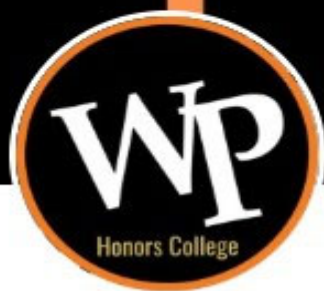


WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY HONORS COLLEGE

RAUBINGER HALL 207
HONORS@WPUNJ.EDU
973-720-3657
WWW.WPUNJ.EDU/HONORS



Honors Research Week 2026

— SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE —

All Presentations will be held
in the **CHENG LIBRARY AUDITORIUM**

MONDAY, APRIL 20

9:00 A.M. — 3:30 P.M.

Presentations by students in the Nursing Track

TUESDAY, APRIL 21

11:00 A.M.— 4:30 P.M.

Presentations by students in the following tracks:
Cognitive Science, Biology, and Music Tracks

7:00 P.M. — 8:45 P.M.

Presentations by students in the
Performing and Literary Arts Track

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

9:00 A.M. — 4:30 P.M.

Presentations by students in the following tracks:
Global Public Health, Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology,
Social Sciences, and Performing and Literary Arts

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

10:30 A.M. — 3:45 P.M.

Presentations by students in the following tracks:
Humanities and Business

*Please see the full schedule on pages 2 & 3.
Please email honors@wpunj.edu with questions.*

ABOUT HONORS RESEARCH WEEK 2026...

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 Research Week!

WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY

Richard Helldobler
University President

Joshua Powers
Provost and Senior Vice President
for Academic Affairs

Barbara Andrew
Honors College Dean

UNIVERSITY HONORS COLLEGE

Raubinger 207
300 Pompton Road
Wayne, New Jersey
honors@wpunj.edu
www.wpunj.edu/honors

PRESENTATION SCHEDULE—MONDAY, 4/20 AND TUESDAY, 4/21

Monday, 4/20		
Time	Presenter	Track
9:00	Ah'jahnae Barker	NUR
9:15	On'yaе Barker	NUR
9:30	Jessica Blaza	NUR
9:45	Madeline Schwartz	NUR
10:00	Daniel Coloso	NUR
10:15- 10:30 BREAK		
10:30	Rianne Francine Dagoro	NUR
10:45	Brandi Dziekonski	NUR
11:00	Sydney Ekwe	NUR
11:15	Oribiiwarisote Harry-Ogbeba	NUR
11:30	Avery Kasbarian	NUR
11:45- 12:00 BREAK		
12:00	Denzel Locquiao	NUR
12:15	Faith MacArthur	NUR
12:30	Angie Marcucilli	NUR
12:45	Julienne Mendoza	NUR
1:00	Tanisha Nunez	NUR
1:15	Theresa Onugha	NUR
1:30-1:45 BREAK		
1:45	Kezia Oshuporu	NUR
2:00	Ashtin Sanchez	NUR
2:15	Gabriella Cardona	NUR
2:30	Natali Sutuj	NUR
2:45	Amelia Tolentino	NUR
3:00	Ava Travis	NUR
3:15	Mikayla Reimer	PLA

Tuesday, 4/21		
Time	Presenter	Track
11:00	Prince Gurung	CGSI
11:15	Raunak Khadka	CGSI
11:30	Abigail Hayth	CGSI
11:45	Alisha Pokharel	CGSI
12:00- 12:15 BREAK		
12:15	Joseph Quimby	CGSI
12:30	Abhash Niroula	CGSI
12:45	Jared Rivera Alcivar	CGSI
1:00	Niraj Tamang	CGSI
1:15	Leila Gil	CGSI
1:30	Noel Debonta	CGSI
1:45 BREAK		
2:00	Jordan David	BIO
2:15	Janah Marie Divinagracia	BIO
2:30	Seif Osman	BIO
2:45	Francisco Perez Ramos	BIO
3:00	Jameson Synder	BIO
3:15 BREAK		
3:30	Stephen Borrás	MUS
3:45	Andres Guerra Morales	MUS
4:00	Maria Kolesnik	MUS
4:15	Timothy Leonard	MUS
4:30 - 7:00 BREAK		
7:00	Killian Winn	PLA
7:15	Anthony Gualano	PLA
7:30	Solenni Gonzalez	PLA
7:45	Kyra Cioffi	PLA
8:00	King Nathan Fernando	PLA
8:15	Dylan Childs	PLA
8:30	Sydney Mecca	PLA

