

# DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

## NEWSLETTER, FALL 2017

Events | Course Descriptions | Updates

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Students from Prof. Ausra Park's course on Russian Foreign Policy pose in front of the Kremlin in May 2017.

### *Chair's Letter*

Dear Political Science Majors, Minors, Alumni, and Friends,

This past year brought significant change to world of politics, sparking intense debate and engaging citizens around the world. At Siena, we embrace this civic engagement, while seeking ways to bridge political and ideological divides. It is certainly an exciting time to be studying politics and public affairs. Indeed, the values of civic engagement and global citizenship that we stress in our courses and programs are more important than ever.

This past year has also brought some changes to our program. Our newly revised capstone requirements have launched this semester with Dr. Collens's Media & Politics course. Dr. Eccarius-Kelly will be teaching a capstone course on Migration Politics in the Spring 2018 semester. Along with these new courses, we continue to offer a broad array of elective courses, engaged learning experiences, and co-curricular activities that allow us to "capitalize on the capitols" and build civic leaders for the 21st century.

In this newsletter you'll be able to read all about our programs, faculty, students, and alumni. It includes Spring 2018 course descriptions, news from our affiliated clubs, student experiences, faculty news, and updates from our alumni. We invite you to take some time to review this important material, whether you're preparing for Spring 2018 registration or just checking in to see what's happening in the Department. Of course, please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, concerns, or ideas you may have.

Cheers,  
Dr. Daniel Lewis

## Club Updates

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### *Pre-Law Society*

As law school admission deadlines quickly approach, the Pre-Law Society is hard at work to ensure students are prepared! With Law School tours scheduled out until January, admissions panels, and LSAT prep underway, we are getting ready for law school! Look out for an end of the year reception event, a possible trip to family court, an LSAT bootcamp program, and a printed guide to applying to law school. If you have an interest in Hate Speech, Lecia Brooks from the Southern Poverty Law Center is coming to campus on November 8th during free period- more details to come! Reminder: if you are a junior in Pre-Law and you have not taken Civil Liberties 1 or 2, you need to make sure you do next year!

### *Political Science Society*

Even though the election has ended, we have yet to see a decline in interesting and unique political events! Every Wednesday at 9 pm, Poli Sci Society is having meetings, Town hall Debates, Political movie nights, BINGO, political trivia, and Poli-Chats! Look out for the yearly trip to D.C from April 13th-15th! In order to go on the trip you need to attend 50% of Poli Sci's events. Look out for laser tag, our end of the semester bash, and some interesting speakers on campus! Have a topic you want discussed? Email [ko8maso@siena.edu](mailto:ko8maso@siena.edu) and we will put the topic on that week's agenda!

### *Moot Court/Mock Trial*

The Moot Court/Mock Trial team is both a competing team and a club here at Siena. Every year we receive a new case to dissect and prepare for trial. We spend roughly five months preparing for the Regional Competition in February with the hopes of moving onto Nationals.

We work with practicing attorneys and judges to prepare for the competitions. We also go to invitational competitions where we get the chance to practice our case and theories against other schools. The best part of being on the Moot Court/Mock Trial is new set of skills students acquire over the year. Students learn to think on their feet, give logical responses, speak confidently, and advocate for themselves and their clients. We meet as a team on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm. If anyone is interested in getting involved, please contact Gabrielle Agostino via email at [gmi4agos@siena.edu](mailto:gmi4agos@siena.edu).



