Department Announces new ABM Program in International Relations/ Affairs

Earn Bachelor and Masters in 5 years
The ABM (Accelerated Bachelor to Masters) program allows qualified students to double-count up to 12 graduate credit hours toward both the B.S. in International Relations and the M.A. in International Affairs.

Requirements:
If you meet the requirements as a junior with a GPA of at least 3.25 and with two semesters of study remaining, you can:
• get your master’s degree in five years,
• take up to 12 hours of graduate coursework that will count toward both your undergraduate and your master’s degrees, and
• avoid the expense of taking the Graduate Record Exam (GRE).

Formal application to an ABM program should be made upon completion of a minimum of seventy-five (75) credit hours in the undergraduate program, including Advanced Placement credits. Transfer students must have completed a minimum of two semesters as full-time students at MTSU.

For more information, consult Dr. Tesi, Director of Graduate Studies or Dr. Morris or visit the web site.

POLITICAL SCIENCE / INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CLUB
A new student organization is being created to organize activities of interest to PS/IR majors. The initial meeting is Friday, September 5 at 1:00 in the conference room. If interested, come to the meeting and/or contact Kayla McCrary at kdm5y@mtmail.mtsu.edu
Congratulations

PS Majors
Spring
Drew Anderson
Amos Bailey
Darell Baptist
Jenna Bass
Brittany Bean
Melanie Bonawitz
Katie Brantley
Timothy Carlson
Kristen Carter
Jamie Chadwick
Mary Clark
Darren Collins
Jeremy Cooper
Amanda Depuy
Cynthia Dunn
Samantha Farish
Brittany Forrester
Bryan Gilley
Scott Harle
Elizabeth Henderson
Tiffany Hickerson
Benjamin Houston
Trent Ingram
Rachel Islam
Kristin Kemp
William King
Joshua Lamie
Eugene Martino
Matthew McHughes
Christopher Miller
Alex Nahimana
Ashley North
Larry Peters
Justin Renfroe
Michael Ripley
Todd Robinson
John Shepherd
Gregory Sweeney
Michael Swift
Timecia Terry
Kellean Travillion
Justin Ward
Elizabeth Whittle
Arielle Woodmore

Summer
Dakota Dexter
Raven Giddens
Brandon Hall
Chloe’ Harris
Matthew Heslep
Candice Jordan
Richard Lunn
Laetitia Muderhwa
Amber Robinson
Brad Seal
Carey Weeks

IR Majors
Spring
Whitney Flatt
Michael Gentry
Lorel Holsinger
Ekejirho Oji
Joseph Meyer
Lindsey Peterson
Nikkira Scales
Blake Taylor
Jana Watson

Summer
Amira Alkhiyami
Elizabeth Campbell
Adam Hinds
Jeffrey Laudieri
Lacey Linch
Garrett Page

Masters in International Affairs
Jason Courtoy
Paige Kauffelt

New Students Fall 2014
(Freshman and New Transfers)

New Freshman
Tia Beasley
Brandon Beech
Jadai Brooks
James Caldwell
Freya Cartwright
Joseph Decker
William Edwards
Spencer England
Jason Fleischmann
Jennifer Fornshell
Miller Goan
Charles Grissom
Raven Harmon
Andrew Heim
Shawn Illenberg
Sage Kafsky
Brandi Laney
Elizabeth Lasser
Nicholas Lembo
Eugene Lockhart
Emiliya Mailyan
Jalen Mims
Massie Muselman
Alexus Nard
Alexis Patrykus
Kelly Richardson
Victoria Robeson
D Marquez Smith
Marlincia Smith
Sydney Smith
Monroe Spurlock
Seth Stokes
Brittany Stone
Rhett Sturgell
Cameron Taylor
Amber Yanity

New Transfer
Charity Asberry
Rachel Barrow
Stacie Bennett
Samantha Cook
Richard Cross
Barry Gobble
Allen Harvey
Angela Ipock
Monet Jones
Martin Jones
John Langsdon
Yorleny Mendez
Matthew Mezzatosta
Deanna Mix
Nicholas Pitman
Jordan Price
Gary Rattanavong
Steven Ricke
Jodi Shockney
Alejandra Villegas
Christopher Weber

New Master’s Degree Students

- Ryan DeBooy (B.A. MTSU)
- James Howton (B.A. Campbellville University, KY)
- Hirino Kawachi (B.A. Kansai Gaidai University, Japan)
- William Lute (B.A. Austin Peay)
**UPCOMING Events during Fall Semester**

- **Political Science/International Relations Club meeting**, September 5
- **Constitution Day**, September 17
- **Legislative internship meeting**, September 24
- **Law School & Legal Profession with Alberto Gonzalez**, September 25
- **LSAT Practice Test and Prep Session** — October dates TBA
- **Mid-term Election Pre-game Show with Kent Syler and Class**, October 28, 6:00, BAS 328

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**Join the Political Science / International Relations Club**

Organize events related to your major/minor, while getting to know others who share your interest.

**Organizational Meeting**
Friday, September 5, 2014
1:00
Department Conference Room PH 210

Contact: Kayla McCrary
(kdm5y@mtmail.mtsu.edu)

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**Informational Meeting on the Legislative Internship Program**

**Department of Political Science and the University Honors College**

Interested in being an Intern at the Tennessee General Assembly in Spring 2015?

Full-time, paid, credit-bearing positions

**Wednesday, September 24, 2014**
Todd Bldg, Room 227
3:00 – 4:00

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**LSAT Practice Test & Prep Session**

**Dates/Time/Location TBA**

Department of Political Science and Professor Kent Syler present...

