

The DePaul University International Studies Quarterly Newsletter

INTERRUPTED SILENCE

ACTIVELY ENGAGED INTELLECTUALS,
INTELLECTUALLY ENGAGED ACTIVISTS

compiled and published
WINTER QUARTER 2019

Alumnus Spotlight

Kunza Shakil, former INT student representative and INTerrupted Silence editor, graduated from the INT program in June 2018. Upon graduation, she was accepted to become a Fulbright ETA in Malaysia starting January 2019. Now, two months into her grant year, Kunza shares her experiences as a Fulbright scholar thus far:



Kunza Shakil, 2018

Fulbright, Malaysia

I am still very early in my grant year - I arrived in Malaysia on January 3 and got to my placement city even later on January 25. We had two weeks of orientation in Kuala Lumpur with the entire cohort (100 of us) and then regional orientation for one week in the city of Ipoh. In these short three weeks I met so many cool people (including US Ambassador to Malaysia, Kamala Lakhdar) and made several friends that I have been traveling Malaysia with.

I am placed in the State of Melaka, about an hour and a half south of KL and about 3 hours north of Singapore. Melaka is a pretty urban state, especially in Melaka City, the capitol.

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Letter From The Editors

Welcome to the Winter 2019 edition of the quarterly International Studies newsletter. After what has seemed like the longest winter ever, we are finally headed into a vibrant spring. As we slowly recover from the midterm season and gear up for finals, we look forward to an exciting spring 2019 filled with captivating speakers, successful INT socials, memorable study abroad trips, and, of course, all of the enlightening courses taught by our wonderful INT professors. On that hopeful note, we wish you good luck on finals and hope you have a relaxing and restorative spring break!

My town, Alor Gajah, is a little more rural for Melaka (not Malaysia). I really like this small state. It reminds me of suburban Chicago where I grew up, and Kuala Lumpur reminds me a little of Chicago too (it's the same travel time as well!). There are 3 other ETAs in my state and it turns out my housemate is from Naperville. Last year's ETA who was at my school was also from Chicago!

I love my school. The teachers are kind and caring, especially when my housing situation had a bad start and they could tell how troubled I was. But the housing situation has gotten better. The students are fun and super involved with extra curricular activities. They love to take selfies and ask me questions about myself and about the States. The teachers have been involving me with planning and activities for English language events. I have gotten so comfortable speaking in front of a crowd of 1,000 students, something that was unimaginable just a few months prior. Most recently, they put me in charge of teaching a group of students how to dance to Katy Perry's "Firework" for language month...

Two weeks ago we were on holiday for Chinese New Year. Myself and another ETA from Melaka drove up



Group photo at regional orientation



Fulbrighters in front of the Petronas Twin Towers



Kunza with her students



Selfie with US Ambassador to Malaysia, Kamala Lakhdhir

north to visit other ETAs and we were able to visit several new cities and islands. I really enjoy traveling in Malaysia - it is lush and green and mountainous. We've gotten the hang of left-hand driving too! On the topic of traveling, I was selected along with other 19 other ETAs to travel to Taipei, Taiwan for the East Asia Pacific Fulbright Workshop next month. I am looking forward to this event and learning about the work that other Fulbrighters (both ETAs and researchers) are doing in the region.

I am now in my second week of teaching after the holiday break and so far it's been steady. Overall I am enjoying my time here and can't wait to see what the rest of the grant year holds. I hope you are staying warm in Chicago's winter and are having a smooth winter quarter at DePaul!

The Tales of Storytelling in the Classroom

Rebecca Meluch

Holding his hometown dear to his heart, Jacob Stump, a professor of International Studies, works to simplify the teachings of political economy in order to cater to the everyday man.

Growing up in Appalachia, a cultural region in the Eastern United States, Professor Stump did not initially expect himself to begin a career in International Politics. After joining the military for three years upon graduating high school, Stump completed eleven years of schooling, including a PhD from American University. He now focuses on teaching and researching the social construction of insecurity, politics of economy, and the colonial relationship in Appalachia.

