

Parkland College

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Global Studies Initiatives in Social Sciences
2019 - 2020

Global Studies Initiatives in the Social Sciences

Spring 2020

Global Studies Initiative Project Report: History 102 Spring 2020

John Poling

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**Global Studies Initiative in Social Sciences Courses
Parkland College, AY 2019–2020**



Global Studies Initiative: The goals of the Global Studies Initiative are: To promote the addition to Parkland’s social science courses of instructional materials on global issues with a focus on the European Union, Russia, Eastern Europe, and Eurasia. Further, to provide social science faculty with instructional design tools and aid them with the implementation of new course materials.

Parkland Honors Program: The Honors Program at Parkland College offers a variety of challenging opportunities for students with strong academic records, special creative interests or unique skills. A primary goal of the Honors Program is to prepare students to participate at premier universities when they transfer to a four-year institution.

Global Studies Faculty Report, Honors Project Supervision

Faculty Name: _____ John D. Poling

Course in which the Honors Project was Supervised (course name, section number, term):
HIS 102-001H

Was this course redesigned as part of a previous semester’s work with the Global Studies Initiative?
YES

Name of Student who Completed the Honors Project: _____ Ethan Johns

Title of the Completed Honors Project: Mussolini, Brexit, and the Coronavirus: Examining the Parallels
of Intolerance in the Era of Globalism

To complete this report, please answer the following:

1. Please describe here how your course fulfills the Global Studies Initiative goals at the beginning of this document. Please also mention if any of the world areas in this initiative are covered in your course (European Union, Russia, Eastern Europe, Eurasia). *The last unit of HIS 102 includes a section focusing on global issues in world today such as climate change and economic displacement; discussing the role that European countries can play in meeting these challenges.*
2. Please explain how the Honors Project you supervised fit into your course's curriculum and learning objectives. Please describe the format of this project. Was the project an expanded version of your class final assignment? Was it work done in addition to the regular class load? *This honors project was a research paper which examined the similarities of the xenophobia deployed by Benito Mussolini in the rise of fascism in the 1920, and the role xenophobia is playing in two very-current phenomenon in Europe: Brexit and the spread of the coronavirus. It fit into the learning objectives of examining global issues affecting the West today, specifically intolerance, and generating potential strategies in meeting these challenges. This work was done in additional to the regular class load. It was done as part of Parkland College's A With Honors Program.*
3. Please provide a brief description of how the Honors Project that you supervised helped your student gain knowledge of and engage with global studies issues, or issues from any of the world areas in the Global Studies Initiative. *The student, Ethan Johns, had an initial interest in Mussolini and the rise of fascism. Over the course of the semester, I aided Ethan in seeing that the tactics used in 1920s fascist Italy have elements that we still see today. Ethan gained a much greater understanding of present-day issues through researching and writing this paper. He came to understand that xenophobia is a global issue and, sadly, a prism through which many still aim their political views.*
4. Could you see yourself supervising similar Honors projects in future semesters? Was there anything about the format or process that you would improve? *I had two other students who had planned to do research projects that touched on global components of media, and another of the legacy of authoritarian czars on Russian rule today. Unfortunately, both dropped out due to complicating factors of the COVID-19 shut down. This is definitely a project that I could see doing again.*

Please email this completed report to: iscarborough@parkland.edu by May 29, 2020.

Thank you for participating in the Global Studies Initiative!