Dear Colleagues and Students,

As we enter into the second half of the fall semester, we have a number of events lined up that deserve your attention. **Global Asia in a Multipolar World** is the focus of the Center’s lecture series for this academic year. The nations of East, Southeast, and South Asia are home to over one-half of the world’s population, and Asia currently plays and will continue to play the central role in the issues and challenges of the 21st century: from the management of conflicts and tension arising from population growth and decline, climate change, and resource scarcity; to the successful navigation of political realignments in a newly multipolar world; and to managing the lingering effects of European imperialism in postcolonial societies. The scholars invited to present their work in this series of virtual lectures encompass disciplines in the humanities, social sciences, and beyond in order to locate Asian contexts within larger global and transregional networks. By focusing on Asia’s global connections, they seek a new appraisal of the field of Asian studies by looking at flows of ideas, peoples, images and texts across national, regional and linguistic borders.

**Professor David Pietz**, UNESCO Professor and Historian of China at the University of Arizona, will give the first lecture on the Yangtze River and environmental change in modern China on October 22nd. **Professor Bryce Beemer**, a historian at Duke-Kunshan will lecture on reimagining the history of the slave trade in Southeast Asia on December 3rd.

On October 19, **Professors Doug Guthrie** and **Stephen MacKinnon** are joining Fareed Zakaria in the CNN China Townhall. In line with our attention to global Asia, the Center’s contribution to Humanities week takes up themes in Japanese popular culture, **Anime and Manga** on October 21, with commentaries on gender, literary genre, and Japanese identity by **Professors Judit Kroo, Bradley Wilson, William Hedberg and Robert Tuck**. **Professor Faheem Hussain** reports in our research series on his on-going work with Rohingya refugees at the Myanmar-Bangladesh border on October 29. In November, we will be hosting two events for our Title VI FLAS, those who are getting into the job market and others who are interested in applying for this language and area studies fellowship for the coming academic year.

Apart from these events, we have begun preparing for the next round of Title VI applications. Our thanks to all of you who have already responded to our queries. Your contributions are vital to this project.

With all best wishes,

Juliane Schober
China Town Hall 2021: Local Connections, National Reflection

Date: Tue, Oct 19, 2021 at 3:40 pm
Location: Armstrong Great Hall or Zoom

The National Committee on U.S.-China Relations on Tuesday, Oct. 19 at 4 p.m. AZ/MST (7 p.m. EDT) will host the virtual event and Q&A with one of America's leading foreign policy commentators, CNN host and best-selling author, **Fareed Zakaria**, as he examines the challenges and opportunities for both countries as they confront the most critical issues of the 21st century. This is a national conversation on how the U.S.-China relationship affects our cities, towns and communities. ASU professors, **Doug Guthrie and Stephen MacKinnon** will serve as experts in the synthesis & Discussion. From supply chains to national security, new technologies to climate change, the future of both countries will be determined by their relations with one another and the global community.

More Information

Register

Humanities Week: Anime, Manga & Japanese Pop Culture

Date: Thurs, Oct 21, 2021 at 4:30 pm
Location: PSH 150 and Zoom

This panel is an interactive discussion of the global reception and history of two of Japan's most famous cultural exports: manga and anime. For the past half-century, manga and anime have played a central role in the representation of Japan on an international stage, and served as a crucial lens for rethinking issues of popular culture, gender, literary genre, and Japanese identity. This panel invites four experts from the Japanese program in the School of International Letters and Cultures to examine the history and significance of manga and anime from a variety of angles: from the presentation of the figure of the warrior and warrior culture in contemporary Japan, to the reception of manga and anime in the postwar era, to the complex ways in which gender and power are interwoven in presentations of everyday life. Please click on the image or [here](#) for more information.

Register
This presentation will seek to identify and explore, in a preliminary way, research questions on the social construction of the extinction of the Yangtze Baiji dolphin and subsequent conservation efforts of the Yangtze Finless Porpoise. Specific questions include: How did animal life fit into Chinese world views? How is the notion of extinction mediated by cultural context? To what degree is conservation laden with cultural meaning and values? How was animal life perceived during the Maoist period? How was the science of conservation biology (re)introduced in China during the post-Mao era? How do conservation efforts fit patterns of bureaucratic behavior in China? How has the term “biodiversity” been adopted by different social constituencies in China during the post-Mao era? The presentation will not engage the entirety of this list of questions, but instead represents an initial effort at developing a research agenda to explore these and other analytical themes.