Being the first person in his family to attend college, Stump aspires to teach political economy and international studies in ways that ordinary folks can relate to and understand. When asked to compare and contrast the way he was taught political economy at American University with his current teaching style as a professor, Stump stated that he tries to make complex theories and concepts understandable in plain language, which his professors in college did not do.

In early fall, Professor Stump hosted a seminar on his soon to be published story, "Cat Face' Mitch", at an event open to members of the International Studies Department called INTuesday. Stump used the short story to put complex concepts into simple terms. The story itself left many students as well as professors with the ability to understand concepts such as economic development and obliteration.

The story of "Cat Face' Mitch" is based on a character in Stump's home region of Appalachia who truthfully went by "Cat Face" Mitch.

He was a man that lived according to a political economy of illegal herbing, and contributed to the economy by trying to improve and develop his business. One day, "Cat Face" Mitch faced external challenges. Outsiders and wealthier developers stripped him of his way of making a living. By playing with ordinary characters of every day economy and applying them to complex political concepts such as the "obliteration of life", Professor Stump plans to use his short story to transform the teachings of political economy in a way that simplifies it for ordinary people.

Shiera Malik, a fellow International Studies professor, believes the story of "'Cat Face' Mitch" has a lot to offer to its students because it is a new way of teaching. "I think the story is a rich one," Malik said. "Readers of this story who have studied international political economy will recognize it as a story about the politics of economy."

Stump acknowledges that he cannot completely change the way political economy is widely taught, however, he believes that he has found a new and unique way of doing so on a smaller level. By incorporating the ordinariness and the characters of Appalachia, Stump says that he plans to make a collection of short stories like "'Cat Face' Mitch" in order to progress narratives that highlight political economy. He is also working on a more academic piece, "The Colonial Imperative in Appalachia" which is a larger analysis of the concept of coloniality and its use to understand the enduring poverty of Appalachia.

Professor Stump has already been using the techniques of storytelling and narrative to teach his own classes here at DePaul. "I mean ,the stories are built into the way of me teaching," Stump said. "I would definitely use the stories as ways to illustrate more abstract concepts."

Although the techniques such as storytelling and ordinary narratives are new to the way political economy is traditionally taught, they offer a way for professors much like Professor Stump to transform classical concepts into more ordinary and applicable terms of everyday life.

Student Talents:

Poetry

"Something Pure"

Fighting my urges is now so futile
As I watch the sunshine hide in vapor
Its rays blinding me became too brutal
I say goodbye through cigarette paper

My focus changes to my cherished risk
The clouds lead me to my first obsession
Water harbors your image like a disk
And sings your name to me like a question

The sea is sparkling again, I must tell
If I should shade myself from its bright light
Or swim in its familiar carousel
I start to sink while you pray for moonlight

I am drowning in your cobalt allure
Wishing you would save me with something pure.

Izabella Jablonska

INTravels

Student Photos from Abroad



**Swat, Khyber
Pakhtunkhwa,
Pakistan
by Saad
Ahmed**



**Batu Caves
Temple,
Malaysia
by Kunza Shakil**



***Great Barrier Reef, Cairns,
Australia
by Marzena Mistarz***

***Kasprowy Wierch, Tatra
Mountains, Zakopane,
Poland
by Izabela Kantor***



INTravels

Student Photos from Abroad

Happy Highway Ep. 4

Christian Borkey

In whatever free time I manage to get as an INT student with several jobs, I perform and produce comedy shit around the city. To express my opinions on the matter in short; people have this effed up idea that comedy/performing arts/theater are all magical leftist spaces where our political problems stay at the door. Few people I've encountered in the comedy scene recognize the stage as not the great equalizer, but as a fun-house mirror reflecting societal inequalities tenfold. To put it practically; 30 year old white men who think they're gonna get on SNL one day think that writing one sketch about prison injustice is the height of political activism, and they're the loudest voices in comedy. They fetishize comedians like Samantha Bee, John Oliver and Seth Meyers (all of whom vehemently reject the claim that comedy itself is an agent of social change), and then feel good about themselves when they pay Second City to produce a show called some dumb shit like USA: U Stupid America that a total of 12 people will see on a Thursday at 11:30pm. Basically, I'm uninterested in comedy that serves to stroke the egos of the over-represented, and want to express that THAT is not what I'm saying when I "do comedy."

