

Spring 2011 Registration and Advising Notes

**STPEC registration advising for
STPEC SENIORS ONLY begins
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9th**

**STPEC registration advising for ALL
STPEC students begins
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15th**

ALL STPEC students will need to come to the STPEC office for advising *before* they will be able to register on SPIRE. *Don't wait until it's your day to start registering - come in early!!!*

Important Advising Details:

- ★ Once you have met with a STPEC advisor your STPEC advising hold will be lifted and you will be able to use the SPIRE system for Spring course registration. You **MUST** meet with a STPEC advisor in order to have course registration access.
- ★ **STPEC students who are Seniors must see either Danielle Nelson or Katherine Mallory for advising.** If your graduation year is 2011 (going by the Registrar's records) you will need to see Katherine or Danielle for an advising session before your advising hold will be lifted. Because they will be so much in demand during pre-registration, Katherine and Danielle will be scheduling appointment times for seniors for advising. Appointment sheets for senior advising will be up on the door of the STPEC Program Office.
- ★ No appointment is necessary for general advising for non-seniors - although you may want to call before coming over to make sure that someone will be in the office to help you when you arrive. If you have unusual circumstances and you feel that you need special help, you may want to make a point of seeing Katherine Mallory, STPEC's Chief Academic Advisor.
- ★ We will try our best to publish the STPEC Recommended Course List by November 12th. The list will also be posted to www.umass.edu/stpec.

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Welcome to New Students

We are pleased to welcome the following new students to the STPEC Program as of September 2010:

Jonathan Allen, Joseph Brennan, Curtis Brooks, Olivia Brown, Eric Cameron, Aviv Celine, Holly Clayman, Walker Dunn, Robert Feinberg, Katelyn Golsby, Farron Harvey, Steen Kadison, Meghan Long, Tyler Mitchell, Julia Ozog, Ali Pirrello, Michelle Polek, Nirma Rizvic, Paige Shea, Wilma Sutton, Emma Vincent-Starble, and William Johannes Wesselhoeft.

Many thanks to all the STPEC students and staff who helped with these meetings!

MEETING TIMES FOR NEW STPEC MAJORS

We will be holding meetings for new STPEC majors on Wednesday, December 1 through Friday, December 3. Please come into the STPEC office to sign up for a meeting time (the sign up sheet is posted next to the front desk) and obtain a STPEC Application Form. If you cannot make any of these times please speak to either the Program Coordinator or the Program Director so that they may arrange an alternate time for you. The new student meeting is a requirement for all new STPEC students.

As always, we're looking for current STPEC student volunteers to help with the new student meetings - it's fun and easy and a good way to meet new STPEC students! Please see Deborah in the STPEC Office if you'd like to help - or just show up.

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If you have any suggestions for courses you would like to see - or not see - put on our list, please let us know now!

- ★ All STPEC seminars and Junior Writing will be on-line until **Monday, December 13th**. STPEC Senior Seminars will be available on-line to STPEC Seniors and Juniors and the STPEC Seminars and Junior Writing will be available on-line to STPEC Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors. Please be sure to register before December 13th for the classes you want - after December 13th you may find that you need to fill out an add form and then wait until January to find out if you are in the class!
- ★ If you find that you cannot enroll through SPIRE in a STPEC course for which you believe you are eligible, please request the course by filling out the STPEC course add request form which is available from the STPEC Office.

INTRO TO STPEC

A class just for NEW STPEC STUDENTS!

In Spring 2011 STPEC will again be offering STPEC 197I: *Intro to STPEC*, a 3 credit optional seminar for incoming first year and transfer students (transfers from both outside and within UMass). This class will be geared toward useful conversations such as what is the STPEC program really, how to read and use theory, who are we that we care about social justice, and community building. Through horizontal discussion sections and out of the classroom field trips, Intro to STPEC will engage students in a non-conventional learning atmosphere that challenges students to critically look at the dialectical relationship between our actions and theory.

This class will be co-taught by Katherine Mallory, STPEC Chief Academic Advisor, and one or two STPEC seniors or recent STPEC alums.

NOTE ON COMPLETION OF JUNIOR I

You must have completed (turned in the work and officially received a final grade of C or better for) STPEC's Junior Seminar I by Monday, January 11th in order to remain on the registration lists for Junior Seminar II or any Senior Seminars. After this date you will be dropped from the roster(s). You will not be able to take Junior II or any Senior Seminars unless you have completed Junior I before the beginning of the Spring semester.

STPEC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

STPEC policy is set by the STPEC Executive Committee, whose voting members consist of STPEC paid staff, UMass faculty close to STPEC, and one student spokesperson from each regularly scheduled STPEC course plus one first year STPEC student.

