

International Education Week



INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK 2024

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

From Monday, November 18 – Friday, November 22, Gaston College will present events that are designed to promote and enhance global awareness and inspire cultural competence.

All events are free and open to the public.

Please direct questions regarding International Education Week to:

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MONDAY, NOV. 18, 2024

9AM-10AM

TITLE: "The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: Religious Undertones and Overtones"

LOCATIONS: RCB 341

ZOOM: <https://gaston-edu.zoom.us/j/96548808381?pwd=mlDTPS62QFYm4q0tu2wn8aZd3eCWf0.1>

SPEAKER BIO: "Dr. Mary Morton is the Humanities Lead and Co-Chair of the REACH (Racial Equity for Adult Credentials in Higher Ed) project. She has taught various religious studies and philosophy courses at Gaston since 1993."

SUMMARY: "Dr. Mary Morton will explore the religious aspects of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Topics will include the significance of the geographical region to the Islamic and Jewish religions. Historically, this is a war that has been on and off since the Jews were exiled from Israel almost 2,000 years ago. Long-term impacts on Christianity will also be considered. The event will begin with a brief discussion of the intersection of all three religions and their ties to Jerusalem. Participants are invited to join in and discuss these somewhat controversial issues."

12PM

TITLE: SAA Presents: "Professional Development Workshop: 10 Ways to Boost Study Abroad Participation"

LOCATION:

ZOOM: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAocuyrrz0vE9DWPdbZdRLkssTY3tgax5W3#/registration>

SUMMARY: "This workshop is designed to equip institutions with strategies to boost student engagement in Study Abroad programs. By focusing on accessibility from the beginning of the academic journey, participants will learn to implement various tools and innovative platforms that enhance participation. The session will guide attendees through designing new courses, improving communication, and implementing effective Education Abroad (EA) strategies. Each method, from recruitment through retention, will be detailed to help create a sustainable and inclusive environment that drives long-term student involvement in Study Abroad programs."

12PM-2PM

TITLE: *All That Breathes* (documentary)

LOCATION: RCB 341

Whit Preston (moderator)

SUMMARY: "In one of the world's most populated cities, two brothers — Nadeem and Saud — devote their lives to the quixotic effort of protecting the black kite, a majestic bird of prey essential to the ecosystem of New Delhi that has been falling from the sky at alarming rates. Amid environmental toxicity and social unrest, the 'kite brothers' spend day and night caring for the creatures in their makeshift avian basement hospital. Director Shaunak Sen (*Cities of Sleep*) explores the connection between the kites and the brothers who help them return to the skies, offering a mesmerizing chronicle of inter-species coexistence."



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TUESDAY, NOV. 19, 2024

8AM-9AM

TITLE: "Working for a Global Company"

LOCATIONS: RCB 341 [FREE Breakfast]

ZOOM: <https://gaston-edu.zoom.us/j/96001259592?pwd=Y27z9qUBbnkJbz2lss88prFVS1PHOV.1>

SPEAKER BIO: "Arnold Biner [Switzerland] is a value stream manager and member of the management board for a Bosch plant in St. Niklaus, Switzerland. With over 28 years of experience in production plants, I have worked in different departments and countries. In my free time, I enjoy fitness, skiing, and spending time with my family."

SUMMARY: "Mr. Biner will be discussing Bosch as a company and the plant where he works in St. Niklaus, Switzerland. He will be sharing some of his experiences about working in Switzerland, the USA, Vietnam, and Germany. Another topic he will discuss is the education/training system in Switzerland and how the system works in the plant. Mr. Biner has spent time in Lincolnton, NC and will share his experience about his visit and how the cooperation between the Lincolnton and St. Niklaus plant works."

10AM-11AM

TITLE: SAA Presents: "Dublin – A Brief History"

LOCATION:

ZOOM: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0qdeGgrD8tGNElGw3yqOY6GzRKAiuhEi2p#/registration>

SUMMARY: "Explore Dublin's rich past on this short walking tour. Discover key landmarks, from Dublin Castle to Trinity College, as you uncover the city's fascinating history in just a few stops."

10AM-11AM

TITLE: "The Berlin Wall – How it Was Built and How it Fell Apart"

LOCATIONS: RCB 341

ZOOM: <https://gaston-edu.zoom.us/j/93982527589?pwd=nfpYcscxcOBndq0z1YpXAAGut6UM3f.1>

SPEAKER BIO: "Daniel Schaarenberg [Germany], born in 1975 and raised in Berlin, studied German literature and the science of education at Humboldt University in Berlin. After being a teacher, for the last fifteen years he has worked as a tour guide, taking North American students through Europe."

SUMMARY: "After the end of World War II, Berlin continued to be the focus of German politics, eventually being divided between the powers of the Cold War. The Berlin Wall, a 96-mile-long concrete barrier built in 1961, not only marked the border between East and West Berlin but was also a visual symbol of the division of Germany and Europe after 1945 and how politics affected individuals in their private lives. Falling down literally overnight, "by accident", in November 1989, the Berlin Wall again became physical evidence of "how history is made". This presentation explores how the Berlin Wall came into existence, how it looked, and what it stood for at a global, political, and personal level."



