

WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY



HONORS RESEARCH WEEK 2020

in conjunction with

EXPLORATIONS 2020

Research, Scholarship, and Creative Expression

ABOUT HONORS WEEK AND EXPLORATIONS

Each spring, the Honors College showcases the work of students who are completing one of the Honors College tracks, and recognizes the faculty and staff members who have contributed to their success. Congratulations to all of the outstanding individuals who are participating in Honors Week/Explorations 2020! For more information please visit: <http://www.wpunj.edu/osp/explorations/>.

WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY

Richard Helldobler
University President

Joshua Powers
Provost and Senior Vice President
for Academic Affairs

HONORS COLLEGE

Barbara Andrew
Dean

Jan Pinkston
Assistant Director

N. West Moss
Academic Programs Specialist

Lily Fritsch
Graduate Assistant

Samantha Koprowski
Student Assistant

Julianna McVeigh
Student Assistant

— HONORS TRACK DIRECTORS —

Dr. Barbara Andrew
Independent

Dr. Amy Learmonth
Cognitive Science

Dr. Chen-Ho (Mike) Chao
Business

Dr. Jill Nocella
Nursing

Dr. Philip Cioffari
Performing and Literary Arts

Dr. K. Molly O'Donnell
Humanities

Dr. Bruce Diamond
Clinical Psychology
and Neuropsychology

Dr. Joseph Spagna
Biology

Dr. Lauren Fowler-Calisto
Music

Dr. Marianne Sullivan
Global Public Health

Dr. Neil Kressel
Social Sciences



ALAN ABBOUD

Honors Track: Biology
Major: Biology
Thesis Title: *Characterization of New Blue-Light Photoreceptors in the Dinoflagellate Karenia Brevis*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Emily A. Monroe and Dr. Joseph Spagna



**OLIVER ANDRES
 ALVARADO RODRIGUEZ**

Honors Track: Independent
Major: Computer Science
Thesis Title: *A Study of Security Issues and Measures in Fog and Edge Computing*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Weihua Liu, Dr. Kiho Lim, and Dr. Barbara Andrew



SAUL ABREU

Honors Track: Biology
Major: Biology
Thesis Title: *Neuroprotective Effects of KCNQ Potassium Channels after Traumatic Brain Injury with Acute and Chronic Alcohol Use*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Sonya M. Bierbower and Dr. Joseph Spagna



DIANA BAE

Honors Track: Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology
Major: Psychology
Thesis Title: *It's All in the Risk: The Effect of Creativity on Risk-Taking*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Randi Ona and Dr. Bruce Diamond



KATRINA CAMILLE C. ADAP

Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Thesis Title: *Exploring Undergraduate Nursing Students' Knowledge and Attitudes toward Providing Care to the Older Adult Population*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Jill Nocella



ALRIZ BENZON

Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Thesis Title: *An Analysis of Caffeine Consumption, Perceived Stress, and Sleep Quality Amongst Undergraduate Nursing Students*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Jill Nocella



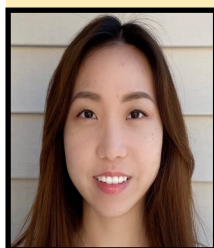
HEIDI AHMED

Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts
Majors: English (Writing) and Political Science
Thesis Title: *Framework: A Collection of Poems*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Philip Cioffari



NASIM BIBI

Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Thesis Title: *Male Nurses' Lived Experiences with Perceived Prejudice & Social Stigma in the Profession: Implications for Recruitment & Retention*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Jill Nocella



SOOMIN AHN

Honors Track: Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology
Major: Public Health
Thesis Title: *Effects of mindfulness based on personality profile among college students*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Bruce Diamond



HASAN BICI

Honors Track: Business
Major: Accounting
Thesis Title: *Preparation for Block chain in Business*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Sia Nassiripour and Dr. Mike Chao



SHAZNA ALI

Honors Track: Cognitive Science
Major: Psychology
Thesis Title: *Cultural Definitions of Mental Health and Depression: Are They Help-Seeking?*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Amy Learmonth



MARK BODNAR II

Honors Track: Biology
Major: Biology
Thesis Title: *Stress Induced Alcohol Preference Following Deletion of CB2 Cannabinoid Receptors in Microglia and Dopamine Neurons*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Emmanuel Onaivi and Dr. Joseph Spagna



