



2009

Global Studies

**Capstone
Seminar
Expo**

Thursday

December 17, 2009

Welcome to the Fall 2009 Global Studies Capstone Expo

The “Professional Interest Projects,” or “PIPs,” featured this evening are informed by on-going conversations from our Global Studies Minor courses. Students enrolled in the Minor are required to complete a pre-departure and in-country on-line “Study Abroad Experience” course and the “Global Studies Capstone Course,” which is the culmination of the Global Studies Minor (GSM) program. The GSM builds on Binghamton University’s Global Vision and combines a Study Abroad Experience with foreign language and international/global content courses above and beyond the General Education requirements.

The capstone projects are inspired by students’ study abroad experiences. Whether abroad for a summer, a semester, or a year, students drew on the Global Studies minor to make the most of their time abroad by connecting it to their academic work at Binghamton University.

We are happy that you’ve chosen to spend time with us this evening reviewing the projects and discussing them with our students.

encouraged as it is in the United States. These personal experiences and inferences I have acquired while studying abroad are what I have decided to base my Personal Interest Project around. What I mainly wanted to determine is why, if at all true, Australians hold a more negative perspective on the field of psychology, particularly compared to the United States.

Presenters

Jane Aldridge - Senior, Accounting
America and Italy's Political Scandals

Robyn Anderson - Junior, Political Science and Arabic
Study Abroad: One Size Fits All? Re-making the Most of Study Abroad

This presentation analyzes the variation and diversity of study abroad students and how the Study Abroad Textbook should serve them better on a more individual basis, providing more in-depth information and tools to make the most of their experience in a non-cliché way.

Shanie Bertel - Senior, Human Development
Growing Up in Israel and the United States: A Study on the Effects of the Army, College, and the Threat of Terror on the Attitudes and Behaviors of Young Adults
A cross-cultural study on the differences between Israeli and American youth. Examines the effects that the army, college, and the threat of terror have on youths' attitudes and behaviors. Explores the effect that drinking has on youth in both Israel and America and the attitudes that are present in the respective countries.

Lilly Borisenko - Senior, Sociology
Music Across Cultures: UK Vs. US
What music genres are most popular in the United States? Why does certain music dominate? Why are so many English artists unheard of by most Americans? These are some of the questions explored in this project.

Shmuel Bushwick - Senior, Political Science
To Taste the Rainbow: A Comparative Analysis of Gay and Lesbian Rights in the US and Israel
This presentation attempts to compare the attitudes towards Gays and Lesbians as well as their rights in Israel and the United States. These rights and attitudes are then compared to their portrayal in the pop-cinema of both countries.

Alicia Caruso - Senior, Environmental Studies

China: Environmental Perspective that Comes of History, Culture, and Current Events

This presentation will discuss aspects of China's history, culture, and current events that influence the Chinese people's environmental values. I will talk of philosophies in China like Buddhism, Confucianism, and Maoism, historic facts about dynasties and the changes that occurred in the twentieth century, and the importance of both economics and visible environmental degradation.

Penina Case - Senior, Art History and Linguistics

Turkish Art in the Center of Europe and the Middle East: An Art of Two Worlds

This project takes a close look at Turkish art in relation to Turkey's geographical location between Europe and the Middle East drawing on the differences between Eastern and Western art and how they influence Modern art in Turkey.

Lisa Ehm - Senior, Classical Civilizations and Arabic Studies

PIPpi Goes to Egypt

"PIPpi Goes to Egypt" journeys along the Nile with Pippi Longstocking--the girl who tells many tall tales--in order to superficially educate the ill-informed. This presentation explores what many people might think of when looking at Egyptian culture and dispels some of the fallacies created by people throughout the ages.

Jeremy Esterman – Junior, Management

My Personal Interest Project combines my passion for food and my interest in the cultures of the world analyzing what we can discover about a people's past, present and future through their cuisine.

David Schneider - Senior, Economics

How can Brits eat less and drink more than Americans but still be less obese?

Economics plays a crucial role in every individual's daily life. Individuals make decisions every day which involve time, money, and tradeoffs. The examination of these economic factors allows us to understand why there are certain cultural differences.

Chelsea Solan - Senior, German and Anthropology

Traditional Austrian Culture in Modern Society

Kristin Thomas - Junior, Biology

An Analysis of the Italian Healthcare System

With the advent of healthcare reform within the US it becomes crucial to take a closer look at the healthcare of other nations. My project analyzes the Italian healthcare system, exposing both the benefits and drawbacks of such a system.

Melissa Valenzuela - Senior, Management

Etiquette in the Czech Republic: A Survival Guide

Benjamin Wallack - Senior, Economics

Does the Public Ownership of English Premier League team Arsenal F.C set a successful precedent for other professional sports franchises to follow?

This presentation will examine the structure of the public ownership of Arsenal Holdings and all of its business ventures. I will then decide whether they set a strong example for other sports teams to follow.

Sara Wallshein - Senior, Psychology

The Australian Outlook on the Industry of Psychology in America

While studying abroad, I noticed some major difference between Australia and America in the recognition of mental disorders, beliefs about treatment, and the general consideration of psychology as a whole. I got the impression that the study of psychology was a much more uncommon subject of study, and in general, that the field of psychology was not as preferred or

Maggie Poon - Senior, English

The Hidden Costs of a Postcard

The cliché “A picture is worth a thousand words” is applicable to the travel postcard. Not many words are attached to the postcard when sent; however, there are heavy implications associated with this rectangular piece of thick paper. How do these implications relate to the study abroad student?

