MIAMI UNIVERSITY | COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCE
Department of Global and Intercultural Studies

Global and Intercultural Studies Department Newsletter

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Fall Course Registration Edition



GIC Courses Fall 2026

Register for Fall 2026 GIC Courses

It's already time to start thinking about the next academic year. Below are select classes taught by GIC faculty. Look across all columns for some cross-lists! See the full GIC course list here!

International Studies	Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies	Latin American Studies	Religion	American Studies	Critical Race and Ethnic Studies
• ITS 201 *Intro to ITS* • ITS 202 *Problem-Solving in ITS* • ITS 301 *Intercultural Relations* • ITS 333 *Development and Inequality* • ITS 365A/ WGS 370M *Leadership, Gender, Power* • ITS 402Y *Global Urban Futures*	• WGS 201 *Living in a Gendered World* • WGS 202 *LGBTQIA+ Lives* • WGS 211 *Writing with Purpose* • WGS 301 *Women & Difference* • WGS 355 *Feminist Theory* • WGS/GEO 406/ GEO 506 *Indigenous Peoples and Their Sacred Lands* • WGS 435/535 *Queer Theory* • WGS 601 *Intro Graduate*	• LAS 208 *Intro to LAS* • LAS 215 *Latin America in the US* • LAS 315 *Latin American Diaspora* • LAS/HST 319 *Revolutions in Latin America* • LAS/HST 360T *Mexico since Independence* • LAS/HST 385 *Race, Science, & Disease in the Americas*	• REL 101 *Rethinking Religion* • REL 203 *Global Religions of India* • REL 226 *Rethinking Islam* • REL/AMS 241 *Religions of American Peoples* • REL/WGS 313 *Marriage Across Cultures*	• AMS 180 (Honors) *Perfect World: Imagining a Good Society* • AMS 205 *Intro to American Cultures* • AMS 207 *America: Global and Intercultural* • AMS 303 *Consumer Culture* • AMS/HST 304 *History, Memory, Tradition* • AMS 305 *American Icons*	• CRE 151 *Intro to CRE* • CRE 221 *African American History* • CRE 287 *Anti-Racism Social Movements*

Women's Studies

Featured Fall Courses

Here are a just a few descriptions from our Fall course offerings to get you excited for registration!

ITS 365A /WGS 370M Leadership, Gender, Power

Taught by **Cristina Alcalde**

Examines leadership from multiple perspectives, as a social practice shaped by gender and culture that intersects with power. Case studies from across the globe will help us bridge leadership theories and practices and analyze the intersections among leadership, gender, and power. Students will also have the opportunity to reflect on and explore their own leadership practices.

Meets **TR 10:05-11:25**

LAS/HST 360T Mexico since Independence

Taught by **Elena Jackson Albarrán**

An exploration of the emergence of Mexico as a modern nation in the 19th and 20th centuries that compares popular and official historical narratives, through art, politics, food, labor politics, children's literature, heroes, state- and nation-building campaigns, and more. Emphasis on US-Mexican relations and the Mexican Revolution and its evolving lore.

Meets **TR 10:05-11:25**

ITS 402Y A Global Urban Futures (capstone)

Taught by **Indivar Jonnalagadda**

This class rethinks international relations through cities, where students analyze global urban dynamics and develop evidence-based policy solutions for complex, multi-stakeholder challenges.

Meets **MW 10:05-11:25**

LAS 315 Latin American Diasporas

Taught by **Juan Carlos Albarrán**

Explores the histories and experiences of Puerto Rican, Mexican, Cuban, and other Latin American communities in the Midwest and beyond.

ITS 301 A Intercultural Relations

Taught by **Indivar Jonnalagadda**

This course equips students with interdisciplinary frameworks and practical skills to navigate cultural differences, analyze real-world cases of

AMS 207 America: Global and Intercultural

Taught by **Oana Godeanu-Kenworthy**

Learn about globalization through pop culture, fast fashion, and food. Acquire interdisciplinary skills to reflect on American

Meets **MW 10:05-11:20**

cooperation and conflict, and build effective solutions in varied global contexts.

