

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK



INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK 2023

The Gaston College Global Education team invites students, faculty, and staff to our celebration of International Education Week.

From Monday, November 13 through Friday, November 17 Gaston College will present many events that are designed to promote and enhance global awareness and inspire cultural competence within Gaston College students. All events are free and open to the public.

Please direct questions regarding International Education Week to:

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MONDAY - NOVEMBER 13

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. – *The Quiet Girl*

Feature Film: Rural Ireland 1981. A quiet, neglected girl is sent away from her dysfunctional family to live with foster parents for the summer. She blossoms in their care, but in this house where there are meant to be no secrets, she discovers one.

Location: RCB 341

10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. – *An Irish Goodbye*

Feature Film: In rural Northern Ireland, a pair of estranged brothers reunite following their mother's untimely death.

Location: RCB 341

12:00 p.m. - “Medellín, Colombia: A Journey through Vibrant Art and History”

Explore the transformation of one of South America’s most vibrant and colorful cities — Medellín, Colombia! Join our local guide in visiting iconic sites, such as the Memory Museum and the sculptures of Fernando Botero, while engaging through quizzes and interactive polls.

Presenter: Study Abroad Association.

Location and Zoom link: RCB 341 or on [ZOOM](#)

TUESDAY - NOVEMBER 14

12:00 p.m. – “Campus Community: The All-In-One Global Engagement Platform”

Join us to discover more about SAA’s sister company, Campus Community, and the Global Campus Software Suite! A next-generation, all-in-one global engagement hub, Global Campus provides institutions with effective solutions for International Enrollment Management, ISSS Community Engagement, Education Abroad Management, Virtual Global Education and International Alumni Engagement. Meet with its founder, Christian Alyea, and explore the future of international engagement!

Presenter: Study Abroad Association

Location and Zoom link: RCB 341 or on [ZOOM](#)

WEDNESDAY - NOVEMBER 15

9:00 a.m. – “Ghana: Global Mamas, a Fair Trade Organization”

Join Study Abroad Association Live from Accra, Ghana, and meet local artisans and businesses such as Global Mama OSU to discuss fair trade and more! In this live session, connect with leaders of Global Mamas, a unique, woman-run Fair Trade Organization! Team members from both Ghana and the United States will share the history and practices of their organization, what exactly “Fair Trade” means, and how you can integrate fair trade choices into your life.

Presenter: Study Abroad Association

Location and Zoom link: RCB 341 or on [ZOOM](#)

1:00 p.m. – “A Global Soundtrack: Choosing the Music for the Voyager Golden Record”

In 1977, NASA sent out two phonograph records on the space probes Voyager 1 and Voyager 2. The playlist on these records contains varied musical selections from many cultures. This includes traditional folk music from numerous countries as well as European classical music and American popular music. This presentation will discuss the music of this playlist (with examples), and will examine the process of choosing music for inclusion. We may explore how--if the project was undertaken today--we would create a similar collection.

Presenter: Dr. Christine Gengaro has taught in the music department at Los Angeles City College for nearly twenty years. An avid writer and researcher, she often gravitates towards topics that address music and popular media or music and literature. Dr. Gengaro has published two books: *Listening to Stanley Kubrick: The Music in His Films* (Scarecrow Press, 2013) and *Experiencing: Chopin* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2017), and has recently edited the Irwell Edition of Anthony Burgess’s *This Man and Music* (Manchester University Press, 2020). She has presented papers in the United States, Europe, and Southeast Asia, and her published work appears in numerous journals and books, including *The Encyclopedia of Hip Hop* and *The Worlds of Back to the Future*. Dr. Gengaro has been the program annotator for the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra since 2007.

Location and Zoom link: RCB 341 or on [ZOOM](#)

2:00 p.m. – “From Fields to Frontlines: Navigating Food Security in Conflict Zones”

Panel Discussion: The impact of Russia’s war against Ukraine on global food security.

Presenter: Olga Trofimtseva and Oleg Nivievskyi

Location: [ZOOM](#)

THURSDAY - NOVEMBER 16

11:00 a.m. – “Belgium: Size Does Not Matter”

A leisurely walk through the rich history and life of a small country in Europe. A presentation richly illustrated and definitely not boring.

Presenter: Yves Buelens was born, bred, educated and is still living in Brussels. He enjoys reading good literature even though he works in hotel management software implementation. He also sits on the Board of Trustees at the International Anthony Burgess Foundation in Manchester, UK.

Location and Zoom link: RCB 341 or on [ZOOM](#)

12:00 p.m. – SAA 360 GLE

The new Ghana 360 GLE™ content is a multidisciplinary tour focused on diversity. Explore Accra, Cape Coast, and Kumasi in this cross-country journey focusing on Anthropology, History, Culture, Agriculture, and more! Ghana boasts a rich cultural heritage, making it a captivating destination to immerse yourself in diverse traditions and history.

Presenter: Study Abroad Association.

Location and Zoom link: RCB 341 or on [ZOOM](#)

12:00 p.m. – “Is World War Three (III) a Hyper Object? (and, more importantly, when did it start?)”

What if World War III broke out and no one noticed? What if no one noticed for the same reason that for a long time no one noticed that industrialisation was causing the climate to change? What if World War III is a hyperobject? We live at a time when empires are decaying, arising and reformulating themselves in new structures and alliances. Does knowing this help us? Are we Europe in 1914, on the brink of global conflagration? Or more like the great empires of the Bronze Age, which collapsed in darkness three millennia ago following their own tragic but elusive hyperobjective moment? AI might yet save us from ourselves, if only it too were not a hyperobject, or worse, the oscillating image of multiple potential hyperobjects, each one more alien and incomprehensible than the last. So, if we can't rely on a digital messiah, we might be forced to resolve our current issues the old-fashioned way. No, not war. The OTHER old-fashioned way.

