MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

## RCHATYN

Center for Global Affairs

# Annual Report 2019-2020



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THE ROHATYN CENTER FOR GLOBAL AFFAIRS (RCGA) is Middlebury College's flagship site for the production and dissemination of knowledge about international and global issues. Through a diverse set of programs, the Center reaches across boundaries of language, culture, and geography to engage students' capacity for rigorous analysis and independent thought in a rapidly changing world. In supporting Middlebury's aim to be the leading global liberal arts college, the Center sponsors vibrant co-curricular programs, fosters dialogue with leading international scholars and practitioners, funds innovative undergraduate field research, and promotes scholarly collaborations between students and faculty. RCGA builds bridges across disciplines and communities, both local and global.

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## About the Rohatyn Center

The Rohatyn Center for Global Affairs is Middlebury College's hub for international and global activities. The Center offers a number of signature programs and events, some of which are highlighted below.

#### Events at the Center

Throughout the academic year, the Rohatyn Center organizes a wide range of internationally and globally oriented lectures, panels, and colloquia. Topics reach across many disciplines and world regions, exposing students and the campus community to new ideas and perspectives. Speakers include academics, policy makers, practitioners, creative writers, journalists, and more.

#### Student Research Funding

The Rohatyn Center offers students the resources to delve deeply into their own scholarship. RCGA Summer Research Grants fund overseas research for students preparing for senior theses. Funding for independent research while studying abroad is provided through RCGA Study Abroad Research Grants. The Padma Desai Fund provides support for students who wish to pursue an internship or to conduct research while studying in Russia or the former Soviet Union. The Lesley T. Ketzel '49 Scholar program recognizes Middlebury College undergraduate students who have most effectively integrated their RCGA grant-funded independent research in conducted conjunction with a Middlebury C.V. Starr School Abroad into their overall undergraduate experience.

#### **Annual Conference**

Each March, the Rohatyn Center organizes an interdisciplinary conference focused on a critical global issue. Academics and practitioners from a variety of disciplines and countries convene in Middlebury for intense analysis. Conference topics have included anxieties of empire; migration, displacement, and belonging; the revolutions of 1968; language and identity; food insecurity; the status of the UN Millennium Development Goals; youth unemployment; and the politics of fresh water.

#### Internship Opportunities

The Rohatyn Center Internship Program offers Middlebury undergraduates the opportunity to collaborate closely with faculty members on scholarly research. Rohatyn interns also serve on the Rohatyn Student Advisory Board (RSAB), in which capacity they assist with the Center's programs that support Middlebury College's global focus. Their work with RCGA gives interns a unique opportunity to engage with international and global affairs, as well as an edge with potential employers.

### **Lectures & Events**

The Rohatyn Center sponsored, cosponsored, and presented a wide array of cocurricular and internationally oriented events during the 2019–2020 academic year, spanning many world regions and academic disciplines. We invite you to visit our website (go.middlebury.edu/rcga) and our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/RohatynCenter) for past and future events.

In March of 2020, Middlebury College suspended all on-campus events as a result of rising safety concerns due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Many RCGA events from March–May were cancelled. Nevertheless, we were able to stay active online and host some of those events remotely.

#### September

"Suspect Paradise: Amazonia in the Vortex" by Leopoldo Bernucci, Distinguished Professor of Spanish and the Russell F. and Jean H. Fiddyment Chair in Latin American Studies, University of California, Davis.

"Ripped from the Headlines: How CNS Experts Use New Tools to Investigate Nuclear and Missile Programs around the World" by Jessica Varnum, deputy director, James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies.

"Shusenjo: The Main Battleground of the Comfort Women Issue" with Miki Dezaki, film director.

Clifford Symposium panel discussion, "Whale-Watching from the Masthead off New Zealand: Historic and Present Global Whale Populations and Shifting Perspectives on Extinction" with Richard King, visiting associate professor, Sea Education Association, and Williams Mystic students from Middlebury Jennifer Crandall '20 and Caitlin Dicarra '20.

"Historically Hot: Reimagining Beauty from Japan's Past" by Laura Miller, Ei'ichi Shibusawa-Seigo Arai Professor of Japanese Studies and professor of history, University of Missouri, St. Louis.

