Fall 2015 Registration and Advising Notes

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!!!

★ Advising appointments with Katherine, Tyler and Arin may be made on-line through the Make an appointment for Academic Advising link on the STPEC homepage - www.umass.edu/stpec.

Access to the SPIRE system for registration for fall 2015 courses begins MONDAY, MARCH 30. Students are ramped on to the system based on seniority, check SPIRE for your personal access date and time.

The STPEC Recommended Course List will be ready by March 30th. The Fall 2015 STPEC Course Description sheet is available now on the STPEC website.

If you have any suggestions for courses you would like to see - or not see - put on our lists, please let us know! All STPEC seminars and Junior Writing will be on-line until May 1st. Please be sure to register before May 1st for the classes you want - after May 1st we reserve the right to take classes off-line if they are full or almost full.

★ Praxis: If you’d like to sign up for the regular 3 credit Praxis (494PI) which WILL fulfill the I.E. requirement, you may do so on SPIRE. To register for the 2 credit Praxis (497P) which will NOT count for the I.E. Gen Ed requirement, please speak with Katherine Mallory, STPEC Internship Director. 

continued on page 2

MEETING TIMES FOR NEW STPEC MAJORS

We will be holding meetings for new STPEC majors on March 23-26. Please sign up for a time by choosing Academics and then New Student Meetings from the STPEC home page (www.umass.edu/stpec). If you cannot make any of the times listed please e-mail Sigrid Schmalzer at sigrid@history.umass.edu to schedule an alternate time.

Don’t miss this fantastic STPEC career networking event!

Speednetworking: STPEC Alums and STPEC Futures

★ Wednesday April 8
4:00-6:30 pm
Bernie Dallas Room, Goodell

Come talk to STPEC alums about their current jobs and career paths at this informal and fun event. Small group sessions are timed so that you get to talk to everyone. Time for snacks and schmoozing afterwards. Participants include alumni with careers in social services, union and community organizing, education, law, fundraising, and more! Many of these alums have internships available for STPEC students.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

To reserve please email Deborah at stpec@sbs.umass.edu no later than April 5.

New STPEC career class for Fall 2015!

STPEC 291A: STPEC in the World

Meet 6 STPEC alums and hear them talk about their work after UMass. They will discuss their vision, share their experiences finding their place in the workplace and the world, and impart wisdom any they have for YOU. Take advantage of the opportunity to network and get valuable information about different possibilities for your future after UMass. All this and you get a credit, too!

Meets every other week for 1.5 hours. Day and time TBA.

WELCOME TO NEW STUDENTS

We are happy to welcome the following new students to the STPEC Program as of February 2015: Evagelia Antoniou, Mishael Damsky, Marissa LaSalle, Melissa Myers, Ann Schilling, and Jamie Slate.
**Advising Notes... continued from page 1**

Please note that students who take Praxis for 2 credits (497P) will NOT be able to register for the 3 credit Praxis (494PI) at a later date. So if you need to fulfill the STPEC I.E. please be sure to sign up for 494PI!

STPEC Independent Studies and Internships will be offline. Please contact Katherine Mallory to add Internships and Deborah Reiter to add Independent Studies.

**★ To register for an Internship, fill out an Internship Study Contract.** For more instruction on fulfilling the STPEC Internship requirement, please see page 4.

**★ To register for an Independent Study, fill out a STPEC Independent Study Form.** Be sure to give your completed form to Deborah Reiter, STPEC’s Program Coordinator (you may leave it in her mailbox if she is not available in person).

Sophomores may add themselves to a request list for Junior Writing by filling out a STPEC course add request form available from the STPEC Office. The add request form may also be used to request a STPEC course which you have been unable to add on SPIRE for other reasons. On May 2nd we will review these written requests and add additional students to courses based on course enrollment size and special student needs. If you do not receive the STPEC course you have put in a written request for, you may attempt to add the course again by filling out an add request form in the STPEC office during the first week of the Fall 2015 semester.

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New Leadership and Involvement Requirement

Engagement, involvement, activism, leadership... More than anything else, these are the priorities that separate STPEC from other majors on campus. The STPEC Executive Committee has decided that participation in STPEC leadership structures (specifically, Student Staff and Student Exec) and in the various lectures and other events that STPEC puts on each semester is so important, we ought to consider making it a requirement.

