



West European Studies

European Union Center

DECEMBER 2008

ADMINISTRATION:

Professor Lois R. Wise,
Director West European Studies and
the European Union Center
wisel@indiana.edu

Amanda Smith, Associate Director
smith265@indiana.edu

Linda Jean, Administrative Secretary
jeanl@indiana.edu

GRADUATE ASSISTANTS:

Alison Behling
Tia Trueblood
Ryan Weeks

Luke Wood
Newsletter Editing and Design

CONTACT:

West European Studies/EU Center
Ballantine Hall 542
1020 East Kirkwood Avenue
Indiana University—Bloomington
Bloomington, IN 47405-7103

Tel: 812.855.3280

Fax: 812.855.7695

Email: west@indiana.edu

Web: www.indiana.edu/~west

WEST ADVISORY BOARD:

Hannah Buxbaum
Lynn Duggan
Margot Gray
Esther Ham
Dan Knudsen
Bill Scheuerman

WEST EXCHANGE

Amanda Smith, Associate Director

The fall semester has been a busy time for WEST, especially regarding our outreach and recruitment efforts. Representatives from WEST were available to meet with an estimated 18,000 students, teachers, and community members over the past 2 months alone. This exposure to the public has helped to further our mission to introduce the Center and the resources we have to offer to a variety of audiences: *Middle school and high school educators* were informed of the classroom resources as well as professional development and funding opportunities available to them during the Indiana Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference and the Indiana Foreign Language Teachers Association. *Prospective graduate students* were introduced to the academic program in West European Studies at multiple recruitment fairs and personal communication from our Center. And *Indiana residents* were equally educated and entertained during our participation in annual events including the Indianapolis International Festival and IU's Multicultural Halloween Festival.

While visiting with educators during the various conferences and events this Fall, they were enthusiastic to learn that planning is well underway for our Summer Language Teacher Workshop for French, German, and Spanish teachers, scheduled for June 19-21, 2009. This year's theme is *Incorporating Music in the Language Classroom* where we will explore how the idea of multiculturalism and the pluralistic identities of Europe are embodied in European popular music. During this three day hands-on, interactive workshop, educators will develop lesson plans in their target language highlighting the cultural diversity of Europe. More information will be made available soon at www.iub.edu/~west

Also in the planning stages for this summer, are the concurrent Summer Dutch Institute (SDI) and National Institute for Summer Scandinavian Studies (NISS). Students may enroll in introductory and intermediate language instruction and cultural study for Dutch, Norwegian and Swedish. Brochures and registration information will be mailed by year end. For more information, please see www.iub.edu/~sdi or www.iub.edu/~niss. To be included in this mailing, please email west@indiana.edu.

Yet another exciting opportunity this summer is the EU in the 21st Century study abroad trip for graduate students and exceptional undergraduates. This course, jointly organized with SPEA, and sponsored by many different units within the university will focus on the opportunities and challenges faced by the evolving European Union and its member states. For information see the announcement in this newsletter; for more information on how to register, contact us at west@indiana.edu.

WEST EXCHANGE (Cont'd)

Attracting top graduate students to IUB for West European studies is a high priority for WEST. Already, we have a diverse pool of enthusiastic applicants seeking admission for Fall 2009. To encourage greater interest in our graduate program, we have employed several new strategies. Be on the lookout for the newly redesigned WEST brochure and website. We've also expanded our participation in graduate recruitment fairs, including the annual University Fair recruitment event for the Foreign Area Officer Program in Monterey California in January.

In the meantime, work is continuing to be done to refine our degree programs and expand our course offerings. New course offerings in less commonly taught languages continue to illustrate IU's commitment to language instruction and international education. This upcoming spring semester, a Catalan literature course will be taught by newly hired faculty member, Edgar Illas. The course will examine significant works in all genres within their historical and cultural context with special attention to issues of nation-formation, hegemony, biculturalism, and marginalization. While, the Fall 2009 semester will unveil the long anticipated Advanced Modern Greek, taught by Frank Hess. The Modern Greek Program has seen tremendous growth in Dr Hess's short tenure at IU.

WEST is grateful to its committed faculty, staff, and Graduate Assistants. Our team of educators, administrators and professional staff is working diligently to ensure high quality education on a variety of West European topics, and engaging community outreach to diverse audiences. To better fulfill the mission charged to WEST, particularly in the area of community outreach, we are hopeful to soon invite a new addition to the WEST team in January. This new position, Project Manager, will greatly increase our capacity in terms of workshop & conference delivery as well as forging new relationships in the university and greater community and expanding our activities related to policies and practices in the European Union.

As we invite new staff to join WEST, we must also say goodbye to interim Project Manager Kathryn Crary. As a recent alumna of the School for Public and Environmental Affairs, Kate has utilized her administrative and finance skills to assist our center in a wide range of tasks essential to the smooth transition of the new WEST-EUC administration. Her contribution has included the closeout of the EUCE grant, development of the 2009 EU study abroad course, and multiple outreach projects. We will miss her! Kate will continue as an Adjunct Instructor for the French discussion course on West European Politics, WEUR-W325.

As the year draws to a close, our thoughts at WEST turn to milestones met and challenges ahead of us for the coming year. This has been an important year for West European Studies: reorganization has made us more efficient and more focused on key goals; our academic program is diversified and we are regularly engaging new faculty into the WEST family; while at the same time, we have maintained an extraordinary level of high quality outreach activities for the community and public schools.

As we move forward, we'd like to stress the resources we have available to offer WEST students, faculty, alumni and community members. An important goal of the WEST leadership team is to reconnect and strengthen relationships with WEST alumni and friends. We recognize many individuals who were once associated with WEST still have an invested interest in the work of the West European Studies Center today. Our role is to provide greater opportunities for alumni and friends to reengage in the work of their alma mater at a level that is suitable to them. WEST is always happy to pass on information about conferences and events taking place at IUB. We also love to hear new of our alumni accomplishments. If you have an exciting story to share or would like to learn how to be more involved with our Center, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to hearing from you!