#### October

"Solidarity or the Fictional Bubble: Disciplinary Narratives—and Their Resistances—in Spain (and beyond) after 2008's Financial Crises" by Germán Labrador, associate professor of Spanish and Portuguese, Princeton University.

"The Other China: How the Rural-Urban Divide Is the Biggest Challenge Most People Have Never Heard About" by Scott Rozelle, Helen F. Farnsworth Senior Fellow and co-director of the Rural Education Action Program in the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies, Stanford University.

"Eating Tomorrow: The Battle for the Future of Food" by Tim Wise, visiting professor of the practice, Middlebury College, and director, Land and Food Rights Program, Small Planet Institute.

"The Land of Open Graves: Understanding the Current Politics of Migrant Life and Death along the U.S.–Mexico Border" by Jason De León, executive director, Undocumented Migration Project, and professor of anthropology and Chicano/ Chicano studies, UCLA.

"Moved to Tears: Conmoverse and Melodrama" by Ana López, professor of communication, Tulane University.

"La Perricholi, a Peruvian Historical Icon" by Alonso Cueto, professor of literature, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Peru.

"Routine' Protests in Jordan? Contentious and Noncontentious Politics" by Jillian Schwedler, professor of political science, Hunter College and the Graduate Center, City University of New York.

"Eleanor Roosevelt and the Drafting of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights" by Blanche Wiesen Cook, distinguished professor of history and women's studies, John Jay College and the Graduate Center, City University of New York.

"Thinking Freedom in Prison: Indira Gandhi's Emergency, 1975-77" by Gyan Prakash, Dayton-Stockton Professor of History, Princeton University.

"Precolonial African Sexuality, Contemporary Homophobia and #LimitlessAfricans" by Mikael Chukwuma Owunna, photographer, Fulbright Scholar, and engineer.

"Redefining and Reclaiming Space in Conflict Zones" by Samar Haddad King and Zoe Rabinowitz, Yaa Samar! Dance Theater. "Austerity in Puerto Rico and the Impact on Higher Education" by Ruth N. Figueroa-Couvertier, University of Puerto Rico, and César Pérez Lizasuain, independent scholar.

"Musical Healing Repertories and Ecologies of Wellbeing in Uganda" by Peter Hoesing, ethnomusicologist, Dakota State University College of Arts and Sciences.

"Reminiscences on Life Experiences in the GDR in 1984: 30 Years after the Fall of the Berlin Wall" by Sarah Stephens, co-founder and president, Stephens Nicolson Artists Management.

#### November

"Speak 'American': How a News Anchor Became the News" by Vanessa Ruiz, bilingual international journalist.

"Some Myths about Somali Pirates" by Michael Scott Moore, journalist and author of *The Desert and the Sea: 977 Days Captive on the Somali Pirate Coast.* 

Fall of the Berlin Wall 30th Anniversary Dance Party, following a collective "Tearing down the Wall" outside of Atwater Dining Hall.



Arizona PBS news anchor and bilingual journalist Vanessa Ruiz speaks on her experiences facing criticism for pronouncing Spanish words with a Spanish accent during English broadcasts.

"Bedouins and Other Minorities in Israel" by Ishmael Khaldi, author of *A Shepherd's Journey: The Story of Israel's First Bedouin Diplomat.* 

#### January

"The Ethics and Aesthetics of Contemporary Afro-Brazilian Poetry" by Felipe F. Rodrigues, professor, Fundação Técnico-Educacional Souza Marques.

"Rwanda 25 Years after the Genocide: Incredible Accomplishments and Continuing Challenges" by Carl Hobert '83, author of *Raising Global IQ: Preparing Our* Students for a Shrinking Planet.

"Gender Politics in Arabic Mahjar Literature: Kahlil Gibran, Mikha'il Naimy, and 'Afifa Karam" by Elizabeth Saylor, assistant professor of Arabic, North Carolina State University.

"Preserving American Power and Democracy in the Trump Era" by Garrett M. Graff, writer and commentator.

#### February

"Arpillera Tapestries and Memory in Valparaíso, Chile" by Cecilia Araneda, Universidad Católica de Valparaíso.

"Manifestaciones en Periodo de Caza / Demonstration During Hunting Season" by Las Nietas de Nonó: Black Feminist Art & DIY Performance in the Hispanic Caribbean.

"Horror Cinema Exists Here: Mapping Affect and Its Limits in Transnational Horror Genre Communities in Spain and Latin America" by Jonathan Risner, associate professor of Spanish and Portuguese, University of Indiana.