## Washington Semester (Fall 2017)

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### *Laura Durham*

My name is Laura Durham and I am a junior at Siena. This semester, however, I am studying at American University in Washington D.C., through the Washington Semester Program. The Washington Semester Program offers many concentrations for study, such as American Politics, which I chose to focus on during my time in the Capital. While here, I am enjoying the wonderful sites of D.C., such as Capitol Hill, Eastern Market, The Lincoln Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, Old Town Alexandria, The White House, and much more. I also hold an internship at The Association of Prosecuting Attorney's Child Abuse Prosecution Project (APA CAPP) which is based out of Alexandria, Virginia. My experience with my internship, as well as my seminars has far surpassed anything I could have imagined my time in D.C. to include. Through my seminar I have met former Vice President of the United States Joe Biden; former chief speechwriter for the Clintons Lissa Muscatine; House Representative from Massachusetts 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District Jim McGovern; President of America Votes Greg Speed; and most recently, Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Every week we welcome four or more speakers into our class to speak on their experience in D.C. as well as in American Politics. Through my internship I have gained immeasurable knowledge regarding state statutes on child abuse, as well as created a network of distinguished individuals which will help me to further my career as my education continues. As the semester is only half over, I look forward to meeting with many more amazing individuals as well as furthering my knowledge of American Politics and the legal system of the United States. There is truly no better place than D.C. to further your political knowledge and appreciation for this great nation!



## Summer Legal Fellows

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### *Kylie Mason*

My eight weeks in the humidity of Washington D. C. was not nearly enough time to explore all that the city had to offer. From trips to the national mall, to spending hours in a Smithsonian, to studying for the LSAT inside a law library; I was never bored. I was able to not only work on three distinct cases in the clinic at the Washington College of Law at American University, but also worked on a research project about tax law that will be published soon and on a project on the Yazidi Kurdish community in Iraq. The summer was spent learning new things, experiencing new cultures, and getting to see that a career in law to help disadvantaged populations is the life for me.

### *Kaitlyn Smith*

This past summer I had the opportunity to participate in the Summer Legal Fellows program at American University's Washington College of Law. During my eight weeks at the law school, I undertook multiple projects. The first project concerned research under Professor Minwalla. Professor Minwalla works within the International Human Rights Clinic and her research focused on the Yazidi community. Some tasks I was assigned to included transcribing interviews and coding articles in a database. Also, while at the clinic I was able to work alongside a few student attorneys. The clinic employs law students to handle cases for lower income clients. Working alongside these student attorneys provided direct exposure to the legal field I had previously never experienced. Overall, the Summer Legal Fellows program provided me with multiple opportunities. I was able to hone my research skills while conducting research on the Yazidi community and learned how to create memos and draft legal letters. The experience of attending court and working alongside student attorneys while they handled cases has prepared and solidified my desire to attend law school.

### *Marlena Mareno*

This summer I was fortunate enough to receive an internship as a Summer Legal Fellow at Western New England University. Here, my partner and I met with our advisor Dr. Arthur Wolf and Law Librarian, Artie Berns. Both these individuals would help with the progression of our research. Upon arrival the first thing my partner and I were presented with was the opportunity to choose what topic we would be researching for the remainder of our eight week stay there. This was exciting because it was entirely up to us to decide what to research and we could choose an issue that was interesting to us. I ultimately chose to analyze the constitutionality and legality of President Trump's

Executive Order regarding Sanctuary Cities ("Enhancing Public Safety in the Interior of the United States"). Next, my partner and I learned how to navigate two prominent legal research databases; WestLaw and LexisNexis. Having the opportunity to learn these programs before entering law school provides us a huge advantage upon entering law school as we will already know the logistics surrounding these programs. We used these two programs to conduct the majority of our research and to write our papers at the conclusion of internship. Finally, each of us conducted an in-depth analysis on our respective topics and produced extensive research papers regarding our issue. This experience has taught me so much including the logistics of legal research and writing that will give me a competitive edge upon entering law school, and more about myself and what interests me personally.



## *Kevin Callanan*

Being a summer legal fellow working in Pace Environmental Litigation Clinic for two months was a remarkable experience. While working closely with the other summer legal fellow at Pace University this summer, Erica Askew, I was given the opportunity to engage in rewarding legal work centered around environmental litigation under the supervision and guidance of two practicing attorneys. While interning, I was given long term projects that primarily dealt with violations of the Clean Water Act and the Clean Air Act, two pieces of legislation that serve as the bedrock of environmental standards enforcement in the United States.