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PRESENTATION SCHEDULE—WEDNESDAY, 4/22 AND THURSDAY, 4/23

Wednesday, 4/22		
Time	Presenter	Track
9:00	Taylor Hartung	GPH
9:15	Nino Funciello	GPH
9:30	Camila Jovel	GPH
9:45	Thays Paiva De Almeida	GPH
10:00 BREAK		
10:15	Rohit Rauniyar	IND
10:30	Kylie Anthony	CP
10:45	Yocelin Ramirez	CP
11:00	Carissa Ostolaza	CP
11:15	Colleen Susanto	CP
11:30	Sandra Toledo	CP
11:45	Marielle Joyce Gelaver	CP
12:00-12:30 BREAK		
12:30	James Burke	SSH
12:45	Arieta Goca	SSH
1:00	Aham Nwafor	SSH
1:15	Ava Padwelka	SSH
1:30	Frederick Liller	SSH
1:45	Kendrick Lopez	SSH
2:00 - 2:30 BREAK		
2:30	Evan Wohlrabe	PLA
2:45	Abby Herring	PLA
3:00	Angelina Reyes	PLA
3:15	Christopher Cugliari	PLA
3:30	Thomas Sherwood	PLA
3:45	Niko Nyman	PLA
4:00	Aiden Woods	PLA

Thursday, 4/23		
Time	Presenter	Track
10:30	Morgan Burke	HUM
10:45	Tyler Cooper	HUM
11:00	Sean Creamer	HUM
11:15	Aaliyah Douglas	HUM
11:30	Mia Herrera	HUM
11:45	Azer Jalahej	HUM
12:00-12:30 BREAK		
12:30	Daniel Maichin	HUM
12:45	Ashley Marquez	HUM
1:00	Simone Ramilo	HUM
1:15	Renee Wells	HUM
1:30	Patricia Walsh	HUM
1:45- 2:00 BREAK		
2:00 - 2:45 Business Track Part 1		
2:45 - 3:00 BREAK		
3:00 - 3:45 Business Track Part 2		
<i>Business Track Presenters:</i>		
	Hailey Backo	
	Shannon Burke	
	Robert Cacaci	
	Xavier Clavijo	
	Alauna Cockett	
	Sophia Delannoy	
	Kristian Glenn	
	Isabela Gonzalez	
	Maria Jimenez	
	Luna Kirby	
	Aiden Montero	
	Aliza Nanku	
	Mia Quezada-Rios	
	Badrul Ruhin	
	Kasai Sanchez	
*Entry and Exit permitted only during the break		

HONORS TRACK KEY	
BIO	BIOLOGY
BU	BUSINESS
CGSI	COGNITIVE SCIENCE
CP	CLINICAL PSYCH & NEUROPSYCHOLOGY
HUM	HUMANITIES
IND	INDEPENDENT
MUS	MUSIC
NUR	NURSING
GPH	GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH
PLA	PERFORMING & LITERARY ARTS
SSH	SOCIAL SCIENCES

ABOUT THE PRESENTERS...



KYLIE ANTHONY

Honors Track: Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology
Majors: Sport Medicine and Exercise Physiology
Thesis Title: *How Can Intrinsic Motivation Be Cultivated In Athletes?*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Bruce Diamond and Dr. Robin Nemeroff



JAMES NICHOLAS BURKE

Honors Track: Social Sciences
Major: History
Thesis Title: *The Effects of Religion on Morality*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Danielle Wallace



HAILEY BACKO

Honors Track: Business
Major: Marketing
Minor: Sport Management
Thesis Title: *MLIH Art Foundation Business Plan*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. John Malindretos and Dr. Ashley Lee



