

Spring 2012 Registration and Advising Notes

STPEC Spring 2012 Registration Advising begins WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9th

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 2012 (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 posted 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 14th. The list will also be posted to www.umass.edu/stpec.
If you have any suggestions for courses you would like to see - or not see - put on our list, please let us know now!

Welcome to New Students

We are pleased to welcome the following new students to the STPEC Program as of September 2011:
Jonathan Clegg, Ursula Elmes, Pooja Ghosh, Emily Grey, Kayla Goldberg, Graham Greenland, Coby Greif, Nina Haddad, Barbie Line, Anna Meehan, Samuel Medeiros, Meaghan Morris, Chloë Morse, Dylan Partridge, Jishava Patel, Jeff Perry, Adrien Peter, Ian Piazza, Iskra Batista Poblete, Johannes Raatz, EunHo Song, Amanda Smeriglio, Daniel Smith, Lauren Steinberg, Adnaan Stumo, Zoë Talkin, Francesca Trombley, Scott Wexler, and Belinda Yang.
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, November 30 and Thursday, December 1. 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.

UPCOMING STPEC COMMUNITY EVENTS

**POT-LUCKS and Movie Nights are ongoing...
Keep an eye on our Facebook page or website for upcoming events!.**

STUDY ABROAD INFO SESSION for STPEC students: Tuesday, November 15, 7:00-8:00 pm, STPEC Office

FOOD FOR TODAY: Monday, November 21, 5:30-7:30 pm, Thompson 620

A Food Bank of Western Massachusetts Hunger Simulation workshop that demonstrates the root causes of hunger throughout the state and across the country. The simulation is intended to create discussion about food security and community advocacy.

Registration and Advising Notes

continued from page 1

- ★ All STPEC seminars and Junior Writing will be on-line until **Monday, December 12th**. STPEC Senior Seminars and Junior Writing will be available on-line to STPEC Seniors and Juniors and the STPEC Seminars I and II will be available on-line to STPEC Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors. Please be sure to register before December 12th for the classes you want - after December 12th 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.

Note on Completion of STPEC Seminar I

You must have completed (turned in the work and officially received a final grade of C or better for) STPEC 391H (STPEC Seminar I) by Friday, January 13th in order to remain on the registration lists for STPEC 392H or any Senior Seminars. After this date you will be dropped from the roster(s). You will not be able to take STPEC 392H or any Senior Seminars unless you have completed STPEC 391H before the beginning of the Spring semester.

**The UMass Alumni Association
offers numerous scholarships and various
workshops and events
for UMass undergraduates.**

For details go to:

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

Are you a Community College Transfer Student?

Would you be interested in visiting your Community College to recruit for STPEC? We will reimburse for your gas and lunch expenses. Please contact Tyler or Deborah in the STPEC Office for more information.

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!

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 at least one student spokesperson from each regularly scheduled STPEC class.

- 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 2011 are:

First year class:	Dan Everton, Zoë Talkin
Junior I:	Laura Kelly
Junior II:	Joseph Brennan
Junior Writing:	Lauren Lynch, Mike Minafo
Senior 491H:	London Tatum
Senior 492H:	Jon Allen
Praxis 494A:	Burton Schaber
Office Staff:	Adam Dalton, Dan Everton

All STPEC students are welcome to attend the final full Executive Committee meeting which will be held Friday, December 2 from 3:00-5:00 pm in Machmer E-25.

Thinking of Studying Abroad?

Come to our

STUDY ABROAD INFO SESSION

Tuesday, November 15, 7:00-8:00 pm, STPEC Office

This will be an informal meeting with Laurel Foster-Moore, Senior Study Abroad Coordinator for the International Programs Office and Farron Harvey, a STPEC student with study abroad experience.

Study Abroad Scholarship Money available

The College of Social and Behavioral Sciences has funds to provide scholarships to SBS students doing study abroad during the spring semester.

The deadline to apply for the SBS Spring Study Abroad Scholarship is Thursday, November 10, 2011.

Applications can be found on the SBS website:

<http://www.umass.edu/sbs/academics/undergraduate/scholarships.htm#springabroad>

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 Students Attend Occupy Wall Street

This is a compilation narrative written by Jonathan Allen with assistance from Eric Cameron. Current STPEC students Jonathan Allen, Eric Cameron, Katelyn Golsby, Jason Allen and Joseph Brennan went to OWS.

