

WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY



**FALL 2023
HONORS
RESEARCH
DAY**

Monday, December 4



SCHEDULE

Afternoon Senior Presentations—UC 168 A/B

Time	Name	Honors Track
1:30	Sara De La Cruz Jimenez	Humanities
1:45	Sorang Jung	Humanities
2:00	Julia Sklow	Humanities
2:15	30 minute break	
2:45	Jason Braun	Performing & Literary Arts
3:00	Anna Sancilio	Clinical Psychology & Neuropsychology
3:15	Rinesa Gerbeshi	Social Sciences
5:00—6:00	<i>Poster Presentations by First Year Honors Students — UC Ballrooms</i>	

Evening Senior Presentations— UC 168 A/B

Time	Name	Honors Track
6:00	Brianna Wynne	Biology
6:15	Matthew Mousseau	Music
6:30	Hawon Park	Music
6:45	Nicole Pike	Music
7:00	Crystal Yoon	Music

— HONORS COLLEGE TRACK DIRECTORS —

WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY HONORS COLLEGE

Barbara Andrew
Dean

Amy Learmonth
Honors College Fellow

Jan Pinkston
Associate Director

Nicole Joachim
Graduate Assistant

Jessica Momanyi and Helen Yousaf
Student Interns

**Madison Knueppel, Isabel Mujia, Anna Segelken,
Owen Walter, and Helen Yousaf**
Honors Peer Leaders

Dr. Barbara Andrew
Independent

Dr. Bruce Diamond
Clinical Psychology
and Neuropsychology

Dr. Lauren Fowler-Calisto
Music

Dr. Amy Learmonth
Cognitive Science

Dr. John Malindretos
Business

Dr. Jill Nocella
Nursing

Dr. K. Molly O'Donnell
Humanities

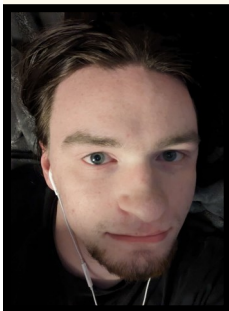
Dr. Joseph Spagna
Biology

Dr. Marianne Sullivan
Global Public Health

Dr. Danielle Wallace
Social Sciences

Dr. Martha Witt
Performing and Literary Arts

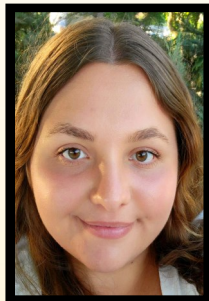
SENIOR PRESENTERS *(listed in alphabetical order)*



JASON BRAUN

Honors Track: Performing & Literary Arts
Major: Music (Popular Music)
Thesis Title: *Dreaming*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Martha Witt and Dr. Timothy Newman

This Honors project is a concept album. Originally composed using guitar and recorded on an iPhone, the current project is a reworking of this material, with a full band arrangement and recorded with high-quality equipment. This creates a product that is more passable as a professional recording that can be streamed and sold on the market. The music is based on the final song, which was expanded and developed into 6 tracks over an approximate 43 minute album. Each track utilizes recurring themes both melodically, harmonically, and lyrically; which ties the whole work to the theme of heartbreak and dreams. The thesis details the process of writing the music, the inspiration for the music and themes expressed in the album, and the experience of forming the band, and arranging and recording the music.



RINESA GERBESHI

Honors Track: Social Sciences
Majors: Legal Studies and History
Minors: Political Science and Philosophy
Thesis Title: *"Our only thought was survival": Kosovars' War Experiences (1998-1999)*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Danielle Wallace and Dr. Neil Kressel

Albanians of Kosovo will never forget the genocide committed against them during the war in 1998-1999. The purpose of this study is to investigate the wartime experiences of Kosovars and if location shaped their experiences. The participants in this study were 26 Albanian Kosovars (10 males and 16 females) between 33-81 years of age. Participants were interviewed in person in Kosovo and asked questions about their experiences. A narrative inquiry and content analysis revealed that location shaped their experiences. Several themes emerge: displacement, destruction, separation, lack of education, fear, sacrifice, aid to refugees, victim of torture, etc. The findings expose the experiences of genocide survivors and the frozen conflict between Serbia and Kosovo. This research highlights the historical and ongoing instability in the Western Balkan region between Kosovar Albanians and Serbia. Tension will remain until Serbia relinquishes its claim on Kosovo and acknowledges Kosovo's independence, however greater awareness and activism can prevent a potential conflict.



