



The Center for American Intercultural Studies
208 Carver, Iowa State University
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~A News Memo for Our Faculty, Staff and Friends~
Week of May 18th, 2009

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PLEASE SUBMIT items for each week's news memo to Elaine Phompheng, emphomph@iastate.edu, by the Friday of the week before. We welcome your submissions and feedback!

REGULAR CAIS OFFICE HOURS are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

LAS 328x; Tango Practica..... 2
Underserved Population Research; POV at the Library 3
Chen Exhibit; IRIS Programs 4



Please visit this site often for important diversity-related information. The Diversity @ Iowa State Calendar is a terrific resource for current news and upcoming events.

**"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly."
-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

LAS 328x: Asian American Cultural History

Fall 2009

TR 2:10-3:25

Dr. Jane Dusselier (Asian American Studies Program & Anthropology)

Prereq: ENGL 250 (we are in the process of removing the prereq)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course offers a broad exposure to the cultural expressions of Asian Americans. Of primary concern will be analyzing everyday Asian American cultural experiences within the contexts of agency, power, and identity formation. Throughout the course we will apply these ideas to our readings asking how Asian Americans use culture to form identities and create change. We will engage with the cartoons of Lynda Barry, Asian American foodways and music, art created in Japanese American concentration camps, the films *Namesake*, *Gran Torino*, and *Saving Face*, and a recently published memoir by Kao Kalia Yang. A strong focus on interdisciplinarity will guide our work this semester.

This course meets the US diversity requirement (link: <http://www.public.iastate.edu/~registrar/courses/07-09D.html#L2>).

Workspace: Argentine Tango Practica

Sunday, 31 May 2009 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Workspace at the Iowa State Memorial Union

Cost: \$28 for 5 sessions for ISU students, \$30 for 5 sessions for the Public

Contact: Letitia Kenemer, 515-294-0970

Please pre-register.

This is a multi-level class with lots of time to enjoy the music and dance. From 4:00 - 4:30pm moves for beginners are introduced and will vary weekly. From 4:30 - 7pm the dance floor is yours to practice under the guidance of Valerie and work with different partners. A short figure will also be introduced during this time for intermediate students. Dance punch cards may be purchased at the Workspace and used in Valerie's Tango classes at the MU over the next year.

Source: <http://www.event.iastate.edu/event/18761/?sy=2009&sm=05&sd=31&featured=1&s=d>



College of Human Sciences researchers address needs of underserved populations

AMES, Iowa -- Iowa State University College of Human Sciences faculty have recently completed research that assesses needs of three underserved populations -- Latino families in Iowa, the state's food pantry clients, and student military veterans. These studies may make good story prospects:

FOOD INSECURITY AND LATINO IMMIGRANT FAMILIES -- Achieving and maintaining food security -- having the means and ability to acquire enough food to meet the needs of all family members -- appears to be a constant struggle for rural Latino immigrant families living in Iowa. That's according to a study conducted by Iowa State researchers on 10 Latino immigrant families within the state who participated in the 17-state Rural Families Speak research project. According to lead researcher Kimberly Greder -- an ISU associate professor of human development and family studies and family life Extension state specialist -- the study informs family practitioners seeking to identify strategies and policies that will smooth the integration of Latino immigrant families into their new home communities. Findings will be shared during a one-hour webinar starting at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, May 13. Issues related to housing and depression among Latino immigrants will also be discussed during the webinar. Additional information and registration is available [here](#).

CONTACT: Greder, (515) 294-5906, kgreder@iastate.edu.

Source: <http://www.public.iastate.edu/~nscentral/news/2009/may/chstips.shtml>

P.O.V. at Ames Public Library

You are invited to view a series of films in collaboration with P.O.V., PBS' award-winning nonfiction film series (www.pbs.org/pov), as part of the Reel Connections Global Cinema series brought to you by Ames Public Library, Iowa Resource for International Service (IRIS) and the Ames Chapter of the United Nations Association.

Monday, May 18 at 7pm in the Farwell T. Brown Auditorium

A Song for Daniel by Jason DaSilva and
9 Star Hotel by Ido Haar

A Song for Daniel compares a routine day of two boys—one living in Baghdad and the other born and raised in New York City.

9 Star Hotel follows a group of young Palestinians who live and hide in the hills around the community they are helping to build in Israel.



Iowa Artist 2009: Phillip Chen

Feb 20, 2009 - 5/22/2009

Location: Des Moines Art Center Downtown

Phillip Chen photographs the unusual artifacts he collects and complicates their meaning by overlaying or surrounding them with schematic drawings of other objects in his prints. Through the juxtapositions, elements of his personal biography and family history combine with cultural issues and political events in ghostly narratives.

**IRIS: Youth Exchange and Study (YES) Program***Investing in Youth for National Development*

The overall goal of this multi-year program is to expand the worldview of African high school students and their teachers from Nigeria and Tanzania by providing them with an academic experience in the U.S. The program is part of a national effort called "Youth Exchange and Study (YES) Program" which is being conducted by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) of the U.S. Department of State. The program's main theme is transformational diplomacy that seeks to increase the students' understanding of human differences and tolerance, and to develop their capacity and commitment to bring people together rather than divide them. In addition to their academic education, they receive extensive training in conflict resolution and constructive dialogue processes. They become familiar with U.S. organizations, institutions, and processes that promote democratic interaction. These young Africans develop practical action plans that will be implemented when they return to Africa to enhance civil peace and to promote an atmosphere of tolerance and development.

Our returning alumni have already begun to establish Peace Clubs in their high schools in Nigeria. The 2007/08 academic year marked the first year of Tanzanians in the YES program. To learn more about the YES program, visit <http://exchanges.state.gov/youth/programs/yes.html>. To learn about getting involved in Iowa, click [here](#).

IRIS: Study Iowa

IRIS is currently managing a consortium of Iowa colleges, universities and other partners organized to stimulate and sustain cooperative efforts to promote Iowa as a premier destination for education and training for students from all nations. Study Iowa membership is open to two-year, four-year, and graduate or professional level regionally accredited colleges or universities; companies; agencies; and/or individuals in Iowa that support the mission of the Consortium. Members pay an annual fee and designate one or more representatives to the Consortium. Currently there are twenty one members. For more information, click on www.studyiowa.org or contact Martha Pope at martha@iris-center.org or 515-292-7103.

Source: http://www.iris-center.org/IRIS_Website/Current_Projects.html