The Virginia G. Piper Center for Creative Writing, the Environmental Humanities Initiative, the School of International Letters and Cultures, the Center for Asian Research and the Institute for Humanities Research will be hosting a lecture by Amitav Ghosh on Tuesday, March 21, at the Tempe Center for the Performing Arts. He will speak about his most recent book, The Great Derangement: Climate Change and the Unthinkable. Ghosh was born in Calcutta and grew up in India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. He studied in Delhi, Oxford and Alexandria and has won several awards for his work, including the Prix Médicis, the Sahitya Akademi Award, the Ananda Puraskar, the Arthur C. Clarke Award, the International e-Book Award, the Crossword Book Prize, and others. His work has been translated into more than two dozen languages and his essays have been published in the New Yorker, the New Republic and the New York Times. He has taught in many universities, including Delhi University, Columbia, Queens College and Harvard. In January 2007 he was given the Padma Shri, one of India's highest honours, by the President of India and in 2010 he was awarded honorary doctorates by Queens College, New York, and the Sorbonne, Paris. Along with Margaret Atwood, he was also a joint winner of a Dan David Award for 2010. In 2011 he was awarded the Blue Metropolis Prize in Montreal and in 2016 he was elected an honorary fellow of Wolfson College, Oxford, and was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award by the Tata Mumbai Literature Festival.
Lecture: State, Development and Political Geography in Contemporary Turkey

Dr. Faik Gur, Ozyegin University
Thursday, February 23, 4PM, Coor 4403

Professor Gur will address the way in which the business class emerged and accumulated capital, and the type of enterprises and value chains they generated since the foundation of the Republic of Turkey. Understanding “business history” is one of the most essential ways of making sense out of what happened in the last two decades in Turkey. Drawing on historical and sociological accounts this talk will shed light on the relationship between politics and economy in contemporary Turkey. Dr. Faik Gur is an Assistant Professor in the School of Social Sciences, Department of International Relations, at Ozyegin University.

Study Abroad in Laos: 2017 Sage Scholarship Announcement

ASU offers an annual scholarship of $3,000.00 for an undergraduate student to spend several weeks traveling in Laos, ordinarily (but not necessarily) over the summer. The recipient must be a full-time undergraduate student during the Spring Semester 2017 and have completed 56 hours, or four semesters, of study. Recipients of the Sage Scholarship are expected to spend at least three weeks in Laos but are free to travel elsewhere in Southeast Asia during their trip. After returning home, they will make an informal presentation about what they have seen and learned and submit a final project report. To date, ten ASU undergraduates have traveled to Laos as Sage Scholars. The application deadline is March 6, 2017, and an application form can be downloaded from: https://car.clas.asu.edu/news-and-events/2017-sage-family-southeast-asian-studies-scholarship-accepting-applications/ For questions, contact Professor James Rush at james.rush@asu.edu. Our 2016 Sage Scholarship awardee was Brynn Szukala. Brynn recorded her travels and made a wonderful video available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0hAKUamxe60.

UISFL Asia Mediated Speakers Series

As part of the recently awarded UISFL grant Asia Mediated, the Center for Asian Research will be presenting three public lectures in the Spring of 2017. These will feature Professor Wenhong Chen of the University of Texas (whose interests include digital media technologies in multiethnic, entrepreneurial & civic settings, among others) on February 24, Professor Lisa Brooten of Southern Illinois University, Carbondale (whose research interests include Burmese independent media in opposition to the country’s military dictatorship, among others) on March 31, and Professor Cara Wallis of Texas A & M University (whose interests include mobile communication and critical studies of technology, among others) on April 20. More details will be forthcoming.