- Elected students are representative of and accountable to the people who elected them.
- The full Executive Committee will meet at least once per semester and can meet more often if necessary.
- Elected students will meet together before every scheduled Executive Committee meeting to discuss what items they'd like to put on the agenda.

If you have STPEC concerns that you'd like the Executive Committee to address, please talk to your student representative about them. Student reps for Fall 2010 are:

First year class:	DiJonee Talley, Holly Clayman, Stuart Farber, Meghan Long
Junior I:	Maria Geueke, Julia Ozog
Junior II:	Christiana McDougal, Michael O'Connor, Jason Alley
Junior Writing:	Lovis Axon
Senior 491H:	Richard Blenk
Senior 492H:	Nicole Brownstein
Senior 493H:	Tori Zopf
Praxis 494A:	Amanda Gaudet
Office Staff:	Jonathan Allen

All STPEC students are welcome to attend the final full Executive Committee meeting. The time and date of this meeting have yet to be determined.

UMass Alumni Association

Offers numerous scholarships and various workshops and events for UMass undergraduates.

For details go to:

<http://umassalumni.com/students/index.html>

Upcoming Alumni Association Event:

Scholarship Information Night

Wednesday, November 10 (Thursday schedule)

5:30 p.m. Memorial Hall

Sophomores and juniors are invited to learn how to apply for merit-based scholarships, such as Rhodes, Leaders in the Making, Fulbright, Life Member Scholarship for Internships and many more.

Advance registration is required as seating is limited to the first 100 students. Walk-ins will be accommodated if there is space and will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

Register by Tuesday, November 9, 2010.

UPCOMING STPEC COMMUNITY EVENTS

-POT-LUCKS! Our first monthly STPEC potluck will take place on November 19th in Amherst. Watch for announcements on critic-l or check with the STPEC office for more information. A sign-up sheet for hosts for future potlucks is posted in the STPEC office.

-STPEC Movie Nights have been moved to the third Tuesday of each month. The next movie night will fall on 11/16, details TBA.

-Wed 11/3 - STPEC Night Out - "[The Great Dictator](#)" @ Amherst Cinema - Meet in Amherst Coffee at 6:15, film at 7:30.

The U.S. was not yet in World War II when Chaplin leveled his comedy arsenal at Der Führer by playing the dual roles of Hitler-like Adenoid Hynkel and a Jewish barber who is a dead-ringer for der Nutsie. Puns, sight gags and slapstick abound as Chaplin skewers fascism, balancing his attack with poignant scenes of a ghetto in the clutches of storm-trooping terror.

-Sun 11/14 - STPEC Night Out - "[This Land is Our Land](#)" @ Amherst Cinema - Meet in Amherst Coffee at 6:15, film at 7:30.

Based on the work of renowned Amherst author and activist David Bollier, THIS LAND IS OUR LAND places today's anti-government fervor within the larger context of a three-decade push by transnational corporations to buy up and privatize cherished public resources. The film, co-written by Bollier and produced locally by the Northampton-based Media Education Foundation (MEF), begins by tracing the accelerating corporate takeover of everything from public land and public space to intellectual property and the broadcast airwaves. It concludes with an eye-opening history of the commons reaching back hundreds of years to the founding principles of American democracy. A fundamental and much needed challenge to the brash patriotic claims of today's free market ideologues and anti-government extremists, who seem increasingly to equate any kind of investment in public resources with socialism, communism and conspiracy.

-Tues 11/16 - STPEC Movie Night - TBA!

Economics 397EC: The Economics of Cooperative Enterprises

- Are you interested in worker ownership, social entrepreneurship, alternative businesses, and the solidarity economy?
- Would you like to critically examine some of the historical and cultural forces that have made many cooperative enterprises thrive?
- Would you like to learn some economic theory that explains why cooperative enterprises can attain higher levels of efficiency than conventional capitalist firms?

If so, sign up for this course, which is being offered in Spring 2011 by Professor Gerald Friedman.

The curriculum for Econ 397EC was developed through a year-long collaboration between the Economics Department, the Valley Alliance of Worker Cooperatives and a wider network of individuals with experience managing cooperative enterprises, including the student-run businesses that play such an important role on our own campus.

This is an upper-division course that meets elective requirements for Economics majors, and stipulates Econ 103 or 104 as a requirement. However, highly motivated students without this formal background can join the class with the permission of the instructor, who will encourage accessible and interdisciplinary discussion of the assigned readings.