The faculty and students here at West European Studies Center wish you a happy holiday season

WEST Office Wish List

*Thank you for your
continued support!*

Region 2 DVD Players

Computer Software Literature/
Guides:

Microsoft Contribute,
Dreamweaver,
Office Suite;
Macromedia Suite

West Europe Education
Materials

West Europe Geography
Games, Puzzles, Maps

West Europe Cultural Items

Telephone Headsets, Hands
Free Sets

*Please contact Amanda Smith
smith265@indiana.edu
to discuss giving opportunities*

WEST FOCUS

*Minority Autonomy, Minority Rights**By Luke Wood*

The most recent attempt to overhaul the burgeoning European Union bureaucratic system was the [Lisbon Treaty](#), which like so many other pieces of attempted Union-wide reform met its cold death at the hands of small ethnic minority communities. It is fascinating how the smallest of groups can bring the enormous European Union to its knees. It is yet to be determined if this is a fundamental flaw of the EU or its greatest claim to inclusion, tolerance, and approachability.

One of the small groups that played a disproportionate role in the Treaty debacle was the [Åland Islands](#). According to the accession treaty governing Finland's entrance into the EU, a special provision was given to the Åland Islands in 1995. Officially considered a third territory in the accession negotiations and the entrance of the Ålands into the EU was dependent upon ratification of the treaty in the Åland Parliament.



The Åland Parliament in Session

Under pressure from the Finnish government which had already ratified the Lisbon Treaty in Helsinki in 2008, the Åland Islands debated old concerns and grievances in regards to its future with Finland and the European Union. There were four demands in particular: (1) Through the Lisbon Treaty national parliaments are given more involvement in the EU legislative process through the allocation of two votes to each parliament; the Ålands want one of Finland's votes; (2) The islands want greater self representation in the European Court of Justice; currently the [Finnish government](#) speaks for the Islands in the ECJ, even though the Islands have autonomy over their own legal affairs; (3) The Ålands want the right to name one of Finland's 14 representatives in the European Union Parliament; (4) The Ålands want greater transparency in the Union and help in understanding how their government can influence the Finnish government in the Council of Ministers.

The question remains, will Finland allow one of its influential votes in the European Council to be given to a band of otherwise scattered, isolated Baltic Islands? Finland has sought help from the European Union, not knowing exactly how to handle an already delicate situation. It is speculated that if the next set of reform treaties is brought to EU-wide national ratification and is successful, the Åland Islands will have no choice but to accept reform treaty terms. However, it is much more convincing that the Ålands will persist in their fight with Finland and the EU. The response of the Union and Åland's neighbors will be extremely important in order to reconcile deep concerns that inevitably include all European populations in terms of democratic representation and inclusion. For many in Finland, the Ålands ask for too much, yet as an autonomous, self-governing minority, they are simply asking for the very least—a voice.

This raises important questions for the fate of minorities groups across Europe and the representation of autonomous regions in the European Union. The plight of the Åland Islands in Scandinavia is similar to that of [Greenland](#) and the Faroe Islands, two autonomous regions that must rely on distant European governments to represent local political and economic issues. Outside of Scandinavia, the problem of representation is widespread including ethnic groups such as the Basque, Flemish, Catalan, Welsh, Scots, Roma, Sinti, and Laplanders who must rely on centralized national governments. Rarely does a government reflect the desires, goals, and aspirations of the significant minorities in their nations; collectively, this amounts to thousands if not millions of Europeans who are left out of European policy creation, maintenance, and implementation process and representation in the European Union Parliament and Council.

The Åland Islands (right) are a part of an archipelago located at the opening of the Bothnia Gulf between Sweden and Finland, made up of roughly 6,500 islands. Officially considered part of Finland, the Åland Islands exercise control over an independent parliament, postal system, airline, as well as local economic and cultural life. The autonomous government is located on Fasta Åland, the archipelago's main island and home to 90 percent of the predominantly Swedish speaking population. The island province also enjoys international recognition as a member of the Nordic Council.



WEST FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Professor William Scheuerman

Dr. Scheuerman began his tenure at Indiana University in January 2006 after holding a faculty position at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. We spoke with Dr. Scheuerman about his recent publications including his upcoming book entitled Morgenthau, to be published in 2009 by Polity Press.

Dr. Scheuerman pointed to how Hans Morgenthau dominated the study of international politics in the United States for many decades. He was the leading representative of Realist international relations theory in the last century and his work remains hugely influential in the field. In Morgenthau Dr. Scheuerman provides a comprehensive introduction to Morgenthau's ideas, and assesses their significance for political theory and international politics.



By highlighting Morgenthau's engagement with the leading lights of European political and legal theory, Scheuerman argues that he developed a morally demanding political ethics and an astute diagnosis of the unprecedented perils posed by nuclear weaponry. Believing that the irrationalities of US foreign policy were rooted partly in domestic factors, he sympathized with demands for radical political and social change. Scheuerman illustrates that Morgenthau's thinking has been widely misunderstood by both disciples and critics and that it offers many challenges to contemporary Realists who discount his normative aspirations. With the advent of the cosmopolitan goal of international reform, Morgenthau's work serves up an unsettling mix of sympathy and hard-headed skepticism which remains crucially important in the development of the field. Dr. Scheuerman's publications since 2000 include:

Liberal Democracy and the Social Acceleration of Time.

New York: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2004.

From Liberal Democracy to Fascism: Legal and Political Thought in the Weimar Republic.

Boston: Humanities Press, 2000.

"Busyness and Citizenship." *Social Research*, 72(2), 2005.

