



Schoolcraft College International Institute

MISSION

Schoolcraft College International Institute (SCII) strives to enhance the international and multicultural content of coursework, programs and other college activities to promote an appreciation of the diversities and commonalities among world cultures and better understand the global forces shaping people's lives. SCII and its partners are pleased to offer this series of films, speakers and events to promote global literacy.

FOCUS MIDDLE EAST 2010

Throughout 2010, the Presentation Series and International Film Festival will spotlight the Middle East. No other region in the world can generate such intense feelings. The birthplace of at least three major religions and known as the "cradle of civilization", it continues to be a cradle of international attention due to its vast petroleum reserves, newfound economic vitality in the Gulf states, and protracted armed conflicts in Afghanistan, Palestine, and elsewhere. The future of the planet may well hinge on how these conflicts are resolved.

This series is sponsored by Schoolcraft College International Institute and supported by a grant from the Schoolcraft College Foundation.

All events are free and open to the community.

September 13
Monday
1:00–2:30 PM
MC 200



SEEKING A JUST WORLD GROUNDED IN NONVIOLENCE

Nicole Rohrkemper, Staff
Michigan Peace Team

MICHIGAN PEACE TEAM (MPT) empowers people to engage in active nonviolent peacemaking. MPT was started in 1993 by Father Peter Dougherty in response to the growing need for civilian peace-makers both in the U.S. and abroad. MPT offers training workshops and provides opportunities to join peace teams. The Peace Team seeks a just world grounded in nonviolence and respect for the sacred interconnectedness of all life.

Primary activities of the Michigan Peace Team include educating the public to the vision and practices of active nonviolence. MPT also deploys peace teams to places of conflict, both domestically and internationally, and provides support for local peace action groups.

Nicole Rohrkemper is a member of the Michigan Peace Team Core Community and Staff.

For more information: <http://www.michiganpeaceteam.org/>

Co-Sponsors: GlobalEYZers, Global Roundtables, Student Peace Alliance

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September 22
Wednesday
1:00–2:30 PM
MC200



ARAB AMERICAN CHALDEAN COUNCIL

Haifa Fakhouri, Ph.D.
President and CEO

The Arab American Chaldean Council (ACC) was organized in 1979 to create a safe, healthy and peaceful community by increasing cross-cultural understanding through education and human services. As part of this mission, the ACC's Cultural Tapestry Program is designed specifically to promote cultural appreciation and tolerance of the Arab and Chaldean culture. ACC takes a leadership role in responding to current events that impact the local community through comprehensive cultural diversity and sensitivity training.

Dr. Haifa Fakhouri is the president and CEO of the Arab American and Chaldean Council (ACC). Her experience as a sociologist, educator and administrator enabled her to establish the ACC, the largest non-profit human service organization providing services to the Middle Eastern and mainstream communities in Southeast Michigan. Prior to establishing the Arab American and Chaldean Council, Fakhouri served as an International Advisor to the U.S. Agency for International Development and the United Nations Development Population (UNDP) on the role and status of women and population policies in the Middle East Region.

In addition to her impressive accomplishments, Dr. Fakhouri is the recipient of many tributes, awards and appointments, including the *Detroit News* 1999 Michiganiaan of the Year Award, National Association of Women Business Owners "2005 Diversity Champion", National ADC Distinguished Service Award, 2005 Ellis Island Medal of Honor, and Michigan Women's Foundation Woman of Achievement and Courage Award. Fakhouri has been inducted into the International Institute's Hall of Fame as well as Michigan Women's Hall of Fame, and was named one of Crain's Most Influential Women in 2007.