SARA DE LA CRUZ JIMENEZ

Honors Track: Humanities
Majors: Secondary Education and English Literature
Thesis Title: *A Sick Confession: Pass the Tissues*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. K. Molly O'Donnell

I am producing a collection of poems that illustrates my experiences as a disabled college student navigating a pandemic. The collection will focus on four reoccurring themes: life as a disabled person on a college campus, how being disabled has impacted my relationships (platonic, familial, etc.), the trauma, and the joy that is still present in my life. In writing the collection, I draw inspiration from poets like Sylvia Plath and Anne Sexton as well as disabled activists Imani Barbarin and Alice Wong. My goal is to give some insight as to how young disabled people are in a particularly exhausting position with how much value is placed on being young and how that's been "tainted" by being disabled in the eyes of many. However, my one hope is that my words resonate with my disabled peers and provide them with the language to discuss their own experiences.



SORANG JUNG

Honors Track: Humanities
Major: Health Studies
Minor: Spanish
Thesis Title: *Remembering Al-Andalus: Dietetics and Medicine in Muslim Spain*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. K. Molly O'Donnell

Muslim Spain has for centuries been the subject of awe and fear since the Muslims ruled Europe for 800 years. Culturally, there are a lot of misunderstandings when it comes to this period in history. However, many tend to glaze over the fact that it was a time of linguistic, cultural, religious, and even culinary interactions between many faiths and cultures and the development of science and medicine as we know them today. My thesis observes how dietetics and medicine were developing in Spain under Muslim rule and the society that helped create and foster the environment that allowed for this cultural and scientific development to flourish.



MATTHEW MOUSSEAU

Honors Track: Music

Majors: Music (Jazz) and Secondary Education

Title: *The Compositional Genius of Cole Porter*

Thesis Advisors: Dr. Lauren Fowler-Calisto and Dr. Timothy Newman

The purpose of this project is to study the music of Cole Porter. A performance-based project, I will be making arrangements of many of Cole Porter's greatest hits for 2-8 trombones. The goal of this project is to explore compositional strategies used by Porter and to be able to recognize compositional patterns as well. I will conduct this research by examining compositional techniques used by Cole Porter myself, by looking at dissertations, and by conducting an interview with Professor Bill Charlap regarding Porter's music and influence. This research is important because Cole Porter is one of the most influential composers in all of jazz and popular song.

Keywords: Cole Porter, trombone arrangements, jazz standard, jazz composition, digital audio workspace, song, melody, lyrics

This project seeks to explore the different, but essential elements contributing to the global triumph of K-pop. Such elements encompass the introduction of earlier Korean culture, governmental involvement, the incorporation of new media platforms enabling international access, and diverse marketing tactics employed by major artist agencies such as SME and HYBE. These factors demonstrate that K-pop's worldwide success was not a result of chance but rather stemmed from an examination of change in the music industry and society.

Keywords: K-pop, Korean culture, new media, marketing, popular music, music industry, global success



NICOLE PIKE

Honors Track: Music

Majors: Music (Instrumental) and Secondary Education

Thesis Title: *The Importance of Music in Women's Artistic Gymnastics*

Thesis Advisors: Dr. Lauren Fowler-Calisto and Dr. Carol Frierson-Campbell

Music and movement work together to compliment one another. In Women's Artistic Gymnastics, each gymnast performs an original floor routine and is judged on difficulty and execution. Music selection and routine composition catered to the individual's skill set is crucial for creating an artistic performance. The two elite level routines from the 2021 Tokyo Olympics analyzed in this paper show the difference between an artistic routine, both choreographically and musically, and a technical, low artistry routine. The artistic quality of the music is determined by a set of criteria from several researchers including form, craft in orchestration/texture, consistency in style and quality, and emotional impact. The choreography and composition of the routine works with the music and should include dynamic dance elements. When these elements line up with the music it creates an artistic performance. In addition to analyzing elite level routines, I have taken Samuel R. Hazo's six minute composition, "Arabesque," and arranged it to be a minute and thirty seconds for use on the floor exercise using the criteria listed before. This arrangement includes the different themes and melodies composed by Hazo to be able to choreograph a dynamic floor routine.