"International Law as Historical Mythology." *Constellations*, 12(2), 2004.

"Cosmopolitan Democracy and the Rule of Law." *Ratio Juris*, 15(4), 2002.

Dr. Scheuerman draws from a research background of German political thought, theory, and language. These studies and interests led him to the much larger issue of "democracy beyond the nation state"—an issue of obvious relevance to the European Union implements of democratic competency. Central to these concerns is the acknowledgement of the processes of economic globalization and its effects on European nation states and, more abstractly, on the Nation State as a conceptual entity.

In 2006, Dr. Scheuerman was invited to attend a conference examining issues of international political theory and the 2006 EU constructional crisis of the Lisbon Treaty. Central to the conference and much of Dr. Scheuerman's recent work is coming to terms with an evolving European Union that increasingly resembles a state and how to make centralized power in Brussels more inclusive of European populations and more subordinate to democratic practices.

In addition to teaching and research at Indiana University, Dr. Scheuerman is the co-director of an international conference for critical theorists held annually at the Czech Academy of Science in Prague. Holding a Ph.D. from Harvard University (1993), Dr. Scheuerman is distinguished as a Rockefeller Fellow (Center for Human Values 2002-2003) and by recognition by the German Marshall Fund Research Fellowship (1998). Additionally, he sits on the Advisory Board for the West European National Resource Center and is very active in the Political Science department at Indiana University.

Links to Further Information:

[More on William Scheuerman](#)
[Political Science at Indiana University](#)
[Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic](#)

WEST FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Professor Edgar Illas

Professor Edgar Illas became the Director of Catalan Studies at Indiana University in 2008 after completing his Ph.D. at Duke University in 2007. Indiana University has one of the oldest Catalan Studies programs in North America, with over 40 years of research and scholarship. IU Libraries is home to the Josep Roca-Pons Archives of the North American Catalan Society. The Catalan literature collection is arguably the finest of its kind in North America.



Catalan is the native language of over 10 million people living in the eastern coast of Spain and in the south of France: in the areas of Catalonia, Valencia, the Aragonese Franja, the Balearic Islands, the Roussillon, Andorra, and Sardinia. The city of Barcelona acts as the major intellectual, cultural, and commercial center of the language area. Although officially considered part of Spain, Catalonia exercises a certain degree of autonomy over its cultural and political life. Yet permanent tensions exist between the central powers of the Spanish state and the Catalan government.

Further tensions exist between the language politics devised by the Spanish or the French states, which have always worked to implement the linguistic hegemony of the official languages, and those of the Catalan government, which in contemporary times is struggling to make Catalan more visible at the public and institutional levels. The persistent presence of multiple languages has made the Catalan areas a rich and multifaceted social space but it has also created permanent conflicts between state law, minority rights, and language policies.

We talked with Dr. Illas, a Catalan native, about his background, work, and research interests. Dr. Illas spoke of the at times intense situation between Barcelona and Madrid, the failings of the Spanish central government, the divisions among the personal convictions and attitudes of the Catalans, and the greater issues of the representation of minorities in national states and supranational institutions.

Dr. Illas' current research consists of studying the emergence of Barcelona as a global city in the context of the 1992 Olympic Games. Through this case study, he examines the new European city and the various global phenomena (such as touristification, Disneylandization, the generic city...) which are determining its current forms. Additionally, Dr. Illas is also looking at Catalonia in terms of an imagined community mirrored in many ways by the establishment of Israel and the Jewish community. His research interests include postmodern cultural, architectural, and political discourses.

We asked Dr. Illas why he would encourage others to study Catalan language and culture. He responded by explaining that Catalan Studies offers students an important discourse to understand the peculiar status of minorities in Europe and the European Union. By examining minorities in contexts of national states and supranational institutions we come to understand the plight of minorities hoping to defend their cultures and languages and also the democratic deficit that exists in Europe. Referring to the marginalized as "Europe's internal others," Dr. Illas emphasized the complexity of cultural relations in Europe and the failure of both national states and the European Union to extend representation to millions of people--"to the extent that we must begin to question the idea of Europe as a democratizing project and even the idea of democracy itself."

In addition to Illas' directorship of the Catalan Program, he is also an Assistant Professor in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. A graduate of Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona and Duke University (Ph.D. 2007). Dr. Illas is distinguished by the Bass Instructorship of the Duke University Graduate School and ranked first in his class at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (*Premi Extrodinari* 1999).

Links to further information:

[More Information on Edgar Illas](#)
[Indiana University Department of Spanish and Portuguese](#)
[Catalan Studies at Indiana University](#)
[City of Barcelona](#)
[North American Catalan Society](#)



Catalonia occupies the southeast corner of Spain on the French and Andorran borders. Barcelona is both the capital and culture center on the language area.

WEST LANGUAGE STUDIES
Modern Greek Studies at Indiana University
Dr. Franklin Hess



Professor Franklin L. Hess became the Coordinator for the Modern Greek Program at Indiana University in 2007 and has immediately set about expanding course offerings with an eye toward developing a minor in Modern Greek Studies. “I’m very excited about the possibilities of building Modern Greek Studies at Indiana University,” says Dr. Hess. “We have good enrollments, largely due to a strong base of heritage students from the Midwest and East Coast. Additionally, the student body as a whole is inquisitive and interested in expanding its understanding of the world. My hope is that our Modern Greek offerings can provide students both with a window onto the world as well as an opportunity to gain new perspectives on their native cultures.”

Regarding this last point, Dr. Hess speaks from experience. His Ph.D., from the University of Iowa, is actually in American Studies. “I decided to pursue American Studies,” he explains, “as a result of my experiences teaching English as a Second Language in China. When we teach language, we also teach culture, and I found myself struggling to explain my home culture.” Once in graduate school, however, the pendulum began to swing in the other direction: inquiry into the home culture began to raise questions about the broader geopolitical context of American and other cultures. The result was a dissertation exploring the influence of American mass media entertainment on Greek Culture, and a decade-long commitment to the field of Modern Greek Studies. “As the anthropologists say,” he jokes, “I went native.”

