

Report of the College Committee on Undergraduate Honors Program
Submitted 2/25/2016

In spring 2015, the committee approved eleven thesis proposals and granted departmental honors to the following eight students:

Renee Cotsis [“The effects of effort and ability-based sense of belonging on performance, learning, and engagement of minorities under stereotype threat”] supervised by Professor Catherine Good (Psychology);

Shivani Daryani [“Determining a Role for TAIMAIN in the *Drosophila Melanogaster* Methoprene Response”] supervised by Professor Rebecca Spokony (Biology);

Edson Flores [“Land of the Aging Sun: The impact of population decline on Japanese economic performance”] supervised by Professor Michael Carew (Economics);

Esther Im [“Retinoblastoma and Etoposide”] supervised by Professor Emil Gernert (Biology);

Jae-Eun (Jenny) Lee [“Statistical processing: Mean size perception of partially occluded sets”] supervised by Professor Tatiana Emmanoui (Psychology);

Rena Nasar [“Rethinking Confidence Building Measures: A New Look at an Old Frontier for Encouraging Peace in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict”] supervised by Professor Carla A. Robbins (SPA);

Abhinaya Swaminathan [“Why Did Narendra Modi Win? Investigating whether religious nationalist sentiment was responsible for one of the most significant power shifts in Indian history”] supervised by Professor Myung-Koo Kang (Political Science); and

Sydney Winnick [“The Integration Trajectory of Muslim Immigrants in France and the United Kingdom”] supervised by Professor Els de Graauw (Political Science) and Professor Joselyn Muhleisen (SPA).

The committee also awarded Daphne Palasi the Kanner Prize for best Honors Thesis in 2014-15.

In the fall, the committee approved one proposal and granted departmental honors to the following four students:

Nahid Bakhtari [“Characterization of 1, 4, 7-Trithiacyclononane, [9]aneS3 as a Potential Toxic Heavy Metal Chelator”] supervised by Professor Chandrika Kulatilleke (Chemistry);

Andre Mouton [“Technical Trading under Knightian Uncertainty”] supervised by Professor Sebastiano Manzan (Economics);

Weiwen Nie [“Positive Psychology In the Workplace: An Integrative Model of Psychological Empowerment, Psychological Capital and Explanatory Style”] supervised by Professor Eatough (Psychology); and

Sara Seber [“The Impact of Service-learning on the Self-efficacy of Youth Placed at Risk”]
supervised by Professor Judith Kafka (SPA) and Professor Dahlia Remler (SPA).

This spring, the committee expects to review ten theses currently in progress. The students, their topics, and mentors are as follows:

Nicolaou, Katerina (International Business), “Achieving Location Independence for SME Owners with Multiple Locations and/or Cross-Border Activities between the U.S and Cyprus/Greece “, Professor Elisabeth Gareis;

Yaremchuk, Yustyna (Philosophy), “Happiness, its scientific discoveries, its philosophical relevance and its meaning in our daily lives,” Professor Jonathan Gilmore;

Efstathiadis, Eleni (Sociology), “Examining the Stigma towards Depression within Greek Adolescents living in NYC Area”, Professor Ke Liang;

Jankowski, Monika (History), “Comparing the Culture of the United States and Poland during the 1960s and 1970s”, Professor Thomas Heinrich;

Boggio, Brian (English), “Structure and Expectation - Fate, Free Will, and Dramatic Form in Differing Genres of Shakespeare,” Professor Allison Deutermann;

Majeed, Yasmin (English), “The Reluctant Other: Self-Representation in the Literature of the South Asian Diaspora,” Professor Donald Mengay;

Borrello, Stevie Karen (Journalism), “Documenting the Undocumented: A Look into the lives of Migrant Women Working in NYC,” Professor Bridgett Davis;

James, Danielle (English), “Breach”, Professor Ely Shipley;

Galpern, Rebecca (Jewish Studies), “Representations of the Holocaust in H. Leivick”, Professor Debra Caplan; and

Aung, Ma Su Su (Biology), “Study of Alternative Functions of the Mitochondrial“, Professor Pablo Peixoto.

Respectfully submitted.

Prof. Frank W. Heiland, SPA
Chair, Committee on Undergraduate Honors Program

On behalf of the committee:

Prof. Stan Altman	Prof. Isolina Ballesteros
Prof. Stefan Bathe	Prof. Michael Carew
Prof. Vincent Digirolamo	Prof. Jared Peifer
Prof. David Rosenberg	Prof. Susan Tenneriello