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Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity

Monthly Perspectives

September, 2025 ♦ Fall 2025

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Welcome



Dear CSGGE Community:

On behalf of everyone at the Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity (CSGGE), it is my great pleasure to welcome you to a new academic year. The year 2025 is a landmark one as we celebrate our 45th anniversary and mark a major milestone: our transition to a permanent center under the new name. While the name has evolved, our dedication to fostering human development, promoting social justice, and advancing the study of gender identity remains at the heart of our work.

We have an exciting lineup of programming and events this year. We will kick off the semester with our annual [Fall Reception](#), a joyful opportunity to learn more about our center, meet new friends, and reconnect with old ones. Alongside our highlighted annual events, the Alumni Lecture, Faculty

Affiliate Lecture, and International Women's Day celebration, we are thrilled to announce the 2025–2026 Lecture Series on *Gendered Displacement and Erasure*. This series will feature four distinguished speakers from our campus and across the nation throughout the year. In October, we will also present a MillerComm Lecture that brings academic and public perspectives to the urgent topic of climate change.

In addition, we will host and co-host two faculty affiliate–initiated events that convene national and international scholars to explore intersectional, data-driven, and community-anchored approaches to advancing global gender equity. We also welcome opportunities to co-sponsor events with units across campus, so please check our [website](#) for the full list of upcoming programs.

We are proud of the education and support that CSGGE provides to students. This year, we will continue to offer professional development opportunities for students in our graduate minor on [Gender Relations in International Development \(GRID\)](#) and for graduate students across campus. These include fellowship information sessions, writing workshops, writing groups and lightning talks led by GRID students, and the new series of panel discussion on community-engaged research for graduate students. Each year, we offer a competition for [graduate student awards](#) that includes two full year fellowships and a research award.

Please join us in congratulating the 2025-2026 CSGGE Fellowship and Award Recipients: Margie Giacalone (Rita and Arnold Goodman Fellowship), Asmaa Elsayed (Barbara A. Yates Fellowship), Mahbubeh Moqadam (Accad and Vieille Award), and Ayesnur Senel (Accad and Vieille Award).

This year brings further exciting developments with the launch of the newly approved [Master of Science in Global Studies](#) program, which features a *Gender and Public Policy* track. This innovative track equips students with the skills needed to address global gender equity and human security issues through interdisciplinary, intersectional approaches. It prepares students for leadership roles in government and nonprofit organizations focused on gender and policy.

We look forward to a year filled with meaningful dialogue, impactful research, and a continued commitment to equity and justice. Our weekly newsletters will continue to share upcoming events, and our *Monthly Perspectives* will highlight updates from our faculty affiliates and GRID students. If you have news to share, we would love to hear from you. We are always happy to meet to discuss any questions about our programs or ways to get involved with CSGGE. Please feel free to contact me or our Associate Director, Anita Kaiser, at arkaiser@illinois.edu or (217) 333-6221.

We look forward to seeing you at our events and working together in the exciting year ahead!

Warm regards,

Min Zhan

Director, Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity
Professor, School of Social Work

New Master of Science in Global Studies Program

CGS Announces Launch of New Master of Science in Global Studies Program, Spring 2026!

The Center for Global Studies (CGS) is thrilled to announce the launch of a new Master of Science in Global Studies (MSGS) program, beginning in Spring 2026. This innovative, interdisciplinary program is a collaborative effort among the Center for Global Studies (CGS), the Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity (CSGGE), and the Program in Arms Control & Domestic and International Security (ACDIS).

The MSGS program offers three distinct tracks: Global Governance, Global Security, and ***Gender and Public Policy***. This structure capitalizes on the teamwork and scholarly synergies across the campus, offering a wide range of courses from throughout the university, and providing new educational pathways across disciplines. The aim is to develop broadly educated and well-trained scholars, practitioners, and professionals who will become future leaders with a global impact.

Designed to be completed in three semesters, the program offers flexibility through online and in-person courses, accommodating the diverse needs of full-time students and working professionals, regardless of their location around the globe or on the Urbana-Champaign campus.

The MSGS program emphasizes real-world, professional training and experience by equipping students with the skills to study, research, and work globally and with international universities and industry partners. Graduates will gain valuable global skills such as international teamwork, communication, and collaboration, which are increasingly in demand in today's interconnected world.

