



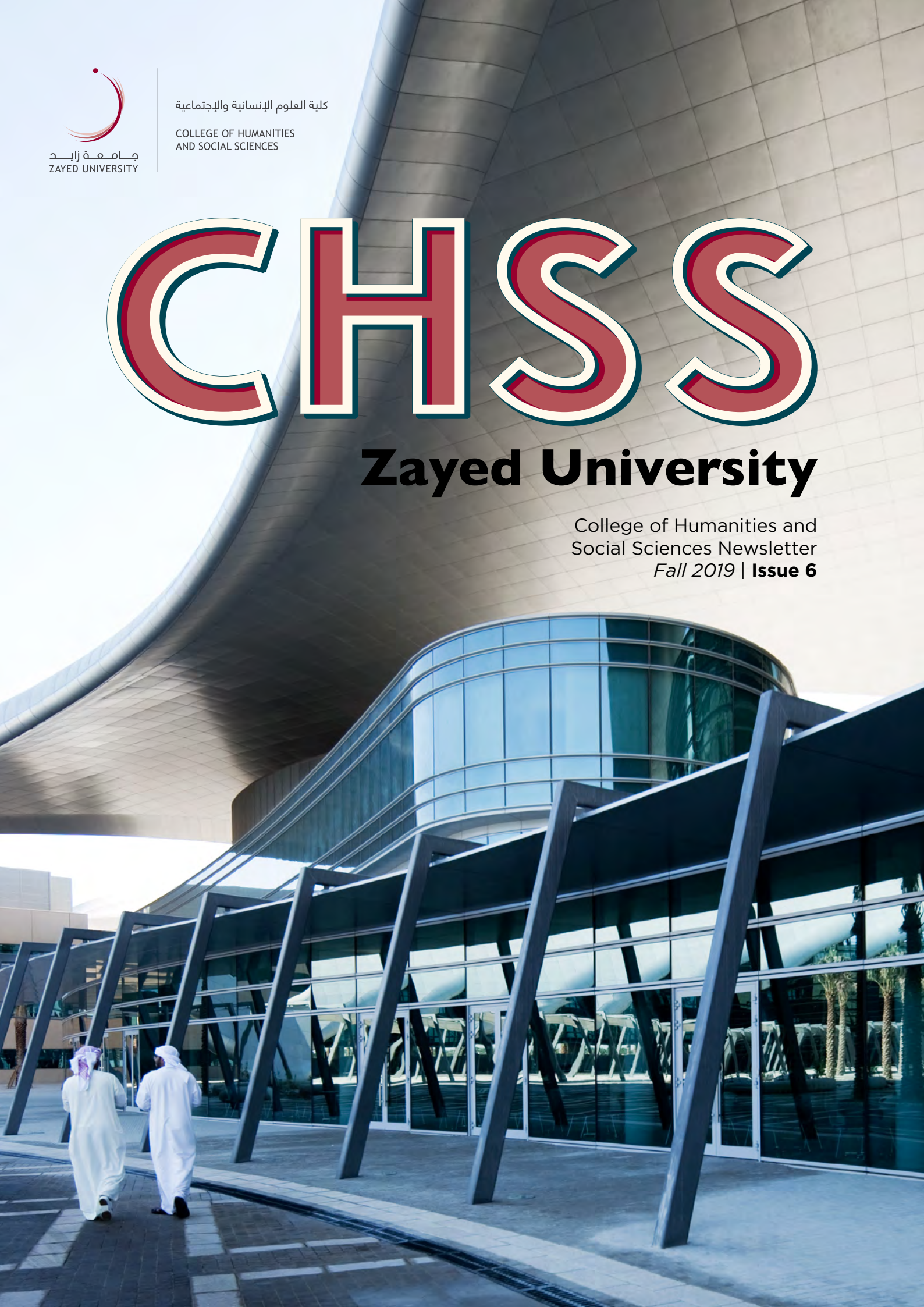
كلية العلوم الإنسانية والاجتماعية

COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES
AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

CHSS

Zayed University

College of Humanities and
Social Sciences Newsletter
Fall 2019 | Issue 6



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ZAYED UNIVERSITY

CHSS Newsletter Fall 2019 | Issue 6

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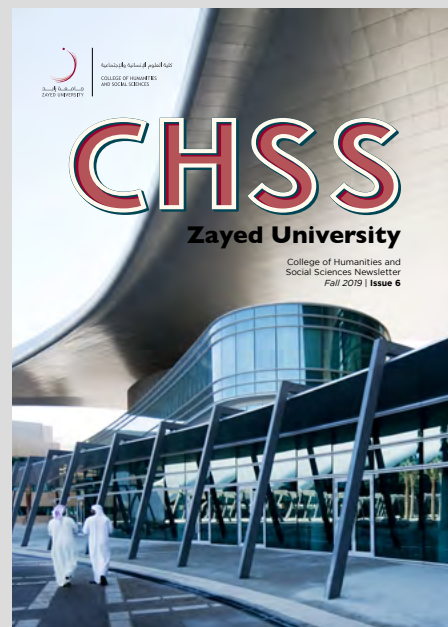
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Dean's Message

Dear Reader,

I would like to invite you to read our CHSS newsletter for the Fall of 2019, as we reflect on our growth and achievements this semester.

Looking back from our past experiences, our faculty, students and staff have outperformed themselves this time with a whole array of additions. In this Year of Tolerance, our college has taken bigger steps to engage the wider community more actively in our educational activities, by bringing to life important discussions and debates on the concept of tolerance in and out of campus.

We achieved a collaboration with Manarat Saadiyat to bring a film series to the Abu Dhabi community over Fall. With the *Tasaamuh Film Series* our professors have been presenting films, including some regional premieres, and inviting discussion on the topic of *tolerance* as seen through film and our different disciplinary angles. With the screenings, we discussed themes such as poverty, superstition, and two more events presented in December, on the topics of war and colonialism. These events have been applauded by the wider community, More details inside.

We have also engaged more widely with the international community, through collaborations with the embassies of Singapore, Germany and Korea. In Abu Dhabi, we hosted a talk by the German Ambassador in the UAE, *Emirati-German Relations at a Time of Global Challenges*, and an encounter between our students and the State Minister of Foreign Affairs in Singapore to discuss the essential role of regional collaborations in foreign affairs in our changing world. In Dubai, the Consul General of the Republic of Korea also gave our students a lecture on culture and society, world history and politics.

Through cultural presentations on campus, we engaged with the notion of tolerance and crossing cultural divides. The ZU community delighted

themselves with the colourful presentation of the *Folkloric Ballet of the Autonomous University of Hidalgo* (Mexico), and a student exchange activity between students from this prestigious Mexican university and our own, organised with the Mexican Embassy. Also, in a collaboration with the Chinese Confucius Institute, we brought a live presentation of *Chinese Traditional Music* to our campus, for the enjoyment of the whole ZU community. Our college, through these collaborations with the wider community, is creating bridges of exchange, respect, and global awareness; and is ensuring that the wider community is aware of the increasingly important role of education (through the work of our faculty and students) to facilitate human understanding, collaboration and growth.