ZACHARY BOUNASSI

Honors Track: Humanities
Major: Criminology & Criminal Justice
Thesis Title: *To Create Freedom for Itself the Lion is Needed: Nietzsche's Rejection of German Idealism*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. K. Molly O'Donnell



GRACE KAWASE BURNS

Honors Track: Cognitive Science
Major: Psychology
Thesis Title: *Does Serving Others Decrease Depression?*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Amy Learmonth



CORINNE BOWE

Honors Track: Cognitive Science
Major: Athletic Training
Thesis Title: *Analysis of Athletic Personalities and Competitiveness*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Amy Learmonth



VANESSA LOUISE B. CAJES

Honors Track: Social Sciences
Major: Sociology (Work & Community Engagement)
Thesis Title: *Ethnic Identification and Assimilation Among 2nd Generation Filipino American College Students*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Neil Kressel



KRISTEN BOWE

Honors Track: Humanities
Major: Exercise Science
Thesis Title: *My Evil Twin: Doppelgangers in Horror Films*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. K. Molly O'Donnell



BRIDGET A. CHARLTON

Honors Track: Cognitive Science
Major: Communication Disorders & Sciences
Thesis Title: *Radio Rhythms: Do Prosodic Changes in DJ Talk Breaks Affect Listening Comprehension?*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Amy Learmonth



KAYLA BOWLING

Honors Track: Social Sciences
Major: Psychology
Thesis Title: *Assessment of Generation Z Attitudes Toward Marriage and Family Life*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Neil Kressel



ELIJAH COOK

Honors Track: Independent
Major: Chemistry
Thesis Title: *Gold Nanoparticles with Mercaptan Drugs*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Bhanu P. S. Chauhan and Dr. Barbara Andrew



ANNA BOYTON

Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Thesis Title: *The Relationship between Anxiety and Exercise in Nursing Students*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Jill Nocella



EUNICE CRISOSTOMO

Honors Track: Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology
Major: Psychology
Thesis Title: *Self Reported Language Proficiencies of Introverted and Extraverted Students*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Bruce Diamond



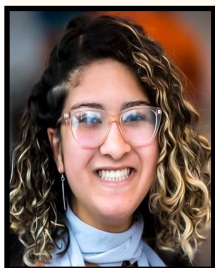
KADESHA BRYAN

Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Thesis Title: *African American Maternal Mortality*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Jill Nocella



DEV DAVE

Honors Track: Independent
Major: Computer Science
Thesis Title: *Machine Learning Techniques for Software Performance Prediction*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Bogong Su and Dr. Barbara Andrew



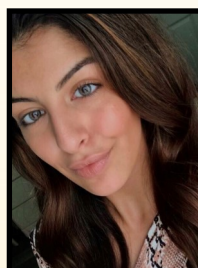
JOELA S. DIAZ

Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts

Major: English (Writing)

Thesis Title: *"Without Hope, What is Left?": A Discussion About Suicide*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Philip Cioffari



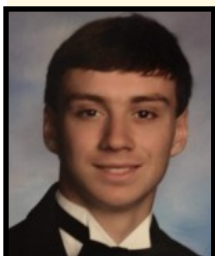
NADIA GANI

Honors Track: Nursing

Majors: Nursing

Thesis Title: *Mental Health Stigmas and Help-Seeking Behaviors in Nursing & Non-Nursing Majors: A Quantitative Study*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Jill Nocella



STEVEN M. DIGIROLAMO

Honors Track: Business

Major: Finance

Thesis Title: *Paterson's Option to Incubate: Business Incubating Analysis and Economic Sustainability*

Thesis Advisors: Dr. Ge Zhang and Dr. Mike (Chen-Ho) Chao



MALVINA GIANNOULIS

Honors Track: Business

Majors: Management

Thesis Title: *Vegan Diet Change: An Analysis of Consumer Behavior*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Mike (Chen-Ho) Chao



KRISTEN DITUCCI

Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts

Majors: Elementary Education (Teacher of Students with Disabilities) and English (Writing)

Thesis Title: *A Collection of Poems*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Philip Cioffari



NICOLE GOITIANDIA

Honors Track: Cognitive Science

Majors: Psychology, Sociology, and Disability Studies

Thesis Title: *The Effects of Dietary Intake on Gut Microbiome and Depression*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Amy Learmonth



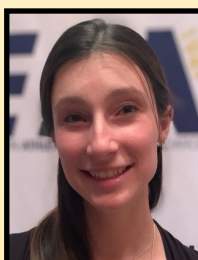
TAYLOR DOUGLAS

Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts

Majors: English (Writing)

