



PennState

GPSU

September 2017

The Center for Global Studies can be found on Twitter and Instagram @CGSPennState or on Facebook and Flickr @The Center for Global Studies at Penn State

UNIVERSITY PARK EVENTS

Sept. 18

Connecting Cultures

Mark Evans

4 – 6 p.m., 233 AB HUB-Robeson Center

Sept. 19

Into the Abode of Death

Mark Evans

4 – 7 p.m., Foster Auditorium, Paterno Library

Sept. 27

Arabic Film Screening: *Captain Abu Raed*

7 p.m., Foster Auditorium, Paterno Library

Oct. 4

Bunce Island: A Ghost Town of the African Slave Trade

Dr. Joseph Opala

12:30 – 2 p.m., 216 Willard

Oct. 5

New Media in India: From Fad to Fundamental?

Dr. Sunetra Sen Narayan and Dr. Shalini Narayanan

1 – 2:30 p.m., Foster Auditorium, Paterno Library

Oct. 5

The Ancestors Return: Three Gullah Homecomings to Sierra Leone

Dr. Joseph Opala

6 – 8 p.m., Foster Auditorium, Paterno Library

Meet the Center for Global Studies Fall 2017 Interns

Katie Bartuska



Major(s):

International Politics and Economics, minor in History

Class Standing:

Junior

Hometown: Wilkes-Barre, PA

I could not be more excited to be working with everyone at the Center for Global Studies this semester! ...

Continued on page 3

Major(s): History, Political Science, Spanish

Class Standing:

Sophomore

Hometown: Lebanon, PA

I am thrilled to be joining the team this semester and to bring global issues to Penn State!

With a general interest in politics, the international... community, and world history, I found

Continued on page 3

Aaron Morris



THE CENTER FOR GLOBAL STUDIES

The Pennsylvania State University • 347 Burrowes Building • University Park, PA 16802



Mohammad Khalil of Michigan State University speaking at Penn State.

ISIS, Jihad, and Islamic Law

Dr. Mohammad Khalil spoke on Aug. 23, covering *jihad*, Islamic radicalism, and the New Atheism.

By: Katie Bartuska

"This is a grim subject. A very grim subject. And frankly, I'd rather talk about something else, but I feel compelled to address this issue, especially with all that is going on."

On August 23, 2017, Dr. Mohammad Khalil, an associate professor of Religious Studies, adjunct professor of Law, and Director of the Religious Studies program at Michigan State University, gave a presentation titled "ISIS, Jihad, and Islamic Law."

Khalil is a specialist in Islamic thought, and his forthcoming work, *Jihad, Radicalism, and the New Atheism*, was the basis of his lecture...

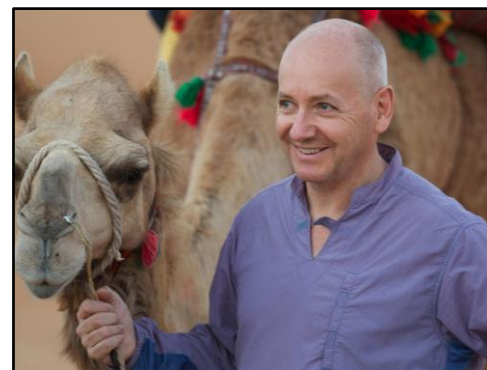
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Explorer, cultural bridger to speak at Penn State

Mark Evans is set to speak at Penn State Sept. 18, 19 covering topics such as bridging cultural differences and bringing together world leaders.

By: Aaron Morris

Mark Evans, Director of Outward Bound Oman and founder of Connecting Cultures, will deliver two lectures at University Park,



Mark Evans of Connecting Cultures
Image courtesy of geographical.co.uk

scheduled for Sept. 18, 19 as part of the Penn State Reads program.

His lecture on Sept. 18 from 4 to 6 p.m. in 233 AB HUB-Robeson Center will cover cultural stereotypes and values and his project "Connecting Cultures."

This project focuses on bring leaders from the Middle East and Europe together and taking them on an expedition across the desert.

As part of his second lecture planned for Sept. 19 from 4 to 7 p.m. in Foster Auditorium of Paterno Library, Evans will lecture on "Into the Abode of Death," his 43-day trek across the deserts of Arabia. He will also be introduced by Kathleen Ridolfo, the executive director of the Sultan Qaboos Cultural Center in Washington, D.C.

As a fellow of The Explorers Club and recipient of an MBE (Most Excellent Order of the British Empire) from Queen Elizabeth II in 2011 for promoting cultural diversity, Evans is sure to provide experienced insight to issues facing the Penn State community.

This event is co-sponsored by Penn State Reads, the Student Engagement Network, the College of Health and Human Development (Office of Diversity and Inclusion), University Libraries, the Center for Global Studies, and Recreation, Park, and Tourism Management.

From Bartuska on page 1

I love learning about global issues and knew that I wanted to study ... international politics since travelling abroad to Spain and Italy in high school.

I am also very passionate about education and love working to instill global perspectives and civic engagement in the community—part of why the CGS is a perfect fit!

This semester, I am especially looking forward to attending and writing about all the amazing guest speakers.

After my experience here and after I graduate, I hope to work for a nonprofit or the State Department.

From Morris on page 1

the CGS to fit my core studies and future aspirations.