At the same time, our college is experiencing record student growth. This Fall, we have welcomed a number of new faculty members for our existing programs due to high demand. And on other exciting news, the College will be announcing a new Masters program in the very near future. Stay tuned.

This newsletter is a snapshot of our college activities and intends to demonstrate that we are growing, improving and excelling with our faculty, staff and students working side by side. Our CHSS team is working very hard to bring you opportunities and knowledge of the highest standard, and this reflects the ethos of our college and ZU more broadly.

As the semester closes in on us, I would like to advise all students, faculty and staff to have a well-deserved winter break. Use this time to relax before we start again with another energy-crunching semester. On to bigger and better things!

See you all again in January 2020.

Fares Howari, Dean

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

CHSS AT CAIRO International Film Festival

Nezar Andary's film, *Unlocking Doors of Cinema* had its world premiere in the 41st Cairo International Film Festival (CIFF), taking place between 20 and 29 November 2019.

Unlocking Doors of Cinema is a feature documentary exploring the fifty years of artistic contribution of the daring Syrian auteur Muhammad Malas. Malas, an exile from his home town of Quneitra, provokes audiences to contemplate loss, memory, and home. From the 1967 War and Palestinian Camps in Beirut, to the songs of Aleppo, and the political tragedies of Syria, Malas exemplifies what it means to be an auteur and public intellectual. *Unlocking Doors of Cinema* takes you on a unique cinematic journey where creative cinematography becomes a visual conversation with the auteur's own five decades of work.

Andary's World Premiere was on Nov. 23 in the Cairo Opera House and in attendance over 70 people from well known cinema critics, many students, and cinema enthusiasts from all over the world. The film was part of the Special Panorama section on famous filmmakers from all over the world.



Bronze Age Boat Project Launch



On April 25th, 2019, Eric Staples participated on the Project opening event, which was a joint NYUAD-ZU event, hosted by the Dhakira Center for Heritage Studies, to commemorate the beginning of the Bronze Age Boat Project. It was jointly introduced by the acting dean of the Humanities, NYUAD, Dr. Kalle Taneli Kukkonen, and the chair of the Social Sciences department, ZU, Dr. Ximena Cordoba, as well as Prof. Robert Parthesius and Eric Staples, as co-directors of the project. The attendees then went to the boat building site, where refreshments were served, and guests had the opportunity to make a reed bundle. An article was published in the National on the project as a result of the event. It gained more student interest for the project, and 8 more students volunteered for the project.

9- Jonathan Fulton participated at event held at The Atlantic Council, Washington DC, USA as member in panel. He published an Issue Brief under the title of "China's Changing Role in the Middle East" in June 2019.

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/events/upcoming-events/detail/chinas-changing-role-in-the-middle-east>.

His Highness Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan visit to CHSS -AUH

Chairman of the Educational and Human Resources Council visited Zayed University - AUH campus on Sunday 28th April 2019. He was accompanied by Nourabint Mohammed AlKaabi, Minister of Culture and Knowledge Development, and University President; Dr. Ahmad bin Abdullah Humaid Belhoul Al Falasi, Minister of State for Higher Education and Advanced Skills; Dr. Reyadh AlMehaideb, Vice President. During his visit, His Highness Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan stopped at the College of Humanities and Social Sciences where he was received by Dr. Fares Howari, the acting dean of the college of Humanities and Social Sciences, and Dr. Hala Thabet the chair

of the International Studies department. Sheikh Abdullah met with 8 International Studies Bachelor Degree students of the College and held a panel discussion about UAE - African relations from a soft power perspective presented by the students as follows. Khalid Mohamed Rashed Jassim AlZaabi, Dhehai Saeed Khalfan Dhehai Al Hameli; Anood Saeed Dhaen Mubarak Almansoori; Aisha Yousuf Ibrahim Yousuf Alali; Alia Shames Hamad Qedaib Alkaabi; Sharifa Tariq Mohamed Saeed Hasan Al Ameri; Mahra Juma Rashid Juma Saeed; and Basma Khalid Mubarak Ali Bamaes.



Students who participated:

Khalid Mohamed Rashed Jassim AlZaabi
Dhehai Saeed Khalfan Dhehai Al Hameli
Anood Saeed Dhaen Mubarak Almansoori
Aisha Yousuf Ibrahim Yousuf Alali

Alia Shames Hamad Qedaib Alkaabi
Sharifa Tariq Mohamed Saeed Hasan Al Ameri
Mahra Juma Rashid Juma Saeed
Basma Khalid Mubarak Ali Bamaes



Heritage Studies Roundtable

The CHSS college hosted a roundtable discussion with stakeholders for the presentation of our proposed BA in heritage studies. The event was a gathering of representatives of key institutions in the heritage industry in the UAE. Guests from Abu Dhabi, Sharjah, RAK and Dubai, including the Department of Culture and Tourism, the Dubai Municipality and RAK Museums attended. The VP and Provost also paid a visit to take part in the discussion. Details of our proposed program were shared by Tim Power and Jane Bristol-Rhys, for feedback and discussed the future of heritage in the country. The team presented the data of our commissioned market research and watched a promotional video about the programme. The feedback was extremely positive, and the discussion enriching, and will serve to strengthen the application.



تحت رعاية معالي الشيخ نهيان مبارك آل نهيان، عضو مجلس الوزراء

وزير التسامح عقدت دائرة الثقافة والسياحة في أبوظبي



المؤتمر الخليجي السابع للتراث والتاريخ الشفهي (زايد والتسامح: ثقافة المجتمع ونهج القيادة) شارك في اليوم الأول، الدكتور نورة محمد في ورقة عمل بعنوان (الأدوات التي مكنت الإمارات من أن تصبح عاصمة للتسامح) يوم الثلاثاء، 8 أكتوبر، وقدمت الدكتورة: علياء البدواوي قدمت في اليوم الثاني يوم الأربعاء 9 أكتوبر (قيم التسامح في قراءة الشيخ زايد في قراءة نصوص المسافرين والوثائق البريطانية)



أهمية لغة الجسد في الحملات الانتخابية

تحت رعاية صاحبة السمو الشقيقة فاطمة بنت مبارك 50:50 من أجل التمكين السياسي للمرأة، رئيسة الاتحاد النسائي العام، رئيس المجلس الأعلى للأمومة والطفولة، الرئيس الأعلى لمؤسسة تنمية الأسرة (أم الإمارات) و بالتزامن مع الاستعدادات لانتخاب المجلس الوطني الاتحادي 2019. قدمت الدكتورة : نورة البلوشي، محاضرة حول أهمية لغة الجسد في الحملات الانتخابية، وشرح الفرق بين لغة الجسد وعلم الفراسة، وأهمية لغة الجسد، وأدوات تحليل الشخصية، والأدوات التي يحتاجها المحلل ومؤشرات لغة الجسد، والحاجة إلى تحسين مهارات لغة الجسد للتأثير على الناس.

في المقر الرئيسي للاتحاد النسائي بأبوظبي 10/سبتمبر / 2019



Building confident parliamentary capacity- improve body language skills

Under the patronage of Her Highness Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak 50:50 campaign for political empowerment of women, President of the General Women's Union, President of the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood, Supreme President of the Family Development Foundation (Umm Al Emarat) and in conjunction with preparations for the election of the Federal National Council 2019.

