International Relations Program Updates

IR Program had another strong year.

As this edition of IR Newsletter cogently shows, we have consistently attracted academically talented students. They have thrived at SJU and have taken advantage of the many internship and study abroad opportunities, achieve inside and outside the classroom to be global citizens. They are now capable of applying their knowledge outside of the classroom.

Along with 11 incoming frosh students in Fall 2018, we added 4 new majors.

We continuously strive to develop our sense of academic community among our students, alumni, and faculty members.

Kazuya Fukuoka
Director, IR Program

Congratulations, Graduates!

The International Relations Program proudly recognizes the class of 2018:

Anita Rochelle Aub
Annmarie C. Atkinson
Maxwell Joseph Barrile
Ryan J. Blatt
Natalie Domaas

Samantha Errasquin
Peter Thomas Ferris
Claudia Isabel Fuentes
Brian Paul Gallagher
Sarah E. Graziano

John Patrick McGrath
Emma Teresa Pachon
Daniel Robert Soucy
Gregory Joseph Tonzini
Julian Dacian Zuzarte

Academic Achievement

IR graduates had many academic achievements of which to be proud. Students from the program were inducted into Phi Beta Kappa (2) and Alpha Sigma Nu (2) honor societies. Also, one student graduated with Summa Cum Laude, 5 students with Magna Cum Laude, and two students with Cum Laude

Departmental Awards
International Relations Award: Daniel Robert Soucy

Honor Societies
Phi Beta Kappa: Daniel Robert Soucy, Julian Dacian Zuzarte
Alpha Sigma Nu: Peter Thomas Ferris, Julian Dacian Zuzarte

Academic Honors
Summa Cum Laude: Daniel Robert Soucy
Magna Cum Laude: Maxwell Joseph Barrile, Natalie Domaas, Peter Thomas Ferris, Sarah E. Graziano, Julian Dacian Zuzarte
Cum Laude: Claudia Isabel Fuentes, Emma Teresa Pachon

University Honors: Peter Thomas Ferris, Julian Dacian Zuzarte

Matthew G. Sullivan Award for Latin American Studies Program Award: Julian Dacian Zuzarte

Political Science Award for Academic Excellence: Peter Thomas Ferris

Faith and Life Award: Julian Dacian Zuzarte

Connect with the IR Program!

Saint Joseph's University
International Relations Program
https://sites.sju.edu/politicalscience/international-relations/
Hawk International

A Student-run Blog for the IR Program share Students’ Perspectives

“We Want to Hear your Voice!”

Erin Davison and Liz Mitchell (Class of 2019) launched Hawk international, the IR Program’s student-run blog in Fall 2017 and since then, they have been “highlighting the unique experiences of International Relations majors at Saint Joseph’s University.” The blog looks for a minimum of 600 words pertaining to a wide variety of topics, including but not limited to: Student Involvement (What are you involved in on campus? How does it tie into your IR curriculum?); Internship and/or Volunteer Experience; Study Abroad; Tips for prospective students (Why should a future hawk chose IR? Why did you?). The blog also carries Alumni Spotlight!

This edition of IR Newsletter features two articles, entitled “The (Political) Science of Acting” by Sara Kelly (IR / History, Class of 2020) and “Off the Beaten Track: The Experience of a Student Athlete” by Britton Gagliardi (POL Major / IR and ECON Minor, Class of 2019).

Visit Hawk International https://sjuirblog.wordpress.com

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The (Political)
Science of Acting: A POL class goes further than just discussing issues.

Sara Kelly
(IR / History, Class of 2020)

When I registered for the POL/IR class The EU and European Politics, I did not know I would also be signing up for an acting class. However, the highlight of Dr. Baglione’s class was a series of mock-European Union simulations. Dr. Baglione challenged us to take on new personas, to argue from perspectives that we may not agree with, and to collaborate on resolutions that the European Union has drafted. We got to fully immerse ourselves in the lawmaking process during three in-class simulations.

During our first simulation, we were tasked with being members of the European Parliament. This exercise taught us that even political groups “on the fringes” can make significant differences in lawmaking. This simulation also taught us the difficulties of working in minority coalitions (versus majority coalitions). My team would often be on the losing side of issues or debates because some members of the parliament automatically decide to vote on party lines. It was easy to get frustrated and difficult to remain passionate. However, it illustrated to us that the members of the European Parliament can be headstrong and stubborn on the issues that they believe matter the most. We were able to explore how the Member of Parliament (MEP) that we were assigned to represent can be influenced by their personal experiences. Personal experiences, just like political experiences, can create an unwillingness to compromise.

In the second simulation, we were able to don the caps of Interior Ministers and Home Ministers (similar to the US’s Department of Homeland Security). Here, we were able to see that the ways of dealing with irregular migration were more similar than we thought. Most countries could agree when it came to the detention of illegal migrants. While some of us bashed democratic values and others championed them (all in character, of course), we all agreed on the fact that detention was a necessary step to take in mitigating the overwhelming migration movements that Europe has been tasked with facing in the last few years.
In the last (and my favorite) simulation, each student in the class was a head of state. I was the charming and mysterious French President, Emmanuel Macron. The table I sat at also hosted the Chancellor of Germany, the Prime Minister of Hungary, and many more. Each person at the table had a chance to start with a speech of their own and no one disappointed. We were able to state our opinions and personal agendas, before moving onto topics the encompassed Brexit, Migration and Internal Security, External Relations, and the future of the European Union. I was able to learn about pushing for multilateralism at a table with a man who wanted to close borders and threaten the values of liberal democracies. We were all challenged to be diplomatic and stay in character.

