I am a second year undergraduate student majoring in Public Administration and specializing in Policy Analysis. A 'planner' at heart, I seek to work for the ministry of foreign affairs, and complete a master's degree following my undergraduate degree. So far, the BPA program has proved to be both challenging and relaxing. While many of the courses entail many readings, the material is both relevant and extremely fascinating. Depending on your interest levels in government and current political issues, reading some of the material can be like reading a novel or watching a movie. Much of the research required for the papers and assignments deepens your knowledge of global politics and history in a way that would be difficult to match with a textbook. Considering the size of the program, another feature I appreciate is the kind nature of the professors, who in my experience are approachable and actively invested in the success of their students.

I am excited about my new role as the Junior Ambassador for the Public Policy and Administration Student Association, while I also volunteer for Peace by PEACE - a conflict resolution and community-building program for elementary school students - and serve as an editor for the Vandoo (Vanier Newspaper).

While I am merely halfway through my undergraduate degree, there are certainly some tips I have picked up during this time. First and foremost, always ask questions. Ask your professors, ask your teaching assistants, and ask your peer mentors. In short, just ask questions. Even if you just want to confirm something, asking questions will never be a bad idea! Developing a relationship with those around you, especially your professors, teaching assistants and peers, will make your university experience less stressful and maximize the value of your degree. Next, it is very important to keep up with readings and due dates. I always find it useful to keep a word document or an agenda outlining all your courses and their associated readings and due dates. This can help you develop time management skills while ensuring you are not losing marks for late work, and performing to your full potential on examinations. My last tip is quite simple but makes a big difference. Take time out of every day to relax and reflect on your day while planning for the next. This can help to de-stress and take some pressure off the day! I look forward to completing my program at York University, and hope to meet you all :) - Eunice Patrick

Growing up, I always loved to help others. As the time to come to university neared, I found a way to bridge this passion of helping others with a career through a psychology program. While I found this area of study to be quite interesting, as first year came to an end, I found myself toying with the idea of switching into a government-gear program. Seemingly, psychology and public administration are very different programs, however to me, setting myself on a path to secure a government job, fulfilled my passion of helping others on a wider scale. This proved to be the right choice for me as I have found myself extensively motivate since making the change.

We are pleased to present our next SPPA student profile: Eunice Patrick
Job Opportunities

Manager, Fiscal and Budget Management Unit
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

Are you a strategic, client focused financial leader with extensive coordination, communication and relationship management skills? If so, consider this exciting opportunity to be the Manager, Fiscal and Budget Management Unit and lead enterprise-wide financial initiatives and provide financial support services, advice and recommendations to our senior executive, in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Corporate Finance and Controllership Branch.

The branch is accountable for the Ministry's fiscal corporate strategic planning, controllership, agency management and leadership for government finance and administration submissions to Treasury Board.

Location: 300 Water Street, North Tower, Peterborough
Salary Range: $93,050 - $106,350 per year

Specialized Knowledge:
- the ministry’s strategic direction, mandate and business principles
- government policy and program development and decision making processes
- government agenda, priorities and the ministry’s vision
- theories, principles, practices, techniques and methodologies of public policy and finance
- modern IT and data/document management concepts and government financial applications

Please apply online, only, by Monday, February 15, 2016.

Please click here to view details: http://www.ipac.ca/Manager-89394

Fish & Wildlife Legislation Specialist
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

Location: 300 Water St, Peterborough, East Region
Salary Range: $67,590 - $99,600 per year

Don't miss this chance to make your contribution toward ensuring sound management and protection of Ontario’s fisheries resources! Bring your policy specialist expertise to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry’s Fisheries Section, where you will lead and/or coordinate the development, evaluation, and implementation of a comprehensive and modernized fish and wildlife legislation and regulatory framework.

What can I expect to do in this role?
You will:
- plan, lead, and coordinate studies/projects to further strategic objectives for the development of a comprehensive and modernized fish and wildlife legislation and regulatory framework
- provide advice, input and options to senior management, central agencies, other ministries, industry and other stakeholders to ensure regulatory policies meet ministry objectives and stakeholder needs
- lead or participate in consultations with program staff, legal counsel, enforcement branch, stakeholders, other ministries and other jurisdictions on proposed legislative and regulatory policy proposals

Please apply online, only, at www.ontario.ca/careers, quoting Job ID 89080, by Wednesday, February 10, 2016.

Please click here to view details: http://www.ipac.ca/Specialist-15011E

Records Management & Privacy Specialist
Office of the Patient Ombudsman

The Excellent Care for All Act includes provisions that, once proclaimed, establish the Patient Ombudsman. The Patient Ombudsman will be responsible for receiving, resolving, and investigating complaints relating to Ontario’s community care access centre corporations, long-term care facilities and public hospitals.

The Office of the Patient Ombudsman (OPO) is a “start-up” organization. Join the OPO in the new and challenging role of Records Management & Privacy Specialist. Reporting to the Manager, Complaint Services, you will apply your records management expertise by establishing the OPO’s records management program, as well as developing processes relating to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, and the secure handling of personal health information.

Salary Range: $63,512 to $79,390 (under review)

Qualified applicants are invited to submit a covering letter and resume to HQORes@hqontario.ca, by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, February 12, 2016, quoting competition number 2016-021 as well as your name.

Please click here for more details: http://www.ipac.ca/Specialist-15016E
Internships

York International Global Internships

Positions range from working in one of Canada’s foreign offices, to mentoring kids in Kenya, to turtle monitoring in Costa Rica, to human rights work in Uganda, to teaching English in El Salvador. Find out more about these funded opportunities that are unique in Canada and exclusive to York students.