I woke up to sirens. *Ohh Shit, they are expelling us from the PARK*, I thought, *SIRENS!* I was immediately awake, adrenaline and excitement of the impending fight overwhelming any remaining fatigue. I opened my eyes and surveyed Zuccotti park in the rapidly growing light. A couple stirred. A homeless man snored. Next to me, my friend slumbered. *No. False alarm.* All was quiet on Sunday, day 16 (October 9th) of Occupy Wall Street. *Sirens were part of a fact of life in New York City, and besides, I was sleeping on the street.*

I had arrived late on the previous Friday, day 14 of Occupy with a friend, a vanguard of sorts for a five-member STPEC contingent planning on attending the event. I can only describe the ensuing night as fraternal. As new people we faced a benevolent front of kindness and assistance from complete strangers; people helped us find space, food, and medical assistance, which was immensely fortunate as we were hurting, hungry, thirsty and short on food and whiskey.

The second wave arrived the next day- three of our friends and fellow STPEC'rs, bringing badly needed provisions: crackers, cheese, canned sardines, sandwiches, liquor, blankets and fresh adrenaline- the life-blood of the poorly rested occupiers. They came with phone numbers of Girlfriends willing to post bail money written on their arms and monetary donations from several complete strangers, who they had interacted with on their complicated train and car trip to New York.

The morning before their arrival was a lively one of exploration and discovery: we read books at the peoples library (hosted on-site!), drum circled, learned how to get out of handcuffs, ate, volunteered with the cleaning cadres, but most importantly, we talked. and talked to everyone: fellow protesters, tourists, locals, even the cops. People of all creeds, sexual social and political persuasions. Fascinating.

Our second night (night 15) was decidedly less dreamy than our first. The neighbors were loud, and the cops more obnoxious than usual. Worse, one of the newly arrived friends came down with a severe case of food poisoning. After five hours of running around South Manhattan looking for open bathrooms at 0400 hours, the new arrivees decided to evacuate him back to Amherst; and so began their combined car, bus and train ride back home,

twelve hours after their much-hailed arrival. We departed a couple of hours later, boarding the bus to return to Amherst.

In hindsight, I have a lot of feelings about what we participated in, most of them positive. One thing is clear - this is no AstroTurf movement. It is a legitimate, non-hierarchical people's movement that as a result has no set demands besides the need for significant, legitimate political and economic change in a more democratic, egalitarian direction. It's also showing no signs of slowing: in fact, the Occupy movement is gaining momentum around the world. I urge you, if you haven't already, to attend a local Occupy movement, and, if you can't, at least make a donation.

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.worker.org/>

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.

Registered undergraduate full-time juniors or seniors are eligible. First prize is \$5,000. Online submissions only. Contest Deadline is December 5, 2011. For more information go to www.eliewieselfoundation.org.

This year's suggested topic:

Articulate with clarity an ethical issue that you have encountered and analyze what it has taught you about ethics and yourself.

Planning to do an Internship during Spring or Summer 2012?

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 on-line (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.

Radical Alternative Spring Break Class

Grassroots Community Organizing (GCO) is a class that meets in the spring to study structural inequality (race, class, gender, ability, sexuality, etc.) and community organizing as a tool to challenge those systems that lead to marginalization. The class is facilitated by former students who have trained and prepared for a semester--there's no professor in the classroom. GCO embraces an alternative approach to education, which stresses building community in the classroom--a major part of the class are the deep personal relationships that students form with one another. This also takes the form of a more democratic, dialogic, student-centered approach to teaching, rejecting the "banking" model in which information is delivered to students, who are then expected to regurgitate it for exams. The class has two sections, each of which spends a week over spring break working hands-on with a community organization. One class will work with Alliance to Develop Power in Springfield, MA (<http://www.a-dp.org/>) and another will work in Richmond, VA with Virginia Organizing (<http://www.virginia-organizing.org>), both amazing grassroots organizations waging a variety of campaigns.

GCO is a 5 credit honors course in Anthropology, but is open to all students, regardless of major or honors/non-honors status. The course is by application only, and applications are due by Friday, November 18th.

For the application, and more information, please visit: <http://www.umass.edu/uact>. If you have questions that are not answered above, or would like to talk about the program in more depth, contact STPEC student Adam Leader-Smith at aleaders@student.umass.edu