MORGAN BURKE

Honors Track: Humanities
Major: Communication
Thesis Title: *The Burden of the Bat: An Analysis of Batman*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. K. Molly O'Donnell



AH'JAHNAE BARKER

Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Minor: Psychology
Thesis Title: *Cultural Competence in Nursing and Its Impact on Patient Outcomes: An Integrative Review*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Lisa Foley



SHANNON NICOLE BURKE

Honors Track: Business
Major: Marketing
Thesis Title: *MLIH Art Foundation Business Plan*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. John Malindretos and Dr. Ashley Lee



ON'YAE BARKER

Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Minor: Psychology
Thesis Title: *A Comparative Study of Work-Related Stress Among Nursing Educators and Educators in Other Disciplines*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Lisa Foley



ROBERTO CACACI

Honors Track: Business
Major: Finance
Thesis Title: *MLIH Art Foundation Business Plan*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. John Malindretos and Dr. Ashley Lee



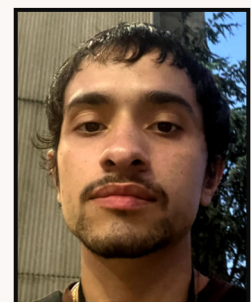
JESSICA ANNE COLEGIO BLAZA

Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Thesis Title: *The Effectiveness of Non-pharmacological Approaches on Pain Management in Pediatric Oncology Patients: An Integrative Review of the Literature*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Lisa Foley



GABRIELLA LUCIA CARDONA

Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Thesis Title: *Exploring the Postpartum Experiences of Spanish Speaking Mothers: A Qualitative Analysis*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Lisa Foley



STEPHEN ISAIAH BORRAS

Honors Track: Music
Major: Popular Music Studies
Minor: Music & Entertainment Industries
Thesis Title: *Music Technology and the Ever-Changing Face of Music Production*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Christopher Herbert



DYLAN CHILDS

Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts
Major: Music (Sound Engineering Jazz)
Thesis Title: *As We Are*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Martha Witt



KYRA CIOFFI

Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts
Major: Music (Jazz Vocal)
Minor: Music (Classical Voice Performance)
Thesis Title: *Where Art Meets Architecture: Building a Jazz Octet from the Ground Up*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Martha Witt



CHRISTOPHER CUGLIARI

Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts
Major: Communication (Media Production)
Minor: Computer Information Systems
Thesis Title: *Project Legends*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Martha Witt



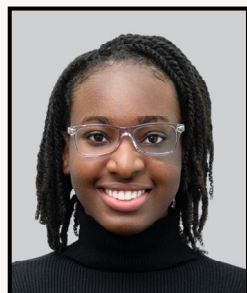
XAVIER CLAVIJO

Honors Track: Business
Major: Financial Planning
Minor: Professional Sales
Thesis Title: *MLIH Art Foundation Business Plan*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. John Malindretos and Dr. Ashley Lee



RIANNE FRANCINE L. DAGORO

Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Thesis Title: *What interventions are most effective in reducing burnout to improve retention in the nursing profession?*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Lisa Foley



ALAUNA ALIZE COCKETT

Honors Track: Business
Major: Finance
Minor: Professional Sales
Thesis Title: *MLIH Art Foundation Business Plan*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. John Malindretos and Dr. Ashley Lee



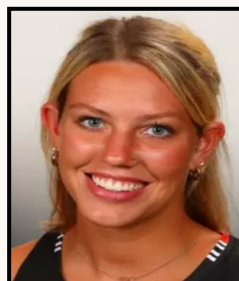
JORDAN DAVID

Honors Track: Biology
Major: Biology
Thesis Title: *Adaptive Pollen Hoarding in Nurse Honey Bees (*Apis mellifera*)*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. David Gilley



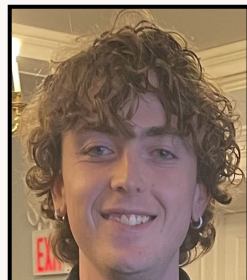
DANIEL BONDOC COLOSO

Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Thesis Title: *Does Poor Sleep Quality Affect the Academic Performance of Nursing Students?*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Lisa Foley