The lecture was about the importance of body language in election campaigns, explaining the difference between body language and physiognomy, the importance of body language, personality analysis tools, tools needed by the analyst and body language indicators, and the need to improve body language skills to influence people.



المحلية ، فيما اختصت الجلسة الأخيرة بقراءة في "وثائق تاريخ البنية التحتية في إمارة أبوظبي". وافتتحت الندوة بكلمة لجامعة زايد قدمها الدكتور فارس هوارى عميد كلية العلوم الصحية الطبيعية وعميد كلية العلوم الإنسانية والاجتماعية بجامعة زايد، الذي أشار في كلمته إلى أن الاحتراف بالوثيقة العربية هو احتفاء بالأمجاد العلمية العربية. مشيداً بالدور الرائد لسمو الشيخ سلطان بن زايد آل نهيان ممثل صاحب السمو رئيس الدولة رئيس نادي تراث الإمارات، وجهوده في الاهتمام بالوثائق العربية



ندوة وثائق أبوظبي التاريخية

26 أكتوبر 2019

نظم مركز زايد للدراسات والبحوث التابع لنادي تراث الإمارات بالتعاون مع جامعة زايد، ندوة علمية في مقر الجامعة في أبوظبي بعنوان وثائق أبوظبي التاريخية، بمشاركة نخبة من الباحثين المتخصصين، وذلك بمناسبة يوم الوثيقة العربية. وجاءت الندوة في ثلاث جلسات، حيث تناولت الجلسة الأولى "دور مراكز الوثائق والبحوث في حفظ الوثائق والبحوث"، فيما كان موضوع الجلسة الثانية هو "الجهود العلمية لتحقيق الوثائق



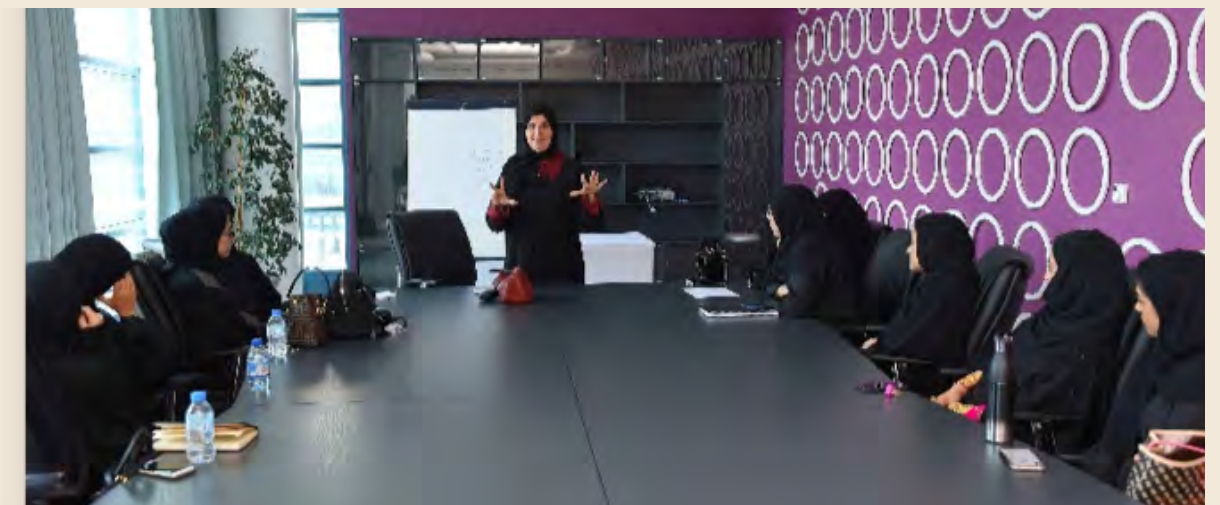
ضمن جناح جامعة زايد المشارك في فعاليات معرض أبوظبي الدولي للكتاب 2019

قدمت الأستاذة: أمل باصهيبي بورشة عمل بعنوان (التسامح مع الذات)، تدور حول كيفية وصول الإنسان لتسامح ذاتي مع نفسه، قبل البدء بالتسامح مع العالم الخارجي، بخطوات ونتائج التسامح مع الذات.



أكاديمية الزواج

في الموافق 15-9-2019 تم تدشين برنامج أكاديمية الزواج، هذا البرنامج يأتي تحت رؤية الدولة لتمكين أرقى العقود الإنسانية وكذلك رسالتها لتعزيز القيم والثقافة الداعمة للمؤسسة الأسرية . وهو برنامج توعوي وثقفي للطالبات يهدف إلى توعية الطالبات وتثقيفهم عن الحياة الزوجية الناجحة ويضم البرنامج عدة جوانب والتي منها الشرعي والنفسي والاجتماعي والاقتصادي والتربوي ويقام كل أحد لمدة عشر أسابيع بإشراف الدكتورة: نورة البلوشي، الدكتورة فاطمة البلوشي، الدكتورة لينا الكيلاني



CHSS

Lecture Series



* The first lecture for the Fall semester was by Dr. Heinz Scheifinger (Department of Social Sciences), entitled "Hinduism Online: Dominant Narratives or Subaltern Voices?" In his presentation, Heinz shared his research findings that are situated within an important debate regarding Hinduism online. He revealed that, on the one hand, a number of scholars have claimed that there is the prevalence online of narratives that put forward a homogenised version of Hinduism – a development which is at odds with the diversity and multi-faceted nature of the Hindu tradition(s). On the other hand, the claim that dominant Hindu narratives are prevalent online and that there is a concomitant threat to alternative voices within Hinduism has been challenged. This counterargument posits that the Internet offers a space for marginalised groups within Hinduism to express their voice and to accrue legitimacy within the wider Hindu tradition. By drawing upon two related areas of his research, Heinz added weight to the former claim. Firstly, he mentioned key elements of his longitudinal research which reveal

that there are a small number of organisations that have an incredibly strong presence in Hindu areas of cyberspace. Secondly, he discussed the online presence of one of these organisations (The Hawaii-based Saiva Siddhanta Church) which is having success in propagating a standardised form of Hinduism.

Heinz concluded that the implications of the emergence of dominant Hindu narratives online are of significance to Hinduism in general. This is because online developments do not occur separately from wider developments within Hinduism and, furthermore, they are not solely reflective of what occurs offline. Instead, there is a dialectical and convergent relationship in which Hinduism online also strongly impacts contemporary Hinduism.

* The Second lecture for the Fall semester delivered by Prof. Hamdy Hassan(IS). He delivered a lecture titled. "Africa Rising! Exploring Geostrategic Transformation in the Horn of Africa". He argues that the modest progress of the past one and half decade



or so in Africa hardly warrants the discursive euphoria canvassed by the rhetoric of "Africa Rising."