HAWON PARK

Honors Track: Music

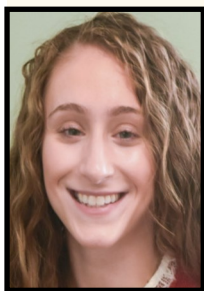
Major: Music (Popular Music)

Thesis Title: *The Rise Of The K-Pop: Essential Elements That Led To Its Success*

Thesis Advisors: Dr. Lauren Fowler-Calisto and Dr. Carol Frierson-Campbell

In the 1990s, Korean culture, including early versions of K-pop and films, started gaining recognition in several countries. However, this recognition was mostly limited to nearby Asian nations such as China and Japan. In the 2000s, K-dramas became more popular than K-pop, with Korean movies and dramas finding a fanbase in neighboring Asian countries. From the late 2000s to the early 2010s, K-pop gained prominence in Korea and other Asian nations due to the emergence of new media platforms. Meanwhile, entertainment agencies devised marketing strategies that effectively utilized new media platforms to promote K-pop on a worldwide scale. The global breakthrough for K-pop occurred with the success of PSY's hit song "Gangnam Style." This, along with the success of other cultural forms, thrust K-pop into the international spotlight. The pinnacle of K-pop's success was marked by the rise of BTS and Blackpink, who not only made a significant impact in the American music industry but also gained widespread recognition in various countries around the world.

(Continued next column)

**ANNA SANCILIO**

Honors Track: Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology

Major: Psychology

Minor: Sociology

Thesis Title: *The Effectiveness of Biofeedback within Autism Spectrum Disorder*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Bruce Diamond

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is one of the most universally recognized mental health disorders today. It is extremely common and 1 in every 100 children are diagnosed with ASD. While there is no cure for autism, there are a series of therapies that can be used to treat autism symptoms. Many turn to pharmaceuticals, traditional therapy, or recreational activities to aid in symptom management. These may be beneficial, but if misused or unstructured, they can perhaps do more harm than good. Recently, neurofeedback, a form of biofeedback, has been on the rise as a potential therapy that can help ASD patients handle their long-term symptoms. Through the review of literature and EEG analysis, this thesis will examine the efficacy of biofeedback (neurofeedback) and its potential to become a treatment for ASD.

**JULIA SKLOW**

Honors Track: Humanities

Majors: English and Secondary Education

Thesis Title: *Something Wicked This Way Comes: The Rise and Fall of Harry Potter*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. K. Molly O'Donnell

Fans of *Harry Potter* have made the series their own through social media, fan fiction and other creative outlets. Controversy also surrounded the series as it grew to enormous popularity; Christian opponents objected to its paganism and detractors objected to themes of challenging authority. Yet, these books sparked imagination and brought devotees together to explore the power of integrity, love, identity, and belonging as a magical coming-of-age story. Despite the series' beloved reputation, author J.K. Rowling has broken its spell of warmth and comfort through offensive public comments. Her opposition to transgender rights has left many disheartened and even ready to condemn *Harry Potter* to their own library's Restricted Sections. My research discusses the crumbling status of the series among its former fans and how the phoenix-like nature of this series might rise again from ignominy or fall to ash.

**BRIANNA WYNNE**

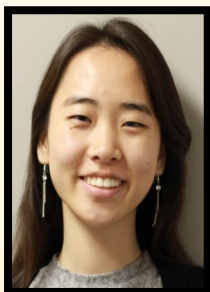
Honors Track: Biology

Major: Biology

Thesis Title: *Examination of *Marinobacter-adhaerens* and *Alteromonas mediterranea* Mrp Antiporter Complex Functionality*

