

SIENACollege

Globetrotter



SNAPSHOTS OF SIENA'S GLOBALIZATIONS STUDIES PROGRAM • SUMMER 2012



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome to the *Globetrotter*, the newsletter of Siena's Globalization Studies Program.

This issue profiles four of our Globalization Studies minors who graduated in May. As you can see, they are a diverse lot, both in terms of experiences and aspirations. They are just a sample of students who minor in globalization studies and learn the processes of globalization and how they affect our own lives and those of the poor and the marginalized.

This year, in our quest to provide more students with globalized experiences, we offered two courses jointly taught with universities from different countries: Canada and Brazil. This was in addition to the annual joint Siena-Concordia [Montreal] Conference, a part of the Intro to Globalization course. See our descriptions of the travel study courses that also help to create a culture of diversity among Siena's student body, one of the goals of Siena's new five-year strategic plan, *Living Our Tradition*.

We hope that you will be able to join in the many opportunities offered through the Globalization Studies Program.

Jean M. Stern, Ph.D.
Director, Globalization Studies Program



A CONFERENCE ON GLOBALIZATION

By Eric Guzman '12

As an enhancement to their classroom studies, students had the opportunity to travel internationally to learn more about global issues at the Sustainability: Rio +20 Conference at the Loyola International College of Concordia University in Montreal. The symposium marked the 7th annual Conference on Globalization, sponsored jointly by the Loyola International College and Siena College.

“Students have the opportunity to learn about topics and prepare presentations that discuss economic, social, religious, environmental and political issues of our world, fostering a transnational experience,” said Director of the Center for Globalization Studies Jean Stern, Ph.D.

The conference’s keynote speaker, Member of Parliament and leader of

Canada’s Green Party Elizabeth May, expressed concern for Canada’s diminishing reputation as a leader in the global push for a greener planet.

Siena students attended the conference as part of Introduction to Globalization Studies (GLST-100) and tied their presentations to the theme of local and global sustainability. Emily Hoffman '14 and Kevin Buonagurio '14 were two of eight Siena students to present. They commended Siena for being at the forefront of Fair Trade Universities in their presentation, “Social Sustainability and Fair Trade.”

The students in a United States and Canada relations course joined GLST-100 students at the conference because they were part of a class co-taught by professors from each school through video conferencing,



shared lectures and joint research. The conference was the first time the students met face-to-face.

An unplanned element of the trip included a strike of more than 200,000 students in Quebec over university tuition increases. Although the conference continued, many Concordia students were occupied with the strike.

“It was definitely an interesting experience,” said Professor of History Claire Parham, Ph.D. “We were able to see how other students get involved with provincial politics. There was so much going on it was almost as if the class was teaching itself.”



STUDENT PROFILE: MATT GRIMES '12

Siena Student Wins Fulbright Award

Like most Siena students who take advantage of globalization studies and study abroad, Matt Grimes '12 has a passport filled with colorful stamps and the life-changing experiences to match it. He studied in Spain as a sophomore and then in Ecuador as a junior. He went on the alternative spring break trip to the Dominican Republic twice and completed a travel study tour on rural sustainability in Bolivia.

“I came into Siena with the goal of study abroad in mind,” said Grimes. “It was really the driving force behind my decision to choose Siena.”

What’s different about Grimes is that he is a Fulbright Award winner, the College’s second ever.

“It’s the culmination of all the hard work and international experience I’ve had during my career at Siena,” said Grimes, who will spend 10 months in Argentina as an English teaching assistant.

Rather than going to class, studying and traveling as he did during study abroad, Grimes will be working, as well as engaging the community by using technology and service learning in an after school program to teach applications like Microsoft Office and Windows Movie Maker. He hopes to bring parts of the American culture to Argentines through music and film.

Global studies is one of the many high-impact educational experiences described in Siena’s

new strategic plan. Along with first-year seminars, undergraduate research and capstone courses, study abroad helps open students' minds and experience learning in a different way.

“It really puts (students) a step ahead,” said Grimes. “Living in a globalized world, having that knowledge of what’s beyond our reach, really helps bring everything together.”

After completing his Fulbright in Argentina, Grimes plans on pursuing a master’s degree or working in international education and social change, or as he puts it, “something where I can build cultural inclusion.”



