

Political Science & International Relations

October 2024

Greetings all and welcome to the second PSIR newsletter of the Fall 2024 term.

We are now well into the fall 2024 semester with mid-terms behind us and Halloween and Thanksgiving approaching. Also fast approaching is class registration. So, this is a good time to start planning for the spring.

There is much information in this newsletter that should help you with your planning. In the newsletter you will find a variety of internship opportunities as well as information about planned events that you may wish to consider. You will also find an interview with Prof. Scott Minkoff, one of the Americanists in our department.

As you consider your courses for the spring, remember that you will need to obtain registration approval from your advisor. Make sure to come prepared for your meeting with your advisor with a clear idea of what courses you would like to take. Schedule your meetings soon so that you don't get caught unable to register when your scheduled date/time arrive. To assist you, this newsletter includes a list of all the courses we are offering in spring 2025 in both Political Science and International Relations. You will notice a new course offering – Crisis and Response in International Public Health. This upper division course will count for both IR and Comparative Politics credits. The course explores why existing US and International public health institutions do or do not effectively address public health crises.

If you are planning to take the senior seminar, you will see that in spring 2025 we are offering two seminars – one in American Politics and the other in International Relations. Since our seminars are broadly conceived, regardless of concentration, students can register and successfully complete either of these seminars. However, remember that to sign up for either seminar you must first receive department chair approval. Approval is predicated on successfully completing (a minimum C- grade) the Research Methods course (offered every term).

If you have questions or concerns, reach out to your academic advisor or to me, at schwartj@newpaltz.edu.

Wishing you a successful continuation of your semester,

Jonathan Schwartz
Department Chair Political Science & International
Relations



FALL 2024 Important Dates

October 24

Jose Rosenberg Lecture

November 1

Fall '25 & Academic Year
Study Abroad applications
open

November 1

Last day to request course
withdrawal

November 4

Black Solidarity Day

November 11

Spring registration begins

November 27-29

Thanksgiving recess

December 9

Last day to request S/U

December 9

Last day of classes

December 10

End of the Year Party

December 13-19

FINAL EXAMS

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Meet Professor Scott Minkoff

By Sadie Leia Watkins



Scott Minkoff is an Associate Professor in Political Science and International Relations and has been teaching at SUNY New Paltz for ten years. He completed his undergraduate degree at Skidmore College in Government and his Ph.D. at University of Colorado - Boulder in Political Science with a focus in American Politics, Public Policy, and Methodology. Currently, he is teaching Research Methods which focuses on how to do research in the political science field, what political science is, and what it means to do it; and Public Policy which dives into the theories of policy change and the different kinds of policy, such as healthcare policy, environmental policy, and budgetary policy. He also teaches Senior Seminar, where the topic is Representation, and State and Local Politics, where he discusses the relationship between the two and the variation in state policy across states. Of all his courses, he finds Public Policy the most rewarding to teach as the material in that class speaks to a lot of different parts of political science. To keep his students engaged, he uses numerous examples so the students have something to make the concepts click. He hooks his students with ideas that are relevant to their lives and incorporates lively discussion into each class, as well. In order to keep the

material he teaches current, he is sure to keep his examples relevant along with staying up to date and connected with research.

Growing up in Washington D.C., Professor Minkoff gained an interest in politics in high school. After graduating from college, he worked at Capitol Hill. While he learned a lot, there were certain aspects about it that he did not enjoy so much, and he wanted to be in a new environment. He then began to orient himself around research and teaching, which led him to where he is now. He did not have a set path for himself at any time, he just found one he enjoyed and stuck to it.

Professor Minkoff researches in two main areas: local politics and the geography of politics. He has done research on photo mobilization tactics, such as how billboards have mobilized people, and what other kinds of tactics do or don't work. This includes doing work with Vote America and thinking through the many ways political advertising occurs and how it can be effective at mobilizing voters. He has also researched gerrymandering and the strategies that states use to curb – or not curb – it. Additionally, he wrote a book with other authors on neighborhood politics.

LECTURE ON CAREERS IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

JOSE ROSEMBERG

SENIOR LIASON TO THE COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY ORGANIZATION

Join Jose Rosemberg to discuss his role in the organization, along with his journey from being a SUNY New Paltz undergrad to holding a diplomatic office in Ecuador and achieving his current station.

Gather useful information on navigating the world of civil society and international affairs!

**Happening
October 24th at
6pm on Zoom!**

Zoom link:



Contact Jack Dolan (executiveoffice@fpa.org) for any questions!

Join us for the
**Political Science and
International Relations**

*End of the Year
Party*

Tuesday, December 10th

4-5:30pm

Wooster Hall 360

**Food and drinks will
be provided!**

Global Engagement Program

Student Experiences

Victoria Titarenko

Participating in the Global Engagement Program (GEP) has been a transformative experience so far! One of the most exciting moments was finding out that I had secured an internship at the United Nations Department of Global Communications. This opportunity has opened doors for me, and I know it will continue to shape my future in ways I can't yet fully imagine. What I've found most rewarding is the supportive community. Living in NYC has allowed me to attend conferences featuring renowned academics I've studied in previous classes! I've also had the chance to engage with fellow students who share my passions—both through insightful classroom discussions and by forming some of my most precious relationships outside of class. I'm excited to continue learning, growing, and building connections that will last well beyond this semester!

