotten to know what the UN does on a day-to-day basis. Each subsection of the UN is very small, so I get to work with a group of six or seven people from all over the world very closely. Part of my job is to code terrorist attacks. Essentially, I use a platform and input data such as where it happened, when it happened, how it happened, and what groups were involved. A lot of the attacks I focus on are in Africa.

ALUMNA SPOTLIGHT (cont.)

by Abbey Picozzi

The second main task the other interns and I do is desk research. In my case, I'm looking at the intersection of international human rights law and counterterrorism law. More specifically, I'm looking at how states have chosen to deal with terrorism; are they following their domestic laws or international laws to deal with threats? I've been compiling articles, different cases, and at the end I will compose a 4-5-page research paper detailing my findings and some of the conclusions I came to.

We also get to attend events. We've gotten to attend Security Council meetings, different presentations put on by foundations that work with the UN, and many others. We attend those and then take notes during them and prepare read-outs. These read-outs usually go to the entire section, including senior leadership and everyone underneath. It's really neat to produce this product that everyone gets to see.

That sounds incredible! Would you say that GLIS prepared you for this internship?

GLIS really contributed to how I ended up with my internship, specifically in the interview process. I felt very knowledgeable about the content I would be working with at the UN, and I was confident in my ability to be successful. It's funny, the information I learned during my undergraduate education at Penn State seems to pop up all the time, both inside and outside of my work. Also, the knowledge GLIS provided me with has helped greatly with my coursework in graduate school. The classes I took at Penn State provided me with a lot of insight on the international community that aided me in both my internship work and graduate school coursework.



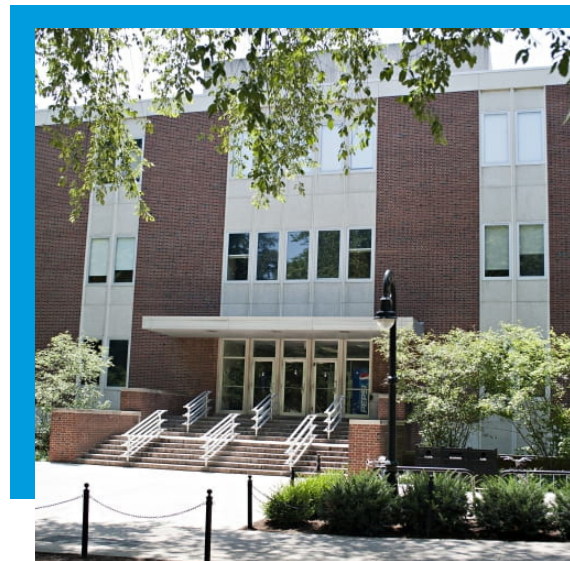
Cristina outside of the UN office in New York City

COURSE SPOTLIGHT

by Olivia Bratton

WMNST/PLSC 428 Gender and Politics Culture and Identity pathway

WMNST/PLSC 428 Gender and Politics is a discussion-based course designed to analyze the role of women in United States politics. The course compares and contrasts women and men as political actors, as well as the reasons for such similarities and differences. Specifically, the relationship between gender and power is a key factor to consider, as well as the impact of socialization on women's political ambitions, attitudes, and participation.



Willard Building

Dr. Amy Sentementes, professor of the course, said “I enjoy teaching WMNST/PLSC 428 because while gender is at the forefront of many current political debates, many people do not understand the extent to which gender stereotypes permeate our everyday lives, even apart from politics.”

Regarding the GLIS Culture and Identity pathway, Gender and Politics analyzes how the intersectionality of gender, race, class, and party interact in order to shape identity. This course will likely alter your thinking of why there are not more women elected to office, and if they are, in what capacity do women influence policy?

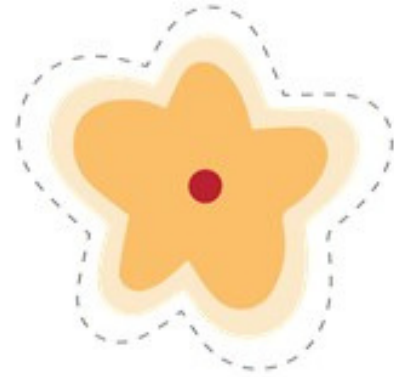
“Discussions with students about how the social construction of gender constraints our own behaviors and shapes perceptions of leaders are both productive and rewarding,” Dr. Sentementes said. If you're looking for an impactful Culture and Identity pathway course, WMNST/PLSC 428 Gender and Politics is a great option!

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS SPOTLIGHT

by Cheyenne Hennen

Days for Girls At Penn State

Days for Girls at Penn State integrates both sustainability and service within an inclusive, welcoming environment. DfG works toward ending the stigma around periods while taking a stand against period poverty by sewing reusable menstrual health kits, creating advocacy campaigns and educational workshops, and organizing fundraisers on campus. For more information, email Shaka Ramanathan at sxr5607@psu.edu.



International Affairs and Debate Association

Penn State's International Affairs and Debate Association (PSIADA) is dedicated to increasing the awareness and knowledge of international relations and diplomacy, the function of international bodies, and the diversity of the world's population by hosting and participating in Model United Nations collegiate conferences. For more information, email Nathan Russek at nar5509@psu.edu.

Japanese Friendship Association

Japanese Friendship Association (JFA) is a student organization dedicated to promoting cultural awareness and social interaction among both the Japanese and non-Japanese members of the Penn State student community. JFA works to create friendships between those students interested in or associated with Japan. JFA strives to build a comfortable and peaceful environment where everyone feels understood and cared for. For more information, email Rachel Lee at rfl5208@psu.edu.



WHY GLIS?



Valentina Vallejo

Valentina Vallejo '23

As an international student from Ecuador, Valentina has always been intrigued by understanding how different civilizations evolve and function around the world. She has been able to live in numerous countries since she first moved out of home by herself at age 17. Choosing GLIS as her major immediately fit her goals of solo traveling the world, learning new languages, and exploring different cultures' thinking dynamics. Her career pathway, Wealth and Inequality, has educated her on how to analyze the complex world economy, while her second major, German, has served her as a tool to communicate and connect with colleagues and classmates from German-speaking countries. As she is looking for full-time positions at non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Washington, D.C., Valentina is benefitting from the diverse curriculum GLIS has allowed her to build throughout her time at Penn State.



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Content Writer

GLIS and Political Science majors

Global Conflict pathway

Third-Year



Maria Luiza Carvalho de Moraes

Content Writer

GLIS major

Culture and Identity pathway

Economics and Political Science minors

Fourth-Year



Cheyenne Hennen

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Abigail Picozzi

Managing Editor

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Francophone Studies majors

Culture and Identity pathway

Third-Year



Valentina Vallejo

Content Writer

GLIS and German majors

Wealth and Inequality pathway

Fourth-Year

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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