Thesis Title: *Silent Spring*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Philip Cioffari



GILLIAN GRAHAME

Honors Track: Cognitive Science

Major: Athletic Training

Thesis Title: *Examination of Social Anxiety in Athletics*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Amy Learmonth



MFON ESSIET

Honors Track: Humanities

Majors: Communication Disorders & Sciences and Africana World Studies

Thesis Title: *Perception and Reality: An Exploration of Black Double Consciousness in Contemporary U.S. Society*

Thesis Advisors: Dr. Ian Marshall and Dr. K. Molly O'Donnell



TYLER GREENGARD

Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts

Major: Music (Jazz Performance)

Thesis Title: *Quartet*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Philip Cioffari



KIRSTEN CLAIRE FERNANDEZ

Honors Track: Cognitive Science

Major: Psychology

Thesis Title: *Monolingual and Bilingual College Students in Stroop Task*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Amy Learmonth



EMMA GRITSCH

Honors Track: Social Sciences

Major: Psychology

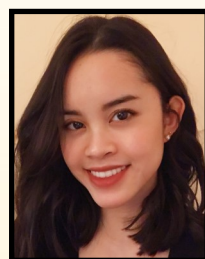
Thesis Title: *The continuing impact of racism on the health of Black mothers and babies*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Neil Kressel



KIARA GUERRA

Honors Track: Cognitive Science
Major: Communication Disorders & Sciences
Thesis Title: *The Effect Accent Perception Has on Employability*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. David Freestone and Dr. Amy Learmonth



MA VERONICA HOLGANZA

Honors Track: Biology
Major: Biology (Pre-Med)
Thesis Title: *Plasma Exposure Impacts ROS Generation and Gene Expression in Regenerate of Xenopus Laevis Tadpoles*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Jaishri Menon and Dr. Joseph Spagna



ZACHARY GUIDA

Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts
Majors: Communication (Theater & Comedy) and English (Writing)
Thesis Title: *The Two Sides of Theater: Comedy and Tragedy*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Philip Cioffari



SEONGHO (TERRY) JEONG

Honors Track: Music
Major: Music (Popular Music)
Thesis Title: *Social Media's Influence on the Relationship of an Artist, Fan, and Music Label*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Christopher Herbert and Dr. Lauren Fowler-Calisto



HANNACY GURBISZ

Honors Track: Cognitive Science
Majors: Elementary & Middle School Education and Integrated Math & Science (Environmental Science)
Thesis Title: *Growing Mindsets and Persistence: Exploring the Relationship between Mindset and Persistence in College Students*



ABIGAIL JONES

Honors Track: Humanities
Majors: Japanese Language and History
Thesis Title: *Kawaii! The Cute Monster Rears its Many Heads*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. K. Molly O'Donnell



VICTORIA HANKS

Honors Track: Cognitive Science
Majors: Communication Disorders & Sciences and Psychology
Thesis Title: *Body Image in Connection with Relationship and Sexual Satisfaction in College Students*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. David Freestone and Dr. Amy Learmonth



CAYLEIGH KEENAN

Honors Track: Cognitive Science
Majors: Elementary Education K-6 (5-8 Endorsement) and Mathematics
Thesis Title: *Does Private Or Public School Promote Higher Student Achievement?*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Amy Learmonth



ABRYANNA HERNANDEZ

Honors Track: Cognitive Science
Majors: Education (K-12) with Teacher of Students with Disabilities and Mathematics
Thesis Title: *Math Anxiety, Procrastination, and Mindset in Relation to Math Performance*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. David Freestone and Dr. Amy Learmonth



ROXANNE KLOSS

Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Thesis Title: *"The Unaffected": Experiences of College Students with a Neuro-Atypical Sibling*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Jill Nocella



RYAN HERNANDEZ

Honors Track: Music
Major: Music (Jazz Performance)
Thesis Title: *The Influence of Charlie Parker on Jack Kerouac and Allan Ginsberg: The Effects of Interdisciplinary Research on the Personal Growth of an Artist*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Lauren Fowler-Calisto



SAMANTHA KOPROWSKI

Honors Track: Social Sciences
Majors: Political Science and Philosophy
Thesis Title: *The Impact of Gender Quotas on Women's Descriptive and Substantive Representation in the G7 Nations*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Stephen Shalom and Dr. Neil Kressel