Prof Hamdy has examined the concept of Africa Rising by focusing on the new scramble for the Horn of Africa (HOA). It is becoming clear that the regional security dynamics associated with the cold war era and the balance of power under the bipolar system have undergone major transformations in the post-Cold War era. The map of the HOA has been redrawn through the creation of two new states in the region; Eritrea (1993) and Southern Sudan (2011). At the heart of the underlying issues of the conflicts in present-day HOA, lie three inherited factors from the past: (1) the legacy of Ethiopia as an imperial power and the process of invading peoples of different nations, speaking different languages, and having different livelihoods; (2) the legacy of European colonial rule and its policy of "divide-and-rule"; and (3) the legacy of external imperialist intervention after World War II and the support of undemocratic regimes in the HOA. However, the dilemma of insecurity in the region flows from the failure of the respective ruling classes to embrace good governance and democratic practices and from their weakness in effectively managing ethnic diversity.

* The third lecture was delivered (in Arabic) by prof. Anas Atta (IWS) and entitled "Social Relations in Islam: Congratulations, Consolation and Gifts in Islamic Sharia", in which he discussed the theoretical rules and practical applications of the idea of peaceful coexistence between Muslims and non-Muslims. He stated that Islam is a global civilized religion that calls for positive communication with the other. Therefore, Islam urged good social relations with non-Muslim peaceful as a means of preaching and human morality and documenting the positive relations

between human beings as (peaceful relations and coexistence) the basis of relations, not hostility as some extremist groups contend.

Anas has presented consistent evidence from the Qur'an and Sunnah that call for good manners and honesty in dealing with all human being, regardless of color, race, religion or language.

Allah say: "Allâh does not forbid you to be kind and good and to deal justly with those who have not fought you because of your faith and have not turned you out of your homes. In fact Allâh loves those who are equitable." (8 Al-Mumtahinah). the Prophet peace be upon him also says: "Deal with people (all people) in a good manner." Moreover, the role of a Muslim's advocacy for others necessarily requires good treatment with them and participation in their social events.

Based on the above general rules, Dr. Anas concludes that Islam not only does not prohibit but urges Muslims to practice congratulations and condolences and exchange gifts with non-Muslims within the framework of specific legal controls related to common humanity and pillars of faith.

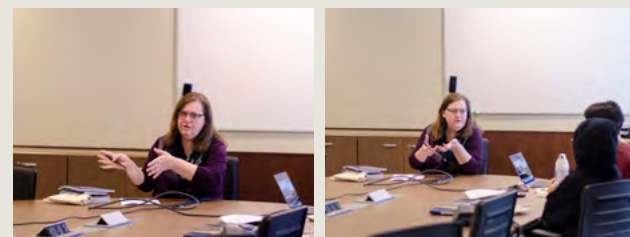




Promoting Knowledge in Arab World in the lecture series hosted in Abu Dhabi was presented by Professor Seteney Shami, the founding Director-General of the Arab Council for the Social Sciences since 2012. In her presentation she focused on the experience of the ACSS over the past 7 years as a new actor seeking to promote knowledge production in the region. The infrastructure of this production identified by Shami had three folds: 1) the Universities and public research organizations which are typically under-resourced and over-controlled; 2) Research NGOs have made great strides in the past two decades in opening up new research agendas and topics and linking research and advocacy and policy. However, their efforts tend to be fragmented and there is insufficient accumulation and dissemination of the research produced; 3) Research agendas rarely emerge as a result of the accumulation of experience and reflection but rather from immediate and pressing political, developmental, and increasingly humanitarian mandates. Researchers tend to be undertrained or over-committed and often unable to pursue their research interests systematically.

She elaborated on each of the challenges resulting from such infrastructure. For example, the researchers write for fragmented audience including themselves (small, fragmented circles and divided into different academic traditions: Arabophone, Francophone and Anglophone). Researchers mostly write for promotion at universities, with very limited circulation; choosing topics that are “safe” from both disciplinary and political perspectives. When researchers write for

consultancies, their work is not disseminated, and suffers from limited circulation, with little to no intersection with academic research. When they produce for the media, their work is visible and powerful but not generative of new knowledge. She pointed out how much the arena for independent and



critical thinking has been shrinking and the impact of research on public debate and policy remain limited. Shami further noted that Arab knowledge suffers from weak links with global production and is not contesting hegemonic western paradigms that may not be useful or applicable; in addition to not truly utilizing paradigms that may be emancipatory and or raise their global visibility. They are not unfortunately forging knowledge alliances or solidarities with other knowledge producers in the Global South.

Shami's lecture was attended by both faculty and students who interacted with the speaker with questions and concerns during the limited time she had to spend at ZU before she went back to NYU-AD where she was hosted to give two lectures on US universities and their interaction with knowledge in the Arab World.

Visiting Guest

The College of Humanities and Social Sciences invited Mrs. Lisa O'Donnell as a visiting researcher. Mrs. O'Donnell is working at University of London City. She is a bestselling author, screenwriter and creative writing tutor.

Lisa is the author of the Commonwealth Book Prize-winning Novel *The Death of Bees*, published by Windmill. Her second novel, *Closed Doors* is published by William Heinemann. Lisa won the Orange Screenwriting Prize for her screenplay *The Wedding Gift* and was nominated for the Dennis Potter New Screenwriters' Award. Many of CHSS Faculty attended her session.



During His Conversation with Zayed University Students Global Warming Challenges Addressed by German Ambassador to the UAE

His Excellency Ernst Peter Fischer, German Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates has recently lectured students from the College of Human and Social Science at Zayed University Campus in Abu Dhabi.

Fischer was received by Dr Michael Wilson, ZU Provost and Dr. Fares Howari, Acting Dean of the CHSS, and several faculty members. His Excellency initiated his lecture describing the similarities between both nations Germany and UAE and emphasized that both have similar outlook to the world challenges.

His remarks also highlighted the importance of the climate change negotiation and environmental diplomacy in dealing with some of the grand issues that our world is facing, such as global warming.

The interactions between H.E and the students



demonstrated the range of academic and research opportunities that are available to Zayed University students in Germany.

“At Zayed University we encourage and support these lectures, which complement students class experiences and expose them to leaders and professionals from various fields,” Howari said.



During His Visit to Zayed University Abu Dhabi Campus Students Interact with Singapore's Minister of State for Defense and Foreign Affairs



Minister of State, Ministry of Defense and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Mayor of Southeast District of the Republic of Singapore, Dr. Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman, has recently visited Zayed University Abu Dhabi Campus. His visit came as part of an official appointment to the United Arab Emirates to attend the 19th Council of Ministers Meeting of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) on November 7, 2019.

Dr. Maliki was received by Prof. Reyadh Al Mehaideb, Vice-President of Zayed University, alongside several

Senior Administrators, Faculty Members, and ZU Students. During the interactional seminar, titled “Singapore and UAE: Small States in an Uncertain World,” His Excellency, attended to student's queries, pointing out various similarities between both these nations. Significant agreements between Singapore and the UAE in areas of defense and cybersecurity advancement, trade, and academic research were highlighted. Among various issues, Singapore's open economy, ability to fight corruption with zero tolerance policy and its ability to reinvent itself to remain relevant in an ever-changing world were discussed.

