

School of Public Policy and Administration

Weekly Newsletter

July 2014 – Volume 2, Issue 27

Important Reminders

NOTICE: Option to Unsubscribe from the SPPA Newsletter

If you wish to unsubscribe from the SPPA Newsletter, please send a reply email to lapssppa@yorku.ca asking to be removed from the mailing list. Thank-you.

SPPA Hours of Operation: June – August 2014

The SPPA office will be open during the following hours from June 1st, 2014 – August 31st, 2014:

Monday-Thursday: 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Friday: 8:30 am – 3:30 pm

Important Dates: July 2014

July 1st, 2014 - Canada Day, university closed. Last day to drop a S2 course and receive 90% of tuition back.

July 2nd, 2014 - It's time to join your YU START online learning community! (First Years only)

July 4th, 2014 - last day to drop a SU course without receiving a grade.

July 9th, 2014 - last day to drop a S2 course and receive 40% of tuition back, after today, you will receive no refund for dropping a course.

July 15th, 2014 - enrolment deposit due for those that enrolled in F/W courses June 1st – June 30th.

July 18th, 2014 - last day to drop a S2 course without receiving a grade.

Refer to the link below for further details:

<http://yublog.apps01.yorku.ca/blog/2014/05/06/important-dates-summer/>

Notices

A Warm Welcome to Khanh Le entering the position of Administrative Assistant at SPPA

On behalf of SPPA faculty and staff, I am very pleased to announce that, following an internal competition, **Khanh Le** has been appointed the School of Public Policy and Administration's new *Administrative Assistant/Coordinator*. Her official start date with our School will be on Wednesday July 16th, 2014.

Khanh Le was the Administrative Assistant at the School of Nursing in the Faculty of Health and comes to us with many years of administrative experience at York University. She is well prepared to take on the challenges of her new position and to assist our School in meeting its immediate, medium, and long-term aspirations.

Please join me in welcoming Khanh to our School, and return to our Faculty, as our new Administrative Assistant/Coordinator.

- **Dr. James Simeon**

Director, School of Public Policy and Administration

(Welcome modified from an earlier message sent by Dr. James Simeon, to SPPA faculty and staff)

Exciting SPPA Courses Available F/W 2014-2015: The International Refugee Protection Regime I & II

Looking for exciting 3.00 credit courses?

How about:

The International Refugee Protection Regime I: Critical Problems: AP/PPAS 4111 3.00 A Fall 2014

Date: Mondays

Time: 2:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Course Director: Professor James C. Simeon

Course Description:

Using multi-disciplinary analytical approaches/perspectives, the current state of the international refugee protection regime will be examined to reveal the underlying forces and dynamics at the root of the critical problems and the probable solutions facing those seeking international protection. This course will prepare students to do an Experiential Education/Community Based Learning opportunity with an international organization or NGO in the Winter Term.

The Winter Term course is available as follows:

The International Refugee Protection Regime II: Research Seminar: [AP/PPAS 4112 3.00 M Winter 2015](#)

For Further Information Contact: School of Public Policy & Administration

(416) 736-5384

NOTE: We encourage students from any and all related Liberal Arts & Professional Studies programs (Law and Society, Political Science, Sociology, Diaspora Studies, Global Studies, Anthropology, History, International Development Studies, Environmental Studies, Health etc.) to take advantage of this exciting academic opportunity.

SPPA Events / News

Professor Marcia Rioux appointed to Order of Canada

York University Distinguished Research Professor **Marcia Rioux** has been appointed a member of the Order of Canada in recognition of her scholarship in the field of social justice and for her advancement of the rights of persons with disabilities.

The announcement of Rioux's induction was made June 30 by Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada David Johnston. Appointment to the [Order of Canada](#) is one of Canada's highest civilian honours. Rioux will be invited to a ceremony to accept her insignia at a later date.

Rioux, a professor in the School of Health Policy and Management in York's Faculty of Health, is co-director of [Disability Rights Promotion International](#), a multi-year project to monitor disability rights nationally and internationally. She founded the master's and doctoral programs in Critical Disability Studies at York University and is director of the York Institute of Health Research.

