Participant Information and Paper Abstracts

(Re)thinking Global Connectedness: Critical Perspectives on Globalization

Liberal Arts International Conference

January 26-28, 2014
Texas A&M University at Qatar
Venue: HBKU Student Center

Liberal Arts Program
Texas A&M University at Qatar

Dr. Troy Bickham
Dr. Hassan Bashir
Dr. Phillip W. Gray
Dr. Leslie Seawright
Ms. Khadija El Cadi
Dr. Amy Hodges
Mr. Hamza Jehangir

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Liberal Arts Program

Texas A&M University at Qatar

Dr. Troy Bickham
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Brief Bio: Dr. Troy Bickham is a Professor of History at Texas A&M University's main campus in College Station and at the Qatar campus, where he is currently serving as chair of the Liberal Arts Program. He is interested primarily in the cultural and economic history of Britain and its empire (including North America) before 1815. He has taught numerous courses on history of Britain and the United States. His research and teaching interests include History of Britain and its empire, United States History before 1865, Atlantic world history, and cultural history of food. Bickham’s publications include Savages within the Empire (Oxford University Press); Making Headlines: The American Revolution as Seen Through the British Press (Northern Illinois University Press); and, most recently, The Weight of Vengean(ce: The United States, the British Empire and the War of 1812 (Oxford University Press).

Dr. Hassan Bashir
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Brief Bio: Dr. Hassan Bashir's broad areas of research interest are Political Theory, International Relations, and Ethics and Globalization. His work focuses on comparative political theory, history of political thought, Asian Politics, Non-state militancy, and the politics of religion in a comparative perspective. Dr. Bashir is the author of Europe and Eastern Other: Comparative Perspectives on Politics, Religion, and Culture before the Enlightenment (Lexington Books). He is also the Founding Director of The Initiative in Professional Ethics at TAMU-Qatar, http://www.tipe-qatar.org/. Dr. Bashir teaches survey course and thematically arranged seminars in areas of American National Government, Politics of Global Inequality, Introduction to World Politics, Introduction to Comparative Politics, Introduction to Asian Politics, Comparative Political Theory, Non-State Actors in International Relations and Ethics for Engineers. His current work focuses on internal critiques of Islamic Fundamentalist thought.

Dr. Phillip W. Gray
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Brief Bio: Dr. Phillip W. Gray is a Visiting Assistant Professor in Political Science at Texas A&M University at Qatar. His research includes analysis of the just war tradition and morality in warfare, comparative public administration ethics, network organization structure of terrorist groups, and comparative perceptions of research integrity and research ethics. He is the author of Being in the Just War: Ontology and the Decline of the Just War Tradition, and is co-author (with Sara R. Jordon) of The Ethics of Public Administration: The Challenges of Global Governance. His work has been accepted in journals including Politics & Religion, Terrorism & Political Violence, Ethics & Behavior, and Developing World Bioethics among others. Before coming to TAMU-Q, Dr. Gray taught at various universities in Hong Kong as well as at the United States Coast Guard Academy.

Dr. Leslie Seawright
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Brief Bio: Dr. Leslie Seawright is an Assistant Professor at Texas A&M University at Qatar. She received her B.A. from the University of Oklahoma in Communication and her M.A. from the University of Arkansas in English. Her Ph.D. was received from the University of Arkansas in English, where she was a Doctoral Academic fellow and received three teaching awards. She has presented at several international conferences and has recently published a book chapter, “Who's coming for Dinner? An Examination of A History of Violence” in the upcoming McFarland publication, Marx Goes to the Movies. In addition, she has several journal articles related to pedagogy, intercultural communication, and notions of identity through literacy. Dr. Seawright’s research interests include technical writing, discourse analysis, community literacy practices, and composition pedagogy.
Dr. Amy Hodges  
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Brief Bio: Dr. Amy Hodges is a postdoctoral research associate working on college readiness in literacy education for secondary students in Qatar. Prior to her arrival in Doha, she taught composition, world literature, and English as a Second Language courses at the University of Arkansas, in addition to coordinating literacy and arts projects in local primary schools. Her article in Aphra Behn Online argues for the historical relevance of social identity in individuals with emerging literacies, and her recent book chapter in The Vampire Goes to College: Essays on Teaching with the Undead examines the current importance of reading communities on first-year composition. Her academic interests include composition and reading pedagogy, community literacies, the history of literacy, and multilingual writers.

Mr. Hamza Jehangir  
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Brief Bio: Hamza Bin Jehangir is working on a National Priorities Research Project (NPRP) on Professional Ethics in an Inter-Civilizational Perspective. He assists on the following courses; Engineering Ethics, Asian Politics, American National Government. His areas of interest include Ethics and Globalization, Post-colonial theory, Islamic fundamentalist thought, and Non-western political thought.

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Key Note Speakers

**Philippa Levine** - "Gendering Globalization: A Historian's Perspective"
Professor, Mary Helen Thompson Centennial Professorship in the Humanities
Co-Director British Studies Program
University of Texas at Austin

**Jamal Elias** - "Nation, Religion and Modern Subjectivity in Popular Art Cultures"
Walter H. Annenberg Professor in the Humanities
Professor of Religious Studies and South Asia Studies
University of Pennsylvania

**Robert Carter** - “Historic and Prehistoric Globalization in the Gulf, from the Stone Age to the Coming of Oil”
Director of the Origins Project
Senior Lecturer at University College London at Qatar
Panel Chairs and Presenters

Panel 1 - Global Ethics for Local Problems
Chair - Trinidad Rico, University College London Qatar

Andréj Zwitter
Professor – International Relations
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Brief Bio: Dr. Andréj Zwitter holds the NGIZ Chair in International Relations within the Faculty of Law at the University of Groningen and is also a co-Chair of Research in Ethics and Globalization, a research section within the inter-faculty Institute of Globalization Studies Groningen. Prof. Zwitter has a PhD in International Law and Legal Theory from the University of Graz. His current research foci include the legal and political concept of state of emergency, international law and politics of humanitarian action and ethics in international politics. Key publications include: Hans-Joachim Heintze and Andréj Zwitter [eds.], International Law of Humanitarian Aid, Springer, 2011. Andréj Zwitter, Human Security, Law and the Prevention of Terrorism, Routledge, 2010.

Title: Universal Virtues: In the Search for the Fundaments of International Peace
Abstract: Virtues and Vices are individual human character traits – why bother with them when dealing with states? Because states are created and composed by humans – inherently fallible and susceptible to greed, hatred, and falsehood, and at the same time striving for peace, love and justice. States are created to serve human purpose, whether individual or communal purpose. Their structures reflect the character, thoughts and beliefs of their creators towards the outside, the international, and the inside, its citizen. Humanitarian aid is but one example that combines these basic human traits. Different theories of international relations highlight different human motivations that manifest themselves in the state: Realists argue for national interest in humanitarian projects; cosmopolitans argue for charity as motivational drive. Both are right, as both motivations are present in the human condition that combines them in the soul of humanity. And, also, the state reflects this human condition through its leaders, institutions and international ambitions. But what can one learn from understanding the human condition in such a bipolar way of virtues and vices? Virtue ethics aims to help the bearer of virtues and vices to master vices through virtues. Its tool is phronesis, practical wisdom; its goal is eudaimonia – a state of harmony within oneself and within the community (polis). Phronesis might hold the key to international peace. But how to achieve phronesis in international law and politics is still unclear.

Abel S. Knottnerus
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Title: Africa’s Struggle with ‘Hague Justice’: How to Increase the ICC’s Sociological Legitimacy
Abstract: One of the most important challenges that faces the International Criminal Court today is the declined enthusiasm among African states for “Hague justice”. Ever since Louis Moreno-Ocampo decided to indict Sudan’s President Omar Al-Bashir, African leaders have expressed their distrust for the ICC’s proceedings, which has turned into a full-blown rhetorical war between the African Union and the Court during the course of the last five years. To some extent, the critical position of African states is instigated by the political opportunism of a relatively small group of African statesmen who fear prosecution themselves and who by all means intend to ridicule the ICC as a neo-colonial conspiracy of the West. Yet, this is definitely not the whole story. Africa’s struggle with the ICC should also be understood in light of the fading confidence among state officials and local communities in the Court’s operations. This paper argues that it is the ICC’s sociological legitimacy, i.e. the necessary congruence between the rules and decisions of the Court and what a wide variety of audiences believes to be its legitimate trajectory, that is under fierce pressure due to the mounting tension. The paper analyses the concerns of African states about the rules and decisions of the Court and explains how these concerns relate to the ICC’s sociological legitimacy. Moreover, a number of opportunities to increase the ICC’s sociological legitimacy are discussed. In this respect, the paper focuses on the ICC’s complicated relationship with the Security Council, the prosecutorial selection of cases, the complementarity regime, the Prosecutor’s deferral powers and the immunity of heads of state.

Joost Herman
University of Groningen

Title: Reconciling the Global with the Local: The Case of 21st Century Humanitarianism
Abstract: The global humanitarian community is going through a difficult phase of its existence. After a spurt in growth in the 1970’s and 1980’s, rejoicing in the so-called peace dividend just after 1991, the 21st century so far has cruelly confronted the humanitarians with themselves. Both from an ethical as well as an organizational point of view, two major issues have surfaced. Firstly, the rapid increase in codification of alleged global humanitarian norms and values has met with growing resistance in humanitarian theaters where humanitarian action is needed. In Africa,
Asia, Latin America and the Eurasian continent authorities and conflict-parties have challenged the principles underlying international humanitarian responses, principles so much heralded for being universally valid. Secondly, the organizational structure of the international humanitarian movement is more and more criticized for being WASP-dominated: for many outside the Western world the White Anglo-Saxon Protestant (read: Christian) nature is unmistakable and worrisome. In this paper the author tackles the validity of the criticism leveled at the supposed Western dominance of global humanitarianism. He will argue that the global humanitarian community will benefit from handling the universal humanitarian norms through applying a much more Verantwortungs-ethical approach instead of a Gesinnungs-ethical approach.
Panel 2 - Dis(em)placing Authority: Borders, Sovereignty, and Movement in South Asia
Chair - Khalid Mir, Lahore University of Management Sciences, Pakistan

Elisabeth Leake
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Title: Local and National Identity-Formation during the Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan
Abstract: International borders, particularly in the twentieth century, have served to separate countries and their citizens into distinct, territorialized nation-states. The Durand Line separating Afghanistan from Pakistan, however, has historically undermined this assumption. An arbitrary perimeter drawn by British colonial officials and still unrecognized by Afghan leaders, the Durand Line has remained fluid and permeable in the eyes of local officials and citizens alike. This has created longstanding tensions between Afghanistan and Pakistan. Particularly during the 1979 Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, it raised a particular question: At a time of international conflict, when Afghan refugees fled to Pakistan, mujahedin fighters slipped across the border to support the Afghan resistance, and transborder Pathan tribesmen continued to move between relatives in both countries, how could the ‘self’ be defined in contrast to the ‘other’? This paper consequently considers sources of identity along the Afghanistan-Pakistan frontier during the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. Particularly in a time of international crisis, local identities were crucial – how could the ally be distinguished from the enemy? – but they were also increasingly difficult to define due to the transborder movement of people. This paper ultimately questions how global conflict and the erosion of an already tenuous border between two-nation states influenced local and national identities and ultimately each nation’s perception of its own sovereignty.

Dan Haines
Postdoctoral Fellow
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Brief Bio: Dan Haines is a British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow in the History Department at Royal Holloway, University of London. He researches South Asian political and environmental history. His interests include water politics, the state, space, development, decolonization, the Commonwealth, borders, and frontiers. His current project is a study of the circumstances, causes and consequences of the 1960 Indus Waters Treaty between India and Pakistan. His first book, Building the Empire, Building the Nation: Development, Legitimacy, and Hydro-Politics in Sind 1919-1969, is published by Oxford University Press (2013). The book examines tensions between representative and developmental sources of state legitimacy in colonial north India and Pakistan. In the context of dam projects in the province of Sind, the book explores aspects of legitimacy including modernization, the political role of scientific expertise, and the colonial heritage of postcolonial governance. Dan has previously taught at Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad.

Title: Water, International Law and Territorial State-Making in India and Pakistan After Independence
Abstract: The idea of states as unitary, territorially-bound entities has suffered in recent scholarship. Such work has convincingly established that globalisation has undercut simplistic equations of a state’s authority with territory, and highlighted the porousness of states. How, though, do these ideas play out in other historical contexts? The decolonization of European empires after the Second World War produced state forms that did not fit readily into the Westphalian model, even as the rise of nationalism in the developing world brought the idea of the territorial nation-state to the fore. The case of India-Pakistan competition for water resources in the Indus Basin in the 1940s-1950s demonstrated the early manifestation of tensions between territorial state-building on one hand, and attempts to mobilise international law on the other. This paper argues that a desire to assert their place on the world stage dominated India and Pakistan’s participation in international law-making. Seeking to establish legal justifications for their mutually opposed stance in the Indus River dispute, both states attempted to influence ongoing deliberations on transboundary watercourse law in the International Law Association and the United Nations International Law Commission. The paper highlights the role of India and Pakistan’s engagement with international law as an attempt to demonstrate their credentials as legitimate members of a civilised global system of states. Based on archival material gathered in India, Pakistan, the UK and the US, this paper suggests that globalising discourses were critical to international politics well before the era of self-conscious ‘globalisation’.

Sarah Ansari
Professor – History
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Brief Bio: Sarah Ansari is Professor of History at Royal Holloway, University of London, and member of its Centre for South Asian Studies. Her research interests focus on developments relating to Pakistan, with particular emphasis on the province of Sindh both before and after 1947. Her books include Sufi Saints and State Power: the Pirs of Sind, 1843-1947 (CUP, 1992) and Life After Partition: migration, community and strife in Sindh, 1947-1962 (2005). While she has recently published on the citizenship and the state in South Asia during the period of transition from...
colonial rule to independence, she is also writing a ‘joined-up’ history of Pakistan that seeks to connect political continuity and change over the decades since 1947 with ordinary Pakistanis’ lives and concerns.

