Springtime in Minnesota is perhaps the most wonderful season of the year. Autumn has its incredible colors, winter has snowball fights and bitter cold, and summer has awesome thunderstorms, but only in the spring do we get to see the world come back to life.

Everything is growing at Carleton. There are tender leaves on the bushes and trees, the lilacs by the highway are budding, the dandelions are already in full bloom. Even our department is growing. 25 new majors declared SOAN this year and joined the ranks of the few, the proud, the social scientists. Welcome!

As always, this issue of the Emic is devoted to the new majors and answering some of the questions that people who are new to the department might have. We’ve also included some things for everyone, of course: check out the upcoming events calendar, and interviews with SOAN faculty members Naran Bilik and Adrienne Falcón.
GUIDE TO THE SOAN DEPARTMENT

Courses -

**Introduction to Anthropology / Introduction to Sociology**
These courses are offered every term. You need to take both, even though only one is required before you take most of our courses. To get the most benefit out of the intro courses, you should take them both early on in your career as a SOAN major.

**Statistics**
This is required before you take Methods. Many of the departments at Carleton require their majors to take Stats, so it is a hard course to get into. Plan ahead!

**Electives**
Our major requires 30 elective credits (which translates into 5 courses). You are encouraged to enroll in a variety of courses focused on different topics, but many majors find it helpful to plan their SOAN courses and other courses to help them develop a better understanding of a topic or a region of the world that interests them.

**Off-campus Studies**
As of 2006, we have a winter term program in Guatemala that runs every other year. This program offers hands-on experience in the field performing research and provides a look into the cultures and society of Guatemala.

We also encourage you to look into other study-abroad opportunities through Carleton as well as other programs. Almost any program will give you a chance to apply the ideas that you learn as a SOAN major and help you grow as a student and a scholar.

If you decide to go off-campus, PLAN AHEAD! Make sure that you have a plan for how you will complete all of the courses that are required for the major. If you will be abroad as a junior, then you should consider taking the Methods or Thought and Theory course(s) that you will miss before you leave.
Anthropological Thought & Theory / Sociological Thought & Theory
Plan to take these two courses as a junior. They will help you to develop your own ideas, give you a grounding in the most influential theories and theorists that have shaped our field, and help you plan for your comps topic. It is preferred, though not absolutely necessary, that you take Sociological Though & Theory before Anthropological Though & Theory.

Methods of Social Research
This course build on Statistics to give you the tools you need to conduct research in the social sciences. You MUST take Stats before enrolling in Methods, and it is highly encourages that you complete Methods before you get too deep into the Comps process. Be sure that you plan for this one!

Comprehensive Exercise
You have two options for the Comps process, which you can learn more about on our website: the thesis option and the exam option. You should plan ahead for this process in terms of what your topic will be and which option you will pursue. Often, when majors go off-campus during their senior year, they opt to take the exam.
The Wonderful World of the **SOAN Lounge**!

- Our Computer Lab includes 4 computers, and a printer, available for use from 8am-5pm
- Our Cozy Sofas are here for you to Nap, Rest, Chat, or Read a book.
- Check out our Display Case!!! We’ve got interesting reads from professors in our department, and neat artifacts from around the world.
- You can catch one of our professors or assistants here:
  - Pamela Feldman-Savelsburg
  - Jay Levi
  - Naran Bilik
  - Nader Saidi
  - Jim Fisher
  - Meera Sehgal
  - Jean Goss
- We also have different Newspapers, Journals, and Magazines such as
  - Anthropology News
  - Cultural Survival
  - Grassroots Development
  - The Chronicle Today
- Don’t forget to also look at our Career and Internship materials inside of the Computer Lab!!

**Upcoming Events:**

**Thursday, May 14th** (Common time): Mandatory COMPS meeting with juniors. Pizza provided.

**On Friday, May 18th,** three trustees met with selected seniors and their advisors to talk about the COMPS process.

**Tuesday, May 22nd** (Common time): Job Talk for Replacement position (Methods and 1 course) by Erik Tranby, class of 2002. Pizza and carrot sticks provided.

**Call for students to:**

1. Come and talk
2. Chat with Eric while he eats lunch from 1-2

**Thursday, May 24th** (Common time): COMPS Post-mortem meeting with seniors. Pizza provided.

**Thursday, May 24th** 5:30 PM
Senior Banquet – Alumni Guest House
AN INTERVIEW WITH NARAN BILIK

So, tell me about yourself?