**Mid-term Election Pre-Game Show**

**October 28, 6:00, BAS 328**

look for announcement
**DEPARTMENT PROFILE**

### Majors (Fall 2014)
- Pre-Law 150
- General Focus 79
- International Relations 64
- Public Adm. 25
- Teaching Licensure 7

*New Freshman Majors 36
*New Transfer Students 21

### Minors (Fall 2014)
- Political Science 99
- International Relations 31
- Paralegal 22
- Political & Civic Engagement 10

**Masters in International Affairs (Fall 2014) — 15**

### Graduates (Fall 2013, Spring & Summer 2014)
- 81 (BA / BS Political Science)
- 22 (BS in International Relations)
- 3 (MA in International Affairs)

### 169 Classes Taught (2013-14), including:
- 40 sections of PS 1005 and PS 1010
- 12 online courses and 3 RODP courses
- 6 Honor’s courses
- 22 EXL courses = 563 credit hours EXL
- 7 seminars
- 4 master’s theses
- 243 internship credit hours

### Major Field Test 2013-14 IR 518; PS 538 *(500 is the benchmark)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>506</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>OVERALL</td>
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<td>64</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

With this result the Department has received the Annual Performance Award yet again.

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**Virtual Mentoring Program**

*Get advice from those who have come through the program before you!*

They have all sat where you sit now and survived. They have taken many of the same classes, probably had some of the same professors, struggled with some of the same challenges, graduated, and today work in a wide range of fields.

They have all VOLUNTEERED to serve as virtual mentors to our current students. They are more than happy to hear from you and offer professional or even personal advice, share their thoughts about career choices and opportunities, or even share stories about their times in Peck Hall and MTSU.

Just Click on: [http://www.mtsu.edu/politicalscience/virtualmentoring.php](http://www.mtsu.edu/politicalscience/virtualmentoring.php) (or follow the link on our webpage) for a list of alumni, grouped by profession, with email addresses. Send them an email. They would be glad to hear from you.
**INTERNSHIP Experiences**

**Taylor Ward**  
(PS 4270 Political Campaign Internship – Summer 2014)

**Political Campaign of Joe Carr for US Senate**

The campaign I worked on was Joe Carr for U.S. Senate. He was running against several candidates, including well-known incumbent Lamar Alexander, for the Republican nomination. I had a variety of experiences from greeting supporters who came through the office, to phone banking, to data entry, and even some research. My main responsibility was to manage the disbursement yard signs throughout the state as well as directing inquiring supporters to where they could pick them up. As an intern, I was also ready to take on anything that needed to be done as the campaign progressed.

**What I Got Out of the Experience**

I gained a lot from this internship. By working first hand with the general public, I was constantly drawing from the knowledge I had acquired in the classroom to help answer questions for people, while also gaining knowledge from the campaign staff about how to run a campaign. It was really insightful to be working on a campaign that was up against an incumbent that has been proven hard to beat. It gives another perspective to the experience. I was able to form friendships and relationships with people in the field that I hope to enter in some way in the next year. It was a good taste of the campaign side of politics and really sparked my enthusiasm to finish school and get involved with the leadership of this country. It definitely enriched my educational experience by supplementing what I have learned in the classroom with real world experience.

**Leonard Brown, Jr.**  
(PS 4290 Public Service Internship – Spring 2014)  
**Tennessee County Services Association**

**What the organization does and what I did in my Internship:**

The purpose of TCSA is to promote a more efficient county government by implementing several key membership programs to help expand member knowledge, growth, and effectiveness throughout the State of Tennessee. It serves as an affiliate for the University of Tennessee and works closely with other membership organizations to create an efficient county government.


**What I got out of the experience:**

The experience that I gained being a Legislative Consultant intern for TCSA, is an experience that is really immeasurable. I learned valuable information about state government. Having the opportunity to go, to the Legislative Plaza and network with different political figures, was an amazing experience that I will never forget. This internship has helped my growth in educational and professional endeavors.

**Alex Brower**  
(PS 4290 Public Service Internship – Summer 2014)  
**Metropolitan Homelessness Commission**

**What the organization does and what I did in my Internship:**

The Metropolitan Homelessness Commission runs the How’s Nashville campaign to end chronic homelessness in Nashville. They work with the most vulnerable and at risk individuals who have been homeless for an extended period of time. In order to determine the success of How’s Nashville, I interviewed a large partner organization to see how the demographics of their clients has changed. I also examined the organization’s policies and procedures and researched ways they could improve their effectiveness. I attended frequent support service meetings to take notes and provide feedback that could improve the next meetings.

**What I Got Out of the Experience**

The most important thing that I took away from this experience was a better understanding of the relationships between government agencies and nonprofits. I noticed clear differences between these organizations and how differences can cause friction. All nonprofits have their own specific wants and needs. They have different policies, procedures, and training practices, which can slow down progress at times. A nonprofit might approach a government agency with a policy/procedure suggestion that would better fit their needs, however, this might have a negative impact on the other nonprofits that work with the agency. This can be frustrating for both parties. Government agencies and nonprofits are regulated differently. Bureaucratic procedures can be more complicated when dealing with government agencies, so there is the potential to confuse and exhaust the nonprofit workers that seek the agency’s services.

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“I would definitely recommend any type of internship to any college student. For non-traditional students like myself it is a bit more challenging to work around jobs and kids, but for a normal college student it would be very important and helpful. I have always believed that you cannot easily decide on a career until you have actually worked in the industry.” — Tierney Campbell, local candidate race

“I believe that I can tie this internship experience with several courses that are in my Political Science curriculum. The majority of the classes that are closely related with this internship, I won’t take until my junior or senior year; but, because of this internship, I am eagerly ready to take those classes and relate them back to my internship. I actually prefer the real world experience over the classroom setting. Having a hands on experience is something a college student cannot beat. Especially if that hands on experience is relatable to the type of work one plans on pursuing for their occupational endeavors.” — Leonard Brown, TN County Services Association

“One of the most unexpected parts for me during this process turned out to be the most beneficial. I knew I would meet many people, but I had no idea of the connections I would make and the opportunities I would be offered. Because of this internship, I have been offered a job at a campaign company as well as discussed other internships for multiple candidates.” — Jami Averwater, local candidate race