Class assignments culminate with the responsibility to develop (in collaboration with as many as two others students) a detailed business plan for a viable cooperative enterprise.

Successful completion of this course also provides an opportunity to apply for admission to an Undergraduate Certificate Program in Applied Economic Research on Cooperatives (currently in the proposal stage, under consideration by the Faculty Senate). This program will offer the opportunity to participate in an intensive combined summer research/internship program with a local cooperative enterprise.

Labor Studies and Union Semester at the Murphy Institute at CUNY

The *M.A. in Labor Studies* is an exciting new degree program at CUNY that attracts trade unionists, activists interested in doing labor movement and community organizing, non-profit, or social justice work, as well as professionals and graduate students with an interest in labor. *Union Semester* is a program for both undergraduates and graduate students who intern with a labor organization in New York City while taking college or Masters' level courses in Labor Studies. They receive a stipend, in-state tuition, and a partial scholarship to help cover their expenses. Many of these students go on to enroll in the M.A. in Labor Studies.

Interested students should contact Laurie Kellogg (a STPEC alumna) at laurie.kellogg@mail.cuny.edu
For more details on both programs visit the Murphy Institute website at: <http://www.workered.org/>

Planning to do an Internship during Spring or Summer 2011? Now is the Time to talk to Katherine!

Are you planning to do your STPEC internship requirement during the spring semester? If so, you should discuss your plans with Katherine Mallory, STPEC Internship Advisor, before the end of this semester.

You must have an internship placement set up and approved by Katherine before you can sign up for the course. Setting up an internship can take some time - if you wait until classes begin to make these arrangements, you may find that you are unable to pull it together in time to add the course.

Your grade for the course will be based on your written analysis of your experience. Writing assignments are due at intervals throughout the semester in which you do your internship. For this reason, it may not be possible to register for the course after the completion of add/drop.

The course number for the required internship is STPEC 498Y, section 1. This course is not accessible online (i.e. you cannot add it through the SPIRE system). To register, you must do the following:

- Meet with Katherine to discuss your ideas for a placement and the course requirements.
- Find a placement. Katherine is available to assist you if needed, but you must do the footwork. The responsibility for finding a placement lies with you.
- Get Katherine's approval for your placement. Not all internship sites get approved - this is why it's important to meet with Katherine before you finalize your placement.
- Complete the STPEC Internship Contract & Registration Form (available from the STPEC office). Make sure you fill in and attach all the requested information - otherwise we will not be able to add you to the course.

The STPEC Internship Contract is all you need to add the course, unless your total class load is more than 18 credits (including the internship), in which case you must get a credit overload approved by the Dean's office before we can add you to the course.

Occasionally we accept prior internships or internships completed through other departments for the required internship. In order for such a course to count, it must be graded, worth three or more credits, and involve at least 100 hours of work. In addition, you must have written, or be willing to write, an analytical paper of at least 12 pages based on your experience, which you must submit to Katherine for approval.

How to contact Katherine:

- Drop by the STPEC office during Katherine's office hours
- Leave a message in Katherine's mailbox in the STPEC office
- Email stpecinternship@sbs.umass.edu
- Call 545-0043 (leave a message if Katherine's not in)

***Want to get more out of your internship?
Want ongoing guidance, feedback and support
on the development of your internship paper?
STPEC will once again be offering....***

STPEC 494A: Praxis

This is a two credit graded optional course offered to help students further explore the relationship between theory and practice. This class will offer practical guidance on writing the Internship papers. To register please speak with Katherine Mallory.

THE TROUBLE WITH INCOMPLETES

We would like to encourage you to think twice before you take an incomplete in a class. There are many valid reasons why students take incompletes, most students who take incompletes expect that they will finish the work over wintertime or the summer. Some do, many don't! We want to be sure that you are aware of what taking an incomplete really means, including these points:

- Incompletes immediately factor in as an "F" toward your cumulative grade point average.
- Incompletes automatically turn into "F"s on your transcript after one full semester has passed - and they then remain "F"s until the instructor turns in a grade.
- Once a student takes an incomplete, the instructor is relieved of any obligation to give a grade at any certain date.
- Not all instructors, and not all STPEC instructors, will give incompletes.
- Many students assume that if they don't finish the work for a course the instructor will automatically give them an incomplete. The instructor has the option of giving an incomplete, or of giving the grade earned so far with the incomplete work factored in as a zero - which may very well work out to be a "D" or an "F".

Remember, if you are having serious difficulty keeping up with your academic work don't hesitate to ask Katherine, Danielle or Deborah in the STPEC Office for advising help. That's what we're here for!

