

# SENIOR SYMPOSIUM

APRIL 15, 2022

Warren Hunting Smith Library and Melly Academic Center

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**Center for Teaching and Learning**



HOBART AND WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGES





HOBART AND WILLIAM SMITH  
COLLEGES

Office of the President

April 15, 2022

Dear Members of the Hobart and William Smith Community,

I'm excited to welcome you to one of our most treasured traditions here at Hobart and William Smith Colleges, the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Senior Symposium. Each year, Seniors and MAT students are given the opportunity to showcase their intellectual passions in front of their mentors, colleagues and peers. The Symposium is an opportunity to learn about their experiences and celebrate their accomplishments as they prepare to embark on lives of consequence. The subject matter of their work is wide-ranging and encompasses academic research, as well as co-curricular, community service and study abroad experiences.

On behalf of the HWS community, I congratulate all of the participants in this year's Symposium. May you continue to challenge yourselves and open doors to new ideas and discussions. To the faculty who have encouraged and mentored our students in pursuing this vital and important work, I commend you for your continued support in ensuring the success of our students. Finally, to all who have helped organize, moderate and participate in today's event, I express my sincere gratitude for your efforts in making today a success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Joyce P. Jacobsen'.

Joyce P. Jacobsen President





HOBART AND WILLIAM SMITH  
COLLEGES

The Office of Academic and Faculty Affairs

Dear HWS Community,

I am excited to celebrate the accomplishments, progress, and success in the scholarly and creative works of our students in my first year here at Hobart and William Smith Colleges. While I may be new, the tradition is not. This is the thirteenth year that the Senior Symposium provides an important occasion for us to reflect on the value of a Hobart and William Smith education and to appreciate the learning, insights, talents, and developments of our community.

I hope you will all join me in attending a variety of student presentations throughout the day. This event represents what makes a liberal arts education at HWS so special - the achievements of our students, the central involvement of our faculty and staff, the interdisciplinarity and multiple approaches to tackling the pressing issues of the day, and the high standards and expectations for rigorous intellectual engagement and debate. As the Provost and Dean of Faculty, I welcome you to join us in these presentations, discussions, and discoveries and I applaud the student presenters for being shining examples of a Hobart and William Smith education.

I also want to express my gratitude to my faculty and staff colleagues who have provided invaluable mentorship as they have nurtured these students and their work throughout their time at the Colleges. Without your support, advice, and encouragement, this experience would not have been nearly as successful. Finally, I want to thank those who have dedicated time, energy, and effort by presenting their work, moderating panels, attending panels, and providing a voice of congratulations and support.

Sincerely,

*Sarah Kirk*

Sarah R. Kirk  
Provost and Dean of Faculty





HOBART AND WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGES

Dear Hobart & William Smith Colleagues, Students, and Friends:

As we gather for Senior Symposium this year, we are warmed by a sense that things are slowly coming “back to normal”: the spring semester at HWS is always a whirlwind of awards ceremonies, student events, academic capstone experiences and celebrations, and it is with joy and gratitude that we celebrate these milestones in person this year.

It is worth remembering that the Seniors and graduate students who are presenting today last experienced this kind of “normal” as First Years or Sophomores. And it is also worth asking – to what extent are they returning back to where they were at that time? Like all of us, they have learned a great deal over the last few years: about science and medicine, and politics and the workings of social media, and about how the arts reflect and affect the way we coexist in the world.

What you will see in today’s presentations reflects the growth and learning that our students have experienced over a turbulent time. You will hear what they have learned about the power of collectivity in local and global communities, about the effects and consequences of Dual Immersion education, and about the changing environment from the Finger Lakes to Guatemala. Our world is changing quickly, and our students demonstrate an ability to observe, analyze and plan for a future that may not be “back to normal” but which will definitely belong to them.

As well as looking forward, this is also an exciting year to look back as we celebrate the Bicentennial of Hobart College. Please join us at two sessions with a special focus on Hobart College’s history: War (What is it Good For?), moderated by Professor Jacob Powell (HO ’14; 8:40-9:40 am in Learning Studio 1) and Local Matters, moderated by Hobart Dean Scott Brophy (HO ’78; 12:10-1:10 pm in Barron Multimedia Lab).

Thank you, and enjoy the day. The staff of the Center for Teaching and Learning:

Susan Pliner, Ed.D.  
Dean and Director

Ruth Shields, Ph.D.  
Associate Director

Christen Davis-Adjaho, M.Ed.  
Associate Director for Disability  
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Accommodation  
Specialist

Hollie Brazie  
Administrator and Student  
Support Specialist





## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The thirteenth annual Senior Symposium was made possible by the vision, leadership, and efforts of many in the Hobart and William Smith community.

Office of Academic and Faculty Affairs Office of the President

Offices of the Hobart and William Smith Deans Office of Communications

IT Services

### **Center for Teaching and Learning**

Aicha Bah, Hollie Brazie, Christen Davis, Susan Hess, Ingrid Keenan, Caroline Martocci, Susan Pliner, Ruth Shields, Jamie Slusser

### **Presentation Workshop Facilitators**

Ed Bizari, Amy Forbes, Craig Talmage, Jenny Tessororf, Kelsey Ward,  
students in Writing and Rhetoric 420

Sincere thanks are extended to the students, faculty advisors, faculty moderators, staff, alumnae, alumni, and all who have contributed to the success of this year's event.



## **RESEARCH SUPPORT AND AWARDS**

Symposium students have received generous support for their academic projects from the following organizations, programs, and funds:

2021-2022 Faculty Research Grant

Couny Scholarship

Emerson Foundation

Environmental Research Grant

Environmental Studies Department Student Researcher Grants

HWS Summer Research Sponsorship

Keuka County

Kloman Fellowship Funds

Seneca Lake Pure Waters Association

Woodworth Summer Research Fellowship at the Fisher Center



Senior  
Symposium  
2022  
Presenters



## SENIOR SYMPOSIUM 2022 PRESENTERS

<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Department/Program</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Room</b>
Alexander, Corina	Sociology	Jack Harris	3:40 - 4:40	Sanford Room
Ansaldo, Michael	Sociology	Jack Harris	12:10 - 1:10	Geneva Room
Arias, Jamie	Sociology	Jack Harris	9:50 - 10:50	Geneva Room
Asaro-Niederlitz, Juniper	Philosophy	Carol Oberbrunner	3:40 - 4:40	Learning Studio 1
Austin, Caleb	Anthropology	Christopher Annear	2:30 - 3:30	Learning Studio 1
Aversa, Heidi	Sociology	Jack Harris	1:20 - 2:20	Geneva Room
Barnum, Rob	American Studies	Elizabeth Belanger	3:40 - 4:40	Geneva Room
Beatty, Pierson	Writing and Rhetoric	Maggie Werner	11:00 - 12:00	Learning Studio 1
Becchio, Susanna	Sociology	Jack Harris	3:40 - 4:40	Sanford Room
Bellamy, Julia	Physics	Ileana Dumitriu	2:30 - 3:30	Sanford Room
Bendull, Daphna	Education	Mary Kelly	12:10 - 1:10	Learning Studio 1
Benham, Bryce	Writing and Rhetoric	Maggie Werner	9:50 - 10:50	Learning Studio 1
Bilton, Emma	Sociology	Jack Harris	12:10 - 1:10	Geneva Room
Bloomfield, Zoë	Art and Architecture	Christine Chin	1:20 - 2:20	Sanford Room
Bojko, Lea	Writing and Rhetoric	Maggie Werner	2:30 - 3:30	Geneva Room
Bonagura, Alassandra	Sociology	Kendralin Freeman	1:20 - 2:20	Geneva Room
Bonagura, Alassandra	William Smith Dean's Office	Lisa Kaenzig	11:00 - 12:00	Geneva Room
Boucher, Colleen	Mathematics and Computer Science	Joseph Rusinko	2:30 - 3:30	Sanford Room
Brathwaite, Kaitlyn	Women's Studies	Michelle Martin-Barron Hannah Dickinson	11:00 - 12:00	Geneva Room
Brathwaite, Kaitlyn	Writing and Rhetoric	Maggie Werner	8:40 - 9:40	Sanford Room
Brennan, Ava	Entrepreneurial Studies	Craig Talmage	12:10 - 1:10	Geneva Room

## SENIOR SYMPOSIUM 2022 PRESENTERS

Presenter	Department/Program	Sponsor	Time	Room
Broering, Andrew	Religious Studies	Richard Salter	12:10 - 1:10	Geneva Room
Canniff, Jack	Chemistry	Christine de Denus	3:40 - 4:40	Geneva Room
Carr-Locke, Gemma	Dance	Donna Davenport	9:50 - 10:50	Sanford Room
Costello, Christopher	English	Kathryn Cowles	11:00 - 12:00	Learning Studio 1
D'Alterio, Steven	Education	Mary Kelly	12:10 - 1:10	Learning Studio 1
Davidson, Olivia	Art and Architecture	Christine Chin	9:50 - 10:50	Learning Studio 1
DeBruyn, Noel	Entrepreneurial Studies	Craig Talmage	1:20 - 2:20	Sanford Room
DiSanto, Bailey	Education	Mary Kelly	12:10 - 1:10	Learning Studio 1
Doherty, Zoe	Education	Diana Baker	1:20 - 2:20	Barron Multimedia Lab
Doney, Bliss	Dance	Donna Davenport	1:20 - 2:20	Sanford Room
Foulk, Sami	Sociology	Jack Harris	1:20 - 2:20	Geneva Room
Freedman, Ani	Writing and Rhetoric	Ben Ristow	8:40 - 9:40	Sanford Room
Frucci, Cade	Writing and Rhetoric	Maggie Werner	9:50 - 10:50	Learning Studio 1
Gage, Bryna	Dance	Donna Davenport	1:20 - 2:20	Sanford Room
Gaudette, Peter	International Relations	Kevin Dunn	8:40 - 9:40	Learning Studio 1
Gold, Natalie	Education	Diana Baker	2:30 - 3:30	Geneva Room
Grapshi, Margo	Writing and Rhetoric	Maggie Werner	3:40 - 4:40	Learning Studio 1
Gray, Sarah	Biology	Meghan Brown	12:10 - 1:10	Barron Multimedia Lab
Grieco, Michael	Education	Diana Baker	11:00 - 12:00	Geneva Room
Gross, Zachary	Psychological Science	Emily Fisher	11:00 - 12:00	Learning Studio 1
Hanrahan, Mary	Writing and Rhetoric	Maggie Werner	2:30 - 3:30	Sanford Room



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<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Department/Program</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Room</b>
Hardee, Emma	Education	Mary Kelly	11:00 - 12:00	Sanford Room
Hay, Cole	Writing and Rhetoric	Susan Hess	8:40 - 9:40	Learning Studio 1
Heusner, Rejaun	Sociology	Jack Harris	3:40 - 4:40	Sanford Room
Hopkinson, Isaiah	Writing and Rhetoric	Maggie Werner	9:50 - 10:50	Sanford Room
Jalai, Stella	French, Francophone, and Italian Studies	Courtney Wells	12:10 - 1:10	Sanford Room
Janik, Meredith	Sociology	Jack Harris	12:10 - 1:10	Geneva Room
Johnson, Ashly	William Smith Dean's Office	Lisa Kaenzig	11:00 - 12:00	Geneva Room
Johnson, Graham	Sociology	Jack Harris	9:50 - 10:50	Geneva Room
Jones, Tim	Geoscience	John Halfman	3:40 - 4:40	Geneva Room
Joshi, Claire	Education	Mary Kelly	11:00 - 12:00	Sanford Room
Kaenzig de Denus, Madison	Sociology	Jack Harris	9:50 - 10:50	Geneva Room
Karpowicz, Victoria	International Relations	Kevin Dunn	8:40 - 9:40	Geneva Room
Kehoe, Meredith	Education	Diana Baker	11:00 - 12:00	Geneva Room
Kelly, Emma	Education	Mary Kelly	11:00 - 12:00	Sanford Room
King, De' John	Writing and Rhetoric	Maggie Werner	8:40 - 9:40	Learning Studio 1
King, Sara	Writing and Rhetoric	Maggie Werner	8:40 - 9:40	Learning Studio 1
Klempen, Kate	Sociology	Jack Harris	12:10 - 1:10	Geneva Room
Knieke, Janne	Environmental Studies	Meghan Brown	3:40 - 4:40	Sanford Room
Knudson, Angelica	Education	Diana Baker	12:10- 1:10	Sanford Room
Koster, Sawyer	Writing and Rhetoric	Susan Hess	12:10 - 1:10	Barron Multimedia Lab
Laferrera, Sarah	Education	Mary Kelly	11:00 - 12:00	Sanford Room

## SENIOR SYMPOSIUM 2022 PRESENTERS

Presenter	Department/Program	Sponsor	Time	Room
Lagoyda, Dashiell	Biology	Meghan Brown	11:00 - 12:00	Learning Studio 1
Lapat, Sophie	Entrepreneurial Studies	Craig Talmage	12:10 - 1:10	Geneva Room
Lesure, Jack	Philosophy	Karen Frost-Arnold	9:50 - 10:50	Learning Studio 1
Leyson, Abigail	Writing and Rhetoric	Maggie Werner	2:30 - 3:30	Sanford Room
Low, Allie	Education	Mary Kelly	12:10 - 1:10	Learning Studio 1
Lyons, William	Anthropology	Christopher Annear Jeffrey Anderson	11:00 - 12:00	Barron Multimedia Lab
MacShara, Emma	Sociology	Jack Harris	1:20 - 2:20	Geneva Room
Manning, Maegan	Biology	Patricia Mowery	11:00 - 12:00	Barron Multimedia Lab
Marchart, Moritz	Economics	Thomas Drennen	9:50 - 10:50	Geneva Room
Marthens, Katherine	Biology	Mark Deutschlander	2:30 - 3:30	Barron Multimedia Lab
Martocci, Caroline	Economics	Feisal Khan	11:00 - 12:00	Barron Multimedia Lab
Matthews, Molly	Writing and Rhetoric	Maggie Werner	1:20 - 2:20	Learning Studio 1
McCarthy, Natalie	Biology	Bradley Cosentino	9:50 - 10:50	Geneva Room
McClearn, Scott	Sociology	Jack Harris	1:20 - 2:20	Geneva Room
McElduff, Colleen	Education	Diana Baker	1:20 - 2:20	Geneva Room
McElduff, Colleen	American Studies	Elizabeth Belanger	9:50 - 10:50	Sanford Room
McGriff, Camille	Writing and Rhetoric	Maggie Werner	12:10 - 1:10	Sanford Room
McNulty, Matthew	Biology	Patricia Mowery	8:40 - 9:40	Geneva Room
Miller, Nicole	Education	Diana Baker	1:20 - 2:20	Barron Multimedia Lab
Mitrow, Ashley	Sociology	Jack Harris	12:10 - 1:10	Geneva Room
Mongeau, Grace	Sociology	James Sutton	12:10 - 1:10	Barron Multimedia Lab

## SENIOR SYMPOSIUM 2022 PRESENTERS

<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Department/Program</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Room</b>
Mongeau, Grace	Sociology	Jack Harris	9:50 - 10:50	Geneva Room
Nethercott, Allison	Sociology	Jack Harris	3:40 - 4:40	Sanford Room
Okoniewski, McKayla	Writing and Rhetoric	Maggie Werner	11:00 - 12:00	Barron Multimedia Lab
O'Malley, Deirdre	Classics	Leah Himmelhoch	2:30 - 3:30	Learning Studio 1
Peck, David	Writing and Rhetoric	Maggie Werner	9:50 - 10:50	Geneva Room
Peña, Star	Sociology	Jack Harris	1:20 - 2:20	Geneva Room
Percoski, Katherine	Education	Mary Kelly	11:00 - 12:00	Sanford Room
Pilet, Elim	English	Kathryn Cowles	3:40 - 4:40	Learning Studio 1
Pluta, Taylor	Sociology	James Sutton	1:20 - 2:20	Learning Studio 1
Pluta, Taylor	Sociology	Jack Harris	9:50 - 10:50	Geneva Room
Quarterman, Alicia	Writing and Rhetoric	Maggie Werner	2:30 - 3:30	Learning Studio 1
Racioppa, Alexis	Education	Mary Kelly	11:00 - 12:00	Sanford Room
Reilly, Blair	English	Melanie Conroy-Goldman	3:40 - 4:40	Geneva Room
Rider, Anna	Environmental Studies	Kristen Brubaker	8:40 - 9:40	Sanford Room
Rockstroh, Karlee	Entrepreneurial Studies	Craig Talmage	1:20 - 2:20	Sanford Room
Rose, Elana	Sociology	Jack Harris	12:10 - 1:10	Geneva Room
Rose, Elana	Education	Diana Baker	8:40 - 9:40	Geneva Room
Ruggles, Katherine	Media and Society	Rebecca Burditt	12:10 - 1:10	Sanford Room
Rundlett, Emily	Chemistry	Kristin Slade	1:20 - 2:20	Barron Multimedia Lab
Russell, Robert	Religious Studies	Richard Salter	1:20 - 2:20	Barron Multimedia Lab
Shaw, Ali	Education	Diana Baker	2:30 - 3:30	Barron Multimedia Lab

## SENIOR SYMPOSIUM 2022 PRESENTERS

<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Department/Program</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Room</b>
Shaw, JoAnna	Environmental Studies	John Halfman	8:40 - 9:40	Sanford Room
Slusser, Brayton	Writing and Rhetoric	Susan Hess	12:10 - 1:10	Barron Multimedia Lab
Snyder, Hope	Sociology	Jack Harris	1:20 - 2:20	Geneva Room
Soulier, Laurel	Education	Diana Baker	2:30 - 3:30	Geneva Room
Spano, Kyle	Sociology	Jack Harris	3:40 - 4:40	Sanford Room
Spencer, Aidan	Philosophy	Karen Frost-Arnold	9:50 - 10:50	Sanford Room
Starosta, Henry	Writing and Rhetoric	Maggie Werner	2:30 - 3:30	Barron Multimedia Lab
Stein, Kristina	Sociology	Jack Harris	3:40 - 4:40	Sanford Room
Stelljes, Lindsay	Writing and Rhetoric	Maggie Werner	2:30 - 3:30	Geneva Room
Striuli, Maya	Writing and Rhetoric	Maggie Werner	2:30 - 3:30	Learning Studio 1
Swanson, Nicki	American Studies	Elizabeth Belanger	2:30 - 3:30	Barron Multimedia Lab
Torossian, Harris	Writing and Rhetoric	Maggie Werner	3:40 - 4:40	Learning Studio 1
Urquiza, Isabel	Biology	Meghan Brown	3:40 - 4:40	Sanford Room
Varner, Sofie	Writing and Rhetoric	Maggie Werner	1:20 - 2:20	Learning Studio 1
Whitley, Nassir	Writing & Rhetoric	Maggie Werner	8:40 - 9:40	Geneva Room
Wilkie, Taylor	Sociology	Jack Harris	9:50 - 10:50	Geneva Room
Wilson, Ashleigh	Writing and Rhetoric	Maggie Werner	1:20 - 2:20	Learning Studio 1