“My experience with Organizing for Action has not only been a learning experience, but a bond between some of the most genuine, proactive, driven young adults that I have ever met. One thing that I appreciated more than anything is the connections I obtained during this internship. I had so many opportunities to meet people who could help me in my career or even work for in the long run if I decided to do political work.” — Jerisha Caudle, OFA

“While being able to meet people was great, and may prove useful in the future, the biggest skill I learned was actually how to network. From meeting these people and observing people’s actions, I was able to learn professional etiquette for successful networking. I have always been curious about how professionals actually met other people and form close connections with a wide array of people.” — Brennan Foy, Griffin Strategies, LLC

“Over the course of life, everyone may choose to participate in something that benefits them for the future, whether it enhances their social skills or business skills. This semester I chose to join an organization that not only would benefit me, but would let me help the betterment of our nation. Organizing for Action (OFA) has molded me into a more organized person overall and has also taught me countless amount of skills. Although the internship was very time consuming and stressful at times, there is no way I would take this experience back. Not to mention I have met some phenomenal people.” — Xaveria King, OFA

“Work ethic is a title that is earned by putting your head down and doing what needs to be done. Passion is what fuels the drive to achieve that reputation, and responsibility is knowing my duty to control my actions and prioritize in order to achieve the things I care most about. This huge learning experience has absolutely changed my life for better.” — Ryan Terrell, General Session Criminal Court

“I am so grateful to have the opportunity to help my community. This internship experience will directly benefit my future career goal to work for the United Nations... I would recommend this internship for anyone who is willing to work hard. The person for this internship needs to be dedicated, patient, and has to be able to work well with people of other cultures.” — She Yah, Community Connections

“All and all, I would sincerely recommend this internship positions to a fellow colleague. I believe that this internship will teach a person who is serious about governmental affairs, a boatload of knowledge that they can use for their educational and occupational endeavors. This internship has opened a lot of doors for me, which I am more than gracious to have... I gained an exceptional amount of knowledge about the government on a federal level.” — Leonard Brown, Sen Corker

Work ethic is a title that is earned by putting your head down and doing what needs to be done. Passion is
Do you want a job when you graduate? Do you want to gain real world professional work experience?

Then you need to do at least one internship as part of your college coursework. Employers in business, government agencies, and non-profits all report that they are more likely to hire people with professional work experience or internships on their resume. In a competitive job market, giving yourself the edge may be all that it takes for YOU to land the job over someone else with similar grades, similar major, and similar background. And SUMMER is a great time to do an internship – you have more flexible time and the weather makes getting to and from the internship easier.

The Political Science Department offers several different internships to meet your needs:

**PS 4270** is for work with non-profits, interest groups, political parties, candidates for election to public office, and any sort of group that is trying to make a positive difference in the world. There are MANY of these groups in the Nashville and Murfreesboro and surrounding Middle TN area just begging for an intern for this summer! Also, if you want to live at home this summer — whether that is in Memphis, East TN or any place on the planet, we can give you internship credit if you volunteer at a suitable organization. See this list [http://www.mtsu.edu/politicalscience/documents/Internship%20List%20of%20Opportunities%202013.pdf](http://www.mtsu.edu/politicalscience/documents/Internship%20List%20of%20Opportunities%202013.pdf) or Prof. Langenbach for details.

**PS 4290** is for work with any government agency – national government in Washington or national agencies that are located in Nashville, or with any State of TN offices or with any state’s government, or any local government – city, town, or county. Examples include State Department of Education or Finance, city water or planning or zoning departments, police and Homeland Security, Judges and Courts, and many more. See this list [http://www.mtsu.edu/politicalscience/documents/Internship%20List%20of%20Opportunities%202013.pdf](http://www.mtsu.edu/politicalscience/documents/Internship%20List%20of%20Opportunities%202013.pdf) or Prof. Langenbach for details. It is not too late to add an internship (or two!) to your schedule. You can get **3 or 6 credits that count toward a**

**PS major or minor, or an IR major or minor.** These credits are graduated, and thus may help boost your GPA as well. You may earn up to 12 credits from internship that count toward graduation, and the new minor in Political and Civic Engagement urges internship participation as well. Every 120 hours of work equals 3 upper division credits and it gives you a valuable line on your resume and a step up toward landing that ideal job when you graduate! Pick up a copy of the Guidelines for PS 4270 or PS 4290 internship forms that are available on the rack of Upper Division Forms in the PS offices or at [http://www.mtsu.edu/politicalscience/politicalintern.shtml](http://www.mtsu.edu/politicalscience/politicalintern.shtml) and at [http://www.mtsu.edu/politicalscience/publicintern.shtml](http://www.mtsu.edu/politicalscience/publicintern.shtml)

Find an internship where you would be interested in spending some time, call them, arrange an interview, when they offer you the job/internship, you fill out the Application Form and give it to Prof. Langenbach or leave it in her Dept mailbox in the PS main office before May 3 (after May 3, do it by email).

Contact Prof. Langenbach for more information and to register for an internship. [Lisa.langenbach@mtsu.edu](mailto:Lisa.langenbach@mtsu.edu)
Intern at the Tennessee General Assembly in Spring 2015!

Full-time, paid, credit-bearing positions

Eligibility: Applicants for the Tennessee Legislative Internship Program must be enrolled as juniors, seniors, or graduate students in degree programs. Many applicants major in political science, history, public relations, social work, economics, sociology, or journalism, but students in any major are welcome to apply. Applicants must have at least a 2.5 GPA.

Term: For the 2015 session, interns will work from January 12 until May 1. (The appointment period will not be coterminous with the semester calendar, and school holidays such as spring break are not observed.)

Stipend: A stipend of $350 per week will be paid to each intern, plus reimbursement for travel at the rate of 47 cents per mile for one round-trip per month between MTSU and Nashville. A one-time advance payment of $350 will also be granted to each intern to help with start-up and/or relocation expenses.