This spring, you’ll be hearing from STPEC advisors about the idea of requiring all STPEC students to:

1. enroll in at least one semester of Staff (a 2-credit commitment) OR Exec (a 1-credit commitment) during their time in STPEC; AND
2. enroll in at least one semester of the STPEC 291R Activist Brown Bag Lunch Series course OR STPEC 291EV STPEC Events.

We’ll be collecting your feedback on this plan this semester, and we’ll plan to make a final decision about whether to implement the requirements at the final full Executive Committee meeting in the spring. So please give some thought to this. If you’ve been involved in Staff, Exec, or Brown Bags, talk to your friends about your experiences. If you haven’t, ask people who have. And let us know what you think! Remember that Executive Committee meetings are open to all STPEC students... so you can help make this decision at the end of Spring semester (and in doing so you will be engaging in the very thing we’re seeking to promote!!).

Black Trans Lives Matter

CeCe McDonald on Racism, Mass Incarceration, and Trans Liberation

Tuesday March 10th @ 7pm
Commonwealth Honors College Events Hall

This event brings to campus a Black Transwoman named CeCe McDonald who speaks about her experience facing oppression from the political and legal institutions because of her racial and gender identities.

Co-sponsored with the ISO and many other UMass offices.

Ruth Zurbriggen

Argentine Reproductive Rights Activist

April 14 5:00 pm 803 CC

Ruth Zurbriggen is an Argentine reproductive rights activist from the feminist collective La Revuelta. Ruth will talk about the work of her feminist collective accompanying women through their experiences with medical abortions (abortion is only legal in Argentina when the women’s life or health is at risk and in case of rape).

Co-sponsored with WGSS
Upcoming Events

★ STPEC Activist ★

Brown Bag Lunch Series

Join us for the final two talks in the STPEC Activist Brown Bag Lunch Series. Come ready to ask questions (for example, about internship opportunities!) and participate in a wider discussion of their work. The series is open to the general public, so please bring your friends.

Sexual Minorities Archive

March 25th 11:15-12:45 Herter 601

The Sexual Minorities Educational Foundation, Inc. continues and expands the work of the Sexual Minorities Archives to collect, preserve, protect, and make accessible the literature, history, and art of all sexual minorities of all races and ethnicities. We seek to inform, educate, and inspire the TLGBIQ community and our allies to understand our unique stories, and individual and collective experiences.

The Prison Birth Project

April 8th 11:15-12:45 Herter 601

The Prison Birth Project (PBP) works within a reproductive justice framework to provide support, advocacy, and leadership training with women and trans people at the intersection of the criminal justice system and parenthood.

Angela Davis

UMass FAC Monday, March 30th 8pm

Angela Davis is a retired professor with the History of Consciousness Department at the University of California, Santa Cruz, and a former director of the university’s Feminist Studies department. She emerged as a prominent counterculture activist and radical in the 1960s as a leader of the Communist Party USA, and had close relations with the Black Panther Party through her involvement in the Civil Rights Movement.

There will be a book signing after the talk.

Co-sponsored with Student Affairs, CMASS and many other departments, programs, and administrators.

Distinguished Lecture Series

on Social Thought and Political Economy

Co-sponsored with Commonwealth Honors College

Sixty Years of Working for Justice and Peace in the Valley

Monday, April 13 4:00 pm
160 Commonwealth Honors College Bldg
Events Hall East

Frances Crowe, former Director of Western Mass AFSC and Activist Extraordinaire

Frances Crowe was born in 1919 and found her calling as a political activist in the wake of the 1945 atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. For the past six decades she has been a leading activist in the Pioneer Valley, where she has played central roles in the anti-war, anti-nuclear, and anti-apartheid movements, among many other struggles. During the Vietnam War, she provided draft counseling for thousands of conscientious objector applicants, and she has frequently engaged in direct action, from climbing the fence of a nuclear submarine base and painting “Thou Shalt Not Kill” on missile tube casings (for which she served a federal prison term) to running a pirate radio station from her walnut tree in a successful effort to convince local radio stations to broadcast Democracy Now! At UMass, she was central to the campaigns to divest from South Africa and to ban anthrax research on campus. Her talk will cover many of these events, which are also recounted in vivid detail in her new memoir, Finding My Radical Soul.