Senior  
Symposium  
2022  
Schedule



## Barron Multimedia Lab

### Structures

*Moderator: Eric Klaus, Professor of German Area Studies*

Time	Presenters	Abstract Title	Department/ Program
11:00 - 12:00	Lyons, William	Anthropology of Mental Health	Anthropology
	Manning, Maegan	Determining Anti-Cancer Potential and Cytotoxicity of Small Compounds	Biology
	Martocci, Caroline	Student Housing Securitization Feasibility at Hobart and William Smith Colleges	Economics
	Okoniewski, McKayla	#Decolonizatiktok: New Media Spaces, Rhetorical Sovereignty, and Decolonization in Indigenous Rhetoric	Writing and Rhetoric
	Questions & Answers		

### Local Matters

*Moderator: Scott Brophy, Dean of Hobart College and Professor of Philosophy*

Time	Presenters	Abstract Title	Department/ Program
12:10 - 1:10	Gray, Sarah	A Comparison of Leaf Decomposition of <i>Carya Ovata</i> and <i>Quercus Alba</i> in the Glenwood Cemetery Creek (Geneva, New York)	Biology
	Koster, Sawyer	Diversifying the Game: Hobart Lacrosse's Division III Dynasty and the "Soul Patrol"	Writing and Rhetoric
	Mongeau, Grace	Navigating Hookup Culture and Social Life: Exploring the Experiences of College Students with Disabilities	Sociology
	Slusser, Brayton	Hobart History, E.H.C. Taylor, and the Civil War	Writing and Rhetoric
	Questions & Answers		

## Barron Multimedia Lab

### In (the) Crowd

*Moderator: Sarah Kirk, Provost and Dean of Faculty*

Time	Presenters	Abstract Title	Department/ Program
1:20 - 2:20	Doherty, Zoe	The Impacts of Peer-Mediated Tutoring Systems on Children in a Dual Immersion Program	Education
	Miller, Nicole	Motivations behind Grouping in Dual Immersion Classrooms	Education
	Rundlett, Emily	Effects of Macromolecular Crowding on the Enzyme Kinetics and Thermodynamics of Glutamate Dehydrogenase	Chemistry
	Russell, Robert	The Protestant Project: How Anti-Catholicism was Used as a Tool in Buffalo, New York to Push Catholics to the Right	Religious Studies
	Questions & Answers		

### Success and Significance

*Moderator: Ervin Kosta, Associate Professor of Sociology*

Time	Presenters	Abstract Title	Department/ Program
2:30 - 3:30	Marthens, Katherine	Project Puffin: Seabird Nesting Success and Feeding Strategies in the Gulf of Maine	Biology
	Shaw, Ali	What Is Success: Examining Secondary Dual Immersion Classrooms	Education
	Starosta, Henry	Bringing Back the Bass	Writing and Rhetoric
	Swanson, Nicki	The Evolution of Sex and Relationship Advice since the 70s	American Studies
	Questions & Answers		



## Geneva Room

### Methods of Resistance and Disruption

*Moderator: Darrin Magee, Professor of Environmental Studies*

Time	Presenters	Abstract Title	Department/ Program
8:40 - 9:40	Karpowicz, Victoria	Days to Months: The Story of Hope in the Warsaw Uprising	International Relations
	McNulty, Matthew	Evaluating Activity and Binding of Novel Anticancer Molecules	Biology
	Rose, Elana	Are All Parents Satisfied with Dual Immersion Programs?	Education
	Whitley, Nassir	Black Rhetoric and Racialized Technology	Writing and Rhetoric
	Questions & Answers		

### Making Change

*Moderator: Erin Pelkey, Professor of Chemistry*

Time	Presenters	Abstract Title	Department/ Program
9:50 - 10:50	Arias, Jamie Johnson, Graham Kaenzig de Denus, Madison Mongeau, Grace Pluta, Taylor Wilkie, Taylor	Helping Bloomfield Bloom: Asset-Based Community Development in the Town of East Bloomfield, New York	Sociology
	Marchart, Moritz	Is Bitcoin Worth Our Energy?	Economics
	McCarthy, Natalie	How Urbanization Creates New Opportunities for Spillover of Zoonotic Diseases	Biology
	Peck, David	How Youth Change the World	Writing and Rhetoric
	Questions & Answers		

## Geneva Room

### Learner in Context

*Moderator: Lisa Kaenzig, Dean of William Smith College*

Time	Presenters	Abstract Title	Department/ Program
11:00 - 12:00	Bonagura, Alassandra Johnson, Ashly	PLEN: Preparing You to Lead	William Smith Dean's Office
	Brathwaite, Kaitlyn	A Gold Earring-ed Ear to Guyana: Guyanese Women Producing Feminism	Women's Studies
	Grieco, Michael	Language and Lesson Plans in Dual Immersion Classrooms: Balancing Curriculum and the Target Language	Education
	Kehoe, Meredith	The Impacts of Dual Immersion Education on Students and Their Caregivers	Education
	Questions & Answers		

### How To

*Moderator: Nan Crystal Arens, Professor of Geoscience*

Time	Presenters	Abstract Title	Department/ Program
12:10 - 1:10	Ansaldo, Michael Bilton, Emma Janik, Meredith Klempen, Kate Mitrow, Ashley Rose, Elana	Gorham, the "Bandstand" of New York: Unrecognized and Underutilized Assets	Sociology
	Brennan, Ava Lapat, Sophie	Teaching the Darker Sides of Entrepreneurship through <i>Startup: A Novel</i>	Entrepreneurial Studies
	Broering, Andrew	The Fray	Religious Studies
	Questions & Answers		

## Geneva Room

### Stronger Together

*Moderator: Amy Forbes, Director of the Centennial Center*

Time	Presenters	Abstract Title	Department/ Program
1:20 - 2:20	Aversa, Heidi Foulk, Sami MacShara, Emma McClearn, Scott Peña, Star Snyder, Hope	Creating "Shared Communities United" with Assets in the Town of Manchester, New York	Sociology
	Bonagura, Alassandra	The Power of Collectivity in the Food Support Sector	Sociology
	McElduff, Colleen	Cultural Differences and Peer Relations in Elementary School Dual Immersion Programs	Education
	Questions & Answers		

### Language with Identity

*Moderator: Hannah Dickinson, Associate Professor of Writing and Rhetoric*

Time	Presenters	Abstract Title	Department/ Program
2:30 - 3:30	Bojko, Lea	Ohne Konsequenzen	Writing and Rhetoric
	Gold, Natalie	Discovering Dyslexia in Dual Immersion: What Do We Do Now?	Education
	Soulier, Laurel	Friendship and Dual Immersion	Education
	Stelljes, Lindsay	Promoting Language Diversity: Putting Culturally Relevant Teaching into Practice	Writing and Rhetoric
	Questions & Answers		

## Geneva Room

### Space, Time, Change

*Moderator: Emily Fisher, Associate Professor of Psychological Science*

Time	Presenters	Abstract Title	Department/ Program
3:40 - 4:40	Barnum, Rob	The Evolution of Symbolism during the Prohibition Era	American Studies
	Canniff, Jack	Synthesis and Characterization of Molecular Wire Candidates	Chemistry
	Jones, Tim	Spatial and Temporal Change of Large Rainfall Events in the Central Finger Lakes	Geoscience
	Reilly, Blair	An Analysis of Tide and Current inside a Wormhole: Mapping the Mind through Fiction	English
	Questions & Answers		

# Learning Studio 1

## War (What is It Good for?)

*Moderator: Jacob Powell '14, Visiting Instructor of Economics*

Time	Presenters	Abstract Title	Department/ Program
8:40 - 9:40	Gaudette, Peter	The Shadow of the Cross: Were the Crusades Proto-Colonial Endeavors?	International Relations
	Hay, Cole	The Banner Scrap: A Unique Hobart College Tradition	Writing and Rhetoric
	King, De' John	The Art of Screenwriting: Battle Arena	Writing and Rhetoric
	King, Sara	Our Navy V-12 Program	Writing and Rhetoric
	Questions & Answers		

## Delivery

*Moderator: Rebecca Burditt, Assistant Professor of Media and Society*

Time	Presenters	Abstract Title	Department/ Program
9:50 - 10:50	Benham, Bryce	Constitutional Interpretation and Rhetoric	Writing and Rhetoric
	Davidson, Olivia	Expedited Environment: An Artistic Interpretation of Shipping and Its Impacts on the Environment	Art and Architecture
	Frucci, Cade	Journalism and Crisis: A Discursive Analysis	Writing and Rhetoric
	Lesure, Jack	Amazon "Ring," Surveillance, and Humanity	Philosophy
	Questions & Answers		

# Learning Studio 1

## Commonalities and Differences

*Moderator: Nicholas Metz, Associate Professor of Geoscience*

Time	Presenters	Abstract Title	Department/ Program
11:00 - 12:00	Beatty, Pierson	No Two Things Are Perfectly Alike	Writing and Rhetoric
	Costello, Christopher	A Very Queer Thing: Queer Community, the City, and the Commodity in "The Day the Lady Died"	English
	Gross, Zachary	"Finding Common Purpose"	Psychological Science
	Lagoyda, Dashiell	The European Eel, the American Crow, and the Morel Mushroom: Interactions with Humans and Universal Biological Regularities	Biology
	Questions & Answers		

## Proficient Preparation

*Moderator: Jamie MaKinster, Professor of Education and Associate Provost*

Time	Presenters	Abstract Title	Department/ Program
12:10 - 1:10	Bendull, Daphna	Preparing for the Future: Career Readiness	Education - MAT
	D'Alterio, Steven	Critical Reads Today: Deconstructing the Western English Literary Canon	Education - MAT
	DiSanto, Bailey Low, Allie	Cleared for Takeoff? Analyzing the HWS Corps Virtual STEM (Algebra I) Tutoring Program in Its Pilot Year	Education - MAT
	Questions & Answers		

# Learning Studio 1

<b>Resilience and Equity</b>			
<i>Moderator: Amy Green, Co-Director of the Writing Colleagues Program</i>			
Time	Presenters	Abstract Title	Department/ Program
1:20 - 2:20	Matthews, Molly	Rhetorical Analysis of the Vera Institute of Justice's Website	Writing and Rhetoric
	Pluta, Taylor	Interrupting the School-to-Prison Pipeline: Stories of Resiliency and Second Chances	Sociology
	Varner, Sofie	The Question of Racial Equality in Education	Writing and Rhetoric
	Wilson, Ashleigh	Metamorphosis: Breaking through the Chrysalis of Mental Health Stigma	Writing and Rhetoric
	Questions & Answers		

<b>The Case of the Citizen</b>			
<i>Moderator: Matthew Crow, Associate Professor of History</i>			
Time	Presenters	Abstract Title	Department/ Program
2:30 - 3:30	Austin, Caleb	Popular Fascism in America	Anthropology
	O'Malley, Deirdre	Of Love and Monsters: Gender and Citizenship in Euripides' Hippolytos	Classics
	Quarterman, Alicia	Rhetorical Strategies of Malala	Writing and Rhetoric
	Striuli, Maya	Rhetoric of Political Asylum	Writing and Rhetoric
	Questions & Answers		

# Learning Studio 1

## The Self

*Moderator: Kristy Kenyon, Professor of Biology*

Time	Presenters	Abstract Title	Department/ Program
3:40 - 4:40	Asaro-Niederlitz, Juniper	Metaphysical Mendings: Returning to Western Puzzles with a Buddhist Perspective	Philosophy
	Grapshi, Margo	These Green Mountains: The Idea of Home	Writing and Rhetoric
	Pilet, Elim	Every Ecstatic Now: Depersonalized Personal Poetry	English
	Torossian, Harris	Hidden Change: A Memoir	Writing and Rhetoric
	Questions & Answers		



## Sanford Room

### Envisioning

*Moderator: Kendralin Freeman, Associate Professor of Anthropology*

Time	Presenters	Abstract Title	Department/ Program
8:40 - 9:40	Brathwaite, Kaitlyn	PUNK'D: Exploring How Punk Culture and Rock Music Influence Minority Activism in the Digital Age	Writing and Rhetoric
	Freedman, Ani	Human Connection through Photojournalism: Expanding the Migrant Worker Discourse	Writing and Rhetoric
	Rider, Anna	Land Use Legacy Effects on Stream Salamanders in the Finger Lakes National Forest	Environmental Studies
	Shaw, JoAnna	Finger Lake Meteorological and Limnological Change for the Onset of Cyanobacteria (HABs) Blooms	Geoscience
	Questions & Answers		

### Building Identities

*Moderator: Robinson Murphy, Visiting Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies*

Time	Presenters	Abstract Title	Department/ Program
9:50 - 10:50	Carr-Locke, Gemma	Through the Looking Glass: Negative Effects that the Presence of Mirrors Has on Ballet Dancers	Dance
	Hopkinson, Isaiah	Identity over Delivery	Writing and Rhetoric
	McElduff, Colleen	Who Gets to Be an American Girl?	American Studies
	Spencer, Aidan	What Makes a Hero?	Philosophy
	Questions & Answers		

## Sanford Room

### It's Elementary (Education)

*Moderator: Mary Kelly, Associate Professor of Education*

Time	Presenters	Abstract Title	Department/ Program
11:00 - 12:00	Hardee, Emma Joshi, Claire	Early Literacy and Mentoring	Education - MAT
	Kelly, Emma Percoski, Katherine	Promoting Access to Social-Emotional Learning in a Local School District	Education - MAT
	Laferrera, Sarah	You Can't Dream What You Don't Know: The Importance of Career Awareness for Children	Education - MAT
	Racioppa, Alexis	The Impact of Food Insecurity on Children	Education - MAT
	Questions & Answers		

### It's Personal

*Moderator: Christine de Denus, Associate Professor of Chemistry*

Time	Presenters	Abstract Title	Department/ Program
12:10 - 1:10	Jalai, Stella	Retour à mes racines françaises: Decolonizing Francophone Culture in Literature, Film, and Art	French, Francophone, and Italian Studies
	Knudson, Angelica	"Nothing about Us without Us": Neurodivergent Students in Education	Education
	McGriff, Camille	Camille McGriff Is in Search of a New Narrative: A Multi-Pronged Approach to Earth, Cities, Spaces, and Self	Writing and Rhetoric
	Ruggles, Katherine	Be Kind, Rewind: Rebranding Blockbuster for the 21st Century	Media and Society
	Questions & Answers		

## Sanford Room

### The Arts of Education

*Moderator: Craig Talmage, Assistant Professor of Entrepreneurial Studies*

Time	Presenters	Abstract Title	Department/ Program
1:20 - 2:20	Bloomfield, Zoë	Tourette's and My Education	Art and Architecture
	DeBruyn, Noel Rockstroh, Karlee	Improving Entrepreneurial Studies Technical Writing through a Student-Designed Style Guide	Entrepreneurial Studies
	Doney, Bliss	Why Aesthetic Education Matters to Children	Dance
	Gage, Bryna	Embodied History: Incorporating Historical Perspectives in Modern Dance Technique Classes	Dance
	Questions & Answers		

### Sensory and Sensibility

*Moderator: Joseph Rusinko, Associate Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science and Senior Associate Provost*

Time	Presenters	Abstract Title	Department/ Program
2:30 - 3:30	Bellamy, Julia	Image Analysis for Detecting Harmful Algae Blooms in the Finger Lakes	Physics
	Boucher, Colleen	Beyond Place Cells: Using Algebraic Geometry to Determine Underlying Structure of Receptive Fields Associated with Sensory Neurons	Mathematics and Computer Science
	Hanrahan, Mary	Cover the Nose (It Can't Be Trusted)	Writing and Rhetoric
	Leyson, Abigail	"Losing Touch with Touch": The Toxic Hegemonies of Hookup Culture and College Relationships	Writing and Rhetoric
	Questions & Answers		

# Sanford Room

## "Great" Lakes

*Moderator: Meghan Brown, Professor of Biology*

Time	Presenters	Abstract Title	Department/ Program
3:40 - 4:40	Alexander, Corina Becchio, Susanna Heusner, Rejaun Nethercott, Allison Spano, Kyle Stein, Kristina	Asset-Based Community Development in the Asset-Rich Town of Naples, New York	Sociology
	Knieke, Janne	Fluctuations in Lake Huron's Water Level Impact the Surface Area of the Manitoulin and Tobermory Islands	Biology
	Urquiza, Isabel	Indigenous Community Members' Views about Water Quality in Lake Atitlán, Guatemala	Biology
	Questions & Answers		

Senior  
Symposium  
2022  
Abstracts



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ASSET-BASED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN THE ASSET-RICH  
TOWN OF NAPLES, NEW YORK

Corina Alexander, Susanna Becchio, Rejaun Heusner, Allison Nethercott,  
Kyle Spano, and Kristina Stein

Rural towns and villages in the Finger Lakes face significant economic and social problems. The Town of Naples, known for grape pies and the annual Grape Festival, is located below the south end of Canandaigua Lake. Our project seeks to identify and enhance the assets that are present in the Town of Naples to inform our client, The Partnership for Ontario County, of which resources are available to help enhance economic and social development.

We will follow the approach of Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD), which identifies people, groups, and spaces that can advance a given community and agency. Using a mixed-methods research approach, we will be assessing data from the US census and through interviews with community members. We predict that we will identify assets in the Town of Naples that The Partnership will use to mobilize the town towards self-help and sustainable community solutions.

## GORHAM, THE “BANDSTAND OF NEW YORK”: UNRECOGNIZED AND UNDERUTILIZED ASSETS

Michael Ansaldo, Emma Bilton, Meredith Janik, Kate Klempen,  
Ashley Mitrow, and Elana Rose

Gorham, the “Bandstand of New York,” which hosts the state high school band and color guard competitions, is located between Canandaigua Lake and Seneca Lake. Gorham has unrecognized and underutilized resources that have the potential to contribute to sustainable economic and social development. This project seeks to identify the assets present in the Town of Gorham to inform our client, The Partnership for Ontario County, of these available resources to help enhance Gorham.

We followed the approach of Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) to identify people, groups, and spaces that can be utilized by the community to promote advancement and agency.<sup>1</sup> Our group is using a mixed-methods approach, which includes a review of US Census data, documents from local institutions, and in-depth interviews with community members.

We predict that through ABCD we will identify assets in Gorham that The Partnership will then use to mobilize this town towards self-help and sustainable community solutions. This project aids the Town of Gorham to develop a stronger sense of community, which will keep residents active, engaged, and coming back to the area.

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<sup>1</sup> Phillips, R., & Pittman, R. H. (Eds.). (2009). *An Introduction to Community Development*. Routledge.

## HELPING BLOOMFIELD BLOOM: ASSET-BASED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN THE TOWN OF EAST BLOOMFIELD, NEW YORK

Jamie Arias, Graham Johnson, Madison Kaenzig de Denus, Grace Mongeau, Taylor Pluta, and Taylor Wilkie

The Finger Lakes are often associated with wineries and natural landscapes; rural communities, however, do not always benefit from the tourist revenue generated by their neighboring towns. To contribute to the revitalization of rural communities in the Finger Lakes, our group will focus our efforts on the Town of East Bloomfield, which is eight miles west of Canandaigua Lake. The town faces significant economic challenges, including having the lowest median household income out of all school districts in Ontario County.

Together with our client, The Partnership for Ontario County, we seek to identify the assets that are present in the Town of East Bloomfield to support the economic and social development of the town. We will follow the approach of Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD), which has shown to identify people, groups, and spaces that can advance a given community. This approach facilitates more sustainable recommendations than a traditional needs-based approach, as well as promoting community agency. We will assess data from the US Census and conduct in-depth interviews with the town's community members. We predict that we will identify assets in the Town of East Bloomfield that The Partnership will use to mobilize the town towards self-help and sustainable community solutions.