Meets MW **11:40-1:00**

culture in a global context.

Meets **MWF, multiple sections.**

LAS/HST 385 Race, Science & Disease in the Americas

Taught by **José Amador**

This course traces scientific theories of race and disease from early European overseas expansion to the present. It focuses on three questions: How have changing ideas about race shaped experiences of disease? Why have epidemics generated race-making practices? And how can we judge the actions of people whose scientific discoveries brought both major medical advances and profound human suffering?

Meets **TR 2:50-4:10**

LAS/HST 319B Revolutions and Social Movements in Latin America

Taught by **Elena Jackson Albarrán**

Compare and contrast leftist revolutionary movements in Latin America's long Cold War, through case studies on Cuba, Nicaragua, Colombia, Peru, and Venezuela. Learn revolutionary theories, dig into declassified archival documents, and develop oral debate skills.

Meets **TR 1:15-2:35**

WGS/GEO 406/GEO 506 Indigenous Peoples and Their Sacred Lands

Taught by **Sande Garner**

An in-depth look at topics related to policy and land management practices that impact indigenous peoples nationally, as well as internationally. The major focus of the various case studies is on designated sacred lands of Native American tribes within the United States. The course provides students with interdisciplinary training about indigenous cultures and human rights.

Meets **TR 11:40-1:00**

Upcoming Events

International Alumni Webinar Series: Living Abroad

This live-streamed webinar series, facilitated by **Cristina Alcalde** through Alumni Relations, brings together alumni panels to provide expert advice about the logistics and opportunities of living abroad in range of contexts.



Raising a Family Abroad | Wednesday, April 1, 7am ET

This panel brings together Miami alumni to share their experiences raising children and building families in Europe. Perfect for anyone curious about parenting abroad or living overseas. Register here.

The Realities of Living and Working in Another Country | Thursday, April 9, 12pm ET

This panel draws on the experience and expertise of Miami alums living abroad to offer practical and personal insights and tips for students and alumni wondering what it is like to move to another country to live and work. Register here.

Register for Webinar

QT-Con: Creating and Crafting Community

QT-Con 2026



Welcome Space and Market | Wednesday, April 8 and Thursday, April 9, 10am-5pm **|** Armstrong Student Center

Featuring LGBTQ+ artists and vendors, and drop-in crafting 11am-1pm.

Presentations | Wednesday, April 8 and Thursday, April 9, 9am-12pm and 1pm-4pm **|** Armstrong 1082

Community Craft Event | Wednesday, April 8, 4:30-6pm **|** Armstrong 2080 and 2084

This free event will take place in the Armstrong Student Center, and this year's theme is **Creating and Crafting Community**. Please plan to come out to some presentation sessions, join us for our community crafting event, and check out the Armstrong Atrium both days for our new LGBTQ+ Market and Welcome Space where we will also have a drop-in crafting event available.

QT-Con Presentation Schedule

GIC News

Vanderbush and Albarrán at Foreign Policy Leadership Council



On February 26, **Walt Vanderbush** and **Juan Carlos Albarrán** were invited speakers at "At a Hemispheric Crossroads: U.S. Global Policy and the Future of Latin America," an event hosted by the Foreign Policy Leadership Council in Cincinnati. Drawing from their respective expertise studying, traveling to, and leading exchange programs in the Americas they spoke about shifting regional alliances and emerging issues in Central and South America and the Caribbean, highlighting issues in Cuba, Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, Costa Rica, Panama, and Brazil.

History of Migrant Detention Event Draws Full House



In February, Dr. Brianna Nofil visited from William & Mary, presenting on her recent book *The Migrant's Jail: An American History of Mass Incarceration* (Princeton, 2024). Her visit resonated with campus and community audience members alike, drawing nearly 400 people to attend her talk and participate in engaged conversations about the historical and evolving roll of ICE. The event was co-sponsored by the Grayson Kirk fund and the Robert E. Strippel Memorial Fund for Continuing Dialogue on Justice and Human Rights. Thank you to **José Amador** for taking the lead in coordinating GIC's role in this meaningful visit.