STUDENT PROFILE: JOYCE RAPHAIL '12

Opportunity Abounds at Siena

“When I first came to Siena, I never thought that I would study abroad,” said Joyce Raphael '12, joking that her parents might faint at the idea of her spending a semester abroad. “But as I talked to Br. Brian (Belanger, O.F.M., director of international programs and study abroad) and realized all the

different opportunities I had in front of me ... I decided to take advantage of it.”

She chose Brussels, Belgium, because it's the *de facto* center of the European Union and that satisfied her interest in international affairs and different cultures.

“Every metro stop is like a different country,” she said. “It taught me a lot about flexibility, how to adapt and to make the most of experiences.”

But Raphael's education did not start and end with study abroad. She graduated this past May with a degree in political science, a minor in globalization studies and a college career jam-packed with experiences. She was a member of the Honors



Program, volunteered for the Ministry Club, was a member of the Fair Trade Steering Committee and head delegate for Siena's Model United Nations team.

In fall of 2010, the semester following her study abroad, Raphael interned with the Protection Project as part of Siena's Washington Semester Program in Washington, D.C. The Protection Project is a human rights research institute that addresses the



issue of human trafficking. Raphail compiled research and prepared reports of developing countries and the extent to which human trafficking occurs there. She also helped prepare for the annual Protection Project Symposium.

“It taught me so much about this issue,” said Raphail, who later used her connections from that internship to bring a speaker from the FBI to Siena’s Anti-Human Trafficking week.

Raphail’s dream job is to work with the UN. She’s also considering going back to school for human rights law or international law. Whatever she chooses, the breadth of her college experiences have certainly prepared her.

“I’ve been able to take advantage of everything Siena had to offer,” Raphail said.



STUDENT PROFILE: BEN THOMAS '12

Graduate's Dream Job Comes Out of Not-So-Thin Air

The *Globetrotter* profiled Ben Thomas '12 in summer 2010 after he studied abroad in Tanzania. The following semester he studied in Cambodia and Vietnam, giving him a full academic year's experience in international settings. Each destination provided a different perspective on economy, language and politics.

In May 2012 Thomas graduated from Siena and shortly thereafter secured a job at an international development start-up company, AirWell Water, based in Mystic, Conn. It is a dream job for Thomas who will help developing towns and villages around the world access clean, potable water using the company's technology

of atmospheric water harvesting. Thomas attributes his job offer to study abroad.

"The reason I got hired was because of these experiences and because they're so uncommon," said Thomas. "I'm absolutely thrilled about it."

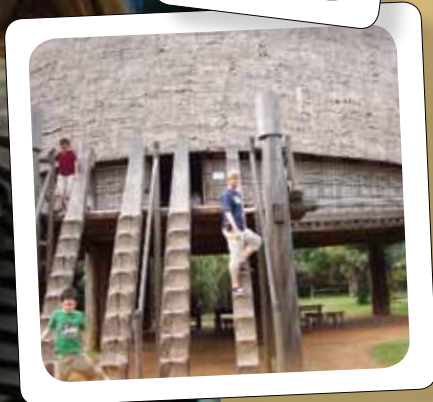
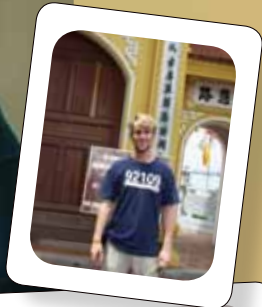
According to Thomas, the technology runs on solar power and can create 1,000 gallons of water from air that's 70°F and 70% humidity. He will be helping with the company's humanitarian strategy. And he will definitely continue to travel.

"Traveling has shown me how truly little I've seen and know, and the value of really understanding people you're working with and serving," he said.

Thomas graduated with a bachelor's degree in economics and minors in political science and globalization studies. In addition to his two semesters of study abroad, he was involved in a host of campus activities including Siena's successful bid as a Fair Trade college, the globalizations studies Concordia Conference and the Sr. Thea Bowman Center for Women.

"I'm thanking my lucky stars for my opportunities at Siena and that I've been able to take advantage of them," said Thomas.