Faculty Research Workshop - Prof. Faheem Hussain

"We have been through much worse, COVID can’t affect us" - LIVE from the world's biggest refugee camp

In this talk, I will share some firsthand experiences from the recent field research trip in the border of Myanmar and Bangladesh, where I have been working with the Rohingya refugees for the last four years. Rohingyas from Myanmar are one of the most persecuted populations in the world. At present, the majority of this marginalized group, around 1.3 million people, have taken refuge in Bangladesh, after escaping the state-sponsored ethnic cleansing against them. In my presentation, I will primarily highlight the Rohingya refugees' key challenges and innovations around access to (mis/dis)information and education during this global pandemic.
SSRC Fellow Lecture
Universities and Intellectual Life in The Age of Populism
by Pratap Bhanu Mehta

Date: Wed, Nov 3, 2021 at 11:00 am
Location: Virtua

Across the world, from Hungary to India, United States to Brazil, universities are increasingly becoming sites for battles over populism. Although the contexts vary, the tropes deployed by populists in their engagement with the university are uncannily similar. Most of the discussion focuses on the institutional implications of populist politics for universities: regulation of syllabi, codes governing free speech, funding decisions, erosion of autonomy of the university, and a general attack on expertise and elitism. By the same token, universities are often thought to relate to populism not as communities of scholars pursuing a vocation, but rather as a privileged group defending its privileges. How did the university come to be a site of populist contestation? This lecture will place the populist interest in universities in the broader context of the relationship between universities and nationalism in the twentieth century.

ASU Careers Abroad

Date: Wed, Nov 10, 2021 at 4:00 pm
Location: Durham 240 and Zoom

This is an opportunity for our undergraduate and graduate students to explore career opportunities that allow them to utilize their language skills globally. A representative from the ASU Career & Professional Development Services will be providing us with an overview of the services offered, and job opportunities for our graduating students. Please bring all your questions and concerns regarding the job search and resources.

FLAS Information Session

Date: Wed, Nov 17, 2021 at 4:00 pm
Location: Durham 240 and Zoom

The next round of Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship applications will be open on November 30th, 2021. This information session is for prospective FLAS applicants who want to be considered for FLAS awards for the academic year (2022-2023) and summer (2022) terms. We will answer questions and provide tips on how to put together a strong application, including writing self-statements and ensuring that all parts of the application are submitted in time for the review committee's considerations early in the spring semester.
Fellowships and Grants for Buddhist Studies
Due: Nov 15, 2021
The American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) announces the ninth year of an initiative supporting research and teaching in Buddhist studies, funded by The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation. In cooperation with the Foundation, ACLS offers an integrated set of fellowship and grant competitions supporting work that will expand the understanding and interpretation of Buddhist thought in scholarship and society, strengthen international networks of Buddhist studies, and increase the visibility of innovative currents in those studies.

More Information

Blakemore Freeman Fellowships
Due: Nov 15, 2021
The Blakemore Foundation is now accepting applications for its 2022 Blakemore Freeman Fellowships for an academic year of advanced language study in East and Southeast Asia. The fellowships are awarded to graduating seniors, college graduates, graduate students, and young/mid-career professionals who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents of the United States, who are already at or near an advanced level in the language and ready to advance to professional fluency. The grants provide a stipend for living, travel, and study expenses and full tuition for programs in East Asia. In addition to Chinese, Japanese and Korean, Blakemore Freeman Fellowships are also available for advanced language study in:

- Thailand
- Vietnam
- Indonesia
- Cambodia
- Myanmar

More Information

Critical Languages Scholarships
Due: Nov 16, 2021
The CLS Program is a fully funded, immersive summer study abroad opportunity for American college and university students to learn languages essential to America’s engagement with the world and expand the number of Americans studying and mastering critical foreign languages. Students of diverse disciplines and majors are encouraged to apply. The application will open in early October and the deadline for submission of application materials is November 16, 2021.

More Information
Asian Pacific American Studies (APAS) Survey

Due: Various Dates

Have you ever heard about Asian Pacific American Studies (APAS) at Arizona State University? Are you a current student at ASU or recent alumni? Please consider participating in a research study to better understand ASU students’ knowledge about and the impacts of the APAS! You will be entered in a raffle to win 1 of 10 $50 Amazon eGift cards as compensation for your participation. For more information, please contact Dr. Aggie Yellow Horse (ajnoah@asu.edu).

US-Asia Institute Internship

Due: Various Dates

The USAI Internship Program gives students a unique opportunity for hands-on experience in the field of U.S.-Asian affairs. Throughout the internship, students will play an active role in organizing educational programming, overseas Congressional staff delegations, forums, receptions, and diplomatic off-the-record briefings. Students will also be expected to represent the Institute at Congressional hearings, think-tank briefings, and other networking events in the D.C. area.

Stimson Internship Program

Due: Various Dates

The Stimson internship program offers a professional and educational experience in discovering how non-profit organizations can contribute to the understanding of issues in international peace and security. Stimson offers many unique internship opportunities with an emphasis on education, professionalism, and practical experience.