

Political Science and International Relations



April 2021 Newsletter

Spring 2021 Dates

April 19-22

**Registration Week for
Fall and Summer
Classes: Contact your
Advisors NOW**

April 15

**Mind, Body, Spirit Day
(formerly Tax Day!)**

April 19

**LAS Without Limits Panel
(details inside)**

April 22

Earth Day

April 29

Last Day to elect an S/U

April 29

Last Day of Classes

May 5-May 11

Final Exam Period

May 15

**Undergraduate Commencement
College of Liberal Arts (PSIR)**

We are in the home stretch, with the last day of classes scheduled for April 29 this year, and finals shortly thereafter. That said, April is a busy month, with registration for summer and fall semester, a number of great virtual events to enjoy, and graduation plans...still in process. **Those of you who are planning to take the fall senior seminar in international relations MUST CONTACT our administrative assistant, Jen Freer (freerj@newpaltz.edu), to get on the list to receive electronic permission to register for the class.** Seniors expecting to graduate in December 2021 will have first priority. Continue inside for the latest news, and reminders about upcoming dates/deadlines of importance.

If you have any questions about the PSIR Department, please feel free to email me and we can set up a zoom session to talk about your program of study and any concerns you have in trying to plan your next moves, at dowleyk@newpaltz.edu.

Kathleen Dowley, Associate Professor and Chair, PSIR

Local Summer Internship Opportunity:

Policy Research Intern for State Senator Mike Martucci (R: 42nd)

Senator Martucci is welcoming students to come learn how to apply policy to community issues.

Interns will be researching a topic of their choosing, guided through research and process by Senate Staff.

Each student will have a chance to present their findings and recommendations to Senator Martucci. Your research may even result in a new law!

In order to apply, please submit your resume and a cover letter detailing the topic you would like to research during the program and why.

Send to obrienc@nysenate.gov by April 30th to be considered.
Start date and length of program are flexible



THE END OF THE WORLD AS WE KNOW IT?

Inequality, Injustice & Trauma
During the COVID-19 Crisis

SPRING VIRTUAL EVENTS

APRIL 19 • 5 PM **GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES**

Life, Debt and the World Dollar Order

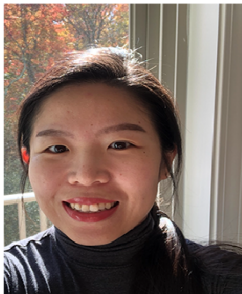
MONA ALI (ECONOMICS)



Economic crises are protean in nature: they catapult change yet also entrench existing hierarchies. Responses to them reveal the inner workings of governance. The Coronavirus crisis arrived in a post-2008 global financial system in which central banks are thoroughly enmeshed in money markets. This hierarchical and hybrid regime is one which contractually privileges creditors; in which the dollar dominates over all other currencies; and where the preponderance of developing country debt is governed by foreign law namely that of England and New York State. The pandemic has meant that poorer economies are confronting potentially catastrophic debt defaults and a decade of lost growth. In the context of this crisis, I examine the destabilizing dynamics generated at the core of global capitalism via the global dollar financial cycle, the prevalence of foreign-law bonds in emerging market sovereign debt, and the encroachment of large institutional funds into developing economy bond markets. Rejecting the depoliticization of finance, I explore how we might defang and democratize this world dollar order.

Whistleblowers, Little Pink and Celebrity Scientists: China's Social Media Culture in Pandemic Communication

YONGLI LI (LANGUAGES, LITERATURES & CULTURES)



Over the course of the pandemic, China's official media outlets have gradually changed their communication strategies with the public. Undoubtedly, social media has also played a crucial role in communicating pandemic information throughout the public since China's first outbreak. Looking at whistleblower Dr. Li Wenliang to outspoken Wuhan Diary writer Fang Fang, and celebrity scientists Dr. Zhong Nanshan and Dr. Zhang Wenhong, one can better understand internet culture in China and how the information of the pandemic has been circulated, popularized and criticized by people in China. In this talk, I focus on the viral events on social media that have changed the dynamic between official and unofficial for pandemic communication continuously and hope to reveal how social media in China is being used to popularize scientific knowledge and the cultural consequences of this within China.

Click for link to
registration!

The United Nations at 75: Passing the COVID Test?

Ş. İLGÜ ÖZLER (POLITICAL SCIENCE & INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS)



The complex issues of the 21st century cannot be addressed by disparate actors in the global arena. This became even more apparent in 2020, during the 75th anniversary of the UN and the same year that the global Covid-19 pandemic began. The pandemic has put the UN system to the test demonstrating weaknesses in regard to peace and security, sustainable socioeconomic development, and human rights, the three core mission areas of the organization. The underlying tensions between the liberalism associated with UN's human rights and socioeconomic development agendas and sovereignty under nationalist strong men as leaders throughout the world stood in the way of effective response. This is especially true as powerful states are able to thwart collective action in favor of their own perceived national interest. While the UN and its affiliated agencies, like the World Health Organization (WHO), are still able to foster cooperation, their success is limited by the organization's inability to establish some form of authority and command.