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Rioux has also been an adviser to federal and provincial commissions, parliamentary committees and international NGOs, as well as United Nations agencies. Earlier this year, Rioux was presented with the Lieutenant Governor's Community Volunteer Award by David Onley, then lieutenant governor of Ontario, in recognition of outstanding contributions to Ontario communities.

SPPA Faculty, Dr. Lesley Jacobs published in the Toronto Star: *Income inequality in a fairer Canada*

The following article written by Dr. Lesley Jacobs & David Northrup was published in the Toronto Star on Monday June 30th 2014.

Professor Jacobs is the director and Mr. Northrup is the associate director of York University's Institute for Social Research.

A link to the article is posted below the excerpt.

Over the past three decades, Canadians have experienced steadily increasing income inequalities. The trend has been toward greater concentration of income and wealth among the top 10 per cent of earners. The lowest income earners in Canada remain poor, but after government benefits are taken into consideration, they are no worse off than they were 30 years ago.

Those most affected by growing inequality have been the vast majority sandwiched between the top and bottom. This group now enjoys a smaller share of Canada's income and wealth than a generation ago.

In a national survey of 1,800 Canadians we conducted earlier this year at the Institute for Social Research at York University, we found that 78 per cent of respondents recognize that there has been the trend toward greater income inequality. This is the same for men and women, immigrants and Canadian-born, people from all provinces and across the political spectrum. Even more interesting is our finding that about 70 per cent of Canadians believe that we live in a less fair society because of growing income inequality.

Unlike those in many other countries, however, Canadians do not blame immigrants or foreign workers for growing income inequality and our society becoming more unfair. The vast majority attribute these things to the disappearance of well-paying middle-class jobs and

much higher salaries for CEOs, both of which are associated with globalization.

The main concern for most people surveyed is for their future and, especially, the future of their children.

Why do Canadians think income inequality is making Canada less fair, and what can be done about it? Three things come to mind. First, working hard and doing things like staying in school appear far less likely to lead to success for their children or grandchildren. Second, wealthier Canadians are using their incomes to cement the advantages of their own children, making it much more difficult to be upwardly socially mobile than in the past. And third, governments have become even more attentive to the voices and demands of the top 10 per cent.

Unlike in the United States and Europe, which have also experienced growing income inequality, in Canada governments have not yet embraced aggressive austerity measures, the burdens of which are carried by low- and middle-income households, as the benefits disproportionately go to the most advantaged. The combination of growing income inequalities and austerity are creating divisions and huge anxieties for the middle class in Europe, as is evident from the largest public protests seen there since the 1980s.

Providing richer opportunities for all Canadians to succeed when they work hard should be a policy priority. If we are facing a future where, for example, there are fewer new jobs in the public sector, we must ensure there are valuable, comparable jobs for the many talented young people who in the past became teachers or nurses. This is not something that can be simply left to the market; it is a collective responsibility for all of us, but it requires innovative policy instruments such as public-private partnerships designed not so much to fund infrastructure as to create opportunities.

Read the complete article at the link below:

http://www.thestar.com/news/ken_dryden_canada_day/2014/06/30/income_inequality_in_a_fairer_canada.html#

AP/HREQ 4740 6.00M: Ideology, Social Policy, and the State - Summer 2014

July-August Course

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D2 Course Offering – Enrol Now!

This course is centered on a core struggle between working-class Ontarians and a corporate governing class as it is worked out in the schools of poor, racialized and immigrant communities. A major section of the course will draw on student experience of growing up and going to school in Toronto or elsewhere in the world.

