



# 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 first edition of the Global and International Studies Newsletter for the 2022–23 school year. We're so glad to be back on campus and sharing stories from the GLIS community! In this issue, we have an introductory letter from our new director, Dr. Krista Brune, course highlights from the Global Conflict pathway, an education abroad spotlight from Asma Zakaria, an internship highlight from fourth-year student Drew Johnston-Walsh, an overlook of some impressive organizations relevant to GLIS on campus, and a Why GLIS? feature from third-year student Lily Terpinas and fourth-year student Madeleine Tenny.

Thanks for reading! If you have any feedback or would like to submit a story, please email [glis@psu.edu](mailto:glis@psu.edu). We look forward to hearing from you, and cannot wait to show you all the opportunities that GLIS has to offer.



# MESSAGE FROM THE NEW GLIS DIRECTOR



Dr. Krista Brune

Dear Students,

Welcome back to another academic year! I hope that you are settling into your classes and taking advantage of all the opportunities that this fall semester has to offer. It has been a joy to see the campus full of energy as events, courses, and other activities return to a more normal rhythm for the first time in more than two years.

It is also a pleasure to be meeting you in my new role as the director of the Global and International Studies program. Global experiences, such as learning other languages, exploring diverse cultures, studying abroad, and embarking on international collaborations, have been foundational for me as a student, teacher, and scholar.

Like many of you, I first lived abroad as a college student, when I studied in Santiago, Chile, for a semester. Learning about Chilean history, politics, and culture first-hand in classes at the university and in discussions with friends sparked my interest in the country and the region. The topic for my undergraduate thesis on the politics of Chilean popular music in the 1960s and 1970s grew out of those exchanges abroad. I continued to explore the intersections of culture and politics in Latin America as a Fulbright Scholar to Brazil. During my year living and researching in Brazil, I deepened my knowledge of Brazilian Portuguese via the routines of daily life and other unexpected encounters, building on the skills that I had previously acquired in a language classroom. Subsequently, as a graduate student and a professor, I have traveled to Brazil and Portugal to delve into archives, interview writers, present at conferences, and foster research and teaching collaborations.

Without these international experiences, my personal and professional trajectory would have been quite different. In my current roles as an associate professor of Portuguese and Spanish and the GLIS program director, I strive to promote global awareness among students and to facilitate access to international opportunities. I am also committed to furthering the global connections that GLIS draws across disciplines in the humanities and social sciences. In my research and teaching, I embrace an interdisciplinary approach that situates Brazilian literature, music, and film within hemispheric and transatlantic contexts through the lens of translation, visual studies, and intellectual history. For instance, my first book *Creative Transformations: Travels and Translations of Brazil in the Americas* (SUNY Press 2020) analyzes key moments in the travels and translations of Brazilian artists and intellectuals from the 1870s to the present. In doing so, I underscore the continued presence of Brazilians in the United States as a feature of the hemispheric Americas that complicates understandings of Latinidad.

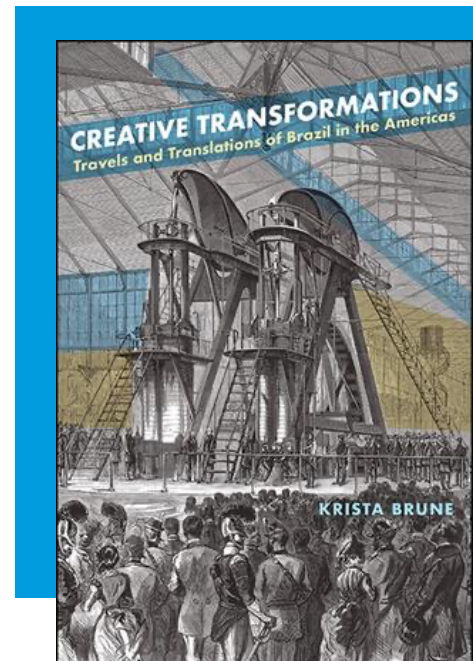
# MESSAGE FROM THE NEW GLIS DIRECTOR (cont.)

Cultural connections that transcend geographic and linguistic borders fascinate me and are central to my current projects. I am working on a new book, tentatively titled *Global Lusophone Cities: Culture, Capital, and Citizenship*, that focuses on Lisbon, Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, and New York as sites of encounter and exchange among speakers of Portuguese. By exploring how literary and artistic works depict Portuguese, Brazilian, and Lusophone African interactions in these global cities, I contend that intersections of culture and capital facilitate forms of citizenship that go beyond legal constructs inherited from colonial structures. I examine these topics, and more, in courses like PORT 473 Luso-Brazilian Cinema, which I teach in English and counts toward the Culture and Identity pathway.