Teaching a postgraduate course at Rhodes University, South Africa July-August 2019

Ahmed Salem was, for the second year in row, invited by the Department of Political and International Studies at South Africa's Rhodes University to work as a Visiting Professor and teach the postgraduate course "Critical and Non-Western International Relations Theory" in July and August 2019. In this course, master's and honor's students had the opportunity to increase their awareness of and critical engagement with such critical international relations theories as constructivism, poststructuralism, postcolonialism, neo-Marxism, and the Frankfurt School. They also learned to engage the unnecessary neglected literatures of non-Western international relations thoughts. They read, ponder and criticize both historical and contemporary non-Western international relations scholarships, including Chinese, Indian, Islamic, Latino, and African.



Ahmed Salem presented a paper during his stay as a Visiting Professor at Rhodes University. He was invited by the Department of Political and International Studies to present his forthcoming book chapter on the relations between France and Tunisia during the latter's transitional period after the uprising (2011-2014). Attended by the department's and other faculty and graduate students, the presentation was followed by a rich discussion. The paper will be published by Routledge in 2020.

Workshop on Foreign Aid, Stability and Peace Building

On May 1st Kristian Alexander participated in the Workshop on Foreign Aid, Stability and Peace Building in Bab Al Qasr Hotel in Abu Dhabi with collaboration of Al Istishari Al Strategy Center for Economic and Future Studies (StraAd) in collaboration with Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS) held a workshop on foreign aid and nation building. He presented a paper on Obstacles and challenges of Foreign Aid (ODA) to developing countries: selected cases and proposed remedies in the session of Hurdles facing Foreign aids. The workshop produced a recommendations report that will be submitted to the UAE government. The workshop was attended by government official and embassy representatives. The workshop was attended by fellow faculty members and some CHSS students. It received valuable and constructive feedback from the audience.

CHSS Teaching and Learning Committee Sessions Program (Workshops):

In March 4th, 2109, Kristian Alexander presented a survey conducted in the Fall 2018 about: the current state of teaching and learning in the CHSS. The Teaching and Learning College Standing Committee (TLC) has organized workshops on the "E-Cheating" and the "Mobile Learning" on both AUH campus and DXB campus. He gave an insight on how to deal with challenges and difficulties facing all departments as well as the recommendations of the final report. The presentation title is E-Cheating: HSS student strategies and excuses: Problems with administering BB Assignments. The presentation reviews some thoughts and observations regarding cheating or attempts to cheat using online platforms/devises. There are different forms of cheating and there is nothing particularly unique about ZU students. The presentation highlighted the questions such as What are some of the commonly encountered excuses & justifications that students come up with within the context of ZU? What explains why some students cheat? What can be done to minimize this problem?

Workshop on Understanding Extremist Violence in the Middle East and Beyond

On April 1-4 Kristian Alexander participated in Workshop on understanding Extremist Violence in the Middle East and beyond. An international workshop organized by the United States National Academy of Sciences Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) and hosted by New York University Abu Dhabi (NYUAD). Kristian presented a paper about the Security, Extremism, ad GCC Government Response. He argues that although the GCC states are united by historical, cultural, and social bonds, they remain distinct entities with unique specificities and vulnerabilities. They have conflicting conceptualizations concerning Iran and the Muslim Brotherhood. Of particular importance has been the shift from inter-state wars toward conflicts with non-state actors that are focused on sectarian violence. The aim of the workshop is to produce a report with recommendations that will be published in summer of 2019.

CHSS Student and Faculty workshop on Tolerance

In February 28th, 2019 Kristian Alexander gave a presentation on the Concept of 'Tolerance' in the UAE's Soft Power Foreign Policy Approach' as part of a workshop on Tolerance under the title of Learning to Practice Tolerance: What can the social sciences teach us? The presentation looked at the political discourse of tolerance in the context of the UAE's foreign policy audience. He argued that its various initiatives are geared at promoting a moderate version of Islam as well as being part of a strategy in its global efforts to combat terrorism. It provided a forum for an exchange of ideas and perspective on Tolerance by scholars from different disciplines and by students

Yale And Barchi

International workshop: (Un)settling Middle Eastern Refugees: Regimes of Inclusion and Exclusion in the Middle East, Europe, and the United States

On September 27-29, 2019, Melissa Chioyenda participated in International conference/workshop, an event that consisted of both a public conference, which was attended by Yale students, professors, and residents of New Haven, and a closed workshop aimed at discussing and improving papers to prepare them for publication. It was organized by Yale anthropologist Marcia Inhorn and San Francisco State anthropologist Lucia Volk. Many up-and-coming scholars on Middle East refugees were in attendance. Melissa presented a paper titled "Geographies of Athens and Beyond: Repeating A-Temporal Emplacements of Afghan Refugees." This paper considers Afghan refugees' relationship to and understanding of the city of Athens, and their home country.



Hassanein Ali participated in the 77th Annual Midwest Political Science Association Conference in Chicago, Illinois, USA. The 2019 conference includes 1200+ sessions with over 6,500 presenters from throughout the United States and nearly 50+ foreign countries. He presented a paper entitled "Post-Arab Spring: The Arab World between the Dilemma of the Nation-State and the Rise of Violent Non-State Actors." The paper aims to analyze the causes of the crisis of the nation-state building in the Arab world, which explains the failure and collapse of many Arab states once the authoritarian regimes that have governed them for decades collapsed. In addition, Dr. Hassanein served as the chair

Ladan Affi participated in The Women and Peacebuilding in African Consortium one-day seminar on June 5th, 2019 in Wilson Center, Washington D.C. She took part in the panel discussion on “Women’s Activists’ Informal Peacebuilding strategies in Conflict”. This was part of the sharing of the findings of the research from the Women and Peacebuilding in Africa that was funded by the Carnegie Corporation and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It was attended by academics; government officials; university students; policy makers; and community members. It was an opportunity to compare the commonalities and differences between the five country cases (Algeria, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan) that the Women and Peacebuilding in Africa Consortium had researched. Because of the diversity of the participants, we were able to discuss not only the academic implications of our research findings but also the policy implications. For example, what can governments and NGOs do to ensure better inclusion of women in politics in countries recovering from conflict.



Leena Taneja presented a paper on March during the event of European Academy of Religion between 4-7 of March 2019 in Bologna, Italy. The paper entitled: “Theologizing Space: Imaginary and Common Spaces in Vaishnava Religious Communities” in the panel, Spatial Issues in Religious Studies. The paper examines the intersection between sacrality and space in the Vaishnavite tradition. It argues that Vaishnava’s sense of place is not limited to physical spaces but interiorized spaces of the body, mind and imagination.



Leena Taneja engaged in a two-week long teaching assignment at the Beijing Foreign Studies University in Beijing, China, from June 2 to 15, 2019. This was a unique opportunity offered through the Confucius Institute to foster more academic and cultural ties between educational institutions in China and the U.A.E. She was accompanied by two other ZU faculty members from Abu Dhabi, Dr. Alexandra and Dr. Reem .

Jonathan Fulton was invited as lecturer at the Middle East Institute , National University of Singapore in May 2019. His presentation was under the title of “What Chinese Leaders Talk About When They Talk About Middle East Security”. <https://mei.nus.edu.sg/event/political-economy-what-chinese-leaders-talk-about-when-they-talk-about-middle-east-security/>

Jonathan Fulton participated at event held at The Atlantic Council, Washington DC, USA as member in panel. He published an Issue Brief under the title of “China’s Changing Role in the Middle East” in June 2019. <https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/events/upcoming-events/detail/chinas-changing-role-in-the-middle-east>.