**Title:** At the Crossroads?: Exploring Sindh’s Recent Past from a Spatial Perspective  
**Abstract:** This paper explores the recent history of Sindh from a spatial perspective, in terms of its place within, or relationship to, the various overlapping ‘worlds’ to which it has belonged from the early nineteenth century to the present. Sindh’s reputation during the British period was as a rather sleepy backwater, distanced from important centres of colonial power and nationalist politics. But this (overly) static picture belies the province’s steadily growing significance and active role, for instance in relation to new communication and transportation links that connected the subcontinent to other places whether national, imperial or global, in increasingly efficient and effective ways. By the time independence was achieved in 1947, thanks to economic developments – ushering in what might be called ‘new technologies of space and place’ – combined with the impact of two world wars, Sindh (and the port city of Karachi in particular) now lay at a major crossroads. Sindh in the second half of the twentieth century was more of a hub than it had ever before been in its history, but equally never before had so many people made it their final destination and home. This paper, thus, traces the interconnected processes that, over the course of nearly two centuries, were responsible for repositioning and as a result redefining Sindh’s place in the world.

Christopher Sparshott  
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**Title:** Bhutanese Butter Churns: George Bogle and Cultural Frontier of British India in the 1770’s  
**Abstract:** At sometime in the late 1770’s an ambitious young employee of the British East India Company named George Bogle stopped to admire a butter churn in Bhutan. There was something about its lightweight design that sparked his interest. When he later got the chance he wrote to his sister in Scotland recommending she throw out her cumbersome churn and have one made according to the drawings he had enclosed. A lighter churn, he argued, would allow her maidservant to make butter without help from the local boys. Bogle feared that what started with butter would finish with the maid’s virtue. It had been over five years since he left Scotland for a career in Asia, but everywhere Bogle went he still found treasures that made him think of home. In time Bogle stumbled across enough of those treasures that one of the most extreme frontiers of the 18th century British world started to feel familiar. In this paper, I explore how Bogle used artifacts, such as the butter churn, to identify, understand and bridge the cultural divide between the east and west at a moment of rapid globalization. I am ultimately interested in how a British expatriate population in the 19th Century create a unique cultural geography as a way to navigate the obvious difference between the world they had left and the world they had found themselves in.
Panel 3 - Technology and Culture
Chair - Joseph Williams, Texas A&M University at Qatar

Sarah Hudson
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Title: The Transnational Production of Palestinian Film
Abstract: In Modernity at Large, Arjun Appadurai argues for analyzing the increasingly globalized world according to the local and global flows of ethnoscapes, mediascapes, technoscapes, financescapes, and ideoscapes. My paper examines the impact of the flows of these various scapes on the production of Palestinian fictional films on both a local and global level. While global processes undoubtedly affect all film industries, Palestinian filmmakers face unique challenges during the entire process of filmmaking, from education to distribution, which result in a multiplication of forces at work on both the directors and their films. This multiplication is predominantly the result of the presence of the Israeli occupation and the lack of a national film industry in Palestine, on a local level, and the lack of national status, on a global level. Appadurai’s theory offers the opportunity to examine the interplay of forces such as the unique and expansive contours of the Palestinian ethnoscope, the multifaceted and diverse nature of Palestinian film’s financescapes, the rapid expansion and effects of increasingly globalized technoscapes, the role of filmic images and circulation in mediascapes, and the role of film in propagating vital ideoscapes. Because Palestine, its people, and its culture are in a decidedly unique situation, examining the special circumstances for filmic production in Palestine could also be relevant to the study of the production of other cultural products, which also rely on global forces, from the region.

Stephanie Scott
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Brief Bio: Stephanie Scott is a Language Arts Faculty member at Northern Oklahoma College / Oklahoma State University Gateway. She has taught composition and literature courses to both NOC and OSU students for five years. Her major concentrations in research revolve around orientalism, globalization, gender, and media/game studies. On top of presenting her work at nationally recognized conferences in the U.S., Stephanie has recently published a chapter on game theory and orientalism titled “Seeking the Exotic: Orientalist Agency and Space in Adventure Games” in the book Terms of Play: Essays on Words that Matter in Videogames. She is a chaperone for NOC’s Study Abroad Programs and works to provide students with global opportunities and perspectives through enrichment and research.

Title: Gaming Without Borders: The Effects of Globalization in Assassin’s Creed
Abstract: The Digital Revolution has substantially changed the way that countries and the cultures therein regard one another. We are now more aware of the presence of others and ourselves than ever before on a global scale. Almost instantly, consumers of digital media can access and then educate themselves about the world both near and far. This awareness has cut a broad swath into nearly every facet of our lives, from business to the teaching to entertainment. With the awareness we feel of others comes a conscious accountability to integrity and accuracy. How will future generations regard one another based on this globalized presence, and how can we ourselves learn from the misinterpretations of the past to promote a sense of dual citizenship, wherein dual comes to mean both citizen of the world and of one’s native country? In the past, videogames were not really concerned with cultural sensitivity or accuracy. However, in the advent of the seventh generation of gaming consoles, new technology and a now pervasive globalized (not necessarily Americanized) culture attempts to broaden the scope of narrative gameplay not just one cultural standpoint, but to many. The videogame franchise, Assassin’s Creed is an excellent example of this cultural revolution in videogames beginning with its story development all the way to its detailed gameplay. Assassin’s Creed teaches as it entertains the player and, though it isn’t entirely authentic, the game exhibits the promise of videogames navigating multiple cultures at once and contextualizing our past with a globalized present.

Dale Hudson
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Title: Digital Media and Globalization’s Uneven and Unequal Forces of Connectedness
Abstract: Connectedness within contemporary globalization is often defined in terms of time-space compressions enabled by digital technologies that make videoconferences possible across oceans and continents. Globalization has transformed the “jigsaw puzzle” division of the world into allegedly sovereign nation-states (or nation-states in the making), remapping the world in ways less clearly defined by geopolitics. States and nations are fragmented and cleaved by war and by neoliberal reforms, reorganizing what were once considered distinct first, second, and third worlds whose differences were ideological and incompatible into indistinct and overlapping configurations of people, place, and power. Free zones and militarized zones, for example, are sometimes rendered indistinguishable, as in places situated “between” Morocco and Spain, Palestine
and Israel, México and United States. Extending the politics of anti-colonial and nonaligned movements, a new generation of artists and collectives looks to new media—specifically, consumer-grade digital technologies for production and non-military applications of the Internet for distribution—to engage interdependences and dependencies within globalization’s current iteration. Meaning is not fixed as it was on celluloid; rather, meaning is malleable and contested, destabilizing the certainties of positivist constructions of knowledge and opening meaning for ongoing debate. This paper examines digital media by artists such as Ursula Biemann, Mariam Ghani, Eduardo Navas, Alex Rivera, Robert Spahr, and collectives like Big Noise and SARAI Media Lab that prompt unexpected, temporary, and geographically dispersed critical reflection upon globalization’s uneven and unequal forces of connectedness.

Antonio LaPastina
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Brief Bio: Antonio C. La Pastina (Ph.D.1999; Radio-TV-Film Department, University of Texas at Austin) is the Associate Dean for Diversity at the College of Liberal Arts and Associate Professor at the Department of Communication at Texas A&M University, College Station. His research interests are on audience studies; media ethnography; telenovelas; the representations of otherness in popular culture. He has conducted research in the Lower Rio Grande Valley and central Texas, Northeast of Brazil and Southern Italy. Before moving to the United States in the late 1980s he worked as a journalist in São Paulo, Brazil, his native country.

Title: The Internet in Rural Brazil: Accessing the Global, Living the Local

Abstract: Macambira, a small town in rural northeastern Brazil – one of the poorest and most traditional areas of that country – has experienced substantial transformation since the mid-1990s when I started conducting ethnographic work investigating media consumption, identity formation and gender relations. Based on recent fieldwork, I argue that access to the Internet, which only arrived in 2007 in this village, has rearticulated ideas of local, regional, national, and global residents’ sense of belonging to these distinct levels of social, economic and political organization. This rearticulation has occurred primarily through four distinct ways that relate to this new technology: a) chatting, a favored activity of many local youngsters; b) shopping for goods that were not locally available before; c) following local news blogs; and d) downloading movies, television shows, and music previously unavailable. This perceived proximity to the outside world has led to changes in their sense of local and national belonging from what I documented in my earlier fieldwork in the 1990s. In this process, the local values and ideas of what is cultural acceptable seemed to be shifting to encompass perceived urban/global values. These findings, however, need to be understood in a broader context of changing economic and political conditions and growing economic and cultural stratification in rural Brazil.
Panel 4 - Anthropological Takes on Globalization and the Arabian Gulf
Chair - Cynthia Werner, Texas A&M University, USA

Tanya Kane
Texas A&M University at Qatar
kanetanya@hotmail.com

Brief Bio: Tanya Kane graduated with a PhD in Social Anthropology from the University of Edinburgh in 2012. Her thesis examined the transfer of a US pedagogical model to the Arabian Gulf against the wider context of the globalisation of higher education. Dr Kane’s anthropological fieldwork was conducted at Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar where she explored Arab student experiences of the US-style medical curriculum. A former schoolteacher, with a BEd from the University of Toronto, BA from Queens University, and an MA in Classics and Archaeology from McMaster University, Tanya has taught in Canada and the United Kingdom. Her research interests include globalisation, education, medicine, neoliberalism and knowledge-based economies, especially in relation to the countries of the Middle East.

Title: Negotiating Moral Personhood in the Context of an American Medical Training
Abstract: Weill Cornell’s medical degree was designed in NYC and subsequently transferred to Doha, thus the content, ethics, materials, methods and practices are far removed from their original context. It is a Western professional training geared towards the demands of the US health care system. Through its production of American-style doctors in a nonAmerican setting, Cornell’s transnational medical school serves as a niche through which to explore the tensions that arise in global models of tertiary education. WCMC-Q students are simultaneously trying to attain a modern American professional training whilst attempting to comply with their Arab-Islamic traditions. This involves valiant attempts to mediate binaries: modernity and tradition; the familiar and the alien; familial and professional identities, the old and the new; the East and the West. Balancing “traditional” obligations along side the knowledge and technical training that inhabit the highly circumscribed arena of medical practice is no small feat. Thus, the novel conditions and modes of practice assembled in the educational transplant infuse the student body with forms of knowledge that may be perceived as deviating from customary expectations. New subjectivities emerge as students collate their new medical persona to longstanding identities shaped and disciplined by modes of Arab and Islamic morality. In such a scenario, some students regard their newly acquired medical identities to be at odds with pervasive Arabic-Islamic expectations and traditions that are firmly embedded in their social worlds.

Susie Kilshaw
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Brief Bio: Susie Kilshaw is a medical anthropologist whose work focuses on the impact of culture on the experience of illness, with a particular focus on emergent illnesses, post-combat illnesses, health anxieties, pregnancy and loss. A Principal Research Fellow at the Department of Anthropology, University College London, she has two research projects in Qatar, both funded by the Qatar National Research Fund (NPRF). The first of these projects investigates popular understandings of genetic risk and social implications of genetic knowledge in Qatar. The second is a cross cultural exploration (UK and Qatar) of the experience of pregnancy and miscarriage. Kilshaw was a teaching fellow in Medical Anthropology and Applied Studies at UCL (2004–2010). Her previous work focused on the emergence of Gulf War Syndrome in the United Kingdom, and her book on the subject, Impotent Warriors: Gulf War Syndrome, Vulnerability and Masculinity, was published by Berghahn Books (Oxford) in 2009. Kilshaw is also the editor of Anthropology and Medicine, an interdisciplinary journal.

Title: Embodying Qatar: An Anthropological Account of Pregnancy (and Loss).
Abstract: Globalization has transformed the way we live in the world and the very nature of what we experience as self and selfhood. This paper considers how globalizing medical discourses impact the way people experience their bodies. In particular, it will explore the local context where such technologies are received. Despite the spread of medical technologies and discourses throughout the world, they are not transferred into cultural “voids” when they reach disparate societies. We must pay heed to the local moral worlds within which these phenomena travel. In particular, the author’s work on Qatari health experiences will be used to illuminate the way prior ideas about kinship, reproduction and theories of causation of illness influence the way people interpret and negotiate medical information. Ethnographic data from the author’s research in Qatar will be used to illustrate the way medical technologies and knowledge are received, accommodated and resisted and by individuals and groups. With a particular focus on pregnancy and loss in Qatar, the paper will show that there remain local negotiations that remain central to understanding health and illness in a given society.
Abstract: The aging of society and the medical problems it creates for individuals presents a serious challenge for modern states, one which will become even more acute in the future. The often disabling illnesses of the elderly have an impact not only on the individuals who suffer from these conditions, but also on their families and their caregivers and on society at large. In the ‘Western world’ physical and sensory disabilities, dementia and similar conditions in elderly persons are considered traumatic because they are usually accompanied by the loss of one’s autonomy. The need to rely on others is perceived as a humiliating condition which leads to the loss of independence and one’s personal dignity. Thus, discussions about improving the situation of old persons often revolve around the problem how it would be possible to restore their selfhood and citizenship. Nevertheless, the question arises if this framework is applicable in a genuinely global context, keeping in mind that the notions of independence and autonomy reflect values associated with Western societies. In several parts of the ‘non-Western’ world societal and family relationships are informed by interdependence rather than independence. In these cultures the ‘Western’ concern with self-fulfillment is not applicable and societal norms emphasize endurance in situations that cannot be changed. As well, family responsibilities are also different and people who look after their elderly parents do not find it undignified that their own children will do the same for them once they grow old. The paper asks the provocative question if it is meaningful to ‘prescribe’ elderly people that they should yearn for independence even if this is not necessarily their wish. On the basis of case studies both from Western and non-Western cultures, it seeks to promote a more pluralistic view on how the handle the human experience of aging in a global (rather than just in a Western normative) perspective and also engages with the question how is globalization shaping notions of ethics.