The primary purpose of this assignment was to determine whether the Department of Environmental Protection's long-term control plans for CSO's were meeting the water quality standards necessary for compliance with the Clean Water Act. This assignment mandated that I comb through hundreds of pages of government reports on the combined sewer overflows and overall water quality within New York City. One of the most interesting and exciting tasks that I completed was filing a lawsuit in federal court. Once the correct procedure was found, Erica and I, with the guidance of supervising attorney Todd Ommen, were able to draft the appropriate paper-work to file the lawsuit. We then drafted a civil cover sheet, the summons, and proof of service for each aspect of the case, and filed it electronically.

Besides it being exciting that I now have hand first hand experience drafting and filing a lawsuit in federal court, this experience taught me valuable skills about what practicing the law actually entails. Extensive preparation, refined research skills, and most importantly, attention to small details are required if you are to be successful in a legal career. I am very grateful for my experience as a summer legal fellow at the Pace Environmental Litigation Clinic. The faculty and supervising attorneys were kind, patient, and remarkably knowledgeable. Under their guidance I was given the opportunity to have hands on experience practicing the law and learning what skills and strategies are needed in order to be successful.

## **Dr. Cutler's Book**

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### *President Obama's Counterterrorism Strategy in the War on Terror: An Assessment*

Dr. Cutler's new book assesses President Barack Obama's counterterrorism policy as it evolved throughout his presidency, from the expanded use of drones to the controversial decisions regarding the Syrian conflict. President Obama has achieved the dubious distinction of having been the longest continuous war president in American history, and this title explores how Obama pursued and expanded executive war power in key areas, simultaneously committing to a light footprint approach for U.S. military forces and emphasizing the use of drones, targeted killing of terrorists, and training, advising, and assisting local forces to defend themselves from militant groups such as ISIL. It also provides an in-depth analysis of the defining issue of the Obama counterterrorism strategy: Syria, and his refusal to militarily commit to defeat Bashar al-Assad and support Syria's insurgency. The work concludes with a consideration of counterterrorism policy post-Obama (Palgrave Macmillan).

**To hear more about the book, please join us for a Book Release Reception on November 30, 2017 from 4pm to 6pm in 241 Sarazen Student Union. Light refreshments will be served.**



## Summer Scholars (CURCA)

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### *Shelby Davis*

This past Summer, I worked with Dr. Cutler and Dr. EK on research projects through CURCA. Dr. Cutler and I examined President Donald Trump's preliminary counterterrorism policies, focusing specifically on the Middle East, as well as assessed whether or not there is already an emergent Trump doctrine with the information currently present. This research was then compiled into an organized paper. We will continue to follow Trump and his administration's counterterrorism policies, updating our research and document as time passes. We are scheduled to present our findings at the Northeastern Political Science Association in Philadelphia, PA in November.

Dr. EK and I had pursued research regarding ethnic lobbies in the United States, specifically the Kurdish ethnic lobby. Dr. EK and I's research was extremely difficult, mainly because the United States does not have much literature or coverage of what occurs in regards to Kurdistan. However, it was fun to play detective searching for information on Kurdistan!

I would highly suggest that any Political Science students looking to pursue research on a topic of their interest reach out to a fellow faculty member or to CURCA. While I had no idea what CURCA was when Dr. Cutler first introduced me to the program in the Spring of 2016 when we first applied, I am so grateful for CURCA. They have provided me with HUGE opportunities that I do not see any other colleges providing for their students. The skills and opportunities CURCA has provided me with have given me an edge in the real world, helping to land me a counterterrorism research intern position at a Washington, DC think tank. If you are willing to take the initiative and put in the work, Siena's Political Science faculty and CURCA can truly change your life!