Recording of Brianna Nofiil's Talk

International Women's Day StoryCircle Fosters Global Solidarity and Community



Original poster prints created by Elena Jackson Albarrán's capstone students.

This March, faculty, students, and staff from across the university gathered in an intimate, affirming, and empowering evening to recognize the historical and contemporary meanings of **International Women's Day** (March 8) commemorations in a StoryCircle event hosted in collaboration with Global Initiatives. Participants shared stories from India, the UK, Argentina, Romania, Mexico, Turkey, China, Brazil, Japan, Macedonia, and Vietnam. The evening was enhanced by an exhibit of original student artwork in the form of linocut prints inspired by historical photographs of International Women's Day marches from around the world.

Model UN Group Organizes Conference for High Schoolers



On Feb. 28-Mar. 1, the Miami University Model UN group hosted its 17th Annual Model UN Conference, hosting 80+ high school students featuring crisis committees on the X-Men Quiet Council, Salem Witch Trials, and a Papal Conclave. Organized by Secretary-General Jacob Pinder, Deputy Secretary-General Cassie Cannon and a team of 20 other students, the event included ITS majors **Mari Angelopoulos** (X-Men chair) and **Grayson Barovian** (Conclave team). The group's faculty advisor, GIC professor **Indivar Jonnalagadda** is rumored to have made special appearances in a couple of story lines. He says, "the undergraduate organizers and the high school participants demonstrated tremendous skill in debating, negotiating, and improvisational story-telling."

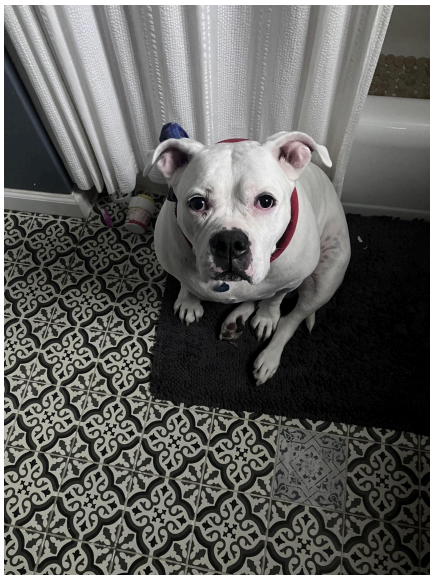
Panel Discussion on the U.S.-Israel-Iran War



Panelists included students McHael Jones and Isa Obradovich, and faculty members Kate Dannies, Rosemary Pennington, and Nathan French

The GIC community responded to this month's unfolding events in the Middle East, pulling together a timely event titled "The U.S.-Israel-Iran War: A Roundtable Discussion," in which faculty members Rosemary Pennington, **Kate Dannies**, and **Nathan French** engaged students, and community members in exploring the broader history of the conflict, regional responses, evolving media narratives, and U.S. foreign policy debates.

GIC Featured Pet



Big Beautiful Bully-Breed **Sugar** restores much-needed equilibrium in the **Elena Jackson Albarrán** and **Juan Carlos Albarrán** household, offsetting their busy schedules with much-needed chill vibes, clocking about 20 hours of sleep a day. While she has no business being as muscular as she is, Sugar puts everyone's lives in danger for about three to five minutes of intense zoomies daily.

At-a-Glance: Dates and Deadlines

- **April 1** International Alumni Webinar: Living Abroad
- **April 8-9** QT-Con
- **April 15** GIC Department Meeting
- **April 20** Career Day
- **April 23** GIC End-of-Year Celebration (4:30pm MMH 212)

- **April 29** Stephanie Brehm, author of Stephen Colbert book on faith and humor (5pm, TBA)

Submit newsletter content to Elena Jackson Albarrán at albarrej@miamioh.edu

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