Agenda- PhD Committee meeting
February 10
12:00-1:30 PM
TH 403

1. Updates
   a. Student social activities- student reps
   b. Career advising and Laura Iglitzen as interim- OAS
   c. JSIS library of dissertations- Nathalie
   d. Others?

2. Old business:
   a. Curriculum changes
      i. Foundational fields
      ii. Intro to international studies 594
      iii. Bridge lab

3. Executive session- student reps asked to leave
   a. JSIS nominations for fellowships- Alvord Fellowship and Distinguished Dissertation Award

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As a reminder, notes from our discussion at the December meeting on curriculum changes are:

1. Rethinking foundational field courses
   a. Currently two must be completed to obtain candidacy
   b. Exams don’t need to be based on them though faculty frequently do so
   c. Some thematic courses are not relevant to exams and dissertation
   d. Thematic buckets came out of an inductive approach to match faculty research into groups
   e. No strong attachment to current buckets
   f. Need for strong theoretical grounding as part of training, for example:
      i. Comparative political economy
      ii. International security/geopolitics
      iii. Religion and Culture
   g. Formal institutions (eg states) as well as informal institutions and non-state non-institutional actors should be included in all of the above topical courses.
   h. Proposal: take PhD students out of 594 and put them into a survey course (reading, writing, and thinking synthetically) that covers three thematic groups
      i. Only one field would be required later on
      ii. Students could take others as they see fit