



Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity

Weekly E-news

January 21, 2026 ♦ Spring 2026 ♦ [View past newsletters](#)

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Directors Welcome



Dear CSGGE Community:

Happy New Year! Hope your winter break was restful and rejuvenating and I look forward to our continued collaborative work in 2026. CSGGE's Spring 2026 programming brings together international, national, and campus scholars, educators, students, alumni, and community members, for timely conversations on global gender equity, sustainability, displacement, and social justice. The vibrant line-up of our events (<https://csgge.illinois.edu/news-events/future-events>) include the continued lecture series on *Gendered Displacements and Erasure*, CSGGE Faculty Affiliate Talk on *Muslim Women and Architectural Patronage* and Alumni Lecture on *Urban Sustainability and Gender Equity*, and International Women's Day celebration. We also welcome three scholars from Colombia for a keynote lecture, research panel, and student dialogue focused on *Gender, Sustainability, and Resilience in Times of Socio-environmental Crisis*. Please mark your calendars for the [Spring Reception](#) (April 23), which is always a joyful event to celebrate the achievements of our faculty and students and the end of the academic

year.

Graduate students are central to the Center's mission. This spring, students in the Gender Relations in International Development (GRID) graduate minor will lead and co-lead events including Graduate Student Book Discussion of *The Feminist Killjoy Handbook*, as well as Graduate Student Writing Group and Reading Club. We are proud to support GRID students and graduate students across campus through our research and education initiatives and the Center's annual fellowships and research awards competition (<https://csgge.illinois.edu/academics/graduate-fellowships-and-award>). We are excited to welcome the first cohort of [MS students in Global Studies](#) (Gender and Public Policy track) in Spring 2026!

We look forward to seeing many of you at our Spring events and continuing our partnerships in the semester ahead.

Warmly,

Min Zhan

Director, Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity

Upcoming CSGGE Events



CSGGE Faculty Affiliate Lunch Talk

"Muslim Women and Architectural Patronage" by D. Fairchild Ruggles

Speaker: D. Fairchild Ruggle, Professor and Debra L. Mitchell Chair in Landscape Architecture

Date: Friday, February 6th

Time: 12-1:30 pm

Location: 306 Coble Hall & Zoom
801 S. Wright St., Champaign, IL

Please join us and CSGGE faculty affiliate D. Fairchild Ruggles who will present her lecture "Muslim Woman and Architectural Patronage" at 12pm CST on Friday, February 6, 2026. Please note this lecture will be hybrid - you can either attend in person at Coble Hall room 306 or via Zoom (a link will be emailed to you after registration).

Description: Women have been important patrons of major works of architecture in the Islamic world historically, a phenomenon that reveals their social agency and can illuminate their lives even when they are barely mentioned in historical texts. They were almost all empowered by wealth and proximity to powerful men. But coming from different social and ethnic backgrounds, some of them high born, others emerging from enslavement, their reasons for patronage differed.

Please, [click here to register](#)

This event is co-sponsored by the Center for Global Studies and the Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies

Graduate Book Discussion

Date: Friday, February 20th

Time: 11am-12:30 pm CST via Zoom

Graduate Book Discussion

"The Feminist Killjoy Handbook: the Radical Potential of Getting in the Way"
by Sara Ahmed.

FRIDAY
17
Friday, Feb. 20

🕒 11am CST

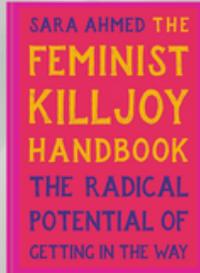
📺 Online via Zoom

Register at <https://go.illinois.edu/Feb20bookgroup>

Need a copy of the book? We have complimentary copies available, so please request during registration so you can pick one up while supplies last.



Know others that might be interested? This is open to all graduate campus students!



Please join us for a book discussion on, **"The Feminist Killjoy Handbook: The Radical Potential of Getting in the Way"** by Sara Ahmed. The book discussion will be led by GRID Students Marina Moscoso-Arabía (Geography) and Marwah Maqbool Malik (Urban and Regional Planning). The book discussion will take place via Zoom, and you will receive log in information by email in the next 3-4 days.

Need a copy of the book? We have complimentary copies available so please request during registration so you can pick one up while supplies last.

Know others that might be interested? This is open to all campus students so please share information.

[Click to register for book discussion](#)

Graduate Student Groups Starting This Week!

