



INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

SPRING 2021



Spring 2021 Address

Dr. Andrea Duffy, Director of International Studies

It has been a crazy year for International Studies! Since the restrictions due to COVID-19 went into place over a year ago, we all have had to make major adjustments to our lives and to face the challenges associated with those changes. We cut short or cancelled study abroad and other travel plans. We conducted classes online. We missed traditional celebrations for major milestones, such as graduation. We missed seeing friends and loved ones, and many of us had to cope with loss. At the same time, we confronted – and fought back against – acts of racism and hate in our community, country, and across the world. We also participated in the most fraught and conflicted presidential election in United States history, and we witnessed an unprecedented attack on our capitol. I commend all of you in our community for weathering and supporting one another through these difficult times.

The International Studies administrative team has been busy as well. Last spring, our instructors worked hard to make the best of the remote environment in our classes, some of us teaching online for the first time. We also hosted virtual events and put together a special video honoring our graduates. Over the summer, we collaborated on a project to redesign our core courses, integrating additional professional development content and expanding dialogue around diversity, identity, and inclusion. We updated the International Studies curriculum with tomorrow's global citizens in mind, adding a new Global Studies concentration as well as the option to study multiple languages. This spring, we revamped our student mentorship program, Academic Clusters, fostering community, identity, and career readiness for our majors through a series of enrichment activities and events.

The challenges of this past year are a reminder of the value of International Studies. They represent monumental global issues that demand a broad, interdisciplinary response. Now, the weather is warming, and the pandemic is loosening its grip. As we emerge into this new world, let us take pride in our community and consider all that we, as liberal arts practitioners, students of international studies, and adept global citizens, have to contribute.



Spring 2021 International Studies Graduates

Congratulations!

*Taylor Ziska, Ashley Procanyn, Uriel Zaragoza,
Ally Murphy Pauletto, Christian Paulus, Valeria Meza Alba,
Mary Swing, Jennae Frederick, Lindsey Gross,
Hailee Tawzer, Edwin Reyes, Aspynn Carr,
Cc Apodaca, Darien Ellis, Tim Martin, William Blanc,
America Rios-Martinez, Madison Moore, Babin Dinda,
Skylar Rohnke, Ivy Soto Medina, Riley Sparks, Aurora Ryals,
Lexi Fischel, Mark McCarthy, McKenna Harr,
Emely Cruz Arrazola, Faith Helms, Olivia Smallman, Madi Smith, Lydia
Sundberg, Leslie Perez, Jessica Grove, Andrew Hensley, Maddie
Sheets, Ian Hebert, Meriel Hahn, Kara Copeland,
Gavin Bennett, Fiona Sun*

Fall 2021: Offered Courses for INST

Latin American Studies

LTSZ-C: LSPA(100, 101, 200, 201, 300, 301), GR100, INST200, ANTH200, ECON(202, 204, 211, 240) AREC(202, 240), POLS(232, 241), HIST(100, 101, 171)

Topic Area 1: ETST253, ETST261, ETST371, HIST411, POLS331, POLS446

Topic Area 2: ANTH451, ART312, ETST254, ETST332, LSPA310, LSPA313, LSPA335, LSPA345, LSPA436, LSPA453

Asian Studies

ASTZ-C: LCHI(100, 200, 304), LJPN(100,200,304), GR100, INST200, ANTH200, ECON9202, 204, 211, 240), AREC(202, 240), POLS(232, 241), HIST(120, 171)

Topic Area 1: ETST/HIST252, HIST120, HIST450, HIST455, HIST465

Topic Area 2: ANTH314, LJPN404, LCHI496, PHIL172, PHIL349

European Studies

EUSZ-C: LFRE(100, 101, 200, 201, 300, 301), LGER(100, 101, 200, 201, 300), LRUS(100, 200, 304), LSPA(100, 101, 200, 201, 300, 301), GR100, INST200, ANTH200, ECON(202, 204, 211, 240), AREC(202, 240), POLS(232, 241), HIST(100, 101, 171)

Topic Area 1: ECON372, ECON376, HIST301, HIST302, HIST304, HIST320, HIST324, HIST338, HIST461, HIST469, POLS341, POLS421

Topic Area 2: ART110, ART212, E276, E277, E337, E431, E460, LFRE313, LFRE345, LFRE433-B, LFRE454, LGEN465C, MU334, PHIL120, PHIL171, PHIL300, PHIL302