Love, Care and Activism:
Women in Leadership Roles in Argentina’s Social Movements

A talk by Brenda Pereyra

April 15 4:00-6:00 pm Herter 601

Pereyra is an Associate Professor at the Universidad Nacional de Lanus, Argentina and is a Doctoral Candidate in Social Sciences at the Universidad de Buenos Aires. Professor Pereyra specializes in women in Argentine contemporary social movements. She is also the former coordinator of the SIT study abroad program in Argentina.

An Evening of Reflection and Dialogue: What is the Purpose of Science?

Saturday, March 7th 7:00 pm 601 Herter Hall

Four panelists will consider issues of science, class and power and a vision of how science can help us to realize a world of global peace and prosperity.

For more information see the STPEC website events page.
All About the STPEC Internship Requirement (STPEC 498Y)

All STPEC majors are required to complete a 3 or more credit graded internship with a grade of C or better.

If you have not yet completed this requirement, you can do so by registering for STPEC 498Y, section 1. Your faculty sponsor will be Katherine Mallory, STPEC’s Internship Director. You are responsible for finding your own internship placement, and having it approved by Katherine prior to registering for the course.

Grades for the STPEC Internship requirement are based on your written analysis of your experience and observations. We therefore recommend that you complete at least one semester in the STPEC Program before registering for an internship, so that you have an analytical framework to use as the basis of your written work.

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.

Regardless of how you plan to fulfill your internship requirement, you must have Katherine’s prior approval. Please don’t wait until your final semester to talk to Katherine, or you may find that you have to stick around for an extra semester!

Want to get more out of your Internship experience? Want some extra help writing your Internship paper? We strongly recommend either STPEC 494PI or STPEC 497P Praxis. STPEC 494PI is a 3 credit course which fulfills the I.E. Gen Ed requirement. STPEC 497P is a two credit graded optional course for students who do not need to take the STPEC I.E. Students who take STPEC 497P will not be able to register for 494PI at a later date.

Praxis is an invaluable class which helps students further explore the relationship between theory and practice. This class is intended for students who are either currently fulfilling or have recently completed their STPEC Internship requirement. To register please speak with Katherine.

Internships as Electives

We welcome and encourage STPEC students to do internships beyond the 3 credits required for the major. The University allows you to count up to 15 internship credits toward graduation. You can earn up to 15 credits in one placement, or you can complete two or more smaller internships. Students doing elective internships may work with the Faculty Sponsor of their choice.

Labor Studies and Union Semester at the Murphy Institute at CUNY

NY Union Semester is an innovative academic and internship program based out of The Murphy Institute at CUNY School of Professional Studies. For a semester, participants intern with a union or worker organization in New York City while earning an undergraduate or graduate certificate in Labor Studies. Host organizations pay for a monthly stipend, unlimited transit pass and scholarship that covers much of the tuition. For more information please contact sarah.hughes@cuny.edu or go to www.unionsemester.org.

National and international internship listings are available from the Peace and Collaborative Development Network: look under “forums” at http://www.internationalpeaceandconflict.org/

STPEC Students...

Want to help us

RUN THE STPEC PROGRAM?!?

Do you...

★ want to have a voice in your major?
★ yearn for democracy?
★ want something GOOD to put on your resume?

Interning in the STPEC office is one way students can help create a participatory major, support a community conducive to critical thought and social change, and contribute to the continual rethinking and revising of the STPEC major. Office staff duties and projects reflect the needs of the program and the interests of the students and include attending weekly staff meetings, assisting with STPEC office work, working on program publications like the STPEC newsletter, organizing student events, and making weekly program decisions. STPEC office staff members also learn useful skills like consensus decision-making, meeting facilitation, peer-advising and mentoring, and negotiating bureaucracy.

If you would like to participate in creating the present and future of your STPEC major please contact Katherine Mallory, STPEC’s Internship Director, at 413-545-0043 or stpec@sbs.umass.edu.