The **Reading Book Club** will discuss issues surrounding gender, race, and technology inequalities. If you wish to have a platform to share some of your thoughts from reading a book or hearing other people's thoughts, this is the group for you! Additionally, each person will get access to free books. The first book to be discussed will be *Algorithms of Oppression: How Search Engines Reinforce Racism* by Safiya Noble.

Date: Friday, January 23rd - May 1st

Time: Bi-weekly, 3-5 pm

Location: Coble Hall

801 S. Wright St., Champaign, IL

The **Graduate Student Writing group** will include structured writing sessions, peer feedback, accountability check-ins & progress tracking, and resource style sharing. By attending these sessions, you will increase writing productivity and clarity, develop peer-review skills valued in academia, collaboration and community, and CSGGE-certified participation record for CVs. There will be a focus on thesis chapters, journal articles, conference papers, dissertation proposals, and academic writing.

Date: Friday, January 30th - May 8th

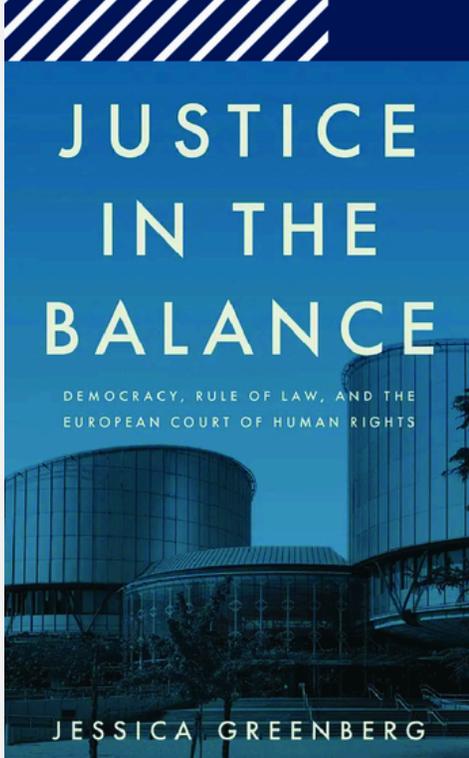
Time: Bi-weekly, 3-6 pm

Location: Coble Hall

801 S. Wright St., Champaign, IL

Please contact Anita Kaiser at arkaiser@illinois.edu if interested in joining either of these groups.

CSGGE Co-Sponsored Events



BOOK LAUNCH

Author Meets Readers

Thursday, Jan 29

3:30-5:30 pm

*Room 215 (Faculty Lounge)
College of Law*

— SPONSORS —



College of Law Program in Comparative
Criminal Procedure and Policing
European Union Center
The Initiative in Holocaust, Genocide,
and Memory Studies
Center for the Study of Global Gender
Equity

FEATURED PANELISTS



Jessica Greenberg

Professor, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

Brett Ashley Kaplan

*Professor of Comparative and World Literature
Director, Initiative in Holocaust, Genocide, Memory Studies*

Emanuel Rota (moderator)

*Associate Professor, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
Director, European Union Center*

Jacqueline Ross

Prentice H. Marshall Professor of Law, College of Law

Book Launch: Author Meets Readers, "Justice in the Balance: Democracy, Rule of Law, and the European Court of Human Rights"

January 29, 2026

3:30-5:30pm

Room 215 (Faculty Lounge), College of Law, 504 E. Pennsylvania Ave, Champaign

Please join us for a panel discussion of:

["Justice in the Balance: Democracy, Rule of Law, and the European Court of Human Rights"](#)

by Professor Jessica Greenberg

Featured Panelists

Jessica Greenberg

Professor, College of Liberal Arts & Science

2025-2026 LAS Dean's Distinguished Professorial Scholar

Department of Anthropology

Brett Ashley Kaplan

Professor, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

Program in Comparative and World Literature

Director, Initiative in Holocaust, Genocide, and Memory Studies

Emanuel Rota (moderator)

Associate Professor, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

Department of French & Italian

Director, European Union Center

Jacqueline Ross

Prentice H. Marshall Professor of Law, College of Law

Sponsored by: University of Illinois College of Law Program in Comparative Criminal Procedure and Policing, European Union Center, The Initiative in Holocaust, Genocide, and Memory Studies, and the Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity

[Click for full event details](#)



Public Speaking Workshop lead by Dr. Laura Stengrim

Speaker: Dr. Laura Stengrim, Teaching Associate Professor and Director of Speakers Workshop

Date: Tuesday, February 3rd

Time: 12-1 pm

Location: 306 Coble Hall

801 S. Wright St., Champaign, IL

Join us for a lively presentation, discussion, and practice session focusing on public speaking skills! We will provide tips about how to practice for common situations like conferences, poster sessions, interviews, and elevator pitches.