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Brief Bio: Humayun Bashir graduated in medicine from Allama Iqbal Medical College, Lahore in 1995. He specializes in Nuclear Medicine; a branch of medicine which utilizes radioactive material for diagnostic imaging and molecular radiotherapy. Besides his home country, Dr. Bashir has worked as a specialist in United Kingdom and Saudi Arabia. Since 2012 he is head of the Nuclear Medicine at Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital & Research Center (SKMCH&R). SKMCH&R is the foremost cancer center of Pakistan and the state-of-the-art Nuclear medicine department performs over 10000 procedures annually.

Title: (Re)thinking Global Connectedness from the Perspective of the World Healthcare Industry

Abstract: The broad focus of this paper is on the social, political, economic and ethical impact of technological advancements in the healthcare industry during the last century. Within this broad thematic focus the paper describes various technological advancements in the arena of medical imaging and their impact on the human condition. [...] This is to say that the modern hospital today has also become a research center where data is collected and existing technologies and treatments are constantly modified to achieve greater sophistication. The paper argues that this scenario is not without its costs especially when we adopt a global perspective. Medical imaging is by far the most technologically intensive arm of the healthcare industry but the pace of development in this arena at times appears oblivious to the fact that a large part of the world lacks even basic healthcare facilities. Yet it is the part of the world characterized by this lack of basic healthcare facilities which is driving the demand for further development of new technologies due to unequal but high population and economic growth. As a result technologies developed almost exclusively in the developed western countries are increasingly finding home in non-western countries. This scenario provokes several interesting questions for research which can only be effectively explored if the liberal arts and hard sciences join hands. This paper specifically addresses issues and questions in the following vein: [...] Has globalization essentially converted healthcare into just another commodity? If so, then further development of new healthcare technologies is simply a function of economic and commercial viability in a global market? Is globalization also responsible for a lack of interest in developing solutions for the low-income population groups in less developed countries where the availability of sophisticated technology does not bring any improvement to the existing inequalities in access to healthcare.
Panel 5 - Globalizing Revolt: How Connected Were the Uprisings of 2011-2013?
Chair - Brady Creel, Texas A&M University at Qatar

Oliver Nachtwey
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Title: A Transnational Movement in Local/National Context: the Occupy Movement in Germany
Abstract: The Occupy movement was a global phenomenon. After the advent of Occupy Wall Street (OWS) occupy camps mushroomed to other, in particular western capitalist states. This movement of the “99%” inspired scholars as well as activists on an unexpected level and provoked an enormous political and sociological international debate. In contrast to this, empirical research about occupy was carried out rarely. Thus the starting point of our own empirical research was the question who is involved in the actual Occupy movement. In our contribution we would like to present findings from an online survey of the Occupy movement in Germany. Carried out in autumn 2012 the study is based on more than 1000 voluntary participants (activist and sympathizers) of Occupy – it was announced through the channels of the occupy movement, Facebook and Twitter. In our analysis we differentiate between three different groups: (a) Campers, the core activists of Occupy, (b) activists, who have been active in the camps and participated at demonstrations, etc. and (c) sympathizers, who have a predominantly positive attitude towards the movement, shared links, etc. but didn’t participate in physical actions. We present empirical results for these subgroups about their class/labour market position, their financial situation, their education degree, their (material and post-material) values, their attitudes towards work and society and their forms of critique of the financial crisis. We present both a narrative analysis of the development of Occupy in Germany and an analysis of the political, social, temporal, and spatial aspects. This includes an overview of the specific frames of actions and a field analysis of other groups involved in the protest, media coverage and the advent of “Blockupy”, a broader alliance of left wing groups, trade unions and Occupy activists. Thus we analyze the German Occupy movement in two ways: firstly, we compare it to the empirical results of the OWS-research by Milkman et al. (2012). Secondly, we compare it to the social and political patterns of other recent social movements in Germany.

Amy Austin Holmes
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Title: On Military Coups and the Utopic Moment: Egypt and Turkey in Comparative Perspective
Abstract: It is never just rage against injustice that leads to mass uprisings, but the millenarian belief in something better. The better life that the Egyptian and Turkish people fought for has not yet and may never materialize. A fleeting glimpse of an alternative future was, however, actualized in the encampments on Tahrir and Taksim, where utopian communities flourished. In Tahrir, the police state was driven out. In Taksim, money was abolished, and everything was for free. Beyond comparing these utopian dreamscapes, this essay will also address the movements’ relationships with their really-existing military establishments. More than the ideological differences between Nasserism and Kemalism, I argue that it was the very different tradition of military coups that shaped the public’s reaction to the armed forces. In Egypt, the Free Officers liberated the country from the British, and built their anti-colonial legacy around protecting the nation from external threats, leading to a situation in which some parts of the protest movement supported the military intervention that removed President Mohamed Morsi. In Turkey, the series of coups, in particular in 1971 and 1980, were directed against internal threats: revolutionaries who challenged the state. Hence virtually none of the Gezi Park protesters see the military as a potential ally. Finally, I argue that the protests in Egypt and Turkey represented not a demand for, but rather a critique of representative democracy, as they embodied a participatory democracy of the streets.

Paolo Gerbaudo
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Title: Torturous Transmissions: Protest Diffusion in 2011 Wave Between the Global, National and Regional
Abstract: The 2011 protest wave, encompassing the Arab Spring revolutions, the Indignados movement in Spain and Greece, and the Occupy Wall Street movement has often been described as a new global protest cycle. However, the dynamics of diffusion point to a more complex picture. Transmission of protest frames and repertoires from one country and cultural region to another was quite slow and tortuous. Moreover, adoption of the new ideas and practices of protest spawned by the protest wave of 2011 involved laborious dynamics of cultural translation and domestication. This points to the continuing importance of local protest cultures and cultural contexts, in addition to channels of transmission, even in an era of instantaneous communication technologies epitomised by social network sites like Facebook and Twitter, highly popular among activists.
Jeff Goodwin
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**Title:** Occupy Wall Street and 15M in Comparative Perspective

**Abstract:** This paper compares and contrasts the 15M movement in Spain (los indignados) with the Occupy Wall Street movement in the United States, both of which were inspired by the 25 January Revolution in Egypt. We compare the social background and grievances of the protesters in each country, external and cross-border influences on each movement, public opinion toward each movement, and the tactical repertoire, achievements, and limitations of each movement. We ask how these movements support or contradict various theories about the origins, diffusion, and outcomes of protest.
Panel 6 - Teaching the World: Ethics in International Higher Education
Chair - Sherry Ward, Texas A&M University at Qatar

Mysti Rudd
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Title: Towards a Transnational Ethic of Care: Re-Theorizing the Role of the Liberal Arts Researcher in the Globalized Academy
Abstract: As liberal arts scholars enmeshed in the post-structural Western tradition while teaching at an international branch campus (IBC) in the Middle East, we appreciate the complexity of multiple perspectives. Living in a Gulf Arab country has rightfully increased our awareness of the cultural, social, and political contexts that enrich and complicate our research and teaching. Pursuing both individual and collaborative research agendas, we find ourselves asking “Who are we to conduct this research on indigenous participants?” and “How can we avoid doing harm?” We wonder what connections—or “transnational connectivities” (Grewal, 2005, 25) we are missing because we participate in a research tradition where the information flows one way. As Western academics, we are rewarded for research that fits tidily into an academic discipline. But if we pay attention to the paths of “transnational connectivities” readily discoverable for those of us who work at IBCs, we can expect to find “a messier world, where writing, researching, objects, and subjects of research refuse to remain neatly within the boundaries that discipline them” (Grewal, 2005, 34). We turn to theory to re-examine the ethical foundation for both our research and our teaching. By revisiting the work of transnational feminist rhetoricians, international writing researchers, and practitioners of decolonizing methodologies, we seek to build upon the role of international researchers as “information brokers” (Lunsford, 2012, 221). Working at the intersection of post-colonial theory and Noddings’s “feminist ethics of care” (Noddings, 1986), we propose moving “beyond a respect for differences to a stance and practice of caring for and being responsive to others” (Scott, 2013, 223), particularly in complex international spaces. In this presentation we provide a rationale and genesis for a transnational ethic of care.

Noémie Waldhubel
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Brief Bio: Noémie Waldhubel (Socio-Cultural Anthropologist) studied Anthropology, Sociology, Ethnology, Korean Studies and Education in Hamburg (Germany), Seoul (South Korea), Paris (France), Montreal (Canada) and Bloomington (USA). Since 2002 ethnographic research with various communities both in Canada and the USA. Various teaching positions at the University and the College level. Since 2012 co-worker at the NGO Ethnologie in Schule und Erwachsenenbildung (Anthropology in School and Adult Education) (ESE) e.V in Münster (Germany) and working with the Adult, Child and Youth education sector. Since 2012 coordinator of the Adult education. Scientific researcher and lecturer for various projects, such as Wann ist ein Mann ein Mann? – Förderung der Identitätsbildung und des Rollenverständnisses bei Jungen und Mädchen in der Migrationsgesellschaft durch Trainings zur Interkulturellen Kompetenz mit Schwerpunkt Geschlechterrollen (2012-15) (When is a Man a Man? – Identity construction and Gender Roles of Boys and Girls with a Migration History through Intercultural Competence Seminars (2012-15) and Vielfalt auf dem Teller. Förderung von Nachhaltigkeit anhand verschiedener Nahrungskomponenten (2013). Diversity on the Plate. Sustainable Development within the Food sector (2013).

Title: Integrating Applied Anthropology to Teach Gender Roles in the Age of Globalization
Abstract: Racial and ethnic integration, in a multicultural society, is a complex and challenging matter. The process of acculturation into a new society often times mainly involves children and teenagers as willing or unwilling participants. This is especially true for Germany, a country where individuals of 190 different countries currently live. In Germany, education is the responsibility of the state (Länder); the federal government only plays a minor role. In this light, this paper will offer an insight into a three year project currently taking place in the city of Münster, Germany, called Wann ist ein Mann ein Mann (When is a man a man, WIEMEM). This project aims to contribute to the identity formation of boys and girls in German society though a positive view of gender roles. WIEMEM is implemented by the NGO Ethnologie in Schule und Erwachsenenbildung (Anthropology in School and Adult Education, ESE e.V.). Over the past twenty years, ESE has developed and thought intercultural competence trainings aimed at children and adult education to foster a better society. ESE’s WIEMEM project seeks to enhance children’s active role in building an equitable society by realizing one’s own stakes in it.
Title: Intercultural Mediation as a Means of Teaching Global Education

Abstract: In times of globalization, intercultural competence has become a key qualification for living and working together in multicultural societies. To do justice to the significance of anthropology in the teaching of intercultural competence, the association Ethnologie in Schule und Erwachsenenbildung (Anthropology in School and Adult Education, ESE e.V.) was founded by anthropologists and pedagogues in Münster (Germany) in 1992. ESE has always worked closely in cooperation with schools and teachers to help them developing new tools to integrate not just intercultural competence, but also global education into their curriculum. In this paper, I would like to specifically focus on examples of intercultural mediation as a means of teaching global education. These forms of intercultural mediation address civic and global education to encourage leadership roles that will respect and value human rights of all members of society. It is in this way that education can be empowering and foster democratic values to create a more just society, based on equality, respect of diverse cultures and their religious affiliations. Consequently, this kind of global education is taught with an outlook that the students are the true beneficiaries of this learning experience and not just “empty vessels” (Freire).

Title: Creating A Global Indigenous Education Network: Indigenous Higher Education Interactions in Aotearoa (New Zealand) and North America

Abstract: Indigenous universities in both Aotearoa (New Zealand), and on the North American continent, although still a fairly young and to the wider public oftentimes unknown phenomenon compared to mainstream institutions, are becoming increasingly important in the global higher education market. Created as a response to decades of unsuccessful and ethnocentric education efforts, these institutions not only offer a viable alternative to conventional education models and are in many ways best equipped to address indigenous students’ and tribal communities’ needs, they are also key players in their respective indigenous communities’ efforts regarding culture and language revitalization. As part of a close-knit global indigenous network, many of these tribally chartered and controlled educational institutions cooperate across national borders on a wide array of affairs. With global indigenous networks constantly increasing and intensifying, cooperation models with fellow indigenous and mainstream education providers on an international level provide opportunities for establishing and furthering trans-Indigenous and international relationships in the struggle for cultural and educational recognition and survival. This paper will present a selection of indigenous higher education connections, links, and interactions between global cultural spaces, exemplified by a specific institution: Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi – indigenous university in New Zealand. It will be demonstrated how indigenous-based research skills are shared between (indigenous) institutions, how research capacity with a particular indigenous focus is increased and how joint funding opportunities are sought. The presentation will also offer crucial information on the role of indigenous universities as important agents in the cultural and linguistic revitalizing process that is under way in indigenous communities around the globe.
Panel 7 - Critical Perspective on English in a Globalized World
Chair - Leslie Seawright, Texas A&M University at Qatar

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Brief Bio: Zohreh R. Eslami is an Associate Professor in the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Culture in the College of Education at Texas A&M University in College Station - Texas. Her research interests include sociocultural aspects of ESL teaching and assessment, intercultural and developmental pragmatics, EAP, and ESL teacher education. She has been the recipient of two major NPRP research awards. Her research in Qatar has focused on educational reform, gender roles, and science literacy in English as a second language. Her publications appear in journals such as Intercultural Pragmatics Journal, Language Learning, ELT Journal, Language, Culture, and Curriculum, and International Journal of Bilingualism.