Laura K. Pritchard - Senior, Anthropology

New York City Subway vs. London Tube

This presentation compares different aspects of the New York City Subway System to those of the London Tube System. I looked at multiple factors, including ticket prices, maps, and ridership.

Katie Richards - Senior, English and Global Cultures

I chose to do my Capstone project on the current Marketing Trends in the Fashion Industry of Spain. I focused on three companies, ZARA, H&M, and Mango. I researched these companies histories and current marketing strategies and then used this information to compare and contrast the three companies.

Luke Romeo - Junior, Industrial and Systems Engineering

The Italian Railway System

This presentation explores the development of the Italian railway system from its beginnings before the unification of Italy up through its current state today and into where it is heading in the future.

Keaton Rood - Senior, French

Popular Music in Québec

My presentation is centered on the culture and language of Québec. Because the size of such a topic I've decided to examine the French Canadian culture and language across the medium of popular music. I aim to get a modern view of the “Belle Province” through the eyes of its people.

Allison B. Fox – Senior, English

From Oy Vey! To A Nation: The Role of the Hebrew Language in the Formation of the Israeli Nation

The concept of my Personal Interest Project circles the Israeli nation and its official national language, Hebrew. The language, which posed as the force to bind together the founding people of Israel during the most precarious stages of its creation, is proven to have fascinatingly preempted the country itself.

Rachel Fleig-Goldstein - Junior, History

The "Cidre Culture" in France: Is there Room in the American Market?

I examined cidre, French hard cider – its history, how it's made and how it's marketed. I specifically looked at cider's place in French culture and if cider is marketable in the United States.

Carolyn Gomez, - Senior, Geography and Spanish

The Human Phone Booth Phenomenon

This presentation will take a look at socioeconomic disparity in Medellin, Columbia by using the use of cell phones as an index. By looking at the cell phone from different perspectives, we see it having an important place in the informal economy as well as playing a crucial role culturally, as it has become synonymous with social status and wealth. As a result of the complex relationship, we see the Human Phone Booth Phenomenon occur, where vendors sell mobile phone minutes.

Lorraine Harper - Senior, Arabic and Spanish

Non-Verbal Communication

This presentation is a discursive analysis of non-verbal communication across cultures to raise awareness of the importance of how our mannerisms and gestures communicate our ideas and how the meanings implicit in such non-verbal messages and cues change between cultures. This project is expressly analyzing Arab and U.S concepts of specific gestures and modes of communication through the vise of social norms.

Tasha Hayes - Senior, Pre-Med

Accessibility and Utilization of Healthcare by Turkish and Moroccan Immigrants in the Netherlands

This presentation will examine the accessibility and utilization patterns of Turkish and Moroccan immigrants in the Netherlands and how factors such as language barriers, cultural differences, and the differences between western and non-western healthcare affect their usage.

Amanda Jaret - Senior, Philosophy

Human Rights and the DMIS

This presentation critiques the Developmental Model of Intercultural Sensitivity and explores how it relates to discourses of universal human rights.

Brittany Jennings - Senior, Political Science and Arabic

Codifying Shari'a Law and the Re-emergence of Islam in Politics post 1967

This presentation explores the arguments for and against the codification of shari'a law, as well as an explanation as to why this re-emergence of Islam in Politics has occurred post-1967. More specifically, this presentation looks at women in the eye of the law and how their rights have evolved between 1967 and today.

James Kelly - Senior, Management and Spanish

The development of Spanish Market Systems, A Cross-Cultural Comparison

Shoko Kubotera - Biological Anthropology

Aboriginal Policies in Australia

The Aboriginal people of Australia have been subject to numerous policies enforced by the government who believed assimilation and integration was an absolute necessity action in order to "help" them. The policies differ slightly from those carried out by the United States and were also carried out until very recently. The indigenous people are much more prevalent in the media and in Australian society today, which interested me in the subject in the first place.

Paulette Leonard - Junior, Political Science

Democracy in Spain

This presentation is an exploration of how and why Spain has instated a stable democracy, and the country's location in Europe – as a huge factor in encouraging support from within the nation and around the globe.

Katie Miller – Senior, Biology

Beating Obesity Expanding Rates Across the World

This PIP addresses the high obesity rates that are found in the United States and the United Kingdom. It also contains a more in depth discussion of the cultural differences between the two and how these would affect both places' rapidly increasing rates.

Alianny Melina Perez - Senior, Political Science

Dominicanol and Espanol, An Etymological Study of the Spanish Language

Spanish is a language which, like English, has many diverse interpretations and is spoken differently in every country where it is used. It is interesting to analyze where certain words came from and how culture, religion, and history have affected the way we speak and the words we use in both Spain and its former colony, the Dominican Republic.

Meaghan Petix - Junior, Biology and Environmental Studies

A Look at Ecosystem Service Payments in Costa Rica and the U.S

This presentation will explore the effectiveness of Ecosystem Service Payments in Costa Rica, how they are funded, and what the possibility is that they could be implemented as a means of environmental conservation in the United States.