

## TEACHING AND TRAINING

## IR Program Presents 2010 Graduating Class

Over 125 seniors will graduate this year with international relations degrees.

One of the University's largest academic concentrations, the IR program maximizes student choice with cross-disciplinary training and strong international skills. Its objectives are to foster creative thinking about pressing global problems and equip students with the analytic tools, language expertise, and cross-cultural understanding to guide them in that process.

The concentration draws on departments including anthropology, economics, environmental studies, history, political science, psychology, religion, and sociology. It also incorporates humanities courses and has a 3-year language requirement.

Located within and drawing upon the expertise of the Watson Institute, the IR concentration is organized around a multidisciplinary core and sub-themes of global security, political economy and development, and politics, culture, and identity.

It also offers an honors program in which students undertake thesis research on an international topic. Thirteen students graduated from the International Relations Honors Program this year. To do so, each of them researched, wrote, and presented a graduate-level thesis, in addition to completing with distinction the usual IR

course requirements and three years of a foreign language.

IR Assistant Director Claudia Elliott PhD '99 designed the current program, now in its eighth year, and worked with IR Program Director Peter Andreas, among 25 other faculty members, in advising the students. This year's honors recipients and their theses are:



Chihiro Ikegami presents her thesis.

- **Sancho Accorsi.** "The Weaponization of the Civilian: Network-Centric Warfare, the Human Terrain System, and Postmodernist Critique of the 'Civilian'"
- **Jae Wan Ahn.** "From Developmental State to Welfare State: Defining the Political and Economic Transformations and Consequent Social Conflicts in South Korea"
- **Chantal Berman.** "Between Structure, Policy, and Human Security: Explaining Syrian and Lebanese Policy Responses towards Iraqi Refugees"
- **Sasha David.** "Closing the Global Gender Gap: Explaining the Rise of Female Executives in Latin America"

- **Victoria Haddad-Salah.** "Defining the Borders of the Nation: Refugee Policy, Regime Security, and the Formation of National Identity in Jordan"

- **Chihiro Ikegami.** "Interstate Reconciliation: Memory and Apology in Germany and Japan"

- **Nandini Jayakrishna.** "A Critical Convergence: Gender Development Theory and the Practice of Women's Empowerment in the Indian Informal Sector"

- **Harrison Kreisberg.** "Of Bullets and Ballots: Reforming Radical Islamists through Political Inclusion"

- **Andrew Nelson.** "The Constitutional Imperative – Establishing Domestic Legal Frameworks as the Foundation of International Law"

- **Erika Nyborg-Burch.** "Representing 'Deportable' Subjects: Constructions of Immigrant Identities in the Discourse on Removal in the United States"

- **Amelia Plant.** "Rape: A Crime against Humanity – A Case Study of International Norm Formation"

- **Alex Rothman.** "Japan as a Non-Nuclear State: Capability, Contradictions, and the Nuclear Taboo"

- **Claire Vergerio.** "The Enforcement Gap: Understanding Persisting Discrimination against French and British Muslims in Employment"



Nandini Jayakrishna

## IR Theses Win Prizes

The following prizes have been awarded for international relations theses:

The University has honored Nandini Jayakrishna with the **2010 Ruth Simmons Prize in Gender and Women's Studies** for her IR thesis, "A Critical Convergence: Gender Development Theory and the Practice of Women's Empowerment in the Indian Informal Sector."

In the thesis, Jayakrishna evaluates the Gender and Development (GAD) framework by studying the "evolution of the ideology and practice of India's Self-Employed Women's Association, one of the largest and internationally most successful indigenous grassroots organizations." She finds support for the GAD model, in opposition to the growing literature on its failure. She also proposes ways GAD can be revised to "better reflect ground realities."

Jae Wan Ahn and Alexander Rothman have won **Mark and Betty Garrison Prizes** for best thesis in international relations, foreign policy analysis, or diplomatic history.

Ahn's thesis, "From Developmental State to Welfare State: Defining the Political and Economic Transformations and Consequent Social Conflicts in South Korea," finds that "the detrimental effects of neo-liberal post-developmental transition unchecked by civil society in South Korea serve as a warning to the developing states today that have taken a similar development strategy."

Rothman's study, "Japan as a Non-Nuclear State: Capability, Contradictions, and the Nuclear Taboo," concludes that Japan's nuclear taboo has strengthened over time, so that the country is unlikely to pursue the nuclear option in the near to mid term, despite the established military and prestige benefits of nuclear weapons in the international system. His research has also been nominated for the University-wide publication of best senior theses.

Chantal Berman and Claire Vergerio have won **Samuel C. Lamport Prizes** for best thesis on international understanding with an emphasis on cooperation and tolerance.



Alexander Rothman

Berman's thesis, "Between Structure, Policy, and Human Security: Explaining Syrian and Lebanese Policy Responses towards Iraqi Refugees," illuminates the logic by which the rights and resources constitutive of national citizenship are proffered or withheld by diverse postcolonial states and suggests how the conditions of refugee populations might be improved.

Vergerio's thesis, "The Enforcement Gap: Understanding Persisting Discrimination against French and British Muslims in Employment," describes how a failure to enforce anti-discrimination laws produces a vicious cycle of unemployment, low standards of living, and further negative stereotyping for Muslims in these two countries.



Claire Vergerio

## TEACHING AND TRAINING

## IR Fulbright Fellowships

- Victoria Haddad-Salah in Jordan
- Rachel Leora Katz-Kubala in China
- Kelly Michael McKowen in Norway



Victoria Haddad-Salah

## Student Wins Fulbright, IR Prize

Graduating international relations honors student Victoria Haddad-Salah has received a Fulbright fellowship to continue her honors project in Jordan

At Brown, she has also received the Anthony Riccio Prize in International Relations, awarded each year to a student who “has demonstrated an unquenchable curiosity about another part of the world, a commitment to the rigorous learning of a foreign language, an intrepid pursuit of study abroad, and a pride in her university and her country.”

Haddad-Salah’s time at Brown was focused on the Middle East, including eight semesters of Arabic language; study abroad at the University of Jordan, Amman; honors in IR; co-leadership of Common Ground: Justice and Equality of Palestine/Israel; and an internship at United Palestinian Appeal in Washington, DC.

The work she will pursue as a Fulbright fellow in Jordan is based on her honors thesis, “Defining the Borders of the Nation: Refugee Policy, Regime Security, and the Formation of National Identity in Jordan.” In the paper, she argues that variations in host countries’ refugee policies are not determined by standard policy formulas or legal obligations, but rather by these countries’ historical perceptions of security.

## Award Recognizes Service to IR Program

Andrew Nelson, a leader in the International Relations Departmental Undergraduate Group, has been awarded the International Relations Concentration Service and Leadership Award in his graduating class.



Andrew Nelson

## Excelling in IR

Seven students have been honored for academic excellence in international relations:

- Sancho Accorsi
- Kien Yoon Andy Chong
- Eric Gastfriend
- Victoria Haddad-Salah
- Chihiro Ikegami
- Rachel Katz-Kubala
- Harrison Kreisberg