Title: Globalized English: Power, Ethics, and Ideology

Abstract: Due to the spread of English language it is now considered as a global language. As such there are a range of commercial, economic, and industrial interests that are affiliated to it (Mahboob, 2011). This presentation focuses on how the English language and its spread is related to the interests of corporations and governments, who use the language to make money and to promote certain beliefs, ideologies, and practices. We will highlight some of the politics that arise as a result of the spread of English language and its globalization. The focus of this presentation is the current political and economic power of the English speaking countries. In this presentation we adopt a critical lens to explore how the spread of English relates to various sociopolitical, educational, and economic issues. We focus on the power struggles in the teaching of Englishes and the training of language professionals in Expanding, Outer and Inner Circle contexts of English use. We argue that these conflicts are ethical in nature and that a framework for addressing these ethical concerns must be incorporated into the theory and practice of language teaching and teacher training. Such a framework is needed so that language teaching and teacher training decisions will be better informed and more likely to contribute to a better balanced and morally sound pedagogy. We critically examine assumptions related to the ‘standard’ English language. The dichotomy and construction of native and non-native speaker in the language teaching field is problematized and the marginalization and categorization of non-native speakers as the speakers of a lesser variety of language is challenged. Additionally, the use of English language teaching as a means to convert English language learners to Christianity is critically examined and challenged.

Svetlana Kurtes
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Brief Bio: Svetlana Kurteš is Lecturer in English Language and Linguistics at Portsmouth University (UK) and a member of the University’s Centre for International and European Studies Research. Since 2010 she has been Vice-President of the European Network for Intercultural Education Activities (ENIEDA), a collaborative academic network exploring innovative initiatives that promote the values of plurilingualism, democratic citizenship and intercultural cooperation through trans-disciplinary dialogue. The focus of her research clusters around contrastive, comparative and interdisciplinary approaches to language, culture and society and issues surrounding their pedagogical applications and practical implications.

Title: Addressing the Academic and Professional Requirements of the Globalized World

Abstract: The presentation gives a critical précis of the major characteristics of competence-based education, fitting to address the current need of the globalized world and predicts its future requirements. Focusing primarily on the role and nature of the effective linguistic and intercultural education and its place within the wider post-modern educational paradigm, the presentation explores some theoretical, pedagogical and practical issues related to the design and implementation of successful modern languages provision (primarily ESOL).

Monika Kopytowska
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Title: Mediating Between the Global and the Local

Abstract: The world has shrunk. Increasingly, nations living in one "global village", to use McLuhan’s (1964) term, have grown dependent on one another, becoming interconnected by an intricate net of social, economic and political relations that cross national borders. Mass media, new communication and transport technologies have substantially enhanced the flow of information and new ideas. Mediatization which, as argued by
Thompson (1995), is a salient feature of modernity, has stretched the public sphere, in its traditional sense, beyond the “geospatial,” or territorially bounded configuration, via the “sociospatial,” or online virtual space configuration (Youngs, 2009). In this way, “global public sphere” has emerged with common market and institutions, but also with migration-induced transculturalism and transnationalism (German and Banerjee, 2011).

The present paper, adopting an eclectic multi-dimensional approach situated within Critical Discourse Studies, looks at the role of English in mediatized public sphere, and, more specifically, at the status and impact of English within journalistic discourse – understood both as a product (with its verbal and visual dimension) and a process (journalistic routines of news gathering and editing) – in Kenyan media. Across Africa, television stations heavily rely on imported American and European content (Allington, 2012), while media practitioners try to adhere to the Western model of journalism. Bringing forth the notions of linguistic and cultural imperialism, the historical dimension of globalization, as well as the dynamics of mediatization, the study examines both the motivations behind and the implications of global media English dominance for the media scene in East Africa (Frere, 2012; Grinker, 2010; Kalyango, 2010; Kasoma, 1996; Skjerdal, 2012; Wasserman, 2011). Journalistic discourse is thus discussed in the context of ideological conditioning, cultural values, ethnic considerations, media education, and journalistic routines. The data analyzed in this corpus-based study comes from two Kenyan newspapers: the Daily Nation and the Star. The author also discusses policy documents issued by government and media institutions (for example Communication Commission of Kenya Act, journalists’ codes of conduct, government reports, media houses internal regulations, etc.) as well as the results of interviews with editors, journalists, government representatives, and media educators.
Panel 8 - Ecologies of Contestation: Ethics and Ordering in Global Ecologies  
Chair - Hamza Jehangir, Texas A&M University at Qatar

Abdel-Rahman Mustafa  
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Title: Antinomialisms in Urban Critique: The Urban Environment of Mecca and Medina  
Abstract: Abdul-Rahman Mustafa’s paper examines the conflicting ways in which some of the dichotomies typically associated with globalization: global/local, universal/particular, secular/religious, are employed to critique changes in the urban environments of the Muslim holy cities of Mecca and Medina and the ways in which this critique forms part of a broader challenge to revivalist movements such as Salafism.

Khalid Mir  
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Title: Do We Need a Global Perspective To Solve the Environmental Crisis?  
Abstract: What is the role of ethics in a globalized world? On the one hand we tend to think that our ethical standpoint should be guided by an impartial, global perspective. On the other hand, though, we believe that both how we value people and things as well as our obligations are determined by local contexts. We explore this tension between local and global perspectives in relation to the environmental crisis. In particular, we will be posing the question as to whether the inter-temporal aspect of the environmental crisis can be conceptualized as a particular manifestation of this tension. Khalid Mir’s paper examines the role of ethics in a globalized world. In particular his focus is on the tension between local and global perspectives on justice in relation to the environmental problems and on whether inter-governmental justice can be understood in this context/framework.

Sikander Shah  
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Title: The Transformation of State Consent in Contemporary Global Wars  
Abstract: Sikander Shah’s paper examines the ways in which the environment within which international legal actors operate has been transformed by the forces of globalism. Globalization has transformed not just rural and urban environments within states but the very texture of the international legal order itself.

Asad Farooq  
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Title: Global Enclosure of Water: Exploring Neoliberal Sovereignty in the Waterscapes of Pakistan  
Abstract: Asad Farooq’s paper explores the global enclosure of water in irrigation practices in Pakistan under the auspices of International Financial Institutional support. It highlights the continuities with colonial ideologies and practices of extraction, the nature of post-colonial sovereignty, and demonstrates how imagining water as commodity excludes other possible readings of nature, ecology, politics and ultimately the collective itself.
Panel 9 - Food Security in the Middle East: Global Impacts, Local Solutions
Chair - Paul Lee, Texas A&M University at Qatar

Deborah L. Wheeler
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Title: Oil Rich, Food Poor: Gulf Food Strategies in Qatar, UAE, and Kuwait

Abstract: The world is increasingly food scarce and a host of global factors are involved, as explored by this paper. Rapid population growth, the rise of new middle classes in China and India, increased global demand for meat and dairy products, climate change and the negative effect of unpredictable weather on crop yield, export embargos, supply chain interruptions, and radically volatile price fluctuations, waste and logistical challenges—all of these factors create potential food supply and price shocks to which Gulf countries are especially vulnerable. Given their poor agricultural productive capacity and near complete dependence on global markets to feed their populations, what are Gulf countries doing to make themselves more food secure in the near and distant future. This paper will examine how and why Gulf countries are responding to food security challenges. This paper illustrates why national security is at stake, when it comes to food and water issues, and explores the security risks involved with relying on the global community to feed the Gulf, balanced by the sustainability risks involved with boosting domestic food production in the region. The paper provides a range of solutions which are most likely to increase Gulf food security.

Andrea Howard
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Brief Bio: Double majoring in Arabic and Political Science, Midshipman 2/C Andrea Howard aspires to become a Naval Submarine Officer and then laterally transfer into the Foreign Area Officer Community. At the Naval Academy, she has the top Academic Order of Merit for her class of 1140, and she is ranked in the top 3% in Overall Order of Merit. She has received academic recognition through the Speedwell Foundation Scholarship for semester abroad in Oman, Lemieux Second Year Foreign Language Award, Ethics Essay Awards, Superintendent’s List, Fourth Battalion Midshipman of the Month Award, and an internship at the J5, Joint Chiefs of Staff Arabian Peninsula Division. In her free time, Midshipman Howard has served as a squad leader and plebe summer detailer for the Naval Academy Drum & Bugle Corps, the Treasurer for the Jewish Midshipmen Club, a soloist in the Naval Academy Gospel Choir, the creator of a new tutoring program for her company, a two-time delegate at the Naval Academy Foreign Affairs conference, and a volunteer in Mids for Kids, the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and Veterans Affairs events. In the future, she hopes to research economic policy in the MENA region.

Title: Fishing for a Solution: Oman’s Unique Food Security Outlook

Abstract: Among the Gulf countries, Oman holds a unique perspective on food security. Population growth at 6.4% last year, water scarcity episodes in Seeb and Ameyat, sinking groundwater tables, adult obesity and child malnutrition from unwholesome diets, strain on the Sultan’s social contract, the struggle to feed expatriate workers, and threats on the Muscat Securities Market and international food trade from the Syrian crisis—themes resonating throughout GCC nations—all plague Oman. Unlike its neighbors, Oman cannot utilize its dwindling oil supplies to uphold a long-term food-for-oil trade or, even with strong cultural bonds to Zanzibar and Baluchistan, to fund international agro-investment. However, Oman can still possibly become the regional leader in food security. This paper will examine Oman’s advantages and strategies as a nation with an expanding aquaculture sector, a relatively large area of arable land, and the largest strategic storage system in the Gulf. The research will mostly derive from both primary sources found and interviews conducted between August and December 2013 in Oman.

Oday Kamal
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Brief Bio: Oday Kamal is an MPhil candidate at St Antony’s college focusing on food security and Middle Eastern affairs. His work encompasses the political, economic and financial workings of Middle East and North African countries. Oday is currently a Chevening Scholar in Modern Middle Eastern studies at Oxford University.

Title: Half-Baked, the Other Side of Egypt’s Food Subsidy Scheme: A Study of the Market Imperfections and Middlemen in the Egyptian Wheat Supply Chain

Abstract: The objective of this paper is to conduct a micro-study of the Egyptian wheat supply chain. The research looks to map the political and economic dynamics of the wheat subsidy regime by detailing how the subsidy is rolled out and operationalised in practice. Inherently, the analysis aims to identify the sources of market distortions to the price of wheat and bread shortages. The research paper will mostly draw on previous studies, primary sources in Arabic and testimonies from interviews conducted between June and September 2013.
Khalid al Rwis  
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**Title:** Food Security Between Local Agriculture, Importation and Foreign Agricultural Investment in KSA  

**Abstract:** It is known that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia suffers from scarcity of water resources and arable land simultaneously accompanied with an increase in the number of population, which thereby surges demand for food and conduces to high prices. Therefore, the availability of strategic food stocks and commodities aims to ensure the continued flow of goods to local markets and consequently leads to price stability and retain prices affordable throughout the year. This policy achieves the Kingdom FS and blocks emergence of food crises in the future. It is worth mentioning that in the mid-2008, the world faced significant reduction in basic food commodities offered with an increasing demand, which leads to a sharp rise in the prices of goods and food, coupled with low world reservoirs and growing food demand, as well as low world grain production. Inappropriate natural conditions, effects of climate change, drought and frost that hit many parts of the world during the past two years contributed to destruction of much of food grains in some major agricultural countries like Australia, China, Argentina, and India. This situation impacted volume of food commodities supply; world prices soared and therefore it becomes necessary to keep a strategic stock enough for domestic consumption at least six months on an ongoing basis. In light of the global crisis, some exporting countries of agricultural products levied high tariffs and imposed restrictions on exports at the time of the economic turndown. The Middle East in recent years has become politically and economically unstable, and therefore all nations seek to meet demands of their citizens, improve their living standard and provide food commodities at prices commensurate with their income in the current circumstances. Therefore, sustaining a strategic stock of food commodities has become necessary to achieve the Kingdom’s FS. The country embraced King Abdullah’s Initiative for Saudi Agricultural Investment Abroad to reduce prices of goods and food, to create a safe strategic stockpile of basic food commodities to achieve its food security and to shun emergence of food crises in the future, in addition to maintaining stability of food prices throughout the year.
Panel 10 - Economics and Globalization
Chair - Curtis Farmer, Texas A&M University at Qatar

Farah Khan
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Title: The Political Economy of Rising Global Income Inequality
Abstract: Globalization has increased the standard of living of people around the world on an average and it has become more intensive and dramatic in recent years as can be seen by advances in science, technology and communications. While the benefits of globalization have been much celebrated, the downsides have often been put in the background by using labels that make the opponents of globalization seem as odd or unnatural beings. There is no doubt about the fact that globalization has brought prosperity to quite a few regions of the world but as the Game Theorist and Mathematician JF Nash (Econometrica 1950) argues that it is not whether a certain arrangement is better for all than no cooperation at all but whether the particular divisions to emerge are fair divisions, given the alternative arrangements that can be made. The kind of arrangements that economic globalization tends to foster are not necessarily equal or fair for all parties involved and this increases the vulnerability of the weak participants in the process of globalization. The power dynamics of the globe render completely fair arrangements almost impossible to achieve, therefore can it be argued that globalization of the world economy does not really support cooperation in the true sense of the word.

Globalization has resulted in making the modern day world economy resemble a closed system and hence the importance of a more equitable outcome, for economic arrangements of the contemporary world, cannot be overemphasized. This paper aims to build the case that the globalization of the world economy has resulted in competitive strategies being adopted by the powerful actors and these strategies center on the notions of self-interest and profitability therefore resulting in unequal outcomes. It will also argue for the case that in a closed system, a win-win situation will work better for all actors involved because reciprocity, barter and cooperation will make it less probable for the losing parties to revolt against the winners. The vulnerability of a closed world economy and its linkages with other non-economic factors will have profound effects in case of a global event or incident. This paper will look into the downsides of the closed world economy, the vulnerability of being a closed system and it will argue for a more equitable win-win strategic approach to be adopted by the actors involved.