## METAPHYSICAL MENDINGS: RETURNING TO WESTERN PUZZLES WITH A BUDDHIST PERSPECTIVE

Juniper Asaro-Niederlitz

Is there a self? Are there other minds? Is there such a thing as free will, or is everything instead determined? Is everything ultimately material or mental?

In this project for Honors in Philosophy, I explore these central metaphysical problems, seeking to reach new responses by engaging with non-Western ways of thinking and being. I begin each chapter with a brief outline of some important Western responses, like those made by Descartes, Locke, and Hume, and I then return to these responses after considering Buddhist perspectives: Can Buddhist thought help us to solve these Western puzzles and bring us to ultimate reality? As we return to the Western arguments, can we recognize features that align with Buddhist perspectives?

My approach here is inspired by the work of Derek Parfit, who identifies a connection between Buddhist thought and the work of David Hume, arguing that we should subsequently reconsider our assumptions of the self. Similarly, I will argue that Buddhist thought indeed sheds new light on these Western metaphysical puzzles, encouraging us to see beyond the dualities which we often assume, and to see validity in both conventional and ultimate truths. My argument thus culminates in a final metaphysical mending: a proposal that what is truly ultimate is beyond the “self” and “other,” and even beyond free will and idealism. I argue that Buddhist thought instead guides us to ultimate awareness – an awareness that permeates, and dissolves, all things.



## POPULAR FASCISM IN AMERICA

Caleb Austin

The American right-wing embarked on a decades-long political and social project to transform US institutions and public life. The contemporary right-wing is the culmination of a conscientious “ratcheting-up” of radicalism within public politics encouraged by the structure of the American electoral system. The current state of the American right wing – embodied in the *Trumpist* Republican Party – is characteristic of fascism, though of a different type.

Fascism has often been used to hyperbolically critique political opponents and mischaracterize them via association to twentieth century fascist movements, which debases it as an effective mode of critique in the contemporary era. Fixating on this hyperbolic use limits our rhetorical capacity to condemn ideologies with likenesses to fascism. This distinction needs to be made between hyperbole and a reclamation of our capacity to critique fascism as a mode of political expression effectively legitimized in the public sphere. *Populism* is not an effective term to distill meaning out of our political crisis, it is but one function of political action – not an ideological end.

To combat hyperbolic uses of fascism, and the categorical misuse of populism, we need to approach fascism as a *discretely* defined ideological category. Fascism understood as a political ideology that is applicable, even to the contemporary, fits with characteristics of the American right-wing associated with Trumpist thought, which is: *palingenetic ultranationalism* willing to resort to *violence* for political aims.

## CREATING “SHARED COMMUNITIES UNITED” WITH ASSETS IN THE TOWN OF MANCHESTER, NEW YORK

Heidi Aversa, Sami Foulk, Emma MacShara, Scott McClearn, Star Peña, and Hope Snyder

The Town of Manchester’s mission is to create “Shared Communities United”.<sup>1</sup> Identifying underutilized and unrecognized assets can be one step toward this goal.

In cooperation with The Partnership for Ontario County, our project identifies assets available to enhance the Town of Manchester. As catalysts for change, we follow the approach of Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) to identify people, groups, institutions, and spaces that can be utilized by the community to promote advancement and agency. Using a mixed-methods research design, consisting of a review of US Census data, historical data, and data from in-depth interviews with community members, we bring attention to underutilized, unused, and unrecognized assets in the Town of Manchester.

We predict that through ABCD, we will identify assets in the town that The Partnership will then use to mobilize the communities towards self-help and sustainable community solutions.

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<sup>1</sup> “Shared Communities United” is the slogan taken from the Town of Manchester website (<https://manchesterny.org/>) and includes the villages of Clifton Springs, Manchester, Port Gibson, and Shortsville.

## THE EVOLUTION OF SYMBOLISM DURING THE PROHIBITION ERA

Rob Barnum

Between 1880 and 1930, there was a large swing in public sentiment regarding the consumption of alcohol, temperance and Prohibition in the United States. The shift in opinions regarding drinking and the laws surrounding Prohibition are most clearly visible in political cartoons published during the dawning of the movement and cartoons published during the enforcement of the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment.

As the dry or temperance movement gained momentum in the last two decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, these temperance advocates filled magazines and newspapers with religious symbolism, moral “holier-than-thou” imagery and motherly like caricatures. Fifty or so years later, political cartoons had completely shifted to depict messages about corrupt politicians, inept policies and unfair policing.

In this project I intend to look into the symbolism and images in political cartoons from both eras; studying the historical context of the late 1800s up to 1930 will help me make sense of various rhetorical devices that artists used to convey their views of Prohibition. I aim to show how these devices and messages changed over time as public sentiment around Prohibition changed.

## NO TWO THINGS ARE PERFECTLY ALIKE

Pierson Beatty

I entered my semester abroad in England with the assumption that our shared languages were truly shared; I exited my semester abroad realizing just how wrong I had been. For my sociolinguistics class I am doing a project on the speech community in which I immersed myself when I studied abroad at the University of East Anglia in Norwich, England.

The project is broken down into four parts: History of the speech community, the demographics and background of community members, speech rituals of the community, and conversational analysis. These four parts of the project have allowed me to focus on the history and settlement of Norwich, England, highlight the demographics of my new peers, and articulate the spoken rituals that distinguish my new community from my home in the United States. Although there are many identical components between the two, including the shared language, I noticed many more linguistic differences than I had expected.

My motivation for sharing this paper is to emphasize that although two things may appear similar, no two things are perfectly alike, and to illustrate the ethnographic and linguistic study of a speech community.

## IMAGE ANALYSIS FOR DETECTING HARMFUL ALGAE BLOOMS IN THE FINGER LAKES

Julia Bellamy

Harmful Algae Blooms (HABs) form when algae grow out of control in a body of water, creating cyanotoxins that are harmful to the local human and marine ecosystems. HABs are prevalent in every US coastal to Great Lakes region, including the Finger Lakes. There is limited knowledge on what causes HABs, but theories range between nutrient pollution, warm water, and climate change. It is important to research and monitor HABs due to health risks, creation of dead zones, reduced sources of drinking water, increased water turbidity, and the economic costs associated with them.

Standard, *in-situ* water quality testing to determine the presence of HABs is often time consuming and expensive. With the recent commercialization of drones in the United States, many affordable remote sensing research applications can be explored: HABs have distinct colors, and change the chemical composition of the water, allowing visible and spectroscopic imaging techniques to be an effective way to gather qualitative and quantitative information about the algae. However, remote sensing of water offers many challenges, from cloud coverage and calibration techniques to water turbidity, waves, and surface glare from the sun.

This study aims to evaluate differing water conditions *ex-situ* utilizing laboratory optical imaging and spectroscopy techniques in an attempt to correlate trends with standard water quality field-measurements in the Finger Lakes. Given the many competing factors in extracting useful information from remote imaging of water, it is essential to understand the connection between the images and spectra to the physical properties of the water.

## PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE: CAREER READINESS

Daphna Bendull

Geneva High School in the 4 year cohort in August of 2019 had a 81% graduation rate, while New York State had an 83% graduation rate, with the former having a 11% dropout and the latter a 3% dropout.<sup>1</sup> Schools are trying to continue incentivizing students to finish their degree, whether they are planning to go into a career or continue their education after receiving their diploma. Acquiring the High School Equivalency or a high school diploma has a real economic and financial impact in the lives of students: “in May 2016, a high school diploma was still the most common typical entry-level education requirement.”<sup>2</sup>

For my Master of Arts in Teaching project I am doing research into career readiness and alternatives in the local community. One aspect of alternative career readiness is looking into how the community, through Geneva 2030, the Literacy Volunteers of Seneca County, and Finger Lakes Community College engage with these questions.

I have attended meetings by the Geneva 2030 action team and am tutoring students at the FLCC High School Equivalency program in social studies, joining their classroom to assist students in building their social studies content area knowledge in preparation for the General Education Development (GED). I also performed research on the GED as a testing measure, since it did go out of use in NYS between 2013 to 2021.

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<sup>1</sup> “2019 | GENEVA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT - Graduation Rate Data | NYSED Data Site.” New York State Education Department. Accessed March 9, 2022.  
<https://data.nysed.gov/gradrate.php?year=2019&instid=800000040585>.

<sup>2</sup> Audrey L. Watson, “Employment Trends by Typical Entry-Level Education Requirement” in *Monthly Labor Review*, (Washington DC: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2017), 3.

## CONSTITUTIONAL INTERPRETATION AND RHETORIC

Bryce Benham

Rhetorical theory of delivery and legal theories of interpretation of the constitution go hand in hand, and a knowledge of rhetoric is often useful for understanding both legal theory and constitutional interpretation. For example, when in a particular case in the Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia's interpretation of gridlock suggests that it is actually a positive thing, the form of delivery he uses is unique to that case for intentional reasons.

In previous drafts of my project, I have not discussed the way legal theories connect to theories of rhetoric; in this presentation, I will be looking at the topic from a different angle, applying the rhetorical theory of delivery and the many forms it can take to analyze Constitutional interpretation. I hope to synthesize two areas of study into one, and show not only how they can go hand in hand, but the essentiality of rhetorical analysis for interpretation of theory.

## TOURETTE'S AND MY EDUCATION

Zoë Bloomfield

My goal is to create artwork that allows me to express how Tourette's has affected who I am and how I approach various situations. This nervous system disorder is easily visible through repetitive, uncontrollable movements and sounds (tics), without warning. Trying to stop these tics is incredibly unpleasant because the body tries to fight back.

Finding artists that have gone through similar experiences has been influential towards my growth because of the way they have used their art to express themselves and incorporate factors that include disabilities and incidents from birth or that they have developed over time. For my artwork, I want to create pieces that invoke uncomfortable feelings, similar to those that I have when I tic.



## OHNE KONSEQUENZEN

Lea Bojko

“Ich werde nie wissen was er denkt, ob er stolz auf mich ist und ob er mich immer noch lieben würde obwohl ich Tattoos habe und mich als bi-sexuell geoutet habe. Manchmal stelle ich mir vor wie er mich beobachtet an den Tagen an denen ich mich daran gewöhnt habe dass er kein Teil meines Lebens mehr ist. Manchmal bin ich sauer auf ihn. Manchmal träume ich von ihm. Ich frage mich ob es ihm gut geht wo er ist und ich frage mich ob er irgendwo mit meinen Großeltern Kaffee trinkt und sich über Autos oder die Oper unterhält.”

This is a short part of my piece for Senior Symposium that I dedicated to my father and my relationship with him. My piece highlights the struggles that come along with missing someone who passed away, while also feeling anger towards them. Within the last seven years I have been thinking a lot about my father and the impact his life, character and passing had on me as an adolescent.

I was inspired to write this piece because I wanted to share something genuine about myself before I leave the colleges. Studying at HWS only for a year as a German exchange student made me want to create a piece that tells people who I am, while still not revealing too much due to the language barrier. My piece also combines my passions for languages with my passion for writing and the little experiment that comes along with it. I would like to see how an American audience responds to hearing a German creative piece and if they can tell whether it is sad or happy, regardless of understanding.

## THE POWER OF COLLECTIVITY IN THE FOOD SUPPORT SECTOR

Alassandra Bonagura

Geneva has a population of 1,913 people living below the poverty line (United States Census Bureau 2019). While working with four of the local food insecurity relief organizations in Geneva, I have realized that these organizations are isolated from one another, leading to a duplication of services and little sharing of resources. Bauermeister's (2016) work finds that collaboration, reciprocal exchanges, and trust within leadership increased the capacity of organizations to meet their goals and achieve collective, place-based identity.

This project focused on discovering who the key players are in the food support sector of Geneva, and how they operate independently and as a cohort. I examined the sources of isolation among these organizations and their potential for collaboration. The organizations shared with me their primary challenges and barriers (e.g., lack of funding, lack of community support, and COVID 19 impacts) in addition to their many successes (e.g., collecting over 40,000 pounds of fruits and vegetables in 2019). This project also included an extensive literature review examining the causes of food insecurity, organizational sociology, and the impacts of organizational relationships and dynamics on community outcomes.

I propose an action model that could increase the organizational longevity and effectiveness of mitigating food insecurity in Geneva.

Bauermeister, Mark Richard. "Social Capital and Collective Identity in the Local Food Movement." *International Journal of Agricultural Sustainability*, vol. 14, no. 2, 2015, pp. 123-141., <https://doi.org/10.1080/14735903.2015.1042189>.  
"U.S. Census Bureau Quickfacts: Geneva City, New York." *Census.gov*, United States Census Bureau, <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/genevacitynewyork>.

## PLEN: PREPARING YOU TO LEAD

Alassandra Bonagura and Ashly Johnson

The Public Leadership Education Network (PLEN) is a national, nonpartisan organization based in Washington D.C. The mission of the national PLEN organization is to empower, educate, and engage women and marginalized gender groups in public policy to promote diverse, inclusive leadership in policy making.

On campus, the William Smith Chapter of PLEN focuses on meeting our three goals: promoting leadership and professional development, facilitating conversations about intersectional feminism, and prioritizing and advocating for self-care. At HWS, our PLEN chapter hosts bi-weekly breakfast meetings, provides professional development workshops such as “Financing your Future” and networking opportunities, and brings many successful speakers to campus to speak to students about their paths to becoming leaders in their fields. PLEN also often brings back alums who can speak on the significant impact PLEN has had on their lives and their professional path. PLEN’s motto is “Preparing You to Lead”, and PLEN on campus tries our very best to do just that for our students.

BEYOND PLACE CELLS: USING ALGEBRAIC GEOMETRY TO DETERMINE  
UNDERLYING STRUCTURE OF RECEPTIVE FIELDS  
ASSOCIATED WITH SENSORY NEURONS

Colleen J. Boucher

In 2014, John O’Keefe was jointly awarded a Nobel Prize for his 1971 discovery of place cells, neurons in the hippocampus that fire dependent on your position in your surrounding environment [1-2]. Each place cell has a representative receptive field--the area in which the place cell fires when occupied by the organism--which, because of its overlapping structures, can provide us with information about an individual’s surroundings. Given a collection of firing patterns from place cells, tools from algebraic geometry can be used to uncover the overlapping relationships in the receptive field [3]. The visualization of these overlapping structures gives insight into how signals of the brain contribute to the individual’s perception of their surroundings: for example, in mice exploring the area of a cage, their receptive field is minimally visualized in a two- or three-dimensional representation [4].

In my honors thesis, I am developing code to compute the minimal dimension, not just for place cells, but for any sensory system with a receptive field. This code will connect theoretical models of computational receptive field work with actual sensory system experimentation. Taking electrophysiology data from open-source data sets, I can then use this code to determine the dimensionality of other sensory neuronal populations. Obtaining the dimension of different senses allows us to better understand how the brain processes information to produce our perception of the world.

- [1] O’Keefe J, Dostrovsky J (1971) The hippocampus as a spatial map: Preliminary evidence from unit activity in the freely-moving rat. *Brain Research* 34: 171–175.
- [2] O’Keefe J (1976) Place units in the hippocampus of the freely moving rat. *Experimental Neurology* 51: 78–109.
- [3] Curto C, Itskov V, Veliz-Cuba A, et al. (2013) The neural ring: an algebraic tool for analyzing the intrinsic structure of neural codes. *arXiv:12124201 [math, q-bio]*.
- [4] Mulas R, Tran NM (2020) Minimal embedding dimensions of connected neural codes. *Alg Stat* 11: 99–106.

## A GOLD EARRING-ED EAR TO GUYANA: GUYANESE WOMEN PRODUCING FEMINISM

Kaitlyn Brathwaite

My interdisciplinary project in Women's Studies and Writing and Rhetoric focuses on Guyanese women performing feminism in their day-to-day lives, based on cultural customs and the evolution of the Caribbean in more mainstream spaces. Many people in Guyana may not have experienced a "formal education" that introduced these terms and theories to them conventionally, but feminist movements and queer activism exist everywhere, even if the individuals involved do not recognize feminism and queer theory from an academic perspective.

Based on those factors, I looked towards myself and the women who raised me by using an ethnographical approach to this subject. My primary sources for this project are accounts of my family's lives, combined with research from queer scholars and theorists, to understand from the perspective of Guyanese immigrant women how their narratives present feminism. Telling their stories through analyzing conversations with my aunts, mother, and grandmother aims to produce more information on the development of feminist movements and queer coalitions in Guyana. I will also use the work of feminist thinkers, such as Ruth Behar and Preity Kumar, to translate their testimonies into a piece that represents the experiences of marginalized voices as academic sources that deserve to be documented in databases across this institution and others.

## PUNK'D: EXPLORING HOW PUNK CULTURE AND ROCK MUSIC INFLUENCE MINORITY ACTIVISM IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Kaitlyn Brathwaite

Music is considered a vessel for the human soul to communicate its deepest feelings, which can describe moments of life through the delicate tones and rhythms of an instrument. However, different musical genres and the cultures attached to them can also shape how that music impacts areas of society.

My Senior Symposium project focuses an activist movement for minorities in the 60's centered around rock music and punk culture, which remained relevant overtime to inspire activists in modern society with the inclusion of new media to further engage their followers. The musical-sociopolitical movement, Rock Against Racism, was started in the 1960's to respond to racist attacks against immigrants in Britain. With a sudden surge of migration to the UK, rock fans and "punks" banded together to produce pro-immigrant rhetoric through music and their hard-metal aesthetic. The film *White Riot*, Directed by Rubika Shah, follows the efforts of RAR to combat racism, as she reflects on its impact from the 60's with leading members of the movement in her 2020 documentary.

Through an observation of Shah's film, an analysis of the culture associated with the movement, and visuals which highlighted the activism of this group, this project will try to understand how rock music and punk culture helped influence modern activists with the influence of media and other technological advancements.

TEACHING THE DARKER SIDES OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
THROUGH *STARTUP: A NOVEL*

Ava Brennan and Sophie Lapat

How does dark side entrepreneurship theory relate to teaching about ethical behavior in the workplace? In the wake of multiple startup scandals, students benefit from learning to apply dark side theories to real life “iffy” situations that occur in the workplace (Talmage & Gassert, 2020; Talmage et al., 2019).

We have built a course proposal for a new class on the darker sides of entrepreneurship. Specifically, we will share a set of activities based around real life ethically challenging situations students may face in the workplace. These activities are based on situations from the book *Startup: A Novel*. Our goal in organizing these activities is to allow students to engage with this material and relate real life scenarios to their understanding of dark side entrepreneurship theory.

Our work will result in case studies that can be taught in the entrepreneurial studies minor at HWS. Parts of this project will be featured in a future peer-reviewed publication that informs the teaching of entrepreneurship. Our presentation was inspired by various courses we have taken through the Entrepreneurial Studies minor at HWS such as Economic Principles and Social Innovation. Our presentation will showcase work undertaken in Professor Talmage’s Entrepreneurial Studies research lab.

Shafir, D. (2017). *Startup: A Novel*. Little, Brown.

Talmage, C. A., & Gassert, T. A. (2020). Unsettling entrepreneurship by teaching dark side theories. *Entrepreneurship education and pedagogy*, 3(3), 316-345.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/2515127420910415>.