#### March

"The Archaeology of Borderlands: Cultural Encounters along the Great Walls in the Late Warring States Period" by Nicola Di Cosmo, Luce Foundation Professor in East Asian Studies, Institute for Advanced Study.



Educator and textile artist Cecilia Araneda shares the work of her art collective Arpilleras, Sitios y Memoría, including new tapestries inspired by the most recent demonstrations in Chile against decades of neoliberal policies.

## International & Global Studies Colloquium Series

Through the International and Global Studies Colloquium, students, faculty, staff, and members of the community at large gather over Friday lunch to learn about global and international research activities. Our speakers include Middlebury College faculty and alumni, as well as other scholars and professionals in the global arena.

#### October

"Between Optic and Haptic: Tactility and Trade in the Eighteenth-Century Atlantic World" by Carrie Anderson, assistant professor of history of art and architecture, Middlebury College.

#### November

"Islamist Parties in Turkey, Egypt, and Tunisia" by Sebnem Gumuscu, assistant professor of political science, Middlebury College.

"Beyond the Politics of Exposure: Notes on Violence and Democracy from India" by Moyukh Chatterjee, visiting scholar of anthropology, Middlebury College.

#### February

"Recording and Remixing *Teach Me to Love*: Musical, Cultural, and Temporal Paradoxes in My Music" by Damascus Kafumbe, associate professor of music and director of African studies, Middlebury College.



Damascus Kafumbe demonstrates the various instruments used in his neotraditional EP *Teach Me to Love*, highlighting his many diverse influences, from Ugandan harp solos to Senegalese Wolofinspired drum beats, Caribbean clave imaginaries, and beyond.

## Hot Topics Lunch & **Discussion Series**

The Hot Topics Lunch & Discussion series provides an informal opportunity for students to learn about a "hot" topic in world affairs by engaging directly with a Middlebury faculty member who is an expert on the subject. A brief presentation by the professor is followed by lengthy discussion and analysis with the students. The Rohatyn Student Advisory Board selects topics and professors that will best serve the interests of the wider student body.

#### October

"The Amazon Is on Fire! Diagnosing the Anthropocene" by Dan Suarez, assistant professor of environmental studies.

"What Is Going on in Syria?" by Sebnem Gumuscu, assistant professor of political science.

#### November

"Waves of Contention: Protests and Political Change from Latin America to Asia" by Orion Lewis, assistant professor of political science.



#### January

"Healthcare Systems across the Globe: How Does the U.S. Compare?" by Pam Berenbaum, director of global health program and professor of the practice.

#### February

"#MEGXIT: Monarchy in an Age of Global Publicity" by Paul Monod, Hepburn Professor of History.



#### **Hot Topics: The COVID-19 Series**

In April, the Rohatyn Student Advisory Board launched an online mini-series on COVID-19 and its global implications, addressing the pandemic from various disciplinary and geographic perspectives. Recordings of the talks are accessible on Middlebury's network at go/covid-talks.

#### April

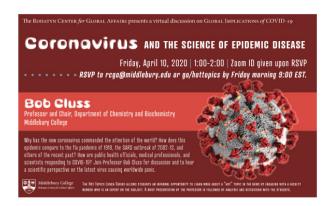
"Coronavirus and the Science of Epidemic Disease" by Bob Cluss, professor and chair, department of chemistry and biochemistry.

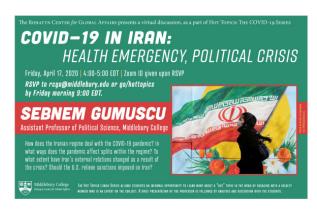
"COVID-19 in Iran: Health Emergency, Political Crisis" by Sebnem Gumuscu, assistant professor of political science.

#### May

"The Peculiar Life of COVID-19: Chickens, Mountains, and Serosurveillance in India and the U.S." by Kristin Bright, assistant professor of anthropology.

"International Aspects of the COVID-19 Economic Crisis" by David Munro, assistant professor of economics.





Professor Bob Cluss (top left) and RCGA program and outreach fellow Aine McAlinden (to the right of Cluss) with students at the first virtual Hot Topics event, "Coronavirus and the Science of Epidemic Disease."