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Title: Globalization and the Erosion of Job Security in the Japanese Labor Market: A Social Mechanism Approach
Abstract: The effects of globalization on employment systems are not uniform across countries, and not all countries respond to globalization in the same way. The institutional environments surrounding firms vary largely across nations, and countries develop solutions that are specific to their needs and available resources. In this paper, we examine the effects of globalization on labor market institutions, with particular focus on Japan. The experiences of advanced Western nations do not necessarily set a precedent nor an exemplar for Japan. Understanding Japan’s responses to globalization requires a more nuanced approach, which accounts for its historical and institutional trajectories. Along with globalization, Japan is experiencing a greater infusion of foreign capital, and an increasing presence of foreign firms. The foreign firms bring with them employment practices that are more short-term and market-driven and less socially embedded compared to the Japanese status quo. The co-existence of the foreign and the domestic provides a fascinating test bed through which to examine how local firms adapt to global pressures, and how workers navigate the changing institutional environment. There is growing evidence that the expansion of foreign firms is eroding job security in the Japanese employment system. The diverging employment practices of foreign firms have spillover effects into the domestic firms, which may disturb the Japanese status quo in the long-run.

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Brief Bio: Elena McLean is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Texas A&M University. Dr. McLean’s area of research is international relations with a focus on international institutions, economic sanctions, and environmental politics. Her work explores cooperation and bargaining among different national and international actors, including governments, international organizations, and various non-governmental groups. Dr. McLean’s research has been published in leading journals in political science, such as the American Journal of Political Science and International Studies Quarterly. Her research has been funded by the European Union Center of Excellence at Texas A&M University.

Title: The Effect of Domestic and International Institutions on Foreign Direct Investment
Abstract: Extant research on foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows suggests that political risk is one of the key determinants of investment inflows, especially in the case of developing countries. While there is some evidence that democratic political institutions as well as international agreements can mitigate such political risks, and hence increase FDI inflows, most studies overlook the interaction of domestic and international institutions as factors influencing the level of political risk. This study examines this interactive effect. Specifically, we focus on judicial independence, a national-level institution, and political risk insurance provided by the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), an international institution, as factors that mitigate political risk, and test the efficacy of these institutions in attracting foreign investors. MIGA is the branch of the World Bank tasked with promoting foreign direct investment, and sells insurance on investment projects. We ask whether MIGA guarantees serve as a substitute for or complement to national judicial institutions, and whether this varies by the type of MIGA guarantee (e.g. political violence vs. expropriation or breach of contract). We examine this hypothesis using data on FDI inflows into developing countries between 1990 and 2012, in combination with data on MIGA-insured investment projects.
Panel 11 - Qatar and Globalization
Chair - Sean Chaplin, Texas A&M University at Qatar

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Title: Space in Qatar
Abstract: Qatar is an ideal case study for the effects of globalization on small nations. It is due to globalization that Qatar is able to function: the vast majority of its work force is non-Qatari. It is also due to globalization, however, that Qatar has a skewed population makeup: over 75% of persons within the border at any given time are males. Qatar maintains that it is rooted in tradition while also making bids for global visibility – through hosting the 2022 FIFA World Cup, for example. How this global visibility is achieved given the conditions on the ground involves an understanding of efforts to reconcile national identity with the forces of globalization. This paper tries to understand identity by understanding how space and the rights to use space are negotiated in the 'global' city of Doha. Middle Eastern nations are often targeted for their segregation policies and the exclusion of people from spaces that they literally helped build. The creation and control of public spaces however needs to be understood in the unique context that Qatar is in. How much control over public space is too much, and where and how should this control be administered? Available literature on urban planning is, by and large, concerned with European or American models of cities. Given that Gulf nations are some of the most rapidly 'globalizing' in the world, a new strain of scholarship is warranted in the context of globalization and its effects on cities and countries.

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Title: Understanding the Construction of Qatari Society: Subjectivity in the 21st Century
Abstract: Questions of nationality, identification, culture and power are now more than ever important to Middle Eastern states situated in a globalized world. How do states with small populations construct national identity? In Qatar there is no one definition of what it means to be Qatari but the state has constructed its 'national self/identity' as a way of naturalizing its existence as a political unity. This construction, if examined in light of public discourse, is full of meanings and significance. Qatari society is given the role of safeguarding the 'borders' of identity based on the now deeply embedded official narrative of national identity. This research draws on a plethora of significant elements of social and political organization such as kinship and the institutional framework of the state, to understand cultural practices that help define the nation-state in the wake of an increasingly porous world. While the discourse of the state talks of Qataris as a homogeneous group, socially, there is a difference between etic and emic perspectives. This difference in perspectives takes us to the main arguments of this research. The construction of Qatari society should be analyzed in terms of the creation of a distinctive type of political subjectivity that has been the result of a discursive interplay between the Self and the Other. We therefore focus on understanding the construction of Qatari society understood in terms of political subjectivity and citizenship. The process of national identity formation is analyzed by looking at various social, ethnic, linguistic, and religious parameters of Qatari society.
Title: Shopping for an Identity. Consumerism and the Spatial Regulation of Gender in Qatar: The Case of Villagio Mall

Abstract: The ethnography of urban space in the Middle East has typically been understudied. Given the increasing openness of countries such as Qatar and their specific bids for global prestige, the cultural phenomena within them merit attention. This paper examines a populated mega shopping mall in Doha, Qatar -- a testament to globalization with its various chain stores -- with specific interest in how gender is negotiated in ‘globalized’ spaces and how a particularistic identity takes on all the more significance in settings that are ‘modern’. Drawing on theories of consumption and ethnographic research conducted in similar Middle Eastern contexts, such as Dubai, Egypt and Turkey, this work examines the role of gender and class in Villaggio Mall. It is Qatar’s most frequented shopping mall and is considered by many Qatari females as a safe city within larger, unsafe public spaces. The power dynamics that the materiality of objects and dress bring to the mall setting are examined through a Foucauldian lens. Set against the backdrop of a location that ostensibly pays homage to the city of Venice, Qatari's create and perpetuate gender discourses influenced by their belonging to an increasingly open world.
Panel 12 - Evolutions in the Global University
Chair - Eve Baldwin, University of Albany, State University of New York

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Brief Bio: Mark Rush is Stanley G. and Nikki Waxberg Professor of Politics and Law at Washington and Lee University where he has served as Head of the Department of Politics and Director of the Program in International Commerce. He also served as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the American University of Sharjah. He has authored or co-authored numerous books and articles about voting rights, democracy, election law, constitutionalism and liberal arts and liberal democracy. His most recent work includes Judging Democracy (with Christopher Manfredi), "Shelby County v. Holder: a case of Judicial Hubris or a Clash of Ancient Principles?" (Election Law Journal 2013) and several presentations on the liberal arts around the world.

Title: The Global University: Looming Challenges and Opportunities for Liberal Education
Abstract: The debate about the future of liberal education and the challenges posed to it by MOOCs and other forms of online education is frequently cast in terms of a battle between online education and the traditional western, American, residential college experience. This focus overlooks the dynamic trends in education across the globe and the important democratizing impact that technology has had on education—particularly in less developed nations. In this presentation, I cast the US education debate in a broader global context of demographic trends and the global educational marketplace to assess broader challenges to traditional models of education and the opportunities these challenges provide for educational access around the globe.

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Brief Bio: Kevin W. Gray teaches philosophy and law at the American University of Sharjah. His research focuses on the work of the Frankfurt School, philosophy of law and continental philosophy generally. He has published in journals such as Philosophy, Dialogue, and others, and is currently working on the use of systems theory by philosophy and, in particular, critical theory.

Title: The Triple Helix Model and Pathologies of Higher Education
Abstract: Critical theory has always seen its role as the description and then diagnosis of social pathology. With respect to the evolution of the university, I will suggest that the autopoietic model of social systems (which has become referred to, with respect to the growth of the modern university, as the triple helix model, proposed by Leydesdorff and Etzkowitz) offers a vision of the interaction between the university and other social systems that will allow for the diagnosis of social pathology. In so doing, I will draw not only on their work, but on the autopoietic systems theory of Luhmann and others. Drawing on Luhmann, I will suggest that understanding the university as an institution structurally coupled to the economic and political system best explains the pathologies of the modern university. Not only does the university receive inputs from the economic and political systems, it also receives inputs from the educative and research system. Passing through the university, system communication is reinterpreted (and revised) by any other system receiving the communication. As Leydesdorff and others have argued, the rise of specific modes of interaction between research, politics and economic development have led to increased interface between systems at the heart of the university. The results are predictable and have been well-documented in this workshop: a move to technically exploitable knowledge, benchmarking of student education outcome, use of metrics (as opposed to the competition of the market) to evaluate university performance. This type of system interference leads to what I will suggest are, following the tradition of Frankfurt School critical theory, the pathologies of the modern university.

Stephen Keck
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Title: Advocating for a New Colonial University
Abstract: Universities played a crucial role in Myanmar’s development in 20th century. These institutions not only provided the newly independent country with a generation of graduates who would be useful and productive members of society, but were also the focal point for challenges first to British colonialism and two generations later to military rule. For all practical purposes, Myanmar’s universities are largely closed and their history as never been told.
This paper will make the case for the importance of this subject of study, but it will also begin the process of tracing the colonial origins of these institutions. In this case, the efforts of Taw Sein Ko to advocate the creation of Burmese universities will be highlighted. Taw Sein Ko has been largely lost to history, but between 1885 and 1920 he was arguably colonial Burma’s leading public intellectual. Accordingly, it would be his efforts that would be important to the founding and development of the University of Rangoon. The proposed paper situates Taw Sein Ko’s efforts against the movement to create universities in East and Southeast Asia which took place in the early decades of the 20th century. It might be remembered that the universities which were begun, established and developed under Western (and possibly Japanese) empires reflected the needs of a variety of significant stakeholders. Consequently, they now provide an ideal archaeological site for the scholarly exploration of colonial mentalities. After all, pursuing this subject should made evident the interests of key colonial administrators, who had to worry about issues involving the censorship, youth, the possession of knowledge and complexities inherent in resolving the language of instruction. Finally, this discussion (and others like it) should shed light on future developments in tertiary education.

David Lea
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Title: The Future of the Humanities in Today’s Globalized Financial Markets

Abstract: This paper approaches the decline in the study and teaching of the humanities within the university context from a Global financial perspective. As humanities departments are either closed down or have their curriculum attenuated, in the obvious sense we can say that the revenue that was previously present to support such programs has been not been forthcoming. Accordingly, this paper argues that resources that could have supported the humanities have been available to the university but they have been applied elsewhere. These available resources have been applied to increasing the administration and ancillary support staff, and secondly, in support of the social sciences and increasing numbers of business and management programs. This paper links this decline to the growing financialization of the economy, the ideology of managerialism and a contemporary tradition that accords with the “procedures of the public realm of the market and of liberal individualistic politics”.

Panel 13 - Media, Research, and Globalization: The Dissemination of Information
Chair - Michael Telafici, Texas A&M University at Qatar

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Brief Bio: Adam Mestyan is a historian of the Modern Middle East. At the moment, he is a Junior Fellow at the Society of Fellows, Harvard University. In 2012/2013 he was a Departmental Lecturer in the Modern History of the Middle East at the Faculty of Oriental Studies, University of Oxford. In 2011/2012 he was a Postdoctoral Fellow in the “Europe in the Middle East – the Middle East in Europe” program of the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin. He earned his Ph.D. in History from the Central European University (2011). Mestyan serves also as the assistant editor of the British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies (since 2012). He has initiated the Project Jara'id – A Chronology of Nineteenth-Century Periodicals in Arabic, an online bibliography, hosted by the Zentrum Moderner Orient. Mestyan also holds a second Ph.D. in Art Theory from the Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest (2011).

Title: Globalization and Information: Early Arabic Journalism, 1828-1898
Abstract: This presentation updates the discussion about the connection between the national public spheres and the global flow of information. It highlights the beginning of private Arabic journalism as a development which included the Ottoman Arab world in the world of Western news and technology. Continuing an ongoing research, I argue that this step itself is one of the constituent elements of the new world-system. It created both a market and a media-surface which transmitted Western news (by reading European papers or by subscription to telegraph services) to the readers of Arabic and manufactured news from the Arab world. However, Arabic was not geographically restricted to the Middle East but became a global language in the nineteenth century. The presentation surveys Arabic journals in Beirut, Cairo, Alexandria, and Istanbul with an outlook to Arabic periodicals in Paris and London and late-nineteenth-century Arabic journalism in the Americas.

Volker Barth
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Brief Bio: Volker Barth is an assistant professor of modern history at the University of Cologne. He was educated in Germany and France. In 2004 he received a co-tutelle PhD from the Ludwig-Maximilians-University (LMU), Munich, and the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS), Paris. His teaching and research positions include the Université Paris VII–Denis Diderot, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the Bureau International des Expositions (BIE), Paris. His current research project focuses on the cooperation of globally operating news agencies between the mid-nineteenth century and the interwar period, in particular on the emergence and establishment of a world information order that determined the global flow of news items in that period. His publications include: Mensch versus Welt. Die Pariser Weltausstellung von 1867 (2007); "The Micro–history of a world event: Intention, perception and imagination at the Exposition universelle de 1867," Museum & Society 6 (2008); "Medien, Transnationalität und Globalisierung, 1830-1960: Neuerscheinungen und Desiderata," Archiv für Sozialgeschichte 51 (2011); "Making the Wire Speak: Transnational Techniques of Journalism, 1860-1930," in Michaela Hampf and Simone Müller-Pohl (eds.), Global Communication Electric. Actors of a Globalizing World (2013).