For more information :<http://myacc.org>

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September 27-30



**PAGETURNERS BOOK CLUB:
FINDING NOUF BY ZOË FERRARIS**

When sixteen-year-old Nouf goes missing, her prominent family calls on Nayir al-Sharqi, a pious desert guide, to lead the search party. Ten days later, just as Nayir is about to give up in frustration, her body is discovered by anonymous desert travelers. But when the coroner's office determines that Nouf died not of dehydration but from drowning, and her family seems suspiciously uninterested in getting at the truth, Nayir takes it upon himself to find out what really happened. Fast-paced and utterly transporting, *Finding Nouf* is a riveting literary mystery that offers an unprecedented window into Saudi Arabia and the lives of men and women there.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
27	28	29	30	1
6:30 – 7:30 PM L 105	1:30 – 2:30 PM L 105		4:00 – 5:00 PM RC 645	

October 6
Wednesday
7:00–9:00 PM
VT550



**COLOR-BLIND: THE RISE OF POST-RACIAL POLITICS AND THE
RETREAT FROM RACIAL EQUITY**

Tim Wise
Author and Lecturer

If an under-privileged or disadvantaged group exists, then there must be a privileged or advantaged group that also exists. As part of the Michigan Roundtable's public education effort, noted author, lecturer, and anti-racist activist Tim Wise will discuss how structures and institutions have been put in place and reinforced by people of privilege in order to marginalize the other. The message is quite clear: Acknowledge your privilege and take responsibility to eradicate it.

Tim Wise is among the most prominent anti-racist writers and activists in the U.S., having spoken to over 300,000 people in 48 states, and on over 400 college campuses, including Harvard, Stanford, and the law schools at Yale, Columbia, and Vanderbilt. He has trained teachers as well as corporate, government, media, entertainment, military, and law enforcement officials on methods for dismantling racism in their institutions, and has served as a consultant for plaintiff's attorneys in federal discrimination cases in New York and Washington State.

This event is sponsored by the Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion. Their programs are recognized by national organizations for bringing about sustainable change by working to address inequity throughout this region through a process of recognition, reconciliation/reorientation and renewal.

Besides his most recent book, *Colorblind: The Rise of Post-Racial Politics and the Retreat from Racial Equity*, Wise is also the author of *Between Barack and a Hard Place: Challenging Racism, Privilege and Denial in the Age of Obama* which explores the issues of race within the context of the Obama presidency. Other titles to his credit include *White Like Me: Reflections on Race from a Privileged Son*, *Affirmative Action: Racial Preference in Black and White*, and *Speaking Treason Fluently: Anti-Racist Reflections from an Angry White Male*, a collection of his essays.

For more information, visit the Michigan Roundtable website: <http://www.miroundtable.org/>

Campus Co-Sponsors: Bridging Barriers, GlobalEYZers, Global Roundtables, SCII, Student Peace Alliance

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October 6
Wednesday
11:30 AM-1:00 PM
MC200



INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL: *MUNICH*

In 1972, television announcer Jim McKay delivered the stunning news that 11 Israeli athletes, coaches and sporting officials were all dead, killed by Palestinian kidnappers who had taken them hostage in the Olympic Village at Munich. Most of them were killed on the tarmac of Furstenfeldbruck Airport on the outskirts of Munich in the midst of a botched rescue attempt by German authorities. The resulting shock wave rippled across a world already engulfed by conflict.

Inspired by real events, *Munich* reveals the intense story of the secret Israeli squad assigned to track down and assassinate the 11 Palestinians believed to have planned the Munich massacre and the personal toll this mission of revenge takes on the team and the man who led it. Hailed as tremendously exciting, Steven Spielberg's explosive suspense thriller garnered five Academy award nominations including Best Picture and Best Director.

Runtime: 2:44

Rating: R for strong graphic violence, some sexual content, nudity and language

Release: 2006

Co-sponsors: Global Roundtables, GlobalEYZers, Student Peace Alliance

The Focus Presentation Series is sponsored by the Schoolcraft College International Institute and supported by a grant from the Schoolcraft College Foundation