Thesis Advisors: Dr. Joseph Spagna and Dr. Carey Waldburger

The organism attributed to causing the "Red Tide" in the Gulf of Mexico known as *Karenia brevis*, has been co-cultured in the laboratory with closely related bacteria *Marinobacter-adhaerens* and *Alteromonas mediterranea* with similar pH and salinity sensitivity profiles. *M. adhaerens* contains an Mrp antiporter complex, which has been shown to transport a proton across the membrane in one direction for every sodium ion it transports in the other direction. The proton gradient generated through aerobic respiration enhances survival by pumping sodium ions out in high salt conditions and using a sodium gradient to pump protons in when in high pH conditions. The *mrp* genes are not present in genome assemblies of *A. mediterranea*. The goal of my research is to determine if the introduction of the *mrp* genes into *A. mediterranea* will enhance its salt tolerance and alkaline growth range. I constructed a plasmid by PCR amplification of the entire *mrp* operon from *M. adhaerens* and then through the Gibson assembly, I cloned the operon into a plasmid vector. The recombinant plasmid was then conjugated with *A. mediterranea* and will be analyzed through various assays to test the salinity and pH profile.



CRYSTAL YOON

Honors Track: Music

Majors: Music (Instrumental)
and Secondary Education

Thesis Title: *Music-Based Video Games
In The Music Classroom*

Thesis Advisors: Dr. Lauren Fowler-Calisto
and Dr. Payton MacDonald

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the influence of music-based video games in a music classroom setting, as well as studying the direct impact these video-games have on rhythmic ability. With the rise of technology and dependency of entertainment in this form, the modern gamification of teaching segments and lessons is a fast-rising subject, presenting new learning opportunities for teachers and students alike. There are a number of benefits when including video-games as a basis for music lessons, ranging from increased engagement, enjoyment, and participation, to the immersive environment video games provide. Virtual Reality (VR) is a moving force in the entertainment and technology industry. Dimensions of telepresence such as the three-dimensional display, the surround sound environment, and many more, give users a heightened sense of immersion. Technology is also heavily mandated by many school districts. It would be in the learners' and educators' best interests to familiarize themselves with the latest and most modern forms of technology there is. Using this knowledge and the findings from this study, readers will be able to utilize music-based video games in a music classroom setting. Outcomes and effects of music-based video games in a classroom setting will be studied and researched in respect to the effectiveness of engagement, and influence on rhythmic ability. While providing a distinctive yet exciting experience for the students, music-based video games incorporated correctly into the classroom will engage immerse students in the field of music.



About the Honors College at William Paterson...

In the University Honors College, academically motivated students explore new ideas and engage in intellectual and

creative collaborations with outstanding professors in a community that brings together students' academic, residential, social, and cultural experiences. The Honors College offers a rigorous curriculum with a challenging array of courses, seminars, and co-curricular activities, along with faculty and staff mentors who offer support throughout a student's college career.

UNIVERSITY HONORS COLLEGE

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Save the Date!

Spring 2024 Honors Research Week

April 15—19, 2024

**Showcasing the work of over
100 Honors College Seniors!**

The full schedule and the details will be available in the spring.

**Presentations by First Year Students Enrolled
in Honors 1000 Research Seminars
5:00 p.m. — 6:00 p.m.
University Commons Ballrooms**

5:00 — Welcome - Dr. Barbara Andrew, Honors College Dean

5:05 - 6:00 - Presentations by first-year Honors students

About the Honors Research Seminars

HON 1000-001—*Marine Fossils from the WP Campus Region*

Well-preserved Devonian marine fossils (~ 400 Mya) occur scattered throughout wooded areas around the William Paterson (WP) backyard. These fossils were transported in boulders from the Hudson Valley region of New York State during our last glacial episode. The lithology of the fossiliferous boulders is distinct from our local volcanic basalt and consists of sandy limestone. The WP backyard fossil assemblage is significant and archives the complexities of sea-level and climate change as well as evolution of marine organisms. This assemblage also offers a straightforward body of evidence by which humans can appreciate timing associated with geologic processes and our impact on climate change. Our evidence does not occur in some remote location on earth but surrounds the WP backyard.

HON 1000-002— *The Impacts of Social Identity and Bias on Self and Society*

Students examined various, overlapping, structural social inequities and the impacts of bias. They participated in a guided research experience that connected theory to research. Each student chose a topic that connects how structural inequalities have been built and maintained, the impacts of these inequalities, and tactics to rectify disparities with a particular focus on bias.

