



HONORS COLLEGE NEWS

November 2018



Message from the Honors Dean

I am pleased to announce that later this semester, six students who are graduating in January 2019 will present their Honors research to the campus community. Each student has completed an independent senior project. The presentations share the culmination of the students' Honors work. I'm looking forward to a truly enlightening and engaging experience. Snacks will be served.

Thinking about graduate school?

Many Honors students continue their educations and obtain further degrees. If you are a first-year or second-year student, look at the Graduate Catalog to see a list of graduate programs at WP. Attend informational meetings on campus about graduate programs. Start attending club meetings such as pre-law or pre-med clubs in which students help each other prepare to apply to those programs.

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Mark your calendar!

Mid-year graduates to present Honors research

Students who are graduating from William Paterson University in January, 2019 will present their Honors thesis projects on Wednesday, November 28 at 5:00 p.m. in UC 168A. The event will be similar to the presentations that are held each April during Honors Research Week, with each student presentation lasting about 15 minutes, including time for questions and answers. All members of the campus community are invited to attend. Refreshments will be served.

Congratulations to the following students who are completing an Honors Track this semester:

NOEL BOTA

Honors Track: Social Sciences

Major: Criminal Justice

Minors: Sociology & Psychology

Thesis Title: *The Myers-Briggs Indicator: A Century of Research and Application*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Neil Kressel

CHARLES FAULKNER

Honors Track: Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology

Major: Psychology

Minor: Political Science

Thesis Title: *Anime and Moral Development*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Bruce Diamond

KAYLA HUNTINGTON

Honors Track: Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology

Major: Psychology

Thesis Title: *Personality, Cognition, and Stress in First Responders*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Bruce Diamond

WILLIAM SMOLEN

Honors Track: Music

Major: Music Education/Jazz Studies

Thesis Title: *David Wong on "You or Me" - an analysis*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Diane Falk-Romaine

ROBERT SPANGLER

Honors Track: Humanities

Major: Nursing

Thesis Title: *Changing the World: Youth Political Activism from the Sixties to Today*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. K. Molly O'Donnell

MELANIE VENTURA

Honors Track: Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology

Major: Psychology

Thesis Title: *Alzheimer's Disease and Racial Disparities*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Bruce Diamond

Annual Coat Drive is at the halfway mark!

The Honors College Coat Drive continues now through November 14th. Donations of gently worn coats and other accessories are currently being accepted at the Honors Office in Raubinger 154. You may also call 973-720-3657 to request that items be picked up from your campus location or to get further information.

On Thursday, November 15th, the items will be donated to the Passaic Family Head Start in Passaic, NJ. This agency serves approximately 250 low income working families. This is the 13th annual Honors Coat Drive, and the 10th year that we have partnered with Passaic Family Head Start.

The agency's director, Ms. Robin Nayda Burgos, graduated with an M.A. from William Paterson in 2009. She enjoys working with William Paterson students on this project that serves so many families and also helps the students learn in a very meaningful way.

The Honors College would like to give special thanks to everyone who has helped so far by bringing in individual donations, helping to distribute flyers, and conducting your own "mini-coat drives" to add to our collection. We really appreciate your efforts!

Dean's advice on graduate school...

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In your third year, find out when the graduate entrance exams for your field are held. Start preparing to take those exams. Also, ask professors which graduate programs they recommend. Look at the due dates for applications and think about when you need to take exams so that your scores are received in time. Start thinking about which professors can write letters of recommendation on your behalf. You may need to schedule the exam or exams in the summer between your third and fourth year. You may also need to work on a writing sample during the summer.

In your fourth year, ask professors for letters of recommendation in September. Make appointments with your recommenders to get advice about what to write in your application. Your professors can give you more specific information about how to apply to particular graduate programs.



Ms. Lily Fritsch, Honors College Graduate Assistant, helps organize the Honors Coat Drive donations that are piling up in the front window of the Honors Office in Raubinger Hall.

Attention Honors students!
Here's your chance to earn Civic Engagement hours

Earn 2 Hours!

Delivering the items collected at the Honors Coat Drive to Passaic Family Head Start

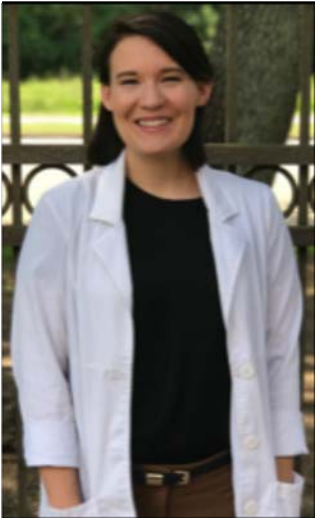
November 15, 2018

12:00 — 2:00 p.m.

Note that space is limited and this opportunity is available to the first 25 students who email honors@wpunj.edu to reserve a spot.

What you'll be doing:

- *Assisting with loading/unloading coat drive donations*
- *Learning about the mission of Passaic Family Head Start*
- *Touring the Head Start facility*
- *Interacting with the Head Start students*
- *Participating in a group discussion/reflections on the activity*



Advice from a former Honors student:

Step back and look at the big picture

Recently, we had the opportunity to catch up with Honors alum, Carla Rainey Clutcher, a 2012 graduate of the Honors Cognitive Science Track.

What was the topic of your Honors thesis?

My Honors thesis was on the topic of determinism, a philosophical alternative to the idea of free will. It explored the neurobiology behind how our brains make choices, as well as the philosophy and cognitive science behind how our consciousness perceives those apparent choices.