NOEL DEBONTA

Honors Track: Cognitive Science
Major: K-12 Physical Education
Thesis Title: *The Effects of Physical Activity on ADHD Symptoms*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Amy Learmonth



TYLER COOPER

Honors Track: Humanities
Major: Broadcast Journalism
Minor: Journalism
Thesis Title: *Rick Pitino: A Study on his Philosophy and Coaching Legacy*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. K. Molly O'Donnell



SOPHIA DELANNOY

Honors Track: Business
Major: Professional Sales
Minor: Art Studio
Thesis Title: *MLIH Art Foundation Business Plan*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. John Malindretos and Dr. Ashley Lee



SEAN CREAMER

Honors Track: Humanities
Major: Computer Science
Thesis Title: *The Complexity of Queer Identity Discovery*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. K. Molly O'Donnell



JANAH MARIE DIVINAGRACIA

Honors Track: Biology
Major: Biotechnology
Minors: Psychology and Chemistry
Thesis Title: *Seeking the Cecum*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. David Gilley and Dr. Kindall Martin



AALIYAH DOUGLAS
Honors Track: Humanities
Major: English
Minor: Legal Studies
Thesis Title: *Racial Narratives in Colonial and Post-Colonial Gothic Literature*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. K. Molly O'Donnell



LEILA GIL
Honors Track: Cognitive Science
Major: Speech Language Pathology
Thesis Title: *The Relationship Between Awareness of Hearing Loss and Listening Habits Among College Headphone Users*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Amy Learmonth



BRANDI DZIEKONSKI
Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Minor: Psychology
Thesis Title: *Analyzing the Relationship Between Early Childhood Trauma and Psychiatric Disorders in Early Adulthood*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Lisa Foley



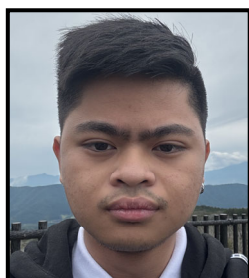
KRISTIAN GLENN
Honors Track: Business
Major: Finance
Thesis Title: *MLIH Art Foundation Business Plan*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. John Malindretos and Dr. Ashley Lee



SYDNEY C. EKWE
Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Thesis Title: *The Effects of Mental-Illness Stigma on Help-Seeking Behaviors and Access to Care in Nigeria: An Integrative Review*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Lisa Foley



ARIETA GOCA
Honors Track: Social Sciences
Major: Criminology and Criminal Justice
Minors: Forensic Studies and Psychology
Thesis Title: *Shifting Views: A Literature Review on How Crime and Generational Experiences Shape Police Legitimacy*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Danielle Wallace



KING NATHAN FERNANDO
Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts
Major: Digital Music Creation
Thesis Title: *Music and Poetry: The Fusion of Two Creative Art Forms*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Martha Witt



ISABELA MARIA GONZALEZ
Honors Track: Business
Majors: Finance and Management
Minor: Economics
Thesis Title: *MLIH Art Foundation Business Plan*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. John Malindretos and Dr. Ashley Lee



NINO FUNICIELLO
Honors Track: Global Public Health
Major: Finance
Minor: Public Health
Thesis Title: *How Healthy is Your Dining Hall Meal? An Assessment of Food Environments at Colleges in Northern New Jersey*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Marianne Sullivan



SOLENNI GONZALEZ
Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts
Majors: Secondary Education and English
Thesis Title: *Everything that Breathes: A Collection of Poems*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Martha Witt



MARIELLE JOYCE GELAEVER
Honors Track: Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology
Major: Nursing
Minor: Psychology
Thesis Title: *Institutional Mental Health Programs for Nurses*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Bruce Diamond and Dr. Robin Nemeroff



ANTHONY GUALANO
Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts
Major: Music (Sound Engineering Classical)
Thesis Title: *The Art of DIY*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Martha Witt



ANDRES M. GUERRA MORALES

Honors Track: Music
Major: Music (Sound Engineering Jazz)
Thesis Title: *The Sound of Salsa: Limitations of Latin Music Producers and How Equipment Affects the Recording Process*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Christopher Herbert