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WEDNESDAY, NOV. 20, 2024

10:30AM-12:30PM

TITLE: "A Global Resource for Your Classroom and Institution: UNESCO Story Circles"

LOCATION: Myers Center Room C [FREE Lunch]

SPEAKER BIO: "Hazael Andrew [Dominica] is the Associate Director of UNC World View. As part of his role, Hazael plans and administers professional development programs for K-12 and community college educators. He collaborates with 31 community colleges in North Carolina and Florida on the Scholar of Global Distinction program, a program where community colleges and their faculty commit to develop and offer globally intensive courses and activities through which students can earn a global distinction credential from UNC World View. Dr. Andrew received his Ph.D. in Educational Studies with a concentration in Cultural Foundations from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, an MBA in Finance from Mississippi State University, and a dual bachelor's degree in Managerial Economics and Finance from Fayetteville State University.

SUMMARY: "This session will share a training experience to build intercultural competencies based on the Manual for Developing Intercultural Competencies: Story Circles, published by UNESCO and Routledge. The Story Circles methodology promotes intercultural competence development in building more inclusive societies and can be used in and out of classrooms. It has been piloted around the world through the United Nations and is now available in 5 languages. Participants will learn more about this intercultural tool and experience Story Circles through a highly interactive session."

REGISTER HERE:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=EVnildAWyk_mflRFOgiZL1yDJDmmedm9AviTXQu3YpSFUN0lwT0IDOE5WQVFY_WVRCTkdZTU9RWVVaOC4u



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THURSDAY, NOV. 21, 2024

8AM-9AM

TITLE: "Groundwater Extraction Modeling: An Example from Kenya"

LOCATIONS: RCB 341

ZOOM: <https://gaston-edu.zoom.us/j/95752726695?pwd=LRI8JER9TICgkujhMyGaCkfJBVebLa.1>

SPEAKER BIO: "Silvia A. Landa [Indonesia] is a Ph.D. student in the Environmental Sciences and Engineering department, supported by a Fulbright Scholarship. She holds a master's degree in civil and environmental engineering from Utah State University, where she focused on water resource management and hydrology, funded by a USAID scholarship. Before pursuing her Ph.D., she worked in the development sector, advocating for water, sanitation, and climate resilience. Her research interests include water management, multilevel water governance, and advancing our understanding of governmental decision-making processes in water provision."

SUMMARY: "The Water Project (TWP) engages with local communities in Western Kenya to provide reliable and safe water services. Due to precipitation variability, TWP is interested in prioritizing groundwater systems over rainwater harvesting. However, concerns about groundwater sustainability have arisen due to the increased rate of drilling and extraction in the area and the uncertainty caused by climate change. This project aims to investigate groundwater characteristics in the region, identify gaps in primary data collection, and provide steps to explore the sustainability of implementing additional boreholes despite limitations in field data availability. We utilize a combination of available field data, remote sensing data, and justified assumptions to assess the groundwater situation using the free ModelMuse graphical user interface (GUI) and MODFLOW 6 software. Using the developed groundwater model, we simulate borehole implementation scenarios for decision-making, identify opportunities to improve model accuracy and build modeling capacity for TWP and partner staff."

12PM-1PM

TITLE: "Land of Milk, Honey and AI: Israel is Ground Zero for AI's Revolution"

LOCATIONS: RCB 341

ZOOM: <https://gaston-edu.zoom.us/j/93187407190?pwd=TAQyRV1OXrUwDbiwbWVR8mBCez0qqb.1>

SPEAKER BIO: "Nadav Neuman [Israel] is a writer and public speaker specializing in the history and philosophy of technology and culture. Head of Education at Sapienship."

SUMMARY: "Artificial Intelligence is already reshaping the cultural, societal, educational, and mental frameworks globally, but in Israel, a nation torn by war and political strife, this transformation is happening at frightening speed. The convergence of technological innovation with a society under constant pressure amplifies the effects of AI, driving rapid shifts in multiple facets of life. This talk will explore how AI's role in Israel is both a reflection of and a response to its unique challenges, resulting in accelerated and profound change."

12:30PM

TITLE: SAA Presents: "Rome by night: from Caesar to Michelangelo"

LOCATION:

ZOOM: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYIde-qrzMsG9WX0aYOnathHDwcWWXYbt0Q#/registration>

SUMMARY: "Discover Rome's rich history under the glow of the night sky. This tour takes you from the ancient ruins of Caesar's empire to the Renaissance brilliance of Michelangelo, visiting landmarks like the Roman Forum, the Capitoline Hill and the Pantheon. Experience the Eternal City's beauty and history in a new light as you explore its most iconic sites after dark."

FRIDAY, NOV. 22, 2024

10AM

TITLE: SAA Presents: "Amsterdam's Historic Heart: A Walking Tour from Anne Frank's House"

ZOOM:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcoduqhqTovGtD0NQ4M8YTryn7b3CWCmM8#/registration>

SUMMARY: "Step back in time and explore the poignant and rich history of Amsterdam, beginning at the world-famous Anne Frank House. This immersive walking tour will take you through the city's charming canal districts, past iconic landmarks like the Westerkerk, and into the heart of Amsterdam's cultural and historical identity. Discover hidden gems, such as the charming Jordaan neighborhood, and hear fascinating stories about Amsterdam's Golden Age, its role in World War II, and its vibrant modern-day culture. A journey of reflection, beauty, and discovery awaits."



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