Talmage, C. A., Bell, J., & Dragomir, G. (2019). Searching for a theory of dark social entrepreneurship. *Social Enterprise Journal*, 15(1), 131-155. <https://doi.org/10.1108/SEJ-06-2018-0046>.

## THE FRAY

Andrew Broering

Across society, Americans are very religious, yet they know very little about other religions. This has resulted in a fundamental lapse in citizens being effective members of the society, as they no longer have a common understanding of each other and their past. The idea of citizens having a common understanding and knowledge of their shared past is called the “rope of memory,” which I argue has become frayed. This fraying is a result of a flaw in the education system which neglects many areas of study, including the Bible, which are important to the creation of a knowledgeable and effective citizenry.

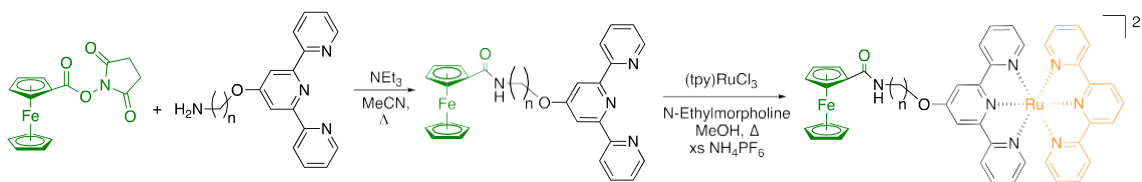
To quell this flaw, I propose in my project for Honors in Religious Studies we institute a year-long civics course in which the Bible is taught as one piece of literature among other secular pieces that were primary texts referenced throughout American history. The main issues I run into regarding my proposal is the legality of the Bible being taught in the classroom. This has been a hotly contested issue throughout American history, but my findings support that it is legal to teach the Bible as a piece of literature among other secular pieces in order to create an effective citizenry. How to practically implement this is the next question.



## SYNTHESIS AND CHARACTERIZATION OF MOLECULAR WIRE CANDIDATES

Jack Canniff

As technology continues to decrease in size while processing demands increase, a new approach to aging silicon chip hardware has been theorized in the form of molecular wires. By using a bottom-up synthetic coupling approach, the de Denus research group has developed and characterized electrically active potential molecular wire candidates. These materials are of variable sizes and contain iron or ruthenium metals within their backbones. Synthetically, they are prepared following the scheme below:



All products prepared were analyzed via multinuclear NMR, IR, and high-resolution MS. The electrochemical behavior of these materials has also been investigated with cyclic voltammetry.

## THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS: NEGATIVE EFFECTS THAT THE PRESENCE OF MIRRORS HAS ON BALLET DANCERS

Gemma Carr-Locke

During a young girl's ballet training, the majority of time is spent in the studio. Whether the whole studio is surrounded by walls of mirrors or they are rolled out on wheels in front of the dance students, their presence can give pre-teen female dancers an opportunity to hyper analyze their physical form.

Research suggests that mirrors have negative psychological effects on pre-teen, female dancers. While norms of dance instruction and cultural practices implement the mirror as a tool for correction or observation during dance training, my project focuses on the use of mirrors in the ballet studio, especially on the physical presence that mirrors reflect that causes psychological detriment on pre-teen female dancers.

As a former ballet dancer, personal experiences have motivated me to unpack the plethora of risk factors within the dance studio. Continued research allows for the emergence of preventative programs to avoid the development of harmful behaviors. In addition to research, data will be collected through a questionnaire administered through Google and emailed to the William Smith students focusing on those who actively participate in the HWS Dance Department. Answers will allow for a better understanding of how mirrors can be detrimental in the ballet studio.

## A VERY QUEER THING: QUEER COMMUNITY, THE CITY, AND THE COMMODITY IN “THE DAY THE LADY DIED”

Christopher Costello

In this paper, I want to examine the constitution of gay male subjectivity during the Cold War. In particular, I aim to locate queerness within the context of the commodity form and the changes in production and consumption habits that dominated this period under the banner of Fordism. The coordination of production and consumption, I argue, necessitated new modes of interpellation that linked gender and consumer identity. To be properly masculine, men had to consume certain commodities in certain ways, many of which were meant to reinforce the nuclear family model. In broad strokes, the constitution of gender and sexuality are related to historically specific changes in the organization of the economy, and heteronormativity is reinforced by economic compulsion.

Gay men, in contrast, consumed based not on traditional economic notions of value, but on a particular set of aesthetic criteria often described as “camp.” This sensibility is a useful entry point to consider how gay subjectivity is both produced by and critical of the commodity form.

To make these arguments, in my project for Honors in English, I engage in a reading of Frank O’Hara’s poem “The Day the Lady Died,” which, I argue, thematizes the creation of a gay community through the camp shopping trip staged by its speaker.

CRITICAL READS TODAY: DECONSTRUCTING THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
ARTS LITERARY CANON

Steven Elijah D'Alterio

This project's purpose is to nurture youth literacy while also encouraging more equitable and conscientious reading and interaction in our nation's ELA curriculum. Inspired by the Ithaca High School African America Studies / Cornell Reading Partnership, conducted by myself and a cooperating teacher at Ithaca High School, and the intent of this project is in part to create a basis for collaboration across hierarchies of academia as well as a pursuit of more proficient and equitable literacy in our public education system.

This project is also inspired by the work of *Literacy Partners*, a virtual adult literacy program, that just this February hosted a virtual reading of Toni Morrison's The Bluest Eye. *Literacy Partners* hosts virtual readings to encourage relationships with literature. This project, which will similarly be conducted on a virtual platform, is pursuant of enhanced literacy at the secondary level while also instilling and inspiring critical theoretical lenses in public school curriculum nation-wide.

## EXPEDITED ENVIRONMENT: AN ARTISTIC INTERPRETATION OF SHIPPING AND ITS IMPACTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Olivia Davidson

Only 4% of flexible plastic packaging is recycled in the United States, and the remaining, around 96%, ends up in a landfill or the ocean (Karidis, 2021). As the issue of plastic packaging is so prevalent in our daily lives, the goal of my Honors project is to educate and bring awareness to this environmental issue through artistic expression.

My project looks into the lifespan and timeline of plastic utilized for shipping, exploring how packages get to the consumer all the way to their final resting place, most often landfills. In my paper, I discuss different artists that inspired my work as well as those for whom environmental art can be impactful. Informed by these environmental artists, I created a collection of work inspired by the plastic packaging problem and provide context to my pieces through statements and visual representation.

## IMPROVING ENTREPRENEURIAL STUDIES TECHNICAL WRITING THROUGH A STUDENT DESIGNED STYLE GUIDE

Noel DeBruyn and Karlee Rockstroh

Technical writing is different from typical academic writing. In the entrepreneurial studies program, students conduct consulting projects for local enterprises and/or alums. Students find writing for an external audience a challenging experience compared to typical classroom assignments. This presentation highlights our journey from students to teaching fellows to an independent study project undertaken in Professor Talmage's entrepreneurial studies research program to discover mechanisms to improve students' technical writing.

After reviewing past technical writing projects, we distributed pretests on technical writing to two entrepreneurial studies courses. The pretests yielded us baseline levels for improvement and corroborated our previous knowledge from serving as teaching fellows. The pretests also provided students opportunities to reflect on their writing and areas for improvement. Major areas for improvement included lack of title pages, missing table of contents, incorrect/inconsistent citations, substandard graphs, formatting issues, and more. This presentation chronicles our lessons learned, which are showcased in a new style guide for the entrepreneurial studies program that can be utilized in future courses.

We hope our style guide will improve the technical writing of HWS students for years to come. We also aim to share our insights in a future peer-reviewed publication that informs the teaching of entrepreneurship.

## CLEARED FOR TAKEOFF? ANALYZING THE HWS CORPS VIRTUAL STEM (ALGEBRA I) TUTORING PROGRAM IN ITS PILOT YEAR

Bailey DiSanto and Allie Low

Recently, there has been a push for public school districts across America to offer Algebra I to students in their 8th grade year rather than their 9th.<sup>1</sup> This structural change aims to support students in mastering Algebra I skills and promote their success in higher-level STEM courses. However, issues of equitable access and enrollment are hindering its effective implementation.

In response to these inequities, which were compounded by the covid-19 pandemic, HWS offered virtual tutoring to students in districts across the Finger Lakes during the 2020-2021 school year. Due to the success of the program, and the demand for tutoring in STEM subjects in particular, HWS's CCESL Office partnered with community leaders to create the HWS Corps Virtual STEM (Algebra I) Tutoring Program. Although the tutoring program has faced significant challenges in recruitment and retention, research shows that peer tutoring can help student participants attain higher achievement in courses, improved self-esteem, and improved problem-solving skills.<sup>2</sup>

In reflecting on data collected during the program's inaugural 2021-2022 year, this project aims to analyze the successes of the STEM tutoring program, propose research-based solutions to the challenges it faced, and create an Implementation Plan for how the program might grow in future years.

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Education. (n.d.). *A leak in the stem pipeline: Taking algebra early*. Retrieved February 16, 2022, from <https://www2.ed.gov/datastory/stem/algebra/index.html>

<sup>2</sup> Alegre, F., Moliner, L., Maroto, A., & Lorenzo-Valentin, G. (2019). Peer tutoring and mathematics in secondary education: literature review, effect sizes, moderators, and implications for practice. *Heliyon*, 5(9). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2019.e02491>

## THE IMPACTS OF PEER-MEDIATED TUTORING SYSTEMS ON CHILDREN IN A DUAL IMMERSION PROGRAM

Zoe Doherty

Dual-immersion (DI) programs provide both native English speakers and English learners with general academic instruction in two languages from kindergarten onward. Entering kindergarten can be a daunting task, as students are faced with a new social, academic, and physical environment. To help students with the transition into their new academic world, peer-mediated intervention (PMI) strategies have the possibility to largely impact academic success. PMI is an alternative classroom dynamic in which students take an instructional role with classmates or other students: peers are systematically taught ways of engaging their peers in social interactions and discussions regarding academic materials.

This research provides insight on how to effectively utilize different instructional practices that will have a significant impact on students' academic success. The purpose of the current research is to examine the impact of PMI on students' academic success in a DI program.

To investigate the overall effectiveness of incorporating a peer-mediated tutoring system into pre-existing instructional practices, this study will use a multi-methodological approach. The expected results would be that PMI tutoring systems have a significant influence on students overall academic success in DI classrooms.



## WHY AESTHETIC EDUCATION MATTERS TO CHILDREN

Bliss Doney

Young children are faced with many obstacles on a regular basis. In many school environments, the academic focus is on core courses related to topics such as science, technology, literacy, and math skills. As a result, the arts are often considered expendable. The incorporation of aesthetic education provides the opportunity for children to learn new concepts with arts, music, and other artistic media. Aesthetic education includes nontraditional classroom methods by utilizing and fostering creative processes. By adding experiential, creative activities, the arts can be incorporated into areas of study where they are not commonly integrated.

As a double major in Dance and Education with a minor in Child Advocacy, I have been studying the influence of the arts on childhood education. My studies have allowed me to recognize the ways in which the implementation of hands-on learning is valuable for young children's social and emotional growth.

I have investigated the potential impact of aesthetic education on children's social and emotional intelligences through journal articles as well as anecdotal research on the effects of my dance teaching this spring at the Boys and Girls Club and North Street School. My research highlights the connection between an aesthetically focused approach to education and the emotional health and well-being of school-age children.

## HUMAN CONNECTION THROUGH PHOTOJOURNALISM: EXPANDING THE MIGRANT WORKER DISCOURSE

Ani Freedman

How do journalists investigate systemic discrimination without reducing humans to stereotyped identities? How can we ensure that stories of migrant workers are not obscured by over-generalized narratives of citizenship status and cruel conditions?

In my Honors Project in the field of Writing and Rhetoric, I have been pursuing a photojournalistic composition in collaboration with the Western NY chapter of the Rural and Migrant Ministry (RMM), an organization that has supported migrant workers and their families throughout New York for over 40 years. My philosophical approach to the project centers on humanizing the narrative about migrant workers, employing the practices of renowned journalists Lynsey Addario and Karla Cornejo Villavicencio, whose work focuses on the agency of subjects and narrative craft. Applying a braided structure, I weave together contextual research, subjects' stories, and the photographs I captured throughout the process. Within these braids are interviews with families and RMM workers, written in a literary journalism style that focuses on intimate engagement with subjects through my narrative voice. Alongside the portraits of these people, the project realizes a complicated, but notably authentic, story about RMM and the people who define it.

In this presentation, I will focus on a couple who left a profound mark on me during a vulnerable interview, showcasing their resiliency and depth. The people behind RMM leave an incomprehensible impression of strength and hope on their community. I aim as a journalist to enhance the migrant worker discussion while empowering voices and photographing the genuine humans behind RMM.

## JOURNALISM AND CRISIS: A DISCURSIVE ANALYSIS

Cade Frucci

In an age of crises and uncertainty where the market for information is over-saturated with sensationalism and the fueling of political agendas, major news networks employ particular frames to disseminate information and achieve a particular reaction from audiences. This study uses Discourse Analysis to answer the question of how journalistic integrity and the role of the media changes in times of crisis by exploring a podcast interview between Joe Rogan and CNN medical correspondent Sanjay Gupta regarding Rogan's approach towards COVID-19 treatment and how it was reported by CNN.

The results of this study may imply that news networks perpetuate and construct certain viewpoints for consumers, and that there could be greater responsibility on consumers to recognize biases and reach their own conclusions regarding current events. My hope is that this presentation will encourage the audience to be conscientious in analyzing the media they are consuming and ask critical questions about how and why information is disseminated in the way that it is.

## EMBODIED HISTORY: INCORPORATING HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES IN MODERN DANCE TECHNIQUE CLASSES

Bryna Gage

Dances of the African Diaspora--West African, Afro-Cuban, hip-hop, dances from Jamaica, among others--are frequently marginalized at higher education institutions. Modern dance and ballet have been the primary dance forms taught in dance departments across the United States thus creating a hierarchy of dance forms that places ballet and modern at the top. The academic status of classical ballet and traditional American modern dance inhibits modern dance practitioners from using African Diasporic dance as a pedagogical model in the classroom.

In my simultaneous study of African Diasporic dance, American modern dance and dance history, I have had the privilege to explore the complex relationships between Euro-centric and Afro-centric value systems. As a budding historian with an Afro-centric dance education, I have come to understand why at predominately white institutions it is essential to incorporate the histories of the dance forms we study. The historical context for all dance forms is necessary to acknowledge the origins, to honor the culture, and to understand the oppression and marginalization of the peoples whose dances we study.

Except in a formal dance history class, modern dance education often lacks the historical approach to learning movement and ideologies that Afro-centric courses include. This research investigates how modern dance practitioners in higher education can integrate historical perspectives into technique classes by developing a curriculum and writing a syllabus that integrates historical knowledge with embedded practices as a model for the design of the modern technique class.

## THE SHADOW OF THE CROSS: WERE THE CRUSADES PROTO-COLONIAL ENDEAVORS?

Peter Gaudette

This research will focus upon the Crusader Movement, targeting Palestine from 1095 to 1254 and the relationship of that movement to later European phenomena. Religious conflicts of great scale, brutality, and length, the Crusades were extremely influential in the development of Medieval Europe and in Christian relations with other faiths. The Movement is still hotly contested in both scholarly and public discourse. Previous scholarship on the Crusades has been dominated by historians due to the paucity of valid quantitative data from the period. However, discursive insights can be gleaned from the available primary sources and this has been insufficiently explored by existing scholarship.

It is often argued, especially by Marxist, Islamist and postcolonial scholars, that the Crusades represent an early manifestation of European colonialism and supremacism. This research will use a two-pronged approach to analyze that claim: an interpretive analysis of primary sources focused on the motivations and intentions of participants and their contemporaries will be paired with a traditional historical analysis of the material realities of the states those participants created. The resultant understanding will be compared to existing scholarly definitions of European colonialism and supremacism in an effort to determine whether the Crusader Movement represents an early form of those phenomena.

## DISCOVERING DYSLEXIA IN DUAL IMMERSION: WHAT DO WE DO NOW?

Natalie Gold

Dyslexia is a neurological disorder that can cause people to struggle with word recognition and have trouble reading and writing. Many dyslexic students have more issues learning a second language than their general education peers. Multiple studies have been done on dyslexic students learning a second language and have shown that because dyslexia affects word recognition, trying to decode more than one language at a time can be very taxing on the dyslexic brain, affect dyslexic students' relationships with their teachers, thoughts about learning languages, self-esteem, confidence, and more (Cappelli, 2021; Csizér et al., 2009, 2010; Lundberg, 2002; Simon, 2000).

This struggle may be especially prominent in Dual Immersion (DI) classrooms (Peterson & Pennington, 2012). DI is an educational model where students from different linguistic backgrounds learn together. Instruction is split between English and a target language (Lindholm-Leary, 2012). The fact that students are often already enrolled in DI programs before they are diagnosed with dyslexia raises an important dilemma: what should students, families, and educators do after the diagnosis? I attempt to explore this question.

This research proposal uses a qualitative case study design to investigate the experiences of dyslexic students and their families as they navigate DI. The case study design is well matched to this topic because it will allow me to explore the complexity of language learning for students with particular neurological tendencies and to see similarities and differences in the perspectives of students, family members, and teachers.

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## THESE GREEN MOUNTAINS: THE IDEA OF HOME

Margo Grapshi

When someone thinks about the idea of “home,” there is not one set image or idea that will come to mind for everyone. Following an explanatory, autobiographical structure that uses lyrical constraints, I examined one person's idea of home through intimate insight and perspective.

In my reimagined autobiography “These Green Mountains,” written for the Media and Society and Writing and Rhetoric course “The Video Essay,” explores a narrative of growing up in Vermont during my formative years. Although the assignment was given with few formal guidelines, I placed constraints within my work by constructing this narrative under the themes present within the Vermont state song. To be able to reflect upon my four high school years in The Green Mountain state allowed me to not only reflect upon those experiences and moments but also to engage with a lyrical narrative that is personal to me as a person and a writer.

While this essay is an autobiography, there are many instances of stream of consciousness narratives. This piece allows itself to be delivered and received by audience members who may not have any connection to the personal accounts being told, but who may be able to place themselves within similar moments of adolescence, leaving a place and understanding what home really is.

A COMPARISON OF LEAF DECOMPOSITION OF *CARYA OVATA* AND  
*QUERCUS ALBA* IN THE GLENWOOD CEMETERY CREEK  
(GENEVA, NEW YORK)

Sarah Gray

Glenwood Cemetery Creek begins at the outflow of Odell's Pond, runs through Coopers' Woods, and flows into Seneca Lake. Along its course, leaves fall into the creek, where they decompose and are an essential resource for the aquatic food web. Coopers' Woods supports two dominant woody-plant taxa, *Carya ovata* (Shagbark Hickory) and *Quercus spp.* (Oaks), which differ in their nutrient composition. Variation in leaf litter quality and creek conditions can influence the decomposition and the release of leaf-bound nutrients.