Title: World News Order: Structures and Conditions of Global Communication, 1859-1934
Abstract: The paper proposes to examine the tense relationship between differently structured national spheres of influence within a global communication network. It focuses on the four largest news agencies of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries (Havas, Reuters, Wolff, and the Associated Press) and thus deals with the very foundations of the modern order of international news. [...] The paper will probe the paradigm of the strictly objective news report, which all four agencies claimed as the linchpin of their activity during the period at hand, and on which their credibility and profitability depended. What were the shifting meanings of “objectivity” in the daily practice of exchanging international news items between these organizations? How did specific historical contexts influence the production, transmission and communication around the globe of news items, which were presented at all times as value-free facts? What role was played by the simultaneous competition and interdependence of international actors, who were all in various degrees subjected to the authority of national governments? In addressing these questions the paper ultimately focuses on the very foundations of today’s globalized media society.
Ahmed Fawaz
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Title: Globalization and the Arab Spring: Opportunities and Challenges

Abstract: The Arab Spring surprised many researchers and raised various dilemmas (Bayat 2013). Its relation to globalization was one of these dilemmas that academics have been keen to tackle. The debate was on: did globalization stimulate these uprisings, or did these uprisings symbolize a regional challenge to globalization or the beginning of world system reconfiguration? (Grinin & Korotayev 2012). The advocates of the first perspective refer to what globalization has provided the Arab youth with. Liberal values, modern technology, global media and social networks were considered to be the fuel of the social movements which toppled their authoritarian regimes (Korany 2012). However, the proponents of the second strand perceived the Arab Spring as an indicator of the Arab region peculiarity. The domino effect, which events in Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, Syria and Yemen have witnessed, reflected special features of the region. [...] The Egyptian revolution did not raise any religious slogans. However, toppling Mubarak and beginning the transitional period signified a highly polarized status between the Islamic parties and groups, and the civil ones. A debate over constitution and the identity of the state heated up and raised dichotomies such as (religious/civil) (civil/military). In what could be perceived as a challenge to cultural globalization, the Islamic groups in Egypt succeeded in persuading a large segment of the Egyptian voters that voting yes to the 2012 constitution was a victory of Islam in its battle against secularism.

Diana Beech
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Brief Bio: Diana Beech is a research associate at the Faraday Institute for Science and Religion (University of Cambridge), where she is currently working on a project exploring the role and relevance of values to the construction of the European Research Area (ERA) and its policy. Diana holds an MPhil in Contemporary European Studies and a PhD in German Studies (both from the University of Cambridge), and has completed two previous postdoctoral fellowships at the University of British Columbia and the Technical University of Berlin respectively. Today, Diana is the Communications Coordinator of a collaborative research network on the ERA, generously supported by the University Association of Contemporary European Studies (UACES). She is also an active member of the ‘Voice of the Researchers’ multipliers group, seeking to bridge the gap between grassroots researchers and the policy level in ERA policy-making processes. Diana has spoken widely at major European science policy events over the past year, and has recently organised her own workshop in Brussels in conjunction with ‘Science Business’ to highlight the need for value-driven innovation in Europe.

Title: Globalisation and the Values of European Science: A New Ethical Charter for European Research

Abstract: The growing importance of research and innovation in European society raises ever more pressing questions of values and ethics. Today, the realisation that European society faces many global ‘grand challenges’ that can only be met by evidence-based scientific research coupled with acceptance by society at large, has meant that Europe’s political leaders are rapidly having to acknowledge the vital importance of the ‘big’ ethical questions to the future of Europe’s research agenda. For instance, what is more important: supporting excellent research wherever it may be, or maintaining principles of equality and fairness in the distribution of research funding? Is the primary purpose of European research to generate knowledge, or to create jobs and promote economic growth in the quest for global competitiveness? What responsibility, if any, do researchers and their funders have to ensure their work is used for the good of society – in Europe and beyond? There are many more such questions and, as the first calls for proposals for the ‘Horizon 2020’ framework programme begin in January 2014, their urgency will inevitably rise for academic researchers, corporate labs, as well as public-sector funders. At issue here are the broader values of European science and research, not merely its economic or social value. This paper will therefore explore the need for a new ethical charter for European research and propose new standards for European science policy, drawing upon a range of key issue clusters and encouraging a value-driven approach to European innovation for a globalising world.
Panel 14 - Film Screening
Occupy Turkey: Resistance in Baseworld

Amy Austin Holmes, Director
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Panel 15 - Borders of Identity and Culture
Chair - Amy Hodges, Texas A&M University at Qatar

Alexandra Deliu
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**Title:** Transforming Social Borders: Ethnicity at Home and Abroad

**Abstract:** Ethnicity is one of the most used criteria that accounts for differentiating between categories of persons. The understandings of the concept vary from a rather positivist stance, where it is seen as a given, to constructivist perspectives that treat it as social construction and a matter of performativity. In this paper, the case under scrutiny is that of Romanian citizens of Roma ethnic origin who migrated for work in Spain in the period after 1989. The analysis is based on qualitative fieldwork carried in the summer of 2012 in Săcăa, a commune situated in the Southern region of Romania, as part of a broader research funded by the Soros Foundation Romania. This study offers an analysis of the dynamics of ethnicity, by looking at how this category is put to work in two distinct contexts: the community at home, and the destination. Its objective is to show, by relying on interview transcripts and research notes, how ethnicity is a fluid social border whose meaning is constructed in specific social situations shaped by migration as an event that exposes individuals to distinct social spaces with distinct social orders and daily practices. Moreover, I examine the situatedness of self-identifications in conjunction with broader community perception of this particular ethnic group, the Roma, and, in this framework, I analyze the narrative presentation of self, characteristic to Roma migrants, going back and forth between ‘filthy gypsies’ and ‘hard workers’.

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**Brief Bio:** Martin Mühlheim teaches English Literature at the University of Zurich, Switzerland. His research interests include narrative fiction and narratology, intertextuality and genre, and the concepts of collective memory and identity. He is particularly interested in how gender, ethnicity, and class intersect in literary texts, i.e. in the question how politics and ideology relate to (and are shaped by) fictional texts. Further interests include the theory of adaptation, the concepts of irony and metafiction, and quantitative formalism (i.e. distant reading). Martin Mühlheim’s most recent publications are an essay on the role of pastoral discourse in Annie Proulx’s “Brokeback Mountain” as well as an article on traces of colonial history in Zurich. The topic of his PhD thesis is “Fictions of Home: Narrative, Alienation, and Belonging, 1850–2000” (submitted December 2013).

**Title:** Zurich in Anglophone Literatures

**Abstract:** Fascinated by the sublime landscapes of the Alps, the English Romantics produced a substantial body of imaginative literature set in Switzerland [e.g. Mary Shelley’s Frankenstein: or, The Modern Prometheus]. Zurich, however, remained a marginal literary space throughout the long nineteenth century, and it was only in subsequent decades that this particular Swiss town was gradually incorporated into the global imaginary constructed by Anglophone cultures. The present paper charts the details of this literary historical development in order to address three main questions: (a) How, if at all, can we conceptualize the link between literary historical trends, on the one hand, and economic as well as political developments on the other? (b) To what extent is it possible to interpret those phenomena that are not represented in the corpus under study? (c) Which theoretical and methodological tools are likely to prove useful for researchers from other disciplines (e.g. history or political theory)? In addressing these questions, the paper seeks to demonstrate that literary historical research of the kind advocated by Franco Moretti in Atlas of the European Novel (1997), Graphs, Maps, Trees (2005) and Distant Reading (2013) may enhance our understanding of how one particular socio-political formation – sometimes problematically described as the Anglosphere – incorporates foreign lands into its cultural imaginary: a hegemonic space characterized both by global interconnectedness and by complex symbolic inequalities.

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**Brief Bio:** Oana Fotache Dubalaru is Associate Professor of Literary Theory at the University of Bucharest (Romania). Ph.D. in literary theory (2006). She has taught courses and published on modern literary theory, comparative literature, and exile studies. Her recent publications include: Intermitent Heritage [in Romanian; University of Bucharest Press, 2013]; “How to Write a Comparative History of Romanian Literature. On the Effects of the Foreign Gaze upon the Image of a ‘Very’ National Literature”, in I. Both, A. Saracgil, A. Tarantino (a cura di), Storia, identità e canoni letterari [Firenze University Press, 2013]; “Postcards from Europe. Representations of (Western) Europe in Romanian Travel Writings, 1960-2010”, forthcoming in M. DeCoste, D. MacDonald, R. Kilbourn (eds.), Europe in its Own Eyes/ In the Eyes of the Other [Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 2010].
Title: Reframing Exile Literature in the Global Age: The Romanian Case

Abstract: One of the burdens of literary historiography in the Eastern European communist countries had been the issue of exile literature. The fact that some of the modern writers that used to be considered part of the national tradition chose to live abroad and sometimes to write in another language was difficult to acknowledge and deal with in a highly controlled literary/cultural field. After 1989, with the fall of communism in Eastern Europe and in the wake of cultural and economic globalization, the whole scope and significance of exile literature suddenly changed. One may even speak of the "disappearance" of traditional exile, as many writers returned physically or through their writings, position takings etc., in their countries of origin. At the same time, new routes of internationalization have been taken: the phenomenon of migrant writing, the explosion of translation through state- or private-funded programs, a.s.o. In this context, when literature is no longer discussed in terms of national channels of legitimation, exile literature could be framed in two different ways: as an instance of a common tradition and an argument for the existence of a European/world literature in its own right (as Pascale Casanova or John Neubauer have argued, among others); and as a historicized literary category that still has to find its place within its “original” (national) tradition (whence the topics of reintegration, canon revision etc.). My paper proposes a discussion of these complex issues by taking Romanian exile literature as a case study, and looks into the paradigm shift that occurred around the 1989 political/cultural node.

Liviu Papadima
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Title: Go North, but Stay South

Abstract: My paper is based on the assumption that our identities, both the individual and the collective ones, are essentially dynamic, not static. And, by being dynamic, they have always a double temporal determination. Torn apart between our memories and our desires, between our oblivion and our frustration, we construe our identities in permanently asking the same pair of questions: “Where am I coming from?” and “Where am I going to?” It has been repeatedly said that our contemporary world is striving to find the proper balance between the increasing pressure of the global and the protective environment of the local – the so-called “glocalization”. In my view, once again, neither “the global”, nor “the local” are static entities. They can rather be understood as spatial projections of the above mentioned questions, as the metaphor of the road would suggest. To a certain extent, they are both a matter of choice, of self determination. I will briefly illustrate my point with an overview of the evolution of Romanian culture since the beginning of its “Modern Age”, in the 19th century, up to present times, in relation to the equally geopolitical and symbolical topos called “Europe”. In short, one can characterize the Romanian modernity – and postmodernity – as the passage from “Go West, but stay East” to “Go North, but stay South”. I will draw my examples mainly from the arts – especially literature – and more or less “local” cultural theories. Although I will refer to a particular case, I am convinced that my view can be relevant for the situation of many other cultures.
Panel 16 - Religion and Social Change
Chair – Albert Broussard, Texas A&M University at Qatar

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Brief Bio: Dana Holland has a joint-PhD in education and sociology from the University of Pennsylvania and a Master’s degree in Anthropology from the University of Maryland. She has spent the last five years in Afghanistan, where she was an Assistant Professor of Social Science at the American University of Afghanistan for nearly four years. Currently she is working as the Strategy and Policy Education Consultant on a British-funded project for the Afghan Ministry of Interior Affairs. Previously she conducted research and evaluation, provided training, and supported development projects in Malawi, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Qatar, and the US. She has a number of published works in the areas of education policy, higher education, and youth.

Mohammad Hussain Yousofi
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Brief Bio: Mohammad Hussain Yousofi is co-founder and director of Star Educational Society, an educational institution that comprises a private high school and four branches of English language centers that currently serve four thousand students in Kabul, Afghanistan. Raised in Pakistan due to conflict in Afghanistan, Hussain now lives in Kabul where he graduated from the American University of Afghanistan in 2012 with a BA in Political Science and Public Administration. Until recently, he worked as associate educational policy consultant for the project Strategic Support to the Ministry of Interior Affairs, Afghanistan, which is funded by the British government and managed by Coffey International Development. Since 2011, Hussain has served as the senior research assistant on research related to Afghan youth, and is co-author of “The Only Solution: Education, Family, and Social Change in Afghanistan” which will soon be published by Anthropology & Education Quarterly. Next year, Hussain hopes to pursue a Master’s degree in education policy and management.

Title: Contending Modern Futures: Key Contentions in the Views of Educated Youth about Contemporary Social Change in Afghanistan

Abstract: While much of the world sees Afghanistan as somehow stuck in the medieval ages, with social life largely determined by religion, since the overthrow of the Taliban in 2001 there has been an influx of global influences, surge in transnational connections, and much resulting social change. The goal of my presentation is to examine perceptions about these changes among Afghan youth pursuing higher education, a group who by definition will play leadership roles in their families, qawms (solidarity networks), and society more generally. I especially focus on divergences among youths’ perspectives that evidence contending fault lines in projections about Afghanistan’s future. In focusing on the points and terms of debate, I highlight how global/transnational influences are figuring into a field of contention about the future. And while international discourses about Afghanistan would likely anticipate a clean line-up of values consistent with pro- and anti-Taliban views, findings based on over 100 interviews with educated Afghan youth and media tracking show more complication and less easily anticipatable lines of debate. A central question related to Afghanistan broached in the presentation is therefore the likelihood that recent Western-introduced changes will “stick,” or instead go the way of the receding Western military and donor presence. Theoretically, the central question in the presentation concerns understanding modernity—and real life conflicts over its configuration—in the context of globalization. In so doing I critique the modern-tradition dichotomy, and instead draw on anthropological and sociological literature on globalization and “multiple modernities.”