Phew!! Now that all of THAT negative energy is out of our system, let's talk about a song I wrote after taking an INT class! This is a song originally meant to be performed by two puppets, but I've edited the script a few times and taken one puppet around to variety shows and performed this song. After researching the commodity chain of tampons in my International Political Economy class with Dr. Stump, I switched to using a Diva Cup and wrote this song for a show I was producing at the time. I hope it makes some sense to you!

(MARZI and JAMIE address the audience with friendly greetings)

MARZI: Welcome back to Happy Highway.

JAMIE: It's our favorite time of the show.
Opening our letters from viewers!

MARZI: This week's letter is from Emily from Cleveland!

JAMIE: Basketball!

MARZI: Emily from Cleveland writes: Dear Jamie and Marzi. I just got my first period. What kind of things should I expect?

JAMIE: Well, Emily from Cleveland...

BOTH: A lot!

WE LOVE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM VIEWERS AT HOME SO HERE WE GO THIS IS WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

MARZI: ONCE EVERY 28 TO 32 DAYS YOUR UTERUS SAYS GOODBYE

JAMIE: TO AN EGG THAT IT WANTED TO MAKE INTO A KID BUT WAS ULTIMATELY UNFERTILIZED THIS MIGHT SEEM FINE AND DANDY ENOUGH BUT YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT WILL COME

MARZI:
SOMETIMES I GET ANGRY
SOMETIMES I GET SAD
SOMETIMES I GET DIARRHEA

JAMIE: Diarrhea? Because of your period?

MARZI: Yup! One of life's many mysteries!

BOTH: THIS IS WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

JAMIE: IF YOU DON'T WANT TO BLEED ALL OVER YOURSELF AND LOSE ALL YOUR FRIENDS AND YOUR JOB

MARZI: MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS ARE THE WAY TO GO BUT YOU GOTTA KNOW THE WHERE AND THE HOW

A TAMPON GOES INTO YOUR VAGINA
BUT NOT YOUR URETHRA OR YOU BUTT!!
(That was horrible!)

JAMIE: KEEP IT IN FOR 8 HOURS OR LESS
SO YOU DON'T GET TOXIC SHOCK MOST
MENSTRUAL THINGS ARE MADE OUT OF
COTTON AND PLASTIC WHICH TAKES A LOT
OF WORK TO MAKE THEM ALL QUICK BUT
DISPOSABLES CAN ONLY BE USED FOR
LESS THAN A DAY

MARZI: SO JUST LIKE RELIGION
THEY'RE A GIANT WASTE

JAMIE: What?

(PIANO SLIDE)

BOTH: WE LOVE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS
FROM VIEWERS AT HOME SO HERE WE GO
THIS IS WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

MARZI: Disposable menstrual products are
killing the environment, Emily from Cleveland.

JAMIE: Plus, a captive and desperate market
made of 50% of the entire population makes it

easy for brands to produce any sort of irresponsible product they please!

MARZI: Like tampons that are over-absorbent and cause toxic shock--

JAMIE: Tampons that are scented and don't have to go through as strict of FDA regulation because they're "cosmetic" not "medical"--

MARZI: Heck, the patent for Tampax tampons hasn't changed since 1933! Can you believe?

JAMIE: Would you trust the environmental sustainability of a product made in the US in 1933? I wouldn't!

MARZI: And how! All of that plastic from the wrapping really adds up, Emily from Cleveland. Not to mention the amount of people who flush their tampons and destroy septic systems city-wide!