Academic Credit: 12 hours of academic credit will be granted by the Department of Political Science for participation in the this program.

Duties: Interns will be assigned to work in legislative leadership offices and committees at the Legislative Plaza in Nashville from 8:00 to 4:30, Monday through Friday. Duties will vary from office to office, but will likely include bill analysis, constituent work, online and library research, and general office work.

Other Requirements: Interns are expected to attend weekly intern meetings, usually held on Fridays. Past speakers have included the governor, the state Attorney General, state supreme court justices, and the Tennessee Constitutional Officers. Interns also have the opportunity to tour Riverbend maximum-security prison, the State Capitol, and the Bicentennial Mall. Other activities have included a visit to the Tennessee Supreme Court, mock legislative session, and playing the legislators in basketball and softball.

Application Procedures: Interested students should contact the official faculty representative listed below for additional information and application materials. October 10, 2014 is the deadline for completed applications to be returned.

Dr. Mark Byrnes
Todd Hall 231 or Todd Hall 129
Mark.Byrnes@mtsu.edu
615-898-2534

Learn more about the Tennessee General Assembly at www.capitol.tn.gov
Students in the News

Student Award Recipients 2014

Academic Awards
Samantha FARISH (Norman Parks Award)
Louis MARTINO (C.C. Sims Award)
Noah NEILSEN (John W. Burgess Award)
Whitney FLATT (Jack Justin Turner Award)

Meritiorious Service Awards
Tyler SANDERS (Moot Court)
Samantha FARISH (Moot Court & Mock Trial)
Morgan MANSOURIAN (Mediation)
Joey MEYER (Model UN)
Whitney FLATT (Model UN)

Congratulations to our top 5 performers on the Major Field Test:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Percentile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Todd Robinson (general)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joseph Meyer (IR)</td>
<td>694</td>
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<td>Zachary Mallet (general)</td>
<td>689</td>
<td>(97%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Ripley (pre-law)</td>
<td>681</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Zachary Barker (pre-law)</td>
<td>679</td>
<td>(96%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucas Osborne (pre-law)</td>
<td>679</td>
<td>(96%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TANDRA MARTIN (International Relations 2015), received the prestigious and highly-competitive National Security Education Program (NSEP) David L. Boren Scholarship for study in Morocco!

Scholarships/ Awards / Donations.

The Department awarded over $10,000 in scholarships to students for the upcoming 2014-15 year. In the spring, the Department recognized student achievement, presenting four major award (Norman L. Parks, C.C. Sims, John W. Burgess, and Jack Justin Turner awards) and five meritorious awards for students performance in Mock Trial, Moot Court, the Model UN, and within the Department. And over the course of the year, the Department received over $8,000 in donations to various Department and Scholarship funds held by the Foundation.

Department Scholarships 2014-15

Taylor Ward – Jane Henegar Duke Scholarship
Molly Gray – James C. Free Scholarship
Cassandra Stevens – Jo Ann Arnold Scholarship
Nicholas Lembo – Norman L. Parks Scholarship
Freya Cartwright – Charles R. Ray Scholarship (Freshman 2014)
J. Davis Thompson – Charles R. Ray Scholarship (Senior 2014 – replacement)
Miller Goan – Harry J. Horne Scholarship

Political Science Scholarships
Don’t forget to check out the scholarship page at: http://www.mtsu.edu/politicalscience/scholarships.shtml
Students in the News, continued

**Dalton Lauderbach** is back from a semester in Switzerland

**Rachel Islam** presented a paper, "Responsibility to Protect: Binding Legal Obligation or Intellectual Abstraction?", at Scholars Week

**Joey Kennedy** presented a poster, "Explaining Gay Marriage in South America", at Scholars Week

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**Recent Grads**

International Relations 2014 graduate **Whitney Flatt** is currently spending a year in East Africa. She is serving as a Project Coordinator (PC) for the 2Seeds Network, a D.C.-based non-profit that works in eight villages throughout northeastern Tanzania. The mission of 2Seeds is to bring about food and income security via human capital development. This mission is furthered as PCs partner with subsistence farmers to increase crop output, foster market connections, and improve farm management skills. Whitney has been assigned to serve as a PC on the Bungu Project; Bungu is the name of the remote village where she lives and works. Her days are spent alongside farmers, planting, weeding, and harvesting crops, as well as transporting crops to market. She and one other Project Coordinator also lead weekly meetings with their partners, discussing planting and harvesting schedules, record keeping, and microloan repayment strategies. Since the Bungu Project began just four years ago, major strides have been made within the village. That progress is reflected in the fact that in 2014, farmers in Whitney’s village will be opening their first individual bank accounts. This is a huge leap forward in bringing food and income security to the people of Bungu, and it’s one of many goals Whitney, her fellow PC, and their partners will bring to fruition over the next year. For more information on the 2Seeds Network, please visit [www.2seeds.org](http://www.2seeds.org). To follow along with Whitney’s year in Bungu, you can visit her personal blog (https://whitneyflatt.wordpress.com/) or The Bungu Project’s official blog (http://thebunguproject.wordpress.com/).

**Bryan C. Gilley** – Reported that he got a job 6 days after graduation working as a Medicare Billing Specialist for Parallon: a division of the Hospital Corporation.

**Brittany Forrester** is attending law school at Florida Coastal School of Law.

**Jason Courtoy (MA)** is starting a Ph.D. program in Political Science at the University of Alabama.

**Joey Meyer** is beginning a master’s program in international affairs with a regional focus on Europe, Eurasia and Russia at George Washington University.

