



EAST - WEST CENTER
EDUCATION PROGRAM

East-West Center Wednesday Evening Seminar

Keoni Auditorium
Hawai'i Imin International Conference Center
September 3-November 5, 2008
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Syllabus: Fall 2008
The Politics of Globalization and Social Networks in the Asia-Pacific

INTRODUCTION

In *Globalization and Its Discontents*, Joseph Stiglitz defines *globalization* as a “closer integration of the countries and peoples of the world which has been brought about by the enormous reduction of costs of transportation and communication, and the breaking down of artificial barriers to the flows of goods, services, capital knowledge, and (to a lesser extent) people across borders.” Globalization has become a buzzword over the last few decades, and is generally used to address developing political, economic, and socio-cultural trends. While the argument that the world is “shrinking” or becoming “flat” is open for debate, with globalization we have seen the formation of social networks and an interconnectiveness unparalleled in human history. Such occurrences can be seen in the Asia-Pacific, a region of the world that has both simultaneously benefited and suffered due to globalization. It is the political, economic, and social transformations currently taking place in the Asia-Pacific that this semester’s Wednesday Evening Seminar (WES) seeks to explore.

We will begin the series with a presentation by Dr. Allison Imrie who will discuss the emergence of Dengue Fever in the Pacific. Following Imrie’s talk, Dr. Scott Macleod will introduce the utility of a “network perspective” for understanding current and emerging trends in the Asia-Pacific region. This will be followed by Dr. Sankaran Krishna’s presentation on the impact of globalization on the third world. In the sixth week, Dr. Ramsay Taum will introduce the important role a “Place Based Cultural Business Model” can play in a globalizing world. Dr. Gerard Finin will then discuss the effects of globalization within the Pacific Islands. This will be followed by Dr. Melissa Finucane’s discussion on how cultural values and cognitive, emotional, and socio-psychological factors affect decisionmaking and human judgment. And, lastly, Christopher McNally will give a presentation on China’s economic ascent and the circumstances this rise has the regional and globally. The seminar will conclude with group discussions on the outcome of the U.S. Presidential Election.

OVERVIEW OF THE WEDNESDAY EVENING SEMINAR

The Wednesday Evening Seminar (WES) is a weekly gathering of Center participants in their first fall and spring semester. WES brings together fellows from diverse academic disciplines, geographic areas, life experiences, and East-West Center programs to learn and dialogue on issues of common concern that impact the U.S. and Asia Pacific region.

While the graduate student experience tends to focus attention on highly specialized fields of study at the University, the Wednesday Evening Seminar challenges EWC fellows to explore regional issues that may extend beyond their range of expertise or comfort zones. Issues are explored through invited speakers, films and facilitated small group discussions. Through this process EWC fellows forge bonds among themselves that ultimately strengthen the Center's diverse, global community.

Recent or upcoming Wednesday Evening Seminar themes:

- Sustainability: Behind the Veneer of the Rhetoric
- Creating Futures for Asia and the Pacific: Choices and Behaviors
- Empowering People for the Future of Asia and the Pacific
- Risk and Security in Asia and the Pacific

HISTORY OF THE WEDNESDAY EVENING SEMINAR

As with many innovative activities at the East-West Center, this seminar series emerged from student recommendations and student-led action. Degree fellows perceived the need for a unifying intellectual experience in an increasingly diversified student program. The Wednesday Evening Seminar began as a series of Center-wide discussions to explore the concept, and emerged as a student leadership project that developed into a distinctive, on-going feature of the student program.

Currently, the seminar is planned and organized by EWC degree-fellow interns, with the support of the Center's Education and Research programs staff.

The Seminar is required for degree fellows during their first fall and spring semesters, and fall semester for APLP fellows. Continuing fellows are welcome to attend and often continue to participate in the seminar series.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The overall goal of the East-West Center is to contribute to a peaceful, prosperous, and just Asia-Pacific community, thus serving as a vigorous hub for cooperative research, education, and dialogue on critical issues of common concern to the Asia-Pacific region and the United States. To reach this goal, facilitating understanding among the students of the United States, Asia and the Pacific who

study together at the East-West Center is one of the Wednesday Evening Seminar's most important endeavors. Thus, discussion of the empowerment in Asia and the Pacific can lead to shared knowledge of common concerns that affect our collective futures.