CHRISTA LATORRE

Honors Track: Humanities
Major: History
Thesis Title: *From “Glee” to “Euphoria”:
 Adolescent Representation on Television*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. K. Molly O’Donnell



KATHERINE MARTINEZ

Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts
Majors: Elementary & Early Childhood
 Education (ESL Bilingual) and Spanish
Thesis Title: *Life Lessons from Around
 the World*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Philip Cioffari



ASHLEY LAWLER

Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Thesis Title: *Concussion and Recovery
 Time: A Qualitative Study*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Jill Nocella



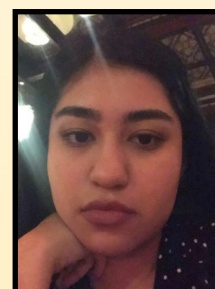
**JOSEPH ALOYSIUS
 MCCAFFREY II**

Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts
Major: Music (Jazz Studies and
 Performance-Drums)
Thesis Title: *Conversations in Jazz*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Philip Cioffari



CORINNE LENZINGER

Honors Track: Clinical Psychology and
 Neuropsychology
Major: Psychology
Thesis Title: *Sensation Seeking and Other
 Measures: Comparing College Athletes and Non
 Athletes*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Randi Ona
 and Dr. Bruce Diamond



ASHLEY MERCHANT

Honors Track: Independent
Major: Political Science
Thesis Title: *Violence and Security
 in Mexico*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Richard Huizar
 and Dr. Barbara Andrew



BENJAMIN LIEGNER

Honors Track: Social Sciences
Major: Psychology
Thesis Title: *Perceived Authenticity*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. SoYon Rim
 and Dr. Neil Kressel



ELIKA Z. MOALLEM

Honors Track: Biology
Major: Biology
Thesis Title: *Investigating Therapeutic
 Targets and the Cellular Processes
 in Traumatic Brain Injury*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Sonya M. Bierbower
 and Dr. Joseph Spagna



MELANIE LIPTAK

Honors Track: Clinical Psychology
 and Neuropsychology
Major: Psychology
Thesis Title: *Evaluating Patterns
 of Preserved and Impaired Memory in a
 Geriatric Patient Diagnosed with disease
 of the Alzheimer’s type*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Bruce Diamond



ANDREW NAZARENO

Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Thesis Title: *The Relationship Between
 Breakfast Consumption and Self-Reported
 Cognition and Mood*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Jill Nocella



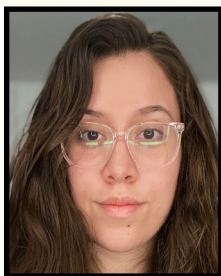
HASMIN M. LLAMOCA

Honors Track: Clinical Psychology and
 Neuropsychology
Major: Psychology
Thesis Title: *Neurobehavioral and Neurogenetic
 Correlates of Information Processing in Children
 and Young Adults*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Bruce Diamond



JESSE NORMAN

Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts
Major: Communication (Broadcast
 Journalism)
Thesis Title: *Could the Brooklyn Nets
 Rebuild/Change the NBA?*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Philip Cioffari



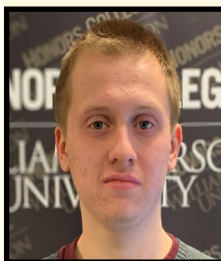
KATE PANITZ

Honors Track: Social Sciences
Major: Legal Studies
Thesis Title: *Misconceptions About Immigrants in America: A Review of the Literature and Data*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Fanny Lauby and Dr. Neil Kressel



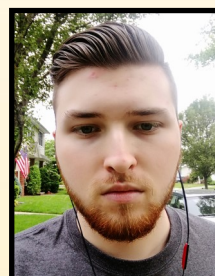
MONIKA RYBAK

Honors Track: Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology
Major: Psychology
Thesis Title: *Art Therapy Intervention Program: Exploring the Relationship between Art Therapy and Alzheimer's Disease*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Randi Ona and Dr. Bruce Diamond



PETER PAWLOWSKI

Honors Track: Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology
Major: Communication Disorders & Sciences
Thesis Title: Face Processing in Autism
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Bruce Diamond



DEVIN SAVOIE

Honors Track: Social Sciences
Major: Criminology & Criminal Justice
Thesis Title: *The First Amendment & Video Games: Brown v Entertainment Merchants Association 2010 to Today*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Neil Kressel