Graduates of the program will have a strong understanding of globalization and the framework of Global Studies. They will develop critical thinking skills to analyze how globalization impacts global order, welfare, and legitimacy, and translate classroom knowledge into professional experience by exploring global studies phenomena and problems.

The Illinois Global Institute's ACDIS, CGS, and CSGGE are committed to preparing students for successful careers in an increasingly interconnected world. The new Master's degree program is a testament to that commitment.

For more information about the Master of Science in Global Studies degree program, including admission requirements and application, please click [here](#), and for questions about the *Gender and Public Policy* track please contact Anita Kaiser at arkaiser@illinois.edu

Announcing the 2025-2026 CSGGE Fellows

ILLINOIS GLOBAL INSTITUTE

Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity

present

Congratulations CSGGE 2025-2026 Fellowship and Award Recipients

We would like to thank our donors who have generously set up fellowships and grants to support the research of University of Illinois graduate students on gender issues in developing countries



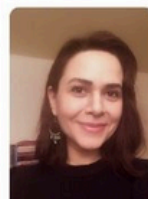
Rita and Arnold Goodman Fellow

Margie Giacalone is a PhD Student in the Department of Anthropology. Their research examines the multilingual strategies that gender and sexually dissident Indigenous and descendant Bolivians enact for a politics of care in a changing social, political, and economic landscape.



Barbara A. Yates Fellow

Asmaa Elsayed is a PhD Student in the Department of Education Policy, Organization, and Leadership at the College of Education. Asmaa's research explores how Gen Z and Alpha minoritized women activists in Egypt use digital technologies to access forbidden knowledge, reshape identities, build social capital, and engage in activism, redefining 'place' and 'belonging' across digital and physical realms.



Evelyne Accad and Paul Vieille International Research Awardee

Mahbubeh Moqadam is a PhD Student in the Department of Sociology. Mahbubeh's research examines how Daheye Hashtadi (Iran's Generation Z) women navigate digital spaces and sociopolitical constraints before, within, and after the Woman-Life-Freedom movement. Using digital ethnography and content analysis her research investigates their identity formation, mobilization

content analysis for research investigates their identity formation, mobilization strategies, and intersectional resistance in online/offline landscapes.



Evelyne Accad and Paul Vieille International Research Awardee
Aysenur Senel is a PhD Student in the Department of Architecture. Aysenur's research examines the intersection of gender, race, class, ethnicity and imperial authority in Ottoman architectural patronage, focusing on imperial women in 17th-century Egypt and Istanbul.



Illinois Global Institute Graduate Language Fellows:
Ali Baroutian is a Master's Student in Department of Religion. He will study Arabic during his IGI Language Fellowship

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES ■ UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



Reflection on the 2025 International Women's Day Celebration

"Throughout history, the accomplishments of women have often been erased, obscured, or overlooked. However, the International Women's Day Celebration event, sponsored by the Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity and the Humanities Research Institute, brought eleven of those stories to light," wrote Serena Naji, HRI David F. Prindable Intern. The 2025 International Women's Day Celebration featured speakers including Wojtek Chodzko-Zajko, W. Brooke Elliott, Traci Barkley, David Chih, Cindy Ingold, Sandraluz Lara-Cinisomo, Alejandro Lieras, Shari Mickey-Boggs, Zara Mohagheh, Isabella Reyna Sauer, and Bhakti Verma. "The women described by each speaker spanned across disciplines... audience members heard a multitude of stories from fields that support all aspects of life... Ultimately, every featured woman found unique ways to fight societal gender norms and make a profound difference in the world."



To read the full reflection article written by Serena Naji, please click [here](#). If you were unable to attend the 2025 International Women's Day Celebration, a link to the recorded event can be found [here](#).

CSGGE Fall Reception

CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF GLOBAL GENDER EQUITY

Fall Reception

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2025
4:00-5:00pm
YMCA LATZER HALL,
1001 S. WRIGHT ST, CHAMPAIGN

Remarks at 4:20pm
RSVP appreciated by Sept. 1
<https://go.illinois.edu/CSGGEFallReception>



SPONSORING UNIT
 Center for the Study of
Global Gender Equity

Upcoming Events

Please view our full schedule of hosted and co-sponsored events on our website.

Please, click here for CSGGE Master Calendar

Events of Interest

Rationale & learning objectives

The course is organized by the Special Projects Department of the Secretariat-General in close cooperation with the OSCE Gender Issues Programme, in the office of the OSCE Secretary-General.