## Second Annual Day of Learning on Global Cultures

The Annual Day of Learning on Global Cultures was established in 2018 in memory of Middlebury professor Juana Gamero de Coca as a way to honor her intellectual contributions. Focusing on professor Juana Gamero de Coca's passionate commitment to dignity and justice, the event maps the possibilities she brought to bear on "misrecognized" social and political concerns.

#### Presentations

"Gendering Domestic Service: Houseboys in Spanish Settlers' Homes in Central West Africa" by Benita Sampedro Vizcaya, professor of Spanish colonial studies, Hofstra University.

"Muscular Nationalisms: Racial and Gendered Images of National Identity in Brazilian Fitness Culture" by Daniel Silva, associate professor of Luso-Hispanic studies, Middlebury College.

#### Student contributions

"Negotiating Muslim Identites in the Post-9/11 Gendered Public Sphere" by Oshin Bista '20.

"A Gendered Look into How Language Impacts Culture" by Christopher Gernon '21.

"Before and After Stonewall: Queer Stories throughout American History" by Suria Vanrajah '22.

"Verses in the Sky" by Kaitlyn Velazquez '23.

"Let Her Learn" by Eliza Wieman '23.



Kaitlyn Velazquez '23 and Eliza Wieman '23 share creative works of historical fiction written in their first-year seminar, "Latinex Stories of Resistance," taught by Gloria Estela González Zenteno, professor of Luso-Hispanic studies.

## Thesis in Dialogue

The Rohatyn Center's Thesis in Dialogue series features the previous year's International and Global Studies (IGS) and International Politics and Economics (IPE) thesis prize awardees. The winners of the IGS and IPE thesis awards return to campus to present their research and to engage in dialogue with a faculty expert from an outside university, as well as a Middlebury faculty member. The professors respond to and discuss the thesis and its implications.

#### November

Hayley Manges '19, winner of the 2019 Senior Honors Thesis Award in International Politics and Economics, presented her thesis, "The Legacy of Communism and Contemporary Attitudes towards Gender: Lessons from the Soviet Union." Experts from the field—Joshua Tucker, professor of politics at NYU, and Tanya Byker, assistant professor of economics at Middlebury College—engaged in a rigorous dialogue with Manges.

#### December

Billie White '19, winner of the 2019 International and Global Studies Award, presented her thesis, "Agency Amidst Patriarchy: Centering the Lived Experiences of Syrian Refugee Women in Jordan." A lengthy discussion of the thesis took place after White received feedback from Frances S. Hasso, associate professor of gender, sexuality, and feminist studies at Duke University, and Hemangini Gupta, visiting assistant professor of gender, sexuality, and feminist studies at Middlebury College.



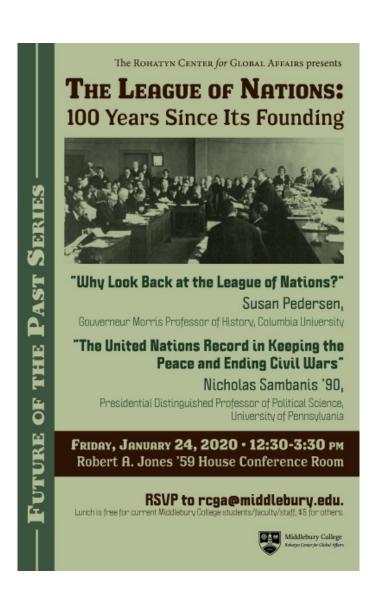
From left to right: Joshua Tucker, Hayley Manges, and Tanya Byker.



From left to right: Karima Borni, Hemangini Gupta, Billie White, Frances S. Hasso, and Dima Ayoub. Borni served as White's thesis advisor at Middlebury.

### Future of the Past Series

The Rohatyn Center's Future of the Past series highlights a historical idea, invention, or event, calling attention to how it has shaped our lives—thus ensuring that the past has a future, not only in the material world, but also in our intellectual lives. The 2019-2020 focus was on the League of Nations and the United Nations in relation to their global impacts over time.



#### January

"The League of Nations: 100 Years Since Its Founding," a panel featuring presentations by Susan Pedersen, Gouverneur Morris Professor of History at Columbia University, and Nicholas Sambanis '90, Presidential Distinguished Professor of Political Science at University of Pennsylvania.