Leaf litter decomposition and net changes in elemental concentration of hickory and oak were studied at four locations from the creek's headwaters to its outflow in Seneca Lake. Mesh bags with a single taxa's leaves or equal weight of both taxa's leaves were submerged at field sites from January to March 2022 to test the following hypotheses: (1) hickory leaves decompose faster than oak leaves, and the decomposition rates when both taxa are incubated together are not additive of the single-taxa rates; (2) oak leaves and hickory leaves differ in their percent decline in carbon and nitrogen, and the percent change when both taxa are incubated together are not additive of single-taxa percentages; (3) both taxa have higher decomposition rates and greater percent nutrient release at the two pool sites along the creek compared to the headwater and outflow sites.

The results provide information about terrestrial-to-lake flow of nutrients and litter habitat for microorganism and macroinvertebrates, that will help in the campus's development of a management plan for Coopers' Woods.



## LANGUAGE AND LESSON PLANS IN DUAL IMMERSION CLASSROOMS: BALANCING CURRICULUM AND THE TARGET LANGUAGE

Michael Grieco Jr.

Dual immersion (DI) programs provide students a way to learn a new language and create an appreciation of other cultures: a Spanish DI program may teach students half of their content in Spanish and the other half in English.

Teachers may face challenges in implementing curriculum and language skills at the same time. By looking at some of the challenges DI teachers face, we can better understand how we can support them to aid in the education of the students.

Through this project I hope to bring to light the challenges that teachers face when trying to create lesson plans that not only teach curriculum but build upon the language skills that the students need to immerse themselves in the new language. I also want to help educators be able to implement changes in their lesson plans that may support the addition language teaching. The quality of education that students receive is an extremely important subject, and supporting the students by giving support to the teachers is important.

## “FINDING COMMON PURPOSE”

Zachary L. Gross

Today, economic inequality is one of the most significant factors plaguing the American education system. Despite countless non-profits, volunteer programs, and government interventions, inequality has become more apparent and more ingrained into our society.

“Finding Common Purpose” is a think tank I have been interning with over the past year that aims to find a solution to this inability to have meaningful changes to inequality. The goal is to advance community dashboards between institutions and residents in order to help reduce inequality in several different categories. A community dashboard is a hub for anything from a small town to a whole state that lists the current status of things such as education, housing, health, income, and more and then sets goals for where they want to be in the future; they are used to track and analyze data to inform policy and resource decisions, identify service gaps, monitor progress, and reinforce alignment, transparency, and accountability. It has already been scientifically established that goal setting is more effective in making change than not having an actual goal (Mann et al. 2013).

Mann, T., de Ridder, D., & Fujita, K. (2013). Self-regulation of health behavior: Social psychological approaches to goal setting and goal striving. *Health Psychology, 32*(5), 487-498.  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/a0028533>

## COVER THE NOSE (IT CAN'T BE TRUSTED)

Mary Hanrahan

Amidst a global pandemic, the cost of a breath is far too high when it robs others of the same luxury. Through meditation on mask usage and the objectionable act of improper mask usage, I was inspired to write a piece of literary journalism titled “Cover the Nose (It Can’t be Trusted).” My piece uses modes of storytelling to illustrate of how the pandemic has altered the way bodies interact in communal space. Pandemic-borne cultural fixation on the eyes, mouth, and pointedly, the nose, as high-risk points of COVID-19 infection fueled first my fascination with the nose, further propelling me towards an interrogation of the nose’s role in the construction of identity, survival, and love.

Through a focus on the nose as a central motif, I aimed to subvert and reconsider the way an individual regards their own body and its power. As a nonfiction writer, one often depends on sensory imagery to transform life into art, but to focus on smell as a primary facet of sensory storytelling offers an opportunity to investigate not only the cosmetic applications of sensation, but the personal, cultural, and ultimately political.

My presentation serves as a culmination of my efforts in the Writing and Rhetoric Department by combining theoretical learnings with my workshop experiences. Undertaking this project is additionally complicated by my intention to incorporate elements of style and delivery that have been foundational tenets of my theoretical coursework through a performed reading.

## EARLY LITERACY AND MENTORING

Emma Hardee and Claire Joshi

In the midst of a pandemic, where learning loss is ever present and detrimental, this project explores forms of early literacy intervention. Lack of reading proficiency and limited early literacy access are associated with later life consequences like higher school dropout rates, lower graduation rates, and higher rates of poverty.<sup>1</sup> Worryingly, only 24% of Geneva third graders tested as proficient on the ELA state assessment in 2019.<sup>2</sup>

Schools and communities have a responsibility to fund and encourage early interventions in the hope of maximizing young children’s development and achievement as they grow up. The rationale for early intervention stems from neuroscience and developmental psychology research, which identifies the first few years of life as the most critical time for brain development. The younger grades can be considered a window of opportunity for learning.<sup>3</sup> This project is anchored by the question “What is the landscape of early literacy and mentoring interventions as we emerge from the pandemic?”

Through collaboration with the Geneva education community (e.g. West Street, Head Start, Geneva 2030), we investigate how community connections can improve the early literacy skills of primary school students. Our contributions include a range of activities to promote early literacy, like storytelling with young children and providing materials around research-based strategies for early literacy.

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<sup>1</sup> Why reading by the end of third grade matters. (2010, 09). *The Education Digest*, 76, 27-31

<sup>2</sup> NYSED Data Site (2019). *Geneva City School District grades 3-8 ELA assessment data* [Data set]. <https://data.nysed.gov/assessment38.php?subject=ELA&year=2019&instid=800000040585>

<sup>3</sup> UNICEF. (2017). Early moments matter for every child. <https://www.unicef.org/reports/early-moments-matter-every-child>

## THE BANNER SCRAP: A UNIQUE HOBART COLLEGE TRADITION

Cole Hay

Hobart College has had a storied history of unique traditions including a campus-wide capture the flag game called “the banner scrap.” Hobart men, in the late 20th century, were expected to participate in activities organized by the Senior class. “The banner scrap” pitted the first year and sophomore classes against each other, the ultimate goal being the capture of a bit of fabric tied to the top of a flagpole.

Using archival research, I hope to bring this story to light through nonfiction narrative that engages my audience while making use of archival materials. I am privileged to, along with my classmates and peers, take part in the Hobart College bicentennial celebration by researching and creating these stories of years past. Through my research, I aim to examine campus life in a classic era and how it may have been different from what we see and experience at Hobart and William Smith today. I hope to find pictures and other visual artifacts, including photos and newspaper articles, to fully detail what the banner scrap really meant. My work will enrich the history of the Colleges as it adds to the storytelling and history of the institution.

## IDENTITY OVER DELIVERY

Isaiah Aubrey Hopkinson

“Identity over Delivery” is a poem I created that highlights the relationship between vocabulary, identity, and delivery through the view of an African American young male. The inspiration for this project came from my mother and Senior Capstone course and are, therefore, influenced by experience and my search for meaning among the interactions of identity through society and delivery.

To create the poem, I began with the vocal experiences related to the identity between my mother and me as this translated to either social interaction or the inability to deliver a message of emotion. When I began working on the poem, I wanted to highlight major inconsistencies related to the way I was raised and what I was learning about writing while being a writing major. So, I considered the roles which my mother played that contributed to my understanding of delivery throughout my life growing up and the roles of my professors played that furthered and enhanced my development to use delivery or articulate myself in a certain way. My aim is to develop a relationship between my understanding of delivery, which has taken a gradual progression in my life, and which impacts others, moves vocal interactions, and rebuilds my delivery.

This piece has been a space to fuse my recent experience with my Capstone course and my daily life as a young African American man, using the theoretical approaches I have used as a writing and rhetoric major for the past four years.

## RETOUR À MES RACINES FRANÇAISES: DECOLONIZING FRANCOPHONE CULTURE IN LITERATURE, FILM, AND ART

Stella Jalai

Growing up fully immersed in French instilled within me at a young age my love for the language and culture. The curriculum at Hobart and William Smith has forwarded my education in respect to French language through expanding my knowledge in French culture in all aspects.

Reflecting on my college career, my comprehension of literature, film, and art have become more diverse by learning about the cultures of colonized societies by France. As a result, I have developed an expansive knowledge that reflects a diverse understanding of different cultures and the effects of French colonization. My project consists of a reflection of how French has impacted my life, specifically how the curriculum at Hobart and William Smith has further enhanced my French education by providing a more diverse perspective of francophone culture and reignited my interest for the language and francophone cultures.

## SPATIAL AND TEMPORAL CHANGE OF LARGE RAINFALL EVENTS IN THE CENTRAL FINGER LAKES

Tim Jones

Between 2012 – 2021 there has been a series of “larger and more localized rainfall events” in the Finger Lakes region. Larger and more localized rainfall events affect the biological, hydrological, and environmental systems of the Finger Lakes. For example, they deliver significant quantities of nutrients, like phosphorus and nitrogen, to the lakes. This nutrient loading can result in Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs).

In this study, large rainfall events were defined as the top 15 events during this 10-year time period. Using this definition, the largest events equated to approximately 3.50 inches or more of rainfall in a 24-hour period. This study's focus area ranged from the western edge of Seneca Lake to the eastern edge of Skaneateles Lake and from Interstate-90 down to Elmira, NY. The Northeast RCC CLIMOD 2 database was utilized for the daily rainfall data. This data was then uploaded into GIS software to display and analyze the spatial distribution of these events.

Future plans include comparing the timing of these events to data on harmful algal blooms (HABs) to assess the potential implications of these large rainfall events as triggers for harmful algal blooms, primarily in Seneca and Owasco Lakes. Additionally, an investigation into atmospheric rivers (ARs) as a potential mechanism for these large rainfall events and ultimately, a potential trigger for harmful algal blooms, will be conducted.



## DAYS TO MONTHS: THE STORY OF HOPE IN THE WARSAW UPRISING

Victoria Karpowicz

On August 1st 1944 “*godzina W*” (hour “W”), or 17:00, the planned Warsaw Uprising began. The citizens and soldiers in Warsaw were able to hold off the German army until October 2nd 1944, a total of 63 days, which is almost 60 days longer than planned.

This research plans to answer the question of how an uprising that was only supposed to last a few days ended up lasting 63? I will be using both primary and secondary resources written in Polish and English to complete a historical analysis. The uprising was a great feat taking into consideration that they got minimal help. There were limited supply drops and there were problems with them. Multiple factors played into the fighting lasting for two more months.

I argue that the driving force that allowed the Uprising to last so long was personal morale, the hope that they had for a free Poland. Everyone was willing to give their life for this cause, which ended up with over 200 people getting married just in case they died. The insurgents really took to heart the Polish motto of “*Bóg, Honor, Ojczyzna*” (God, Honor, Fatherland), which can be seen in their actions, letters, and poems.

## THE IMPACTS OF DUAL IMMERSION EDUCATION ON STUDENTS AND THEIR CAREGIVERS

Meredith Kehoe

Increasing in frequency, availability, and popularity, dual-immersion education is a model of learning where students are taught academic content in two different languages. With the expansion of dual-immersion programs also comes the increase in perspectives from both students and their families, which research shows contain feelings of both positivity and worry.<sup>1</sup> By looking more deeply at the opinions of learners and their families in dual-immersion classrooms, we can begin to better understand the impacts of their learning environment on their caregivers as well as on their relationships to their caregivers.

For my class in educational research, in preparation for the MAT, my project proposal is designed to discover the opinions and feelings of both learners and caregivers in regards to dual-immersion programs, and to also come up with ideas for how to change dual-immersion programs as they currently stand. I propose a qualitative study that uses previous research, as well as information collected from self-conducted interviews and observations.

Going into the field of education myself, I feel that it is extremely important to further understand topics within this focus of study that have been overlooked or under researched at present, in order to better support all students.

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<sup>1</sup>Moreno, Diego R. *Student Perspectives on Dual Immersion in California: A Comparison with the Perceptions of CLIL Learners in Madrid* (2021), 6.

## PROMOTING ACCESS TO SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING IN A LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Emma Kelly and Katherine Percoski

Social-emotional learning (SEL) encapsulates the ability to, “manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions” according to The Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL). We argue for the explicit and implicit teaching of social and emotional skills in addition to and integrated with elementary school curricula. Through both collective trauma experienced during the pandemic and individual adverse experiences, there is a growing need to teach and foster social and emotional skills in school.

SEL is in the Waterloo Central School District’s strategic plan for this school year under the umbrella of health and wellness. While student teaching at Skoi-Yase Primary school, it became clear that many teachers feel that there are barriers to implementing SEL effectively. We utilized the literature regarding the benefits of SEL to create a multi-modal, evidence-based toolkit that provides faculty with accessible and practical resources. Using concrete actions, we intended to enhance pre-existing SEL structures and supplement the specific needs of the school.

Through this collaboration we created a realistic and sustainable toolkit to enhance social-emotional well-being for students and teachers and learned about the wide variety of ways in which SEL can be implemented. As a result of effective SEL implementation, schools see increased academic success, increased mental health awareness, decreased conduct problems, and much more.

*Advancing Social and emotional learning*. CASEL. (2022, January 5). Retrieved March 8, 2022, from <https://casel.org/>

## THE ART OF SCREENWRITING: BATTLE ARENA

De' John King

Rhetorical theory stems from many practices, mediums, and time, and is at the core of how we process the information being communicated to us. For my presentation, I will be applying rhetorical theory to my screenplay, *Battle Arena*: in the decade of the 2050s, A wealthy established man, Percy Witherspoon, is the owner of a struggling professional league called Battle Arena (A technically-advanced fighting league). To save his league from discontinuing, Percy and General Manager David Gilchrist orchestrate a season schedule full of extreme-catastrophic matches for his new roster of rookies, to increase televised ratings. New stars must emerge to redefine the image and legacy of Battle Arena and stay alive in the process.

Through screenwriting, I am able to write a complex story that explores various ethical beliefs of social class and power. My screenplay demonstrates my creative ways, a sharpened sense of audience, and distinctive style. I am motivated to teach people about the process of scriptwriting and how to communicate through the tools provided on the *Final Draft* platform. I will use references from my readings of classical delivery as information<sup>1</sup> and visual design<sup>2</sup> to explore the art of screenwriting.

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<sup>1</sup> Porter, E. James. Recovering Delivery for Digital Rhetoric. *Computers and Composition*. pp. 207-224

<sup>2</sup> Rude, Carolyn D. Toward an Expanded Concept of Rhetorical Delivery: The Uses of Reports in Public Policy Debates. *Technical Communication Quarterly*. pp. 271

## OUR NAVY V-12 PROGRAM

Sara King

Often times we as a community look to past events in order to better understand events to come. With this years celebration of The Colleges' 200 year anniversary, I have researched and interpreted the inclusion of the Navy V-12 Program for my Writing and Rhetoric elective. This program was held at HWS from July 1, 1943 to June 30, 1946 to produce officers for the United States Navy during World War II. The work I will do will help to portray the implications of having a military program as large as this integrated at an institution like our own.

My research began with a focus on what the Navy V-12 Program was at Hobart specifically and how it changed the environment of The Colleges. I used archival research with attention to the HWS yearbooks to see the ratio between trainees to student population and the trainees overall involvement at HWS. I also looked to the campus's newspaper *The Herald* to see the weekly updates on the program's integration.

I think that we as a society can learn from the ways that education, politics, and the economy are integrated in far more ways than we expect in workings of a private institution. The research and written work that I have done and continue to do for this project will help to better understand how HWS was impacted by a worldly event such as WWII.

## FLUCTUATIONS IN LAKE HURON'S WATER LEVEL IMPACT THE SURFACE AREA OF THE MANITOULIN AND TOBERMORY ISLANDS

Janne Knieke

Global climate change is impacting the North American Laurentian Great Lakes, which hold 20% of the world's and over 80% of the United States' freshwater. In contrast to rising sea levels, the Great Lakes oscillate seasonally and interannually in lake level. Climate models predict that lake level will continue to fluctuate between years; however, there is no consensus whether lake level will show a continuous rise or drop over the long term. Lake level is largely attributable to over-lake evaporation that varies with climate conditions – an interplay of precipitation, ice-cover, and water and air temperatures – and, to a lesser extent, outflow regulations and glacial isostatic rebound.

This project investigates lake level conditions and resulting geographic impacts to the Lake Huron shoreline, with a concentration on islands in the Manitoulin and Tobermory regions adjacent to Georgian Bay. In the last 20 years, the lake has experienced both record highs and record lows, which are attributable to warmer-than-average water temperatures and high evaporation rates despite above-average precipitation. Landsat satellite imagery and digital maps were analyzed using GIS (Geographic Information System) tools to compare the area of 100 islands during high-water conditions (2021) and low-water conditions (2010).

My dataset includes large, inhabited islands, such as Manitoulin Island, the largest freshwater island in the world, and smaller islands that have not been previously studied, but are important bird nurseries, as well as fish and wildlife habitat.

“NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US”:  
NEURODIVERGENT STUDENTS IN DUAL IMMERSION EDUCATION

Angelica Knudson

How can neurodivergent students be centered in conversations around dual immersion education and supported in an actual language learning classroom environment? Dual immersion is a language learning model of education that facilitates the learning of both English and another language in the same environment, with all students receiving balanced instruction and learning time in both languages (Lindhold-Leary 2005). This project proposal in preparation for the MAT Program centers the perspectives and experiences of neurodivergent students—which are often left out of discussions—in dual immersion programs and classrooms.

I suggest a mixed-methods study, involving interviews and surveys to gain insight from neurodivergent students and explore the specific struggles that they face in dual immersion classrooms. Previous researchers have found that struggles arise not only because of disability, but due to an inaccessible or unsupportive learning environment (Genesee 2007; Martinz-Álvarez 2017). Preliminary research also suggests many ways that neurodivergent students benefit from and thrive in a dual immersion environment in particular (Baker et. al 2018; Martinz-Álvarez 2017; Wight 2015). This project will extend that line of thinking by bringing student voices into the conversation.

Centering the perspectives of neurodivergent students in education is something that has always been important to me. Although neurodivergent students are often discouraged from or forced out of dual immersion programs and language learning programs more generally, this doesn't have to happen. I hope that this proposal will highlight practices that could make dual immersion environments places of successful, safe, and supportive growth and learning that can also be transferable to all teachers with neurodivergent students.

- Baker, Diana, Audrey Roberson, and Hyejung Kim. "Autism and Dual Immersion: Sorting through the Questions." *Advances in Autism* 4.4. (2018): 174-83. ProQuest.
- Genesee, Fred. "French Immersion and At-Risk Students: A Review of Research Evidence." *The Canadian Modern Language Review / La revue canadienne des langues vivantes*, vol. 63 no. 5. (2007): 654-687. Project MUSE
- Lindhold-Leary, Kathryn J. "The Rich Promise of Two-Way Immersion." *Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development*. (2005): 56-59.
- Martínez-Álvarez, Patricia. "Special Ways of Knowing in Science: Expansive Learning Opportunities with Bilingual Children with Learning Disabilities." *Cultural Studies of Science Education*, vol. 12, no. 3. (2017): 521–53.
- Wight, Mary Caitlin S. "Students with Learning Disabilities in the Foreign Language Learning Environment and the Practice of Exemption." *Foreign Language Annals* 48.1. (2015): 39-55. ProQuest.

## DIVERSIFYING THE GAME: HOBART LACROSSE'S DIVISION III DYNASTY AND THE "SOUL PATROL"

Sawyer Koster

Before Hobart's lacrosse program was promoted to Division I in 1995, the Statesmen won thirteen national championships in Division III from 1980 to 1993. Under the leadership of head coach Dave Urick, now a member of the Lacrosse Hall of Fame, this run has proven to be one of the winningest dynasties in the history of collegiate athletics. In a long list of all-Americans who donned the orange and purple during this reign, one midfield line in particular left a lasting impression on this campus and on the game as a whole: Hobart's first all-Black midfield core, dubbed "the Soul Patrol." From 1984 to 1987, Dr. Malcolm Anderson, Ray "Tiny" Crawford, and Mark "Skip" Darden terrorized opposing defenses and played instrumental roles in delivering championships to Hobart in each of their years on the team.