Dr. Laura Stengrim earned her PH.D in communication and returned to campus in 2024 after spending 8 years as a faculty member and Director of the Speaking Center at the University of Southern Mississippi.

This event is hosted by Lemann Center for Brazilian Studies and co-sponsored by The Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity.

[Please, click here to register](#)

Graduate Fellowships, 2026-2027

CSGGE Graduate Fellowships and Award

The Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity (CSGGE) holds an annual competition for graduate student awards with a deadline mid-February. We offer two full fellowships through the Rita and Arnold Goodman Fellowship and the Barbara A. Yates International Fellowship. We also have smaller research award through the Accad & Vieille International Research award. Please note that you must be a graduate student in the Gender Relations in International Development (GRID) minor to apply for the Barbara A. Yates Fellowship. The Evelyne Accad and Paul Vieille International Award require research to be on issues related to women in North Africa, Iran, or the Middle East.

A graduate student enrolled at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign may apply for one or more of the awards on the application form by submitting the required materials. Only one application form needed. **Both the application and reference letter submission deadline is Monday, February 16, 2026, 11:59pm.**

[More information on the CSGGE Fellowships and award](#)

AY 2026-2027 Illinois Global Institute Language Fellowship

The Illinois Global Institute Graduate Language Fellowship is now open. The fellowship provides support for critical language training necessary to fields of academic and professional development for UIUC students. The fellowship offers academic year support (AY 2026-2027) to graduate students at the MA or PhD level. IGI Graduate Language Fellows will receive a \$22,000 stipend.

The applications are due Friday, January 30, 2026, at 11:59pm CT. Letters of Recommendation are due Friday, February 6, 2026, at 11:59pm CT. Award/Alternate/Rejection Letters will be sent throughout the

Please, click here to learn more about the IGI Graduate Language Fellowship

2026 Illinois Global Institute Summer Research Fellowship

The 2026 IGI Summer Research Fellowships are now open. The award of up to \$3,500 is meant to support research travel outside of the United States. The aim of the award is to support seed research contributing to the development of a dissertation or thesis project that draws on international research.

Students should apply through one of the centers and programs listed in this call, and if awarded, will be fellows of that center or program. **Applications are due Friday, January 30, 2026, at 11:59pm CT. Letters of Recommendation are due Friday, February 6, 2026, at 11:59pm CT. The Award/Alternate/Rejection Letter will be sent throughout the Spring 2026 Semester.**

Please, click here to learn more about the 2026 IGI Summer Research Fellowship

CSGGE Social Media



Follow our social media for the latest updates from CSGGE.

Click to join our Social Media

CSGGE Programs



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 2025, 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

Click for more info on GRID minor

Master of Science
in Global Studies



Call for Applications
Apply Now

The MS in Global Studies (MSGS) is a 32-hour, three semester program that also offers a 5-year dual BA or BS and MSGS degree option. The program prepares students for careers that require knowledge of and an ability to work within issues related to US Global Governance, US Global Security, and US Gender & Public Policy by equipping them with the analytical and professional skills necessary to navigate an increasingly interconnected world. It emphasizes real-world, professional training and experience by enabling students to study, research, and work globally and with international communities and industry partners. The MSGS develops broadly educated and well-trained scholars, practitioners, and professionals who will become future leaders with a global impact.



Admission requirements

- Completed or in progress a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher learning (or have 12 or more years of related professional work experience)
 - Submit an application to the Graduate College for admission
- *Note: High School and/or college courses must be evaluated for transfer credit.

CSGGE joins the ACDIS and the Center for Global Studies to offer a Master of Science in Global Studies. CSGGE's track is Gender & Public Policy. The MS in Global Studies (MSGS) is a 32-hour, three semester program that also offers a 5-year dual BA or BS and MSGS degree option.

[Click here to learn more information on MSGS](#)

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THE STUDY OF GLOBAL GENDER EQUITY



ILLINOIS GLOBAL INSTITUTE
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

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.**

[For more information on Undergraduate Certificate](#)



Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity

Illinois Global Institute | College of Liberal Arts & Sciences | University of Illinois

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Contact: csggeatillinois@illinois.edu



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