

## Alumni Newsletter

### *Eastern to Host Prestigious Mock Trial Tournament*

EMU has been selected for the first time to host one of the 2019 regional tournaments of the American Mock Trial Association. This is like the first round of an NCAA Basketball Tournament and will be held February 16-17.

Teams advancing from the regional tournaments will participate in one of nine Championship Series tournaments in March. All of them hope to move

on to the national championship to be held April 4-7 in Philadelphia.

This is a great honor for EMU and recognizes the excellent work of Professor Barry Pyle, the other coaches, and alumni working with the team over the years, and the many great student members of the team. Alumni and donor support has also been critical to the success of EMU teams.

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## Alumni News

**Mariam Akanan** (2018) completed an internship with the mission of Lebanon to the UN in New York.

**Sfouk Al-Jarba** (2017) finished the academic portion of his Master's at the United Nations University for Peace in Costa Rica, and has an internship with an NGO in Jordan called Generations for Peace as a program coordinator for Sub-Saharan Africa.

**Hermione Dorcé** (2017) has an internship with the mission of Sri Lanka to the United Nations in New York.

**Emily Hoffer** (2017) completed a year-long Fulbright teaching English in Mexico, and started in an AmeriCorps position in Chicago, where she is teaching English to immigrants and

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## Year-End Giving

If you're one of those people who waits until December to make many of your charitable donations, please keep us in mind. We can always use support for scholarships and academic teams, especially now as EMU struggles with resources.

### General Program Support

[Political Science Fund \(00503\)](#)

### Travel Courses

[Study Abroad Scholarship \(01922\)](#)

[Poverty, Human Rights, and Health Scholarship \(02371\)](#)

### Student Organizations

[Model United Nations Team \(01203\)](#)

[Mock Trial Team \(01344\)](#)

[Moot Court Fund \(02337\)](#)

### Scholarships

[James H. Brickley Scholarship \(00082\)](#)

[Richard Fierens Scholarship \(01663\)](#)

[David Hortin Public Law Scholarship \(01413\)](#)

[James Donald Johnson Scholarship \(01891\)](#)

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# Travel Courses

## *Russia: You can join us in 2019*



In June 2018, nine political science and international affairs majors traveled to St. Petersburg and Moscow for “Russian Revolutions,” a study abroad course taught by Professors Judith

Kullberg and Richard Stahler-Sholk. Through lectures, visits to major historical sites, museums, cultural performances, and meetings with civil society organizations, students acquired a deep understanding of the political and social history, from the Revolution of 1917 through the Gorbachev revolution and the collapse of communism to the present. The overview of Russian culture and history provided context for understanding the complexities of contemporary Russian politics and Russia’s role in the international system. Students thoroughly enjoyed the course and many plan to return to Russia

someday or continue their study of Russian politics and history. Kullberg and Stahler-Sholk are looking forward to leading another group of students to explore Russia’s revolutions in June 4-24, 2019.



Non-students can join the tour by registering for one credit hour of tuition. [Applications are being accepted now, with a deadline of March 1.](#)

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## *Students go to Washington, D.C.*

In May 2018, students of the “Washington, DC: Rhetoric and Reality” course traveled to the nation’s capital with Dr. Jeffrey Bernstein. The class visited several famous memorials, the Supreme Court, and the White House.

Students started with seeing United States documents in person, followed by exploring the history of the most important written and spoken rhetoric of our country’s past. They also had meetings on Capitol Hill and with national interest groups before returning to campus to work on their research papers. Professors Barbara Patrick



The course is offered again in May 2019. Students will have the chance to see memorable sites with a dynamic instructor who LOVES

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## *Civil Rights Tour*

Professors Barbara Patrick and Barry Pyle will again offer the “Civil Rights Tour” class April 27-May3, 2019. Following on-campus class sessions, they will visit sites, organizations, and activists in Mississippi and Tennessee.

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## Student News

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**Maria Perdomo Garcia** is doing a Fall 2018 internship at the Costa Rican mission to the United Nations in New York.

**Ethan Smith** was awarded a Symposium Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) for a project on the global pharmaceutical trade and pricing structure.

**Lily Pellerito** was accepted to a U.S. Department of State internship for summer 2019 in Washington, DC at the Office of Central American Affairs.

**Nonprofit Leadership Alliance** students will be competing in the 'What's the Big Idea?' competition at the Alliance Management Institute in January.

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## Faculty News

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Dr. Gregory Plagens published an article in the *Journal of Public Affairs Education*, a peer reviewed journal of the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs and Administration. It is called "Horseplay or Sexual Harassment: Discipline and Due Process in the Michigan Department of Corrections."



Dr. Jeffrey Bernstein is coauthor of a recent article: "Using Creative Assignments to Help Students Integrate Their Learning in a Campaigns and Elections Class." (with Austin N. Deljevic, Emily K. Kindred, Elizabeth M. Krochmalny, and Annie Somerville), *Journal of Political Science Education*.



Dr. Ebrahim Soltani released an article "Conventional Secularism and the Humanization of Islam: Theory and practice of religious politics in Iran." The article was published in the *Journal of the Middle East and Africa*.



Dr. Tucker Staley wrote an article "The Impact of Tax and Expenditure Limitations on Municipal Revenue Volatility," published in *State and Local Government Review* 50 (2).

### Find us On Facebook

Receive updates about program activities, networking opportunities, and current events. Search for us on Facebook under **Eastern Michigan Political Science Alumni**.



Keep in touch! Let us know about your personal and professional achievements:

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