Format: Three hour seminar

Monday to Friday 2:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Practicum in Public Administration Students Ajay Nandalall, Anna Marie Grant & Olessya Ozkan – Achieve Positions within the Ontario Government

Student **Ajay Nandalall**, Specialist Honours in Public Administration (Law, Justice & Public Policy) and recent admit into the MPPAL program, has achieved a Summer Student position at the following Ministry due to his work with SPPA Professor Peter Constantinou in the Practicum in Public Administration course (PPAS 4995). His position details are below:

Ministry: Ministry of the Attorney General
Branch: Innovation Office (Project Management Office)
Position: Project and Communications Assistant (Summer Student)

Moreover, the student is also in the process of interviewing for the following position:

Ministry: Ministry of the Attorney General
Branch: Durham Region Crown Attorney's Office
Position: Office Assistant (Summer Experience Program)

Next, Honours Major Political Science & Minor in Public Administration student **Anna Marie Grant** who also completed the Practicum course with Professor Constantinou has gained a position within one of our Ontario Ministries, with details as follows:

Ministry: Ministry of the Attorney General
Branch: Corporate Policy and Tribunals Branch
Position: Policy and Programs Assistant (Summer Student)

Additionally, former Practicum in Public Administration student **Olessya Ozkan** has also achieved a position in the Ontario government with details as follows:

Sector: ServiceOntario

Branch: Private Service Providers Branch

Unit: Customer Care Division

Position: Business Advisor

Our congratulations go out to our students for their recent accomplishments!

Red Cross Certified CPR Level HCP Courses

June 1st, 2014 – August 1st, 2014

York University's School of Nursing is offering CPR courses this summer.

Location: 304 Health, Nursing and Environmental Studies Building (HNES)

Sponsor: Canadian Red Cross

Website: <http://www.synergy-employment.com/yorkcpr>

Other News

July Activities at the Career Centre

The Career Centre is pleased to provide you with a PDF of the calendar of activities for the month of July 2014. Alternatively, you may refer to our [online calendar](#).

Summer is finally here and the Career Centre is offering a number of special activities to assist students in building job search and professional etiquette skills.

On Tuesday, July 8th, we're offering a [Resume & Cover Letter Writing](#) workshop targeted specifically to **students in any of York's Health and Science programs**.

From Monday, July 14th to Friday, July 18th, we will be running a special series of activities dedicated to helping students "Beat the Mid-Summer Job Search Slump". For students who may not have secured a summer job, it can be quite discouraging. For others just embarking on their job search, the process may feel a little overwhelming. When the sun is shining and the outdoors are beckoning, it's really hard to stay motivated. With workshops, webinars and a Twitter chat designed to help students strengthen their job search skills and impress potential employers, we hope the Career Centre can provide students with support, encouragement, and concrete strategies to help them land a great summer position.

Date	Time	Beat the Mid-Summer Job Search Slump Activity
July 14	11:00am-1:00pm	Kick Starting Your Job Search: Identifying Skills and Accomplishments workshop
July 14	1:30-3:30pm	Resumé & Cover Letter Writing workshop
July 15	11:00am-12:00pm	How to Find a Job Using LinkedIn webinar
July 15	2:00-4:00pm	Creating a Professional LinkedIn Profile
July 16	11:00am-1:00pm	Making a Great First Impression in Your Interview and Beyond workshop
July 16	1:30-3:30pm	Polishing Your Interview Skills workshop
July 17	11:00am-1:00pm	Job Search Strategies that Work workshop
July 17	1:30-3:30pm	Putting Job Search Strategies into Action workshop
July 18	11:00am-12:00pm	Twitter Career Chat: Networking Etiquette (#yucareerchat)
July 18	1:00-3:00pm	Dining Etiquette workshop

Students interested in our [internship programs](#) are invited to attend an [Internship Information Session](#) on Tuesday, July 15 from 10am-11:30am.

Liberal Arts students interested in career support are encouraged to save Thursday, July 24th for **Career Day for Liberal Arts Students**. We will be running [What Can I Do with My Liberal Arts Degree?](#) workshop from 11:30am-1:00pm followed by the [Resume & Cover Letter Writing for Liberal Arts students](#) workshop from 2:00-4:00pm.

Students are encouraged to register for workshops and other activities through the [Career Centre's online system](#). Feel free to share this information broadly with students, new graduates and colleagues. If you would like to have a contact added or you would like to be removed from this distribution list, please let me know.

July Activities for Learning Skills Services

Learning Skills Services would like to provide you with the workshop calendar for the month of July. We offer a range of workshops throughout the summer session in the areas of:

- Study Secrets,*
- Time Management,*
- Reading and Note-Taking and*
- Exam Preparation.*

Throughout the summer term, our workshops will be held in the Sound and Moving Image Library (SMIL), Screening Room 124, Scott Library.