“Greece, for me,” states Hess, “has provided tremendous opportunities for both investigation and introspection. Geographically, culturally, and economically, Greece exists at a crossroads: between antiquity and modernity, between the East and the West, between Christianity and Islam, between colonial powers and colonized peoples, and between the developed and the developing world. It provides tremendous opportunities for thinking about both the global system and the United States’ place in that system.”

Through courses such as “Greek Cinema as a National Cinema” and “Violence, Critique, and Film: The United States, Greece, and the Wars of Yugoslav Succession”—as well as his language courses, which contain a significant cultural component—Hess hopes to provide students with an opportunity to engage in the same sort of multidimensional cultural critique that he has found so rewarding.

Hess is active in the Modern Greek Studies Association. He is currently serving his second term on the organization’s Executive Board and was recently elected Secretary. He is generally upbeat about the state of Modern Greek Studies in the U.S. academy. “In terms of the quality of scholarship presented at our biennial symposium and in *The Journal of Modern Greek Studies*, the field has made tremendous strides over the past 15 years. Additionally, enrollments remain strong across the US. Still, we can’t afford to rest on our laurels. The academic terrain is constantly changing, and constantly searching for ways to adapt our message and expand our audience.”

This past summer, he was invited to participate in “The First World Conference on Modern Greek Studies” in Athens, a Greek-language conference organized by the Mayor of Athens and supported by the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Hess presented on the topic of “The Internet and Modern Greek Studies.” “The conference,” according to Hess, “was a tremendous opportunity to think about the future of the field and learn from colleagues in Europe and Oceania.” (*Article Continued Next Page*)



The Greek Language is spoken in over 20 nations in Europe, Africa, and Asia with an estimated 15-22 million speakers. Greek is regarded as an official language in Greece, Cyprus, and the European Union and has minority language status in Albania, Italy, and Turkey.

WEST LANGUAGE STUDIES
Modern Greek Studies at Indiana University (Cont'd)
Dr. Franklin Hess

The Australian model of Modern Greek Studies, in particular, provides considerable food for thought. “Modern Greek Studies in Australia is dynamic. They benefit, of course, from a more recent immigrant population, but the strength of the programs is largely due to enlightened educational policies that actually allow minor languages to be taught in the senior year of high school. This has a dual effect: it creates an audience for college language courses and provides opportunities for graduates of Modern Greek programs to find employment. It would be nice to see the US pursue a similar policy, perhaps making use of existing and emerging distance learning technologies. The benefits for both business and diplomacy would be tremendous.”

Hess also participated in the recent Modern Greek Language Teaching Workshop, which was hosted by Yale University and funded by the Onassis Foundation, presenting on “Course Organization and Sequenced Language Practice in the Modern Greek Classroom.” “I think everyone present,” states Hess, “felt reinvigorated by the experience. We all benefited from the exchange of ideas and our collective wisdom. It was particularly gratifying to me to learn that culture is reclaiming a central role in the language classroom as a result of recent MLA and ACTFL position papers on the topic.”

Hess plans on adding a third year of Modern Greek in the 2009-2010 academic year. An upper-level history elective is also on the books. “I’m actively looking for ways to develop synergy with other departments and other scholars,” states Hess. “There is a significant number of graduate students interested in pursuing research projects that focus in part or in whole on Modern Greece. I’m committed to finding ways to facilitate that research.”

Links to Further Information:

[Modern Greek Studies Association](#)
[Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#)
[Greek Embassy in the United States](#)
[Greece in the European Union](#)

WEST Student Accomplishments
Current Students and Alumni

On October 30, WEST M.A. students **Kallan Picha**, **Roger Munson** and **Tia Trueblood** entertained trick-or-treaters, European style, at the GPSO –IOC Multicultural Halloween Festival.

Nick Clark (Political Science PhD student) gave a talk entitled “European Integration: Looking Ahead” to residents at Meadowood Senior Living Community November 11. The talk was part of the International Outreach Council’s *Great Decisions* Series.

WEST continued its videoconference program with Lanesville High School. **Marie Line Brunet** (French PhD student) and **Boubacar Diakite** (African Studies PhD student) virtually visited Lanesville to speak French with the students.

Dr. Gergana May and **Alison Behling** (WEST/SPEA MPA student) visited Rogers Elementary School December 16 to teach kindergarteners about the holiday traditions of Scandinavia and Germany.

Paul Pass will defend his WEST master's thesis in January. He will be an intern at the Delegation of the European Commission to the USA in Washington DC during the spring semester.

WEST MA student **Tia Trueblood** acted as the Contributing Editor for the October edition of *Face*’s magazine, a world’s culture magazine for kids. The issue’s theme was Switzerland.

Matt Carlton (WEST MA student) accepted a teaching position at the Finnish Business College in Helsinki (Suomen Liikemiesten Kauppaopisto). He will teach courses on office applications, coordinate international relations (primarily with German colleges), and host activities (a "Helsinki Woche") for visitors from Germany.