Using a mix of archival research and outside sources like interviews with the trio of pioneers and articles from *U.S. Lacrosse Magazine*, it is my goal to find out how these three trail-blazing athletes helped set the precedent of diversity on this campus and in the rapidly growing game of Lacrosse, paving the way for more inclusion and diversity in college athletics.



## YOU CAN'T DREAM WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW: THE IMPORTANCE OF CAREER AWARENESS FOR CHILDREN

Sarah Laferrera

Children begin forming ideas about perceived attainable careers in elementary school (Auger et. al., 200). By age ten, many have already made decisions about the areas of study they will pursue. These decisions are influenced by the lives and experiences of each child. Having career aspirations at a young age also improves ideas of self-determination and engagement in schooling, as connections are made between how skills learned in the classroom build into the skills needed for such aspirational jobs.

Traditional career readiness focuses only on older high school students and helping with skills needed to transition into the workforce, but career awareness for younger children can provide a diverse foundation of careers to aspire and work towards as they age. As children most frequently associate with jobs of individuals they know and have observed, introducing children to various careers while they are young has the equitable benefit of giving all children the chance to see a range of possibilities, rather than being limited to the occupations of close family and community members.

My project looks at expanding traditional career readiness initiatives to include career awareness programming in Geneva in association with Geneva 2030's College Bound program. I explored the program's past execution to synthesize the previous objectives and accomplishments of the program, as well as collaborating with community partners to create suggestions and resources to benefit future implementation of the program.

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Auger, R. W., Blackhurst, A. E., & Wahl, K. H. (2005). The development of elementary-aged children's career aspirations and expectations. *Professional School Counseling*, 322-329.

THE EUROPEAN EEL, THE AMERICAN CROW, AND THE MOREL MUSHROOM:  
INTERACTIONS WITH HUMANS AND UNIVERSAL BIOLOGICAL  
REGULARITIES

Dashiell Gould Lagoyda

In Professor Rob Dunn's book, *A Natural History of the Future*, he writes that humans tend to think of the natural world as something separate from us. This separation means that humans tend to ignore our impact on the environment around us. In this presentation, I will show how humans are connected to the biological world by introducing three biological regularities that repeatedly occur on Earth.

First, I will discuss anthropocentrism and how diversity correlated with stability. Second, I will discuss the biological concept of corridors as well as niche and species-to-area relationships. Finally, I will discuss evolution and species interactions. I will use these biological concepts to explain three very different organism – the morel mushroom, the European eel, and the American crow – and the role of humans in nature.

I will explain how, despite differences among these organisms, they are affected by the same biological regularities. I hope to demonstrate complex biological ideas, and how these ideas help us understand human's roles in the environmental picture.

## AMAZON “RING,” SURVEILLANCE, AND HUMANITY

Jack Lesure

If an individual’s privacy and consent are linked to the privacy and consent of others, what does it mean to be a good neighbor in the age of technological surveillance? Shifting contemporary technologies have led to changes in our understanding of privacy and consent. In my paper, I analyze the Amazon Ring smart-doorbell—a privately owned surveillance technology in hundreds of millions of homes across the United States<sup>1</sup>—and the two-party model of consent that it uses.<sup>2</sup>

My goal for this project, which originated in my Philosophy capstone class, is to engage others in a conversation that combines classic ethical puzzles with present-day technology to advocate for a more communal understanding of what it means to be human.

I argue that Amazon Ring’s two-party model of consent exploits third-party subjects who are captured by the always-on sensors and who incur various privacy externalities;<sup>3</sup> creates a double bind for third-party subjects who are coerced into relinquishing their data to Amazon Ring;<sup>4</sup> and enables the consent of third-party subjects to be undermined by the behavior of Ring Doorbell owners.<sup>5</sup> I rely on Iris Marion Young’s definition of exploitation to explore the relationship Amazon Ring has with fear and suspicion, particularly relating to the oppression of Black and Brown people and spaces within the United States.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Bridges, Lauren. “Amazon’s Ring Is the Largest Civilian Surveillance Network the US Has Ever Seen | Lauren Bridges.” *The Guardian*, Guardian News and Media, 18 May 2021, <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2021/may/18/amazon-ring-largest-civilian-surveillance-network-us>.

<sup>2</sup> “Terms of Service.” *Ring*, <https://ring.com/terms>.

<sup>3</sup> De Brouwer, Simeon. “Privacy Self-Management and the Issue of Privacy Externalities: Of Thwarted Expectations, and Harmful Exploitation.” *Internet Policy Review*, vol. 9, no. 4, 2020, <https://doi.org/10.14763/2020.4.1537>.

<sup>4</sup> Frye, Marilyn. “Oppression.” *The Feminist Philosophy Reader*, edited by Alison Bailey and Christine J. Cuomo, McGraw-Hill, New York, NY, 2008. pp. 41 – 49

<sup>5</sup> Zuboff, Shoshana. “Big Other: Surveillance Capitalism and the Prospects of an Information Civilization – Shoshana Zuboff, 2015.” *SAGE Journals*, 1 Mar. 2015, <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1057/jit.2015.5>.

<sup>6</sup> Young, Iris Marion. “Five Faces of Oppression.” *Readings for Diversity and Social Justice*, edited by Maurianne Adams et al., 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., Routledge, New York, NY, 2010, pp. 35 – 49

## "LOSING TOUCH WITH TOUCH": THE TOXIC HEGEMONIES OF HOOKUP CULTURE AND COLLEGE RELATIONSHIPS

Abigail Leyson

The sex scene of college campuses, otherwise known as hookup culture, has been overglorified in film and tv shows, and only recently has it been sparingly depicted accurately in regard to sexual assault and rape culture. Hookup culture encapsulates everything about the sex scene on college campuses, from the exclusive nature of hookup culture by dominant social groups of colleges and universities to the desire for a lack of intimacy. By taking inspiration from the latter, I have written "Losing Touch with Touch," a literary journalism piece laced with lyrical prose that accounts for the majority norm that participates in hookup culture and the story of deviating from the norm of a college bubble to explore the unknown of true intimacy.

I have intersected rhetorical theory with lyrical prose through a project that analyzes the hegemonic rhetorical spaces, gender-power dynamics, and identity via rhetorical feminist theories. I hope that this presentation impacts the HWS community in a positive way by bringing light to an unspoken, and rather unpopular, topic in academia: I want to promote a social awareness of hookup culture's evasive nature in acknowledging and accepting forms of intimacy, how it forms gender-power dynamics, and creates a false sense of identity in undergraduate higher education.

## ANTHROPOLOGY OF MENTAL HEALTH

William Lyons

The intent of this study is to gain an anthropological perspective into how the structure of mental healthcare in the United States, combined with its social perception, affects its ability to be effective and accessible. I explore the history of mental healthcare and the structure of mental healthcare in America to analyze its effectiveness, accessibility, and overall relationship with people.

My research has resulted in several findings. First, the mental healthcare system in the United States often leads to a linear pathway for treatment, resulting in either the use of drugs or behavioral therapy or a combination of both. Second, big pharmaceutical companies or “big pharma” are heavily invested in the social consideration, supply, and use of selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) and other drugs aimed at treating mental health conditions/illnesses. Third, “othering,” miseducation, and undereducation have directly led to the stigma of mental health and its care, both in history and at the present. This stigma has a direct relationship with the capitalist model of mental healthcare and the inability to properly address the mental healthcare crisis in the United States.

## DETERMINING ANTI-CANCER POTENTIAL AND CYTOTOXICITY OF SMALL COMPOUNDS

Maegan Manning

In 2022, it is estimated that over 600,000 people in the US will die from cancer. The Pelkey lab synthesizes compounds, which the Mowery lab tests for killing cancer cells. Many generations of potential anti-cancer compounds have been synthesized, and generation 2 was found to target a critical intracellular protein known as tubulin. I have tested a third generation of compounds for their ability to kill cancer cells. From this data I hope to understand the structural parameters that affect the potency.

The best compound contains structures known as dimethoxy and trimethoxy substitutions along with one consisting of a 2' fluorine substitution on the phenyl ring. In addition, the best compound, PY-379-B, was sent to the National Cancer Institute to test against 60 cancer cell lines to obtain a toxicity profile. From this data I am determining what known anti-cancer drugs have a similar profile to PY-379-B in order to determine what PY-379-B might be targeting. This information will guide future protein inhibition studies and help us develop new generations of anti-cancer agents.

## IS BITCOIN WORTH OUR ENERGY?

Moritz Marchart

Bitcoin, the first and most-well known cryptocurrency, launched in January 2009. Since then, Bitcoin's market value has skyrocketed, achieving a market capitalization of 800 billion USD in March 2022, and was even made an official currency in El Salvador. Bitcoin's transactions are stored in a public transaction ledger (the blockchain). Due to the proof-of-work algorithm, where computers verify transactions by solving complicated mathematical equations, this process is very energy intensive. Considering the climate crisis that we face, the energy consumption in proof-of-work cryptocurrencies is problematic. This brings up the question of whether cryptocurrencies provide enough value to our society to justify this energy consumption.

In this project, I estimated the future energy use associated with mining Bitcoin based on the Hash rate, defined as the number of guesses per second, multiplied by the energy efficiency of the computers. With the current Hash rate, my model estimates a yearly consumption of 244 Terawatt hours - as much as countries like Spain or Australia. As the majority of Bitcoin trades are for speculation, there is little social value associated with Bitcoin. Thus, the energy expenditure on the currency is not justified. However, if Bitcoin truly becomes an alternative currency, the energy consumption might be justified.

## PROJECT PUFFIN: SEABIRD NESTING SUCCESS AND FEEDING STRATEGIES IN THE GULF OF MAINE

Katherine Marthens

Since 1973, Audubon's Seabird Restoration Research Program, affectionately known as Project Puffin, has worked to restore and protect seabirds in the Gulf of Maine. Having completed their original goal to restore Atlantic Puffin populations to historic breeding islands in the Gulf of Maine, the project now conducts research on many different seabird species. Using this long-term data, researchers hope to examine the ways seabirds respond to our changing climate and encourage the passing of legislation to protect them.

My project will highlight data collected through my HWS-sponsored summer research with Project Puffin from 2021. Outer Green Island, located in Casco Bay, serves as a nesting ground for thousands of seabirds, mainly Common Terns and Black Guillemots. These species, along with Roseate Terns, were monitored for nesting productivity. Chick provisioning studies were also conducted on Common Terns to examine what prey items were brought, the average size of prey items, and whether one chick was receiving more food than its sibling/s.

While egg-laying and hatch rates remained on par with previous data, fledging rates reached record lows. We predicted this was due to poor weather and a shortage of fish species typically used for food. While the most common food items brought to the nest remained the same as in previous years, a greater number of novel food items showed up at the nest and feeding rates were much lower. By gathering this information, scientists can work with legislators to protect seabirds and their habitat.



## STUDENT HOUSING SECURITIZATION FEASIBILITY AT HOBART AND WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGES

Caroline R. Martocci

Real estate assets on residential college campuses are often underutilized for the full profit potential that they have. By securitizing the consistent revenue generated by Hobart and William Smith's room and board facilities, bonds are created. An evaluation of the feasibility of the securitization of incomes generated by student housing facilities at Hobart and William Smith Colleges will give insights as to how the Colleges could maximize efficiency across its capital structure. To assess the feasibility of this process, an analysis of the history of securitization as well as the potential benefits and risks associated with it are studied through a variety of financial data, macroeconomic texts, securitization presale reports and deal documents.

This project is of particular interest to me following my experience interning in securitized products sales, trading, and banking. I feel passionate about joining together what I learned in my internship experience with my experience in the economics department at Hobart and William Smith Colleges. As an application of the processes and theories I have learned in my coursework with professional tools and analytical strategies, this study joins together my educational experience with my post-graduate plans in a way that has the potential to financially benefit our campus community.

## RHETORICAL ANALYSIS OF THE VERA INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE'S WEBSITE

Molly Matthews

The Vera Institute of Justice is a national independent non-profit research and policy group. The group focuses on three major movements: Securing Equal Justice, Strengthening Families and Communities, and Ending Mass Incarceration. Vera Institute of Justice argues that the United States criminal justice system is built on inequalities and the prison system needs to shift to a rehabilitation system through their *Reimagining Prison* initiative. This is a group that is drawing attention to issues within the criminal justice and prison systems which are often not talked about.

In Fall 2021 for Power and Persuasion, I analyzed the Vera Institute of Justice's website, using an ideological analysis lens. Within my analysis, I focused specifically on their work "Ending Mass Incarceration." In this presentation, I examine the different forms of content on the institute's website and the research they use to back up their claims. Through this analysis, I examine how the construction of their website reveals their ideological views. The Vera Institute of Justice's website works to inform the public about the complex issues within the current criminal justice and prison systems showing the inequalities within the system.

## HOW URBANIZATION CREATES NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR SPILLOVER OF ZOO NOTIC DISEASES

Natalie McCarthy

Urbanization is increasing across the globe. In 2018, 55% of people globally live in cities and that number is projected to increase to 68% by 2050.<sup>1</sup> Urbanization has created new urban ecosystems. These urban ecosystems share several characteristics, such as increased temperature relative to the surrounding area and novel food sources, such as leftover food. As animals adapt to this new urban ecosystem, they are brought into closer contact with humans. Constant close contact between animals and humans increases the chance that a pathogen will make the jump between species.

This project will focus on how urbanization affects spillover of zoonotic diseases. Specifically, this literature review will investigate how spread from different modes of transmission are affected by urbanization, the role that reservoir hosts play in creating new outbreaks, and to what degree different characteristics of urban ecosystems contribute to the potential for spillover. This literature review can be used to inform how people can design cities to balance the trade-offs between increased biodiversity and increased risk of spillover.

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<sup>1</sup> 68% of the world population projected to live in urban areas by 2050, says un | un desa | united nations department of economic and social affairs. (n.d.). Retrieved March 11, 2022, from <https://www.un.org/development/desa/en/news/population/2018-revision-of-world-urbanization-prospects.html>

## CULTURAL DIFFERENCES AND PEER RELATIONS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DUAL IMMERSION PROGRAMS

Colleen McElduff

Dual immersion is a form of education in which students have the opportunity to acquire a second language by receiving academic instruction in both English and another target language. By attending a school with a dual immersion program, students can become bilingual, which will be an asset for them for the rest of their lives. Although being in a dual immersion class primarily affects the students' academics, it can also play a role in the relationships they form with their peers. Students get to learn about cultures that are different from their own when they spend time with students who speak other languages. However, language and cultural differences can create divides in classrooms, especially with young children.

For my educational research class, I am creating a research proposal that would include classroom observations and interviews to learn about the dynamics in elementary school dual immersion classrooms. I hope to discover how students interact with each other when they get to choose who they spend their time with. Do students who speak the same first language gravitate towards each other during their free time (recess, lunch time, snack time)? How does this lead to the formation of friend groups or cliques in the dual immersion class? How might language differences create tension between young children? As a future teacher, this project will help me learn how to build connections between students who come from different backgrounds and be more aware of conflicts that may arise.

## WHO GETS TO BE AN AMERICAN GIRL?

Colleen McElduff

Like many other girls in the United States, I spent a lot of my childhood playing with American Girl dolls. The company, founded in 1986, originally produced a line of dolls portraying girls from different time periods in U.S. history. This concept was later expanded into several other lines of dolls, including one representing girls from contemporary life. The brand also started selling books, magazines, accessories, movies, and countless other products that have turned them into one of today's most well known toy companies.

My project takes a closer look at the American Girl books and the messages they send to millions of consumers about what it means to be an "American Girl." How has the way the ideal American girl is presented changed over time? What can American Girl tell us about consumer culture and how their products teach kids about how to be an "American Girl?" By focusing on a close reading of the historical and contemporary character books and the nonfiction advice books, I explore the messages the brand is sending out about identity, girlhood, American history, and modern consumer culture.

As a company producing expensive products, the brand's claim of inclusivity clashes with the actual buyers of their toys. The products and identities they are trying to promote are not actually accessible to everyone.

CAMILLE MCGRUFF IS IN SEARCH OF A NEW NARRATIVE:  
A MULTI-PRONGED APPROACH TO EARTH, CITIES, SPACES, AND SELF

Camille McGriff

As physical manifestations of our designed reality, the built environment—in cities, blocks, buildings, residences, and intimate spaces—constructs the paradigm in which we exist, implementing systems of conduct amongst humans and their environments. Designers act as rhetors in constructing material space by imbuing it with symbolism that either reflects back the hegemonic paradigm or breaks that norm. When a rhetor—a writer, an artist, a designer—chooses to break the rules of commonly-accepted and recognizable cultural values, they often use multidisciplinary approaches to offer new lenses through which society can conceive of different realities. For my presentation, I will examine several multidisciplinary projects in my senior portfolio as breaks from the contemporary normative paradigm and how they act to signify a new way of viewing reality.

I will present first my research in ekphrasis, the literary device of writing about visual art to give it emotional and psychological subtext, by presenting my book of ink drawings side-by-side with observational writing, examining how literary and visual art bolster each other to achieve poetic construction in a reader or view not possible without the other medium. I will then pivot into projects that more explicitly delve into my desire as a creator to construct new cultural narratives, starting with my poem *Metanoia*, advancing my visual research on vernacular architecture and people-based urbanism, advancing to a lyric essay, and ending on a project that uses pastiche to tangentially cohere a sexuality.

## EVALUATING ACTIVITY AND BINDING OF NOVEL ANTICANCER MOLECULES

Matthew McNulty

Approximately 1.6 million people in the US will be diagnosed with cancer this year. One promising target for cancer treatment is tubulin, a protein that plays an essential role in cell structure, growth, migration, and signaling. In order to function, these proteins must spontaneously polymerize and depolymerize. Disruption of this process kills cancer cells.

Our lab previously showed that a compound, PY-407-C which was synthesized by the Pelkey lab, exhibits nanomolar toxicity on cancer cells, and we confirmed that it inhibits tubulin polymerization. Recently the Pelkey lab developed a new class of analogues to help understand what structures are important for targeting cancer cells. I have tested a number of these compounds for their anticancer activity. In addition, I am developing a crosslinking assay to confirm where on tubulin these new compounds and PY-407-C bind. The results will provide a better understanding of how to maximize potency and guide the synthesis of future analogues.

## MOTIVATIONS BEHIND GROUPING IN DUAL IMMERSION CLASSROOMS

Nicole Miller

Dual Immersion (DI) programs provide native English speakers and English Language Learners (ELLs) the opportunity to become “bilingual and biliterate” (Massachusetts Department of Education, 2022). DI also promotes cultural diversity within the classroom. Generally, DI follows a 50:50 model in English and the target language.

Even though there exists research focused on DI, there is virtually no research discussing how DI teachers group students. Research on traditional monolingual classrooms suggests cluster seating arrangements provide students with the ability to effectively communicate and collaborate (Norazman et al., 2019). Grouping is particularly important in linguistically diverse classrooms because ELLs benefit from talking and learning from one another (Ardasheva et al., 2019). Most of these DI students are beginning a new language, so interaction with their classmates may be critical to their language development.