We also encourage students to participate in our **Passport to Success** program where students will receive a certificate after attending EIGHT Learning Skills Services workshops during their time as a York student – a valuable addition to any academic portfolio or resumé!

It would be greatly appreciated if you could distribute the attached calendar to students, fellow staff and faculty. Students can find out more information of these workshops **on-line** at: lss.info.yorku.ca , while receiving workshop reminders and study tips via **twitter** [@mysuccessyorku](https://twitter.com/mysuccessyorku).

As a reminder, Learning Skills is one of the services offered through Counselling & Disability Services. These services are offered to all York University undergraduate and graduate students. For more information, visit us on-line at: lss.info.yorku.ca

Summer Course on Persian Culture: A Semiotic Perspective available

May 6, 2014 to Jul 29, 2014

"Love what you do"

Would you be interested in registering for my summer 6-credit course in Persian Culture, an interactive, proactive, peace-building-oriented course? This course is unlike any other course, unique in form and content. We will revisit many generally-accepted notions, concepts and ideas; deconstruct our modern mercantile war-prone society to help reconstruct a post-modern nature-friendly peaceful society on Earth for generations to come. If you are a student in international studies, international affairs, political science or sociology, but also psychology,

linguistics, drama studies, translation studies, international law, philosophy, women's studies, history... any social sciences and humanities, and if you are not afraid of not being politically correct, and if you are looking for a summer course, and if it somehow fits your schedule ... this course is for you! I am looking for students like you! Bring your friends.

GL/HUMA 2602 6.0 SU (EN) Persian Culture: A Semiotic Perspective

GL/LIN 2602 6.0 SU (EN) Persian Culture: A Semiotic Perspective

This is a multidisciplinary (I should say trans-disciplinary) course. It is also a fun course: Lots of learning minus the stress. Please pass the message. I'd like to have over thirty participants who look forward to helping to change the world and to finding paradise on Earth.

In taking this course, you'll love what you're doing. I am confident that you will find it an unforgettable experience.

Shodja Eddin Ziaïan,

Doctorat d'État, Peace Economics, University of Paris II, Panthéon-Sorbonne

Post doctorate studies, Peace Science, University of Pennsylvania

This Glendon-College-course is offered by the Program of Linguistics and Language Studies, cross-listed with the Department of Humanities, open to all York University Students, and it is a General Education course. May 6th – July 29th 2014, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6-9. For more information, contact: ziaian@glendon.yorku.ca.

Seminars / Workshops

Time Series Analysis

An Introduction for Social Scientists

Dates: July 14-18, 2014

URL: <http://bit.ly/1qmWKJl>

Location: Ann Arbor, MI

Instructor: Mark Pickup, Simon Fraser University and the University of Oxford

About: Statistical models can be applied to time series data—chronological sequences of observations—to examine the movement of social science variables over time (e.g., public opinion, government policy, judicial

decisions, and socioeconomic measures), allowing analysts to estimate relationships between variables and test hypotheses. This five-day workshop introduces time series methods and their application in social science research. We will focus on conceptualization and practice, with some attention to the underlying statistical theory.

The workshop will provide a comprehensive discussion of the core concepts in time series analysis, including autoregressive, moving-average, unit-root processes, and the two most important assumptions underlying time series models: stationarity and exogeneity. The lab component of the workshop will demonstrate the use of, and assumptions underlying, common models of time series data: autoregressive distributive-lag, moving average (autocorrelated error), differenced data, ARMA, equilibrium (error) correction, and vector autoregression models.

Prerequisites: A sound background in linear regression models is assumed but prior training in time series analysis is not required. The course will make use of basic algebra. Some familiarity with Stata would be helpful, but for those without that familiarity, a crash course on Stata will be provided during the first class session.

About Us

The ICPSR Summer Program is internationally recognized as the preeminent resource for basic and advanced training in social science research methodologies and technologies.

We offer courses in research design, quantitative reasoning, statistical methods, and data processing. Our goal is to integrate methods of quantitative analysis within a broader context of substantive social research.