WEST FACULTY
Recent Publications



Fritz Breithaupt

Associate Professor of Germanic Studies, Indiana University

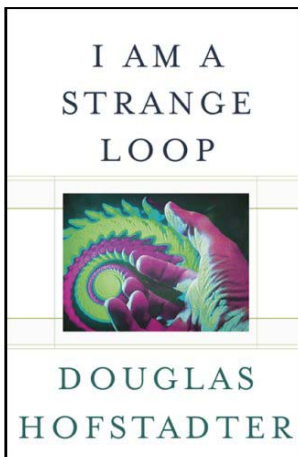
Der Ich-Effekt des Geldes: Zur Geschichte einer Legitimationsfigur (The Ego Effect of Money: On the History of a Legitimizing Figure)

2008, Fischer Verlag

The concepts of the self (“I,” “ego”) and “money” are puzzling phenomena: both describe something instable, elusive, and fleeting. How do the two concepts interact and affect each other? In order to overcome their qualities of instability and undefinability, a symbiosis has developed between the two, which however must also be renounced for the self to retain its autonomy and money its objectivity. This is Breithaupt’s thesis, which takes a new perspective on the modern world and its drive towards individuality. He brings together numerous examples of literature, philosophy, economic and cultural history from 1770 to the present.

Other publications: **Kulturen der Empathie (Cultures of Empathy)** (2009 – *forthcoming*)

[Click Here for More Information on Fritz Breithaupt](#)



Douglas Hofstadter

College Professor of Cognitive Science and Computer Science, Indiana University

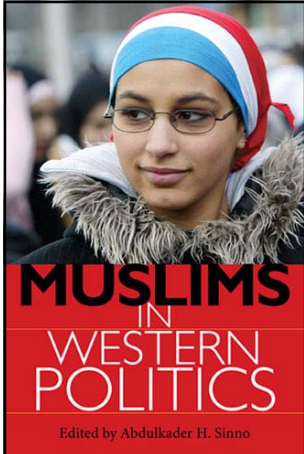
I Am a Strange Loop

2007, Basic Books

In this work, Hofstadter argues that the phenomenon of self-awareness is best explained by an abstract model based on symbols and self-referential "loops," which, as they accumulate experiences, create high-level consciousness. The most central and complex symbol is what we call the “I,” a strange loop where the brain’s symbolic and physical levels feed back into each other and reverse causality. To each human being, this ‘I’ is the realest thing in the world, but how can such a mysterious abstraction be real? Is our ‘I’ just a convenient fiction? Does an ‘I’ exert genuine power over the particles in our brain, or is it helplessly pushed around by the laws of physics? These and other questions are addressed in this work, which includes several anecdotes, analogies, and metaphors on the cutting edge of philosophy.”

[Click Here for More Information on Douglas Hofstadter](#)

WEST FACULTY *Recent Publications*



Abdulkader H. Sinno

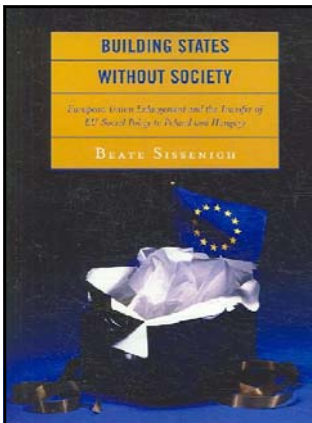
Assistant Professor of Political Science and Middle Eastern Studies, IUB

Muslims in Western Politics (ed.)
2009, Indiana University Press

Examining relations between Muslims and their host countries, Sinno and other international scholars analyze political representation, identity politics, civil liberties, immigration, and security issues. In comparison to other volumes that have emphasized problems with Muslims in the West, this volume views Muslims as a normative, and even positive, influence in Western politics. The essays here focus on Islam and Muslim citizens in Europe and the Americas since 9/11, the European bombings, and the recent riots in France. The main topics include Muslim political participation and activism, perceptions about Islam and politics, Western attitudes about Muslim visibility in the political arena, radicalization of Muslims at a time of weakening civil liberties, and personal security.

Other publications: **Organizations at War in Afghanistan and Beyond** (2008)

[Click here for more information on Abdulkader H. Sinno](#)



Beate Sissenich

Assistant Professor of Political Science, Indiana University

Building States without Society: European Union Enlargement and Social Policy Transfer to Poland and Hungary
2007, Lexington

Focusing on the 2004 enlargement of the European Union, *Building States without Society* highlights the real limits of cross-national rule transfer even when power is uneven between rule-makers and rule-takers.

Other publications: [journal articles] “Cross-National Policy Networks and the State: EU Social Policy Transfer to Poland and Hungary” (2008); “Postnational Rule-Making, Compliance, and Justification: The New Europe” (2008); “Justification and Identity in European Integration: Comments on Morgan and Ferrara” (2007); “Corruption as Domestic and International Concern: An Overview of Causes, Consequences and Reform Efforts” (2001).

[Click here for more information on Beate Sissenich](#)

US STATE DEPARTMENT INTERNSHIP: BERLIN

By Alison Behling

As a graduate student in the joint degree program with WEST and the School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA), I wanted a summer internship that would bring together what I've studied in these two programs: the languages, societies, and politics of Western Europe, and environmental policy and management in international public affairs. Although I'd never seriously considered a Foreign Service career before, working at a U.S. Embassy in Europe – preferably in the Economic section, which covers environmental policy; and in Germany, whose language and culture I've studied for over a decade – seemed like it could be a good fit. With this hope, I figured that indeed I had nothing to lose.

It turned out that applying for a State Department internship was one of the best decisions I've made during my graduate career. I gained an incredible amount of professional knowledge and experience and departed with a positive impression of a career in the Foreign Service. I worked in the Global Affairs unit of the Economic section at the Berlin Embassy: a perfect match for my academic and professional interests. I researched issues such as Germany's renewable energy laws and R&D collaborations with the U.S.; Germany's new (and controversial) Integrated Energy and Climate Package; German domestic energy policy and its implications for the U.S.; and more. And I was constantly busy with new short- and long-term substantive projects. I handled logistics for a bilateral delegation on biofuels, wrote sections for an Ambassador's report on German-American bilateral economic connections, and helped with a "scenesetter" document on German and European energy issues for a visiting Congressional delegation.