HON 1000-003— *Justice, Equity, and Joy in Public Education*

The seminar's core research question orbits around how can the themes of justice, equity, and joy in PK-13 settings be integrated into the PK-13 educational experience. This theme will be showcased in students' research presentations as they consider what factors and systems influence pedagogy, and how justice, equity, and joy can be actualized and championed in PK-13 settings. Research methodologies will include surveys, interviews, content analysis, and ethnographies.

HON 1000-004— *Immigration in Film*

Students are examining various issues related to immigration. Topics include identity, integration and acculturation, children of immigrants, healthcare, and immigrants' influence on American music. Some students are exploring other topics including animals and conservation and the education system.

HON 1000-005— *Writing for Wellness*

Informed by James Pennebaker's groundbreaking work on the health benefits of expressive writing, students respond to specific prompts as they chart their own writing journeys. Students end the semester with a greater appreciation for narrative's possibilities and the role that artistic expression can play in their own and others' development.

HON 1000-001— Marine Fossils from the WP Campus Region

Dr. Martin Becker, Professor, Department of Environmental Science

Maher Alidina	Tyler Canica	Liz Gonzalez	Jameson Snyder
Michael Aviles	Mattison Chiera	Menna Hafiz	Rory Stansfield
Heather Boronow	Zoe Cyran	Ashley Marquez	Sofia Zablackis
Kimberly Botta	Aaliyah Douglas	Christian Parr	
Caleb Braswell	Isabela Gonzalez	Joy Shand	

HON 1000-002— The Impacts of Social Identity and Bias on Self and Society

Dr. Elizabeth Harkins, Assistant Professor, Department of Special Education, Professional Counseling, and Disability Studies; Mr. Tony Joachim, Instructional Design Librarian, David and Lorraine Cheng Library

Alexa Amayo	Sereniti Catoe	Patrick Ducut	Tyler Parisi
Perla Aragon	Hannah Cheng	Jaelyne Francisco	Brian Rivera
Ava Barbato	Francisco Clara	Maria Funicello	Tamia Sangalang
Aneika Binns	Ne'asia Davis	Angela Grace George	Kenneth Telebrico
Kelly Cammarata	Julianna Demetrious	Gianna Masaoy	
Danielle Cariaga	Beckett Diehl	Imelda Omoyi	

HON 1000-003 — Justice, Equity, and Joy in Public Education

Mr. Neil Grimes, Education and Curriculum Materials Librarian; Dr. Darlene Russell, Professor, Department of Educational Leadership and Professional Studies

Ariana S. Collazo	Anthony B. Gualano	Shyla Murray	Maximilian R. Russell
Anuoluwa David	Taylor M. Hartung	Daniel F. Pantoliano	Colin R. Ryan
Kristian L. Glenn	Katelyn R. Koptyra	Katarzyna N. Petelski	Kasai I. Sanchez
Solenni V. Gonzalez	Breyan B. Mathews	Hannah C. Posser	Saarthak Uppal
Laura L. Gruener	Leah R. Molnar	Camryn A. Rayfield	Natalie R. Zabloudil