More Information

For more information, including a complete list of courses, registration information, and scholarships, please visit our website at icpsr.umich.edu/sumprog. You can also contact the Summer Program at (734) 763-7400 or sumprog@icpsr.umich.edu

Public Sector Change Leadership – New Zealand Experience

This is advance notice of a world-class happening in Wellington, New Zealand in November 2015. Wellington, called 'the coolest little capital on the

planet', is celebrating 150 years as New Zealand's capital city. And New Zealand is 30 years on from the origins of groundbreaking New Public Management reforms, with a wealth of experience and learning to share.

The program planned is innovative, relevant, and engaging and is presented in three-part harmony:

1. Action learning leadership development built around a practical project with organizational outcomes (22 November to 2 December)
2. Change leadership conference reinforced by international experts and site visits (24-26 November)
3. Biennial writers and readers festival featuring public debate of challenging issues (27-28 November).

Political and public service change leaders attending the program will discover the value proposition of acquiring new thinking, practices, and connections.

To register, express your interest, or get more information, please contact profdev@vuw.ac.nz.

Summer Workshops on Research Methods

A special series of non-credit, no-fee, workshops for graduate students, 4th year students planning to begin graduate studies and others interested in brushing up on their basic research skills. You may attend any workshop or all of the workshops depending on your interest.

Please Note: During the workshop sessions dealing with statistics participants who wish, will have the opportunity to learn not only the mathematical theory but also how to calculate the statistics presented and how to use them in research (if they choose). All of this "technical work" will be presented and taught using EXCEL. Those who wish can purchase an inexpensive and very good guidebook to using Excel for statistical work. Pace, Larry (2013) *The Excel Data and Statistics Cookbook*, Third Ed. Available for \$14.83 (US) at <http://www.lulu.com> as an e-book (downloads as a PDF which is yours forever). MPPAL student can apply to have the cost of the book rebated as a program expense. If you do wish to learn the "technical work" it is advisable to bring a laptop to the relevant workshops.

For more information, please contact the workshop leader: Prof. Daniel Cohn, dcohn@yorku.ca or 416-736-2100 ext. 77276

Call for Papers / Proposals

The 5th International Disaster and Risk Conference IDRC Davos 2014

The 5th International Disaster and Risk Conference IDRC Davos 2014, held on 24 – 28 August 2014 in Davos, Switzerland is this year's key conference for *integrative disaster and risk management*.

Register before the 15 July and benefit from *15% off* the regular registration fee.

The IDRC Davos 2014 serves as the science and technology input platform for the post-2015 framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (HFA2) and provides recommendations towards the UN World Conference WCDRR in Sendai, Japan in March 2015.

Learn more about the extensive [scientific conference programme](#) and the outstanding set of international [keynote and plenary speakers](#) that await you in Davos.

Hurry, as the *15% reduction offer* is only valid until 15 July 2014.

We look forward to welcoming you and your ideas at the thought-provoking IDRC 2014 this August.

Please visit the following link for more information:

<http://idrc.info/home/>

MITACS Opportunities for Postdoctoral Fellowship & Mitacs Globalink Research Internship

Mitacs Elevate Postdoctoral Fellowship

- Two-year fellowship valued at \$115,000 (plus \$15,000 non-cash value in training)
- Customized training in professional and R&D management skills
- Long-term research project with a private-sector partner
- Open to all disciplines
- **Letter of Intent Deadline: August 6, 2014, at 5:00 pm PST**
- **Application Deadline: August 19, 2014, at 1:00 pm PST**

A more complete syllabus with additional suggested electronic readings will be posted shortly on Prof. Cohn's website on Monday May 5th at: <http://www.yorku.ca/dcohn/courses.html>

All sessions are in MC140 (The McLaughlin College Senior Common Room) and will start at 7pm. Light refreshments will be available.