TRAVEL STUDY COURSES

Global Connection

Twenty-four students traveled to Europe in January on a nine-day study tour with Deborah Kelly, J.D., associate professor of management. The study tour was offered as a one-credit Global Connection course, and the students completed a post-trip reflection assignment in February. In addition to appreciating



the arts, culture and history of The Netherlands, Belgium and France, the students enjoyed the cultural immersion experience of the people, culture, food and languages of these European countries. The group had guided tours in each of the cities they visited and also toured numerous museums and historic sites, including:

- Anne Frank House Museum
- Heineken Factory
- World Heritage Site of UNESCO
- Versailles Palace
- The Louvre
- Musée d'Orsay
- Centre Pompidou
- The Panthéon
- The Conciergerie
- Les Invalides
- Sainte Chapelle
- Musée de l'Orangerie



Gender Equality in the Nordic Countries

By Heather McHugh '12

Last spring Shannon O'Neill, Ph.D., led 14 students and two faculty members to Scandinavia for 10 days as part of the travel course *Gender Equality in Nordic Countries*. The course emphasized learning about progressive gender practices that have been implemented in the countries visited.

In Copenhagen, Denmark, the group attended a class at the Danish

Institute for Study Abroad with Dr. Jakob Lindgaard, where they discussed curbing religious and gender discrimination and heard from two Muslim women about their experiences as Danish women.

The class explored Stockholm, Sweden, a breathtaking city comprised of 14 islands. Vera Eccarius-Kelly, Ph.D., scheduled a meeting at the University of Stockholm with Dr. Drude Dahlerup, an internationally known scholar. The class discussed efforts to achieve gender equality in politics.

Finally, they traveled to Iceland to meet with Dr. Thorgerdur Einarsdóttir, the head of University of Reykjavik's Gender Studies Department. They had a lively discussion about gender equality efforts at the University and the Icelandic approach to human rights.

Hussite and Lutheran Reformation

During Spring Break, 12 students traveled to Czech Republic and Germany to study the political, cultural and ecclesiastic backgrounds of religious reformers Jan Hus and Martin Luther. The students visited sites linked to Hus in Prague and then went by train to Germany to learn about sites connected to Luther, including: the Castle Church in Wittenberg, his birthplace in Eisleben, the Augustinian cloister in Erfurt and the Wartburg Castle.

“Anyone can learn about Martin Luther, but going to Germany where we were able to see where Luther lived, the Churches where he gave his sermons, the places he wrote his letters and where he hid from the Pope brings a whole new aspect to learning,” said

Joe Sainato '12. “Going to Germany and Czech Republic also gave the study tour group an idea of what other cultures are like, including the food, the people, sports and everyday life in general.”

The class met prior to the trip to provide a historical background on Hus and Luther. Following the trip, the class focused on key writings and their significance today.



TRAVEL STUDY COURSES (continued)

Rural Sustainability in Latin America

On May 16, eight Siena students from the Rural Sustainability in Latin America course traveled to Bolivia to explore a new community partnership with the Unidad Academica Campesina (UAC) in Carmen Pampa, a small rural Franciscan University located in the Yungas region of Bolivia. During the 14-day trip, the students learned



about the creative solutions that UAC has developed to address environmental challenges that they are currently facing, including: ecotourism growth, recycling and waste management, energy conservation and remediating polluted water runoff.

The Siena students developed projects throughout the semester and gained a firsthand knowledge of the topic during their study tour.

Trinidad: Peace-building through Interreligious and Cultural Dialogue

What do palm trees, calypso music, sun, sand and the rainforest have to do with religion class? It may sound like an odd combination, but not for the 23 students enrolled in the Religious Studies in the Caribbean field experience this past



winter. For two weeks, these students left the campus behind and explored the religions of Islam, Christianity, Hinduism and Carib (Amerindian) religion in Trinidad and Tobago. The premise of the course was, “no religion is viewed in isolation from the religions and cultures surrounding it or viewed in pure continuity with its past.”

The students, led by Fareed Munir, Ph.D., professor of religious studies, spoke with the Muslim Imam, Manwar Ali and the Muslim community, Father Joseph Everard Harris,

who was officially appointed the new Archbishop the day before the group's arrival by Pope Benedict XVI, and other religious and community leaders. They also met with students from the University of West Indies.

The Siena group utilized religious studies for peace-building and dialogue between people in their witnessing religious ceremonies and discussing various topics as, "Islam and peace" and "women in the church." They each kept a journal while traveling and wrote a paper based on interviews and their journal reactions.

Even after snorkeling in a clear blue ocean, hiking and a New Year's celebration, the students wrote consistently in their final papers that the best part of the trip was seeing equality in a way many people believe cannot exist.

