

# Political Science and International Relations



## IMPORTANT DATES:

8/27-9/2

### ADD/DROP PERIOD

Get it done this week.

9/13

### GERALD BENJAMIN MEETING

3:30, JFT 1010.

9/17

### CONSTITUTION DAY: EXECUTIVE PRIVILEGE AND THE PRESIDENCY

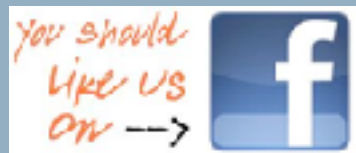
Professor Kassop on the concept of executive privilege. 7:00pm Honors Center (College Hall).

10/5

### WEAPONIZED CITIZENSHIP

Mark your calendars. NP alum Ross Dardani ('11) visits to discuss his Ph.D. Thesis, "Weaponized Citizenship: A Critical Race Theory Analysis of U.S. Citizenship Legislation." 3:30, JFT 1010.

<https://www.facebook.com/nppolisci>



## Department

### Welcome Back!

We hope you're rested and ready for the 2018-2019 academic year and the congressional campaign season. We have a whole line-up of events and speakers planned for the fall semester, including a talk on recent executive privilege, and critical race theory. And check out the SCUSA conference (p. 2) as well as the internship opportunities with congressional campaigns. Excellent opportunities.

See you all in class.

## Discussions

### Gerald Benjamin

On Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 in JFT 1010, Professor Gerald Benjamin will meet with students to discuss comments he made regarding Congressional candidate Anthony Delgado in a July 17<sup>th</sup> 2018 article in the *New York Times* (you can read the article here: <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/07/17/us/politics/antonio-delgado-lyrics.html>).

In light of the role race and racism play in U.S. politics, our discipline pays close attention to the centrality of white racial resentment in driving the rise of right-wing populism and racial scapegoating. We understand that racial resentment is a powerful force that may benefit Representative Faso's campaign in our largely white district. We were particularly troubled by Professor Benjamin's seemingly uncritical acceptance of Congressman Faso's campaign strategy to "other" Delgado by highlighting his time as a rap musician.

Members of the Department of Political Science and International Relations differ on a wide range of policy and political matters, but we all believe in the importance of racial inclusion as well as a civil discourse that is free of bigotry.

Professor Benjamin has asked to speak in person with PSIR students to discuss his remarks as well as answer any questions you may have. You are all, consequently, invited to attend the meeting and engage with Professor Benjamin.

**SCUSA 2018****CONFERENCE  
70TH ANNUAL STUDENT CONFERENCE ON  
U.S. AFFAIRS (SCUSA)**

The largest and oldest conference of its type, SCUSA is an important means through which we promote civil-military engagement among future leaders from around the world. In addition to 60 cadet delegates, approximately 200 undergraduate and graduate students from over 100 universities and 20-30 countries attend SCUSA each year. Conference highlights include an opening senior panel discussion on the evening of October 24th, a keynote address banquet on October 25th, four roundtable sessions, and a closing session on October 27th at which delegates will present recommendations for U.S. foreign policy developed during their roundtable sessions. The keynote speaker this year is Dr. Susan Rice, former Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs. Other recent keynote speakers have included Amb (Ret) Douglas Lute, Dr. Richard Haass, Secretary Madeleine Albright, Ambassador Thomas Pickering, and Lieutenant General (Ret.) Brent Scowcroft.

The Conference theme this year is "Cooperation Reimagined: American Influence in an Increasingly Complex World." The world we live in is changing, forcing America to reevaluate its role within the international system it has led for the past 70-plus years. Amplified by technological innovations and the speed of communications, a widening set of states, organizations, and empowered individuals can shape geopolitics. Such rapid transformation on the international stage necessitates adapting to a post-world war order. In order to increase the likelihood of achieving preferred outcomes, the United States must assess its roles and those of its allies and partners while redefining global cooperation. During this year's 70th Student Conference on U.S. Affairs (SCUSA 70), "Cooperation Reimagined: American Influence in an Increasingly Complex World," delegates will consider multifaceted, thought-provoking issues that affect the world we know today. Working with students from around the globe, SCUSA 70 delegates will consider complex problems and recommend innovative ways to reimagine global cooperation.