Middle East & North African Studies

MEAZ-C: LARA(100, 200, 300), GR100, INST200, ANTH200, ECON(202, 204, 211, 240) AREC(202, 240), POLS(232, 241), HIST171

Topic Area 1: HIST420, HIST421, HIST469, POLS449

Topic Area 2: LARA250, PHIL171, PHIL173, PHIL335

INST Topic Area 3: Global Studies

AM460, ANTH100, ANTH140, AREC240/ECON240, AREC415, E142, E245, ECON101, ECON202, ECON204, ECON211, ECON240, POLS332, ECON440, ETST256, FIN475, GR320, GR330, GR415, GES101, IE470, IE479/ANTH479, INST495, INST487, JTC412, MU131, MGT475, MKT365, NRRRT320, PHIL170, POLS232, POLS241, POLS332, POLS362, POLS431, POLS437, SOC105, SOC220, SOC320, SOC322, SPCM434



Jake Stewart Alum 2019

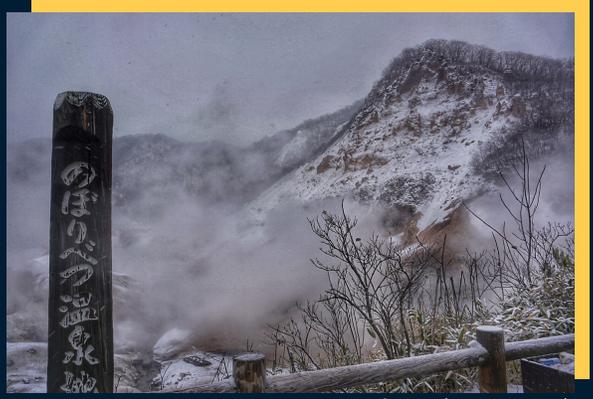
Hello! As a brief introduction, my name is Jacob Stewart. I graduated from Colorado State University's International Studies department in December of 2019 with a concentration in South East Asian studies and a language study in Japanese. I am a tck (third-culture kid) and was raised all across the United States for majority of my formative years and settled in Colorado before entering CSU for my undergraduate degree. However, this did not last long because at 17 I made a huge jump and self-funded a move to Japan working as an 'English Friend' for several months before returning to the states to finish my degree at CSU.

CSU had a huge impact on me. I was active in several clubs/learning communities such as GAIA and Global Village for much of my early semesters. I worked in the Student Case Management office, the RamRide office, freelanced as a journalist for the College Avenue magazine, and eventually started working as a research assistant in the Geography/Anthropology department during my final semester and following my graduation. I wasn't always working or studying however. I lived in a share house with some of my closest friends who all bonded over our collective interests in activism, environmental health, and international culture. We spent plenty of weekends camping, hiking, and rock climbing all around the states. I often look back at my time at CSU with a huge sense of gratitude and contribute much of who I am today to the friends, professors, and mentors that I met there.

After graduation, I worked alongside Dr. Heidi Hausermann out of the Geography/Anthropology department surveying archival research and literary reviews. In mid-April, our research was coming to a close and I needed to find a job that could support me as means of living until I was able to figure out where I wanted to go in terms of academia and pursuing further education. I received an offer from a Japanese English Language dispatch company, ALTIA, as an ALT out in the Chubu region of Japan, Gifu prefecture (岐阜県). Currently, I am sitting in my bed in my small apartment in a city called Ogaki (大垣市) writing this article. I've been here for about two years now teaching English to schools across the prefecture.

Work life in Japan is vastly different from the western standard of work. Japan has an interesting perspective on work-ethic. Whether you have an actual project to work on or not, if you are not looking busy you are not working hard enough. Working in the education system has been a real adventure and one that I am glad to have embarked on.

Sharing western culture and being a positive representation of the greater English language culture, while also being conscious of the colonial impacts English education has had on Asian countries, has been enjoyable. I spend most of my time coming up with unique presentations, games, and connections my students can make to make learning less mundane. I balance two schools teaching ages 6-16 switching between independent and co-teaching. It can be a struggle to make connections with colleagues for many foreign teachers in Japan due to the dramatic language barrier. CSU's Japanese language and international studies departments had definitely over prepared me for my position and making these connections hasn't been too much of a struggle for me; I feel lucky to call some of them my friends. I'd love to tell you that I'm in love with the job and that I could see myself doing this for the rest of my life; however, this is definitely a transition period for me before I move on later this year.