Overall, the semester was rewarding despite the class proving to be very challenging. Junior, Jack Forte shared that he learned a lot from the simulations as well. Forte said, “The various simulations opened me up to the reality that the European Union is not the "liberal (big L) beacon on the hill" that many of us see the continent as. It was a pleasant surprise learning about the complex political landscape of Europe. The simulations also challenged me to become someone who doesn’t share the same political views that I do. Experiencing this political nuance was a valuable asset to have gained in my continued study of International Relations.”

As I prepare to go to Belgium next semester, I know that this class prepared me for the intricate politics of the European Parliament. Not only have I learned about the many parties of the EP, but I was also able to represent one.

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Off the Beaten Track: The Experience of a Student Athlete

Britton Gagliardi
(POL Major / IR and ECON Minor, Class of 2019)

Often times, movies and television portray the life of a student athlete as glamorous and enviable. These students skate by with barely passing grades, have all the friends imaginable, and always find ways of getting out of their assignments. However, as a student athlete at Saint Joseph’s University, I can ensure you this life does not exist in reality. My name is Britton Gagliardi, and I am a senior Political Science major and an International Relations and Economics double minor. In addition to my academic pursuits at SJU, I am also a member of our NCAA Division I Women’s Cross Country, Indoor Track, and Outdoor Track teams. My time as a student athlete has provided me with countless rewarding opportunities at SJU, but I have also faced numerous challenges and hurdles.

Since I had been involved in athletics throughout high school, I entered my freshman year of college thinking that my time management skills were rather proficient. However, it did not take long into my first semester to realize college was much more difficult than high school. Within the first week of school I was hit by a whirlwind of assignments and grueling practices. I quickly realized that the intensity of both school and running had been elevated. Throughout my three years at SJU, I have not perfected my time management skills, but they have improved immensely from my first few weeks at college. I have learned the importance of fitting in a few pages of reading while waiting for practice to begin or utilizing our long bus rides to study for an exam or write a paper. Being a student athlete has made me realize that there are only twenty-four hours in a day, and between class, practice, and making sure I get enough sleep, I need to make sure I productively use every minute. Thus, rather than hindering my academic career, my athletic commitment has greatly benefitted my study habits and has instilled in me the skills that are necessary to succeed.

Furthermore, my experience as a student athlete has taught me the importance of communication and has allowed me to develop meaningful relationships with my professors. As an athlete, I am obligated to miss numerous days of class in order to travel to different races and meets. Over the past three years, I have learned the importance of communicating with my professors about my scheduled absences and ensuring them that it will not affect my commitment to their classes. When missing class for an athletic event, I found that it...
is important to notify my professors, and make sure they know I will reach out to a classmate for notes and stay on top of the course material. Throughout my communication with the International Relations and Political Science departments, my professors have been more than accommodating to my athletic schedule. In addition, as a result of my regular emails and visits during office hours, I have developed valuable relationships with many professors within the department. Therefore, even though life as a student athlete can be stressful at times, it has presented me with countless opportunities to enhance my academic experience at SJU.

Sigma Iota Rho Induction Ceremony (Spring 2018)

Our new members of Sigma Iota Rho were inducted on April 13 in a joint ceremony with the Political Science Honors Society (PSA). SIR seniors also received cords for graduation at the ceremony.

Congratulations to New Inductees!

Sarah Graziano
Chelsea Stone
Amanda Adinolfi
Elizabeth Mitchell

Chelsea Smith
Erin Davison
Sara Kelly
Suzy DiDonna

Lindsay Norton
Brendan Thorp
Bernadette Crehan

SIR Seniors

Maxwell Barrile
Natalie Domaas
Peter Ferris

Claudia Fuentes
John McGrath
Emma Pachon

Daniel Soucy
Julian Zuzarte

International Relations Courses Fall 2018

Economics
ECN 101 Introductory Economics (MICRO) / MULTIPLE SECTIONS
ECN 102 Introductory Economics (MACRO) / MULTIPLE SECTIONS
ECN 321 International Trade / Liebman, TR 12:30-1:45
ECN 482 Latin American Economies / Pardo, MWF 11:15-12:05

History
HIS 337 War and Peace in Imperial Russia, 980-1861 / Chakars, MWF 11:15-12:05
HIS 343 African Ethnicities / Yates, TR 12:30-1:45
HIS 345 Blood, Boats, and Borders / Schumacher, M 3:35 – 6:05
HIS 352 Late Imperial China / Carter, MWF 2:30-3:20
HIS 359 India & Pak: Colony to Nation / Abbas, TR 5:30 - 6:45

Political Science
POL 113 Intro to Comparative Politics / Baglione, TR, 2:00 - 3:15
POL 115 Intro to Global Politics / Smith, MWF 12:20-1:10
POL 115 Intro to Global Politics / Smith, MWF 1:25-2:15
POL 336 The EU and European Politics / Baglione, TR 5:00 - 6:15
POL 364 IR of East Asia: War and Peace / Fukuoka, TR, 2:00 - 3:15
POL 368 Women, Gender, & World Politics / Baglione, TR 12:30-1:45
POL 403 Sr Seminar: Nations & Nationalism / Fukuoka, TR 3:30-4:45
POL 491 Philadelphia-Area Internship / Liebell, Arranged

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