Jonathan Fulton participated at workshop and speaker in a broadcast roundtable in August 2019 at University of Helsinki. His presentation was under the title of “Helsinki Faultline Encounters: A Chinese Future?”.

Jonathan Fulton was invited as speaker in an informal talk held with the research team at AGSIW in Une 2019. The talk organized by the Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington, Washington DC, USA. His talk was under the title of “China in the Middle East”

Jonathan Fulton was invited as lecturer for the top Foreign policy think tank on August 2019 at the Finnish Institute of International Affairs. His presentation was “Chinese Narratives about Middle East Security” August 2019. Invited lecture for Finland’s top foreign policy think tank

Magdalena Karolak represented ZU on February 27, 2019 as a horse rider in the annual Pink Caravan event, a UAE-wide campaign to raise awareness of breast cancer prevention among the population of the Emirates. The ride on day 5 of the initiative covered 20 km on horseback from Khorfakkan to Dibba. The campaign includes setting up medical centers with free checkups and medical consultations, distribution of leaflets and a horse parade across all the emirates to make general public aware of the breast cancer prevention strategies.



Marta Wiczorek presented her photography in Nur-Sultan (Astana), Kazakhstan, Kulanshi Art Space and Forte Bank exhibition space, on the period between 23.05.2019 - 23.07.2019. The photography exhibition is an outcome of Marta’s interests in Visual Anthropology and Urban Anthropology. The photographs have been shot between 2015 and 2019 in twenty-two countries. The photography exhibition is accompanied by Marta’s talk and “meet and greet” with Kazakh artists and Visual Arts students



The Chinese Folk Music performance



The Chinese Folk Music performance from students of Ningbo University of China was hosted by the College of Humanities and Social Sciences and the Confucius Institute at Zayed University, in Collaboration with the Student Leadership. The Event took place on DXB campus on 17th of November, and on AUH campus on 18th of November 2019

China has a unique traditional culture, and the music is one of the carriers of it. The performance introduced Chinese traditional music which showcases of China's traditional music and instrument played by five Chinese folk music players. The musical performance aimed at taking audience on a meaningful journey into Chinese traditional music, exploring the unique features and distinctive heights of Chinese music culture.

College of Humanities and Social Sciences organizes The Mexican Cultural Day

With collaboration with the Mexican Embassy in UAE, College of Humanities and Social Sciences organized two theatrical performances “Mexican Folk Dance: Celebrating The Roots and Flavours of Mexico”. The performances took place on AUH campus on Monday 16th of September 2019 and on DXB Campus on Thursday 19th of September. The performance was showed by the Folkloric ballet of Autonomous University of the State of Hidalgo.



Tasaamuh Film Series

The Department of Social Sciences organised and launched the first Tasaamuh Film Series at Manarat Saadiyat (Abu Dhabi), in collaboration with the Department of Culture and Tourism.

The Tassamuh Film Series: Paths of Tolerance is a new film screening program taking place in Fall, to embolden the current national debate around the notion of tolerance and acceptance through a series of screenings and discussions.

It is produced and curated by Dr Nezar Andary and Dr Ximena Cordova. In its first edition, there were four events, each session was led by an expert in CHSS: Dr Habibul Khonder (poverty and tolerance), Dr James Redman (superstition and tolerance), Dr Nezar, Andary (war, humour and tolerance) and Dr Ximena Cordova (colonial encounters and tolerance). ZU students, alumni and faculty, as well as the general public attended in great numbers, shared themed food and a rich discussion. We are in talks to develop our 2020 program.

Europe Day

On Sunday 28th April, 2019, The Delegation of the European Union to the UAE organized a Europe Day Celebration at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi in collaboration with Zayed University, under the patronage of Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, Minister of Tolerance. Around 200 people attended the event including government officials, ambassadors and deputies of 19 European Union Member States, the faculty and students from both universities. Five HSS - dean's list students from the Bachelor of International Studies were nominated to attend the Celebration. They attended Round-table discussions between the EU Ambassador and 19 EU Member State Ambassadors/Deputies and students of Zayed University and Sorbonne University over dinner. The discussions were about the Member States' membership in the EU, relations between the Member State and the UAE and about the Ambassador/ Deputy's experience as a Diplomat. The discussions aimed to give the students the opportunity to learn more about the European Union and about working in the Diplomatic field in general. Students who participated: Saif Saeed Khalfan Alshamsi; Dhehai Saeed AlHameli; Muna Husam AlKhateeb; Mariam Hasan AlHosani; and Asma Hesham Alhammadi.

The Emirates between Past and Present Student Conference

The College of Humanities and Social Sciences organized a student conference on May 1st, 2019, at Dubai campus to highlight the distinctive past, changing present and promising future of the United Arab Emirates. The main organizer, Dr. Kaltham Al-Majid of IWS, inaugurated the conference and Dr. Hassanein Ali delivered the dean's speech. Dr. Arif Al-Sheikh, an Al-Azhar graduate and a Dubai Courts counselor and well-respected educator, delivered the keynote speech. Twenty-two students of Zayed University presented papers on the legacy of Sheikh Zayed and the UAE accomplishments in such diverse fields as education, healthcare, supporting the disabled, social protection, development and economic diversification (e.g. oil industry, tourism and traditional crafts). The conference was accompanied by a book display and attended by about fifty students from AlWasl University (previously The College of Islamic and Arabic Studies) and parents of many presenting students. At the end of event, the presenting students, their parents and the organizers were honored and received gifts.



the NYUAD – has awarded us the scholar of Shaikh Mohammed bin Zayed title

On April 28th, 2019 Hala Thabet received The Scholar of Shaikh Mohammed bin Zayed Title during the NYUAD-Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Scholars Program graduation ceremony. The event was the NYUAD-Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Scholars Program graduation ceremony. After a rigorous year of hard work and a tremendous number of assignments, we have been awarded the scholar of Shaikh Mohammed bin Zayed title, and it has been one exhilarating experience where not only did we emerge as future leaders, but also a family of scholars. Hala comments “I will cherish this experience and the people I met forever”. Three CHSS students were among the graduates this year: Al Maha Al Mansoori, Ayesha Al Mazrouei – Shafia Mubarak AlHarthi.



Ladan Affi organized a Student Poster Presentation for her HSS 466 Applied Research Methods courses for one week between 28th April to May 2nd 2019 at Abu Dhabi campus. As part of the HSS 466 Applied Research Methods course, students were required to carry out original research and to then take part in a poster presentation in the promenade. A total of 52 students took part. The students carried out quantitative, qualitative and mixed methods research on a diverse range of topics ranging from mythical tales from Oman; gender equality; divorce in the UAE; social media and mental Health in the UAE; Arabic Language; refugees; Islamophobia; the benefits of reading; the transformation of the educational system in the UAE; etc. * It was the first time that the students had presented their research and they enjoyed sharing the research that they had carried out with their classmates, other students and faculty. They learned how to organize and present their research and to explain how they carried out their research. For some students, the poster presentation provided them with an opportunity to hone their final research paper as expressed by one of the student:



My experience in doing the poster presentation...was very helpful in the sense that it made me finalize the final arguments of my research paper. Both professors and students helped share their opinions regarding my topic which was surprising at first since I thought that I would get no reaction out of them. The different nationalities and religious backgrounds of professors has been very eye opening from the way they commented on my poster and my topic in general. For instance, there was this professor who is an American and a Muslim convert that shared her experiences with Islamophobia, which, as a result made me bring up a whole different conclusion from the one that I had intended in mind. So overall, it was an amazing experience that helped me draw certain conclusions to finalize my research paper as both the interviews that I conducted and the questions and comments that the audience provided help shape my overall perception of Emirati wearing hijab abroad and the influence of islamophobia.