A Few Quick Facts:
- Not for credit. (Except for GL/ILST 4300 6.0)
- 3 month placements from May-August.
- The language required is English, unless otherwise stated.
- Global Internships are only offered with our designated partner organizations

Funding

Students who are selected to participate in our Global Internships automatically receive the York International Internship Award which is meant to assist in offsetting expenses incurred while pursuing the Global Internship. Each position comes with an award of $3000 which is offered in three installments.

All positions are unpaid.

Deadline to Apply: February 9 at 11:59pm

Questions: yiintern@yorku.ca
More information: http://yorkinternational.yorku.ca/intern-abroad/

Notices

Call for undergraduate student nominations to the Board of Governors

The Student Senator Caucus (SSC) oversees nominations for student members for the Board of Governors and makes a recommendation to them based upon the election results. The election of student governors rotates annually between undergraduate and graduate/professional students.

The Board of Governors appoints its members. The Student Senator Caucus is responsible for nominating those members, and in practice has done so through an election. This year, the SSC has appointed Sayjon Ariyarathnam as chief returning officer. Following the election results, SSC will confirm the results and recommend to the board that the candidate with the highest vote total be appointed to the board.

This year SSC is accepting nominations for undergraduate student nominees. Nominations will be accepted starting Monday, Feb. 1 at 9 am. The deadline for nominations is Friday, Feb. 12 at 4 pm.

For further information including nominations forms, election rules, regulations and important dates, visit the Secretariat’s website at: http://secretariat.info.yorku.ca/board-of-governors/nominations-to-the-board-of-governors/ or contact Elaine MacRae at ext. 22219

CALL FOR PAPERS

The European Group for Public Administration (EGPA) in close collaboration with Utrecht University is organizing the 2016 EGPA Annual Conference to be held from 24 to 26 August in Utrecht, The Netherlands. The event will be preceded by the PhD Symposium on 22 and 23 August.

The EGPA Conference is open to academics, young researchers and practitioners. You are invited to submit an abstract for proposal on topics addressed by the different study groups and seminars. Proposal and abstracts should be submitted and uploaded through the website: www.egpa-conference2016.org under “Registration - Submission”.

SYRIAN ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED (Need Arabic-speaking volunteers)

There is a group of volunteers who are in great need of Arabic speaking volunteers to support with the Syrian refugees at hotels where they are located.

The group is named SAV (Syrian Active Volunteers), http://www.savsyria.ca/ and registration can be done on their Facebook page.

Useful Links
- Shelters for Adults offer short-term accommodation
- Islamic Centers
- Arab Community Center
Office of the Master, McLaughlin College is pleased to present these Critical Thinking Series:

Critical Thinking and Test-Taking Strategies

Presented by: Prof. Robert A. Kenedy
Associate Professor, Department of Sociology

Critical Thinking and Test-Taking Strategies
Monday, February 1, 2016: 12:30pm

Critical Thinking: An Application to Academic Writing
Monday, March 7, 2016, 12:30pm

Senior Common Room, 140 McLaughlin College

- What does my professor want?
- How can I make the writing process less painful?
- Where can I get help?

This series will give students some practical strategies for critical thinking and tackling academic writing at the university level. Students are encouraged to bring along assignment questions from their courses.

Learn about the European Union in Europe; earn credits at York

EU Study Tour and Internship Info Session
Thursday, February 4, 2016: 2:45-3:30
In Ross South 664
Tour dates: May 8 – 28, 2016

Experience the European Union, learn about its institutions and intern in a European organization.

The European Study Tour addresses the institutions, evolution, and current issues of the EU through visits to the major institutions of the European Union, located in Brussels, Luxembourg, Strasbourg and Frankfurt. The Study Tour is not just about the EU, it takes place inside the EU, involving representatives of its administrative and political leadership.

Additionally, participants have the exceptional opportunity to receive briefings from and exchange views with representatives of other European organizations such as NATO and the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the EU. As well, participants will meet with representatives of European offices of significant international organizations, such as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. For students, the Tour is an excellent study opportunity: it is less a "course" than an immersion in European institutions, a program for self-directed and independent study.

For more information, contact Dr. Heather MacRae at hmacrae@yorku.ca
See also https://www.capilanou.ca/ europa/

Public lecture focuses on new ways to stamp out RACIAL PROFILING

York University’s School of Public Policy & Administration, York University’s Institute for Social Research, York University’s Centre for Human Rights and the Ontario Human Rights Commission invite you to attend a public lecture to look at new ways to stamp out racial profiling. Keynote speaker and renowned journalist Haroon Siddiqui will talk about existing and emerging forms of racial profiling, and a panel will offer a variety of perspectives.

Date: Tuesday, February 16, 2016
Time: 7 – 9 p.m.
Where: Moot Court Lecture Hall, Osgoode Hall

Keynote Speaker: Haroon Siddiqui
Panelists:
Anthony Morgan, African Canadian Legal Clinic
Chief Keeter Corston, Chapleau Cree First Nation
Faisal Bhabha, National Council of Canadian Muslims

The Ontario Human Rights Commission is seeking new ways to stamp out an old and all too persistent problem – racial profiling. This will include creating a new policy on combating racial profiling in a range of institutional and community settings. The policy will also help enable Ontario organizations, legal decision-makers and affected community members to better identify, assess, address and prevent racial profiling as a prohibited form of discrimination under the Ontario Human Rights Code.

This public lecture is part of a larger process to help the OHRC create a policy that reflects the many different experiences and perspectives of communities across Ontario.