The following students have earned a degree in Political Science during the 2014-15 academic year: Spencer Biallas, Ross Clouse, Maxwell Monson, Stephan Adams, Matthew Baldwin, Patrick FitzGerald, Christopher Johnson, Jessica Serrano, Ethan Cassidy, Cassandra DuBore, Lauren Gilmore, Thomas Gilmore, Njambou Jammeh, Casie McCoskey, Thomas McCullough, Jesse Miller, Johny Nguyen, Jacob Rommel, Johanna Sappenfield, Derrick Shamp, Jennifer Treadway, Binh Vo and Ethan Zaichkin!

These students have applied for a degree in Political Science during summer of 2015: Henry Matai and Jaime Valencia.

Please take a moment to congratulate all of the graduates!

authority, while “definitely” relates to being certain, sure, precise, etc., being the adverbial form of “definite.” Notice how different they are? In fact, they don’t even sound that much alike, yet constructions like “based on 2008 exit polls, Obama defiantly won the African-American vote” appear far too often. Instead, you can really impress your profs by showing them you know the distinction, as in: “At the town hall meeting, a very vocal constituent defiantly asked the Congresswoman why she was not investigating the legitimacy of the President’s birth certificate. The Congresswoman sarcastically replied that, the last time she checked, Hawaii was definitely part of the United States.” So definitely don’t defiantly buck the conventions of good writing by switching these two words.

The Curmudgeonly Grammarian

Once again, through this quarterly column, the spirit of your eighth-grade English teacher benevolently haunts you. Why “benevolently,” you ask? Because we hope to help you avoid common writing mistakes your peers inflict upon their professors, with resulting negative impacts on their intellectual image and paper grades. (Hey, we had to get a Halloween reference in somehow!)

This issue’s subject is the confusion and misuse of the word “defiantly” when the writer really means “definitely.” Note that electronic “spell check” won’t help you here, either. Both are adverbs (because they end in “-ly”, see, as we all learned on “Schoolhouse Rock”), but that’s where the similarity ends. “Defiantly” comes from “defiance,” and relates to actively resisting
OH! So that’s what those class names mean!

Central & Eastern Europe: Politics, Society, Culture

**POSC 460** - Examine politics in Central and Eastern Europe, through the prism of the history, society and culture of the region. What does “Central & Eastern Europe” stand for? CEE is “the other Europe”, the region that has always found itself at the crossroads of empires - between the Ottomans and the Habsburgs, Nazi Germany and the USSR, and between the West and the Soviet Union. This is why CEE (and our focus will be on Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, and the countries of former Yugoslavia) offers unique case studies for examining key concepts of contemporary political science: ethnicity and nationalism; politics in divided societies; authoritarian regimes and opposition movements; transitions to democracy; religion and politics.

Global Environmental Politics **POSC 470** - Environmental problems are global in scope – either because they are global problems, like climate change, or because they are problems that influence lives across the globe in similar ways, such as deforestation. Explore global relations of power and governance, decision-making, with a focus on climate change and water wars.


What’s up in Poli Sci?

Prof. Bang-Soon L. Yoon published a book chapter entitled “Sexualized Racism, Gender and Nationalism: The Case of Japan’s Sexual Enslavement of Korean ‘Comfort Women’” (pp. 459-480) in Race and Racism in Modern East Asia, Vol.II: Interactions, Nationalism, Gender and Lineage (Leiden/Boston, Netherland, 2015) edited by Rotem Kowner (Univ. of Haifa, Israel) and Walter Demel (Univ. of the Armed Forces, Munich, Germany). This research work was partially funded by a COTS Faculty Summer Grant in 2013.

Prof. Bang-Soon L. Yoon was a keynote speaker and a panelist at the “Comfort Women” Sexual Slavery in the Wartime Japanese Empire: The Historical Record and the Politics of Memory” academic panel held on April 28, 2015 at SURC Ballroom. Prof. Yoon’s newspaper column article “Address comfort women’ issue” was also published by the Daily Record on April 29, 2015 related to Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe’s speech to the Congress.