**Lorel Holsinger** is beginning a Ph.D. program at the University of Colorado, Boulder.

**Tyler King** is entering the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva.

**Christopher Miller** is attending University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law.
Mock Trial

"The MTSU mock trial team had a successful Spring semester full of tournament opportunities and travel. In January, our team, led by Davis Thompson and Samantha Farish, placed second at the Georgia Tech invitational tournament, with a record of 6-2. We entered two teams into competition at the Oxford, Mississippi, Regional tournament, and both qualified to the Opening Round Championship Site at Memphis. Freshman Darby McCarthy received an individual witness award at the Regional tournament as well. Although neither team advanced from the Opening Round Championship Site at Memphis to the National Championship Tournament this year, Ms. McCarthy and fellow freshman student Elizabeth Bickel brought home individual awards for outstanding portrayal of witnesses.

Dr. John R. Vile, primary coach of the MTSU program for 26 years, retired from coaching after the Spring season. In honor of his many years of selfless service and leadership in the program, the John R. Vile Spirit of Mock Trial Award was created. The award recognizes, in honor of the values Dr. Vile has long brought to mock trial, civility in competition and fair play, work ethic, and prioritizing team success. The first recipient, presented at the 2014 awards gathering, was Cole Hodge. Other awards presented included the S. Jason Whatley Master of Rules Award, presented jointly to Davis Thompson and Adam Higgs, and the Keith Slocum Pillar of Mock Trial Award, presented to Samantha Farish.

This Fall, the teams will compete for the first time at the Wheaton College Thunderdome Invitational Tournament in Illinois on October 17-18. We will also return to Rhodes College in November, and of course, MTSU, with the sponsorship and assistance of Belmont University College of Law, will host the long-running Mid-South Invitational Tournament at MTSU on November 14-15. Alumni mock trial participants, attorneys, and judges are welcome to assist us as judges for the Mid-South.
Model United Nations

MTSU Society For International Affairs

The MTSU Society For International Affairs (MT MUN) is a student organization that travels to other universities in order to participate in Model United Nations simulations. Students choose and research the aspects of a country that is in the United Nations and interact with various other students representing other countries in order to work out real world issues in a controlled simulation. The conference trips have been as short as one day to the University of the South in Sewanee all the way to San Jose, Costa Rica for five days. During the spring of 2014 MT MUN participated in the University for Peace Model United Nations (UPMUNC) conference in March. The group sent six student delegates to represent the university at this international conference in Costa Rica. Of those six, three delegates received an award for their hard work at the conference. Joseph Meyer receive best delegate for representing Russia in the Security Council simulation, Morgan Hunlen received Most Peace Oriented for representing Sweden in the UN Women’s Council, and Erika Helgeson received Best in Character for her representation of Saudi Arabia in the UN Women’s council.

This semester MT MUN will be traveling to a conference hosted by Georgetown University in Washington DC in October, and will be preparing for another journey to Costa Rica in the spring. Any student who may be interested in joining MT Model UN please contact Erika Helgeson at elh4k@mtmail.mtsu.edu.

Mediation Team

Students in the Intercollegiate Student Mediation Association that is housed in and sponsored by the Political Science Department examine the theoretical basis of mediation and how it works as an alternative to litigation, arbitration, negotiation and other adversarial methods of dispute resolution. They learn and practice specific mediation skills (as mediator and as a client and an advocate in mediation) and the details of different mediation approaches, including Restorative Justice. The teaching method is a mix of lecture, videotape viewing and role-play. During the fall term of 2014, students will participate in a regional and international event during October and November at Model UN at conference in Costa Rica
ISRAEL Study Abroad 2014

By Nathan Warren

Israel is an amazing country with rich history, epic views, and exciting people. As an IR major with Middle East studies and global studies minors, I knew I needed to fulfill a study abroad, and Israel just seemed like the best place for me. Anyone who is either studying or has a profound interest in political science, Middle East history or geography, anthropology, or religion and culture should definitely consider this trip next summer. There are few if any other places in the world that offer students such an in depth observation of the complicated foreign and domestic policy procedures which Israel faces daily. In addition to visiting the Israeli Foreign Ministry, our group had the opportunity to tour iconic landmarks like the Mediterranean Sea, the plains of Armageddon, the Sea of Galilee, the Golan Heights, the Dead Sea, Mt. Moriah, and so much more! This trip takes students literally feet away from three state borders, including Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan, and places you front and center of infamous battlefields, both ancient and contemporary. So go visit Israel to fully understand its geopolitical and strategic significance to the region and the world, to witness its diverse society and distinct cultures, and to see the lines blur between the past and present.

2014 in Hezekiah’s Tunnel beneath Jerusalem

on the Mount of Olives overlooking Old City Jerusalem and Mt. Moriah.
Amber Robinson in South Africa

My study abroad experience in South Africa was life-changing. Through the Tennessee Consortium for International Studies program, I was able to travel with other amazing students from universities and colleges around Tennessee. Every single day of this trip was filled with adventure and excitement. While in Cape Town, South Africa, I visited Robben Island where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned. I also explored the Big 5 Safari where I was able to take a selfie with two lions. The most amazing part of this trip was the beautiful people of South Africa and their rich culture.

Nissi Monsegue in China

As a non-traditional student in my late fifties in an academia world of freshmen, sophomores, and juniors younger than my two daughters, I sometimes get overwhelmed with their knowledge of just about everything. I have to remind myself that I am here at MTSU for the sole purpose of absorbing all that I can from the students, staff, and faculty to be ready for the ever evolving corporate world upon graduation.

My study abroad led me to Chengdu, one of the fastest emergent Fortune 500 Company areas in China. The host university Southwest University for Nationalities is strategically located and accessible by public transportation to virtually all the surrounding sites of Chengdu. Public transportation in China is defined as, buses, taxis, rickshaws, motorbikes and scooters that serve as a taxi, and the occasional bicycle. What a cultural shock to jostle with the last three, plus cars and other pedestrians on the sidewalk. Pedestrians basically do not have much of a right-of-way on the paved sidewalks, and since there are no stop signs in Chengdu (I think China on the whole), you are walking at your own risk.