Omar Fallaha

I'm a senior at SUNY New Paltz in the 2024 GEP cohort. My internship at the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) through GEP has been an incredible experience. I've developed my skills by working on projects to prevent and counter violent extremism, drafting reports, writing concept notes, and attending high-level UN events. The collaborative environment at UNOCT has allowed me to contribute, share insights, and learn from professionals dedicated to making a lasting impact through counter-terrorism. I'm truly grateful for GEP, as it not only helped me secure this amazing internship but continues to prepare me for my next professional steps, whether it's exploring graduate programs or sharpening my research on international security.



Internship Funding Opportunities 2024/25!

Living Internship Stipend

Enables students to participate in an unpaid internship or curricular applied learning in public service and high-demand non-profit sectors related to their major and/or future career goals, but that is not required by their major.

Award: Up to \$3,000

Campus Auxiliary Services Stipend (CAS)

Supports students involved in a semester-long internship or student teaching placement that is required by their major.

Award: Up to \$2,000 for fall/spring; Up to \$3,000 for summer

Applied Learning Travel Grant

Supports students who are completing an internship or applied learning experience, including student teaching, that is required by their major and are commuting more than 15 miles one way. The grant is designed to cover travel expenses.

Award: \$500 per student

Living Internship Stipend



CAS Stipend



Travel Grant





**The Office of Congressman Marcus
Molinaro (NY-19) is seeking applicants for a**

Capitol Hill Internship

In his Washington, D.C. Office

**Spots are currently available for the Spring Session between
January and May 2025.**

To apply, go to molinaro.house.gov or scan the QR code below:



TURNUP Youth Activism Remote Internship

What is TurnUp?

TurnUp Activism is a progressive non-profit organization dedicated to making the world more **just, fair, and equitable** for all by increasing youth activism and civic engagement to **strengthen our democracy**.

About the Internship

Interns work in remote teams of mission-driven young people from all around the country to help amplify **youth civic engagement** and participate in **activism on many progressive/social justice issues** including climate change, racial justice, reproductive rights, ending gun violence, and combating voter suppression.

Internship Structure

- Fully **remote** with optional in person activities
- Rolling admission - **start and end any time!**
- High school, college, and graduate students can apply
- Flexible time commitment - **you choose between 5-30 hours/week**
- Hours can count towards **community service or school credit**
- Learn from **world-renowned** speakers from a variety of fields

Skills Developed

- Communication
- Professionalism
- Critical thinking and writing
- Leadership
- Collaboration
- Public speaking
- Grassroots organizing

Benefits



Earn valuable letters of recommendation



Bolster your resume



Be eligible to win prizes and awards



Widen your networking scope

Curriculum



Grassroots Activism



Voter Registration and Turnout Projects



Research activism, Civics, and Social Justice Issues



Writing and Reflection

Apply Here!

<https://bit.ly/2023TurnUpInternship>



turn

JOIN OUR INTERNSHIP
AND BECOME A FORCE
FOR CHANGE!

Spring 2025 classes are now available!!

Start your planning now!

**Political Science
list of classes**



**International Relations
list of classes**





PSIR Faculty Office Hours-Fall 2024

Welcome to the Department of Political Science and International Relations!

PROFESSOR	PHONE/EMAIL	DAYS	TIMES	OFFICE
Jonathan Schwartz Chair	845 257 2627 schwartzj@newpaltz.edu	Mondays Wednesdays	12:30pm-2:30pm 1:00pm-3:00pm or by appointment	JFT 816
Kathleen Dowley	845 257 3558 dowleyk@newpaltz.edu	Tuesdays Fridays	12:15pm-3:15pm 12:15-1:15pm	JFT 808
Nancy Kassop	845 257 3544 kassopn@newpaltz.edu	Tuesdays Wednesdays	10:00am-12:00pm 11:00am-1:00pm	JFT 812
Joel Lefkowitz	845 257 3792 lefkowij@newpaltz.edu	Mondays Thursdays	12:30pm-2:30pm 12:30pm-2:30pm and by appointment	JFT 400
Daniel Lipson	845 257 3543 lipsond@newpaltz.edu	Mondays Thursdays	10:00am-12:00pm 12:00pm-2:00pm and by appointment	JFT 810
Jeff Miller	845 257 3934 millerj@newpaltz.edu		On Leave Fall '24 & Spring '25	JFT 920
Scott Minkoff	845 257 3541 minkoffs@newpaltz.edu	Wednesdays Thursdays	2:00pm-3:30pm 10:00am-11:30am	JFT 1016
S. Ilgu Ozler	845 257 2635 ozleri@newpaltz.edu	Wednesdays	3:30pm-5:30pm	JFT 912
Stephen Pampinella	845 257 3549 pampines@newpaltz.edu		On Leave Fall '24	JFT 522
Eric Bein*	beine@newpaltz.edu	virtual	Email for appointment	
Rifat Lutful*	lutfulr@newpaltz.edu	Fridays	9:00am-11:00am or by appointment	JFT 806

The Administrative Assistant, Jennifer Freer can be reached via email at freerj@newpaltz.edu

