

# **THE BUZZ:** Academic Affairs Weekly Newsletter



## From the Provost's Office

**Class Attendance Policy Shared with Students:** Travel and/or a spring break vacation is not an acceptable reason to participate in a course remotely. Because of the value of in-person participation, students are expected to attend class in-person as much as is allowed per our six-foot social distancing protocols. We will not accept vacations as an acceptable excuse to participate remotely in the block schedule. See the email written to students by Barb May, Mary Geller, and Mike Connolly shared by Carol Abell on 3-15-21 for more information.

**Message from the Registrar:** email sent 3/22

Due to incorrect information in the downloadable outlook dates for the 2020-2021 academic year, there is some confusion surrounding Wednesday, March 31.

**Wednesday, March 31 is a NORMAL block schedule Wednesday.**

The accurate calendar for Spring 2021 can be found online at

[https://www.csbsju.edu/documents/Registrar/terms/212/212\\_Block\\_Calendar.pdf](https://www.csbsju.edu/documents/Registrar/terms/212/212_Block_Calendar.pdf)

Contact the Registrar's Office if you have any questions.

**Textbook and copyright requests are due April 1, 2021 for fall semester.**

Submit your order online: <https://www.csbsju.edu/forms/72NSDHIYWI>

*Reference email sent from Academic Affairs on 3/17/21*

## COVID-19 Policy Update

**No Change to Social Distancing Policy in Classrooms:** Recently the CDC relaxed guidelines to allow 3 feet social distancing in classrooms in some situations. Making this pivot in the middle of the term is difficult given that rooms have been marked and capacities determined. We are not changing our six-foot guidelines for class for the remainder of this semester but will evaluate the possibility of making these modifications following the spring semester.

**Departmental Social Gathering Policy:** As we near the end of the school year, departments have started asking about the possibility of an in-person celebration for smaller events. If a department wishes to have a gathering, all participants must adhere to current guidelines (which includes restrictions on food and drink). Further, gatherings, whether indoors or outdoors, need to have a list of participants, so individuals should sign in. Additionally, to ensure that a gathering does not become too large, you will need to have invited guests RSVP to keep the number of guests within the guidelines. Please contact Pam Bacon with questions about your proposed gathering, as it is difficult to answer all of the potential questions you may have in a single Buzz post. Pam can help get your questions answered by the COVID team. And of course, virtual events are also encouraged, as they will be more inclusive and will be less risky.

# Center for Global Education

The Center for Global Education is pleased to announce the 2022 short-term study abroad program offerings that include 5 faculty-led [spring-embedded programs](#), 4 faculty-led [summer programs](#), and 3 [summer global fellowship](#) internship or research programs. These program offer a range of location and course topics. Program details can be found on CGE's short-term programs website. We hope this will be helpful for advising students for 2021-2022. Applications for these programs will open in September.

In addition, the deadline for the Fall embedded 2021 program to the Bahamas is this **Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup>**. Check out the Bahamas website for full details.

## ***Email sent from Academic Affairs on 3/18***

It is our policy that the CSB and SJU Presidents must approve CSB/SJU study abroad programs located in countries with a Level 3 Advisory as designated by the U.S. State Department. Our CSB/SJU Fall 2021 study abroad programs are located in countries currently under a State Department Level 3 Advisory: Reconsider Travel due to COVID-19. In addition to country assessment, a review of each Fall 2021 study abroad site was conducted that considered on-site COVID-19 protocols, available medical infrastructure, housing arrangements, academic support including ability to provide modified, hybrid, or online academics in the event of student quarantine and isolation, and the ability to obtain student visas.

After a review of Fall 2021 study abroad programs, the CSB and SJU Presidents have approved a select portfolio of Fall 2021 programs to move forward at this time:

- France
- Greece
- Italy
- United Kingdom - London

Fall 2021 semester programs still under review:

- Chile
- Japan

Fall 2021 semester programs that have been canceled:

- Galway, Ireland and Salzburg, Austria (announced at the end of January)

As we move toward a gradual return to study abroad this Fall, it is possible that the U.S. Center for Disease Control will still have a CDC Level 4: Very High COVID-19 Risk Assessment Level for countries where we will send students. This requires us to make study abroad program changes to adapt to the impact of COVID-19:

- CSB/SJU Faculty Directors: As an added layer of support, all Fall 2021 programs will have an on-site CSB/SJU Faculty Director.