JAMIE: We're additionally conditioned to not talk about our periods, which makes the pace for change absolutely glacial.

MARZI: You know what isn't glacial anymore? Our glaciers, Emily! We're destroying the environment and lining the pockets of people who usually don't even have uteruses!

BOTH: So what do we do?
THIS IS WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

JAMIE: A COUPLE OF ALTERNATIVES TO TAMPONS AND PADS AINT TOO HARD TO FIND

MARZI: THERES SOFT CUPS, CLOTH PADS, DIVA CUPS, LUNA CUPS?, THINX UNDERWEAR, UHHH, A ROLL OF TOILET PAPER FROM THE STALL NEXT TO YOU, SOLO CUPS!

JAMIE: Not those last two!

MARZI: Free bleed?

BOTH: Free bleed!!!!

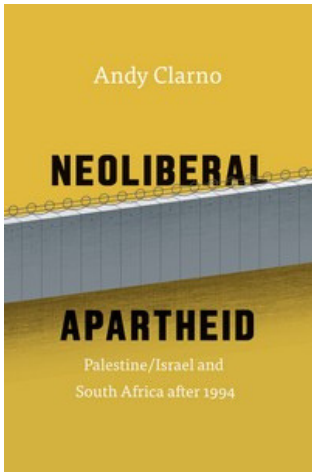
AND THAT'S
WHAT YOU
NEED
TO
KNOOOOOOW

JAMIE: Join us next week when we talk about embalming your loved ones!

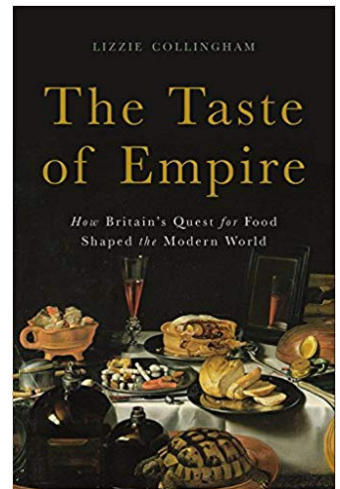
END

Good Reads Corner

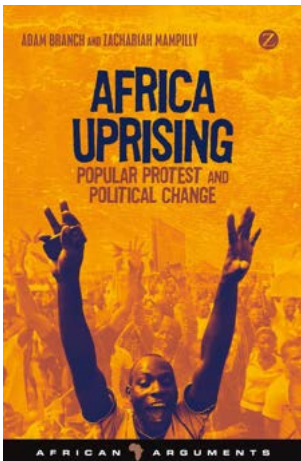
Recommended reading for spring break



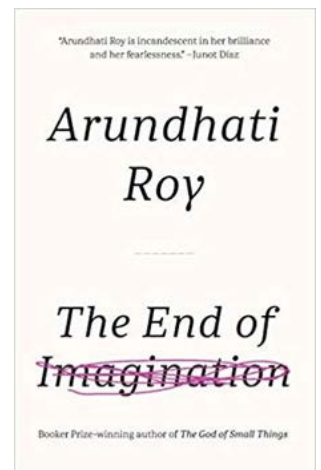
*Neoliberal
Apartheid*
by Andy Clarno



The Taste of Empire
by Lizzie Collingham



Africa Uprising
by Adam Branch and
Zachariah Mampilly



*The End of
Imagination*
By Arundhati Roy

Student **Internship** Spotlight

RefugeeOne



Zuri Soughat

I began my internship with RefugeeOne in the summer of 2018. I was brought to the team as a Resettlement and Co-Sponsorship Intern. The truth is, when I was applying, I didn't care what position I was put in. I just wanted to gain some experience in working with non-profits, especially ones whose issues I am passionate about. Working at RefugeeOne was an incredible experience. No two days were ever the same for me as an intern. One day I might

