Olympia Summer Seminars 2011
July 7-July 18
Ancient Olympia Greece

Since the summer of 2002, Olympia has been hosting, with growing success, an annual international graduate summer program in conflict studies. Thanks to the collaboration of Greek universities with Yale University’s Program on Order, Conflict and Violence, the hospitality of the city of Ancient Olympia, and the generosity of Greek foundations, the OSS bring together every year a highly diverse and talented group of graduate students, professionals, and professors from more than 30 countries from around the world. The purpose of the seminars is to create a forum for high quality academic work in the unique setting of Olympia, and to provide opportunities for the creation and consolidation of scholarly networks of cooperation.

Celebrating the 10th anniversary, the 2011 program will offer three cycles of studies. The application is competitive. Tuition charges cover only part of the total cost of the program since OSS is generously supported by several sponsors. A number of scholarships are offered on the basis of merit and need.

Apply to Olympia Summer Seminars

Applicants should be (post-)graduate students working towards Masters or Ph.D degrees, but we usually admit some advanced undergraduates as well. All applicants should be fluent in English. An application should include a short bio, a letter of recommendation and a copy of university transcripts.

For all inquiries please visit www.navarinonetwork.org or www.uom.gr/olympia. You can e-mail olympia@uom.gr. Also you can contact Ms Betty Dimitriadou, tel.: +30 2310 891.474, fax: +30 2310 891.450. Please download the application form from the web and submit by e-mail by April 15, 2011. Early applications are strongly encouraged, especially if a request for financial aid is submitted. Places are limited and will be awarded on merit. Decisions will be mailed out by April 25, 2011. Admitted foreign students will be provided with all necessary documentation in support of a visa application, if this is needed.

Fees

All participants are expected to pay for their own travel to and from Athens. In addition, there is a 150-euro non-refundable registration fee to be paid in advance of the seminar to secure a place, in accordance with the instructions provided in the letter of admission. Tuition and board charges are for Cycle A: 790 euros, for Cycle B: 290 euros, and for Cycle C: 290 euros. This covers shared hotel accommodation in a double occupancy room, breakfast and dinner, all the reading material, transportation from Athens to Olympia and back, as well as cultural and social activities. A single room can be provided at an additional charge of 35 euros per night. A limited number of scholarships for the tuition and board charges are available and will be awarded on a merit and need basis.
Cycle A: Conflict & Identity
July 7-18, 2011

Course description
We now know much more about conflict and political violence than we did just fifteen years ago. Thanks to new approaches and tools, social scientists have pushed our understanding of the causes, dynamics, and consequences of conflict forward. At the same time, there is still a lot that we do not know or understand. The objective of the course is, therefore, to survey this field, record what we know and explore its boundaries. As this is a naturally interdisciplinary field, we will draw from several disciplines and subfields: political science (including international relations and comparative politics), sociology, history, anthropology, and economics. We will examine a variety of issues, including the causes and dynamics of civil war, the varieties of mass violence, the evolving forms of warfare, its relation with nationalism and ethnicity, the logic of rebel group formation, forms of warfare, its relation with nationalism and US Foreign Policy: A Case Study of Lobbying, Legislation, and Results”, “Violence in the Name of Religion: Are All Fundamentalisms the Same?”

The faculty includes
Laila Balcıçel North, Yale
Researcher, Institute for Economic Analysis, Spanish Higher Council for Scientific Research
Christopher Cramer Ph.D., Cambridge
Professor of the Political Economy of Development, SOAS
Stathis Kalyvas Ph.D., Chicago
Arnold Wolfers Professor of Political Science, Yale University; Director of the Program on Order, Conflict, and Violence at Yale
Statthia Vlachou Ph.D., Chicago
Director of the Program on International Relations and Vice Chair of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom
Leonard Leo J.D., Cornell Law School
Executive Vice President of the Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies and Chair of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom
Dimitris Keridis Ph.D., Tufts
Associate Professor of International Relations, University of Chicago
Paul Staniland Ph.D., MIT
Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Chicago

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Course Description
What theoretical models and empirical tools are useful for scholar-practitioners dealing with religion in contemporary international politics? Is it possible to differentiate and balance human rights and religious freedom in the face of security concerns and material priorities? How do religious lobbies act domestically and how do religions operate trans-nationally to change political discourse, processes, and outcomes? How do different religions deal with the state, war, and violence? This seminar will address these questions, with a particular focus on case studies to illustrate the theoretical and conceptual architecture and operational complexities related to the nexus between religion and politics in the 21st century. Topics include: “The State of Play in Theory and Praxis: What’s the Meaning of Secularity and Modernity?”, “Religious Freedom and International Human Rights”, “Religion and US Foreign Policy: A Case Study of Lobbying, Legislation, and Results”, “Violence in the Name of Religion: Are All Fundamentalisms the Same?”

The faculty includes
Elizabeth H. Predromou Ph.D., MIT
Anat. Prof. in the Boston University Dept. of International Relations and Vice Chair of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom
http://www.bu.edu/hr/academic/department
Leonard Leo J.D., Cornell Law School
Executive Vice President of the Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies and Chair of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom
http://www.uscif.org/about-uscif/message-from-the-chair.html
Dimitris Keridis Ph.D., Tufts
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