Our field trips took us to Emei Mountain with the wild monkeys where we took a riverboat to see the largest Buddha statue in the world. I visited with other students, the Bamboo Park, where we boarded a tiny boat with oars and steered (we think we did) the river singing any song that came to our minds. We sang gospel, oldies, pop, rock & roll, and the songs that were sung during the slavery years, as we maneuvered and bumped into other boats. The Chinese New Year saw fireworks from the students on the rooftop of the dorm, festivals in various areas of Chengdu, and lots to eat.

One of the highlights of this adventure was when I was privileged to be in a pilot program of a Youngminds Crayon Club Language School with their volunteer activity taking English into the rural areas of China. I was taken 3 hours outside of Chengdu to Yibin, and a further 2 hours to get to our destination. Continued next page...
What an honor to be part of this for my MTSU assigned volunteer activity for my minor in Leadership Studies. Originally I was due to meet with 2 classes, speaking only English with colors, time, and playing a few games. It turned out that the whole school heard that “Nissi was here”, and wanted me to visit with every class. The incredible feeling of knowing that these kids of migrant workers were hearing English for the first time in their life was beyond words. I spent the day going from class to class, introducing myself and interacting with these children whose parents are gone for at least a year at a time. It is an experience that will forever be embedded in the recess of my mind.

Let us not forget the academic side of this trip. I learned about Government & Politics from a law professor, whom it appears has his hands in every pot. He is a chauffeur sometimes for high ranking government officials, and he is also a mediator with companies that conduct business on an international level. When he was asked a question, sometimes he would pause and begin his reply with, “Off the table…and if you said that I said I would deny it. Remember I am a law professor.” Then when we agreed for his answer to remain in the room, he would give us the on-the-table and off-the-table responses. In other words, things are not always the way that it appears in China. The Chinese have a different way of thinking, unlike the Western world. My Calligraphy class (my favorite class), was taught by a teacher that loved to critique your work, good and bad with a laugh, and because of the way it was said, it was never taken personally. Culture & Society in China was an interesting class as the professor spoke about China in the past, present and future realms. Sichuan Cooking opened a whole new world of being in the kitchen as we made many exotic dishes. I knew I had food on Fridays. Elementary Chinese was my challenge as four months of classes were compressed into five weeks. My volunteer activity was the highlight when I visited Yibin as part on my MTSU credits. Without the State Department Gilman International Scholarship, I definitely would not have been able to experience the joy of visiting China.
STUDY ABROAD

Education Abroad
EVENTS, Fall 2014

Walk-in Advising Hours
Every Mon, Tues, & Wed: 1pm - 4pm
Peck Hall, Room 207
No appointments during walk-in advising hours - just come in!

MTSU Education Abroad
Scholarship Deadlines
Winter Programs: September 24, 2014
Spring Programs: October 16, 2014
Applications available on our website.

Minifair for Winter Programs
Thursday, September 18th
12:30 – 3:00pm
KUC Lobby

Study Abroad Fair
For all programs!
Wednesday, November 19th
10:00am – 2:00pm
Student Union Lobby

Topic Specific Info Sessions
Sessions are 10:00am – 11:00 in the SU, Room 221
How to apply for the Boren Scholarship: September 25th, 2014
How to be an Exchange Student: October 30th, 2014
How to apply for the Gilman Scholarship: November 20th

Education Abroad, Peck Hall 207
Fax: (615) 494-7639 Phone: (615) 898-5179
Campus Mail: Box 127 educationabroad@mtsu.edu
www.mtsu.edu/~mtabroad
Scholarship Opportunities

National Fellowships

For Overseas Study

**Boren** — language training, interest in government; GPA 3.5 — up to $20,000 to study abroad — Deadline: February

**Critical Language Scholarship** — Language training in 13 underrepresented languages (Arabic, Azerbaijani, Bengali, Chinese, Hindi, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Persian, Punjabi, Russian, Turkish, Urdu — Deadline: November

**Fulbright** — research or teaching opportunities overseas; recommended 3.5 GPA; apply junior year of after — Internal Deadline: September

**Gilman** — study abroad funds for students with Pell Grant — Deadline: varies by semester

**Marshall or Rhodes** — graduate school study in the UK; GPA 3.7 or higher — Deadline: Early September

Service Oriented Scholarship

**Humanity in Action** — summer fellowships for those interested in human rights issues

**Truman** — funding for graduate school for students interested in public service

**Udall** — environmental scholarships

For more information on these and other national fellowships, talk to your professors, see me, or visit www.mtsu.edu/honors/ufo

2015 Ralph Klingenmeyer Scholarship

In an effort to encourage students to participate in internships and study abroad, the College of Liberal Arts will offer five scholarships of up to $500.00 each for experiential learning activities during the 2015 calendar year.

Eligibility:

1) Student must have a declared major in Liberal Arts.
2) Student must have completed 30 hours prior to the semester in which the award will be made. At least 15 hours must have been earned at MTSU.
3) Student must have a GPA >= 2.5.
4) Student must be participating in one of the following:
   a. A faculty-led study abroad program, or
   b. A credit-bearing, unpaid internship.
5) Applicants should submit the following electronically to karen.petersen@mtsu.edu:
   a. A letter outlining eligibility requirements 1-3 above and describing the activity for which the student is requesting support and how the activity will contribute to the student’s professional development or plan of study (maximum length of 3 pages),
   b. A budget listing costs and all other anticipated funding (except student loans),
   c. An unofficial transcript of all credit earned, and
   d. A letter of recommendation from the student’s major advisor emailed from the advisor to karen.petersen@mtsu.edu

Deadlines: Applications will be considered for activities taking place during the Spring, Summer, or Fall 2015 semesters. The application deadline is February 6, 2015.
Promoting Student Research

Political Science and International Relations majors are strongly encouraged to engage in undergraduate student research, and to take advantage of the opportunities to secure funding and to present their research. Faculty are available to work with students through independent research courses to help develop research skills and projects. Students might also consider presenting research done as part of an upper-division course.