NEW TRAVEL COURSE

RELG 400 "Religious Treasures of Italy"

- January 1-13
- Venice, Ravenna, Florence, Siena, Assisi and Rome
- Course theme is religious treasures of Italy
- The course satisfies the Religious Dimensions requirement in the old core and Franciscan Concern Texts and Traditions in the new core
- One section; 25 students is the limit
- The class meets weekly during the Fall semester. Students read and discuss required readings and prepare a site report about one of the sites, which they will submit in written form and deliver orally at the site. Students prepare a journal of their experiences to hand in upon their return to the US.
- The course fee is \$4,289. Students also have to pay for their lunches, about eight dinners, tips to guides and driver, and their personal entertainment and shopping expenses.



A COMMITMENT TO CHANGE

By Eric Guzman '12

With a passion for building a more sustainable, peaceful and just world, Siena Students for Fair Trade (SSFT) hosted the second annual Fair Trade Colleges and Universities Regional Conference, uniting student leaders and grass roots organizations determined to make a difference.

Fair Trade is a global movement to bring a sense of justice and opportunity to the poor, vulnerable and marginalized workers and producers of the world. In 2010, Siena College became the third college in the United States and first Catholic college in the country to be awarded Fair Trade status (see *Siena News* Fall 2010 issue).

“Our goal is to educate all members of the community about

Fair Trade,” said SSFT Member Catherine Espiritu '13. “(Fair Trade) affects all parts of our lives and here at Siena we look to embrace our Franciscan traditions and seek ways to make a difference in the community.”

The conference featured a series of presentations that shared the success of Fair Trade movements at regional colleges and universities. It also provided students and campus leaders with the opportunity to learn about new and innovative ways to encourage campus involvement.

Members from Love146, a nonprofit organization dedicated to ending child sex slavery and exploitation, delivered the keynote speech. They made the connection to Fair Trade, explaining that, if marginalized workers and producers can earn enough to support themselves



and their families, the estimated 1.2 million children that are trafficked around the world each year can be saved.

“If we can shift our culture to value quality and labor justice, we eliminate the need for people to put children into slavery,” said Chelsea Flaim '12. “Being a part of the Siena community and movements like this give students the opportunity to make an impact all over the world, not just on our campus.”

GLOBALIZATION STUDIES COURSES – FALL 2012

Courses with the GLST Attribute

FINC-413	International Finance	Section 7	POSC-257	Terrorism: Causes and Cures	Sections 6,8
FREN-330	French Civilization	Section 12	RELG-210	Islam	Sections 4,6
GERM-026	Twentieth Century German Cinema	MWF Sections 5,7	RELG-280	World Religions	
GERM-027	US & German Media	Section 11	RELG-385	Buddhist Traditions	Section 6
HIST-202	The West and the World	Sections 5,7	SOCI-160	Environment and Society	Section 2
HIST-373	Africa II: The Modern Transition		SOCI-375	Health Care, Developed World	Section 5
MRKT-334	International Marketing	Sections 1,3			

CROSS LISTED COURSES

Courses with the GLST Attribute

Art to the 15th Century [CREA-231]	Sections 1,3
Equity and School Achievement, Finland [EDUC 310]	Section 6
Global Social Problems [SOCI-120]	Section 23

GLST-325 Globalization Travel Course

Religious Treasures in Italy [RELG-400]	AR contact Dr. Zaas
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GLOBALIZATION STUDIES MINOR

The Globalization Studies minor complements all majors and prepares students to “address the challenges of an ever-changing world and a diverse society.” Students will examine how their decisions and those of other U.S. citizens affect and are being affected by decisions beyond our borders. They will also see that most careers, whether in business, social policy/action, and the humanities are pursued within a global context.

This minor is premised on the definition of globalization as the “growth of relations among people across national borders that creates a complex series of connections that tie together what people do, what they experience and how they live across the globe.” It also incorporates Siena College’s Franciscan heritage by recognizing that St. Francis and his followers developed networks beyond Italy’s borders and that our contemporary connections must be evaluated in terms of both how they affect human society and all of Creation and how they involve our responsibility to others.

Hence, this minor attempts to enable students to discover their connections and responsibilities to the rest of the world through considering these basic questions in all its designated courses:

1. What are the positive and negative ways in which the people of the world are connected in the 21st century?
2. How do I and the people in my community, region and country have global connections with people in other lands?
3. How do individuals, organizations and governments attempt to manage these connections? What are the positive and negative implications for the various management methods and rules? Who benefits and who loses from these decisions? How do these decisions affect the marginalized and the poor?



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