Magdalena Karolak with her students from HSS 397 Special Topics class participated in a guided visit to the Youth X Hub in March 17th 2019. The presentation included a tour of the facilities of the youth center as well as a lecture and Q&A about the many strategies the UAE government creates for Emirati youth as leaders in the society.



Leena Taneja with her students from SOC 326 travelled to Abu Dhabi on March 24, 2019 to explore the gallery's artistic offerings. The purpose of this trip was to enhance classroom learning on “happiness and well-being”. Students viewed the art work inspired by specific philosophical schools they have studied in class.



Marta Wiczorek and Tilde Rosmer went with their students to Abu Dhabi on March 2019 to visit Louvre.

Ahmed Salem: published a book chapter under the title of “Security versus Democratization: French Priorities in Tunisia’s Transitional Period (2011-2014),” in Nicasius Achu Check, Korwa Adar and Ajume Wingo (eds.), *France’s Africa Relations: Domination, Continuity and Contradiction*. The chapter is about Tunisia’s transitional period, France was reluctant and unwilling to support the popular choice expressed in the 2011 elections, although it continued to pay a lip service to its commitment to support democratizing nations. This argument is supported in this paper by comparing announced and actual French policies during four successive phases after the Tunisian revolution broke out. (Pretoria: Africa Institute of South Africa, 2019) pp.172-193. ISBN 9780798305297

James Lockhart published a chapter in an edited volume under the title of *The Dulles Supremacy: Allen Dulles, the Clandestine Service, and PBFortune*. This chapter highlights Director of Central Intelligence Allen Dulles’s influence in the formative history of the CIA. It draws on insights from bureaucratic politics theory, particularly its appreciation for factions, negotiated outcomes, and irrationality in foreign policy formulation and implementation. Dulles used covert operations in Guatemala to break President Harry Truman’s concept of a quiet Agency that was intended to produce national intelligence analyses while replacing it with a more activist and higher profile one. This redefined the CIA’s strategic culture and mission priorities in the early 1950s, and its legacy endures today. 2018/Georgetown University Press.

James Lockhart published his book under the title of *Chile, the CIA and the Cold War: A Transatlantic Perspective*. This book reinterprets the history of Chile, the CIA and the Cold War. It blends national, regional and world-historical trends from Chile, and both the inter-American and transatlantic communities, into a century-long Cold War narrative. This advances research that has progressively expanded the framework of Chile’s Cold War experience since the arrest of General Augusto Pinochet, in the United Kingdom, for human rights violations more than twenty years ago. It draws upon archival sources from several countries, including recently declassified documents in the United States. The author argues that Chileans made their own history as highly engaged internationalists while reassessing American and other foreign-directed intelligence, surveillance and secret warfare operations in Chile and southern South America. The book transcends a well-known, US-centered historiography while offering a more equitable and global interpretation of Chile’s Cold War experience than previously possible. 2019/Edinburgh University Press.

Kristian Alexander: published a paper on Think Tank Report under the title of *Doing Business in conflict Zones: Multinational corporations and the Terrorism linkage - Future for Advanced Research & Studies, Trending Events Periodical (in Arabic), July 2019-*. The paper highlights the risks, dangers and ramifications of MNC’s establishing companies in Conflict Zones, and discusses a case of a French company, Iraq, and the political fall-out thereof.

Kristian Alexander published an opinion piece in UAE in Gulf News on July 21, 2019, under the title of *UAE Foreign Aid always exceeds UN target*. The article compares the UAE’s disbursement of Foreign aid in contrast to other countries and highlights some of the difficulties & challenges that other aid donor countries have faced.

Magdalena Karolak published a journal article as co-author with Cameron Mirza, under the title of *GCC Labor Market, Education and Generation Y Females: a Match or a Mismatch?* The aim of this paper is to analyze the convergence between the current state of education, labor markets, preparedness, and expectations of Generation Y females taking Bahrain as a case study. The quickly modernized and globalized world created a generation with worldviews distinct from the generation of their parents and this is especially visible in the GCC region that has been undergoing profound changes in the last decades with more and more women in the labor market. GCC countries are at the stage where the transformation of their labor markets remains of utmost importance; hence this paper sheds light on the current trends and provides recommendations for future reforms. *Journal of International Women’s Studies* 20 (2), 166-181.

Marta Wieczorek: published an article that examines the intersection between an ambivalent urban space and the concept of heterotopia. The aim of the paper is to display St. Paul’s ruins as a culturally meaningful space of otherness while unfolding its heterotopic nature.

Wieczorek, M. (2019). *Macau’s Heterotopias: Ruins of St. Paul’s as a Spatial and Temporal Disruption*. *The Asia Pacific Journal of Anthropology*, 20(4), 312-327.

Marta Wieczorek: edited a volume which explores the relationship between place, identity-formation and the construction of social belonging within Middle Eastern urban context.

Wieczorek, M., Rollwagen, J. (eds.) (2019). *Urban Anthropology and Studies of Cultural Systems and World Economic Development*. Special issue: “Place-making”: Negotiating Urban Identities in the Middle East. 48(1-2). Brockport: The Institute Inc.

Melissa Chiovenda published an article under the title of *Discursive Placemaking and Acts of Violence: The Dasht-e Barchi Neighborhood of Kabul, Afghanistan in Urban Anthropology 2019*. Dasht-e Barchi, the Western neighborhood of Kabul where many of the Hazara/Shi’a minority live, largely remained a safe area after the 2001 US invasion of Afghanistan. This article will seek to show the shift that occurred among Hazaras in Barchi, which went from being known as the safest to the most dangerous neighborhood in Kabul, from the point of view of one of the most targeted and discriminated against groups in Afghanistan. In doing so, the discursive nature of placemaking and place attachment as a manifestation of power struggles, including violent acts such as suicide bombings, will be explored.



Mona Farag published a Journal article under the title of Can Water Mitigate the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict? – the Case for Environmental Peacemaking in The Arab World Geographer / Le Géographe du monde arabe Vol 21, no 4 (2018) 299-319. This paper aims to shed light on the possibility of whether environmental concerns are an efficient mechanism in bringing conflicting countries to the bargaining table. This paper argues that issues over water scarcity can be resolved peacefully through international cooperation and negotiation, rather than through military force. The paper provides an assessment of geographical case studies related to the water issue (which serves as the empirical background of this paper), and supports the argument that environmental cooperation can be used to promote peace as opposed to peace being a prerequisite for environmental cooperation. The anticipated results consider the current complications of the recent conflict within the region in order to assess the degree of success in including environmental security issues within the conflict resolution negotiations.

