



The Center for Global Studies, The Pennsylvania State University
427 Burrowes Building, University Park, PA 16802

Our Mission

The Center for Global Studies (CGS) has been designated a Title VI National Resource Center by the Department of Education. Working in collaboration with Penn State's many excellent international initiatives, faculty and students from multiple disciplines, and K-12 schools in the region, the CGS is dedicated to the growth and support of global studies.

Our Staff

Dr. Sophia McClennen, Director
Sarah Lyall-Combs, Assistant Director
and Outreach Coordinator
Amy Tegeder, Administrative
Support Assistant
Jeff Resta, Graduate Assistant
Matthew Hoffman, Intern
Mary Rish, Intern
Sara Thompson, Intern

Our Fellows

Cédric Briand, Department of French
and Francophone Studies
Sandra Rousseau, Department of French
and Francophone Studies

A Real Look at the Middle East

Matthew Hoffman

On October 19, Dr. Juan Cole, professor of history at the University of Michigan, presented two lectures organized by the Center for Global Studies. His talks kicked off the series of events for the research project "Geographies of Power: Justice, Revolution, and the Cultural Imagination" led by CGS Director Sophia McClennen with the Worldwide University Network.

Dr. Cole's main areas of study are Middle Eastern politics and history, and his program focused on the Arab Spring and democracy in the Middle East. During his lunch seminar in the Katz building courtroom, Dr. Cole went into depth about Syria, Iran, Iraq and Egypt. His vocabulary was tailored to an audience of International Affairs students, and his subject matter relied heavily on such political-science concepts as theories of democratization.

The University of Alberta and York University were also in attendance via streaming broadcast, and participated in the open-questions section of Dr. Cole's lecture. The questions ranged from whether Hezbollah is a terrorist group to what constitutes and defines a terrorist group; they also addressed common myths about Iran's nuclear weapons program.

Later that evening, at his public lecture in the Hosler building, Dr. Cole addressed similar topics in broader terms for a near-capacity audience. This presentation was more informal in tone, and the majority of the discussion centered around Egypt and Tunisia, both countries having played major roles in the Arab Spring uprisings.

Overall, Dr. Cole's humor and ease of speaking on complex subjects, combined with his vast wealth of knowledge about the Middle East and lucidity in openly challenging US foreign policy, was a refreshing and informative experience. Be sure to read Dr. Cole's blog, juancole.com, for in-depth analysis of current events affecting the Middle East.

Dr. Cole's visit was co-sponsored by the School of International Affairs, the World Universities Network, and the Asian Studies Department.



Above: Dr. Juan Cole speaks on Arab Spring and democracy to a near-capacity audience on October 19, 2012.

Educational Outreach at Local Charter School

Sara Thompson

Since the start of the fall semester, the Center for Global Studies has collaborated with the Young Scholars of Central Pennsylvania (YSCP) Charter School to provide after-school enrichment to its students. After the school day ends, students participate in various clubs led by volunteers, including two CGS interns: on Wednesday afternoons, intern Mary Rish leads a German language club, and intern Sara Thompson leads a world culture and environment club.

Two different sessions each day provide interns the opportunity to work with different age groups. The interns incorporate fun activities into the sessions, with the goal of exposing young students to new information and ideas regarding world culture. The world cultures club, for example, recently held an “international party” in which each student was given the identity and culture of someone from another region of the world; the students then introduced themselves to one another with their new identities.

This is just one example of how CGS interns are creating opportunities for learning and the exchange of new information among elementary students. To find out more about educational outreach conducted by the Center, check out the CGS blog for updates from our interns.

Fall Fun and Festivities

Matthew Hoffman (photos, pp. 3-4)

October 13th marked the 13th annual Fall Festival in downtown State College, at which the Center for Global Studies hosted a booth for the first time. The autumn winds seemed to blow piles of parents and children through the South Allen Street corridor, and many of them stopped at the booth, where henna artists were offering free *mehndi*, or henna tattoos.

The henna artists included Gouri Srinidhi, a graduate student from the School of International Affairs, and Sarah Naeem, an administrator at the Young Scholars of Central Pennsylvania charter school; both spent well over four hours tattooing people with delicate artistry. Volunteers Aditi Roy, Brahmani Boppudi and Vinita Yadav, from the Association for India's Development, interacted with everyone, visitors and CGS members alike; helped with henna; and generally brightened the mood.

By the end of the day, hundreds of people, mainly children, had received henna tattoos, and had learned about CGS' role in the community and about upcoming events in which parents could involve themselves or their children.

The following weekend, the CGS participated in the Fall Festival in Bellefonte's scenic Talleyrand Park. The turnout was similar, concluding a two-week span of outreach. This is the first time the CGS has participated in both festivals, and the positive experiences and relationships cultivated will have a lasting impact on the Center.

Upcoming Events

11/12 **Nancy Marie Brown**, Author, “The Hobbit’s Northern Roots”
102 Kern, 12:15 p.m.

11/13 **Julie Bertonazzi and Julie Rowland**, “Indigenous People’s Rights: A Historical and Contemporary Global Movement”
Foster Auditorium, 3:15 - 5:00 p.m.

11/14, **Jeff Resta**, Comparative Literature, “An Ethical Horror: Political Subtext in Early Sound Films During the Rise of Fascism”
402 Burrowes, 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

11/14 ***Milking the Rhino*: Innovative Solutions Showcase**
HUB Auditorium 6:30 - 8 p.m.

11/14 ***Milking the Rhino* documentary screening**
HUB Auditorium, time TBA

11/15 **Go Global: International Job Search Fundamentals**
129 Waring, 5:30 - 7 p.m.

11/26 **Gabeba Baderoon**, Penn State, “‘Parallel Universalisms’ and ‘Homemade Cosmopolitanism’ in South African Pilgrimage Natives”
102 Kern, 12:15 p.m.

12/3 **Mira Seo**, Yale-NUS, “Professor Latino goes to Singapore: Race, Classical Reception, and Canonicity in 16th century Granada and 21st century Singapore”
102 Kern 12:15 p.m.

1/18 **Teaching World Culture Through The Visual Arts K-12 Teachers Workshop**
State College High School North, 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



State College Fall Festival
Oct. 13, Allen Street





Bellefonte Fall Festival Oct. 21, Talleyrand Park