The 'Gender course' is designed to address the needs of those currently offering humanitarian crisis worldwide through the specific lens of gender, investigating areas such as:

- The importance of Gender Mainstreaming;
- Sexual Exploitation and Abuse;
- Gender-related Sexual Violence;
- Trafficking in Human Beings;
- Terrorism and Counterterrorism;
- Disarmament;
- Women's engagement in peace processes and gender perspectives on peacebuilding.

The main objective of the course is to provide participants with the legal knowledge and key analytical tools necessary to identify, with and apply the existing international rules governing international operations and other complex scenarios.

The course also aims to encourage participants' ability to assess and integrate gender-related risks of specific operations and develop gender-sensitive decision-making at different operational levels.

Methodology

The programme will integrate both live and self-paced sessions.

Live sessions will be held on Zoom every Monday and Thursday at 2 pm (CRODICT).

Attendees will have the opportunity to deepen their knowledge of the subject through self-paced self-controlled and live interactions with the high-level teaching staff, personally selected by the organizers.

The delivery of assignments will be required to successfully complete the course. Exercises and case studies will be mainly focused on the real-life application of the more current international legal standards and on the best practices implemented on the ground by the most relevant international organizations, NGOs and other actors.

Considering the specialized nature of this training programme, participants are invited to download and review the [Bluebook on Integrating Gender Perspectives into International Operations](https://bluebook.osce.int/content/publications/osce-international-operations) before the beginning of the course, by visiting the "Publications" section on the RHG website.

Download your free [Bluebook on Integrating Gender Perspectives into International Operations](https://bluebook.osce.int/content/publications/osce-international-operations) and prepare for the training!

OSCE Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

4th Online course on Integrating Gender perspectives into International Operations, Armed Conflicts and other Crisis Scenarios

6 - 30 October 2025
Online

www.osce.org

Integrating Gender Perspectives into International Operations, Armed Conflicts, and other Crisis Scenarios

 **October 6th-30th 2025**

Registration deadline: 28 September 2025

Please, click here to register

Please, click here to view agenda and learn more about the programs initiative

Articles of Interest

The editors of the Journal of Women's History present the publication of Volume 37, Number 3 (Fall 2025) of the *Journal of Women's History*. The *Journal* dedicates its time to exploring women's lived experiences throughout history. To read the full article, please click [here](#).

CSGGE Student Spotlight



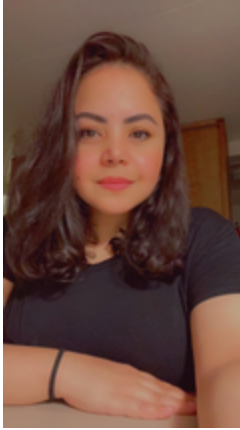
[Mahbubeh Moqadam](#), a doctoral student in the Department of Sociology and GRID student, was awarded the [American Association of University Women \(AAUW\) Dissertation Fellowship](#) for the 2025–2026 academic year. Mahbubeh's recent article has been published in *Social Forces*, a top journal in sociology. The article is titled *Fractal Scaling of Feminist Politics and the Emergence of the Woman, Life, Freedom Movement in Iran*. To read the article please, click [here](#).

A second paper, “‘I’m the Common Pain; Dance with Me’: Fractality, Affect, and Embodiment in Circulation of Resistance,” is now published in *Critical Sociology*. The permanent link for the article at <https://doi.org/10.1177/08969205251359979>



[Janet Ami Husunukpe](#), a doctoral student in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning and GRID student, was awarded the [American Association of University Women \(AAUW\) International Fellowship](#) for the 2025–2026 academic year.

[Asmaa Elsayed](#), a doctoral candidate in the Department of Education Policy, Organization, and Leadership at the College of Education and a GRID student, has been awarded the [Verdell Frazier Young Award](#) for



Summer 2025 by the Women's Resources Center. Asmaa was also awarded the [Humanities Research Institute Graduate Fellowship](#) for the 2025-2026 academic year.



[Kshitij Tewari](#), a doctoral student in the Department of Recreation, Sport and Tourism and GRID student, was awarded the [Marianne A. Ferber Graduate Scholarship](#) by the Department of Gender and Women's Studies.



Soodeh Mansouri, a PhD student in Sociology at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, presented a paper at the American Sociological Association conference titled "Resistance and Oppression in the Women, Life, Freedom Movement." Here, Mansouri discussed the creation of online social spaces by protesters, with a focus on the role of women in shaping these spaces.