October 13
Wednesday
12:00-2:00 PM
MC200



CINEMATIC PEDAGOGIES: TEACHING *MUNICH* AS A GLOBAL, INTERDISCIPLINARY TEXT

*Helen Ditouras, Associate Professor, English
Schoolcraft College*

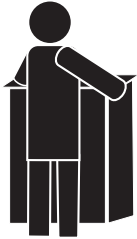
This presentation will attempt to define "cinematic pedagogy," and outline the value of teaching film texts not only in Introductory Film Courses, but also in other disciplines including Philosophy, Psychology, Political Science, and Sociology as a way to introduce students to global issues. By examining Steven Spielberg's film *Munich* (2005), students will be introduced to a number of strategies for ideological textual analysis drawing from the above disciplines. Finally, this presentation will offer sample assessments that prompt students to examine the global impact of cinema and its potential as a means for learning about various international issues and cultures

Professor Ditouras received her Master's Degree in English from Wayne State University with an academic interest in Film and Critical Media Studies. Before becoming a member of Schoolcraft English Faculty, she taught at the University of Windsor, Wayne State University, Lawrence Tech University and Henry Ford Community College. Professor Ditouras serves as the Co-Chair of the Schoolcraft International Institute.

Co-sponsors: Global Roundtables, GlobalEYZers, Student Peace Alliance

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October 13
1:00–2:30 PM
MC110



LEARN ABOUT YOUR RIGHT TO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND ATTENDING COLLEGE WHILE UNEMPLOYED

*Lindsey Webb Esq., National Employment Law Project
Steve Gray Esq., Michigan Unemployment Insurance Project*

The Michigan Unemployment Insurance Project is a non-profit group providing free advice and legal representation to Michigan jobless workers with unemployment insurance claims, denials or appeals.

Lindsey Webb is an attorney with the National Employment Law Project (NELP), where she advocates for dislocated workers in the manufacturing sector in the Midwest. Her experience with the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program began at the United Auto Workers Legal Department, where she worked as a law clerk filing TAA petitions for certification and helped to organize worker rights and responsibilities meetings. Ms. Webb also serves as an elected member of the Toledo City Council.

Steve Gray is an attorney who founded the Michigan Unemployment Insurance Project (MUIP), a newly established non-profit law firm that works with law student volunteers to provide free representation to jobless workers denied unemployment insurance benefits. A Legal Services attorney with 20 years of experience and a background in public benefits and unemployment insurance advocacy, Steve just returned from a year in Namibia on a Fulbright Fellowship where he lectured at the University of Namibia Faculty of Law and helped establish a legal aid clinical program at their Law School.

Co-Sponsored by Schoolcraft College Transition Center and Bridging Barriers

October 19
Tuesday
11:00 AM–12:00 PM
VT550
Reception
12:00–1:00 PM
VT425



THE ISLAMIC CENTER OF AMERICA

*Sayid Hassan Al-Qazwini, Imam
Islamic Center of America*

The Islamic Center of America completed its new home on Ford Road in Dearborn in 2005. The Center, said to be the largest Arab American religious and cultural facility in North America, was constructed to serve southeast Michigan's growing Arab American community. At least 300,000 people of Middle Eastern descent are estimated to live in the Detroit area, especially Dearborn where, according to the 2000 census, nearly 30% of the population claim Arab ancestry. The Center is an impressive 120,000 square-foot complex housing a mosque, an auditorium, library, banquet hall, school, museum and community center.

Imam Al-Qazwini was born in Karbala, Iraq, into a prominent religious family. After graduating from the Islamic Seminary in Qum, Iran in 1992, he pursued the highest Islamic studies in Jurisprudence and fundamental of Jurisprudence and Qur'anic commentary. In 1992 he migrated to the US where he directed the Azzahra Islamic Center in Orange County, California. Finally, in 1997 he moved his wife and three children to Detroit and became the religious leader of the Islamic Center of America.

The mission of the Islamic Center includes educating the American society about Islam and Arab culture, and it is in this spirit of outreach and education that Imam Al-Qazwini joins our Focus Series this semester. He describes the challenge of establishing "the roots of moderate and open minded Islam in a pluralistic society such as the United States," a society that has grown more anti-Islamic and anti-Muslim since 9/11. The Imam promotes "a real and permanent dialogue between the West and the Muslim world [that could] eradicate the misunderstanding, prejudice and the kind of tension we see today."