I was born in Hohhot, the capital city of Inner Mongolia. I grew up in a community of about 800 households of which only 3 were Mongolians. As a result, I learnt both Chinese and Mongolian. I spoke Chinese with my friends on the playground and Mongolian at home especially because my grandmother only spoke Mongolian. During the Cultural Revolution in 1968, my parents were falsely accused of being Mongolian separatists and imprisoned for one year. I was just 11 years old then and had to take care of my three younger brothers and my blind grandmother. This experience sparked my interest in ethnic relations and conflicts. In 1974, I choose to take classes with other Mongolians in high school. Although most of them didn’t speak the language, I still felt very connected to them. In 1976, I served as a driller for a geographical team that sought for water samples. Two years after, I took an examination to go to the university with the hope of majoring in Russian. Once admitted to the university, I switched my major to English in accordance to the advice of an academic counselor, who predicted that English language will be more widespread than Russian in the future. In 1982, I wanted to study Mongolian history in Beijing but the professor who specialized in this area did not accept students that year. So, I decided to study Ethnology (Anthropology) at the Ethnology Institute of the Central University of Nationalities under the guidance of Professor Wu Wenzao, a sociology graduate who held a Ph.D. in sociology from Columbia University and Professor Lin Yueh-Hwam who held a Ph.D. in anthropology from Harvard University. In 1989, I received my Ph.D. in Anthropology and started to work with the Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology (the Institute of Nationality Studies) of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. I received a post-doctorate fellowship at King’s College, Cambridge and stayed there for two years under the tutorship of Dr. Caroline Humphrey. After this, I returned to China and worked with professors from all over the world who came to study China. At the same time, I was doing multiple-site fieldwork and served as an anthropological consultant for the World Bank. “In 2001, I was invited to teach at Carleton for a term; in 2002 for 2 terms and in 2003, I got the job!”
Wow! How about your involvement with Men of Color?

Well, I teach the Ethnicity and Race course so I thought it would be great to get a first-hand, in-depth knowledge about the men of color at Carleton and their interactions with themselves and others. I am a minority myself so I am interested in observing how the group deals with internal conflicts and dilemmas. I believe African-Americans hold a leading role, among other minority groups in the world in regards to their struggle for civil rights. So, I admire them as individuals and as a group. Growing up, I heard and read about civil rights leaders such as Martin Luther King. I listened to Paul Robinson’s amazing voice and drew inspiration from his song lyrics.

What are some of your future plans?

I plan to conduct fieldwork back in China as soon as my visa status allows. The trilingual (Mongolian, Chinese, and English) program has been going on in Inner Mongolia for over 10 years now, and I’ve been following it since its inception. Similar programs have been launched in Xinjiang and Yanbian (Korean community) of Jilin province. I am eager to know how far they have made it and what conflicts and obstacles they have to overcome, and what adaptations and compromises they have to make along the way. I also plan to write a book in English based on my Chinese version of “On Personal Names” should I have that kind of luxury of time.
AN INTERVIEW WITH ADRIENNE FALCÓN

An Interview with Professor Falcon

What did you do after graduation?
After graduating from Carleton as a Latin American Studies major, I worked with an international development group, and taught at a Tribal High school. I was also a community planner in a Northern Minnesota. During my graduate studies at the University of Chicago, I worked close with an immigrant youth group program in Chicago.

What are your research interests?
I have been exploring the construction of the category of youth. I am also interested in the sociology of youth and education, and their possibilities for social change.

How are you currently involved with Carleton?
As a current visiting instructor in the Sociology department, I teach Introduction to Sociology, Urban Sociology, and Ethnography of Latin America. I have also been active with facilitating and organizing the immigrant’s rights group on campus.

Check out Professor Falcon’s classes as you register this week...don’t miss out!

If you have any questions about the department, registration, specific classes, or whatever, why not ask your SDA?

That’s what I’m here for, after all. You can set up an individual meeting or ask a question by sending me an email at quickj@carleton.edu or look for this terms office hours to be posted in the SOAN lounge.

Happy end of the term everyone,
Joe
¡Goodbye!  ¡Goodbye!  ¡Goodbye!

Professor Ellen Kennedy,
We’ll Miss You!!!

You may remember in the last issue of the EMIC, we interviewed Prof. Kennedy. She has been with Carleton’s SOAN department for the past two terms, and will be joining the Genocide Intervention Fund full-time. Students have had wonderful things to say about her classes. We’ll miss you ELLEN!

Good Bye ‘07
The Seniors will be missed!! The incoming SOAN majors, rising seniors, faculty and staff would like to wish you all the best upon graduation. Congratulations on all who completed their Final Exams, and Comps. Your hard works was well worth it. Best wishes whether you will go on to Grad School, Work, Travel the world, or are undecided. HUGS!!