Please, click [here](#) to see all CSGGE GRID Student Spotlight

CSGGE Alumni Spotlight



Featuring Claire Branigan, Ph.D.

Current Position: Lecturer, Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures, Faculty Affiliate Center for the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality, Faculty Affiliate Center for the Study of Latin America, Rice University.

Location: Houston, TX

What is the focus of your current work and/or research? I currently teach Spanish, Latin American Studies, and Gender Women's Studies at Rice University. My research is focused at the intersection of political/legal, feminist, and medical anthropology. I am interested in the ways that human beings respond to violence, specifically the violence of impunity and violence that is gender-based. I have conducted long-term fieldwork in Argentina on anti-femicide activism and am currently developing a book project that looks at the legacy of family-led activism for justice in Latin America.

How has your GRID minor influenced your career? The GRID minor has had a profound impact on my career. I was actually hired at Rice specifically to teach gender and women's studies courses with a focus on the Global South and a global perspective. The minor has deeply influenced how I approach teaching and how I frame gender for my students, in ways that speak to their diverse interests and experiences.

What advice would you offer to current GRID students? The GRID minor and the CSGGE programing is

unlike any other that I have encountered in higher education. If you are interested in researching anything pertaining to gender, GRID minor will undoubtedly help facilitate this. I found the GRID community to be one of the most supportive. My research was funded by the many funding opportunities and I also found the faculty, students, and staff (Anita) to be incredibly supportive.

How can we follow your work on social media? You can find more about my work at my personal website <https://www.clairebranigan.phd/>, you can also email me at cb127@rice.edu

Please, click here to see all CSGGE Alumni Spotlight

CSGGE Faculty Affiliate Spotlight

CSGGS Faculty Affiliates Rated as Excellent by Their Students

Fall 2024

- Julie L Cidell
- Valeria Bonatti
- Alison Duncan Kerr
- Amit Kramer
- Annie Ruth Abbott\
- Brian Gabriel Ogolsky
- Caitlin Vitosky Clarke
- Carla A Santos
- Charles Joseph Fogelman
- Damian Vergara Bracamontes
- Denise Lewin Loyd
- Ghassan Moussawi
- Guen Montgomery
- Helga Varden
- Hyun-Sook Kang
- Jesse Couture

- Jessica R Greenberg
- Karen Tabb Dina
- Liv T. Dávila
- Magdalena Novoa
- Mahruq Khan
- Melissa Rae Goodnight
- Merle L Bowen
- Patrick J Keenan
- Rachel Cheree Garthe
- Ryan Wade
- Samantha Anne Lindgren
- Sandraluz Lara-Cinisomo
- Sarah Ann Janzen
- Shao Dan
- Tapiwa Sigauke
- Timothy Wedig
- Tingting Zhang

Books Published by CSGGE Faculty Affiliates (2024-2025)

1. Julie L Cidell (2024), [*A Research Agenda for Transport Equity and Mobility Justice: Elgar Research Agendas*](#). Edward Elgar Publishing.
2. Melissa Rae Goodnight (2024), [*Theories Bridging Ethnography and Evaluation: Making Transformative, Intersectional, and Comparative Connections*](#), Emerald Publishing.
3. Erik McDuffie (2024), [*The Second Battle for Africa: Garveyism, the US Heartland, and Global Black Freedom*](#). Duke University Press.
4. Mimi Thi Nguye (2024), [*The Promise of Beauty*](#). Duke University Press. Also: Patty Ahn, Michelle Cho, Vernadette Vicuna Gonzalez, Rani Neutill, Mimi Thi Nguyen, and Yutian Wong, eds. [*Bangtan Remixed: A Critical BTS Reader*](#). Duke University Press.
5. D Fairchild Ruggles (2025), [*Islamicate Environments: Water, Land, Plants, and Society*](#). Cambridge University Press.