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Brief Bio: Bettina Koch is an Associate Professor at Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University. Before coming to VPI&SU, she taught at Carl von Ossietzky University Oldenburg, Germany. Her research interests focus on the history of political thought, particularly medieval and early modern political theory, and comparative political theory, focusing on the comparison of Western and Middle Eastern/Islamic political concepts. One further research interest is the influence of religion on politics and the interaction between the two. At present, Dr. Koch works on a book manuscript on religious justifications of political violence in the Islamic and Christian traditions and contemporary discourses. Dr. Koch is author of Zur Dis-/Kontinuität mittelalterlichen politischen Denkens in der neuzzeitlichen politischen Theory: Marsilius von Padua, Johannes Althusius und Thomas Hobbes im Vergleich (Duncker & Humblot 2005). She also published articles on late medieval and early modern Western political theory as well as on contemporary and premorden Islamic political thought. Her most recent publications are "Priestly Despotism: The Problem of Unruly Clerics in Marsilius of Padua’s Defender Pacts," Journal of Religious History 36, No. 2 (2012), "Church and State in Marsilius’s Writings,” in Compendium to Marsilius of Padua, ed. Cary J. Nederman and Gerson Moreno-Riaño (Leiden: Brill, 2012), "Religious Freedom and Majority Rule Marsilius of Padua “on” Abdullahi Ahmed an-Na’im and the “Secular” Islamic State,” Politics & Religion 6, No. 1 (2013).

Title: Liberation Theologies and Periphery Ethics

Abstract: In Islamic Liberation Theology: Resisting the Empire (2008), Hamid Dabashi claims that Islamic ideology of the last 200 years as well as Latin American liberation theology does not offer an adequate response for challenging empire under twenty-first century conditions. This paper
is appreciative of Dabashi’s general project and explicitly agrees with him that replacing the oppression of old colonial or new colonial powers, whether they are nations or manifestations of global capital, by the oppression of a (totalitarian) religious ideology does not solve any problems, but creates just new ones. For Dabashi, the “worst aspect of Islamic ideology was its persistent reliance on Islamic Law (Shari’ah), the consequences of which for a free and democratic society is simply catastrophic, for it mutates the free and autonomous citizen of a potential republic into the legal subjects of a medieval jurisdiction” (263). Contrary to Dabashi, the paper argues that both, Islamic ideology as it has been developed in response to European colonialism as well as Latin American liberation theology has ideas to offer that allow for a new ideology that fulfills the most significant aspects of Dabashi’s demands: being liberating and being part of a global conversation. For this purpose, this paper draws chiefly on Ignacio Ellacuría and ‘Ali Shari’ati (and al-Afghani). The paper takes the approach of an imaginary dialogue. It aims for response to twenty-first century’s ethical challenges of new manifestations of domination.

Lars Berger
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Title: Between Local, National, and Global Islam: The Impact of Religious Guidance on Political Attitudes among European Muslims

Abstract: This paper contributes to the growing body of literature examining possible correlates of Muslim public opinion on issues of political and academic salience. Utilizing a dataset produced as part of a representative multi-country PEW survey, the analysis presented here offers a cross-country comparison of possible correlates of European Muslim public opinion on political violence and on changes to Islam as practiced and understood among European Muslims including the changing public and private roles of women. The data gathered by PEW is unique in the sense that it also includes information on where respondents receive their religious guidance from. This includes religious guidance obtained locally from religious authorities at a local mosque, nationally from representatives of the newly emerging groups seeking to represent Muslim minorities in individual European countries as well as globally from religious personalities offering advice on transnational TV stations or websites and established religious authorities in countries such as Egypt and Saudi Arabia. The statistical analysis unveils stark differences between Muslim public opinion in the United Kingdom, France, Germany, and Spain with regard to the relevance of various forms of religious guidance in explaining political and social attitudes. The finding that Muslim public opinion on salient political issues differs depending on the local, national or global location of religious guidance has important implications for the future study of Muslim public opinion, of differences between organized and individualized manifestations of religion as well as of the transnational exchanges of religious and political ideas brought about by the processes of globalization.
Panel 17 - Cross-Cultural Interactions and Democratic Institutions
Chair - James Rogers, Texas A&M University at Qatar

Adriana Marinescu
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Brief Bio: Adriana Marinescu has a PhD in Political Science, delivered by the Paris East University. She holds a MA in Political Science at the same university and a BA certification in Cultural Anthropology, at Bordeaux 2 University - Victor Segalen, France. Her current interests include political discourse analysis, political anthropology and the interconnection between religion and politics. She has also published articles on cultural heroes, the relationship between Self and Other and the Romanian political myths.

Title: The Meaning of Democracy
Abstract: To say that we live today in a globalized world is no longer a mere sentence, but a value statement. It entails exchanges, communication and influences, that often prove to act in a disbalanced way. Most of the terms describing this status quo have been invented in the Western culture and have been “exchanged” as ideas or “traded” as currencies for progress. Such an example is the concept of democracy, a worldwide currency that measures the success of a civilization in terms of the political behavior of the people. From the classical “rule of the people” to that of the citizens granted with the right to vote, from the equal participation to the freedom it promises, democracy seems to be an all-comprising notion, ready for media and political use. But, besides the meaning assigned to it by political theory, the “substance” of this concept is that given by the people’s understanding and representation of it - the one which they experience in day to day life. Be it a ‘one size fit-all’ significance or carved to match an ever-changing reality, it can fundamentally shape our social relationships and networks. This paper is an attempt to reflect on the effects of the ‘adoption’ of democracy (by means of embracing or imposing it) in different parts of the world. It will also try to account for the consequent changes in the social dynamics and the social representations of Self and Other in the ‘democratic’ societies.

Hamza Jehangir
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Title: Politics of Islamic Revivalism: Religion, State and Democracy

Brief Bio: Hamza Bin Jehangir is working on a National Priorities Research Project (NPRP) on Professional Ethics in an Inter-Civilizational Perspective. He assists on the following courses; Engineering Ethics, Asian Politics, American National Government. His areas of interest include Ethics and Globalization, Post-colonial theory, Islamic fundamentalist thought, and Non-western political thought.

Rashmika Pandya
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Brief Bio: Rashmika Pandya graduated with a PhD in Philosophy from McMaster University in Canada in 2008 and has since worked as an adjunct with a focus on Bioethics at Trent University in Canada and for the last four and a half years as an Assistant Professor at the American University in Cairo in the the Department of Philosophy. Pandya’s work in the past has focused predominantly on the Phenomenological tradition with a focus on Ethics and Identity politics. Her recent research echoes these interests but has been broaden to include issues of suffering, violence and trauma in both the Continental Philosophical tradition(s), as well as more traditional ethical traditions, in particular utilitarianism, which seems to predominate the way politics and ethical discourse is practised today. Her work also incorporates an interdisciplinary approach that appropriates ideas from feminist and queer theory, cultural studies with a focus on colonization and decolonization, anthropology, psychology and political and social theory. She has published works on Maurice Merleau-Ponty ("The Borderlands of Identity and Difference", in Intertwinnings: Interdisciplinary Encounters with Merleau-Ponty, Ed. Gail Weiss, Suny Press, 2008), Emmanuelle Levinas ( "Sensibility and Subjectivity: Levina’s Traumatic Subject", Santalka 2010; 18(1): 5-15) and on the philosophy of Emmanuelle Levinas and Jean-Luc Marion in relation to violence and trauma (Suffering in Silence: Emmanuel Levinas and Jean-Luc Marion on Suffering, Understanding and Language, in On: An Interdisciplinary Dialogue on Narrative and the Meaning of Suffering, Eds. Nate Hinerman and Matthew Sutton, London: Inter-Disciplinary Press, 2013). Pandya also has two articles under review at the moment (The Cartesian Origins of Self-Affection in Jean-Luc Marion’s Saturated Phenomena and Jean-Luc Marion, Saturated Phenomena, Suffering and Violence), as well as a manuscript in progress (The Self Undone: Marion’s Saturated Phenomena, Violence and Trauma).

Title: Whose Truth?: Truth and Reconciliation Commissions from a Philosophical Perspective
Abstract: This paper discusses varied views on the notion of reconciliation commissions focusing on an article by American Philosopher Alphonso Lingis dealing specifically with the joint UN—Cambodia Khmer Rouge Trials (“Truth in Reconciliation). Lingis offers an interesting criticism of a particularly Western European notion of truth that permeates international legal practice. By juxtaposing Lingis’s perspective against a varied and interdisciplinary group of thinkers I aim a criticism at the heart of Truth and Reconciliation Commissions and particularly the role of the UN as “objective” arbitrator in acting as middle-man in such commissions (i.e., Heidegger, Arjun Appadurai, Judith Butler, Jacques Derrida, Franz Fanon and Sartre). Along with Lingis I call for a more nuanced notion of what counts as “Truth” in cases of such extreme violence and chaos, however, I, unlike Lingis, also acknowledge that reparation can be a necessary part of healing, while still agreeing with Lingis that we would want to think deeply on what it is reparation is return to victims.

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Brief Bio: Joseph Daniel Ura is Associate Professor, Director of Undergraduate Studies, and Director of the American Politics Program in the Department of Political Science at Texas A&M University in College Station. His research principally addresses American national government and politics, especially the United States Supreme Court and macropolitical responsiveness and representation. He teaches courses on American government, judicial politics, and constitutional law. Professor Ura completed his B.A. and M.A. in Political Science at George Washington University in Washington, D.C., and he earned his Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Title: Global Migration and the Legitimacy of Democratic Institutions: The Case of Latinos and the United States Supreme Court

Abstract: The United Nations estimates that over 200 million people—more than three percent of the world’s population—live outside their country of origin. Many of these immigrants have left developing countries with more limited histories of democratic governance for more developed nations with more strongly established democracies. As a result, many developed countries are now home to substantial numbers of long-term residents who were socialized into foreign political cultures and who may therefore lack civic knowledge which is essential for the preservation of institutional legitimacy and government stability. Understanding how and under what circumstances immigrant communities with roots in undemocratic or democratizing political cultures develop a sense of the legitimacy of governing institutions in established democracies is important for preserving civil order and government stability. To investigate these processes, we consider the case of the Latino community in the United States and assess the extent to which this community with close connections to the immigrant experience exhibits a link between knowledge of the United States Supreme Court and expressions of support for the Court’s legitimacy. Using original survey data, we find that Latinos have lower levels of knowledge about the Supreme Court than other Americans of otherwise similar backgrounds and, further, that the link between political knowledge and legitimacy is weaker for Latinos than other Americans. These results illustrate a challenge for countries with large foreign-born communities and suggest positive policy interventions to promote the legitimacy of governing institutions among new arrivals to established democratic states.
Panel 18 - Perspectives on the Global South
Chair - Andrej Zwitter, University of Groningen

Sanee Sajjad
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Brief Bio: Sanee Sajjad completed MSc in Development Studies from School of Oriental & African Studies, London with the class of 2013. The academic interests include Theory of Development, History and Evolution of Development in Global South with regional focus on South Asia, and Political Economy of Agricultural Development in colonial and post-colonial Punjab. The current research interest and work in progress relates to the nature of Social Capital that exists in different parts of Punjab and its impact on the political/democratic development in the respective regions. It takes into account the role of decentralisation through Local Government Reform under Musharraf’s era in the social and infrastructural development of the different regions of Punjab i.e. north and south.

Title: Marginalization of Small Farmers and Food [In]Security in Global South as a Result of Economic Liberalisation under Globalisation

Abstract: In the current era of globalisation there has been an increasing emphasis on economic liberalisation in the Less Developed countries (LDCs) of global south. Economic liberalisation had an adverse impact on the global south economically and socially. As a result of globalisation, of which economic liberalisation is a major pillar, the governments of LDCs could not maintain subsidies and protectionist policies for the marginal sectors of the economy such as small farmers. This meant lower prices for agriculture commodities and high prices for the inputs. Resultantly, the returns from agriculture for small farmers continued to decline to a point that they were insufficient to satisfy farmers’ subsistence requirements. Lack of government expenditure on rural development under liberalisation discouraged private investment in non farm sectors thus depriving the rural population of non farm employment opportunities. Such circumstances led to rural to urban migration. These factors combine to put an inflationary pressure on food prices which, according to FAO, is the biggest cause of food insecurity in the world. This paper argues that the state has an inevitable role to play in regulating the markets and protecting the small farmers against the widely prevailing market imperfections. In addition, rising number of hinger stricken population despite availability of sufficient food, due to unequal distribution under global neo liberal economic framework, demands state intervention in order to be curtailed. Once these problems are addressed only then shall large scale development and economic growth be sustainable in the LDCs.

Caroline Ambiaux
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Title: Globalisation Effects: The Example of Chinese Investment in Africa

Abstract: In 2006, the Chinese government announced its ‘going out strategy’; this strategy involved increasing its presence on the African continent and more precisely providing a market for Chinese products, improving resource security, enabling technology transfer, and promoting research and development. After foreign investment being poured into China, the country is in its turn investing abroad. This paper will show that there are a variety of ways China is investing on the African continent. There is a need to go beyond general statements of ‘China in Africa’ and observe specific cases of Chinese foreign investment. This paper will use the case of Zambian copper mines as a specific example and look at the effects of investment in these mines. It is argued that there is a need to consider the recipients of this investment, namely the Zambian workers and the Zambian government. Firstly, the Zambian government had to privatise its most valuable export and they still currently see very little amounts of royalties returning to them, by all newly privatised mines. Secondly, the working conditions in the Chinese-led mines especially and lack of social benefits aren’t to the advantage of workers. By first showing the variety of forms of investment and then showing what investment looks like in the Chinese-led copper mines, this paper will show that there is room for improvement for China on how it affects workers and Zambia.

