

CASID CURRENT

SPRING 2010 NUMBER 50

JANUARY 11TH, 2010

EVENTS



Center for Advanced
Study of International
Development

202 International Center
East Lansing, MI
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For the Week of January 11th, 2010

Tuesday, January 12th

“Birth and Death as Moment or Process? Intra-Cultural and Cross- Cultural Ambivalence”

Asian Studies Center Spring
Colloquium
Speaker: Ann Mongoven
Center for Ethics and Humanities in the Life
Sciences
4:00 pm, Rm. 303 International Center

Thursday, January 14th

“President Obama and Africa: Con- tinuities and Change in U.S. Africa Policy”

African Studies Center Brown Bag Series
Speaker: David Wiley
Department of Sociology
12:00 pm, Rm. 201 International Center

Friday, January 15th

“International Coffee Hour”

Sponsored by OISS
4:00pm - 6:00pm, Spartan Rooms,
International Center Food Court

For the Week of January 18th, 2010

Tuesday, January 19th

“Conceiving Conception Differently: Religious Ideas, Ritual Practice, and the Morality of Abortion in Japan”

Asian Studies Center Spring
Colloquium, with Department of Religious
Studies
Speaker: William Laf eur
University of Pennsylvania
4:00 pm, Rm. 303 International Center

Wednesday, January 20th

“Medicine, Body, Politics: Mapping Human Stem Cell Research”

Center for Ethics and Humanities in the Life
Sciences Spring 2010 Brown Bag Series
Speaker: Chris Ganchoff
Lyman Briggs College/Dept. of Sociology
4:00 pm, Rm. 303 International Center

Thursday, January 21st

Hijabs and History in Northern Nigeria”

African Studies Center Brown Bag Series
Speaker: Elisha Renne
Department of Anthropology, U. of Michigan
12:00 pm, Rm. 201 International Center

Friday, January 22nd

“Landscapes of Those that have been Left Behind - Migration and Change in Central Mexico”

CASID/GenCen Friday Forum
Speaker: Antoinette WinklerPrins
Department of Geography
12:00 pm, Rm. 201 International Center

“Global Health Initiatives for Obstet- rics and Gynecological Residencies: A Professional Collaboration Be- tween Costa Rica and MSU”

New Research on Women and Gender:
Global and Local Perspectives Colloquia
Series
Speakers: Richard Leach and
Patricia Obando, Department of Obstetrics,
Gynecology, and Reproductive Biology;
Libby Bogdan-Lovis, Center for Ethics and
Humanities
1:30 pm, 302 International Center

“International Coffee Hour”

Sponsored by OISS
4:00pm - 6:00pm, Spartan Rooms,
International Center Food Court

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cross-cultural Teaching Abroad in Malaysia

Malaysia is a country that provides an exceptional opportunity to learn about diversity in race, religion, ethnicity, language, culture, and physical environment. This program will provide experience in classroom teaching in selected Malaysian elementary and secondary schools. Sponsored by the College of Education, this 6 week summer 2010 program will pair MSU students with collaborating Malaysian teachers in the same academic field and level as the students. After a period of classroom observation, the student will develop lessons and co-teach with the cooperating teacher, and finally teach classes independently under the supervision of the cooperating teacher. Each student will be able to participate in a wide variety of school and community activities during the placement at a school. The students will live with a Malaysian teacher's family to obtain a first-hand understanding of the communities in which they live and teach. Regular meetings with the instructors will serve to interpret and expand on the practical knowledge learned in the classroom, and relate it to previous knowledge of the U.S. educational system. Courses offered will include TE 816 and TE 894. Deadline to apply is March 1, 2010. For additional details see <http://studyabroad.msu.edu/programs/malaysiapreintern.html> or contact Anne Schneller at annes@msu.edu.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Regional Inequality in Times of Globalization: An interdisciplinary symposium focused on issues of vital importance to the human condition
April 21-22, 2010 Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan
Sponsored by the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies

The Center invites participation from undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, researchers and practitioners to examine the issues, challenges and opportunities for a Latin American and Caribbean cultural space with greater social equality. This symposium is a forum for examining some of the issues related to this goal through several means. In addition to a plenary keynote address and invited presentations by an international panel, student and faculty submissions will be selected for presentation in oral and (especially) poster sessions. The keynote address, *The Opportunity Gap: Comprehensive development platforms in Latin America*, will be given by Alejandro Villanueva, The W. K. Kellogg Foundation Regional Director for Programs in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Papers and posters are invited on (but not limited to) the following topics.

- Family and gender equity
- Disadvantaged and underprivileged social groups
- Cultural representations
- Humanistic expression of the human condition and cultural diversity
- Market competitiveness, social capital and employment creation
- Achieving Millennium Development Goals
- Land use strategies that ameliorate global effects of climate change
- Water capture, use and quality
- Managing biodiversity and ecosystem services
- Human, community and public health disparities and connections to landscape, biodiversity, food systems, socioeconomic and behavioral dimensions of welfare
- Education and human development

This symposium is especially intended for Michigan State students and faculty to present and discuss works in progress. More polished works are also welcome. Due to time constraints, many accepted papers will be assigned for presentation in a poster format rather than orally. Submitters whose papers are accepted must be prepared to accept either mode of presentation.