## Eighth Annual International & Interdisciplinary Conference

Each March, the Rohatyn Center for Global Affairs hosts its signature international and interdisciplinary conference, which brings scholars and practitioners from around the world to examine a pressing global issue. Middlebury students chair sessions, while Middlebury faculty moderate them. The 2020 conference welcomed sixteen presenters on Empire in its past and present articulations, using the critical framework of "imperial anxiety" to examine policy decisions, economic imperatives, subject-formation, and global cultural production under the new imperial regime.

## "Anxieties of Empire: New Contexts, Shifting Perspectives"

Organizers

**Tamar Mayer**, director of the Rohatyn Center for Global Affairs **Daniel F. Silva**, associate professor of Luso-Hispanic studies

#### Session 1:

#### Borders and Narratives of Imperial Power

Chair: Amanda Rodriguez '21

**Moderator**: Trinh Tran, Department of

Sociology

Borders and Anxieties of Empire Yumna Siddiqi, Middlebury College

The Muslim Ban and the Imperial Anxieties of Colorblindness and Uneven Mobilities Maryam Griffin, University of Washington, Bothell

"Crime and the Border": Locating imperial anxiety and narratives of crime Molly Slavin, Georgia Institute of Technology

#### Session 2:

## Epistemology and Imperial Reproduction

Chair: Benjy Renton '21

Moderator: Raquel Albarrán, Department of

Luso-Hispanic Studies

The Populist West: Critical subjectivity and the politics of counter-terrorism in Nigeria

Temitope Ogungbemi, McPherson

University, Nigeria

Examining the Co-production of the "Imperial" University in Lahore and New York City

York City

Mariam Durrani, Hamilton College

Empire's Anxiety and Indigeneity: Recent American studies critiques of U.S. empire Max Clayton, Yale University

#### Session 3: Subjects of Empire and Occupation

Chair: Lilly Cady '23

**Moderator**: Amit Prakash, Visiting Professor

of History

Gibraltar and the Making and Re-making of

Europe

Jason Dittmer, University College London

Imperial Crisis and Racialized Militarization: Reconceptualizing the invasion and

occupation of Iraq

Yousef Baker, California State University,

Long Beach

The Power of Blank Spaces: A critical cartography of China's Belt and Road

Initiative

Galen Murton '00, James Madison University

#### Session 4: Staging Empire, Visualizing Otherness

Chair: Elijah Willig '21

**Moderator**: Guntram Herb, Department of

Geography

Cinema's Hegemony: Imperial and cinematic

futures at the start of the Asian century

Maria Bose, Clemson University

Race and Migrant Bodies in Contemporary

African Poetry

Tosin Gbogi, Marquette University

#### Session 5: Migration Divides: Race, religion, and otherness

Chair: Isabella Antúnez de Mayolo Mauceri

Moderator: William Poulin-Deltour, Lois '51 and J. Harvey Watson Department of French

and Francophone Studies

The Prince and the Governors: The anxious locations of race and religion in South Asian

American immigrant histories

Arun Chaudhuri, York University, Canada

Islam, Anti-Racism, and the Anxieties of

French Diversity Politics

Kirsten Wesselhoeft, Vassar College

#### Session 6:

#### The Power to Police: Biopolitics and contemporary empire

Chair: Jack Carew '20

Moderator: Hemangini Gupta, Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies

Resistance and the Info-sphere

Salah Khan, Universidad Autónoma de

Madrid, Spain

Strangers in Their Own Flesh: An intimate

story about Trump and Modi

Kristin Bright, Middlebury College

Mechanisms of Empire's Reproduction: An analysis of crisis pregnancy centers Carly Thomsen, Middlebury College

## Pictures from the Eighth Annual International & Interdisciplinary Conference



Kirsten Wesselhoeft, Vassar College, and Arun Chaudhuri, York University, discuss the anxieties of race, religion, and otherness.



Yousef Baker, California State University, reconceptualizes the U.S. invasion of Iraq in terms of anxieties of empire and racialized militarization.



All conference speakers join together with organizers Tamar Mayer and Daniel Silva to conclude the weekend's events with a conference wrap-up.