The conference runs from 9 November to 12 November, and all costs except for transportation (to and from West Point) are born by West Point and SUNY New Paltz. The Poli Sci/IR Department will nominate *one* student for this event.

If you're interested submit a one-page letter of interest along with a resume to Jeff Miller in JFT 814 by **Wednesday, September 12th.**



## Internships

**Delgado Congressional Campaign**

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Calling all students! Are you looking to make an impact in a local campaign? Looking to obtain a few extra college credits? Then come join the Antonio Delgado for Congress Campaign for the 19th Congressional District.

Interns working for academic credit need to have a professor sponsor their internship, are required to work at least eight hours a week until the end of the election, and need to be prepared to both phone bank and canvass

territory. Having a vehicle is preferred, but is not necessary.

For more information, contact Sara-Elizabeth Clark at [sclark@delgadoforcongress.com](mailto:sclark@delgadoforcongress.com).

## Alumni

**Tenzin Rangdol (IR '17)**

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This fall, I will be attending the Johns Hopkins University Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), as a recipient of the Dalai Lama Foundation Graduate Scholarship. The scholarship exists to develop the human capital of the Tibetan people “by supporting the pursuit of excellence among Tibetan students in a field of graduate studies of their choice”. As a Tibetan American, I often struggled to reconcile the hardships that my grandparents and parents had endured as refugees, with my American identity and newfound interests. However, through academic exploration and service within my local community, I understood that the American identity is not defined by a single arc but by a plethora of unique perspectives. My collective experiences, passion for international affairs and desire for a career dedicated to service have solidified my commitment to a career in diplomacy. I realize how a career in diplomacy requires the duality of tactfully representing one’s national interests while simultaneously understanding the nuances of a foreign culture. I am confident that the rigorous international relations program at SUNY New Paltz and at SAIS will help me develop the analytical skills and foreign policy acumen that will enable me to thrive within this duality.



## Publications

**Publish your work in the Compass**

*The Compass* is an online interdisciplinary academic journal run by a student board within the Arcadia University Honors Program.

Their mission is to create a publication platform for undergraduate students of a variety of disciplines and experiences. Being published

with *The Compass* is a unique and marketable achievement for undergraduate students across the globe. *The Compass* seeks undergraduate work that will build our intellectual and multidisciplinary community.

For more information, check out their website: <https://scholarworks.arcadia.edu/thecompass/>

## Off Campus

**Yale Undergraduate International Policy Competition**

On October 13-14, undergraduates from different universities across the U.S. will gather at Yale University to compete in the Yale Undergraduate International Policy Competition. Students will compete in teams of 4 to develop realistic policy proposals addressing some of the world's most pressing issues (this past year's topic concerned plans to revitalize the war-torn city of Mosul). Topics are announced at the start of the competition, and students will have time to draft their written proposal as well as a presentation that is shown to our illustrious panel of judges.

More information about the competition as well as the registration form can be accessed on their website, <http://yaleipc.com/>.

## Internships

**Representative Sean Patrick Maloney**

The office of Sean Patrick Maloney (NY-18) seeks qualified candidates who have an interest in community engagement and the ability to work in a fast-paced environment. Responsibilities include constituent communication, community outreach, performing research requests, and office administration. Full and part-time slots available.

If you're interested, please send a resume and cover letter to Paige Banfield, Director of Operations at [paige.Banfield@mail.house.gov](mailto:paige.Banfield@mail.house.gov).

## Pickering Fellowship

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The **Pickering Foreign Affairs Graduate Fellowship Program** is now accepting applications for the 2019 Fellowship.

The Pickering Graduate Fellowship is a U.S. Department of State program, administered by Howard University, that seeks to attract and prepare outstanding young people for careers as Foreign Service Officers in the U.S. Department of State. Candidates must be graduating seniors or college graduates. The Program welcomes the application of members of minority groups historically underrepresented in the State Department, women, and those with financial need. Based on the fundamental principle that diversity is a strength in our diplomatic efforts, the program values varied backgrounds, including ethnic, racial, social, and geographic diversity. Applicants with any undergraduate major are welcome to apply. Selected fellows will receive support for graduate school and will enter exciting and rewarding careers representing the United States overseas.