But the highlight of my work was the design, research, and composition of my own cable (short policy piece) for Washington, DC on the offshore wind energy industry in Germany: the political and economic factors now, outlooks for the immediate future, and why the U.S. should be aware of the issue. For my research, I conducted meetings in German at the Federal Environment Ministry, the German Energy Agency, and with the Offshore Wind Energy Foundation, and I held several additional phone interviews, as well. Above all else I did, this cable truly allowed me to combine the SPEA and WEST sides of my education. I utilized my German language skills and cultural experience as well as knowledge of public administration and policymaking to the fullest to create the final document.

This summer was an especially exciting time for the actual Embassy building itself, as well. 2008 marked the return of the U.S. Diplomatic Mission to Germany to its original location on Pariser Platz, literally next door to the Brandenburg Gate and the French and British Embassies at the heart of reunited Berlin. This meant moving in to a brand-new building (whose architecture was the talk of the town, both good and bad, for months), and a Fourth of July grand opening ceremony featuring speeches by German Chancellor Angela Merkel and former U.S. President George H.W. Bush. Of all the summers to be in Berlin as a State Department intern, I felt even more grateful to be part of such a historic one for the Embassy.

For me, the State Department internship epitomized the bridging of area studies and public affairs skills, and the research and writing that I did were put to use in exciting ways. To any students with an interest in international public affairs and policy, and with even the remotest interest in a taste of the career and lifestyle of a Foreign Service officer, I highly recommend applying for a State Department internship. You too have nothing to lose and potentially much to gain.

Links to Further Information:

[US State Department](#)
[US Embassy in Berlin, Germany](#)
[US Mission to the European Union](#)

Alison Behling, (right) is a third year MA/MPA student in West European Studies and the School for Public and Environmental Affairs. Behling hopes to complete her thesis on Comparative Nuclear Energy Policy in Western Europe this spring.



WEST STUDENTS

Incoming WEST Graduate Students

WEST welcomed three new MA students to the program for the 2008-2009 academic year: Roger Munson, Kallan Picha, and Luke Wood. Although the students come from diverse educational backgrounds and different parts of the United States, they have one thing in common: the German language. All three have extensive coursework with the German language including Picha's two undergraduate semesters abroad in Austria and Germany and Wood's studies at the University of Freiburg, Germany.

Aside from a shared interest in the culture and language of German-speaking nations, WEST's new students have different sets of goals and professional aspirations. Munson wishes to pursue a global business angle, hoping to anchor himself in the business world through course work at the Kelley School and language and cultural courses in WEST. Picha seeks a career in public service or government and looks to German cultural trends, history, and society using the German language as a vehicle for gaining more insight into Germany, Austria, and central Europe. Wood has a special focus on International Relations and Securities Studies, and considers language to be the key to broader regional security institutions.

Language in fact central to all WEST students' ambitions and future plans. Collectively, WEST Master's students represent much of linguistic Western Europe including German, French, Spanish, Swedish, Norwegian, Icelandic, Polish, Dutch, Italian, and Icelandic.



From left to right, Luke Wood, Kallan Picha, and Roger Munson

IU Hosts the Summer Scandinavian and Dutch Language Institutes

May 11 – July 10, 2008

National Institute of Summer Scandinavian Studies (NISSS) May 18th to July 10th 2008

In 2009 WEST and Germanic Studies will host the National Institute of Summer Scandinavian Studies. The Institute offers intensive language instruction in beginning Norwegian and Swedish.

[Click here for More Information](#)

Dutch Summer Institute — May 18th to July 10th 2008

WEST and Germanic Studies will host the Dutch Summer Institute. Beginning and intermediate Dutch will be offered simultaneously during the eight weeks. Students can earn 8 credit hours but the course is open to non-students as well.

[Click here for More Information](#)

Two Comparative Dutch/Nordic Courses —May 11 to 15th

Additionally, as part of the Summer Institutes, WEST will offer two one-credit cultural courses, Dutch and Nordic Art taught by Professor Michelle Facos and Dutch and Nordic Immigration taught by Dr. Per Nordahl. The Dutch and Nordic Art course will meet from 10-12:30 AM and the Dutch and Nordic Immigration class will meet from 2:00 to 4:30. The courses are offered to students and the general public. Students can earn one credit hour for each course.

EU@IU

European Union Center December News

*Upcoming European Union Presidency**By Luke Wood and Kate Crary**N. Sarkozy*

January 1, 2009 marks the transfer of the Presidency of the European Union from France to the Czech Republic. Under the European Union Presidency, a member state presides over the Council of the European Union and represents the European Union in various matters for a six month period. It is filled, on a rotating basis, by the 27 EU member states, each of whom brings to their term an agenda that represents their own individual national interests as well as EU-wide issues.

The Presidency is part of an 18-month program that allows for communication and exchange between the three nations that hold the presidency during an 18-month period. This agenda allows for the continued progress toward long-term goals whose resolution is infeasible during a 6-month period. In this capacity, France will work with the Czech Republic as it begins its Presidency and these two nations will assist Sweden, who holds the final Presidency of the trio. Each of these three countries, and especially the Czech Republic and Sweden, is known for its skepticism toward the EU; it will be interesting to see how their consecutive Presidencies affect the EU.

The French EU Presidency, which began on July 1, 2008, inherited the significant challenge posed by Ireland's "no" vote on the Lisbon Treaty, a series of institutional reforms aimed at increasing efficiency in the enlarged EU. France's agenda also included an ambitious effort at reforming EU environmental and energy policy – including an attempt to increase EU acceptance of nuclear energy, France's preferred "green" energy source, which remains highly controversial outside of France. The French Presidency also listed immigration reforms as an important goal, and hoped that its own status as a Mediterranean nation would enhance communications with other Southern European countries, whose agreement with older EU member states is essential for immigration reforms to pass.