## Seventh Annual Student-Organized Global Affairs Conference

Every year, the Rohatyn Student Advisory Board (RSAB) hosts a competition to award the winning students the opportunity to design, plan, and execute a conference with the financial and logistical support of the Rohatyn Center and RSAB. This year's conference, titled "Bodies at Borders: The Lived Effects of Settler Colonialism," was organized by Kamli Faour '21, Cara Levine '20, and Mari Odoy '20, along with RCGA Program and Outreach Fellow Aine McAlinden. The organizers chose to include a session of break-out discussions led by Middlebury faculty, allowing attendees to partake in an interactive experience in between lectures.

#### "Bodies at Borders: The Lived Effects of Settler Colonialism"

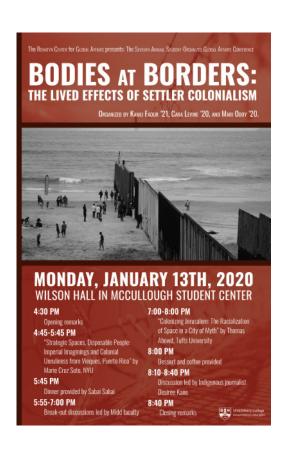
#### Conference Events

"Strategic Spaces, Disposable People: Imperial Imaginings and Colonial Unruliness from Vieques, Puerto Rico" by Marie Cruz Soto, clinical assistant professor at NYU.

"Colonizing Jerusalem: The Racialization of Space in a City of Myth" by Thomas Abowd, senior lecturer at Tufts University.

Discussion on experiences at the frontlines of settler coloniams led by Desiree Kane, Miwok organizer and multi-media journalist.

Break-out discussions led by Middlebury professors Stefano Mula (Italian), Ellen Oxfeld (Anthropology), Amit Prakash (English & American Literatures), Linsey Sainte-Claire (French and Francophone Studies), Erin Sassin (History of Art & Architecture), and Yumna Siddiqi (English & American Literatures).



## Eighth Annual International Politics & **Economics Symposium**

The International Politics and Economics (IPE) Program hosted its eighth annual symposium, "The Euro at 20: Past, Present, and Future." The symposium highlighted changing perceptions of the Euro since its inception and explored questions of how the Euro-governed area has responded to recent global crises.

#### "The Euro at 20: Past, Present, and Future"

#### **Organizers**

Amy Yuen, associate professor of political science and director of International Politics and **Economics** 

Obie Porteous, assistant professor of economics Kristina Sargent, assistant professor of economics Gary Winslett, assistant professor of economics

#### Symposium Events

"The Euro as the Center of a Clash of Cultures" Harold James, Princeton University **Moderator**: Jonny Schwartz '20

"2008, Populism and Brexit: Governing the Euro Area through the Recent Global Crises" Thierry Warin, SKEMA Business School **Moderator**: Rand Jibril '20

"Europe's (Euro) Crisis of Legitimacy and the Populist Backlash"

Vivian Schmidt, Boston University Moderator: Sara Gilmore '20



## Faculty Professional Development Program

The Rohatyn Center hosts two opportunities for faculty professional development. The Junior Faculty Manuscript Spotlight showcases a junior faculty member's complete—but not yet published—book-length manuscript on a global, international, or cross-regional topic. Experts in the field provide critical feedback and advice to prepare the work for publication. The Winter Term Faculty Seminar provides participating faculty members with a better understanding of global interactions and flows of ideas, and their impacts at different historical times and geographical scales. With guidance from the RCGA Steering Committee, outside experts, and one another, participants then design a global course to be taught in the near future.

#### Winter Term Faculty Seminar

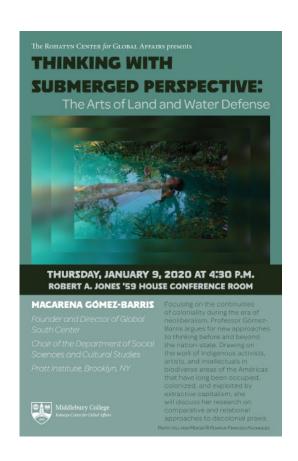
In January, the Center hosted its third annual Winter Term Faculty Seminar. It employed "racial capitalism" as a heuristic device through which to understand "the global." Using this example, participants focused on how to approach the topic from a global perspective, and subsequently how to structure a global course. Visiting scholar Macarena Gómez-Barris is the founder and director of the Global South Center, a hub for critical inquiry, aesthetic praxis, and experimental forms of social living. She works on cultural memory; race, queer, and decolonial theory; and rethinking the Anthropocene.

