Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Jason Lyall
State Coercion and Civilian Victimization in Civil War: Evidence from Airstrikes in Afghanistan
Noon, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

Jason Lyall is assistant professor of political science at Yale University. His research focuses on the dynamics of violence in both conventional and guerrilla warfare, with emphasis on Afghanistan and Chechnya. His works draws on diverse methods, ranging from historical and cross-national comparisons to field experiments at the subnational and local level. His work has been published in the American Political Science Review, International Organization, Journal of Conflict Resolution, and World Politics. Read more and register

Thursday, November 18, 2010

Nancy Fraser
Marketization, Social Protection, Emancipation: Toward a Neo-Polanyian Conception of Capitalist Crisis
5:30 p.m., 180 Hagerty Hall, 1770 College Road

Nancy Fraser is the Henry A. and Louise Loeb Professor of Political and Social Science at the New School for Social Research. Her areas of concentration include social and political theory, feminist theory, contemporary French and German thought. From 2008 to 2010 she was the Blaise Pascal International Research Chair at l'Ecole des hautes etudes en science sociales in Paris. Her recent publications include Scales of Justice: Reimagining Political Space in a Globalizing World (Columbia, 2008) and Adding Insult to Injury: Nancy Fraser Debates Her Critics (Sage Publications, 2008). Read more and register

Thursday, December 2, 2010

John L. Brooke
Into the American Civil War: Thoughts on the Character of the Nation-Building Event
5:30 p.m., 180 Hagerty Hall, 1770 College Road

John L. Brooke is Humanities Distinguished Professor of History at The Ohio State University. He is author of The Heart of the Commonwealth: Society and Political Culture in Worcester County Massachusetts, 1713-1861 (Cambridge, 1989) and The Refiner's Fire: The Making of Mormon Cosmology, 1644-1844 (Cambridge, 1994). His book manuscript,
Columbia: Civil Life on the Upper Hudson from the Revolution to the Age of Jackson, was published by University of North Carolina Press in November. He is also working a manuscript titled Habermas in Tocqueville's America: Civil Society and the Public Sphere in Early America. Read more and register

Other events

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Culture Contact: American Military Experiences Abroad
1:30 p.m., 002 Psychology Building
Sponsored by the Office of Undergraduate Research

Meet members of the Air Force, Army and Navy ROTC staffs and learn how military members are selected and educated for foreign assignments from 1:30-3 p.m. Wednesday (11/17) in 002 Psychology Building. Enjoy pizza and an interactive discussion on how cultures can thrive together through common experiences. This panel is part of the year-long Colloquium on Growing International Perspectives, developed by the Office of Undergraduate Research. RSVPs encouraged at uro@osu.edu, with subject heading "Military."

Previous events available for viewing

Elizabeth Kassab (left), research fellow at Erfut University, stands with Georges Tamer, M.S. Sofia Chair in Arabic
Kassab discusses enlightenment in Arabic thought

Watch a streaming video of Elizabeth Kassab, research fellow at Erfut University in Germany, speaking on "What is Enlightenment? Arab and Postcolonial Perspectives" on November 3, 2010, at the Mershon Center for International Security Studies. Kassab studies the philosophy of Western and non-Western culture with a focus on postcolonial debates. Her latest book, Contemporary Arab Thought: Cultural Critique in Comparative Perspective (Columbia, 2009), is an examination of critical thinking on culture in Arab and postcolonial debates.

Full Archive

Visit the Event Recordings page for the full list of streaming videos from previous events sponsored by the Mershon Center. Note: Streaming videos recorded before Fall 2010 require RealPlayer. If you do not have RealPlayer, you can download it free.

Mershon Center News

Mershon Center offers faculty, student research grants

Each year, the Mershon Center for International Security Studies holds a competition for Ohio State faculty and students to apply for research grant funds. Grants may be used for a variety of purposes including travel, research, seminars, conferences, interviews, experiments, workshops and more. Applications must be for projects related to the study of national security in a global context. We are also interested in projects related to Ohio State’s global gateways in China (2010), India (2011) and Brazil (2012), as well as policy issues in biosecurity and cybersecurity.

For more information, including an application form and instructions, please see http://mershoncenter.osu.edu/grants/grants/grants.htm. The deadline is January 31, 2011.

Peace Corps information session on November 18

Jack Campbell, the Peace Corps representative for The Ohio State University, will speak at 3 p.m. on Thursday, November 18, in 145 Hagerty Hall. This Peace Corps information session will also allow students the opportunity to ask questions. This event is offered by the Foreign Language Center as part of their Career Building Event series. To reserve a spot, contact Rebecca Bias at bias.3@osu.edu by Tuesday, November 16.

'Origins' examines Brazil as 'country of the future'

Origins: Current Events in Historical Perspective is pleased to announce the publication of its December 2010 issue, featuring "South America's 'Sleeping Giant' Wakes: Brazil's 2010 Election," by Mershon Center affiliate Sarah Brooks.

Eight years ago, the prospect of a victory by the leftist Workers Party candidate Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva in Brazil's 2002 presidential election sent shockwaves through international financial markets, prompting the International Monetary Fund to step in with an emergency loan to steady the nerves of investors fearing default by a Lula government.

This year, things could not be more different. President Lula da Silva is completing his second term with an 80 percent popularity rating, Brazil has paid off its foreign currency-denominated debt, and has become a net creditor to the IMF. With the recent discovery of vast reserves of deep sea oil, and having won the chance to host both the
2016 Summer Olympics and 2014 World Cup in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil seems poised to fulfill its perennial promise of becoming the "country of the future," despite many challenges ahead.

Origins is a free, non-commercial publication from the Public History Initiative and eHistory in Ohio State University's History Department. Each month, an academic expert analyzes a particular current issue -- political, cultural, or social -- in a larger, deeper historical context. In addition to the analysis provided in each month's feature, Origins also includes podcasts, images, maps, graphics, timelines, and other material to complement the article.

Origins can be found at [http://ehistory.osu.edu/osu/origins/](http://ehistory.osu.edu/osu/origins/). The podcast is found at [http://ehistory.osu.edu/osu/origins/podcasts.cfm](http://ehistory.osu.edu/osu/origins/podcasts.cfm). You can also follow Origins on Twitter: OriginsOSU.

Recent topics include student loans, the global food crisis, marriage rights, women in Zimbabwe, the legacy of 1989 in Eastern Europe, and Darwin's American reception. Next month: "Where Have You Gone Holden Caufield?: Why We Aren't 'Alienated' Anymore," by David Steigerwald.

**About Mershon Memo**

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