The Czechs will assume the Presidency in a Europe that, like the United States, is in the midst of significant economic woes. As a small country that otherwise does not have as much clout as larger member states do, the Czech Republic views the Presidency as vital opportunity to communicate its goals to the entire EU. Along with other former Soviet satellite states that joined the EU during the great 2004 Accession, the Czech Republic has opposed many EU policies, particularly in the areas of economic and environmental regulations. Having only entered into the world of free trade in the last 15 years, the Czech Republic still struggles to reform its business practices and political institutions, often viewing EU regulations as hindrances to further economic growth. The Czech Presidency will be led by the current Czech Foreign Minister, Karel Schwarzenberg, former Czech Republic Chancellor and former Chairman of the Helsinki Committee on Human Rights.

*K. Schwarzenberg**K. Bildt***Links to Further Information:**

- [Czech EU Presidency](#)
- [French EU Presidency](#)
- [Swedish EU Presidency](#)
- [European Union Commission](#)
- [European Union](#)
- [US Mission to the European Union](#)
- [European Union in the United States](#)

EU @ IU

European Union Center Announcements

West European Studies and European Union Center Announce Summer Course in Paris

West European Studies and the European Union Center are collaborating with the School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA) to again offer the course “The European Union in the 21st Century.” Additional sponsors of the course include Russian East European Institute; College of Arts and Sciences, and the Institute for Development Strategies.

The course will take place during the 2009 first summer session and classes will be held at Paris’ prestigious École Nationale d’Administration. It will prepare up to 20 graduate and exceptional upper-level undergraduate students for advanced studies and/or professional careers in the international arena. Students should be able to apply the four credit hours for V550 toward their degree requirements. IU Overseas Studies will manage the application process.

Applications are due Friday, February 13

[Click here for further information:](#)

European Digital Library Opens Online to Overwhelming Public Response

The European Digital Library, funded by the European Commission and coordinated by the German National Library, is an online, digital search engine for Europe’s national libraries. The project has brought together the catalogues and digital collections of the National Libraries in Belgium, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Norway, Spain and Sweden to create one comprehensive European Library. The total budget of the program was over €2.1 billion. The digital library through its web site, Europeana, provides access to over two million documents, images, and video or audio segments from 48 libraries from 46 European nations through a single repository.

The European Digital Library is a significant step toward preserving vital cultural materials and information and will continue to expand its content in the future, to include eventually materials from European national libraries and all Council of Europe member states and Vatican City. European Union Commissioner for Information Society and Media Viviane Reding is responsible for the project. Reding first proposed the idea of a central digital repository for National Library materials in 2005, and work on the project officially began in September 2006. The web site experienced technical difficulties after its initial opening in November due to unexpected levels of public interest in the site. (German visitors showed the most interest, comprising 17 percent of total hits, followed by France at 10 percent, Spain at 9 percent, and Italy at 6 percent.) But the web site is expected to be up and running by mid-December.

Spring 2009 Course Listings for European Union and West Europe:

- WEUR 301 *Modern European Political Society*
- WEUR 325 *European Issues Foreign Language Discussion, French*
WEUR 325 *European Issues Foreign Language Discussion, German*
WEUR 325 *European Issues Foreign Language Discussion, Italian*
WEUR 325 *European Issues Foreign Language Discussion, Spanish*
- WEUR 401 *West European Intellectual History*
WEUR 501 *Economics of European Integration*
- HIST 303 *Nordic and Baltic States in the European Union*
- POLS 350 *Politics of the European Union*

Links to Further Information:

- [European Digital Library](#)
[European Commission](#)
[EU Commission for Information Society](#)
[German National Library](#)

EU @ IU

European Union Center Announcements

THE EUROPEAN UNION IN THE 21ST CENTURY

SPEA 1ST SUMMER SESSION



Paris, France
May 10-22, 2009

INFORMATION SESSION JANUARY 15
SPEA 204 IDS CONFERENCE ROOM
NOON TO 1 PM



Course Description

A four credit hour summer study abroad program in Europe will focus on the opportunities and challenges faced by the evolving European Union and its member states. The course, first instituted in 1991, is co-sponsored by West European Studies and the European Union Center, The School of Public and Environmental Affairs, the Russian and East European Institute, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the Institute for Development Strategies. Seminars will be conducted at the *École Nationale d'Administration (ÉNA)*, in Paris. The course prepares students for advanced studies or professional careers in the international arena. Students benefit from hands-on experience with real policy issues in seminars with high-profile public and private executives, policy makers, and faculty.

Faculty Leader

David Pitts, Assistant Professor of Public Policy in the School of Public Affairs at American University. Dr. Pitts has taught courses on policy and management in the EU, management communication, and human resources management. As a faculty member at Georgia State University, Prof. Pitts coordinated their EU summer study program. Professor Pitts earned his Ph.D. in the School of Public & International Affairs at the University of Georgia. He also holds a bachelor's degree in French from Birmingham-Southern College, a *diplôme* in French literature from Université Catholique de l'Ouest, and an MPA degree in Comparative and International Public Management from Indiana University.



Topics Covered

- Historical Development of the European Union
- Nordic and Baltic Relations with the EU
- EU Interactions with Neighboring Non-Member States
- Organization and Institutional Issues in the Enlarged EU
- EU Economic and International Trade Policy
- European Identity and Multiculturalism
- EU Environmental Policy Issues
- France and its Role as a Member State
- Enlargement to Central and Eastern Europe
- French and American Partners in NATO
- The EU Presidency
- The EU Bureaucracy and Issues of Representativeness

Application & Financial Aid Information

Applications and enrollments are managed and available online through IU Overseas Study www.indiana.edu/~overseas/programs/biglist.shtml –look for “EU Summer Program” in Paris, France. Students will earn credit in SPEA V550/V450. *If a student withdraws, he or she remains financially liable, but we will return whatever funds are possible based on dates and special circumstances. ALL SPEA degree students are strongly encouraged to apply for an Overseas Education Scholarship.*

Eligibility & Program Fees

The program is open to graduate students enrolled in degree programs at US universities. A minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA is required for graduate students. Students should confer with their faculty concentration advisor to confirm that course credit will fulfill degree requirements. MPA students may apply the credit hours toward meeting concentration electives. Students in the College of Arts and Sciences may apply summer fee remission toward course costs if the course fulfills a degree requirement. Outstanding upper-level undergraduates may be eligible for the course and financial aid. Apply by February 13th.