SERENA PEARSON

Honors Track: Cognitive Science
Majors: Elementary Education (Teacher of Students with Disabilities) and History
Thesis Title: *Career Aspirations and College Awareness of K-6 Elementary-Aged Students*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Amy Learmonth



RACHEL EUNJIN SEO

Honors Track: Cognitive Science
Major: Communication Disorders & Sciences
Thesis Title: *Effects of Tonal Language Experience and Musicianship on Pitch Perception*



EMILIA R. PIRRO

Honors Track: Cognitive Science
Major: Communication Disorders & Sciences
Thesis Title: *Profanity and its Effect on Human Perceptions of Offensiveness*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Amy Learmonth



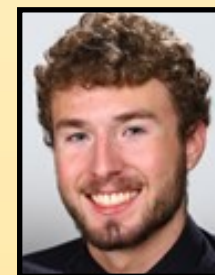
NICHOLAS SERPICO

Honors Track: Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology
Major: Psychology
Thesis Title: *Antidepressants Compared to Psychotherapy and Alternative Treatments*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Bruce Diamond



GABRIELLA RAPISARDI

Honors Track: Cognitive Science
Major: Communication Disorders & Sciences
Thesis Title: *Self-Esteem, Mindfulness, and Social Anxiety*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. David Freestone and Dr. Amy Learmonth



JAMES WILLIAM SHARKEY

Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts
Majors: English (Writing) and Communication (Media Studies)
Thesis Title: *Collection of Short Stories*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Philip Cioffari



MAXIMILIAN ROHRER

Honors Track: Independent
Major: Mathematics
Thesis Title: *Using a Numerical Baseball Simulator to Analyze Batting Lineups and Hitter Streakiness*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Paul von Dohlen and Dr. Barbara Andrew



SAMANTHA SHORTINO

Honors Track: Independent
Major: Mathematics
Thesis Title: *A Mathematical Mystery: An In-Depth Analysis of the Trisection Problem*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Donna Fengya and Dr. Barbara Andrew



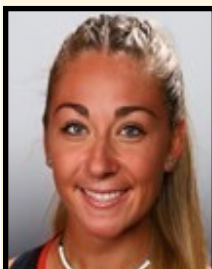
JAKE SIMON

Honors Track: Social Sciences
Major: Communication (Media Studies)
Thesis Title: *Japanese Anime: Factors Leading to Acceptance or Rejection*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Neil Kressel



ABDULWAHHAAB (HABI) YANES

Honors Track: Biology
Major: Biology
Thesis Title: *The Role of the Cannabinoid Receptor in Microglia and Dopamine Neurons After Repetitive Traumatic Brain Injury*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Sonya M. Bierbower and Dr. Joseph Spagna



SHANNON SUPER

Honors Track: Business
Major: Management
Thesis Title: *The Effect of Physical Activity on Mental Health and Academic Performance in College Aged Adults*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Bela Florenthal and Dr. Mike (Chen-Ho) Chao



JOSEPH ZAZZARA

Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts
Major: Communication (Media Production)
Thesis Title: *Walk Among Us: A Feature Length Screenplay*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Philip Cioffari



EMMA TANG

Honors Track: Social Sciences
Major: Communication Disorders & Sciences
Thesis Title: *The Impact of Cochlear Implants*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Neil Kressel



ABBEY ZOLLO

Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts
Major: Communication (Public Relations)
Thesis Title: *All The Lonely People: A Collection of Short Stories Based on Music by The Beatles*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Philip Cioffari



REBECCA TEMPLE

Honors Track: Cognitive Science
Majors: Psychology and Sociology (Social Services)
Thesis Title: *The Effect of Political Orientation on Political Memories*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Amy Learmonth



ETHAN LYTE

Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts
Major: Communication (Theater/Comedy)
Thesis Title: *Optimized Comedic Videography for YouTube*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Philip Cioffari



KEIRA R. WHITE

Honors Track: Social Sciences
Major: Athletic Training
Thesis Title: *Gait Patterns in Relation to Leg Length Discrepancies: A Randomized Control Study*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Jason Wicke and Dr. Neil Kressel



DOMINICK WOOD

Honors Track: Music
Majors: Music (Jazz Studies) and Music Education
Thesis Title: *A Comparison of Vocal and Brass Pedagogy: A Multidisciplinary Approach to Music Education*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Lauren Fowler-Calisto

Contact Information

973-720-3657

honors@wpunj.edu

www.wpunj.edu/honors