Moderated by REBECCA LONGTIN (PHILOSOPHY)

Applications Still Open for Cetrino Family Scholarship at the Benjamin Center

[The Benjamin Center for Public Policy Initiatives at SUNY New Paltz](#) is pleased to announce the availability of the Cetrino Family Scholarship for the 2021-22 academic year. This undergraduate scholarship includes tuition, as well as an internship that provides experience in applied policy research at The Benjamin Center.

The Cetrino Family Scholarship provides a year-long full tuition award and a paid internship for an outstanding junior or senior who is interested in a career in public service. Interested applicants must be full-time students and may be in any academic major. Applicants should be entering their junior or senior year at SUNY New Paltz in the fall of a 2021, have a grade point average of at least 3.0, and be available to intern at the Benjamin Center for at least 10 hours per week during the academic year and at least half-time during the summer. In addition to academic performance, financial need and the selection of students from traditionally marginalized populations will be considered in making this award.

Interested students should apply through Scholarships Online which can be found on www.my.newpaltz.edu on the Students tab under Money. A letter of interest, an unofficial transcript, and recommendations from two faculty members must be received no later than **April 25, 2021**. Qualified applicants will be invited to interview during May/June. For more information faculty or interested students may contact benjamincenter@newpaltz.edu.



EARTH DAY PROGRAMMING: Sponsored by the Environmental Task Force

"The #StoryOfPlastic brings into focus an alarming, man-made crisis, and the heroes who are working every day to rise up against big plastic. You can flatten the curve AND be part of the worldwide movement to #BreakFreeFromPlastic: storyofplastic.org @brkfreeplastic". Film viewing and Q & A with the director, Deia Schlosberg, immediately afterwards. **Wednesday, April 21: WebEx Link: TBA**

U.S. Foreign Service Internship

A two-summer international affairs experiential-learning program.



Apply on [USAJOBS.GOV](https://usajobs.gov)

Background: Established in 2014, the U.S. Foreign Service Internship Program (USFSIP) is a merit and need-based opportunity that offers two paid summer internships to expose undergraduate students to U.S. diplomacy and the Department of State at large.

Overview: USFSIP consists of participation for two consecutive summers. In the first summer, participants come to Washington, D.C. for three weeks of training including: U.S. diplomatic history, writing skills and professional development. Following the training, interns work for seven weeks on policy desks in regional and functional bureaus at the U.S. Department of State. The second summer is a ten week assignment to a U.S. embassy or consulate overseas. In the intervening year, USFSIP interns must maintain at least a 3.2 GPA and take the Foreign Service Officer Test (FSOT) to gain a better understanding of the Foreign Service assessment process.

Eligibility: Applicants must be U.S. citizens and currently enrolled as degree-seeking undergraduate students in an accredited academic institution at least half time with a cumulative GPA of 3.20 or above. Students must be rising juniors or seniors when they start the program (i.e., in their sophomore or junior year when applying). Students must be able to obtain a Secret security clearance and be available to participate in Summer I program dates between June and August.

Benefits: Students are paid at a GS-4 equivalent rate. The U.S. Department of State provides travel reimbursement and housing assistance for both summers. Students also receive training and mentorship from experienced U.S. Department of State personnel.

Recruiting: We encourage potential applicants to connect with their local Diplomat in Residence (DIR) to discuss their interest in this program. DIRs can be found at: <http://careers.state.gov/connect/dir>.

Selection: Demonstrated financial need/adversity and merit are key factors in the selection process. Other selection criteria are tied to skills sought in Foreign Service candidates: Cultural Adaptability; Information Integration and Analysis; Initiative and Leadership; Judgment; Oral Communication; Written Communication; Planning and Organizing; Working with Others.

How to apply: Students must submit an online application via USAJOBS that includes a statement of interest, statement of financial need/adversity, two short essays, current academic transcripts, and a PDF copy of their FAFSA Student Aid Report, if applicable.

Spring 2021 Political Science Faculty Contact Information

FACULTY OFFICE HOURS WILL BE HELD REMOTELY FOR THE SPRING 2021 SEMESTER

PROFESSOR	EMAIL ADDRESS
Kathleen Dowley, Chair	dowleyk@newpaltz.edu
Nancy Kassop	kassopn@newpaltz.edu
Joel Lefkowitz	lefkowij@newpaltz.edu
Daniel Lipson	lipsond@newpaltz.edu
Jeff Miller	millerj@newpaltz.edu
Scott Minkoff	minkoffs@newpaltz.edu
S. İlgü Özler	ozleri@newpaltz.edu
Stephen Pampinella	pampines@newpaltz.edu
Jonathan Schwartz	schwartj@newpaltz.edu
Adjunct Faculty	
Eric Bein	beine@newpaltz.edu

Learn More About the Fulbright U.S. Student Program

Please join us for a special Fulbright U.S. Student Program Information Session hosted by the Institute for International Education's Fulbright Administrators. This is a special opportunity to learn more about the program from Fulbright directly! If you would like to learn more about this special post-graduate opportunity, please join in this virtual event by RSVPing [here](#). If you cannot make it but would like additional information, please contact Catherine Collado (colladoc@newpaltz.edu) at the Center for International Programs.

Dates & Times:

Wednesday, April 21, 2021, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM