



Upcoming Events

[Fiona Hill](#)

[Fr 11.13.15](#)

[Open Forum](#)

[International Education Week Kickoff Breakfast with Tak Toyoshima](#)

[Mo 11.16.15](#)

[Advance Registration Req.](#)

[Shireen Hunter](#)

[Tu 11.17.15](#)

[Campus and Community
Meetings](#)

[Brigadier General Stephen Cheney, USMC \(Ret.\)](#)

[Tu 12.08.15](#)

[Campus and Community
Meetings](#)

What's on TV?

Watch the Global Perspectives show on WUCF TV, Sundays at 9:30 a.m., or click [here](#) to watch more videos online.

[Hugh Renfro - Secrets of the Arabian Peninsula](#)



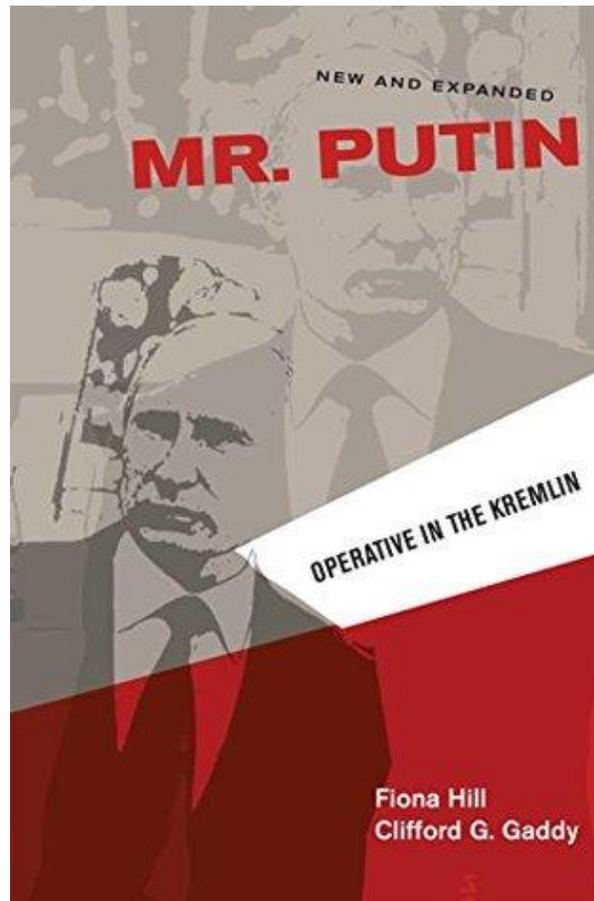
[Ndaba Thembekile Mandela - The Mandela Legacy](#)



[Sebastian Gorka - Threat of Terrorism to the U.S.](#)

Event Spotlight

UCF students, faculty and staff are invited to attend a lecture, "Putin's Russia." The event, which is free and open to the public, will be held Friday, November 13, at 10 a.m. in the Garden Key of the Student Union.



The event features Fiona Hill, who directs the Center on the United States and Europe and is a senior fellow in the Foreign Policy program at the Brookings Institution. She is a frequent commentator on Russian and Eurasian affairs, and has researched and published extensively on issues related to Russia, the Caucasus, Central Asia, regional conflicts, energy and strategic issues. She is also the co-author of the recently released second edition of "Mr. Putin: Operative in the Kremlin" (2015).



[Jim Davis - Superpowers in the 21st Century](#)



The event, organized by the UCF Global Perspectives Office, is co-sponsored by the Office of the President. For more information, please visit www.ucfglobalperspectives.org.

Call for Applications

If you are interested in global issues and want to gain course credit and experience, then you might consider applying for an internship or fellowship with GP. The office is offering eight paid fellowship positions and several internship positions for the spring semester. Students from any major can apply. Some fellowships even accept applications from other educational institutions. In addition to providing research and office assistance, interns and fellows help to facilitate the multiple public events that GP organizes each semester. Every fellowship program awards \$500 for the semester with the exception of the Lawrence J. Chastang Global Fellowship, which provides \$1,000, and the Francis Bok Human Trafficking Awareness Fellowship, which provides \$750. In addition to the eight GP fellowships, the Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd Program for Strategic Research and Studies also offers a fellowship with a \$500 award.

Internships require an applicant to have a minimum 3.0 GPA, to be at least a Junior and to submit an application and resume by December 4, 2015. Applicants for fellowships must also be a Junior or higher and submit a resume and application, but must also have a minimum 3.5 GPA, two letters of reference, a one-page personal statement, a 5-10 page writing sample and an unofficial transcript. Interns and fellows are expected to have a weekly time commitment of approximately 12 to 15 hours, with 10 hours dedicated to time in the office. To apply, or for more information, students can go to the GP website or contact the Intern Supervisor, Jessica Gagnon.

Inauguration was a first for UCF & USA

On Thursday, October 29, the UCF Kurdish Political Studies Program (KPSP) held a special event to inaugurate the Jalal Talabany Kurdish Political Studies Endowed Chair. In attendance were over 75 people, including UCF students, faculty and staff, as well as members of the KPSP advisory board.

Kerstin Hamann, Pegasus Professor, Chair of the Political Science Department and Co-Chair of the KPSP made opening remarks. College of Sciences Dean Michael Johnson

underscored the significance of the Chair and presented it to its holder, Güneş Murat Tezcür. After trying out the chair for a series of photos, Tezcür announced the winners of a recent essay contest about the future of the Kurds and Kurdistan.



Shreya Labh, a political science major, won Best Undergraduate Essay with her entry, “Quest for Kurdistan: Kurdish Autonomy in Iraq, Syria and Turkey.” The undergraduate runner-up was another political science student, Grayson Lanza, for his entry, “The Kurdish People and the Middle East: The Saving Grace of Western Hopes.” The third student recognized was the winner of Best Graduate Essay, security studies doctoral student Peyman Asadzade, for his essay, “Kurds in 2025.”

After honoring the award winners, Tezcür invited two members of the KPSP advisory board, Najmaldin Karim, the Governor of the Kirkuk Governorate in the Kurdistan Regional Government in Iraq, and Gazi Zibari, the Director of WK Advanced Surgery Center in Louisiana, to join him on stage for a panel discussion on perspectives on Kurdish political issues. John C. Bersia, Special Assistant to the President for Global Perspectives at UCF, moderated the panel.

Bersia asked each panelist to speak about the importance of the Kurds from their area of expertise. Karim addressed past and current difficulties of the Kurds in Iraq, such as tensions with Sunnis and Shiites and the ongoing struggles against the group popularly known as the Islamic State (IS) – known among the Kurds, according to Karim, as “Daesh.” Karim also discussed recent troubles in Kurdistan, including an increased population of over half a million displaced people for whom neither the government in Baghdad nor the international community has

provided adequate aid. He lauded the efforts of the Peshmerga, the military forces in Kurdistan, in their counter of IS, though many have gone unpaid.



Zibari discussed the situation in Kurdistan from a medical aid perspective. He proposed capacity building –training, teaching and supporting people through international outreach– as a method of tackling health problems in Kurdistan. Finally, Tezcür underscored the challenges of the Kurds and the opportunities they represent to the international community. He proposed a few options for the Kurds in Iraq, Syria, Iran and Turkey such as increasing cooperation between Kurds and the U.S.

During a question and answer session, Zibari asked Karim to discuss the burden of refugees on the Kirkuk government specifically. Karim explained that the additional population is exhausting resources, and that the residents of Kirkuk are opening their homes to the refugees. Speaking again to the lack of assistance from the central government in Baghdad, Karim remarked that “everybody is on their own.”

This event was hosted by the UCF Kurdish Political Studies Program, with support from the UCF Global Perspectives Office, UCF Political Science Department and UCF College of Sciences. To download a copy of the event program, click [here](#).

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