- Country travel restrictions: No travel will be allowed outside the program country during program dates. Student travel outside of the program country during program dates will be grounds for immediate removal from the program.
- Greco-Roman/Roman-Greco: Due to changing quarantine and visa restrictions within Europe, the Greco-Roman and Roman-Greco programs will need to become a separate Greece semester program (led by Dr. Tony Cunningham) and a separate Italy semester program (led by Dr. Scott Johnson). The Center for Global Education will be contacting students on these impacted programs to discuss the transition process to a Greece or Italy program. Due to visa restrictions, we anticipate this will be a permanent program change.
- Study Abroad Community Standards: All Fall 2021 study abroad students will be required to acknowledge and sign Fall 2021 Study Abroad Community Standards if they choose to participate in Fall 2021 study abroad programs.

We highly encourage all study abroad students to get a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as they are eligible as individual countries may choose to require the vaccine for international travelers.

CSB/SJU will continue to assess Fall 2021 programs and monitor any changes in the U.S. State Department country advisories or on-site program protocols. Please note that the current study abroad program approvals only apply to the programs listed above. All other international programs must continue to be reviewed and approved before they can move forward.

While we are excited about the gradual return to study abroad, we know some of these programmatic changes will be disappointing to students. All Fall 2021 study abroad participants will have the choice as to whether they would like to move forward with study abroad under the current conditions. The Center for Global Education is contacting all Fall 2021 study abroad students today to discuss their choices and potential next steps in their individual program processes. If you have further questions, please feel free to contact [cge@csbsju.edu](mailto:cge@csbsju.edu)

## Honors

**Call for Honors Course Proposals for 2022-23 – deadline 3/30/21.** You can find the course proposal form here <https://www.csbsju.edu/forms/92SANU9OIX>. For additional information, please see the 1/12/20 email to the Faculty Discussion List from Academic Affairs. Contact Honors Director Beth Wengler, [ewengler@csbsju.edu](mailto:ewengler@csbsju.edu), or Associate Director Emily Esch [eesch@csbsju.edu](mailto:eesch@csbsju.edu) with questions.

## Integrations Curriculum

**GECC Proposal Deadline Extension:** If you have some additional time to develop proposals, please consider whether a Benedictine Raven would be a good designation to attach to your 200- or 300-level courses. You can review the requirements here: [Benedictine Raven requirements](#). As a reminder, this designation no longer requires the direct experiential component of the original engagement and instead allows for readings, assignments, and class discussion to satisfy the designation. If you have questions about the Raven and your course, please reach out to Shane Miller, the Integrations Curriculum Director, [samiller@csbsju.edu](mailto:samiller@csbsju.edu). Proposals are due **March 24, 2021**. See the email sent by Greg Schroeder on 3/3/21 for more information.

**Mini Grants for Benedictine Raven Course Development:** The Benedictine Institute is offering mini grants to provide stipend support (\$400) for faculty to engage professional development in preparation to integrate a Benedictine perspective into one or more of their courses. The goal is to generate a course proposal that would fulfill the Benedictine Raven designation in the Integrations Curriculum. Proposals will be reviewed and granted on a rolling basis until **June 15, 2021**. More information and the application link can be found at <https://www.csbsju.edu/benedictine->

institute. Please contact Rodger Narloch if you have any questions or would like further information.

## Academic Advising

**Major Advising Week – March 22-26** see 3/16 email from Academic Affairs – please share this information with your students.

## FYX

FYX is reaching out to first year students in several ways this spring semester. Below is a summary of what is being offered to students. Contact Kari-Shane Davis Zimmerman for more information.

### FYX Spring 2021 Canvas Shell

#### **First Year Student Advising Training Sessions** (in partnership with Academic Advising)

These sessions are similar in format to those offered recently to first year advisors. Feel free to share the information with your advisee and attend a presentation!

- Four-Year Planning: What does it mean and how to do it!
- How to Register for Fall 2021: Making a semester plan!

#### **Registration Planning Worksheets**

The following “planning” worksheets can be accessed by first year students in the FYX canvas course; Feel free to pass on to your first-year advisee

- Integrations Curriculum E-Booklet
- Fall 2021 Mon-Fri Semester Planning Worksheet\_
- [Researching a Major "How To" Guide \(CSB/SJU Academic Advising\)](#) \_

## Library

**LGBTQ+ Source:** The Libraries have extended access to LGBTQ+ Source for one year, so faculty can use next academic year to determine its usefulness for classroom assignments. This database includes scholarly and popular LGBTQ+ publications in full text, plus historically important primary sources, including monographs, magazines and newspapers. Let us know if you would like a librarian to demonstrate research using this database to you or your class. If you would like more information please contact David Wuolu, [dwuolu@csbsju.edu](mailto:dwuolu@csbsju.edu).

**Library Ebook Use:** The challenges of pandemic constraints have led readers to seek ebook alternatives to print books. Our patrons have consulted more than a quarter million pages in over 3,000 ebooks from the Libraries' collections since March 2020. Please contact a [liaison librarian](#) for more details about ebook use and availability on topics of interest to you.

## IT Services

**The new IT Services Support Portal:** The IT Services portal has been refreshed and updated! You'll find familiar options like creating an incident, searching our knowledge, and viewing your incident information. You'll also find a new option to view system-wide outages. IT Services will continue to improve upon this service, and additional features will be added soon. Check back frequently! [More Information](#)

## International and Intercultural Student Services (IISS)

The following messages to students will be of interest to faculty and staff as we promote DIEJ on campus and speak out against racism. Malik Stewart, Interim Director of IISS, notes that he has appreciated the support of faculty, particularly in Political Science and English, who were very helpful in developing the programming. If other departments or areas would like to collaborate with IISS, please contact Malik.

### **IISS and Hmong American Involving Students (HAIS) Sponsored Healing Space**

**AAPI Healing Space: Wednesday, March 24 at 5pm in the IISS office (Murray 150). A [virtual option will be available](#).**

In collaboration with Hmong American Involving Students (HAIS), IISS will host a support group meeting for all Asian, Asian-American, and Pacific Islander communities, following recent acts of violence and bigotry towards Asian-Americans, and specifically Asian women.

**The following message was sent by IISS and HAIS on March 19, 2021:**

Dear CSB/SJU students,

We write today to express our support and solidarity with all members of Asian, Asian-American, and Pacific Islander communities, following recent acts of violence and bigotry towards Asian-Americans, and specifically Asian women.

CSB/SJU Counseling is offering 30-minute video consultations for students that would like to process their feelings/reactions to the current climate that may be contributing to feelings of their lives being out of control, unmanageable or overwhelming. Please call: 320-363-3236 to schedule a consultation.

As a reminder, [CSB/SJU human rights policy](#) prohibits discrimination and/or harassment based on race, national origin, gender, and gender identity. With Brandyn Woodard's departure, Interim Director of IISS Malik Stewart is the student human rights officer and any student complaints should be directed to him.

Lastly, in collaboration with Hmong American Involving Students (HAIS), IISS will host a healing space meeting for students on **Wednesday, March 24 at 5pm in the IISS office (Murray 150)**. **A [virtual option will be available](#).**

## The following message was sent to student by Malik Stewart, IISS Interim Director

Dear CSB/SJU students,

The killing of George Floyd in May 2020 and subsequent protests were stark examples of the ongoing racism that plagues our society, and [spurred action](#) from many within our community. Last summer, both Presidents, CSB/SJU faculty, CSB/SJU student senates, and many departments, issued statements affirming our commitment to continuing our work to build an inclusive campus community.

As the trial of the officer involved unfolds nearby in Minneapolis and we witness a disturbing rise in anti-Asian violence, individuals may reexperience past trauma. Our work at CSB/SJU to be an inclusive community calls us to be informed, to learn, and to use the tools of a liberal arts education to process what we are learning. In that spirit, I write to share a series of opportunities and services offered over the coming weeks:

### **“Let’s talk about the Chauvin trial”**

The Political Science department will host weekly listening sessions for students to talk about what’s going on in the trial – from jury selection to opening arguments to witnesses.

Dates: Wednesdays starting **March 24, 5-6pm** via Zoom

Link: <https://csbsju.zoom.us/j/94210520590>

### **“CSB SSJ Walk for Justice”**

CSB Campus Ministry Spirituality and Social Justice team will hold a walk in remembrance of George Floyd, advocacy for a just trial, and justice served to all victims of police violence and brutality.

Date: **March 26 at 4:45pm**, meet at CSB Mall

### **“No more elegies: Responding to racist violence and white supremacy through writing”**

In collaboration with IISS, the Literary Arts Institute and English department will host a series of four writing workshops for participants to express their experiences.