6. Ann-Perry Witmer, Jess Mingee, Bernhard D Scully (2024), [Consilience: Learning About Ourselves by Applying Indigenous Traditions to Western Music and Technology](#). Springer.
7. Flavia Cristina Drumond Andrade: Angel, J. L., Andrade, F. C. D., Riosmena, F. & Mejia-Arango, S. (2024). [Older Mexicans and Latinos in the United States: Where worlds meet](#). Springer.
8. Jose M Atilos Osoria (2024). [Crisis by Design: Emergency Powers and Colonial Legality in Puerto Rico](#). Stanford University Press.
9. Antoinette M Burton (2024). [Gender History: A Very Short Introduction](#). Oxford University Press.
10. Faye V Harrison: Yasuko Takezawa, Faye V. Harrison, Akio Tanabe (2025). [Visibilities and Invisibilities of Race and Racism, Toward a New Global Dialogue](#). Routledge.
11. Patrick J Keenan: Sadat, L. N., Keenan, P., & Sterio, M. (2024). [The International Criminal Court in a Nutshell](#). (Nutshells). West Academic Publishing.
12. Helga Varden (2024), [Essays on Kant's Ethics and Political Philosophy](#). Naghd-e Farhang Publications.
13. Chi-Fang Wu: Tan, K., Wu, C.-F., & Ostler, T. (2025). [Social Work and Simulations: Teaching Practice, Research, Policy, and Social Injustices](#). Oxford University Press.

This is a selection of highlighted publications and presentations for CSGGE faculty affiliates. To learn more, please visit the CSGGE faculty affiliates webpage and click on each scholar's profile to explore their recent scholarly publications, engagements, and academic service.

- **Antoinette Burton:** Dr. Burton was elected to the [American Academy of Arts and Sciences](#). Since 1780, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences has honored excellence and convened leaders from across disciplines and divides to examine new ideas, address issues of importance, and work together "to advance the interest, honor, dignity, and happiness of a free, independent, and virtuous people." To learn more, please click [here](#). Dr. Burton was also honored with the Distinguished Award for Excellence in Public Engagement at the annual Campus Awards for Excellence in Public Engagement.
- **Caitlin Vitosky Clarke:** [Humanities Research Institute](#) is pleased to announce the Research Clusters slated for 2025–26, Interdisciplinary Sport Studies: Co-Directors: Caitlin Clarke (Health and Kinesiology).

- **Mariselle Meléndez:** On Humanities Advocacy Day, state-based delegations meet with members of Congress and their staff to make the case for federal funding for the humanities. Four School of Literatures, Cultures & Linguistics students and faculty members were part of the Illinois group that traveled to Washington, D.C. this spring: Mariselle Meléndez, director of SLCL; Clara Bosak-Schroeder, a professor in the Department of Classics (and past HRI fellow); Hafsa Faruqi, an undergraduate student majoring in Spanish and psychology (past Prindable Intern at HRI); and Lázaro García Angulo, a graduate student in Spanish & Portuguese (and HRI fellow).
- **Lisette Piedra:** Chicago Sun-Times (June 24) — A new study led by researchers at the U. of I. found that the depth of social networks that older adults have is linked to their health outcomes. The analysis was led by Illinois social work professor Lisette Piedra, who found three types of social networks emerged among older adults. “Being socially active is connected to brain health,” Piedra says. “Being lonely is one of the worst things that you can do for your health, especially as you age.” To read the Chicago Sun-Times article please, click [here](#). To read Dr. Piedra's study please, click [here](#).
- **Matthew Stephen Winters:** Diaz, G., Oliveros, V., Weitz-Shapiro, R., & Winters, M. S. (2025). Ignoring Women's Performance: A Survey Experiment on Policy Implementation in Argentina. *British Journal of Political Science*, 55, Article e54. To read the recently published article, click [here](#).

Please, click here to learn more about CSGGE Faculty Affiliates

CSGGE Programs



CSGGE Gender Relations in International Development Graduate Minor

CSGGE offers a graduate minor in Gender Relations in International Development (GRID). The GRID interdisciplinary minor is designed to give students the analytical and empirical skills needed to address and critically evaluate human development issues in research and policy analysis, as well as in daily life. As of 2021, GRID Alumni have come from 41 departments across campus and 52 different countries. To learn more about the GRID minor, please contact Anita Kaiser at arkaiser@illinois.edu or by phone at 333-6221.

Please, click here to learn more about the GRID Minor



Certificate in Global
Health

Undergraduate Certificate in Global Health

Joint with CSGGE and LAS Global Studies

LAS Global Studies, in conjunction with the Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity (CSGGE), is offering a Certificate in Global Health. **This certificate is open to all undergraduate majors at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.**

Please, click here to learn more about the Undergraduate Certificate



Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity

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