How did the Honors College help you in graduate school, and later in your career?

In general, I think being part of the Honors College simply helps students to stand out. Whether that's on a graduate school application or a resume, it shows that you've gone the extra mile in your pursuit of education. More specifically, practicing interdisciplinary thinking has assisted often in my career. I currently work as a Registered Dietitian at a specialty hospital for the treatment of eating disorders. Working as part of a multidisciplinary team of medical providers, therapists, educators, culinary staff, and administrators means that I have to be able to step back from my specific concentration and see a bigger picture for my patients. The Honors College, and the multidisciplinary thesis structure, helped me practice how to do that.

What have you conducted research on in the past, and are you currently working on any research projects?

Since graduating from the Honors College, I have conducted research on nutritional topics including the biological effects of different dietary styles and the relationship between dietary habits and mental health. I am not personally working on any research at the moment, but the hospital I work with continually researches different topics within the field of eating disorders.

What advice would you give to Honors students in the process of writing their thesis and/or to those interested in graduate school?

I would definitely recommend that students start practicing stepping back and looking at the bigger picture, when you can. Sometimes in the chaos of exams, papers, and scheduling, it can be difficult to look at one undergraduate project and imagine it as a defining part of your education. But it can be. I'd suggest using it as an opportunity to look at topics you know well, but in a new way. Find a question that hasn't been answered yet and answer it. It's not often that we have the opportunity, time, and support to delve into things that genuinely interest us. Take a step back and allow this to fuel your interests, and perhaps assist in defining your interests in specific careers or graduate level options.

Please comment on your Honors College experience:

My Honors experience was fantastic. Not only did I meet great friends and wonderful professors, but it also gave me the space to pursue academic interests that didn't exactly fit in my major. I completed pre-med requirements during undergrad, but did not want to take traditional paths of making biology or chemistry my major. I loved philosophy, and chose that as my major, but there was not much overlap between these and my science courses. The Honors College Cognitive Science Track allowed me to mesh these topics together into subjects that interested me. In doing so, it taught me how seemingly different disciplines can often lend a hand to one another in an attempt to answer complex questions.



Jan's tips for student success

As you turn the clocks back, you should look forward to registration for your spring semester classes! Are you ready for priority registration?

Priority Registration is this Monday, November 5th 9:00 a.m.—9:00 p.m.

Be sure to request permits in advance.

All Honors courses require permits (an electronic code that gives you access to closed classes). To request a permit for an Honors course, email honors@wpunj.edu and include your name, 855#, and the title and CRN number of the course you are requesting. Be aware that some non-Honors classes might also require permits. In order to request a permit for a non-Honors Course, contact the department offering the course. Honors cannot issue permits for non-Honors courses.

Check for "holds." Holds could be placed on your account for several reasons including parking tickets, overdue library books, non-completion of Alcohol Wise and Not Anymore, a balance on your account, etc. Check under your student tab on WP Connect for holds. The Honors staff cannot remove holds, but we can help you figure out where to go for help.

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Are you a William Paterson Honors College graduate? If so, we want to hear from you! Please email us at honors@wpunj.edu to be featured in an upcoming issue of the Honors Newsletter.

Jan's Tips . . .

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Register as early as possible on November 5th.

Priority Registration opens at 9:00 a.m. and lasts for one day only. Be sure to log-in and register as early in the day as possible. This way, if you run into a problem, you'll still have a chance of getting it resolved that day. Many key offices (including the Honors College) will be super busy on priority registration day and usually close around 4:30 p.m.

Register in 60 seconds. By doing some simple preparation, registration can be completed in 60 seconds or less. Prior to the 5th, write down all your classes (preferably on a scheduling grid), and make sure that none of the times overlap and that you are satisfied with your daily schedule. Make a list of the five digit course registration numbers (CRN's). Once priority registration is available, you can go to the add/drop courses under your student tab on WP Connect, insert your registration alternative pin number, type in your CRN numbers in the boxes provided, and hit submit.

Resources are in place to help you. Questions or concerns? Please see the list on the right for more information about where to go for help. Remember, if you cannot get the issue resolved on your own, you can always contact the Honors Office (please see contact information in the box below).

REGISTRATION HELP

List of Honors UCC Courses

A list of Honors UCC courses is available on the Honors website (<https://www.wpunj.edu/honors-program/>). Click on "Honors Courses" on the left menu.

How to register in WP Connect

A step by step video on how to log-in to WP Connect and register for classes is available on the Honors website (<https://www.wpunj.edu/honors-program/>). Click on "Honors Courses" on the left menu and then look for a link to the video near the top of the page in the sentence that begins with "Registration Process."

Permits for non-Honors courses

If you require a permit for a non-Honors course, you must contact the department that is offering the course. (Sorry, the Honors College cannot issue permits for non-Honors courses.)

Six Digit Alternate Pin Numbers

Your advisor should have provided you with the six digit alternate pin number that you will enter in WP Connect. This pin number changes each semester. The first three digits of your pin should begin with 000. If your pin does not begin with 000, please contact Honors for assistance.

Registration times

Registration will be open from 9:00 a.m.—9:00 p.m. on 11/5. If you have difficulty logging into the system at 9:00 a.m., please wait a few minutes and try again. If the issue persists, please contact Honors (honors@wpunj.edu). Be sure to include your name, 855 number and a brief description of the problem you are experiencing. We will get back to you as soon as possible.



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