Dates: **March 30, April 6, April 13, April 20 (all 6-7pm via Zoom)**

Link: <https://csbsju.zoom.us/j/97269567520>

### **“You’re not imagining it, that just happened”**

IISS and Counseling will host an in-person support group for students wishing to discuss and process their experiences of identity-related trauma, adversity, and/or distress. Please register so we may accommodate everyone.

Dates: **April 6, April 20 (5-6pm)**

Link: <https://www.csbsju.edu/forms/CXAAJR6JUD>

### **“Peace and Positivity walk”**

Black Student Association reminds us that peace and positivity are only possible if justice is present. BSA will host a Peace and Positivity walk and distribute self-care bags.

Date: **April 7, meet at Gorecki at 4pm**

### **SJUfaith Candlelight vigil**

Date: **April 8th at 8:00 pm** outside of the Abbey Church

## Faculty Development

**Faculty Development Panel on Benedictine Raven Courses:** Looking for ways to integrate a Benedictine perspective into your courses so they can fulfill the Benedictine Raven designation? This panel features colleagues from many different disciplines who will each share their ideas and then there will be time for Q&A. This synchronous panel will be held virtually on **March 18** at 4:45-6:00 and on **March 31** at 11:15-12:30. Visit the following website to find the Zoom

meeting link: <https://www.csbsju.edu/benedictine-institute>. If you are unable to attend “live,” one of the versions will be recorded and posted on the Integrations Curriculum website.

**Racist and Racialized Language in the Classroom: A Panel Discussion.** How should instructors approach class content that includes racial slurs or outdated racial terms? What do students want to build their critical awareness of language about race? Panelists will share their practices and invite broader discussion in Q & A. **Wednesday, March 31, 3:30-5:00 pm.** Panelists: Ted Gordon, Anthropology Ken Jones, History Terri Rodriguez, Education Shannon Smith, History  
For questions or more information, please contact Yvette South, English Department ([ysouth@csbsju.edu](mailto:ysouth@csbsju.edu)). Sponsored by Becoming Community

Sign up here: <https://www.csbsju.edu/forms/4WSTCITK65>

## Faculty Governance

JFA meeting: **Thursday, April 8 from 4:45-5:45 p.m.** via Zoom

JFS Meeting: **Tuesday, April 13** from 4:45 – 6:15 p.m. via Zoom

Watch for emails from Greg Schroeder for information about the meetings and Zoom links.

## Undergraduate Research

**CSC Day Spotlight Nominations Now Open!** Each CSC Day, the Undergraduate Research Program highlights the research and creative work of 10 exceptional student projects as part of our CSC Day Spotlight. To be considered for the spotlight, students must be nominated, register to present their work at CSC Day, and submit a short reflection on their research experience. To nominate a student or submit a self-nomination, please visit our link. **Deadline April 12.** Recipients will be announced on April 19! [More Information](#)

## The Buzz on Campus

**Now Available: BEN Talks!** The fourteen videos in the BEN Talks series are similar to TED Talks in length and style; however, this series is focused on Benedictine values and is delivered by monastic members of St. John’s Abbey and St. Benedict’s Monastery. BEN Talks help viewers gain a better understanding of the Benedictine history and values that shape the culture of our community. Not only will you learn more about *The Rule of St. Benedict* and monastic life, but you will be prompted to reflect on how this wisdom can apply to your own lives and work. Faculty are encouraged to utilize these in class or as part of student homework assignments in support of courses containing a Benedictine Raven designation. You can find BEN Talks at <https://www.csbsju.edu/benedictine-institute>

### Did you miss some of the Community Engagement Day presentations?

You can still view Authentic Leadership: Speak Up and Stand Out, presented by Anne Doepner, '01: <https://youtu.be/8uhiRJYekgw>.

**STEP AFRIKA! 'STONO' April 10, 7:30 PM** Streamed Performance

STEP AFRIKA! celebrates the pursuit of freedom in their latest production STONO.

In 1739, the largest insurrection of enslaved Africans began in South Carolina near the Stono River.

They proudly beat their drums. One year later, they lost the right to use their drums. Instead, they

used their bodies as percussive instruments. STEP AFRIKA! ensures that this movement is

recognized for its transformation of African American life and culture. [More Information](#)

**Do you have a submission for The Buzz? Click [here](#) to submit.**