ABIGAIL HERRING

Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts
Major: Art (Interdisciplinary Arts)
Thesis Title: *A Lavish Bouquet of Dead Fish*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Martha Witt



PRINCE GURUNG

Honors Track: Cognitive Science
Major: Computer Science
Thesis Title: *AI Translation Tools and the Academic and Social Experiences of International Students*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Amy Learmonth



AZER JALAEHJ

Honors Track: Humanities
Major: Computer Science
Thesis Title: *Worth the Watch? Exploring Whether Watching the News Is Still Valuable*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. K. Molly O'Donnell



ORIBIIWARISOTE HARRY-OGBEBA

Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Thesis Title: *How does immigration affect the mental health and healthcare-seeking behavior of undocumented immigrants, and how can nurses help?*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Lisa Foley



CAMILA JOVEL

Honors Track: Global Public Health
Major: Criminology and Criminal Justice
Thesis Title: *Anti-Immigrant Rhetoric and State Policies: Impacts on Hispanic Health Care Access*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Marianne Sullivan



TAYLOR HARTUNG

Honors Track: Global Public Health
Major: Health Studies
Minor: Business Administration
Thesis Title: *How Well Do State Breast Cancer Screening Programs for Low-Income Women Communicate Access?*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Marianne Sullivan



AVERY KASBARIAN

Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Thesis Title: *Effects of Certified Nurse Midwives on Birth Outcomes in Hospital Settings*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Lisa Foley



ABIGAIL HAYTH

Honors Track: Cognitive Science
Major: Marketing
Thesis Title: *The Effects of Color on Advertisements of Energy Drinks*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Amy Learmonth



RAUNAK KHADKA

Honors Track: Cognitive Science
Major: Computer Science
Thesis Title: *Use of AI Among WPU Students*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Amy Learmonth



MIA HERRERA

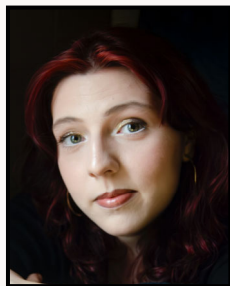
Honors Track: Humanities
Major: Information Technology
Thesis Title: *How do modern animated series challenge the perception of animation as an unserious, childish medium, and what storytelling techniques do they use to convey mature themes?*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. K. Molly O'Donnell



LUNA KIRBY

Honors Track: Business
Major: Management
Thesis Title: *MLIH Art Foundation Business Plan*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. John Malindretos and Dr. Ashley Lee

ABOUT THE PRESENTERS...



MARIA KOLESNIK

Honors Track: Music

Major: Music (Jazz Studies)

Thesis Title: *Parental Influence on Jazz Performers: The Development of Paternal Musical Relationships*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Christopher Herbert



TIMOTHY LEONARD

Honors Track: Music

Major: Music (Sound Engineering Jazz)

Thesis Title: *The Role of Audio Processing in Defining Hip-Hop Identity*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Christopher Herbert



FREDERICK LILLER

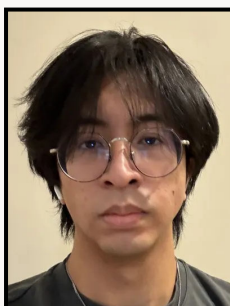
Honors Track: Social Sciences

Major: Criminal Justice

Minors: Psychology and Sociology

Thesis Title: *The Rise of Discrimination in Law Enforcement*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Danielle Wallace



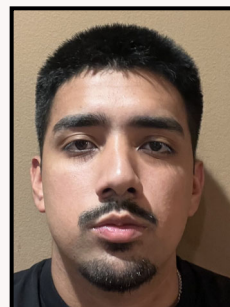
DENZEL LOCQUIAO

Honors Track: Nursing

Major: Nursing

Thesis Title: *Effects of Virtual Reality Education on Nursing Students*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Lisa Foley



KENDRICK LOPEZ

Honors Track: Social Sciences

Major: Sport Management

Minor: Marketing

Thesis Title: *Racial bias in the NFL toward White and Black Quarterbacks*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Danielle Wallace