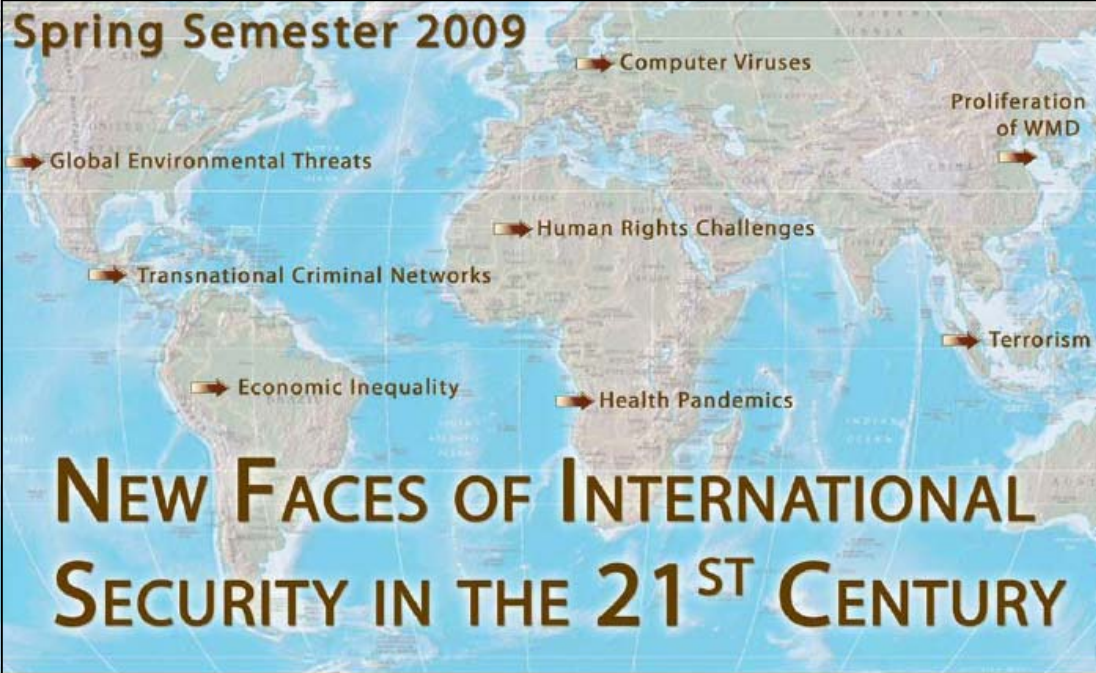
The estimated cost for the 2009 program based on SPEA in-state graduate tuition and current rate of exchange is \$3,500. Program costs include 4 credit hours tuition at the SPEA graduate resident rate, accommodations in Paris, IU Overseas study fees, insurance, and course materials. Hotel costs are based on shared occupancy. Airfare, meals, and personal expenses are not included. A non-refundable deposit of \$1,500 is due February 27, 2009. The balance is due no later than May 10th.

Application Deadline: February 13, 2009

West European Studies and European Union Center
Ballantine Hall 542, 1020 E. Kirkwood Ave.
Bloomington, IN 47405-7103

Sponsors: European Union Center, West European Studies, School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Russian East European Institute, The College of Arts and Sciences, and the Institute for Development Strategies

WEST ANNOUNCEMENTS



THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF GLOBAL CHANGE IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE A NEW COURSE OFFERING FOR SPRING 2009:

NEW FACES OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY IN THE 21ST CENTURY

SPRING SEMESTER, 2009

COURSE I500, SECTION 28209

SEMINAR ROOM, 201 N. INDIANA AVE.

2:30-3:45 P.M. T/TH

Join a global conversation that explores how the predominant approaches to international security are profoundly changing in the 21st Century. Senior Research Associate Dr. David Albright will lead students through the new theoretical underpinnings and challenges deemed to confront the security of world regions. Students will investigate security as it is redefined by various global issues, such as terrorism, the proliferation of WMDs, political, ethnic and religious conflicts, human rights, transnational criminal networks, AIDS and SARS, international financial instability, economic inequality, migration, environmental degradation, climate change, and scarcity of vital resources such as oil, water, and food.

Discuss global security issues with renowned experts from around the world, who will join the scholarly conversation in person or through interactive video.

- Sabelo Gumedze (South Africa)
- Dr. John Gearson (United Kingdom)
- Dr. Andre de Mello e Souza (Brazil)
- Dr. Ahmad Shikara (United Arab Emirates)
- Dr. Eric Kaufmann (United Kingdom)
- Dr. Philippe Moreau Defarges (France)
- Dr. Greg O'Hayon (Canada)
- Dr. Susan Martin (United States)
- Dr. Marc Cohen (United States)
- Dr. Henning Riecke (Germany)

www.indiana.edu/~global

Note: this course will fulfill a requirement for the new Global Studies Ph.D. Minor. David Albright (daalbrig@indiana.edu) can answer any additional question about the course. For more information on the Global Studies Ph.D. Minor, contact Hilary E. Kahn, hkahn@indiana.edu.



INDIANA UNIVERSITY
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CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF GLOBAL CHANGE



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International Studies National Resource Center