Along with work at the main office, I am volunteering on behalf of the CGS at a local charter school where I am leading after-school clubs on world history, comparative politics, and journalism.

I am looking forward to sharing global news and information not only to the K-8 students that I will be working with but also to the Penn State community.

With the experience from my internship I hope to pursue a future in criminal law, specifically in defense for non-violent charges. I also hope to pursue a political career at the state or federal level.

Did you know?

Egypt is the oldest sovereign state, dating back to the formation of the first dynasty in 3100 B.C.

Experts to partake in discussion of New Media in India

Drs. Sunetra Sen Narayan and Shalini Narayan will discuss implications of new media in the democracy of India.

By: Aaron Morris

A discussion on the effects of new media on the Indian government will be held by communications experts Drs. Sunetra Sen Narayan and Shalini Narayanan, at 1 p.m. Oct. 5 in Foster Auditorium.

The discussion titled “New Media in India: From Fad to Fundamental?” will cover

who may be affected by the emerging media, how media could be regulated in India, and the implications of the development.

Dr. Sen Narayan has over 25 years’ experience in various aspects of communications and earned her Master’s in Telecommunications Studies and Doctorate in Mass Communications from the Pennsylvania State University. One of her many

accolades includes editing the academic journal, *Communicator*, India’s oldest scholarly communication journal.

Dr. Narayanan is an independent communications consultant and was part of the Indian civil service for 23 years. In that time, she worked with the public broadcaster, *Prasar Bharati*.



Dr. Shalini Narayanan

Furthermore, she worked at DAVP, the central Indian government’s advertising agency and she was...

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Dr. Sunetra Sen Narayan

From Khalil on page 2

...In his presentation, Khalil shed light on many conflicting conceptions that individuals have about the term *jihad*. To illustrate its many meanings, Khalil used a personal anecdote: when he was a junior in high school, his father described Khalil studying as “good *jihad*.”

His father was not saying that his studying was a good holy war against infidels, Khalil noted. At its base, the term *jihad* simply refers to striving for what is perceived to be a noble cause.

Khalil went on to explain that at the heart of many discussions about ISIS and terrorism is this term, and it is usually used about armed *jihad*. ISIS does not accept the rules of *jihad* pertaining to noncombatants and feels that women and children can be targeted.

To discover their justification for this belief, Khalil decided to analyze the writings of ISIS, which he describes in more detail in his forthcoming book, *Jihad, Radicalism, and the New Atheism*.

Khalil based the rest of his presentation on an article “Collateral Carnage,” that was anonymously published in an ISIS magazine.

“I have seen many R rated moves... I have never been as disturbed as when I went through these ISIS magazines” said Khalil.

While ISIS justifies that all men are legitimate targets and all other citizens who may be harmed are collateral casualties by citing early Islamic texts, Khalil noted that the authors do not include the full story. ISIS takes their justification out of context by abandoning key elements within the rest of the Quran.

To close the presentation, Khalil ended on a brighter note and referenced his earlier story about him and his father, enforcing the many nuances of the term *jihad*. Armed *jihad* is only one definition of an exceptionally complicated term, and Khalil noted that it is still possible to fight injustice through other forms of *jihad*.

From India on page 3

...Editor of *Employment News*, the only government-run newspaper in India.

Upcoming Arabic film screening

What: Captain Abu Raed (2014)

When: 7 p.m., Sept. 27

Where: Foster Auditorium (Paterno Library)

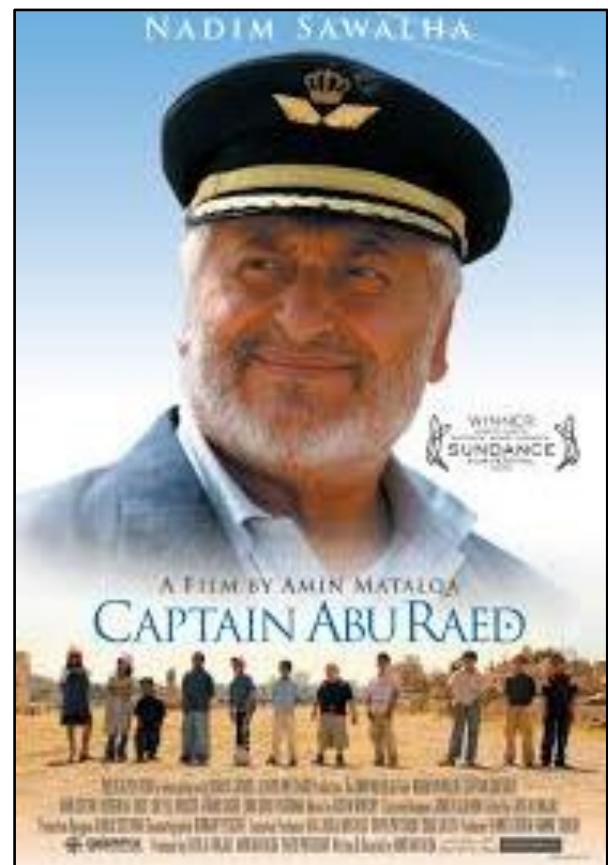


Image courtesy of Impawards.com

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, Associate Director
 Mary Price, Administrative Support Assistant
 Emily Hicks, Graduate Assistant
 Katie Bartuska, Intern
 Aaron Morris, Intern