Spring is Coming...

We are deep in the midst of midterm week, with the reward of spring break just ahead of us. For those of you attending the Spring Break trip to Washington D.C. with Nancy Kassop this coming Sunday-Tuesday, we have a great itinerary planned and I look forward to joining you this year and meeting some of our alums. While we are halfway through our journey this term, we still have many good things to look forward to! After break, we are co-sponsoring the Gary King Lecture in Applied Social Science, and we are excited to bring Professor Eitan Hersh to campus the Thursday after break to talk about his research into what he calls "political hobbyism" and its consequences for our modern politics. See inside for more details about that.

Spring is also advising season for the fall semester of 2023. A screenshot of the PSIR Fall schedule is included in these pages, and you should look it over, alongside your progress report, and make a plan to schedule and appointment with your advisor in the weeks following break. As ever, if you have questions, please reach out at dowleyk@newpaltz.edu.
New Paltz Students at NYS Assembly this Spring

The Political Science and International Relations Department would like to highlight the accomplishments of current Political Science undergraduate students, Brandon Gonzalez and Nayise Gonzalez, who were accepted into the competitive NYS Assembly internship in Albany this spring semester. The Department is proud of our track record in sending great students to this terrific program every year. For more information about the program, see https://nyassembly.gov/internship/undergraduates/.

"I really love Albany and I'm working for Assemblywoman Nily Rozic. I've gotten close with the staff and other interns in the program." - Nayise

Brandon Gonzalez and Nayise Gonzalez pictured with Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie.
Celebrate International Women's Day!
Let's Discuss: Human Rights Implications of the overturning of Roe v. Wade

Tue, March 7 | WebEx | 5:30PM-7PM EST

Register here: https://newpaltz.webex.com/weblink/register/ra388e20e788ee998cc82f7efac1c907a

Guest Speaker: Katherine Mayall
Director of Strategic Initiatives, Center for Reproductive Rights

Sponsored by United Nations Association, Mid-Hudson Valley
Co-sponsored by SUNY New Paltz Department of Women’s Gender and Sexuality Studies, SUNY New Paltz Political Science Department, United Nations Semester
Opportunity: Congressman Molinaro Summer Internship

Congressman Marc Molinaro is currently accepting applications for summer internships.

In the Washington, DC office, internships run throughout the fall, spring or summer semesters for college students. Although all internships in all offices are unpaid, students gain invaluable work experience. The hours are flexible to accommodate students' hectic course schedules, but generally run 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. when Congress is in session, and 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. when not in session.

In Washington, DC, interns' responsibilities will vary. They will be asked to answer phones, run errands, research legislation for the Member and legislative staff, attend hearings and briefings, and answer constituent letters on various issues before the House. As a result, interns learn about the legislative process and the many other functions of a congressional office.

In the District office, interns may be asked to do a variety of things, including day-to-day office work such as answering phones, writing letters and assisting with media clips. In addition, interns may be assigned to assist in various constituent case work or work on District-based projects of importance.

Apply here: https://molinaro.house.gov/forms/internships/
Political Science Professor Nancy Kassop has recently been a part of a podcast called Democracy's Chief Executive. A podcast on law and the presidency!

"Democracy's Chief Executive" is hosted by Peter M. Shane (NYU Law School professor). The first episode came out February 19th and it includes Professor Nancy Kassop, Jack Goldsmith (Harvard Law professor), and Bob Bauer (President Biden's personal lawyer).

Listen in on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, and Google Podcasts! Also, subscribe for alerts when a new episode drops.

https://tinyurl.com/spotifydemchiefexec

https://tinyurl.com/demchiefexecapple

https://tinyurl.com/googledemchiefexec
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Who is to blame for our broken politics? The uncomfortable answer to this question starts with ordinary citizens with good intentions. We vote (sometimes) and occasionally sign a petition or attend a rally. But we mainly “engage” by consuming politics as if it’s a sport or a hobby. We soak in daily political gossip and eat up statistics about who’s up and who’s down. The hours we spend on politics are used mainly as pastime.

Instead, we should be spending the same number of hours building political organizations, implementing a long-term vision for our city or town, and getting to know our neighbors, whose votes will be needed for solving hard problems. We could be accumulating power so that when there are opportunities to make a difference—to lobby, to advocate, to mobilize—we will be ready.

In his lecture, Political Hobbyism vs Political Power, Dr. Eitan Hersh will show us a way toward more effective political participation. Aided by political theory, history, cutting-edge social science, as well as remarkable stories of ordinary citizens who got off their couches and took political power seriously, this lecture will show us how to channel our energy away from political hobbyism and toward empowering our values.
**Welcome to the Department of Political Science and International Relations!**

The Administrative Assistant, Jen Freer can be reached via email at freerj@newpaltz.edu

Our department phone number is 845-257-3540

<table>
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| Kathleen Dowley        | 845 257 3558 dowleyk@newpaltz.edu | Tuesdays
Wednesdays | 1-3pm
1-3pm
In person or by Zoom | SCB
133 |
| Nancy Kassop           | 845 257 3544 kassopn@newpaltz.edu | Tuesdays
Wednesdays | 10am-12pm
9am-11am | FOB
W8 |
| Joel Lefkowitz         | 845 257 3792 lefkowij@newpaltz.edu | Mondays
Wednesdays
Thursdays | 12:30-2pm
5-6pm
12:30-2pm | JFT 400 |
| Daniel Lipson          | 845 257 3543 lipsond@newpaltz.edu | Mondays
Thursdays | 10am-12pm
12pm-2pm | JFT 810 |
| Jeff Miller            | 845 257 3934 millerj@newpaltz.edu | Tuesdays
Fridays       | 2-3:30pm
2-3:30pm
and by appointment | SCB
147 |
| Scott Minkoff          | 845 257 3541 minkoffs@newpaltz.edu | Tuesdays
Wednesdays | 9:30-10:30am
9:30am-12pm | JFT 902 |
| S. Ilgu Ozler          | 845 257 2635 ozleri@newpaltz.edu | Tuesdays
Wednesdays | 12:30-3pm
9:30-11am | JFT 912 |
| Stephen Pampinella     | 845 257 3549 pampines@newpaltz.edu | Mondays
Thursdays | 1-3pm
9:30-10:30am | JFT 902 |
| Jonathan Schwartz      | 845 257 2627 schwartj@newpaltz.edu | On Leave | |
| Eric Bein*             | beine@newpaltz.edu | Email for Appointment | |
| Cassandra Sweet*       | sweetc@newpaltz.edu | Email for Appointment | JFT 912 |