For more information, visit the Islamic Center of America website: <http://www.icofa.com>

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October 25-28



PAGETURNERS BOOK CLUB: THE DUMBEST GENERATION: HOW THE DIGITAL AGE STUPEFIES YOUNG AMERICANS AND JEOPARDIZES OUR FUTURE (OR, DON'T TRUST ANYONE UNDER 30) BY MARK BAUERLEIN

Drawing upon exhaustive research, detailed portraits, and historical and social analysis, *The Dumbest Generation* presents an uncompromisingly realistic study of the young American mind at this critical juncture. The book also lays out a compelling vision of how we might address its deficiencies.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
25	26	27	28	29
6:30 – 7:30 PM L 105	1:30 – 2:30 PM L 105		4:00 – 5:00 PM RC 645	

November 2
Tuesday
3:00–4:30 PM
MC200



ISLAM AND MATHEMATICS: A HIDDEN HISTORY

*Randy Schwartz Professor, Mathematics
Schoolcraft College*

The fact that Islam calls on believers to study nature as a way to understand Allah has had world-historic significance—yet it remains unknown to most people living in the West. In a PowerPoint presentation aimed at a general audience, Randy will illustrate how Muslims, Jews, and Christians, living together under Islamic rule in the Middle Ages, emerged as the world’s leading mathematicians and scientists; how scholars at Houses of Wisdom in Iraq invented *al-jabr* (algebra) more than 1,000 years ago, using it to solve problems of Quranic inheritance; how the need to chart the prayer direction toward Mecca from every point on Earth led to discoveries in spherical trigonometry; and how Islam’s call to search for knowledge in even the tiniest things resulted in understanding how light ricochets through water droplets to make rainbows, and a myriad of other mathematical discoveries.

Randy Schwartz is a member of the Commission on the History of Science and Technology in Islamic Societies (CHSTIS). He likes to research the little-known history of Arab mathematics and then popularize his findings at national and international conferences, in journal articles, and in the classroom by creating instructional modules. In 2000, the National Education Association awarded him the Democracy in Higher Education Prize for his essay, “Unity in Multiplicity: Lessons from the Alhambra,” an argument for a multicultural approach in mathematics education. At Schoolcraft, Randy has taught mathematics since 1984, coordinated the first Focus Middle East presentation series in 2004, and serves as Editor of *International Agenda*, the publication of the International Institute.

Co-sponsor: Schoolcraft Math and Physics Club

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November 4
Thursday
10:00 AM-12:00 PM
MC200



LINKING THE STRUGGLES: WATER AS A HUMAN RIGHT—TO BE HELD IN THE PUBLIC COMMONS

Ann Rall, PhD, Member, MWRO
Marian Kramer, Member, MWRO
Gwen Gaines, Volunteer, MWRO
Michigan Welfare Rights Organization (MWRO)

Members of the Michigan Welfare Rights Organization (MWRO) will discuss the history of the efforts of the MWRO and the Highland Park Human Rights Coalition (HPHRC) to fight both mounting water bills and the privatization of water departments. They will discuss MWRO's involvement in joining with environmental organizations, a union representing City of Detroit workers, and other groups to form the People's Water Board, a coalition which fights for the human right of all people to clean, affordable water held in the public commons.

Ann Rall earned a Ph.D. in Social Work and Anthropology from the University of Michigan, writing her dissertation on the struggles of Rwandans to rebuild their lives following the genocide in Rwanda. After graduation, Rall moved to Detroit only to find that the struggles in this post-industrial city have striking similarities to those in the so-called "Third World." She became involved as a volunteer with MWRO, a group which organizes low-income people to demand access to life-giving resources, including water. Water connects the city and suburbs in a manner not readily apparent and is not simply an urban issue: most Detroit-Metro suburbs purchase their water from the City of Detroit. Thousands of residents in the region face the terrible pain of living without water, as their water bills continue to rise and their incomes shrink.