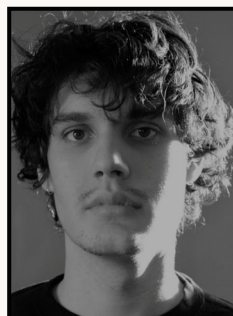
FAITH MACARTHUR

Honors Track: Nursing

Major: Nursing

Thesis Title: *Nursing Interventions to Enhance Care for Pediatric Patients with Special Needs*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Lisa Foley



DANIEL MAICHIN

Honors Track: Humanities

Majors: Political Science and Legal Studies

Thesis Title: *Balkanizing the United States*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. K. Molly O'Donnell



ANGELA MARCUCILLI

Honors Track: Nursing

Major: Nursing

Thesis Title: *Nothing by Mouth Diets for Low-risk Laboring Mothers: An Integrative Review*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Lisa Foley



ASHLEY MARQUEZ

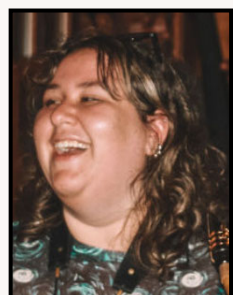
Honors Track: Humanities

Major: Early Childhood Education

Minors: Anthropology and Bilingual Education

Thesis Title: *Against Silence, patriarchal violence, and symbolic justice in "Dead Girls"*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. K. Molly O'Donnell



SYDNEY MECCA

Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts

Major: Music (Jazz Studies)

Thesis Title: *Mecca-nisms*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Martha Witt



JULIENNE MENDOZA

Honors Track: Nursing

Major: Nursing

Thesis Title: *Can early introduction of potential allergens reduce the risk of developing food allergies in infants?*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Lisa Foley



AIDEN MONTERO

Honors Track: Business

Major: Sport Management

Thesis Title: *MLIH Art Foundation Business Plan*

Thesis Advisors: Dr. John Malindretos and Dr. Ashley Lee



ALIZA NANKU

Honors Track: Business
Majors: Marketing and Communication: Public Relations
Thesis Title: *MLIH Art Foundation Business Plan*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. John Malindretos and Dr. Ashley Lee



KEZIA OSHUPORU

Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Thesis Title: *A Comprehensive Review of Black Maternal Mortality: Understanding Causes, Inequities and the path to better care*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Lisa Foley



ABHASH NIROULA

Honors Track: Cognitive Science
Major: Computer Science
Thesis Title: *Fields or Floors? A Study of Exercise Environment and Memory Performance*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Amy Learmonth



SEIF OSMAN

Honors Track: Biology
Major: Biology
Thesis Title: *Evaluation of using stem cell therapy as a treatment for Parkinson's disease*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. David Gilley and Dr. Christopher Mayack



TANISHA NUNEZ

Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Thesis Title: *Childhood Trauma and its Link to Schizophrenia: Neurobiological and Psychosocial Pathways*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Lisa Foley



CARISSA OSTOLAZA

Honors Track: Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology
Major: Sports Medicine
Thesis Title: *Depression During Menopause: Addressing Socioeconomic and Menopause-Specific Risk Factors*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Bruce Diamond and Dr. Robin Nemeroff



AHAMEFULE NWAFOR

Honors Track: Social Sciences
Major: Information Technology
Thesis Title: *Bordered Bandwidth: A study on America attitudes toward tension between protecting data and preserving technological innovation*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Danielle Wallace



AVA NICOLE PADWELKA

Honors Track: Social Sciences
Majors: Criminal Justice and Political Science
Minor: Forensic Science
Thesis Title: *William Paterson Students' Opinion on Generative AI in Higher Education*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Danielle Wallace



NIKO NYMAN

Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts
Major: Music (Sound Engineering Jazz)
Thesis Title: *"Singin' in the Rain"*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Martha Witt



THAYS PAIVA DE ALMEIDA

Honors Track: Global Public Health
Major: Communications: Public Relations
Thesis Title: *Comparative Analysis of National Dietary Guidance for Infants and Children Across a Sample of Middle- and High-Income Countries*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Marianne Sullivan