#### Junior Faculty Manuscript Spotlight 2020

The Spotlight featured Middlebury professor Justin Doran, assistant professor of religion, who presented his manuscript "God Will Provide the Lamb: Prosperity and Pentecostalism in the Americas." Three experts offered their constructive feedback, including Kathryn Lofton, professor of religious studies, American studies, history, and divinity studies at Yale University; Pamela Klassen, professor of religion at University of Toronto; and Kelly Eileen Hayes, associate professor of religious studies at Indiana University.

#### Affiliated Public Lecture

"Thinking with Submerged Perspective: The Arts of Land and Water Defense" by Macarena Gómez-Barris, chair, Social Science and Cultural Studies, Pratt Institute: Director, Global South Center.



### Student Research Grants

The Rohatyn Center administers a variety of overseas research grant programs designed to help integrate the study abroad experience with senior work. The RCGA Summer Research Grants fund overseas research for Middlebury College juniors and seniors preparing to write senior theses. The Study Abroad Research Grants promote the integration of students' study abroad with their independent senior research. These grants are available to both undergraduates from Middlebury College and undergraduates from other institutions studying at Middlebury C.V. Starr Schools Abroad.

Upon completion of their senior work, each RCGA grant recipient is invited to present their project, developed from the research they conducted abroad. This year, presentations took place in January and in May. Although the spring event could not be held on campus, we continued the tradition, bringing our five grantees together to present their research in a Zoom meeting with friends, family, and the broader Middlebury community.





#### **Presentations of Final Overseas Research Projects**

#### RCGA Summer Research Grants

#### **Jess Garner** '19.5

Middlebury College Italy and Germany "The Medieval Moorings of Modern Antisemitism: Painting Otherness in Bibles Moralisées"

#### Chica N. Morrow '20

Middlebury College

Japan

"Does Participation in Moai Affect Individual-level Social Capital or Mental Health in Okinawa, Japan?"

#### Marianna Odoy'20

Middlebury College Germany and Jordan "A Woman in the Crossfire, a Novelist in Translation: The Memoirization and Translation of Syrian Novelist Samar Yazbek into English"

#### Akhila Roy Chowdhury '20

Middlebury College

India

"NaMo Says No Mo (Democracy): India's Backslide into Competitive Authoritarianism"

Below: A view from the bus to Jerash, Jordan. Photograph by Jack Carew '20.

#### Lesley T. Ketzel '49 Scholars

#### **Jack Carew '20**

Middlebury College

**Jordan** 

"Biopolitics in the Age of Pandemic: Reading a Cultural Comptency into Koolaids and Loco Afán"

#### Nick Hunnewell '20.5

Middlebury College

China

"China's New-Electric Vehicle Market: Observations of a 10-Year Plan at Its Halfway Point"



Above: A Green Wings technician replaces an electric car battery using new, efficient technology. Below: Nick Hunnewell '20.5 with Yi Chun, founder of Green Wings, in Shanghai.





#### Photos from RCGA grant recipients



Chica N. Morrow '20 (fourth from left) dining in Okinawa.



A fountain outside of the Uffizi Gallery in Florence, IT, where an exhibit on the history of anti-Semitism and Jewish textile cultures was featured. Photograph by Jess Garner '19.5.



The Venetian Jewish ghetto, the first official ghetto in Europe. Photograph by Jess Garner '21.5.



A view from the window of Darat al-Funun library in Amman, Jordan. Photograph by Mari Odoy '20.



Children playing soccer in Brazil. Photograph by Frank Gavilanez '20.



The Great Wall of China photographed by Benjy Renton '21.

#### Study Abroad Research Grants Awarded in 2019–2020\*

#### Awarded in Fall 2019

#### Bramwell Atkins '21

Sewanee: The University of the South United Kingdom "The Paleography of Anglo-Latin Medieval

#### Abdoul Nasser Bounia Yahaya '21

Middlebury College

Manuscripts"

France

"The Impact of Post-Colonial Treaties on French African Former Colonies' Current Economic Development"

#### Kenzo Okazaki '21

Middlebury College

Brazil

"Was It Enlightenment? The Genealogy of Biopolitics and Terror as Informed by British Practices of Slavery"

#### Benjy Renton '21

Middlebury College

China

"Access to and Characteristics of Housing for China's Urban Poor"