My project proposal attempts to fill this gap in the literature by examining how teachers make certain decisions about seating. To do this, I propose interviewing DI teachers about their reasoning behind certain seating arrangements and their observations about how these choices have impacted student learning.

My interest in this topic was inspired by my field work in the Teacher Education Program, during which I observed firsthand different seating arrangements and grouping decisions that teachers made.

- Ardasheva, Y., Newcomer, S., Ernst-Slavit, G., Morrison, S., Morrison, J., Carbonneau, K. & Lightner, L. (2019). Decision-Making Practices of Experienced Upper Elementary Teachers during Small Group Instruction to Support English Learners. *The Elementary School Journal*. 120. 88-108.
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- Norazman, N., Ismail, A., Ja’afar, N., Khoiry, M., & Che Ani, A. (2019). A Review of Seating Arrangements Towards the 21st Century Classroom Approach in Schools. *Malaysian Journal Of Sustainable Environment*, 6(2), 21-46.



## NAVIGATING HOOKUP CULTURE AND SOCIAL LIFE: EXPLORING THE EXPERIENCES OF COLLEGE STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Grace Mongeau

Let's talk about sex—and disabilities. This project explores and expands upon Lisa Wade's *American Hookup* (2017), which was a sociological study into hookup culture: the culture of casual sexual flings on college campuses in the US. Wade investigated how hookup culture is experienced differently depending on a student's race, gender, class, and sexuality. However, Wade failed to consider how the status of (dis)abledness impacts students' experiences with hookup culture. Individuals with disabilities are often dehumanized and desexualized in society, even while they possess a status that anyone can be labeled with at any point in their life, whether due to old age, an accident, or a condition since birth (Thomas, 2007).

In this project for Honors in Sociology, I conducted 10 in-depth qualitative interviews with students who self-identify as having a disability. Students were asked to share their experiences and thoughts on their disability, hooking up, drinking, partying, and dating. Among the 10 participants, eight different disabilities are represented in the data. Using interpretive phenomenological analysis, an analytical strategy used to examine subjective experiences, this project aims to understand the ways in which students with disabilities make sense of their participation in hookup culture and the social dynamics thus reflected.

Thomas, C. (2007). *Sociologies of Disability and Illness: Contested Ideas in Disability Studies and Medical Sociology*. London: Macmillan International Higher Education/Red Globe Press.  
Wade, L. (2017). *American Hookup: The New Culture of Sex on Campus*. New York, NY: W.W. Norton & Company.

## #DECOLONIZATIKTOK: NEW MEDIA SPACES, RHETORICAL SOVEREIGNTY, AND DECOLONIZATION IN INDIGENOUS RHETORIC

McKayla Okoniewski

TikTok is one of the most popular social media platforms today. Following the COVID-19 pandemic, a significant amount of activism work transitioned into online spaces, including indigenous activism by the Stop Line 3 organization, which was dedicated to preventing the Line 3 pipeline's construction and use in Anishinaabe territory. Giiwedín, a member of this organization and TikTok user, offers an example of how indigenous rhetoric disrupts hegemonic ideologies in order to further rhetorical sovereignty, the use of rhetoric in the pursuit of sovereignty, and decolonization in digital spaces like TikTok.

I examined *strategies of disruption*, part of Sonja Foss's method of feminist rhetorical criticism, through the lens of rhetorical sovereignty as a method of decolonization. My analysis shows how decolonization, strategies of disruption, and rhetorical sovereignty interplay within these online spaces to challenge and destabilize ideologies established by settler-colonial entities. In doing so, I place TikTok as a platform and genre of rhetorical work under greater examination while simultaneously providing additional space within rhetorical criticism for indigenous rhetors and the necessary work being done to further decolonization rhetorically by indigenous activists.

Because of the importance of TikTok and other social media as rhetorical spaces, the way users interact with creators can have a measurable impact for online activism work. I hope to use my analysis of TikTok and Giiwedín to show the importance of mindful engagement with activist rhetoric in online spaces as a component of decolonization and anti-racist practices.

OF LOVE AND MONSTERS: GENDER AND CITIZENSHIP  
IN EURIPIDES' *HIPPOLYTOS*

Deirdre O'Malley

In *Citizenship in Classical Athens*, Josine Blok suggests that modern Classics scholars have been both mistranslating and leaving out evidence from Aristotle's *Politics* and other primary Ancient Greek texts that women were, in fact, considered citizens in Classical Athens. Though Classical Athenian women did not have the voting rights that their male counterparts did, Blok suggests that they were still considered citizens based on the importance of their ritual roles (i.e. running the entire religious culture of Classical Athens). With this new understanding of women's citizenship through the lens of their ritual roles and reputation, the interpretation of most, if not all, of the plays from Greek Tragedy can be reassessed in a more nuanced light.

Using Blok's analysis of Classical Athenian laws and texts, I was able to gain valuable research experience and complete an Honors thesis in Classics focused on a subject that interested me: women's citizenship in Classical Athens. I had read modern English translations of Euripides' *Hippolytos* in high school, and had always been fascinated by Phaedra's character. Using Euripides' *Hippolytos* as a case study, I am able to offer a new interpretation of the portrayal of Phaedra's ritual purity and obsession with her own reputation, Hippolytos' ritual perversity and ignorance, and the consequences of the entire play.

## HOW YOUTH CHANGE THE WORLD

David Peck

As a resident of Colorado, I have viewed climate change-induced wildfires as a normal occurrence. Today, many movements have answered the call to combat climate change and pursue methods that are environmentally friendlier. Yet one, in particular, has had a great impact, The International Youth Climate Movement. The movement itself challenges the power/ political dynamics between youth and Government, as well as companies that profit from CO2 emissions. The role of social media, media networks created for other youth on the topic of climate change, discussion on the well-known Gen Z climate advocate Greta Thunberg, to a study in Norway will help me assess the involvement of youth.

Using genre analysis, my paper will look closely at the question “what is the impact the Youth Climate Movement has on society and the world?” My paper will also provide an educational look at the history of the movement by explaining its goals, messages, and motives. The next crucial aspect the paper will explain and situate who the movement addresses, for this explains the impact it has on the political sector and other youths who feel empowered to step up. Climate change affects all of us, yet genre analysis has helped showed me the crucial impact the youths have in speaking up against it.

## EVERY ECSTATIC NOW: DEPERSONALIZED PERSONAL POETRY

Elim Pilet

*Every Ecstatic Now* is the title of my honors project, which is a poetry book manuscript. This project finds its conceptual roots in a frustration I had with my poetics, which I dubbed a formal ego-centrism. My poems would feature stories of my life, ruminations on my personal issues, and piles of “I do this, I think that” statements. My goal with this project, then, was to find a method that disengaged from an I-centered frame, while also not altogether removing a personal commitment to the material; in other words, I was trying to create a depersonalized personal poetry.

I have found three productive methods to produce this contradictory effect. The first is through the loose enactment of the persona poem, in which my speaker is a character who is distinctly not myself (see: a speaker that is married) but who, through the course of the poem, becomes aligned with my own frustrations and thinking-throughs. The second is through a proliferation of false personas, in which my speaker casually names figures with no real life correlatives and centers these figures within the poem’s thematic structure. The third is through the peculiar (and often grammatically incorrect) use of verbs, which serves, through a blurring of what is being done as opposed to what is already finished, to defamiliarize the relationship of actors to their actions while never denying the connection between the two.

My hope is that these formal discoveries can be a convincing method to bind irreversibly the self and other selves.

## INTERRUPTING THE SCHOOL-TO-PRISON PIPELINE: STORIES OF RESILIENCY AND SECOND CHANCES

Taylor Pluta

The school-to-prison pipeline describes the systematic process in which schools' harsh disciplinary codes and punitive policies cause many students to drop out of the school system and enter the criminal justice system, but what about the students who manage to escape the pipeline? What about those who find the small cracks in its structure and land themselves on the track towards a higher education?

This research project focuses on students from Hobart and William Smith Colleges who have previously received formal discipline, such as detention, suspension(s), or expulsion(s) in their high school careers, yet have continued on to graduate and pursue an undergraduate degree. I conducted in-depth interviews with nine students, who were able to explain their individual experiences with school punishment and disciplinary practices. Their responses were complemented by interviews with a high school teacher and a court resource consultant who have experience working with youth who find themselves on the school-to-prison pipeline. Responses from both groups are consistent with one another. Qualitative research methods will be used to analyze the data received from all participants.

The results of this study will provide insight into how students are able to face adversity with resilience and use a variety of tactics to obtain second chances to continue their careers as scholars. In revealing the students' methods in interrupting the school-to-prison pipeline, real-world application can be made through programs or other models.

## RHETORICAL STRATEGIES OF MALALA

Alicia Quarterman

The Malala Fund, founded by Malala Yousefzai, shot by the Taliban because of her fearlessness and ideology that all girls should have access to a free and quality education, seeks to promote the education of girls and women worldwide. To reach its target audience, the group's website implements effective rhetorical strategies that can be unpacked, showcasing and emphasizing the art of persuasion and rhetorical principles.

For my project, I have used cluster analysis, ideological analysis, and rhetorical situation analysis to examine the rhetoric of the Malala Fund's website. I hope to present my research and conclusions on the way the Fund implements these strategies to establish effective delivery of message to her audience, showcase her worldview, and contribute to establishing a larger ideology, thus showcasing rhetorical theory at work.

As an individual and a student from a small, under-funded rural school district, I have always been very passionate about issues pertaining to educational advocacy; my HWS education has shown me the importance of looking at education in terms of world issues, teachings on the work and history of people of color, and even general information and education pertaining to the LGBTQ community. By showcasing my rhetorical analysis to others, I hope to expand their knowledge and consciousness of how effective rhetorical practices can be when attempting to grasp the attention of an audience, legislative body, or those with power.

## THE IMPACT OF FOOD INSECURITY ON CHILDREN

Alexis Racioppa

Reliable access to nutritious food has a profound impact on a child's ability to learn, grow, and achieve success in school. The negative impact on a child's health can be seen not only in their immediate physical reaction, such as lethargy, irritability, and/or lack of focus, but also in their long-term cognitive abilities, their attendance in school, and their achievement when learning.<sup>1</sup> Students who are malnourished also have more difficulty forging social connections with peers and adults, leaving them more isolated from their peers who have reliable access to food.

My project analyzes food security amongst elementary-aged students in Seneca Falls, New York and works to bring increased awareness of food instability in this community. The average percentage of food insecure children in New York is 15.6%. In Seneca County, 16.6% of children are food insecure, with an estimated 82% eligible for federal nutrition programs.<sup>2</sup> While students can receive food from school, access to consistent and nutritional food over school breaks continues to be a challenge. Bureaucratic roadblocks and liability issues prevent schools from providing food directly to students outside of school sessions.

My project centered on increasing awareness of food insecurity in the region and improving pathways for children to receive food. I partnered with the Seneca Falls Backpack Program and FoodLink, a non-profit committed to serving the Finger Lakes and Greater Rochester area. The initiatives included working to provide students with food during breaks from public school.

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<sup>1</sup> Behrman, J. R. (1996). The Impact of Health and Nutrition on Education. *The World Bank Research Observer*, 11(1), 23–37. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/3986477>

<sup>2</sup> *Hunger & Poverty in the United States | Map the Meal Gap*. Feeding America. (2021). Retrieved from <https://map.feedingamerica.org/>



AN ANALYSIS OF TIDE AND CURRENT INSIDE A WORMHOLE:  
MAPPING THE MIND THROUGH FICTION

Blair Reilly

*An Analysis of Tide and Current Inside a Wormhole* began as an unresolved short story in the Spring of 2021 and has since expanded into an Honors project. Now not one story but three, this project reflects the possibilities of fiction when the writer's mind is more uncertain than the plot. *An Analysis* operates within the nebulous domain of speculative fiction, questioning reality outside the clear-cut conventions of related genres like sci-fi and fantasy.

My narrative reimagines the nautical region of southern Massachusetts. In 1962, young oceanographer Adrian Berg encounters a mix of far-flung science and human error at a once-operational Navy bomb site off the coast of Martha's Vineyard, altering her life and her psyche forever. As the narrative moves through history and beyond our present, Adrian's attempted understanding of her experience results in a tangled web of characters that toe the line of the imagined and the real. Adrian discovers that what began with uncertainty may also end with it, and the narrative is a testament to the instability of time and memory, the weight of geography, and our constant effort to make sense of the world.

This project is guided by contemporary works of speculative fiction such as David Mitchell's *The Bone Clocks* and Susanna Clarke's *Piranesi*, and the wisdom of Professor Conroy-Goldman who was the first to encounter the narrative. Though the project is to be completed for Honors in English, *An Analysis of Tide and Current Inside a Wormhole* is still a work in progress, and I intend on expanding it to a full-length novel in the future.

## LAND USE LEGACY EFFECTS ON STREAM SALAMANDERS IN THE FINGER LAKES NATIONAL FOREST

Anna Rider

My project for Honors in Environmental Studies is part of a larger research project of Professors Costentino and Brubaker that examines the effects of historic agricultural land use on the abundance of stream salamanders in the Finger Lakes National Forest (Hector, NY). This area, once mostly agriculture, has been abandoned and converted to forest across different time periods.

The project seeks to understand if land use legacy or current land use has a greater effect on the stream salamander abundances. We also wanted to determine whether the localized habitat quality or the upstream watershed land use has more of an effect on salamander abundances.

Using historic aerial photos, the forested areas were separated into reference, old, or young forest. Using lidar-derived digital elevation models (DEMs), stream networks and upstream watersheds were delineated for each site. Stream salamanders were collected at 72 stream sites, and species found included *Gyrinophilus porphyriticus* (Spring Salamander), *Desmognathus fuscus* (Northern Dusky), *Desmognathus ochrophaeus* (Allegheny Dusky), and *Euraycea cirrigera* (Two-lined Salamander). I caught a total of 813 salamanders over the course of 6 weeks. Preliminary analysis shows that forest type seems to have a larger effect on salamander abundances than upstream land use legacy.

Cosentino, B. J., & Brubaker, K. M. (2018). Effects of land use legacies and habitat fragmentation on salamander abundance. *Landscape Ecology*, 33(9), 1573-1584.

Brubaker, K., & Cosentino, B. (2021). Forest structure and biomass in post-agricultural forests: Lessons learned with new spatial tools. *Applied Vegetation Science*, 24(1), e12552.

Willson, J. D., & Dorcas, M. E. (2003). Effects of habitat disturbance on stream salamanders: implications for buffer zones and watershed management. *Conservation Biology*, 17(3), 763-771.

## ARE ALL PARENTS SATISFIED WITH DUAL IMMERSION PROGRAMS?

Elana Rose

Dual Immersion (DI) is an immersive educational experience that allows English Language Learners and native-English speakers to become “bilingual, biliterate, and multiculturally competent” (Massachusetts Department of Education 2022). In the DI context, previous studies focus overwhelmingly on parental satisfaction as opposed to concern. However, the way parents convey their concerns about education is influenced by their cultural or ethnic identities (Olivos and Lucero). This project proposal attempts to answer the question of how a parent’s position as a native-English speaker or speaker of another language affects how they express dissatisfaction with DI programs.

For my class in education research in preparation for the Master of Art in Teaching, I am creating a project proposal that will use qualitative techniques of document analysis and an interview protocol to explore how cultural identity influences the unspoken opinions of parents involved in DI programs.

I believe that the intersection of parents and education is important as parents are essential to schools and should be explored more in education literature. The development of this proposal helps me to better understand the process of educational research and my ability to apply methodological concepts to an unexplored aspect of DI, including that of parental concern.

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. (2022, January 6). *Dual Language Education Programs*. Dual Language Education Programs - English Learner Education. Retrieved 2022, from <https://www.doe.mass.edu/ele/programs/dle.html>

Olivos, E. M., & Lucero, A. (2018). Latino parents in Dual Language Immersion Programs: Why are they so satisfied? *International Journal of Bilingual Education and Bilingualism*, 23(10), 1211–1224. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13670050.2018.1436520>

## BE KIND, REWIND: REBRANDING BLOCKBUSTER FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Katherine Ruggles

This project explores dramatic changes in the distribution and access of media by fictionally rebranding Blockbuster Video, the movie rental franchise that defined the 1980s and 1990s. Specifically, “Be Kind, Rewind,” addresses what is lost in the transition to digital streaming, emphasizing that video stores such as Blockbuster created an in-person, interactive, curated, and community-based experience for consumers.

This project focuses on the impact of in-person interactions within media spaces, shopping theory, nostalgia, media industry shifts, and advertising, and culminates in a complete, fictional rebrand of Blockbuster. The rebrand portfolio includes a brand guide, business plan, digital advertisements, a commercial, and social media campaign. This fictional rebrand of Blockbuster aims to bring back the long lost community, curation, and media auteurism within the film industry. This project critically evaluates the vast and quick changes in the film industry over the past 40 years -- from the theater, to the video store, and to your own home.

## EFFECTS OF MACROMOLECULAR CROWDING ON THE ENZYME KINETICS AND THERMODYNAMICS OF GLUTAMATE DEHYDROGENASE

Emily Rundlett

All living cells are crowded with various sugars and proteins and their interactions with enzymes affect the kinetics and thermodynamics of an enzyme's catalysis. In the past, these studies have been conducted under noncrowded conditions not representative of the environment in living organisms and therefore not yielding accurate data. Glutamate dehydrogenase (GDH) is an important enzyme in the body and catalyzes glutamate to alphaketoglutarate, which is necessary for metabolism. This enzyme can also catalyze a similar reaction with norvaline; however the rate limiting step with glutamate is release of the cofactor while the slow step with norvaline is the chemistry of catalysis.

GDH norvaline kinetic assays were run in the presence of high concentrations of crowders such as the glucose polymer dextran or the protein bovine serum albumen (BSA). Historically dextran polymers, which are similar in size to macromolecules, have been used to mimic the crowded cellular environment because large molecules exclude volume from other molecules, thereby slowing the rate of reaction. Substrates have more difficulty finding the enzyme and the enzyme is cramped, so conformational change becomes difficult. However, these synthetic polymers fail to model enthalpy, so cell lysate was also tested. Acquired data was analyzed using the Eyring equation to obtain thermodynamic data. Results suggest that excluded volume has a more significant effect than chemical interactions on enzyme kinetics.

## THE PROTESTANT PROJECT: HOW ANTI-CATHOLICISM WAS USED AS A TOOL IN BUFFALO, NEW YORK TO PUSH CATHOLICS TO THE RIGHT

Robert Russell

As a native Buffalonian who grew up Catholic, I often wondered why the Catholic population within the city was so politically conservative, which led me to investigate the existing literature in relation to how Buffalo's unique history had shaped this contemporary population's political leanings.

A large swath of the existing literature links anti-Catholicism to contemporary conservative ideology and how natural antagonisms between Catholic and Protestant blocs shaped Catholic political leanings.<sup>1234</sup> Little attention is given, however, to the notion that anti-Catholicism was used by Protestants to promote their own self interests. Thinker Mike Davis provides a baseline for this idea by arguing that anti-Catholicism was used as tool to promote labor discipline and profit.<sup>5</sup> I add to his model by extending it to the spheres of religious life and politics. I thus argue that this Protestant project was a tool used to neutralize the independent political potential of the Catholic bloc by shaping its ideology to match their own.