Jonathan Fulton published the following:

المصين تفضل دور الدرجة الثانية في الخليج لجني الفوائد دون تحمل تبعاتها an article on Chinese security partnerships in Middle East, published in Arabic, for Gulf Research Center, Saudi Arabian think tank.

China's Changing Role in the Middle East: Issue Brief / Policy Report in 2019 / *The Atlantic Council*. 8000-word report detailing a) China's MENA presence, b) MENA responses, c) USA response. Commissioned by director of Rafik Hariri Center for the Middle East. https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/images/publications/Chinas_Changing_Role_in_the_Middle_East.pdf.

China Deepens Ties with UAE with Industrial Investment: Commissioned analytical piece about China - Abu Dhabi relations. 2019, *Al Monitor*, <https://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2019/07/china-investment-uae-kizad-industrial-zone.html>

China's Gulf Investments Reveal Regional Strategy: Commissioned analytical piece about China's approach to developing infrastructure on Arabian Peninsula. 2019, *Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington*, <https://agsi.w.org/chinas-gulf-investments-reveal-regional-strategy/>

China's Economic Statecraft and the Gulf Cooperation Council. A chapter on the pillars of Chinese economic statecraft with GCC states: 2019, in Yi Edward Yang and Wei Liang, eds., *Challenges to China's Economic Statecraft: A Global Perspective*. (Lanham: Lexington Books, 2019)

Domestic Politics as Fuel for China's Maritime Silk Road Initiative: Article on China - GCC cooperation through Maritime Silk Road Initiative: 2019, *Journal of Contemporary China*

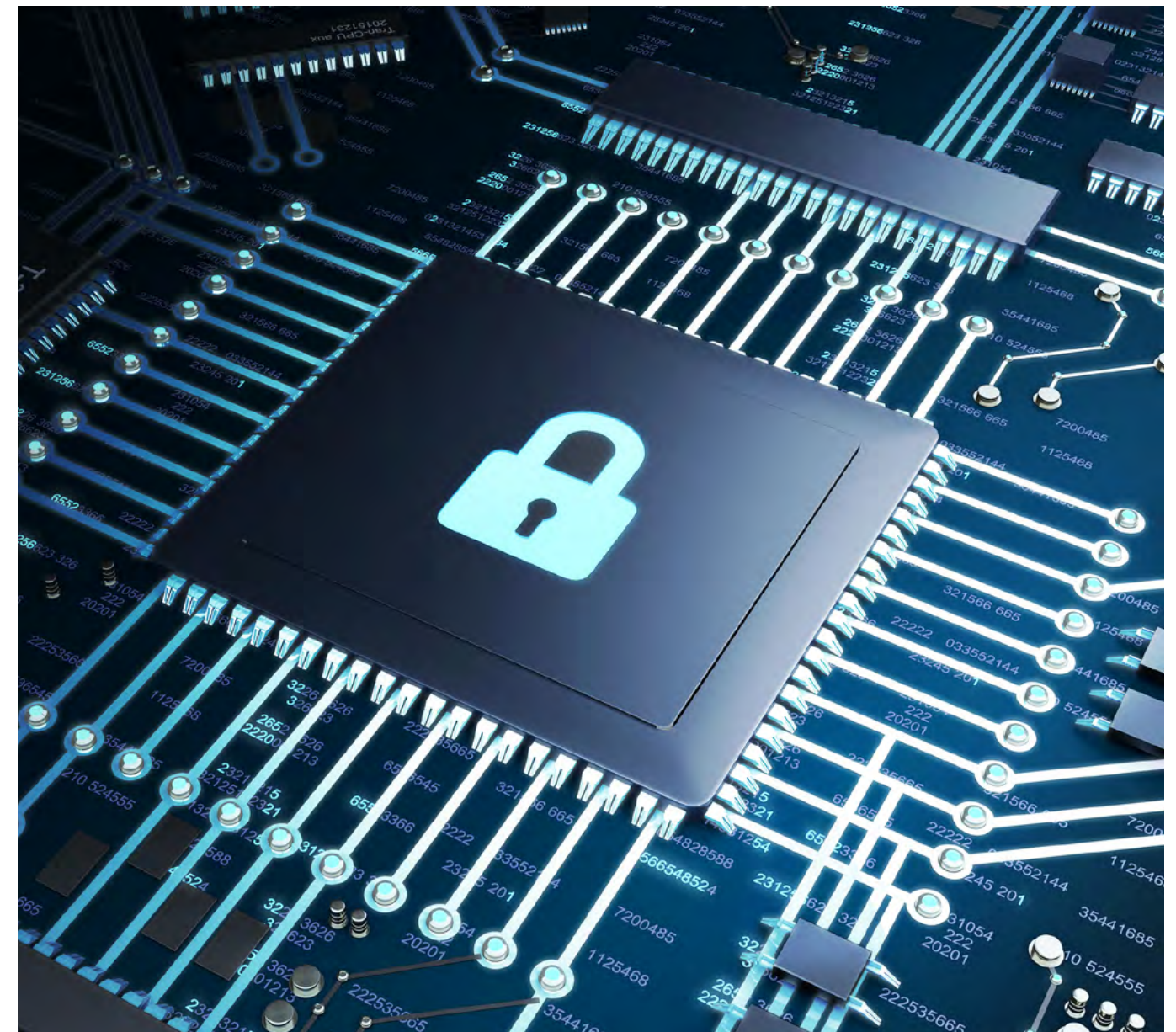
China is Becoming a Major Player in the Middle East After Aramco Attacks, China's Middle East Interests are at Stake Commissioned analytical article for BRINK, business division of The Atlantic Monthly: 2019, *BRINK*, <http://www.brinknews.com/china-is-becoming-a-major-player-in-the-middle-east/>

After Aramco Attacks, China's Middle East Interests are at stake: Commissioned analytical article for the Atlantic Council: 2019, *The Atlantic Council*, <https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/iransource/after-aramco-attacks-chinas-middle-east-interests-are-at-stake/>

Book review: China and Islam: The Prophet, The Party and the State. 2019, International Institute for Asian Studies, <https://newbooks.asia/review/china-islam>

Assessing Security Threats and The UAE's Counterterrorism Strategy

On March 18th, 2019, Kristian Alexander presented an ongoing research project which is looking at the UAE in terms of assessing its security threats and its counter-terrorism strategy. He argues that the United Arab Emirates enjoys proximity to many of the world's expanding markets and has established a reputation as a politically stable and investor-friendly country. Yet, it is located in a volatile environment and has dealt with several security threats such as the ripple effects of the Arab Spring, Iran, the Muslim Brotherhood and the Civil War in Syria. The study is trying to answer the following questions: Why and how has the UAE been able to avoid a serious terrorist attack so far and how does it approach the security concerns in general? What are the basic characteristics of its preemptive and multifaceted approach in dealing with terrorism?. His work is a book chapter which is part of a larger co-edited volume with William Gueraiche, forthcoming with Routledge, entitled: *Contemporary Security Issues in the UAE*.





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