### Program Benefits

- An orientation to the Program and the Foreign Service at Howard University in Washington, D.C. in mid-June 2019.
- Two summer internships, one in Washington, D.C. in the summer 2020 and one overseas at a U.S. embassy in summer 2021.
- Up to \$37,500 annually toward tuition, fees and living expenses for a two-year master's degree in fields related to the Foreign Service such as Business Administration, Economics, Public Policy, and International Relations at a U.S.-based institution.
- Mentoring from a Foreign Service Officer throughout the duration of the fellowship.
- Employment in the State Department Foreign Service for those who successfully complete the program and meet Foreign Service entry requirements, in accordance with applicable law and State Department policy, with each Fellow committing to a minimum of five years of service.

### Eligibility Requirements

- U.S. citizenship
- Seeking admission to graduate school in fall 2019 for a two-year graduate program in an area of relevance to the Foreign Service at a U.S.-based institution
- Cumulative grade point average of 3.2 or higher on a 4.0 scale at the time of application

### Application Deadline

September 20, 2018

### Website

[pickeringfellowship.org](http://pickeringfellowship.org)

### Program Contact

[Pickeringfellowship@howard.edu](mailto:Pickeringfellowship@howard.edu)

[202-806-4367](tel:202-806-4367)

## Competitions

## International Student Essay Contest, 2018: Is it Important to Live in a Democracy?

### Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs

announces its tenth annual International Essay Contest, open to students of all nationalities anywhere in the world.

#### ESSAY TOPIC: Is it important to live in a democracy?

The essay should include a definition/explanation of the concept of democracy (written in your own words) and then explain why democracy is or is not important.



#### CONTEST REQUIREMENTS:

- Style: Op-ed style (not academic, footnoted papers)
- Length: 1,000 to 1,500 words
- Format: Blog post on [www.gloablethicsnetwork.org](http://www.gloablethicsnetwork.org). English language entries only.
- Limit: One entry per person.

For sample essays, have a look at last year's winners [here](#).

#### WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

All students, from high school students through graduate students, are eligible.

#### HOW TO ENTER:

1. Join the free Global Ethics Network (GEN) website: [www.gloablethicsnetwork.org](http://www.gloablethicsnetwork.org).
2. Post your essay in the blog section and tag it with #essaycontest2018.
3. Please include the following:
  - \* Your full name.
  - \* The name of your school.
  - \* Indicate what level of student you are (high school, undergraduate, graduate).

#### COMPETITION DEADLINE: December 31, 2018

#### PRIZES:

The essays are judged in three categories: graduate students; undergraduate students; and high school students.

1st prize: \$300 Amazon Gift Certificate












2nd prize: \$150 Amazon Gift Certificate

3rd prize: \$75 Amazon Gift Certificate

Department

**Where to find people.**

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	<b>Benjamin, Gerald</b>	<a href="mailto:benjamig@newpaltz.edu"><u>benjamig@newpaltz.edu</u></a>	<b>HAB 704</b>
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	<b>Kassop, Nancy</b>	<a href="mailto:kassopn@newpaltz.edu"><u>kassopn@newpaltz.edu</u></a>	<b>JFT 812</b>
	<b>Lefkowitz, Joel</b>	<a href="mailto:lefkowij@newpaltz.edu"><u>lefkowij@newpaltz.edu</u></a>	<b>JFT 400</b>
	<b>Lipson, Daniel</b>	<a href="mailto:lipsond@newpaltz.edu"><u>lipsond@newpaltz.edu</u></a>	<b>JFT 810</b>
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	<b>Miller, Jeff</b>	<a href="mailto:millerj@newpaltz.edu"><u>millerj@newpaltz.edu</u></a>	<b>JFT 816</b>
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	<b>Schwartz, Jonathan</b>	<a href="mailto:schwartj@newpaltz.edu"><u>schwartj@newpaltz.edu</u></a>	<b>JFT 1016</b>