#### Spencer Royston '21

Middlebury College

Uruguay

"Educational Philosophies regarding Portuñol in Language Classrooms along the Uruguay-Brazil Border"

#### Awarded in Spring 2020

#### Alex Bacchus '21.5

Middlebury College

England

"Coolie Voices: From Indentured Servitude to Post-colonial Life"

#### Rachel Falcon '22

Sewanee: The University of the South England

"An Examination of the Relationship between the Church and Rulers during the Anglo-Saxon Period (590-1066)"

#### Muling He'21

Carnegie Mellon University Russia "The Path to Modernity: Railroad Urbanization in the Soviet Baikal Region"

#### Alex Imam '21

Wofford College

China

"Thinking Radically: How Chinese Radicals Influence Cognition—A Study of Linguistic Relativity in the Chinese Language"

#### Nigel Schilling '21

Middlebury College

France

"The Fight for Labor Market Productivity: A Study of the Impacts of High-skilled Migrants on the Segmented European Labor Markets"

<sup>\*</sup>This year, RCGA grants were affected by school closures, travel restrictions, and safety concerns due to the global pandemic. As a result, no Summer Research Grants were awarded for the summer of 2020. Furthermore, many students who received grants in the fall to conduct research in the spring had their projects aborted early in the semester. For students who received grants this spring for the 2020-2021 academic year, the ability to carry out research will be contingent on whether or not students will be able to safely go abroad.

# Senior Honors Thesis Award in International Politics & Economics

The author of the best honors thesis in the field of International Politics and Economics for this year was Rand Ayman Jibril '20 for her thesis "Determined Despite Restrictions: The Effects of Mobility Restrictions on the Palestinian Labor Market." Jibril's advisor was Professor Sebnem Gumuscu and her second reader was Professor Peter Matthews.



Rand Ayman Jibril photographed on campus for Middlebury Magazine.

Jibril's thesis advisor Sebnem Gumuscu, assistant professor of political science, giving a lecture at the Rohatyn Center for Global Affairs.





Jibril's second reader Peter Matthews, Charles A. Dana Professor Economics, speaking to a crowd on campus.

## Internship Program and Student Advisory Board

Student interns are paired with faculty members to assist with international and global research in various disciplines. They also serve on the Rohatyn Student Advisory Board (RSAB), which acts as the connecting point between the student body and the Center. Interns play a key role in designing and organizing a number of events and activities aimed at increasing student interest, including the Hot Topics Lunch Series and the Student-Organized Global Affairs Conference.

#### **Global Reader Authors 2020**

#### Catherine Blizzard '20

"The Rohingya Crisis and Kashmir Conflict: How States Subject Unwanted Groups to Hypervisibility and Invisibility via the Use of Borders"

#### Bella Burke '23

"The Arab Spring: The Path to Tunisian Democracy and Syrian Civil War"

#### Sophia McDermott-Hughes '23

"Neocolonialism and the Search for Paradise: American Retirees in Panama"

#### Jessica Buxbaum '23

"The Coca-Cola-ized Global Food System"

#### Aditya Jain '22

"International Coordination in Near-Earth Orbit: The Role of Governments in Orbital Debris Management"

#### Kaja Aagaard '22

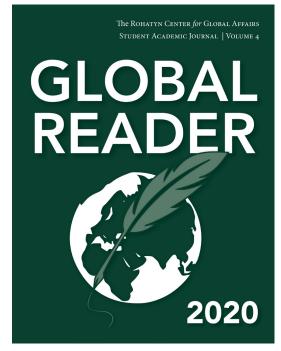
"Deconstructing Biomedicine: How Immigrant Women Negotiate for Reproductive Choice in France"

#### Grace Vedock '20

"Illegible Subjects, Impossible Borders: Transgender Latina Women as Subjects of State Violence"

#### Gloria Escobedo '23

"Her Demands"



The Global Reader is Middlebury's only student academic journal on global affairs, curated and edited by the RSAB.



Fall 2019 interns. From left to right: Isabella Mauceri, Mari Odoy, Georgia Vasilopoulos, and Ben Lahey.

## RCGA Interns 2019-2020



Lilly Cady '23



Ben Lahey '21.5



Isabella Mauceri '20.5



Mari Odoy '20



Kaleb Patterson '21.5



Sabrina Roberts '21



Suria Vanrajah '22



Georgia Vasilopoulos '21



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