Deadline for Abstracts: January 29, 2010. Submit electronically (Word document) an abstract of 250 words or less to Kristin Janka Millar and Emily Holley, kristin@msu.edu and holleyem@msu.edu. Outside presenters should seek their own financial assistance for travel and lodging expenses.

For more information contact Kristin Janka Millar (kristin@msu.edu) or Robert Blake (rwblake@msu.edu).

ANNOUNCEMENTS *continued***SPRING 2010 COURSE ANNOUNCEMENTS****ACR 824 “Sustainable Development: Measuring Socioeconomic Well Being”**

Instructor: Robert B. Richardson, Department of CARRS
Mondays, 3:00pm - 5:50pm

This graduate course will focus on the measurement of social and economic welfare at national and local scales. Using theories of development, utility, economic growth, and social welfare, we will examine traditional and alternative indicators of sustainable development, including the social, economic, and environmental dimensions of human well being. Students will study and understand the inherent problems with gross domestic product (GDP) as a measure of socioeconomic well being and the shortcomings of consumption as a welfare indicator. Students will explore alternative indicators that consider the effects of social capital, natural capital, and the equitable distribution of income in regional development. In addition to the learning objectives, the course will also involve a research component. Students will work together in the data collection and analysis for the calculation of alternative indicators of socioeconomic welfare. Indicators will include the Genuine Progress Indicator (GPI), which was developed as an alternative to the GDP, and was derived from an earlier indicator known as the Index of Sustainable Economic Welfare (ISEW). The course will include theoretical readings, empirical analyses, and planning for data sourcing and analysis.

ACR 838 “Participatory Modes of Inquiry”

Instructors: Kimberly Chung & Laurie Thorp
Department of CARRS

Wednesdays, 3:00pm - 4:50pm

This course provides an in-depth, graduate-level exploration of the nature of participatory inquiry. The course surveys the major streams of literature that constitute the fields of participatory and action research (hereafter referred to as participatory inquiry), with particular emphasis on identifying the differences across these literatures, their worldviews, theoretical foundations, fields of application, and points of emphasis within their practice. Throughout the course students are expected to consider how the various approaches to participatory inquiry coincide or conflict with their current epistemological and methodological views. Students are asked to consider how they might incorporate participatory approaches into their personal and professional lives. The format of the course is varied and includes mini-lectures, discussion, group work, and individual and collective reflection.

The course is designed as a two-credit survey of the literature, with emphasis placed on comparison of the various approaches and understanding the practical applications

of associated principles. There is no field component to the course. Students wishing to apply these concepts in a community context may include a practicum as a one-credit independent study. If interested, please contact: Professor Kimberly Chung at kchung@msu.edu.

ACR 848 (formerly RD 823)**“Community-Based Natural Resource Management in Developing Countries”**

Instructor: John Kerr, Department of CARRS

Wednesdays, 4:10pm - 7:00pm

This course analyzes rural natural resource management in developing countries, focusing on the factors that lead to natural resource outcomes, e.g. conservation, productivity, and income distribution. The course begins with a look at how human and natural systems interact, then addresses a variety of issues that influence natural resource management including people’s perceptions of the natural resource scarcity, poverty and population density, tenure security, property rights regimes, collective action and its determinants, and governance. It also examines policy tools for promoting conservation where benefits are off-site.

ACR 891, Section 001 “Technology, Ethics and Sustainability Science”

Instructor: Paul Thompson, Department of CARRS

Mondays, 6:00pm - 8:50pm

The course will provide advanced students with an opportunity for in depth critical reading and discussion of recent materials in the history, philosophy and sociology of science as they pertain to the overarching task of orienting scientific methods and practice toward complex problems collected under the umbrella term of sustainability. Recent calls for applied and action-oriented research to support social change toward a more sustainable society or a more sustainable agriculture presupposes a critique of mainstream applied science as it developed throughout most of the 20th century. That critique emerged from a number of different disciplinary perspectives over the course of more than twenty years. In the first decade of the 21st century, it coalesced around episodes in which scientific consensus was either sharply criticized or politically rejected (e.g. GMOs and climate science), and resulted in a new call within scientific institutions to practice a form of science that would be attuned to the importance of quasi-political processes, including NRC-type or UN and OECD report writing, and the accomplishments of the IPPC. This course will equip students working toward applied social science degrees with an orientation to the key elements in that critique and give them an opportunity to reflect on contrasting visions of how science and technology are embedded in social relations. This is essentially a classic “read and discuss” seminar.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *continued***ANP 491, Section 002 “An Anthropological Introduction to Islam in Africa”****Instructor: Mara Leichtman, Department of Anthropology****Tuesdays, 1:50pm - 4:40pm**

This course aims to provide an overview of “African” Islam through the work of Muslim and non-Muslim scholars from anthropology and other related disciplines. We will begin with an overview of the fundamentals of Islam before turning to the diverse accounts of the historical spread of Islam to Africa, the religious implications of the African slave trade and European colonialism, and Islamic philosophies, education, prayer, novels, law and politics in different African countries and contexts. Themes of religious conversion, gendered dynamics, migration, and the relationship of Islam to human rights will also be explored. Case studies will focus on Senegal, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Mayotte, Kenya, Sudan and the Americas. We will visit the Islamic Center of East Lansing, watch films, and hear alternative accounts of Islam in Africa from guest speakers. Seminar participants will post weekly reactions to readings and activities to a listserv, and create, through research, their own accounts of African Islamic worlds.

