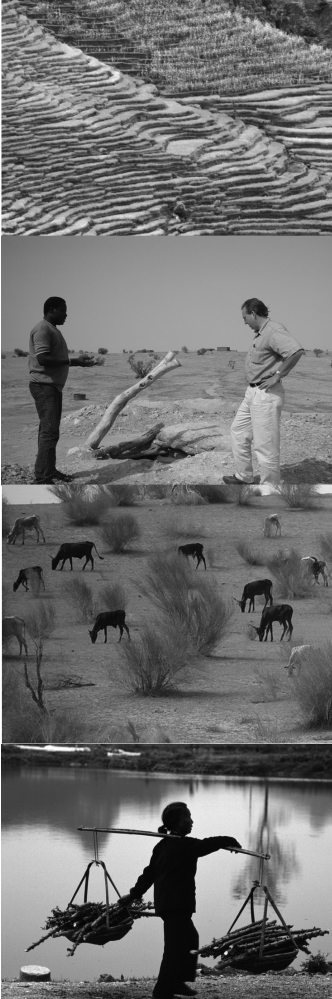


# CASID CURRENT

FALL 2009 NUMBER 49

NOVEMBER 30TH, 2009

## EVENTS



Center for Advanced  
Study of International  
Development

202 International Center  
East Lansing, MI  
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[www.casid.msu.edu](http://www.casid.msu.edu)



### **For the Week of November 30th, 2009:**

#### **Wednesday, December 2nd**

##### **“Dark Earths and Their Implications for Development in the Amazon”**

CLACS Seminar Series

Speaker: Antoinetter WinklerPrins, Depart-  
ment of Geography

3:00pm, 201 International Center

##### **“Islam and Democracy: Some Anthropological Reflections”**

Muslim Studies and Asian Studies Center  
Speaker: Irfan Ahmad, Monash University,  
Australia

3:00pm - 5:00pm, 303 International Center

#### **Thursday, December 3rd**

##### **“Language in African (Ghanaian) Traditional Jurisprudence”**

African Studies Center Brown Bag

Speaker: Samuel Gyasi Obeng, Indiana  
University

12:00pm, 201 International Center

##### **“Effective Test Making”**

Graduate School Workshop

5:30pm, Spartan Room C, International  
Center

For more information and to register for  
the workshop, visit: [http://grad.msu.edu/  
workshops/](http://grad.msu.edu/workshops/)

#### **Friday, December 4th**

##### **“Propagating Thresholds and Tradeoffs as Determinants of Water Policy”**

CASID-GenCen Friday Forum

Speaker: R. Jan Stevenson, Center for  
Water Sciences

12:00pm, 201 International Center

##### **“Finding Academic Funding Electronically”**

MSU Library Workshop

3:00pm - 4:30pm, Main Library, Basement  
Instruction Room (EG2)

Workshop will explore funding resources  
available over the World Wide Web or via  
campus networks. Will cover resources  
pertaining to undergraduate students,  
graduate students, postdocs, and faculty.  
For more information and to register, visit:  
[http://www2.lib.msu.edu/general/events/  
workshops.jsp](http://www2.lib.msu.edu/general/events/workshops.jsp)

##### **“International Coffee Hour”**

Sponsored by OISS

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

### **For the Week of December 7th, 2009:**

#### **Wednesday, December 9th**

##### **“Peace Corps Information Meeting”**

Life is Calling. How far will you go?  
6:00pm, 303 International Center

#### **Friday, December 11th**

##### **“International Coffee Hour”**

Sponsored by OISS

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

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

### Fulbright Fellowship Opportunities

Participants will be informed about the objectives, requirements, and deadlines for each program as well as how to: 1) develop a more competitive application, 2) select a host country, and 3) make necessary host country contacts. Fulbright Fellowships are prestigious and career-enhancing. They confer special status on winners during and following their foreign study, as outstanding, officially recognized representatives of the United States.

The Fulbright Program funds students, faculty, and other professionals to undertake graduate study, advanced research, and teaching at all levels: elementary, secondary, and university in more than 140 countries. Most grantees plan their own programs.

Projects may include university coursework, independent library or field research, classes in a music conservatory or art school, special projects in the social or life sciences, or some combination. The grants pay for air travel, a monthly living stipend, health and accident insurance, and, in some cases, tuition waivers and research allowances.

The application submission deadlines for selected Fulbright Fellowship Programs for the 2010-2011 academic year are: Fulbright-Hays DDRA National application submission deadline: **December 1, 2009**

## AWARDS

### 2009 Rita S. Gallin Award for the Best Graduate Paper on Women and International Development

**Submission Deadline: December 18, 2009**

The Center for Gender in Global Context invites you to submit a paper for its annual graduate student paper competition. The paper should have been written within the past year, should be approximately twenty double-spaced pages in length, and should focus on issues related to women, gender, international development, and globalization.

Papers will be reviewed by a faculty committee, and the award will be presented at the annual GenCen Open House in January. The winning paper may be peer reviewed for publication in the GPID Working Paper Series or on the GenCen website. Authors will receive a \$200.00 prize.

Papers should be submitted to the GenCen office via email (in Word or WordPerfect) at [gencen@msu.edu](mailto:gencen@msu.edu) or by mail (both hard copy and on diskette/CD). Please indicate you are submitting the paper for the Graduate Paper Competition and be sure to include a contact phone number and email address. More information can be found at <http://www.gencen.msu.edu>.

### 2009 Mary Anderson Award for the Best Undergraduate Paper on Women and Gender in Global Perspective

**Submission Deadline: December 18, 2009**

The Center for Gender in Global Context invites you to submit a paper for the undergraduate student competition. The paper should have been completed within the past year and should focus on issues related to women and gender in global perspective. Papers should be approximately twenty double-spaced pages in length.

Papers will be reviewed by a faculty committee, and the award will be presented at the annual GenCen Open House in January. The winning paper may be peer reviewed for publication in the GPID Working Paper Series or on the GenCen website. Authors will receive a \$200.00 prize.

Papers should be submitted to the GenCen office via email (in MS Word or WordPerfect) at [gencen@msu.edu](mailto:gencen@msu.edu) or by mail (both hard copy and on diskette/CD/DVD). Please indicate you are submitting to the Undergraduate Paper Competition and be sure to include a contact phone number and email address. More information can be found at <http://www.gencen.msu.edu>.

## 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *continued***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](mailto: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.

**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

ANNOUNCEMENTS *continued*

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](http://www.environment.msu.edu/other_edu/grad-courses.html)

Information posted:

--A spreadsheet of all Spring 2010 graduate environmental courses

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

---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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *continued***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 12th. Send information to CASID, 202 International Center, ATTN: Marita Eibl; e-mail: eibl@msu.edu; telephone: (517) 884-2128; fax (517) 353-8765..

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM EVERYONE AT CASID!!!**



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