Joris Leverink
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Brief Bio: Joris Leverink has studied cultural anthropology and political economy. After finishing his bachelors in Amsterdam he travelled the world for the better part of two years, before continuing with his master's degree at SOAS, University of London. In London he studied Political Economy of Violence, Conflict and Development, with a special interest in sub-Saharan Africa. His thesis focused on the politico-economic background of the recent conflict in Mali, a country that mesmerized him ever since he visited the place in 2011. Joris currently lives in Istanbul, where he tries to pursue a career in journalism. He is also a freelance writer whose political analyses have been published on a number of blogs, and in several newspapers.
Title: The Visible Hand is Holding a Spade

Abstract: Despite different perspectives on how late industrialization should be promoted, analyses of late development all agree on the key role played by industries in economic growth. This paper discusses the statement that ‘the prospects of late industrialization without effective state intervention are poor.’ It is claimed that throughout history most successful periods of industrialization have been characterized by profound state involvement. This paper focuses on the different interpretations of these historical facts and analyses to what extent these have influenced the policy decisions made by developing countries today. The process of globalisation and the integration of late developing countries into a global economic system have on the one hand facilitated economic growth and development of these states, and on the other hand they have severely obstructed these processes. Late developers are able to tap into a pool of knowledge, experience and technological innovation that was not available to those who trotted the path of development before them. However, this also means that by opening up their borders to goods and services from more developed countries, late developers face a competition that is nearly impossible to compete with. In this paper, special attention is paid to the East Asian countries that have seen rapid development in the past decades in contrast to the majority of African countries that have lagged behind. It is argued that a key role is reserved for the agricultural sector in making development sustainable, poverty-alleviating, and broad-based.

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Brief Bio: Micol Doris Silberberg is a dual Italian and USA citizen, who recently graduated from SOAS University in London, where she earned a Master of Science in Development Studies. She worked in Lisbon, Portugal for an NGO promoting active citizenship for immigrants and which encourages poor youngsters and teenagers away from idling on the streets through activities like street football training. She has a degree in Political Science – International Studies from the University of Bologna and spent a year abroad studying at Sciences Po Rennes in France. She has a particular empathy towards those who are most vulnerable and live in difficult realities, such as migrants. She is currently teaching English in Milan, Italy to adults, teenagers and children. She loves travelling and learning new languages. She has comic strip drawing skills and an active interest in photography and cinema.

Title: International Migration and Transnational Identities: Views from Cape Verdean Descendants in the Metropolitan Area of Lisbon

Abstract: In this paper, I propose a literature review of the competing theories regarding international migration, while keeping in mind the present era of globalisation that modifies some unidirectional paradigms that were previously taken for granted. New patterns of mobility bring along the emergence of transnational identities within migrants and their descendants. This theoretical background helps to better understand my focus. My case-study concerns Cape Verdeans descendants living in Lisbon and their sense of belonging to both their home country and Portugal. I conducted fieldwork in Lisbon in order to investigate to what extent they feel Cape Verdean and Portuguese by means of culture, identity or both. My findings overall show a positive trend of Cape Verdean integration in the Portuguese mainstream society, notwithstanding the fact that many of them are not allowed Portuguese citizenship, preventing them from feeling completely integrated and fostering a confrontational identity that might worsen already existing stigmas about them. Many Cape Verdean descendants however are developing transnational identities that go beyond nation-state restrictions, along with the ease of communication and high speed transportation in the current era of globalisation.
Panel 19 - Students, Faculty, and Home Culture
Chair - Mysti Rudd, Texas A&M University at Qatar

Andy Trevathan
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Brief Bio: Andy Trevathan is a PhD Candidate (ABD) in the department of English at the University of Arkansas. Her dissertation centers on the poet, Ezra Pound, and the concept of exile and its influence upon the evolution of Pound’s poetry. Her secondary emphasis is in Composition and Rhetoric where she focuses upon issues of emergent literacies, and the development of struggling writers to successfully enter the academic discourse community. She received her Masters of English with distinction from the University of Tulsa in 2008, and graduated Cum Laude from Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, Texas in 2006 where she majored in English, and was a McNair scholar. Ms. Trevathan began college as an Engineering major focusing upon Piping and Process Design. Prior to academia, Ms. Trevathan worked in the private sector where she was a Public Relations coordinator for an international software company, and was responsible for writing press releases, technical documents, and article placements for technical and industry magazines. Before software and public relations, she worked in the Oil & Gas, Petrochemical, and Engineering industries. She was the sales and marketing coordinator for a major subsea engineering company, and worked as an executive assistant for a major downhole drilling company where she also conducted corporate training seminars for engineers and edited engineering papers and proposals. Her path to higher education was not a straight, smooth road; she excels in helping others negotiate their own path to education. Teaching (and mentoring) is a passion.

Title: The Globalization of Poetry in the 21st Century
Abstract: Poetry has been a staple of literature and readers for hundreds of years; although, we now see a significant decline of poetic offerings in mainstream publications and large-scale booksellers within the global marketplace. It appears that poetry has withdrawn to the academy. Yet poetry, and the teaching of poetry, is often considered unsuitable for college students in more technical fields because it tends to be considered inaccessible and not one of the hard sciences. Additionally, it relies upon a core group of supporters to be the buyers and consumers of poetry in the global economy. This core group seems to be primarily composed of persons within the academy whose interests overlap with that of teaching. If this is indeed so, how can poetry successfully intersect with higher education and consumers of poetry, particularly if we fail to teach poetry in the college classroom? Many university students are not often afforded the possibility of studying poetry, especially if they are specializing in the technical or scientific fields. Most courses devoted to the analysis or writing of poetry are typically special topics or upper-level courses geared toward literature majors. Poetry is frequently phased out of current composition courses. How can, and why should, poetry figure into the equation when students have more technical and specialized majors? This project will explore and discuss the pedagogy of poetry, and the implications of using poetry to teach critical thinking, creativity, and composition in the global educational community.

Jeannie Waller
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Brief Bio: Jeannie Waller is the director of the Sam M. Walton College of Business Writing Center. She earned an MA in Comparative Literature Cultural Studies from the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. In addition, she is working towards earning a PhD in English from the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville with an emphasis in Rhetoric, Composition, and Literacy. Her research areas are technical writing and ESL learners. Her goals for the 2013-2014 school year is to increase faculty and student awareness and acceptance of World English/Englishes, and to finish the last hurdles of earning her PhD.

Title: Communicating with a Global Perspective: The Importance of Audience Awareness
Abstract: Because technology has increased the possibility of business men and women across the globe to negotiate the world marketplace, universities are now focusing on increasing the marketability and competitive edge of their students. In order to provide this edge, business colleges nationwide are addressing strategies to improve their students’ communication skills. Writing is complicated and writing for an international audience increases the complexity above writing clearly, concisely, and coherently. Additionally, instant communication via the internet has complicated rather than simplified international communication because of the convenience of technology’s point and click system. International communicators must exercise unique writing skills that display an understanding of a variety of people from a variety of countries. Now more than ever, students are being taught to hone their communication skills and one of the most important means for students’ success is by encouraging writing in the disciplines. At the Sam M. Walton College of Business, faculty and instructors are being encouraged to attack the communication problem of their students by taking into consideration the rhetorical stance (audience, purpose, and intended effect) of all types of writing. Attacking Business College writing in terms of audience, purpose, and intended effect provides the students with a realistic international writing situation. In this paper, I will discuss the importance of teaching writing in terms of writing convention and as well as rhetorical stance. This paper will address the cultural and professional aspects of technical writing.
Eve Baldwin  
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**Brief Bio:** Eve Baldwin teaches writing and rhetoric as part of the new Writing and Critical Inquiry Program at the University at Albany. Her courses focus on the intersection of culture and the intellectual process of discovery and inquiry, built on topics like American consumerism and gaming and the digital realm. Her current research looks at the experience of religious students in the first year composition classroom.

**Title:** Looking back, Looking Forward: Bringing Home Culture to Play in the College Classroom  
**Abstract:** In times of trouble or stress, cultural groups draw strength from their most essential characteristics. This was seen in the resurgence of American patriotism after September 11, 2001 or the triumphant rise of the British spirit during the German bombing of London during WWII. We become who we are most when we face difficulty. Moving to the college classroom: Research (and common sense) shows us that the first year of college is a traumatic time in students' lives. They are facing new living assignments, work loads, social circles, financial pressures… there is undoubtedly great upheaval. When we look at students, we must understand that they are navigating a new identity, and that attempting to find this identity is a difficult and sometimes dangerous thing. As students do this, they have a tendency to fall back on what they know and find familiar – their home culture. Those who teach may, within the first week, find themselves in a room with thirty students actively manifesting elements of their home identities in ways that may be unnecessary to the work at hand or – worse – disruptive or disrespectful. The paper argues teachers may make use of this by developing assignments that appeal to ideas of cultural ownership. Students who feel a sense of pride in their home identities will have confidence in writing about these and will produce more quality written products which, in turn, may alleviate some of their apprehension about the overall college experience. There are a variety of textual methods to complete this task including pure written tasks such as narrative or research papers, oral reports, or digital creations.

Mohanalakshmi Rajakumar  
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**Brief Bio:** Mohanalakshmi Rajakumar has a PhD in Literature from the University of Florida. Her research interests include gender and postcolonial literature. Mohana has published articles and chapters in a variety of academic journals including *The South Asian Review* and *The Annals of Urdu Studies*. Her first book, *Haram in the Harem* (2009, Peter Lang), is a study of subversive use of Indian and Algerian women's domestic fiction by female writers. She has written an overview of the origins of hip hop culture in America, *Hip Hop (the American Dance Floor)* (2012, Greenwood). She has also been recognized for her fictional work, *Love Comes Later* the first novel in English set in Qatar, (2012 Amazon). The novel is the winner of the Best Indie Book Award 2013, short listed for the Festival of Romance New Talent Award, and finalist in Best Novel category for the eFestival of Words. Her non-fiction work has also been published in *Variety Arabia*, *Brownbook Middle East*, *AudioFile Magazine*, *Explore Qatar: Woman Today*, *The Woman, Writers and Artists Yearbook*, *QatarClick*, and *Qatar Explorer*. Mohana teaches writing and literature courses at Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar. You can read more about her work on her website: www.mohanalakshmi.com.

**Title:** Designers Have to Take Writing Classes?  
**Abstract:** Among colleagues and students, the reaction to the liberal arts requirements in the curriculum of non-English majors is mixed. Students are resistant to assignments, which they perceive as being unrelated to their majors: “I don’t see why I have to read a novel as a design major,” a first year student commented. The congruence of these attitudes presents a complex learning environment, both for the faculty member and the student learner. Many faculty acknowledge that they take the second language context into consideration when grading assignments. Even so, they may not always be aware of the dependence upon Arabic for many of their students. Thompson-Panos and Thomas-Ruzic (1983) explain this as a “phenomenon of diglossia” or two languages where classical Arabic and spoken Arabic are distinct forms with the latter being the first language for most native Arabic speakers. This presentation will explore the environment of VCUQatar, where Arab students are expected to preform like their counterparts on the North American home campus, using student examples of writing and course design for two core curriculum courses.
Panel 20 - Ethics and Transformation in Global Women’s Issues
Chair - Nancy Small, Texas A&M University at Qatar

Amanda K. Booher
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Title: ‘Miss Landmine’: Ethics and Cultural Framing of Global Disability and Prosthetics
Abstract: In the US, media coverage of advanced prosthetics devices focuses on the positive potentials of these devices and the posthuman, cyborgian future. This paper considers the ethics of these issues in a global context, particularly examining civilian needs for and access to prosthetics in war-torn countries, and social/cultural responses.

Belinda G. Amaya
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Title: A Brief Examination of Changing Views on the Cultural Practice of Bride Price
Abstract: The practice of Bride Price in PNG has deep cultural roots and is historically seen as a significant part of PNG’s mutual obligation system. Often misunderstood by “outsiders” more recent online conversations show even nationals are beginning to question its role in the [mis]treatment of PNG women. Is globalisation responsible?

Russell Kirkscey
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Title: Shared Decision Making and Empathetic Rhetoric in Biomedicine
Abstract: This paper extends biomedical decision making to include empathetic rhetoric, a framework equal to traditional masculine argumentation strategies in biomedicine. Empathic rhetoric may assist in shifting healthcare communication possibilities toward more satisfactory means and decreasing the exportation of Westernized biomedical constructs to developing countries.

Laura E. Cunningham
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Brief Bio: Laura Cunningham works as an Administrative Law Judge for the Montana Department of Revenue, hearing and rendering written decisions concerning tax and liquor cases. I also work as a mediator, working to facilitate resolution of tax and liquor disputes between the Department and the public. Before I began this work I taught composition, literature, and developmental English at universities in Alaska and Montana, United States. Although I am currently on extended maternity leave from my program, I am a doctoral student, seeking a PhD in rhetoric and technical communication at Texas Tech University. My research interests and areas of expertise include rhetorical mediation in government agencies, interdisciplinary communication practices, the ethos of policy and decision-making in institutional organizations, and feminist legal theory with respect to post-conflict decision-making in the United Nations. I am married with three children, and enjoy many outdoor activities with my family, such as camping, hiking, and skiing. I also enjoy reading historical fiction, cooking, and running.

Title: Putting Policies into Practice: Feminist Participation in a Global Institution
Abstract: How do feminist critique and activism intersect to influence and contest UN conflict resolution efforts? This paper explores how recent passage of four ‘gender mainstreaming’ UN Security Council resolutions underscore both the positive outcomes of women’s participation in international law, and the negative effects of the UN’s selective engagement with feminist ideas and goals.