STPEC student phone and e-mail lists are now available from the mailboxes in the STPEC office. If your information is missing or incorrect please contact Deborah at 545-0043 or stpec@sbs.umass.edu.

STPEC BA/MA 5 YEAR MASTERS PROGRAMS

Some of you have been asking about these so here's what we know: STPEC students will now be able to graduate in 5 years with a BA in STPEC and either an MS in Labor Studies or an MA in Public Policy. We have more hashed out for the Labor Studies option than the Public Policy, see below.

BA/MS Labor Studies: Coursework provides the skills necessary to work in the labor movement - expertise in organizing, collective bargaining, strategic corporate research, and union leadership - and you will have an opportunity to examine the larger theoretical and strategic issues confronting workers and their unions in the new millennium. Classes open to undergrads this spring:

- **Labor 605** **Labor Research**
- **Labor 697F** **Labor Economics**
- **Labor 746** **Labor Law**

Before graduation (with the BA), students must complete 9 credits toward the MS. At least 3 of these credits (or one class) will double count for STPEC and Labor Studies. Contact Sara Lennox in the STPEC office for more details.

BA/MA Public Policy: This professional academic program offered through the Center for Public Policy and Administration (CPPA) prepares students for careers as public managers, policy analysts, advocates, and public leaders. Students are encouraged to specialize in a substantive or methodological field of interest. Core courses provide students with a strong analytical foundation, applicable to a wide variety of policy issues. They are organized into four categories:

- 1) **Politics and Management;**
- 2) **Economics and Public Finance;**
- 3) **Methods; and**
- 4) **Integration and Application.**

David Mednicoff, Associate Director of STPEC, is also associated with CPPA. Contact him with questions about classes, prerequisites, the application process and specialization options: mednic@legal.umass.edu.

If CPPA's accelerated five-year program is approved, as they hope, applications for the program will be due March 1, 2011. David can help you decide what courses to take in Spring 2011 to prepare for this graduate program.

If students are sure they want to enroll in this grad program, courses being offered in Spring 2011 that satisfy program requirements are:

- **PubP&Adm 608 Statistics**
- **PubP&Adm 697XX Budgeting and Financial Management**
- **PubP&Adm 631 Information Technology**
- **PubP&Adm 697E Globalization**
(taught by David Mednicoff)

Some other five year MA programs are in the works, and STPEC is discussing with them how STPEC students could best participate. They include:

BA/MPH Public Health: To be accepted into this program, students need to double major in Public Health as well as in STPEC. We are working with Public Health's undergraduate advisor to work out a grid that will show how students can satisfy the requirements of both programs.

BA/MA Public Anthropology and Civic Engagement: At the moment students would need to double major in Anthropology as well as in STPEC to be accepted into the program. However, Art Keene, Director of the grad program, would welcome STPEC students into the program, and we are working with him to find a creative path that would allow STPEC students to pursue this option.

BA/MA Economics: Students should double major in Economics and STPEC and consult the Economics Department about classes they can take as an undergrad that will count toward the MA. Contact Kevin Crocker for details.

NEW CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

There are also two new Certificates that may be of interest to STPEC students. Neither of these are approved yet but we expect them to be approved and available soon.

Certificate in Sustainability that allows tracks within it: you can choose from agriculture and food systems; energy, climate and water; infrastructure, design and technology; politics and policy; or culture, history and representation. Seven courses total will be required.

Certificate in Cooperative Economics. So far this includes a class called the Economics of Cooperative Enterprises (ECON 397EC) that is being offered both fall and spring this year. This certificate involves significant internship time at a coop and is being developed right now. See page 3 for more information on Econ 397EC.

STPEC T-SHIRTS and SWEATSHIRTS

(red on black and black on red)

are still available for sale in the STPEC Office.
See a STPEC office staff member if you want one!

ELIE WIESEL PRIZE IN ETHICS

The Elie Wiesel Prize in Ethics Essay Contest is an annual competition designed to challenge college students to analyze the urgent ethical issues confronting them in today's complex world. Students are encouraged to write thought-provoking personal essays that raise questions, single out issues and are rational arguments for ethical action.

For registered undergraduate full-time juniors or seniors. First prize is \$5,000. Contest Deadline is December 6, 2010.

For more information go to www.eliewieselfoundation.org or call (212) 490-7788.

Suggested essay topics:

- Articulate with clarity an ethical issue that you have encountered and analyze what it has taught you about ethics and yourself.
- Reflect on the relationship between religion and ethics in today's world, making sure to draw on your own life as a guide.
- What does your own experience tell you about the relationship between politics and ethics and, in particular, what could be done to make politics more ethical?

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