ANP 837 “Economic Anthropology: Political Cultures of Contemporary Capitalism”**Instructor: Brandt Peterson, Department of Anthropology****Tuesdays, 1:50pm - 4:40pm**

In broad terms, this course seeks first, to analyze contemporary capitalism as a cultural and political project produced and reproduced in particular social and geographic sites; and second, to chart some of the effects associated with distinctive and changing patterns of the organization of capitalism. Bring longstanding anthropological concerns with production, distribution, and exchange to bear on cultural and political practices in contemporary capitalist situations, this course charts the ways in which capitalism marks those situations. Focusing on sites of development, modernity, identity, and government, this course address the ideas about society, power, and what it means to be human through recent ethnographic works that seek to understand the practices, discourses, fantasies, and desires through which subjects engage with, accommodate themselves to, or resist capitalism.

EAD 991B “Comparative Higher Education”**Instructor: Jim Fairweather, Higher, Adult, and Lifelong Education Program****Department of Educational Administration****Wednesdays, 4:10pm - 7:00pm**

The course has two main purposes. The first purpose is to gain an understanding of key international higher education policy challenges and how these challenges play out

in different international settings (national, institutional, in some cases regional). To assist students in making sense of these international developments, including the distinct national higher education systems in which they apply, we will also examine the American “system” of higher education. The primary purpose here is to provide a comparative “benchmark” for interpreting these international higher education policy themes.

The second purpose is to introduce students to the methods of international comparative research in higher education, the culmination of which will be a paper comparing one or more international settings with the U.S. Both master’s and doctoral students are welcome. There is no prerequisite. For more information, contact: Dr. Jim Fairweather, fairwea4@msu.edu.

ENG 431B “Third World Cinema: Africa, The Caribbean, and the Edges of Globalization”**Instructor: Ken Harrow, Department of English**
Mondays and Wednesdays, 3:00pm - 5:50pm

Third World Cinema is a loose and generic title intended to group together films from outside the mainstream Hollywood or European studios. Initially this grouping naturally included films from Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, and Asia. With time, the concept of Third World cinema has come to include “ethnic” films, and more generally, films associated with a minority, or Fourth World, population within First World countries or films made by peoples of the Third World, regardless of whether they actually live in their home countries or abroad.

Our work this semester will be focused on the films from Africa and the Caribbean, with particular attention to such issues as race, urban settings, globalization and melodrama. We will view a number of films that present the current moment in their countries as experiencing varying degrees of crisis as seen in the worlds that children come to inhabit, the illegal immigration flows, and especially the consequences of a world order that has left their societies in difficulty. Not all the films deal with crises, but the settings are urban and as such set the stage for issues involving the passage into modernity, the failures of the state, the day-to-day scramble for living for many, and ultimately the drama of children who live on the edge, in the street, often on their own.

Environmental Science and Policy Program (ESP)

Find a list of all environment-related graduate courses at MSU at: http://www.environment.msu.edu/other_edu/grad_courses.html

--A spreadsheet of all Spring 2010 graduate environmental courses

--A spreadsheet of all regularly offered graduate environmental courses (Fa, Su, Sp).

ANNOUNCEMENTS *continued*

---More detailed descriptions of new (or newish) Spring 2010 courses.

Some notes: Because of ESP's interdisciplinary focus, courses are only included if they are open to students from at least two departments; Courses are listed by host department; Study Abroad and methods courses are only listed at the request of the instructor.

ESP 802 "Human Systems and the Environment"

Instructors: Michael Kaplowitz, Department of CARRS, and Rob Walker, Department of Geography

Thursdays, 9:10am - 12:00pm

This course addresses human systems and environmental change at multiple scales from local to global. Materials covered explore linkages between natural and human systems, but focus primarily on human drivers of environmental and natural resource change and the social responses that such changes precipitate, including individual action, social movements, policy, legal and institutional responses. The course is designed for graduate students, especially those from the physical and life sciences, seeking to better understand the social forces giving rise to environmental problems as well as social responses taken to mitigate them.

All submissions for the next issue of the CASID Current for the Spring Semester 2010 are due by 12:00pm on January 18th. Send information to CASID, 202 International Center, ATTN: Stacia Welter; e-mail: swelter@msu.edu; telephone: (517) 353-8574; fax (517) 353-8765.



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