The Department currently offers students two independent research options for credit:

PS 4950: Community-Based Research Practicum (1-6 credit hours). In this class, students work with a community-based organization on a practical research project designed in part by the organization.

PS 4970 Undergraduate Research (1-6 credit hours). Students pursue their own topics and fields of concentration under the supervision of a political science faculty member. Working with the faculty member, the student will design and conduct independent research, with the final paper presented at a conference or a public forum on campus.

Opportunities at MTSU to Present Research

Scholars Week
Scholars week includes departmental / college events in discipline-specific venues for presentation of graduate, undergraduate, and faculty scholarship, such as:
- Oral Presentations
- Multimedia presentations
- Posters
- Performances
- Kick-off Luncheon
- Demonstrations
- Speakers
- University-Wide Exposition - The celebration culminated in a University-wide showcase of posters, multimedia, and performance.

For more information, visit: [http://www.mtsu.edu/research/scholars_week.shtml](http://www.mtsu.edu/research/scholars_week.shtml)

Social Science Symposium. Conducted annually in the fall, the Social Science Symposium features student research at MTSU. The event includes a student paper competition and guest speakers. For more information visit [http://www.mtsu.edu/soc/socsym/index.shtml](http://www.mtsu.edu/soc/socsym/index.shtml)

Scientia et Humanitas: A Journal of Student Research.
Scientia et Humanitas publishes original undergraduate and graduate research from the natural and social sciences and from the humanities. Articles are now being accepted for the 2011-12 issue from MTSU students and recent graduates either by themselves or in conjunction with a faculty mentor. Articles may be submitted through the online submission system at their website, [www.mtsu.edu/~scientia](http://www.mtsu.edu/~scientia).

MTSU’s Undergraduate Research Center is an umbrella organization at MTSU, created in 2004 to promote research at the undergraduate level to students, faculty, administrators, and legislators, and to provide university support for undergraduate students and the faculty members who mentor them in scholarly and creative activities. Their web site contains information on grants, [http://www.mtsu.edu/urc/index.shtml](http://www.mtsu.edu/urc/index.shtml)

Why should an undergraduate do research?
* Nurtures your curiosity
* Integrates coursework through ‘hands-on’ projects
* Creates independence
* Resume-builder
* Great preparation for graduate school, where a main goal is a research project
* Develops ‘soft skills’ important for entering into and succeeding in the job market
Faculty Updates/News

Faculty Awards

Dr. Franklin received the John Pleas Award for demonstrated excellence in teaching, research and service by a minority faculty member.

Dr. Langenbach received the Distance Educator Award, and an Outstanding Advisor Award in the College of Liberal Arts.

This fall, Amanda Di Paolo returned to her undergraduate institution, St. Thomas University in Fredrickton, New Brunswick, as director of the new Human Rights Program. This year, she will be teaching classes on the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and International Human Rights.

St. Thomas University

Korobkov in Belgium

From June 2 to August 8, Andrei Korobkov was a visiting researcher at UNU-CRIS, funded by the GR:EEN Fund initiative, where he conducted research on his project “Governing Regional Migration Systems: A Comparative Perspective.” As part of this project, he analyzed and compared the mechanisms governing migration processes within three of the largest immigration systems of the world: European (centered on the EU), Eurasian (centered on Russia), and North American (centered on the US). As he notes “Despite the differences among those three regional systems, many of the challenges they face in migration sphere are quite similar and include, among others, the increasing migrant pressures on the labour markets and welfare systems of the receiving countries, the growing social tensions and the widespread apprehension in regard to the perceived erosion of the traditional cultural core, as well as the new security threats.” In addition to participating in the UNU-CRIS seminar, Korobkov was also able to work in the libraries of the Centre and the College of Europe.

Kent Syler has become a regular on local news shows discussing elections and local politics. Over the past year, he has appeared on WTVF Morning Line, WTVF Open Line, WTVF Inside Politics, WGNNS The Truman Show, and has been quoted in articles in the Tennessean, Daily News Journal, WGNNS, WTVF, and Murfreesboro Post. He also had The Daily News Journal and Sidelines join his Advertising and Communications class to watch the State of the Union address and report on the students reactions.

Look for him following the mid-term elections in November.

Kent Syler on set at WSMV on the evening of the Aug. 7 election
Faculty Updates/News

- **Dr. Carleton** and **Lefler** are engaged in a university-sponsored course redesign project focused on PS 1010.
- **Dr. Korobkov** co-organized the seminar “Reform of the Russian Academic System” at the Kennan Institute in Washington, DC, and participated in a roundtable discussion on “The Ukrainian Crisis.” at the World University Forum in Moscow.
- **Dr. Lefler** is scheduled to deliver a guest lecture, “Bargain Shopping for Peace? The Consequences of Strategic Forum Selection on Dispute Resolution” at the University of Memphis in October.
- **Dr. Tesi** consulted with the Operations Department of the African Development Bank in Tunis on a strategy grant to conduct further field work in Africa for the next decade, 2013-2022.
- **Dr. Wang** attended a faculty development workshop on learning and (re)learning Japan at Belmont University in April 2014.

**Grants**

Dr. Korobkov
— The International Forum of Russian-speaking Science and Technology Professionals, March 2014.
— Woodrow Wilson Center Travel Grant, April 2014.
— World University Forum Travel Grant, April 2014.

Dr. Franklin — Non-instructional Assignment Grant for fall 2014

Dr. Petersen — Co-PI, NSF ADVANCE grant application

Dr. Wang — FRCAC grant to conduct further field work in China over the summer on her project “Government Word Reports: A Proxy for China’s Cadre Evaluation System?”

**Scholarly Presentations**

Department Faculty presented over 20 scholarly papers in 2013-14 at such academic conferences as: the African Studies Association, American Association for Chinese Studies, the American Political Science Association, the AUBER conference, the European International Studies Association, the International Studies Association, the Latin American Studies Association, the Midwest Political Science Association, the National Conference of Black Political Science, the Peace Science Society, the Russian International Studies Association, the Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies, the Southern Political Science Association, and the World University Forum.