### *Tyler Del Giudice*

Women are underrepresented in modern American politics. Out of 100 US Senators, only 21 are women, and out of 435 seats in the House of Representatives, only 84 women serve. My research with Dr. Collens this summer looked at a variety of candidate factors in recent congressional elections to identify patterns relating to gender and candidates who decide to run for Congress. Our work consisted of researching candidate background (experience), gender, and candidate's political party from the 2000-2014 Congressional Election. In addition, I gathered candidate's vote totals in each of the studied primary elections. Evaluating through data analysis, we began to identify trends relating to candidate gender, ideology, and background experience, and the decision to run for Congressional office.



# CPI Update

The Community Policy Institute (CPI) is a student-led public policy research organization whose mission is to build policy capacity of nonprofit organizations in the Capital Region. CPI provides policy research and analysis to nonprofit partners and the community, enabling them to implement best practices and advocate for policies to address the challenges across a range of issues— including Education, Healthcare, Homelessness, Hunger, and Justice. Housed in the Center for Academic Community Engagement (ACE) and supported by the Political Science Department, the CPI is made up of a specialized group of undergraduate fellows who exhibit strong interests in social justice, the nonprofit sector, research, and policy. CPI Student Fellows disseminate current policy news, research important issues facing the community, and provide community partners with in-depth policy analysis.

With ten student fellows, CPI is working on a variety of projects this semester, including two partnerships with community organizations. Jessica Havens `18 is leading a project examining best practices affecting education equality for students living in poverty with the Alliance for Quality Education. JaiCe Stinton `18 and Antonio Bianchi `19 are co-leading a project to help build a non-profit coalition for the City of Cohoes to streamline communication and resources.

CPI is now recruiting Student Fellows for Spring and Summer 2018 for on-campus internship opportunities. The program includes a funded Intensive Internship in the Summer, a POSC 485 Public Service Internship Credit, POSC 265 Public Policy, and other independent research and educational opportunities. Interested students should contact Dr. Daniel Lewis (dlewis@siena.edu), the CPI Faculty Fellow, or Courtney Tomeny (ctomeny@siena.edu), the CPI Postgraduate Coordinator.



## CC17

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CC17 is a nonpartisan student led organization that focuses on informing potential voters of the upcoming New York State Constitutional Convention vote that will be on the ballot in fall of 2017. We have exclusively been going into high schools in the Capital Region and explaining topics such as gambling, term limits, and the forever wild clause. While we are there we discuss both the pros and cons of these issues and offer insight into why this issue has become so controversial. In our time with the students, we challenge them to think about issues and make informed decisions on a topic that they may not have known about previously. As the vote nears, our group has been monitoring both sides of the argument. Siena recently hosted a debate about the issue for Constitution Day. For now, we are continuing to educate students of the Capital Region and if you are interested in joining our student organization, please reach out to me at [kl27lang@siena.edu](mailto:kl27lang@siena.edu).



## Russia Travel Course

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### *Tyler Del Giudice*

Dr. Park's 'Contemporary Russian Foreign Policy' allowed us the opportunity to study in depth Russia's motives in their foreign policy relations with global powers like the United States, neighboring Asian nations, as well as the former republics of the Soviet Union. With US-Russia relations at their worst since the Cold War, it was an interesting opportunity to look at Russian foreign policy not from the Western perspective as usual, but from the Russian perspective. This class culminated in a week trip to Russia at the end of the semester in May. We visited two Russian cities, St. Petersburg and Moscow. We visited historical sites of the czars in St. Petersburg, including the homes of Peter and Catherine the Great. We also visited the Hermitage, the largest art museum in the world. In Moscow, the capitol of Russia, we had the opportunity to visit the Kremlin, the home and center of the Russian government. We also visited a Soviet nuclear bunker, where Gianni Kierkla and I simulated a nuclear attack on the U.S. using the original equipment in use during the Cold War. This trip was a great experience, and all are grateful to Dr. Park and Siena College for making this opportunity possible.