Hokkaido's Valley of Hell (Jigokudani)

Social life is another obstacle all on its own, pandemic aside. Expat bubbles are very common and easy to get stuck in. I myself have my own small expat bubble as a support system that I believe is important. I respect the Japanese culture, and from an academic perspective admire it greatly; but, I am not Japanese. I am covered in tattoos, have a nose ring, and am very politically opinionated. These just a few things that can cause relationships with people outside of one's own culture to be difficult to make. There are those who specifically want to be your friend solely to learn English, those who seek you as a cultural ornament/token to elevate social status, or those who do not associate with foreigners at all. These issues exist similarly in the United States and beyond. I believe it is important to grow a social life away from the expat bubble to expand your global view and global circle; but, I also believe having a group of friends that share cultural connections is important.



The first hike of the season





Dr. YuJung Lee Associate Professor

BY OLIVIA SMALLMAN

Tell me a little about your background, what your experience is in International Studies and what drew you to it?

In high school I was a member of the United Nations, which happened to be my favorite after school activity and where my interest in INST began. This is where I began to realize that I wanted to major in INST or something relevant. I was fortunate to travel a lot when I was young and live in many different countries, such as China, Hong Kong and Indonesia, amongst others. This is where my world perspective and interest in what goes on in other countries began to form. From there, I got my BA in INST and followed this by pursuing my masters which then led me to my current research.

What is your favorite class to teach at CSU and why?

I enjoy all the classes I have the opportunity to teach because I am fortunate to choose these courses. POLS241, Intro to Comparative Government and Politics, is unique because we talk a lot about current events, elections, etc. Elections open up a new conversation and it is interesting to hear different perspectives and have an open conversation. The INST capstone, on the other hand, has a much different dynamic. The class is much smaller and discussion based. The main focus of the capstone is global poverty and there are so many issues that are loosely related to poverty that there is a lot to discuss. I find global poverty so interesting because you can take real life examples and see if we can make sense out of these issues. Likewise, it is fascinating to see how different countries respond to various issues and how countries prioritize these issues. The conversations I have with fellow scholars keeps me interested and my contribution is on the research/teaching side of things.

You received a bachelor's degree in International Studies at Ewha Womans University in Seoul, Korea, and you received a Masters in INST as well. What drew you to International Studies as an undergraduate/graduate student and why?

I believe that INST as an undergraduate major is one of the best majors you can have because it broadens your perspective about the issues that are going on around the world. You have the opportunity to hear about things in your direct environment, while also thinking about other countries and if they are doing things better or worse and why. Whether you are interested in global challenges, security, women's issues, migration, etc., INST major accommodates those interests. INST lets you pursue real world challenges, not solely focusing on your community but seeing others as well. I also encourage anyone that can to study abroad.

I was fortunate to complete my undergrad in Korea and then came to the U.S where I studied abroad in New York. The Korean program has a huge push to study abroad, whether it be internationally or not, which is similar to the programs CSU offers and I greatly appreciate this.

What made you decide to do research in India?

When I entered the PHD program, I honestly did not know what it meant to get a PHD. I originally entered the PHD program because I wanted to study something about development in general, in the context of Asia. At first, I was focused on China because I had lived there when I was young. Although, my advisor left so I chose a different Asian country. With a new faculty member starting a new project in India's development, I jumped on it immediately. The project in India was about India's electricity and how it relates to poverty and access in rural areas in India where they are not connected to the main grid. Before the PHD program I was not interested in India, though after my experience I became fascinated with India and studying different questions related to poverty.

What advice would you give to INST majors?

Two things: If you can, go see the world. Everyone is itching to travel these days, so when you can and when the time comes, go see the world. Anything beyond your normal community, it does not have to be international. If you can go to a neighboring state, or if you are from the East Coast, go to the West Coast and vice versa. Second, a great deal of my students have commented on wanting more of an INST community at CSU, though this starts with you! As a member of the faculty, I have seen a lot of changes made within the department, the curriculum and providing more space in Clarke for INST majors. For students, I think it is important to become active in trying to build community as well. Faculty members are here for you, here to listen and to help build community for students. My biggest piece of advice would be to keep in touch with fellow INST classmates. As a freshman, in your INST classes, you are being introduced to classmates that will be with you through senior year, utilize this and try to socialize with them. I am lucky to be very bonded with my fellow INST classmates and post-grad there are many opportunities to talk with alumni and connect with one another. Make use of the space and make use of classmates!