THERESA ONUGHA

Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Thesis Title: *Maternal Mortality in the U.S. among Minority Women*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Lisa Foley



FRANCISCO PABLO PEREZ RAMOS

Honors Track: Biology
Major: Biology
Minors: Psychology and Chemistry
Thesis Title: *Gene Expression of *Karenia brevis* Caspase-like Genes Over the Course of the Growth Curve*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. David Gilley, Dr. Emily Monroe, Dr. Carey Walburger



ALISHA POKHAREL
Honors Track: Cognitive Science
Major: Computer Science
Thesis Title: *Scam or Safe: A Study of Students' Link-Clicking Behavior*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Amy Learmonth



MIKAYLA REIMER
Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts
Major: Communication: Public Relations
Minors: Music and Entertainment Industries and Business Administration
Thesis Title: *Calyx: Promotional Content*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Martha Witt



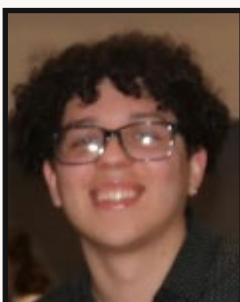
MIA QUEZADA-RIOS
Honors Track: Business
Major: Finance
Minor: Economics
Thesis Title: *MLIH Art Foundation Business Plan*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. John Malindretos and Dr. Ashley Lee



ANGELINA LIANA REYES
Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts
Major: Communication
Minor: Women's and Gender Studies
Thesis Title: *Reimagining of the Fates*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Martha Witt



JOSEPH QUIMBY
Honors Track: Cognitive Science
Major: Physical Education
Thesis Title: *The Impact of Physical Activity on Executive Function in Elementary Students*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Amy Learmonth



JARED ALEXANDER RIVERA
Honors Track: Cognitive Science
Major: Computer Science
Thesis Title: *How Personality Shapes Game Preferences*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Amy Learmonth



SIMONE RAMILO
Honors Track: Humanities
Major: Computer Science
Thesis Title: *Beyond the Visual: The Role of Music in Shaping Emotional and Narrative Immersion in Studio Ghibli Films*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. K. Molly O'Donnell



BADRUL ALAM RUHIN
Honors Track: Business
Major: Management
Thesis Title: *MLIH Art Foundation Business Plan*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. John Malindretos and Dr. Ashley Lee



YOCELIN RAMIREZ
Honors Track: Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology
Majors: Secondary Education and Art
Minor: Psychology
Thesis Title: *The Psychological, Social, and Academic Impacts of School Shootings on Students: A Phased Literature Review*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Bruce Diamond and Dr. Robin Nemeroff



ASHTIN SANCHEZ
Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Thesis Title: *The Role of AI in Healthcare Decision Making*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Lisa Foley



ROHIT KUMAR RAUNIYAR
Honors Track: Independent
Major: Computer Science
Minor: Mathematics
Thesis Title: *Developing a Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) Model for Medical Image Recognition*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Barbara Andrew and Dr. Nan Wang



KASAI IMANAI SANCHEZ
Honors Track: Business
Major: Management
Minor: Social Justice
Thesis Title: *MLIH Art Foundation Business Plan*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. John Malindretos and Dr. Ashley Lee



MADELINE A. SCHWARTZ
Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Thesis Title: *Anxiety, Depression, and Coping In Nursing Students*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Lisa Foley



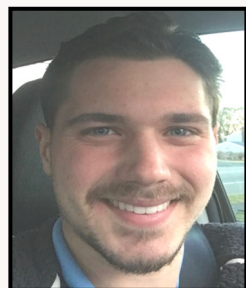
SANDRA GUADALUPE TOLEDO
Honors Track: Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology
Major: Psychology
Thesis Title: *Impact of Childhood Trauma in Adult Behavior and Lifestyle*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Bruce Diamond and Dr. Robin Nemeroff



TOMMY SHERWOOD
Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts
Major: Communication: Journalism
Thesis Title: *Brave New Radio Sports Recap*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Martha Witt



AMELIA TOLENTINO
Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Thesis Title: *Long-term effects of Cesarean sections on mothers and achieving a safe and beneficial recovery*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Lisa Foley