This project will begin by analyzing the history of Catholic immigration in the 1800s to explore how this Protestant project was first formed and the Catholic community's response. Turning towards the 1900s, this project will then investigate how the New Deal shaped Catholic perceptions and will conclude by turning towards the post-New Deal era to assess the outcomes of the Protestant project.

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<sup>1</sup>David A. Gerber, "Ambivalent Anti-Catholicism: Buffalo's American Protestant Elite Faces the Challenge of the Catholic Church, 1850-1869," *Civil War History* Vol. 30, No. 2 (June 1984), <https://buffaloah.com/h/gerb/prot/prot.html>.

<sup>2</sup>Jay P. Dolan, *In Search of an American Catholicism: A History of Religion and Culture in Tension* (Oxford: New York: Oxford University Press, 2002).

<sup>3</sup>Jack Miles, *Religion as We Know It*, (New York: W. W. Norton, 2015).

<sup>4</sup>Ray A. Billington, "Anti-Catholic Propaganda and the Home Missionary Movement, 1800-1860." *The Mississippi Valley Historical Review* 22, no. 3 (1935).

<sup>5</sup>Mike Davis, *Prisoners of the American Dream: Politics and Economy in the History of the US Working Class* (London: New York: Verso, 2018).

## WHAT IS SUCCESS: EXAMINING SECONDARY DUAL IMMERSION CLASSROOMS

Ali Shaw

Whether students are compared to one another, their past selves, or native language speakers, measuring success in a secondary dual immersion (DI) classroom comes in many different forms.

A dual immersion class is one where native English speakers and English language-learners are placed together with the goal that all students will reach bilingualism and biliteracy. Past research has shown that students in DI classrooms show higher levels of achievement, but questions remain about how student achievement should be measured (Lindholm-Leary and Hernández, 2011, Tran et al., 2015, Watzinger-Tharp et al., 2016).

This proposed study will use document analysis and interviews to investigate challenges to measuring achievement in the DI setting and to propose practical recommendations for teachers and administrators.

Lindholm-Leary, K. and Hernández, A., 2011. Achievement and language proficiency of Latino students in dual language programmes: Native English speakers, fluent English/previous ELLs, and current ELLs. *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development*, 32(6), pp.531-545.

Tran, N.A., Behseta, S., Ellis, M., Martinez-Cruz, A. and Contreras, J., 2015. The Effects of Spanish English Dual Language Immersion on Student Achievement in Science and Mathematics. *EJEP: EJournal of Education Policy*.

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## FINGER LAKE METEOROLOGICAL AND LIMNOLOGICAL CHANGE FOR THE ONSET OF CYANOBACTERIA (HABS) BLOOMS

JoAnna Shaw

In recent years, cyanobacteria (HABS) blooms and their toxins have increased and caused water quality issues in both Seneca and Owasco Lakes. Cyanobacteria blooms are typically seen along the shoreline where residents want to use the lake, and impact municipal drinking water supplies. The second largest number of blooms were detected in both Seneca Lake (72) and Owasco Lake (47) in 2021 compared to previous years.

Water quality data does not explain the variance in bloom counts in these two lakes over space and time. In Owasco Lake, the offshore plankton was more significant in cyanobacteria concentrations than in Seneca Lake. The FLI buoys on Owasco and Seneca Lakes recorded water temperatures, air temperatures, calm periods, and light intensities for bloom development. The water temperature for both Owasco and Seneca Lakes has warmed due to global warming and is allowing more cyanobacteria to bloom. Faster winds in Seneca Lake may have reduced blooms, while less wind events in Owasco Lake increased blooms. With less wind and waves, surface water temperature decreases, nearshore sediment is disrupted, and nearshore blooms typically occur on the next sunny and calm day. Cameras on dock sites detected blooms, showing they are most frequent in the afternoon and last anywhere from an hour to 12 hours. Wind speed and direction varied depending on shoreline orientation altering bloom development in both lakes. Large rain events brought in nutrients that increased blooms with both Seneca and Owasco Lakes. This project suggests that blooms correlated with less rain and slower wind.



## HOBART HISTORY, E.H.C. TAYLOR, AND THE CIVIL WAR

Brayton Slusser

As a lifelong resident of Geneva, New York, I am familiar with the historical sites and actors in the area from the 19<sup>th</sup> century that connect to the region's larger historical significance. In the current climate of reanalyzing and "remodeling" history, particularly from the Civil War and slavery eras, I would argue that the same attention should be given to Geneva figures, since the repression of history often proves to be detrimental, and I have been taught the importance of local history.

As part of an archival research project for an elective course in Writing and Rhetoric, I examined Sgt. Major Edward H.C. Taylor's records and letters in the HWS college archives, including his letters written during the Civil War. The lithographs I analyzed tell a story about Sgt. Taylor's division, including his role in the Union Army. While there are no direct records that link Hobart College to the Confederacy, I also hope to explore the suggestion in the Hobart Bicentennial timeline that Hobart alums also fought for Confederacy.<sup>1</sup> With this research, I intend to shed light on the pre-Civil war era in Central New York, Geneva and Hobart College specifically.

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<sup>1</sup> "A Timeline of Hobart College," Hobart Bicentennial website, Hobart and William Smith Colleges. Access date March 11, 2022. <https://www2.hws.edu/about/hobart-bicentennial-celebration/timeline/#1860>

## FRIENDSHIP AND DUAL IMMERSION

Laurel Soulier

Dual immersion (DI) programs have become increasingly popular in education in recent years<sup>1</sup>. There are multiple models of dual immersion that differ in terms of what language students speak and how much of the day they speak that language.<sup>2</sup> The goal of the present study is to examine what dictates interpersonal peer relationships: how does dual immersion effect student's friendships at school and what factors specifically impact a student's friendships in a dual immersion program?

I propose a qualitative study that investigates a number of factors including self-efficacy and growth mindset, native language<sup>3</sup>, classroom/ school expectations, and overall sense of belonging and motivation to assimilate<sup>4</sup>. These factors were identified after reviewing the literature about dual immersion programs, but have yet to be synthesized or compared.

As dual immersion programs gain popularity, it is important to examine their impact on students socially and emotionally<sup>5</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Maxwell, L. A. (2012). 'Dual' Classes See Growth in Popularity. *Education Week*, 31(26), 1-1, 16, 17. <https://ezproxy.hws.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/trade-journals/dual-classes-see-growth-popularity/docview/963514793/se-2?accountid=27680>

<sup>2</sup> Rocque, R., Ferrin, S., Hite, J. M., & Randall, V. (2016). The Unique Skills and Traits of Principals in One-Way and Two-Way Dual Immersion Schools. *Foreign Language Annals*, 49(4), 801-818. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/flan.12238>

<sup>3</sup> Lee, L., Williams, A., Lao, C., Lagunas, N., & Langner, C. A. (2021, September 13). The role of Home Language in children's friendship choice and peer acceptance. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*. Retrieved March 9, 2022, from <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0193397321000861?via%3Dihub>

<sup>4</sup> Hardman, M. C. (2013). Motivation and peer relations in a Second Grade Spanish-English Dual Immersion Program. *Journal of Undergraduate Research* .

<sup>5</sup> Valiente, C., Swanson, J., DeLay, D., Fraser, A. M., & Parker, J. H. (2020). Emotion-related socialization in the classroom: Considering the roles of teachers, peers, and the classroom context. *Developmental Psychology*, 56(3), 578-594. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/dev0000863>

## WHAT MAKES A HERO?

Aidan Spencer

In popular culture, it seems as though we are constantly bombarded with images of a hero. We see them in film and television, we find their characters described in literature, and often children describe their own role models as personal heroes. But with such variety and variation in what defines a hero, have we cheapened the meaning of the word? In this paper, I will argue for my definition of what makes a hero, the social difficulties of being recognized as such, and begin a conversation upon how we might further the moral education of future generations.

Through a close reading of Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics* and Julia Annas' conception of different heroic tropes, my heroic model breaks from the prototypical idea often portrayed in film and cinema. What makes a hero is found in dedication to morality and virtue, rather than moments of triumph or physical exceptionalism. My work looks toward the actions of public figures who have demonstrated moments of heroism that fit this model, such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Simone Biles, as well popular characters in cinema like Black Panther and Iron Man. I then look towards the works of standpoint theorist and feminist philosophers, like Alison Jaggar or Elizabeth Anderson, to show that our conception of who becomes a hero is a reflection of one's own social location. Additionally, we must educate future generations in morality and ethics to further a more open and equitable group of heroes open to every social location.

## BRINGING BACK THE BASS

Henry Starosta

The striped bass fishery is more than just a multi-billion-dollar industry; bass are a crucial factor in our American coastal ecosystems that are, like many other species, being threatened by human expansion, pollution, and overfishing. This presentation seeks to contextualize this concern as an increasingly significant issue that could lead to lasting negative impacts across environmental and economic sectors.

Through the use of descriptive, expository, and persuasive writing that embodies the culmination of my education as a Writing and Rhetoric major, I hope to reflect and demonstrate my personal passions as a fisherman and a writer. Additionally, I hope to educate and influence others to understand the environmental significance of striped bass as a species through the implementation of rhetorical delivery.

“Atlantic Striped Bass.” *Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission*, 2022, <http://www.asmfc.org/species/atlantic-stripped-bass>.

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“Striped Bass.” *Chesapeake Bay Program*, 2022, [https://www.chesapeakebay.net/issues/stripped\\_bass#:~:text=In%20addition%20to%20overfishing%2C%20a.in%20prey%20abundance%20and%20disease](https://www.chesapeakebay.net/issues/stripped_bass#:~:text=In%20addition%20to%20overfishing%2C%20a.in%20prey%20abundance%20and%20disease).

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“Biennial Report to Congress on the Progress and Findings of Studies of Striped Bass Populations.” *NOAA Fisheries*, Gary Shepherd et al., 2019, <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/document/2019-stripped-bass-report-congress>.

## PROMOTING LANGUAGE DIVERSITY: PUTTING CULTURALLY RELEVANT TEACHING INTO PRACTICE

Lindsay Stelljes

The United States education system is at a critical point in which equity and inclusion are being emphasized as central to student success and the student-centered experience. The intersection of education and social change has been widely researched, as has the impact that literacy practices throughout history have had on student's development. However, despite the wealth of knowledge that scholarship provides, in many schools today, teachers are left questioning how to put that knowledge into practice in the classroom in a way that best supports their students.

My work examines the intersection of literacy, education, and social change as supported through culturally relevant teaching pedagogies and argues that this ideology should be at the forefront of district-wide missions in order to best facilitate student-centered learning and language diversity within education. I recognize a model in which multi-lingual education is encouraged and student's home cultures and practices are integrated within their everyday lives at school.

Utilizing narrative testimonies of culturally relevant teaching practices in K-12 school settings and research analysis within the field of language diversity and literacy, this mixed-genre piece explores how educators can actively value and appreciate all students and their lived experiences through the school-wide adoption of culturally relevant teaching pedagogies and investigates what that may look like in practice. Additionally, I argue that the adoption of such pedagogies will support language diversity and the relationship between students and challenge a system of education that actively oppresses their home discourses, languages, and experiences.

## RHETORIC OF POLITICAL ASYLUM

Maya Striuli

Rhetorical theories are applicable across disciplines. They draw in questions regarding space, delivery, and the construction of arguments; theory is critical and uncovers subliminal meaning about the implications of what we say and do, in addition to identifying how rhetoric has legitimate impacts and consequences.

From May 2020 to May 2021, I worked as a legal intern with Sumaiya Khalique, Khalique Law PLLC. There, I had the opportunity to work on numerous immigration cases – conducting research, interviews, and writing affidavits. Asylum became of particular interest to me, since it is a complex sector of immigration law that draws in questions regarding space and identity. For my presentation, I have chosen to apply rhetorical theory to several asylum cases. I draw from theories regarding rhetorical space, gender, identity, and power, as these cases involve major conflict, terrorism, corruption and social persecution based on gender and sexuality.

Through my presentation, I will navigate the complexities of law and ethics and bring awareness to the importance of asylum as a legal right of protection. I also aim to explore how theories can be applied to various situations and better help us understand political turmoil and social consequences.

## THE EVOLUTION OF SEX AND RELATIONSHIP ADVICE SINCE THE 70s

Nicki Swanson

Why is it so hard to talk about sex? Is it the intrusiveness or the vulnerability? Usually talked about behind closed doors, sex's public exposure may shock those who prefer to keep it in the bedroom. I am inspired by the Call Her Daddy (CHD) podcast because host Alex Cooper does not shy away from such topics.

In my project, I examine sex and relationship advice since the 1970s, focusing on three popular mediums: student newspaper articles from the 1990s, the TV series *Sex and the City*, and CHD. Placing these sources in a historical context, I undertake close readings and textual analysis of both the form and rhetoric of sex advice: How has the form and content of sex and relationship advice changed since the sexual revolution of the 1970s? How do these cultural artifacts make space for intimacy in the public sphere?

A college student myself, I am particularly interested in the messages about sex these artifacts disseminate to college age-women in America. My project makes a connection between traditional sex and relationship advice and contemporary versions, tracing the roots of today's popular podcasts to their 20th century counterparts.

## HIDDEN CHANGE: A MEMOIR

Harris Torossian

This is my life. I reveal a part of my life through rhetorical delivery in the first few pages of my memoir. With this presentation, I hope to bring light to the everlasting problem of struggling with mental health and overcoming the fear of change.

My memoir focuses on my life in high school, particularly eleventh grade, and the many struggles I dealt with due to anxiety. I additionally highlight the concept of change, as well. Change is paramount in growing, which ultimately shapes the person one is today. Through the reflections of change, I became a more refined person. After writing my memoir in my sophomore year of college, I felt it was perfect. However, in rereading/rewriting my piece for my honors project this year, I concluded that it was the opposite of perfect, but, this opened up a new vision, in that change is a sign of growth. I became a more prosperous and driven individual through understanding change and self-reflection over the past couple of years. I wish to emphasize the struggles I underwent in bringing light to this issue, suggesting to the audience that those who struggle are not alone and have what it takes to be great.



## INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY MEMBERS' VIEWS ABOUT WATER QUALITY IN LAKE ATITLÁN, GUATEMALA

Isabel Urquiza

Many studies have been done to address the issues of cyanobacteria blooms, but few studies have been done to explore native people's beliefs and attitudes regarding the contamination. Located on the banks of Lake Atitlán in the central highlands of Guatemala, Santa Cruz la Laguna is a small Maya community with a population of just 6,500 people. Lake Atitlán experiences semi-regular cyanobacterial blooms that negatively impact the lives of the people who live near its banks. People in this community rely on the lake for transportation because there is limited road access, for fishing to feed their families, and to attract tourists to generate income.

In this study, two small focus groups, comprised of people living near the lake, were used to qualitatively describe the community's thoughts on the lake's algal blooms: a group of men (N = 3, age range = 29 years to 45 years) and a group of women (N = 4, age range = 24 years to 55 years). Common themes among participants include the effect water contamination has on their daily lives, lack of communication with scientists and decision-makers, and the need to unite resources and the community to move forward. The men's group also discussed fault in others' (in)action, the responsibility of the government, and the inefficient local sewage treatment plant. The women's group mentioned the lack of action and education and the role of collective responsibility to improve the conditions of the lake.

The main takeaways of this research were that: (1) strong leadership is needed to take the initiative in providing transparent communication and fostering positive interactions between the people who live on its banks and institutions tasked with studying and remediating the problem; (2) community members are willing to do their part to help decrease pollution; and (3) education is the key to moving forward. This data will help in determining future research directions, such as educating others as well as collecting additional data with a larger sample, in order to help the Maya community combat pollution at Lake Atitlán, Guatemala.

## THE QUESTION OF RACIAL EQUALITY IN EDUCATION

Sofie Varner

In the past year, Geneva High School has experienced serious issues with racism, specifically with discriminatory language from staff and students. The incidents have been publicized in local newspapers, but any administrative steps taken to address those incidents were not. The Geneva community is aware of the issue but they did not receive any significant information regarding administrative response. I have always had a deep interest in public policy and social inequality, so the mystery behind the school's reaction sparked my curiosity.

During the spring 2022 semester, in search of an answer, I conducted investigative journalism into Geneva High School's response towards racism as well as the school's potential trajectory for racial equality. After interviews with the school's administration, staff, and students, I developed a journalistic piece that details the different perspectives and political actions of various parties. My investigative journalism project concludes with a description of potential policies on race that might improve racial equality within the school environment if the administration implemented them.

In the course of the presentation, I hope to draw attention to persistent racial issues in our local public education system. I also wish to inform the community on the measures the school has taken thus far to combat racial discrimination. But more importantly, I wish to inform the community about the additional, more productive actions that the school may take and the audience's role in creating a more equal racial reality in the Geneva education system.

## BLACK RHETORIC AND RACIALIZED TECHNOLOGY

Nassir Whitley

Most American's belief in the inviolability of free speech ignores the fact that the practice does not equitably extend to Black Americans. While today's virtual strata continue to replicate racism and other social ailments in the material world that limit free speech and contribute to oppression, technological spaces also allow for racial discourse that would otherwise be suppressed or silenced. Black revolutionary rhetoric in the digital sphere broadens rhetorical spaces and the agency of oppressed groups, and Black Americans may perform revolutionary/liberatory rhetoric for various reasons, often including power and identity.

For my presentation, I apply rhetorical theory to Black revolutionary speech in the virtual sphere to investigate subliminal meaning about the applications of oratory and bodily rhetoric as responses to systematic structures/institutions of racism and experience based on race. I will conduct a rhetorical analysis of one specific rhetorical artifact performed by The New Black Panther Party for Self-Defense protesting the Fourth of July holiday, drawing from feminist theories regarding rhetorical space, identity, and power in my analysis.

Challenging racism within the digital sphere, Black revolutionary rhetoric needs to be more widely investigated to not only understand the current condition of Blackness in America, but also to highlight the importance of technology when challenging hegemonic systems. With this presentation, I hope to bring awareness to the racialized political and social climates within technological spaces and emphasize the rhetorical exigences that Black revolutionary rhetoric responds to, highlighting the ways in which racism transcends technological borders.

## METAMORPHOSIS: BREAKING THROUGH THE CHRYSALIS OF MENTAL HEALTH STIGMA

Ashleigh Wilson

Mental health and mental illness are serious matters that affect everyone in one way or another and yet, there is still a severe stigma surrounding these matters in society. Due to this stigma, those who struggle with their mental health or with mental illness are made to feel ashamed and as though they have to suffer in silence. The stigma attached to mental health and mental illness has detrimental consequences and has already taken far too many lives. We need to have open conversations about mental health and mental illness.

“Metamorphosis” is a literary journalism piece I wrote that combines elements of narrative storytelling with factual reporting to capture my experiences with anxiety when entering kindergarten and college and demonstrate how my story maps onto the larger discourse about mental health and mental illness. The writing process behind this piece not only required me to be vulnerable and recall difficult moments from my life but also to uphold ethical principles of journalism by making sure the memories I describe are portrayed accurately and by conducting research on Generalized Anxiety Disorder.

Through sharing this piece, I hope to help erase the stigma surrounding mental health and mental illness by showing others that they are not alone and can talk about their struggles without feeling ashamed.