Marian Kramer, Co-chair of the National Welfare Rights Union, is a founding member of the Highland Park Human Rights Coalition (HPHRC), and a key member of the MWRO. In the front lines of the Welfare and Civil Rights Movements since the 1960s, she has retained her commitment to end poverty in America by empowering the poor, especially women, as leaders. Ms. Kramer's work with the HPHRC and MWRO was featured in the film "The Water Front," which depicts the successful struggle against outrageously high water bills, the seizing of properties that resulted from these bills, and the efforts to privatize the Highland Park Water Department. Seven years ago, Kramer discovered that the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) had shut off running water to more than 40,000 Detroit-area residents who had gotten behind on their bills. Kramer and the MWRO mobilized attorneys to draft a Water Affordability Plan which would bring an end to shut-offs and charge low-income residents for water based on their ability to pay. MWRO successfully pressured Detroit City Council to adopt the plan, yet the DWSD refused to implement it. Today, the People's Water Board coalition continues to fight for the plan's implementation.

Gwen Gaines is a lifelong Detroit resident who first became involved with MWRO when she sought assistance with an unjust water bill. After getting support in resolving that bill, she has become increasingly active as an MWRO volunteer, contributing her powerful energy and great ideas to demanding access to water as well as heat and lights for all. Gaines was instrumental in the formation of the People's Water Board, and serves as one of its Commissioners for Water Affordability and Accessibility.

Campus Co-Sponsors: Bridging Barriers, GlobalEYZers, Global Roundtables, Student Peace Alliance

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November 18-23



**PAGETURNERS BOOK CLUB: ENEMIES: A LOVE STORY
BY ISAAC BASHEVIS SINGER**

Almost before he know it, Herman Broder, refugee and survivor of World War II, has three wives: Yadwiga, the Polish peasant who hid him from the Nazis; Masha, his beautiful and neurotic true love; and Tamara, his first wife, miraculously returned from the dead. Astonished by each new complication, and yet resigned to a life of evasion, Herman navigates a crowded, Yiddish New York with a sense of perpetually impending doom.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
15	16	17	18 4:00 – 5:00 PM RC 645	19
22 6:30 – 7:30 PM L 105	23 1:30 – 2:30 PM L 105	24	25	26

December 2
Thursday
9:30–11:00 AM
MC200



INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL: FOR MY FATHER

Tarek, a Palestinian forced on a suicide mission in Tel Aviv to redeem his father's honor, is given a second chance when the fuse on his explosive vest fails to detonate. Forced to spend the weekend in Tel Aviv awaiting its repair, Tarek must live amongst the people he was planning to kill. To his surprise he connects with several Israelis on the outskirts of society, including the beautiful Keren, who has cut off contact with her Orthodox family and upbringing. With nothing to lose, Tarek and Keren open up to one another, and an unlikely love blooms between two isolated and damaged individuals, raised to be enemies.

In November 2005, a suicide bomber blew himself up in the Carmel Market in Tel Aviv, killing four Israelis. That day I knew how necessary it is to make a film that tries to reveal the faces behind those masks worn by the kids in their "farewell" videos. I believe that when hatred threatens to switch off sanity, it is as important as can be to make a film that shows the human beings on both sides. No monsters, just human beings with families and friends, joy and distress, people who dream to end the circle of pain and could very well live peacefully side by side. Dror Zahavi, Director

Runtime: 1:38
Rating: Unrated
Release: 2010

The Focus Presentation Series is sponsored by the Schoolcraft College International Institute and supported by a grant from the Schoolcraft College Foundation

*For more information about the Focus Series contact:
Linda Gutierrez, Coordinator, Focus Series
734 462.4400/ ext 5067/ lgutierr@schoolcraft.edu*

*For more information about the International Institute, contact:
Josselyn Moore, Faculty Co-Chair, SCII/ 734 462.4400/ ext 5271/ jmoore@schoolcraft.edu
Helen Ditousa, Faculty Co-Chair, SCII/ 734 462.4400/ ext 5647/ hditoura@schoolcraft.edu*

This season the Schoolcraft College International Institute partners with Bridging Barriers, GlobalEYZers, Global Roundtables, Pageturners, Student Peace Alliance, the Transition Center, and gratefully acknowledges the continued generous support of the Schoolcraft College Foundation.