- Thurs. May 29th Research as a Social Science and as a Public Policy Pursuit / Getting Started with Excel
- Thurs. June 5th From Question to Execution -- Research Design Ensuring Validity and Reliability: Dilemmas of Qualitative and Quantitative Research
- Thurs. June 19th Qualitative Research, Documentary Evidence and 'Qualitative Data Sets'
- Thurs. June 26th Qualitative Research: Key Informant Interviewing and Participant Observer Methods
- Thurs. July 17th Describing Data with Graphs and Numbers
- Thurs. July 24th Describing Relationships between Data with Graphs and Crosstabs
- Thurs. July 31st Margin of Error, Confidence and Significance (Z and one sample "t")
- Thurs. Aug 7th Are the relationships meaningful? Part I: Return of the Crosstab
- Thurs. Aug 14th Are the relationships meaningful? Part II: Two Sample "t" tests and ANOVA
- Thurs Aug 21st Regression Analysis

2014 Causal Inference Workshops: Main and Advanced

Northwestern University and Duke University are holding two workshops on Research Design for Causal Inference this year.

Main workshop: Monday – Friday, July 7-11, 2014 [at Northwestern]

Advanced workshop: Wednesday - Friday, August 13-15, 2014 [at Duke]

Both workshops will be taught by world-class causal inference researchers. Registration for each is limited to 100 participants. For information and to register: law.northwestern.edu/faculty/conferences/causalinference/

For more information, please visit [Mitacs Elevate](#) or contact elevate@mitacs.ca.

Mitacs Globalink Research Internship

Currently in its sixth year, the **Research Internship** is accepting faculty applications for summer 2015. Faculty supervise international senior undergraduates who travel to Canada to undertake research projects of mutual interest.

- 12-week research internship in summer 2015
- Open to professors in all disciplines
- Open to interns from Brazil, China, India, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Vietnam
- Mitacs oversees matching and travel logistics and provides student funding
- Competitive process for interns
- Submission deadline for faculty projects is **June 18, 2014**

For more information visit: www.mitacs.ca

Dupont Summit on Science, Technology, and Environmental Policy

The purpose of the **Dupont Summit** is to promote interdisciplinary dialogue about pressing issues related to science, technology and the environment. The conference mirrors the interest of the PSO and its partners in promoting conversation about current policy concern.

Prominent scholars, government officials, and other experts will be on hand, and we hope you will join in the discussion. Some of our past speakers include former Director of Central Intelligence James Woolsey, the Mayor of Grand Rapids, Michigan George Heartwell, Congressman Robert C. Scott, and Associate Director of Arizona State University's DC Office of the Consortium for Science, Policy, & Outcomes Mahmud Farooque, plus others from various organizations such as the National Science Foundation, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the National Academy of Engineering, as well as numerous prestigious colleges and universities. Visit our [website](#) for more details on the Dupont Summit or view last year's [program](#).

How to Submit a Proposal

In order to submit a paper for consideration, please send a 1-2 page abstract to **PSO Executive Director Daniel Gutierrez-Sandoval** at dgutierrez@ipsonet.org. Topics of interest include, but are by no means limited to, health, energy, national security, information technology and telecommunications, environment science and climate change, biotechnology, HIV/AIDS, space, and the ethical, legal, and social implications of existing and emerging technologies. The early consideration deadline is **October 5th, 2014**. Due to space constraints, this year we will be accepting fewer proposals for presentation. **Proposals submitted by the early deadline will be given priority.**

About the PSO

The Policy Studies Organization disseminates policy scholarship through its numerous academic journals, book series, conferences, and programs.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Matthew Brewer (Director of Outreach and Open Source Materials) either by email or by phone: 202-349-9288, brewer@ipsonet.org

Summer Opportunities

Call for Applications Summer School on Parliaments 2014 in Brussels

There are still places available for the 3rd Summer School on Parliaments 2014 in Brussels (September 8-19)! This is a great opportunity for graduate students and junior researchers to learn from and meet established scholars from the field of legislative studies.

The summer school is aimed at doctoral students and junior scholars with research interests in the areas of parliamentary and legislative studies. In addition, the Summer School may be of interest to junior professional researchers attached to the research and administrative services of national and regional parliaments.

More details on the schedule, accommodations and application procedure are at the following link:

http://standinggroups.ecpr.eu/parliaments/?page_id=53

Internships

To be continued in the next issue...