## Alumni Update

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When it comes to choosing a major, prospective first year students often shy away from the idea of declaring a liberal arts major, often thinking that liberal arts majors don't equate to employment after college. This is not the case, especially when it comes to a political science major. The following political science alumni (all of whom having graduated within the last six years) have successfully found employment or have moved on to other forms of education:

Suman Ali ('17) - Alliance Development Associate at J Strategies, Inc.

Taylor Boucher ('17) - Currently pursuing J.D. at Florida International University School of Law

Eric Brower ('17) - Currently finishing M.P.A. at American University

Robert DeFillippo ('17) - Social Media Intern at Food Pantries of Capitol District, Inc.

Griffin Doyle ('17) - Legislative Aide for NY State Senator Gustavo Rivera

Katelyn Callahan ('16) - Professional Boards Prosecution Intern at the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

Michele Humbert ('16) - Currently pursuing M.P.A. at New York University's Wagner School

Maria Varano ('16) - English Teacher at Kennebunk High School

Kaitlyn Kroluk ('16) - Legislative member organizer for the NSEA, the Nevada State Education Association

Brian Driscoll ('15) - Legal Intern at Richard T. Lau & Associates

Sean McDonald ('15) - Siena College Admissions Advisor

Katherine Smith ('15) - Administrative Assistant to CEO at Manning and Napier

Halie Northrop ('15) - Constituent Liaison for House Representative Elise Stefanik (NY-21st)

Meghan McKeon ('14) - Move Consultant at Continuum International

Clifford Ryan ('14) - Currently pursuing J.D. at Touro College Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center

Pamela Townsend ('14) - Member Service Provider at SEFCU

# CNN Internship

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## *Gloria Rosario*

This past summer I had the opportunity to work for Turner at CNN Headquarters as a News Ad sales intern. I had no prior exposure to the Broadcast industry, so I challenged myself to take the job and see first hand what it was like. Some of my responsibilities included weekly industry reports in which I had to compile different news into a weekly report. I also worked with production, as well as advertisement. At the end of the summer I pitched an advertising idea to VPs and AE's. There were six people in my group, our goal being to come up with an advertising idea and present it to everyone. It was interesting to see

what the talents did behind closed doors and to see the whole production come to fruition. I would also meet with my group to ensure the pitch was going well. I also got to meet with the CFO and VPs of Turner. I enjoyed the fact that I was not only working with CNN news, but also advertisements. Having the ability to work with both sides provided me with a well rounded overview of the media industry. This entire experience was one of excitement, learning and being comfortable with the uncomfortable. One valuable lesson I learnt was to take advantage of all the opportunities that knocked on my door, despite not having much experience in the field as you are truly able to gain the most out of these type experiences and develop professionally and personally.

My biggest challenge was learning about the whole broadcast industry within the first week of being exposed to it. As most of the interns there were marketing majors and had been exposed to the broadcast industry from a young age, for me, I did not know much about the industry. Thus, going into a field where everyone is an expert in what they are doing is intimidating. However, I did not allowed this to impede my success, instead I asked a lot of questions, set up many meetings and asked my bosses if I could help with extra projects. I never allowed the fact that I did not grow up in or know much about the industry stop me from doing a great job. Something I did not expect was to develop close relationships, not only with the interns but also the executives and people who work there. Many became mentors and I'm still in touch with them. It's great to know that if I'm interested in going into the industry I can reach out to them. My experience at CNN applies to my major because I learned how to step out of my comfort zone and that is a big thing in Political Science because you never know what is going to come your way in the political realm.