I welcome your questions, comments, and suggestions about the GLIS program. Please feel free to write to me or to meet with me during office hours. I look forward to working with and meeting all of you soon—whether by email, at an event, or in the classroom.

Warmest wishes for an enriching academic year,  
Krista

Dr. Krista Brune  
Dorothy W. Gilpatrick University Endowed Fellow in the Humanities  
Associate Professor of Portuguese and Spanish  
Director of the Global and International Studies Program



Dr. Krista Brune's  
first book

# COURSE SPOTLIGHT

by Olivia Bratton

## PLSC 439 The Politics of Terrorism Global Conflict pathway

In 1975, author Gerald Seymour wrote, “One man’s terrorist is another man’s freedom fighter.”

Now, in a time of rising debates over terrorist attacks that shape foreign and domestic affairs, students have the opportunity to gain a better understanding of terrorism, what causes it, and the best practices to combat it. PLSC 439 The Politics of Terrorism is a discussion-based political science class that analyzes the use of terrorism as an alternative to peaceful negotiations or traditional warfare. Within this realm, the class material and seminars examine the issue of defining terrorism, as well as its historical, psychological, and theoretical components. Specific lessons may include the tactics used by terrorist groups, a rise in religious extremism, domestic terrorism in the United States, and the relationship between drugs, crime, religion, and terrorism.

PLSC 439 falls perfectly into the Global Conflict pathway for GLIS majors, as it examines an increasing issue of security on a global scale. Students will utilize social science and quantitative political science methods to study the historic, yet continuously changing, threat of international and domestic acts of terror.

The Politics of Terrorism will likely have you questioning whether terrorists are senseless or rational, and whether motives for terrorism are more complicated than just religion. If you’re looking for a thought-provoking Global Conflict pathway course, PLSC 439 is a rewarding option.



Pond Lab

# EDUCATION ABROAD SPOTLIGHT

by Cheyenne Hennen

## Asma Zakaria '23

### CIEE Summer Korean Studies (Seoul, South Korea) Business Actuarial Science

CIEE allows students of all majors to gain an education abroad and intercultural exchange experience. Students majoring in GLIS are encouraged to apply for a study abroad program as it allows students to gain a better understanding of language, culture, and traditions across the world. CIEE's Summer Korean Studies program is a "rigorous seven-week summer program" (six weeks of classes) that allows students with little to no background of Korean studies to be fully immersed within Korea's society and culture. For more information on CIEE's programs and how to apply, visit [Penn State Global's website](#).



Asma Zakaria

### Where are you from?

I am from Sarawak, Malaysia.

### When did you study abroad? How long were you there for?

I studied abroad in Seoul, South Korea, in June 2022. I was there for a total of eight weeks under CIEE's Summer Korean Studies program. The program itself consists of six weeks, however, I spent the last week traveling around Korea.

### What kind of courses did you take while you were there?

I took courses in computer graphics and Korean multicultural and global contact at Yonsei University in Seoul, South Korea.

### What kind of activities did you do while you were in South Korea? What did your daily routine consist of?

I usually had classes in the morning, starting around 9:00 a.m. After my classes, I had a break in between, which allowed me to have lunch with friends. Afterward, I would go around the town since I didn't want to spend time in my room doing nothing. So, I explored the town and went to all the cities I could go to. Yonsei University was surrounded by many shops and bars in the area.

### Which cities did you visit? How accessible is transportation in South Korea?

I lived in Sinchon, a region in Seoul, South Korea. I traveled to Busan, Gangnam, and Jeju island. I also went on a group trip to the DMZ (Korean Demilitarized Zone) between South and North Korea. The transportation in Korea is easy to get to and very accessible compared to State College, Pennsylvania.

# EDUCATION ABROAD SPOTLIGHT (cont.)

by Cheyenne Hennen

## **Did you experience culture shock? Was it different from being in the United States?**

I don't think I experienced culture shock... I studied Korean every semester and also took a Korean culture special topics course at Penn State before going abroad. It was easy to adapt, and there were many people in my classes from Malaysia who were open to becoming friends. However, people in Korea are always in a rush. Crossing roads in Korea is different from crossing roads in the United States because people in Korea don't usually push the button before crossing, and they usually don't hold the door open for you either.

## **What was the biggest challenge studying abroad in Korea?**

Before I was in Korea, I was in the United States so I didn't experience many challenges in my classes or socializing. Since I have already been away from my usual environment, it was not much different. The weather in Korea is very hot and humid during the summer. When you go outside, you'll definitely sweat a lot but it's the same in Malaysia. The biggest challenge was trying to hold myself back from spending a lot of money!