**Recent Faculty Publications**

**Dr. Sekou Franklin**

*After the Rebellion* examines a broad range of youth-based activist organizations and social movements of the post-civil rights generation. Following a historical account of movement activism going back to the 1930s, Sekou presents a detailed series of theoretically grounded case studies of a handful of organizations/movements such as the Southern Negro Youth Congress (SNYC), the BSLN (Black Student Leadership Network), the student divestment movement of the 1980s, among others, focusing on infrastructure, institutional leveraging, opportunity structure, and outcomes. His conclusion highlights the triumphs and struggles of activism among the post-civil rights generation, the impact of the past, and the lessons for the future. The meticulously researched book reflects years of work stretching as far back as to when Sekou was a student at Howard and clearly reflects his passion and his activism. It is a major contribution to the literature. One reviewer called it “Impressive scholarship… Both theoretical and practical in approach, this book will require the rethinking of several well-word narratives about black youth activism in the post-civil rights generations.” Another quipped: “Anyone committed to understanding or promoting activism among youth of color needs to read this book.”

**Dr. Korobkov:**
— “The Brain Drain in Comparative Perspective: The US Experience” *Russia Direct Quarterly Report* (a Foreign Policy US journal and the Rossiiskaya Gazeta newspaper joint publication);

**Dr. McDaniel,** “The Self-Incriminator: John Lilburne, the Star Chamber, and the English Origins of American Liberty,” in *Prison Narratives from Boethius to Zan.*
PS graduate Helen Caddes is now making it in music, it seems, in Las Vegas.

http://musicmafiauk.blogspot.com/2014/05/las-vegas-artist-helen-caddes-releases.html

Las Vegas Helen Caddes Debut Album State of Nature (picture)

Up and coming Las Vegas Alternative Rock Artist Helen Caddes has released her debut album “State of Nature” on the independent record label Vine Hill Records. The album consisting of seven songs was produced by Robert LaSalle (Ride) and engineered by Bobby Holland of South Street Studios (Aaron Tippin, Run With Bulls). Featuring Robert LaSalle on piano, Noah Hungate on drums and Travis Vance on bass, “State of Nature” includes catchy, guitar laden tracks “Automatic Pilot” and “Russian Flavors” that share a powerful message of hope in a world full of despair.

Helen received training in vocal performance from Christine Wallis, Carole Schuricht and E. Martene Craig. Album art features Helen's mother, Lisa Nylin Reeve, circa 1970, in the Western Pennsylvania wilderness.

Noah Nielsen “I moved to Seattle to work for NOAA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration as a business specialist in the Western Acquisition Division of the Acquisition and Grants Office. My work involves contracts, grants, and acquisitions. In the fall I will be attending Seattle University part-time to get my Master's in Public Administration.”

*     *     *     *

After graduating, Nathan Ives worked with a small NGO doing work in the southern Philippines. He lived on Mindanao and worked in the conflict areas doing development work for the purpose of protecting children forced into soldiering. Afterward, he moved to Myanmar and Thailand working with a group called Free Burma Rangers who train ethnic relief groups to go and provide services and human rights violation reporting for refugee camps and conflict zones in Myanmar. He is back in the US considering various graduate programs.

*     *     *     *

Emily Petro (MTSU and Villanova Law) is now an Assistant District Attorney. She lives in Cleveland TN.

Sean Bentzen graduated with a B.S in political science in 2009. He went on to earn a M.A from the University of Windsor, Ontario in 2010 and a Ph.D in political science from the University of Mississippi in 2014. While in graduate school he served as a research and instructional assistant until he completed the comprehensive exams for doctoral studies. At this time he taught courses in comparative politics until he finished his dissertation. He continues to pursue research on corruption around the world and focuses, specifically, on the issue of disentangling corruption and cultural relativity. While attending MTSU, Sean wrote and published his first novel. Since then, he has written two sequels and has a second trilogy in the works. Sean is currently a full time writer and tutor. He plans to enter academia while continuing to push the boundaries of his creative pursuits. He lives in Nashville with his wife and daughter.
Stay Informed  
Stay Connected

Students who are the most successful—in their courses, graduating on time, finding jobs and developing careers in the field, getting into law school and graduate school, and just getting the most out of their college years—are those that stay informed about all of the opportunities and events they can take advantage of, and stay connected to the Department and other students.

Please use these resources to both stay informed and stay connected—and succeed.

MTSU Political Science Facebook Page

We use Facebook to notify our students of upcoming events and opportunities for PS and IR majors and minors.

Please “like” the page so you are always in the loop.

MTSU Political Science Facebook Page

![Facebook Logo] (search for MTSU political science)

Department of Political Science Web Page

This is a huge resource of information on majors, minors, program requirements, faculty contacts, the Student Handbook, Newsletters, and much more.

Please bookmark the site and check it often and whenever you have questions.

http://www.mtsu.edu/politicalscience/

Department of Political Science Web Page

![MTSU Political Science Website] (search for MTSU political science)

PS / IR Student Services Page

This site provides easy access to info on advising, law school, grad school, careers and job search, study abroad, internships, and much more to help you succeed.

Please bookmark the site and really use it to get the most out of your time in the Department.

http://www.mtsu.edu/ps-ir-student-services

PS / IR Student Services Page

![Student Services Information] (search for MTSU political science)

Low-Tech, Physical Communication

Much of this information—program requirements, Student Handbook, Newsletters, upcoming events, and so on—are available on the racks and bulletin board outside the Departmental Office in Peck 209.

Department of Political Science

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Peck Hall 209  
Box 29  
Murfreesboro, TN 37132  
Phone: 615-898-2708  
Fax: 615-898-5460  
E-mail: sdmorris@mtsu.edu

Department T-shirt ($5) and car decals ($1) available in the office

http://www.mtsu.edu/politicalscience/politicalscience-newsletter-fall-2014