# Free Political Science Tutoring!

**Mondays & Wednesdays**

9:30-10:30 am in Siena Hall 215

5:30-6:30 pm Siena Hall 215

**Fridays**

12:30-1:30 pm Siena Hall 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

Poli Sci Lounge

**Email [k08maso@siena.edu](mailto:k08maso@siena.edu) if these  
times do not work for you!**

## Upcoming Electives

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### *POSC 205: State and Local Government*

Prof. Daniel C. Lewis

1-2:25p TR, Siena Hall 106

This course is designed to familiarize students with the roles and responsibilities of state and local governments while providing insight into the complex dynamics of the U.S. federal system. Using a comparative state perspective, we will cover the major institutions of state and local government, as well as elections, citizen participation, political parties, organized interests and specific policy areas, such as fiscal policy, economic development and morality policy.

### *POSC 313: American Political Parties*

Prof. Jack D. Collens

1:30pm-2:30pm, Siena Hall 315

Political humorist P.J. O'Rourke once wrote, "The Democrats are the party that says government will make you smarter, taller, richer, and remove the crabgrass on your lawn. The Republicans are the party that says government doesn't work and then they get elected and prove it." Americans love to hate our political parties—they're perceived as overly ideological, combative, selfish, and unprincipled. In reality, however, our parties are often mere reflections of those of us who participate in the electoral process. Moreover, the functions they serve are indispensable for a republic as large and unwieldy as our own. This course will familiarize students with the functions of parties and the interactions between parties and voters, officials, and organized interests. Of particular focus will be the changing nature of the major parties in the wake of the 2016 elections and looking forward to 2018 and 2020.

### *POSC 325: Public Opinion*

Dr. Salvatore Lombardo

11:25am-12:50pm, Siena Hall 101

Democratic theorists have long assumed that people's thoughts about political matters influence the decisions that the political elites make. Political scientists have been more tentative about this assumption. They have been interested in ascertaining whether the empirical evidence suggests that public opinion is indeed consequential. This course provides both an overview of that empirical evidence, and a practical approach to the study of public opinion. Through the readings we will address the following questions: What is public opinion? How does it form? How do we measure it? What are the factors that shape it? Does public opinion evolve? Are there group differences in public opinion? Is public opinion influential in the political process?



### *POSC 329: Citizen Advocacy & Lobbying*

Prof. Daniel C. Lewis

9:10-11:10a M, Siena Hall 218

This is engaged learning course on citizen advocacy and lobbying in the NY State Legislature. The course will cover topics such as legislative process, legislative lobbying, and public advocacy. Course concepts will be applied by teams of students advocating for a bill during the 2018 session of the NY State Legislature. Students will develop conduct policy research, develop advocacy strategies, and directly lobby state legislators and staff. The course requires significant work outside the classroom and students will be required to meet with legislators, staff, and advocacy groups off campus, usually at the state capitol.

### *POSC 376: 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> Amendments*

Dr. Leonard Cutler

9:50-11:15a TR, Siena Hall 315

Our post 9/11 society has been profoundly affected with respect to impacts upon substantive due process rights including the guarantee against unreasonable search and seizure, the right to counsel, the right to a fair and speedy trial as well as the right to confront our accusers in the criminal justice system, The principle focus of the course this semester will be an examination of the critical seminal cases examined by the United States Supreme Court and and the New York State Court of Appeals that address 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> Amendment rights that you and I enjoy as members of our democratic society.

### *POSC 485: Legislative and Policy Process Internship*

Dr. Leonard Cutler

This Internship is designed to provide you with the hands-on opportunity to serve an elected member of the NYS Legislature or a member of Congress. The Internship's goal is to help you come to a deeper understanding of the complexities of New York State's legislative environment and policy making process, as well for those of you placed in regional offices of U.S. Senate and House members, the responsibilities and duties undertaken at the regional level on behalf of the member of Congress. As an intern at the State Capitol, you will be exposed to the inner workings of your legislative representative's office, his/her committee assignments, legislative session, budget hearings and deliberations, and, of course, constituent service work. Although the State Legislature is the lawmaking branch of representative government, you will learn that there are multiple activities our lawmakers undertake, and it is expected that by the end of the semester you will understand:

- How politics influences policy in the New York State legislative process and congressional process;
- How issues get on the policy agenda;
- How politics plays a role in the lawmaking process;
- How your legislator takes political action to advance his/her agendas;
- How the legislative process functions in New York State and what obstacles exist for orderly deliberation and legislative enactment

## *POSC 450: The EU of 2018 (Travel Course)*

Dr. Ausra Park

3:50-5:50p M, Siena Hall 315

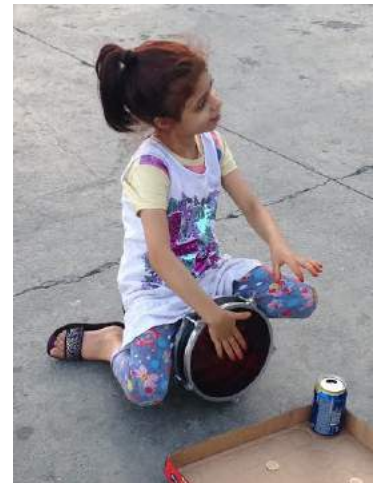
The European Union (EU) has faced several major challenges since the early 2000s. First, in 2004, came the largest enlargement with 10 post-communist East European countries becoming part of the EU. Second, since the summer of 2015, the ongoing Syrian civil war put EU unity to the test as millions of refugees from the Middle East and South Asia crossed EU borders and sought refuge in the most economically well-to-do EU states. Third, in 2016, the most recent jolt took place when Britain voted to leave the EU. This course will cover major political, historical, and economic developments that shaped the EU from its inception to the present, concluding with a travel to five EU member states: Belgium, Germany, Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia (with transportation transfers in the Netherlands and Finland). Travel dates: May 15-28, 2018. Take it for credit, pass/fail, or audit—whichever option works for you!

## Spring Semester Capstone Description

The Spring '18 capstone on International Migration invites seniors to grapple with policy issues related to the movement of peoples across national boundaries including regulated labor migration, undocumented migration, and forced migration. Students examine the "root causes" of displacement and the responses of receiving countries to gain a deeper understanding of the complexity of various forms of international migration.

This capstone experience encourages students to examine the roles of transnational networks arising from migration experiences, and what effects these networks have on notions of community and membership, on citizenship, on nationalism, on political mobilization, and on the duties and responsibilities of states and citizens.

The first half of the capstone course involves common readings and discussions, while the second half provides students with small group and individual consultations. This arrangement provides intellectual space for the development of student research designs and the writing of an extensive literature review. At the end of the semester students present their work to the department members and their peers.



## Faculty Updates

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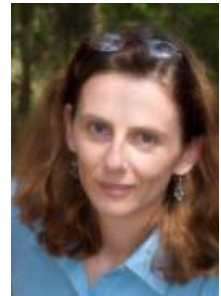
### *Dr. Leonard Cutler*

Dr. Cutler's recent book entitled *President Obama's Counterterrorism Strategy in the War on Terror* was published by Palgrave/MacMillan in August of 2017. Dr. Cutler and his research Assistant and Summer CURCA Scholar, Shelby Davis, will be presenting the results of their collaborative research project, "An Emergent Trump Doctrine: A Preliminary Examination" to the Northeastern Political Science association Annual Meeting in Philadelphia in November of 2017.



### *Dr. Austra Park*

Dr. Park gave a presentation titled "The Baltic States: From Ugly Ducklings to European Swans" at Union College in June. She also attended the 24<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Europeanists in July in Glasgow, UK and presented a paper "Shattering the Glass Ceiling in Eastern Europe? The Rise of Female Presidents." For the spring 2018 she has developed and will offer a new EU travel course (see Spring 2018 electives section for further details). Dr. Park has been recently invited to join as a contributor a premier blogging site *Presidential Power*, which posts blogs written by experts about presidents and presidential activity around the world. She will be making regular posts starting January 2018 on the Lithuanian presidency and the presidential office.