What is your favorite book or film?

All-time favorite movie, definitely My Best Friend's Wedding. This movie is just such a good classic film. There is no particular reason why this movie is my favorite, just a feel-good movie. As for books, in my capstone class we read Poor Economics, which is an excellent book that thinks differently about challenges in poverty. This might not necessarily be my favorite book, but I definitely recommend reading it, especially as college students.





Gabbie Jones student

BY ISA DOUCE



Can you elaborate on your internship? How did you get involved with it? How has it contributed to your education? Does it relate to something that you see yourself pursuing as a career?

The internship is for a law organization in Texas called "The Texas Advocacy Project". We focus on domestic abuse, sexual assault, and stalking. We try to educate people on what it is that we do. I do research on those bills, edit pieces of work that they want to send out to legislators. One of the first assignments that I did was a comparison of about 20 states on their laws about protective orders, and the obligations of teachers, for example, to report if they see relationship violence. I looked for loopholes and ways to make out policies better and more geared towards women. It is a majority-run women organization, so I like being around strong and assertive women who fight for other people.

How has the Honors program contributed to your academic career?

One of my favorite classes was from the Honors program, Carmen Lopez Ramirez's class, on refugees. We read very interesting literature, and I loved putting myself in other peoples' shoes knowing that I could never do what they do. This was my second class with Carmen, and I loved building a relationship with her. I feel like I was able to build relationships with faculty.

If you could dedicate your life to resolving a problem that exists in the world, what would it be?

That's so hard! I think I would eliminate something broad, like suffering. I definitely want to help people and eliminate some type of suffering, whether it is something huge like in international law, crimes against humanity or the refugee crisis; or something small. I feel like if I pick one specific problem, then I am ignoring all the other problems. Suffering can take so many forms... If I could somehow eliminate stereotypes and prejudice, that would be great because it can cause a lot of suffering. I'd also wish that everyone could have access to knowledge and information. Just because of what I study, I interpret this as three ways I could make the world a better place.

Why did you decide to major in INST? What is your favorite part of being an International studies major?

I was in Key Explore in Braiden, a program that is intended to help you find your major and what you want to do. I was already leaning towards International Studies because I knew that I wanted to be surrounded by different backgrounds, be immersed in different cultures, and wanted to discover different places. I told my advisor all that, and she said that I should look into International studies and Sociology, and possibly minor in law, and that's what I ended up doing. I really like being surrounded by a diverse group of people. I've liked all of the faculty members that I have gotten to work with. They give us information that we otherwise would not hear. If I weren't taking these classes, I would have no idea what is happening on an international level. I've gotten to meet some of my really good friends, and I wouldn't have met them if it weren't for INST. We've gotten to form a close bond with Hosam, our Arabic teacher. Even if I complain about the class requirements sometimes, I wouldn't have taken Arabic if it wasn't required, and I love Arabic.

Which identity is most important to you? Does that identity influence your interest in International Studies? If so, why?

One of my identities that I think about the most is being a woman, and how that affects us going into the professional field. A lot of the projects that I do in International Studies focus on issues that pertain more to women. I've done some projects on child marriage, access to reproductive health care for female refugees, and legalized prostitution in other countries. I think also being an American, we have a stereotype of being ignorant and not being in tune with what is happening in the world, so I like to reach out of that as much as possible and take the initiative to learn.

CSU's International Studies Program is seeking administrative interns for Fall 2021.

Details:

This is a one-credit, one semester, unpaid internship. It involves a time commitment of approximately three hours per week on average.

Responsibilities:

The intern will work closely with the Program Administration to plan and host events, edit program publications, and coordinate outreach. Interns are also encouraged to pursue projects or programming on relevant topics of their interest.

Qualifications:

The ideal candidate is a student with junior or senior standing studying International Studies or a related subject. Technical skills, interpersonal skills, superior writing and editing, and experience with social media and graphic design are preferred.

To Apply: Submit your resume and a brief cover letter via email to Dr. Allison White at Allison.White2@colostate.edu.
For More Information: Contact Dr. Allison White at Allison.White2@colostate.edu. Position will remain open until filled.