be processing invoices and the next day I could be out of the office all day preparing for a new case arrival. It was interesting to see the day-to-day activities of a bustling non-profit. While I do wish I had more face time with actual clients, my job was to simply help them take their first steps in a new country. I was doing more work in preparing for the arrival of refugees and helping them adjust to their new life. It was exciting to watch them take the CTA for the first time, ride in a car, or even watch the children play with toys. It was a monumental move for so many of these families who left everything behind for their family's safety and well-being. None of the clients who I interacted with buckled in the face of adversity. They faced their challenges with courage and worked harder than most people I know. It was bittersweet, but heartwarming to see these families adjust to their new life and blossom. While I no longer intern with RefugeeOne, I am a volunteer with them to this day because once you get involved with this organization it is nearly impossible to stop!

IT'S TIME TO PLAY.....

NAME! THAT! PROF!

Match the INT Prof. with what you are most likely to be thinking while in their class!

1. "Don't say I-ran, don't say I-ran, don't say I-ran" OR "Did I do a thick enough description?" _____

2. "How am I already out of printing money? It's week 4!" _____

3. "Man, I would LOVE to meet Cousin Dicky" _____

4. "THE PATRIARCHY! IT'S EVERYWHERE!" _____

5. "Where are the women?????" _____

A. Prof. Nast

B. Prof. Stump

C. Prof. Gott

D. Prof. Ehsani

E. Prof. Malik

SPRING EVENTS AROUND CHICAGO



6

Chicago Donut Fest

Old Crow Smokehouse River N
Saturday 10 AM-3 PM

Celebrate the end of finals and the start of spring quarter with some delicious donuts in Chicago.



12

Museum Party

Art Institute of Chicago
Friday 9 PM- 12 AM

Mix and mingle, visit the bar, eat snacks, see exhibits, and dance to bands at After Dark in the Modern Wing of the Art Institute of Chicago for age 21+.



5

Viva Cinco de Mayo Festival

Toyota Park

Viva Cinco De Mayo Festival has live music, Mexican food, arts & crafts, a carnival, and family activities outdoors at Toyota Park. Children age 12 and younger are free.



31

Greek Festival

Lincoln Park
May 31-June 2

Lincoln Park Greek Fest serves Greek food while you enjoy Greek music, dancing, and a craft fair on Sheffield Avenue outside St. George Greek Orthodox Church.





International Studies

Spring Quarter 2019 Classes



INT Core Classes



INT 100: Intro to International Studies, Stump (TTH 9:40-11:10)
INT 100: Intro to International Studies, Ehsani (TTH 2:40-4:10)
LSP 200: Multicultural Perspective War on Terrorism, Kamin (TTH 11:20-12:50)
LSP 200: Multicultural Perspective War on Terrorism, Kamin (TTH 1-2:30)
INT 200: Intro to Macroecon in an INT Context, McIntyre (MW 2:40-4:10)
INT 203: International Conflict and Cooperation, McIntyre (MW 11:20-12:50)
INT 203: International Conflict and Cooperation, Gott (MW 1-2:30)
INT 204: Cultural Analysis, Nast (MW 2:40-4:10)
INT 205: International Political Economy, Stump (TTH 11:20-12:50)
INT 206: Identities and Boundaries, Nast (MW 4:20-5:50)
INT 301: Senior Seminar, Stump (TTH 2:40-4:10)



INT Elective Classes

INT 304/404: Migration and Forced Migration, Yokota (TH 6:00-9:15)
INT 318/518: Society, Politics, and Culture in the Middle East, Ehsani (TTH 1-2:30)
INT 329/529: Geographies of Food Waste, DeLorenzo (W 6-9:15)
INT 388/490: Trauma: Praxis & Resistance, Sioh (W 6-9:15)
INT 349: World Economy: States, Markets, Labour, Sioh (TTH 11:20-12:50)
INT 364: Globalization and Resources, Brownlow (TTH 1-2:30)
INT 364: Latin American Political Economy, Spaulding (TTH 11:20-12:50)

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