### *Dr. Daniel Lewis*

Dr. Lewis' ongoing project on public opinion toward transgender rights, in collaboration with Andrew Flores (Mills College), Donald Haider-Markel (Kansas University), Patrick Miller (Kansas University), Barry Tadlock (Ohio University), and Jami Taylor (University of Toledo), has produced two more published studies over the spring and summer. "Degrees of Acceptance: Variation in Public Attitudes toward Segments of the LGBT Community," which examines how public opinion toward transgender people differs from attitudes toward gay men and lesbians, is being published in *Political Research Quarterly*. *Public Opinion Quarterly* is publishing, "Testing Contact Theory and Attitudes on Transgender Rights," a study examining how personal interactions with transgender people shape attitudes. The research team also published an analysis of public attitudes toward transgender soldiers in *The Washington Post's Monkey Cage* blog, showing that majorities in all 50 states oppose transgender bans. Dr. Lewis also coauthored a study in *State Politics & Policy Quarterly* with Robynn Kuhlmann (University of Central Missouri), entitled "Legislative Term Limits and Voter Turnout."



### *Dr. Jack Collens*

Dr. Collens continued research on the roles of gender, ideology, and candidate experience in U.S. House primary elections with the help of a research fellowship from the Diversity Action Committee and CURCA Summer Scholar Tyler Del Giudice. He will present some of the results of that work at the Midwest Political Science Association's annual meeting in April 2018. He also worked with coauthor Emily Orchard Wanless (Augustana University) on their chapter "Endorsements in the 2016 Invisible Primary: Still a Useful Indicator?" to be published by Lexington Books in the volume *Conventional Wisdom, Parties, and Broken Barriers in the 2016 Election* (forthcoming, November 2017). He also continued working to develop Siena College's new Communications Program, with an emphasis on designing the Political Communication concentration.



### *Dr. Laurie Naranch*

Dr. Naranch presented research at two conference in June: at the Canadian Political Science Association Conference and at the University of Brighton, England on the work of political thinker Adriana Cavarero, Sojourner Truth, and the power of narrative. Her sabbatical project is a book manuscript about political theory and the aging body in the spaces of visual culture, work, home, the city, and in terms of civic activity. She will finish up some journal articles and take part in a round table at the Western Political Science Association on political memory and mourning in April. She will also give a talk at The Juilliard School, NYC in the spring. She will miss seeing students during her sabbatical, but feels lucky to be able to write and prepare for teaching "Film and Politics" in the fall.



### *Dr. Vera Eccarius-Kelly*

Dr. Eccarius-Kelly has become a regular voice on the WAMC Radio Roundtable on Thursday mornings from 9-10:30 am. Along with other invited guests and panelists, Eccarius-Kelly discusses domestic and global events of the day. She has brought a more international and comparative perspective to the discussions by addressing US foreign policy choices, the Trump administration's relationship with European allies, responses of international organizations to US power projections, human rights and counter-terrorism policies.



### *Dr. Salvatore Lombardo*

Dr. Lombardo continues to teach the Department's research methods courses and is leading our department's efforts with respect to the Interdisciplinary Research Methods Certificate.





# Office Hours

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Dr. Naranch (SH 321 F)		1-2pm 4-4:30pm	10:30-12:30pm	1-2pm 4-4:30pm	
Dr. Lombardo (SH 321 E)		11:30-12:30pm	9:30-12:30pm	11:30-12:30pm	
Dr. Collens (SH 321 C)		9-11:30am	11-12:30pm		11-12:30pm
Dr. Lewis (SH 321 B)	9-11am		9-11am 2-3pm		
Dr. Park (SH 321 A)			1:30-3:30pm		1:30-3:30pm
Dr. Cutler (SH 326)	9:15-11:15am		9:15-11:15am		9:15-11:15am
Dr. Eccarius- Kelly (SH 316)	2:30-3:30pm		2:30-3:30pm	2-5pm	