Presenter: Dr. Jim Clarke is a researcher with Sapienship, the social impact NGO founded by Itzik Yahav and Professor Yuval Noah Harari, the global intellectual and author of *Sapiens* and other bestsellers. Dr. Clarke previously taught literature and journalism at universities in Ireland, England and Turkey. Prior to his academic career, Dr. Clarke worked as a national newspaper reporter in Dublin for two decades. He is the author of two monographs and a novel, and holds a PhD in English Literature from Trinity College Dublin. Recently, he became a Fellow of the Royal Society for the Arts.

Location and Zoom link: RCB 341 or on [ZOOM](#)

1:00 p.m. - Religious Dimensions of the Russo-Ukrainian Conflict

Ukraine is home to several versions of Christianity, mostly some form of the Orthodox Church. From 1990 to today, there has been a great deal of turmoil within the Orthodox Churches in Ukraine, specifically between the churches loyal to Russia and independent churches. This presentation aims to help explain what Orthodox Christianity is and its role in the current conflict.

Presenter: Dr. Mary Morton is a Philosophy and Religion instructor and Humanities Lead at Gaston College.

Location: RCB 341

FRIDAY - NOVEMBER 17

9:00 a.m. – Japanese Tea Ceremony

Join us for a unique online live workshop led by Professor Randy Channell Soei, a Canadian tea master and expert in the Urasenke tradition. Discover the Japanese culture and art that blend perfectly in a traditional tea ceremony! Explore the world of tea in an enlightening and enriching experience guided by one of the few non-Japanese citizens authorized to conduct tea ceremonies and teach this ancient tradition.

Presenter: Study Abroad Association

Location and Zoom link: RCB 341 or on [ZOOM](#)

10:00 a.m. – “From A Cattle Herder in Rural Ghana to A Fulbright Scholar-In-Residence in America: Inspiring the Next Generation for Academic and Professional Excellence”

Dr. Akudugu currently works at the University for Development Studies (UDS) in Ghana where he heads the Institute for Interdisciplinary Research (IIR): My presentation will focus on inspiring young people to aspire for excellence irrespective of where they currently find themselves. Borne to peasant farmers in a remote rural village in northern Ghana where there is endemic poverty and deprivation, I started off life as a cattle herder. My parents had no opportunity to attend school and so farming was a natural choice for them. They were by local standards successful farmers because they could feed us all year round and had made some investments in cattle. To protect these investments children had to devote their time in tendering for the animals and this job was mostly reserved for boys. Thus, at age six (6) when my contemporaries were starting school, I was starting cattle herding before beginning school at the age of fourteen (14) years. Despite the late start, I moved from a cattle herder in 1993 to a Commonwealth Scholar in 2011 and to a Fulbright Scholar in 2023; from cattle herder in 1993 to an Associate Professor in 2020.

Presenter: Dr. Mamudu Abunga Akudugu is an Associate Professor of Agricultural Economics and holds a PhD in Livelihoods (International and Rural Development) from the University of Reading, United Kingdom; Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) in Agricultural Economics from the University of Ghana, Ghana; and Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) in Agriculture Technology from the University for Development Studies, Tamale – Ghana. Dr. Akudugu is currently an Associate

Professor of Agricultural Economics at the Institute for Interdisciplinary Research (IIR) of the University for Development Studies (UDS). He is Director of the Directorate of Research, Innovation and Partnership Services (DRIPS).

Location and Zoom link: RCB 341 or on [ZOOM](#)

11:00 a.m. – “Epidemiology, Chile, and Fulbright Scholars”

Paz Cook, a doctoral student at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in epidemiology, will be discussing her previous research experiences in Chile and Latinoamerica, and collaborations with United States’ institutions. She will also discuss her interactions with international fellows at UNC and talk about her research on the Chilean population.

Presenter: Paz Cook is an international Ph.D. student in Epidemiology at UNC, from Santiago, Chile, in South America. Her research is centered around identifying mechanisms to enhance cancer screening through non-invasive methods at the population level, with the ultimate goal of improving early detection in disadvantaged groups to reduce inequalities. She comes with prior experience conducting research in various socioeconomic settings, ranging from the most affluent populations in northern Chile to the most underprivileged and densely populated neighborhoods in Santiago. In these diverse settings, she has successfully implemented projects tailored to the unique geographic and cultural realities and has also established and led research teams. Throughout her career, she has received numerous awards, with the most prestigious being the Fulbright scholarship, which allowed her to pursue her doctoral degree.

During her studies at UNC, Paz has observed the limited representation of international Latin American students and has made it a personal mission to identify access barriers and develop solutions to enhance student enrollment and participation. Currently, she serves as the Co-President of the Latine Graduate and Professional Student Association at UNC and holds an executive role within the International Graduate Student Association of the Gillings School of Global Public Health. Paz firmly believes that international collaboration and the exchange of knowledge and culture are crucial for a better understanding of health issues. In line with this belief, she works as a Bilingual Research Assistant at the Global Initiatives within the School of Nursing

Location and Zoom link: RCB 341 or on [ZOOM](#)

Monday - Thursday - November 13-17 - Gaston College Library Display for November

This year's International Education Week will be held from Monday November 13 to Thursday November 17, 2023. This month's selection of library materials will focus on resources relevant to International Education Week, which is a joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education. Its purpose: to promote programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn, and exchange experiences. Additionally, this collection focuses on ideas such as globalization and international film, among other academic subjects. There is also a LibGuide to celebrate International Education Week, and it is available at the following website:

<https://gaston.libguides.com/internationaleducation>

Presenter: Gaston College Morris Library

Location: Gaston College Morris Library, Dallas Campus