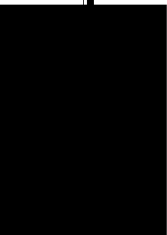


GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

SKIDMORE COLLEGE
Government Department

Fall 2011



One of the most destructive phenomena of the twentieth century, totalitarianism, is the subject of *Great Lie: Classic and Recent Appraisals of Ideology and Totalitarianism*. This collection of essays was edited by the Government Department's own Professor of History, Professor Taylor. The book features the works of two Nobel Prize winning authors and other notable scholars of totalitarianism.

Professor Taylor first submitted a proposal for this book in 2008, but was initially inspired to create this collection after teaching the class "Dissident Political Thought" here at Skidmore. His original idea was to simply create an all encompassing course reader for his students to use instead of purchasing a multitude of costly books and novels. What emerged from the simple idea of a course reader was a compendium of some of the most highly regarded texts that explored why so many Europeans were drawn to totalitarianism in the twentieth century.

One of the most intriguing aspects of the book is its enigmatic title. Professor Taylor explains that the eponymous 'Great Lie' comes from the term used by Solzhenitsyn and other distinguished writers to describe the idea that the most profound terror of totalitarianism may not be physical but rather ideological. It is this conformity one must adhere to in order to live in one of these societies which makes them truly singular.

Although Professor Taylor had always been interested in political discord, his interest in totalitarianism began while working on a dissertation fellowship in Atlanta. When







A Summer in Brussels

Emma Kurs '12

This past summer I interned at the European Parliament in Brussels, Belgium. Thanks to the help of SGA's Responsible Citizenship Internship Award (RCIA) and IES Abroad, I was paid to live abroad and attend events every single day with major political figures, ambassadors, human rights spokespeople, and business representatives.

former Member of the European Parliament (MEP), and current political analyst/strategist in the European Parliament.

While my Skidmore tuition covered the cost of the internship program (which included my residence in Brussels and the internship seminar), living in Europe is ever cheap. Because I was able to set up my internship quite early in the semester, I knew from the start that I wanted to apply for the many grants Skidmore offers to fund my stay in Brussels. I received the SGA RCIA grant, a stipend of \$2500 dollars, which is eligible to any fully-enrolled student who secures a (minimum) 250-hour summer internship/ 7-week program. Students of all majors and fields can apply as long as they have find an internship, approximately students receive the award each year! It is an incredible opportunity, especially at a time when internships are not only valuable, but also necessary to securing future jobs.

the-summer who otherwise may not have the ability to accept those important opportunities. As a sales intern

at the Bill of Rights Institute, an organization dedicated to the expansion and continuation of the words and ideas of America's Founders, I have expanded my skill set and learned to act professionally in an office environment.

Throughout my internship, my main duty was to assist in helping to redesign the Bill of Rights Institute online bookstore to make the web page more user-friendly and visually appealing. Although I had no previous experience with HTML and CSS coding, I learned as I went along and greatly improved the websites visual layout.

After having spent a semester in Freiburg, Germany on the IES Abroad European Union program, I knew I wanted to extend my stay in Europe. Fortunately, IES EU offers all students the chance to apply for their post-spring semester program, which involves a 6-week internship accompanied by a 2-week seminar on inter-cultural exchanges in the work-place. IES not only helped six of us find work at the European Parliament, but also set up our accommodations and travel arrangements for Brussels. I should also mention that for students with other interests, IES can place you with other organizations in Brussels (i.e. the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs and Greenovate! Europe). I interned for Frank Schwalba-Hoth, one of the founding members of the German Greens, a

Brussels, continued on Page 11

My internship was a great experience. As an individual with absolutely no sales

Sales at the Bill of Rights Institute

Aaron Shifreen '13

This past summer, I was fortunate enough to receive the Responsible Citizenship Internship Award, which is a merit-based \$2,500 stipend awarded to students with unpaid internships over



For each home obtained for new arrivals, USCRI Albany has the obligation of providing a list of goods, including cleaning supplies, bedding, the fi

He then cited specifically





GO-101 001 Introduction to American Government

Instructor: Ron Seyb
M/W/F 11:15AM —12:10PM Ladd 307

GO-101 002 Introduction to American Government

Instructor: Natalie Taylor
TU/TH 2:10PM – 3:30PM Ladd 307

GO-102 001 Introduction to Political Philosophy

Instructor: Flagg Taylor
W/F 10:10AM – 11:30AM Palamountain 202

GO-103 Introduction to Comparative and International Politics

Instructor: Roy Ginsberg
TU/TH 9:40AM – 11:00AM Ladd 307

GO-203 001 Comparative European Politics

Instructor: Roy Ginsberg
M/W 2:30PM– 3:50PM Ladd 307

GO209 001 The Latin American Puzzle

Instructor: Aldo Vacs
M/W/F 10:10AM – 11:05AM Ladd 206

GO-224 001 American Indian Politics and Policy

Instructor: Pat Ferraioli
M/W/F 1:25PM – 2:20PM Ladd 307

GO-228 US Foreign Policy

Instructor: Aldo Vacs
M/W/F 9:05AM – 10:00 AM Ladd 207

GO-301 001 Contemporary International Politics

Instructor: Roy Ginsberg
M/W 4:00PM—5:20PM Ladd 207

GO-304 001 Modern Political Thought

Instructor: Timothy Burns
TU/TH 9:10AM—11:00AM Library 213

GO-308 001 Contemporary Political Thought

Instructor: Timothy Burns
TU/TH 3:40PM—5:30PM Tisch 208

GO-311 001 Constitutional Law

Instructor: Pat Ferraioli
M/W 6:30PM—7:50PM Ladd 207