## **Was Korea similar or different to your hometown?**

The food in Korea is similar to what I eat in Malaysia. The spices are similar. There are also many convenient stores like 7-Eleven around Korea. However, the food they sell is different compared to the United States or Malaysia. They have microwaves and places to cook your noodles.

## **What was one thing you learned while studying abroad?**

You can't assume things when you are abroad. When we are abroad, we are learning new things, we can't use prior knowledge while being in a new country. We need to be open to learning new ways of living and observing how the people of that country live. Everywhere in the world, there are different ways of doing things and you can't always assume different countries do the same things. You must ask first, in order to learn.

## **Do you have any advice for students wanting to study abroad in Asia?**

Students should prepare themselves mentally and physically. They need to have a mindset focused not just on going abroad, but on the benefits of going abroad. Instead of focusing on the good things, they should also be open to embracing the community and accepting both the desirable and undesirable. Korea is very popular for its pop culture, but they should keep an open mind and not be disappointed about the things they may see while studying abroad, even if it is not what they expected.

# INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

By Abbey Picozzi

**Drew Johnston-Walsh '23**

**GLIS and Political Science major**

**Tell me about your internship! Who was it for, what did your job duties include, was it in person or virtual?**

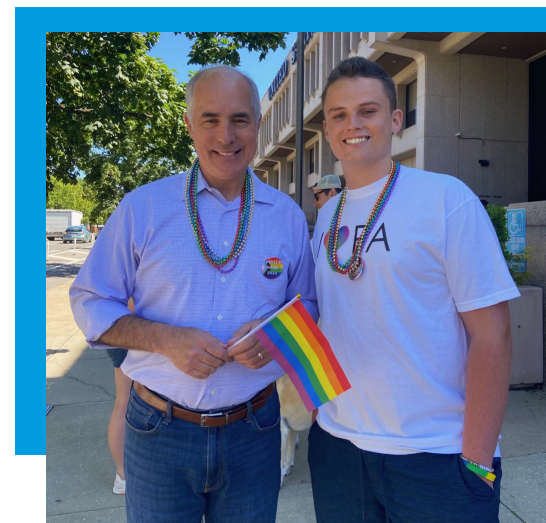
This summer, I was a constituent advocate intern, so I shadowed constituent advocates in the office of Pennsylvania Senator Bob Casey. The official name is the Harrisburg Office of United States Senator Bob Casey, Jr., which also happens to be his biggest in-state office. Since constituents are the liaisons between Pennsylvanians and federal agencies, I took a lot of phone calls and read emails helping people file comments or concerns, or just hearing their thoughts on issues Senator Casey voted on. We were actually in contact with a lot of families of Ukrainian refugees trying to contact their family overseas, and it was really interesting to see how much senators do for individual people on a daily basis.

**How does this internship relate to GLIS?**

Working with the families of Ukrainian refugees was super eye-opening and relevant to my GLIS major. There was a major global component with lots of immigration issues coming to the forefront, having to contact American embassies across the world, and interacting with refugees from all walks of life. Being in the Human Rights pathway, this was all extremely relevant to what I've learned in my courses at Penn State.

**How did you become connected with this internship?**

I was actually at the Pennsylvania Farm Show walking around with my friend and we saw a booth for constituents for Senator Casey. They were taking comments in a box, so I left a note saying "It would be a dream to intern with you" with my contact information. His senior constituent actually ended up reaching out to me and followed up with an application! Leaving that comment card was kind of silly, but it made it so much easier to make that connection and have my name stand out to Senator Casey and his staff. One of the biggest lessons I learned from this experience was to always ask for what you want, even if it seems like a long shot.



*Drew Johnston-Walsh with Senator Bob Casey at Philly Pride*

# INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT (cont.)

By Abbey Picozzi



*Drew Johnston-Walsh at the Office of Senator Bob Casey*

## **Would you do this internship again, or follow this path for a career?**

For the short answer, absolutely. This experience really showed me what I'd like to do with my life for the short-term, and also solidified some ideas on what I'd like to do long-term down the road. I want to get my master's degree in public policy, and I'd really love to work in an office like that again, or really just do anything legislative for a year or two. This is a job that truly helps people, and it's always been my dream to have a job that allows me to help people directly. Having these connections now is also a huge advantage, but more than that, I made some really awesome friends with my fellow staff. Overall, it wasn't just a great opportunity academically and professionally, but also personally.



# CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS SPOTLIGHT

by Cheyenne Hennen

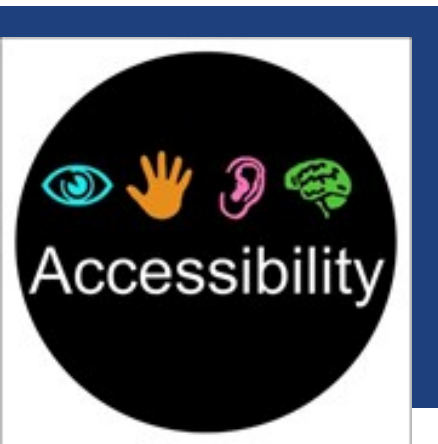
## United Nations Children's Fund at Penn State

UNICEF at Penn State is an official chapter of UNICEF USA under their UNICEF UNITE Clubs. UNICEF at Penn State's mission is to bring students together to raise awareness for the survival, protection, and development of children worldwide through education, advocacy, and fundraising. For more information, email [jey5116@psu.edu](mailto:jey5116@psu.edu).



## Access Club at Penn State

Access Club is a space for people of all abilities to form both friendships and alliances on various issues that affect persons with disabilities. They aim to spread awareness about disability rights issues and to advocate for a more accessible Penn State campus and world. For more information, email [ljs5863@psu.edu](mailto:ljs5863@psu.edu).



## Korean Learning Club

Korean Learning Club offers both a practical and useful atmosphere for students who are seeking an opportunity to learn and practice the Korean language. Penn State undergraduate and graduate students can be members of KLC to improve their language skills regardless of their nationality. For more information, email [kjl5701@psu.edu](mailto:kjl5701@psu.edu).



# WHY GLIS?



Madeleine Tenny

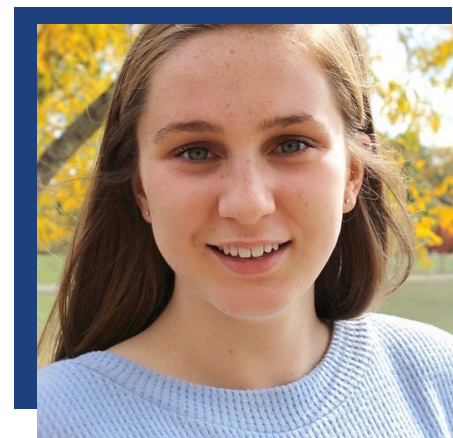
## Madeleine Tenny '23

Madeleine Tenny was admitted to Penn State in the fall of 2019 as an undecided first-year undergraduate student. She had no clue what she wanted to study, but had just returned from a year abroad in Brazil and realized she had a passion for nature and cross-cultural communication. Penn State gave her time to explore classes she found interesting without the stress of fulfilling major requirements. Madi decided to join GLIS during her second year and says it was one of the best decisions she's ever made. Choosing the Health and Environment pathway opened Madi up to the idea of taking a geography class, which turned out to be one of her favorite classes. The GLIS courses were extremely rewarding to Madi; she felt like she was in the right place in both GLIS 101 and GLIS 102.

Madi is also minoring in Portuguese, which led her to study abroad in spring 2022 in Lisbon, Portugal, where she studied language and culture. GLIS accepts credits from all of her favorite classes, which enabled Madi to take all the classes she found interesting and also incorporate them into her study goals and career path. Madi hopes to continue her global and international research with specificity on health and the environment as well as Portuguese. Her dream job is to become a professor, because she sees the way that education has such a large impact on college students who are working to change the world or will begin soon after a good lesson! Madi hopes to never stop researching and using her analytical skills to formulate new ideas in creating cross-cultural connections.

## Lily Ann Terpinas '24

Lily's reason for becoming a GLIS major comes from her experience living overseas. She has lived in several states and lived in Budapest, Hungary, for five years. While in Europe, she was fortunate to be able to travel to many countries, experience numerous cultures, try new foods, meet new people, and learn all kinds of history. From then on, she knew that she wanted to have a career in which she would be overseas working in international politics with people from all over the world. Living overseas also gave her the chance to experience international politics first-hand, which is another reason for her choice of pursuing this major.



Lily Ann Terpinas

Her hope after graduation is to one day become a foreign service officer or work at the United Nations, so she can continue her interest in global and international studies as well as help to make a difference in the world. While in this major, she has met some extremely interesting people and taken some fascinating courses, which has helped ensure that she made the right choice by majoring in GLIS.



**Olivia Bratton**

Content Writer

GLIS and Political Science majors

Global Conflict pathway

Third-Year



**Maria Luiza Carvalho de Morais**

Content Writer

GLIS major

Culture and Identity pathway

Economics and Political

Science minors

Fourth-Year



**Cheyenne Hennen**

Content Writer

GLIS major

Culture and Identity pathway

Asian Studies and Korean minors

Fourth-Year



**Abigail Picozzi**

Managing Editor

GLIS and French and Francophone

Studies majors

Culture and Identity pathway

Third-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](mailto:glis@psu.edu).**



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