HON 1000-004— Immigration in Film

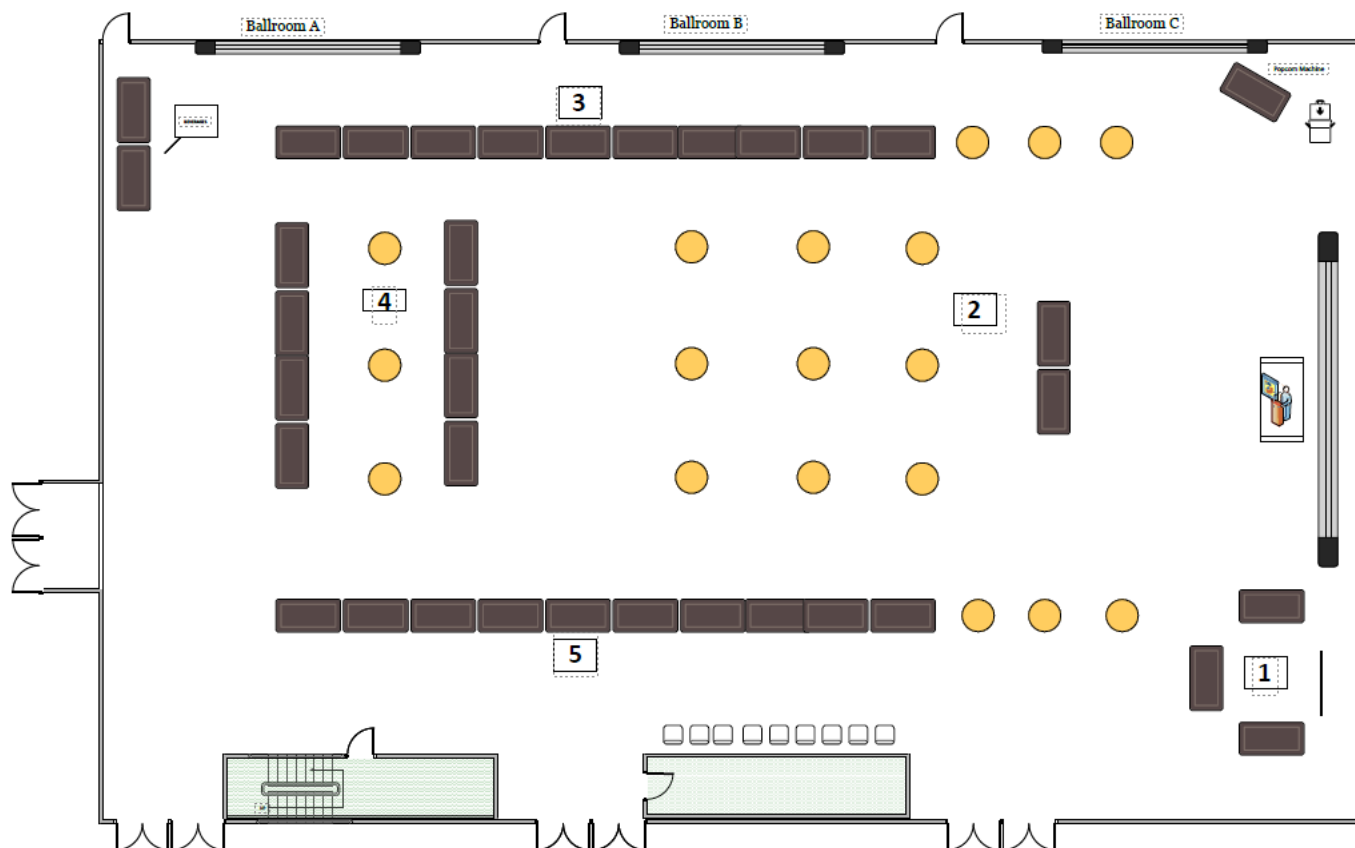
Dr. Keumjae Park, Professor, Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice

Seth T. Burke	Nicole T. Garcia	Jamesetta H. Jallah	Gaelis Ogando-Jose
Maximo S. Calle	Marielle Joyce H. Gelaver	Annabelle R. Luraschi	Fathiat O. Rilwan
Dylan N. Dacunha	Eliana M. Gibson	Leanna R. Mentone	Ashtin P. Sanchez
Divine Dickson-Uwakwe	Stefanie Gutierrez	Cecilia G. Miller	
Sydney C. Ekwe	Abby M. Houpt	Jaden R. Moreno	

HON 1000-005— Writing for Wellness

Dr. Martha Witt, Professor, Department of Language, Literature, Culture, and Writing

Rebecca L. Arnold	William C. Milne	Jared Rivera Alcivar	Shelsea Tavarez
Arieta Goca	Violet M. Mujica	Julian Rogai	Shrutigya Uprety
Abraham Kim	Isabella R. Paladino	Katherine L. Schuster	Samuel Wagner
Nicholas P. Mikhail	Konnan Perez Roquel	David Stibich	Sarah Weissberg

Honors 1000 Seminar Presentations**5:00—6:00 p.m.****University Commons Ballrooms**

- 1—*Marine Fossils from the WP Campus Region*
- 2—*Writing for Wellness*
- 3—*The Impacts of Social Identity and Bias on Self and Society*
- 4—*Immigration in Film*
- 5—*Justice, Equity, and Joy in Public Education*