Within this context, specific objectives will aid with communication and enhance the learning process. Nine objectives are listed in the schedule to clarify the educational process of the Wednesday Evening Seminar.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance and Participation: Students must attend all course meetings and participate in group discussions. If you are unable to attend a session, please contact Mendl Djunaidy (e-mail provided below). Coming to the Wednesday Evening Seminar should be an engaging and fun way to learn about the Asia-Pacific region!

Readings: Some of the speakers may have articles or other materials for students. These documents may be sent over the East-West Center e-mail list. Thus, it is always wise to check the e-mail list for announcements!

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions concerning attendance, please contact Mendl Djunaidy, Associate Dean of the Education Program at DjunaidM@EastWestCenter.org.

Other questions or concerns about the course can be directed to the following:

John Friend, Planning Intern: jfriend@hawaii.edu

Jiwnath Ghimire, Facilitators/Communications Intern: ghimirejiban@gmail.com

Kongkea Chhoeun, Technical/Administration Intern: kongkeachhoeun@yahoo.com

Terry Bigalke, Director Education Program, bigalket@EastWestCenter.org

Mary Hammond, Dean, Education Program, hammondm@EastWestCenter.org

WEBSITE

The syllabus, weekly announcements, presentations and other reading materials are also posted on the East West Center website's section for the seminar:

<http://www.eastwestcenter.org/education/student-programs/wednesday-evening-seminar/>

SPRING 2008

DATE	PRESENTER	TOPIC	FORMAT
Week#1 9/3/08	Dr. Allison Imrie Assistant Professor, Epidemiology Office of Public Health Studies (OPHS) University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Email: imrie@pbrc.hawaii.edu	"Emerging Infectious Diseases in the Pacific: Dengue Fever"	Lecture
Week#2 9/10/08	<i>Group Introductions/Activities (No Speaker)</i>	***Get to Know Each Other***	Small Group Discussion
Week#3 9/17/08	Dr. Scott Macleod Senior Education Specialist East-West Center Tel: 808-944-7373 Email: MacLeodS@EastWestCenter.org	"Webs and Flows: Networks and Power"	Lecture, Small Group Discussion, Q&A
Week#4 9/24/08	Dr. Sankaran Krishna Professor Department of Political Science University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Tel: 808-956-8841 Email: Krishna@hawaii.edu	"Globalization from a Third World Perspective"	Lecture, Small Group Discussion, Q&A
No Seminar This Week			
Week#5 10/08/08	Dr. Ramsay Taum Director External Relations/Community Partnerships School of Travel Industry Management University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Tel: 808-956-4884 Email: ramsay@hawaii.edu	"Applying Placed Based Cultural Business Models in a Globalized World"	Lecture, Small Group Discussion, Q&A
Week#6 10/15/08	Dr. Gerard Finin Deputy Directory East-West Center Tel: 808-944-7751 Email: FininJ@EastWestCenter.org	"Islands of Globalization"	Lecture, Small Group Discussion, Q&A

DATE	PRESENTER	TOPIC	FORMAT
Week#7 10/22/08	Dr. Melissa Finucane Senior Fellow East-West Center Tel: 808-944-7254 Email: FinucanM@EastWestCenter.org	“Human Judgment, Decision Making, and Risk Perception”	Lecture
Week#8 10/29/08	Dr. Christopher McNally Fellow East-West Center Tel: 808-944-7239 Email: mcnallyc@EastWestCenter.org	“Sino-Capitalism: Globalization in the Age of China’s Economic Ascent”	Lecture, Small Group Discussion, Q&A
Week#9 11/5/08	<i>Group Presentations on Advising the new U.S. President</i> <i>End of the Term Party</i>	“Advising the New U.S. President about Issues Pertinent to the Asia-Pacific”	Small Group Discussion