JAMESON SNYDER
Honors Track: Biology
Major: Biology
Thesis Title: *Utilizing Sound Identification to Determine Bird Species Richness in Suburban, Farmland, and Forest Habitats*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. David Gilley



AVA VICTORIA TRAVIS
Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Thesis Title: *Does Poor Sleep Quality Affect Academic Performance?*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Lisa Foley



COLLEEN SUSANTO
Honors Track: Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology
Major: Psychology
Minor: Business Administration
Thesis Title: *Gaming and the Brain: How Play Changes Us*
Thesis Advisors: Dr. Bruce Diamond and Dr. Robin Nemeroff



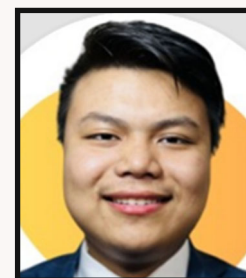
PATRICIA WALSH
Honors Track: Humanities
Major: Communication: Public Relations
Thesis Title: *How are women and girls who participate in athletics affected physically and psychologically, and what broader factors contribute to the high turnover rates of female athletes?*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. K. Molly O'Donnell



NATALI SUTUJ
Honors Track: Nursing
Major: Nursing
Thesis Title: *Exploring Nurses' Perspectives on Language Barriers in the Emergency Department*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Lisa Foley



RENEE WELLS
Honors Track: Humanities
Majors: Secondary Education and History
Thesis Title: *Beyond the Scoreboard: Analyzing Mental Health in NCAA Student-Athletes*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. K. Molly O'Donnell



NIRAJ TAMANG
Honors Track: Cognitive Science
Major: Computer Science
Thesis Title: *A Game-Based Method to Study Why Students Fall for Online Scams*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Amy Learmonth



KILLIAN WINN
Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts
Major: Music (Jazz Performance)
Minor: Digital Music Creation
Thesis Title: *Making an Album in 2026*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Martha Witt



EVAN WOHLRABE

Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts
Major: Music (Jazz Studies)
Thesis Title: *Bebop and Beyond: Exploring the Compositional Styles of Monk, Parker, and Coltrane*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Martha Witt



AIDEN WOODS

Honors Track: Performing and Literary Arts
Major: Music (Jazz Performance)
Thesis Title: *The Aiden Woods Group: Developing a Band in the 2020s*
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Martha Witt

**WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY
HONORS COLLEGE**

Barbara Andrew
Dean

Elizabeth Harkins
Honors College Fellow

Jan Pinkston
Associate Director

Helenah Comia
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Graduate Assistant

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Kleo Phili
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Graduate School



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at William Paterson...**

In the University Honors College, 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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HONORS RESEARCH WEEK 2026
Presentation Abstracts

— Listed alphabetically by last name —

Anthony, Kylie

How Can Intrinsic Motivation Be Cultivated In Athletes?

Intrinsic motivation refers to engaging in an activity for the pleasure experienced from that activity. This type of motivation is not solely based on external factors like praise, accolades, or rewards but based on the internal desire of a person. In an athletic context, intrinsic motivation is important for improved success and fulfillment as well as decreased likelihood of burnout. Intrinsic motivation can be cultivated if three basic psychological needs of autonomy, competence, and relatedness are fulfilled. This literature review discusses existing research on intrinsic motivation in sports associated with the Self Determination Theory, Cognitive Evaluation Theory, and Goal-Setting Theory. Additionally, ways to cultivate intrinsic motivation within athletes by supporting the three basic psychological needs will be explored.

Backo, Hailey

MLIH Art Foundation Business Plan

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Barker, Ah'Jahnae

Cultural Competence in Nursing and Its Impact on Patient Outcomes: An Integrative Review

Cultural competence in nursing is essential to delivering effective care to diverse populations, yet health disparities among minority and underserved groups persist. This integrative review examined the relationship between nurses' cultural competence and patient outcomes. A literature search was conducted using PRISMA guidelines across the CINAHL, MEDLINE, and PubMed databases. Inclusion criteria included peer-reviewed studies published between 2005 and 2025, written in English, and reporting measurable outcomes such as communication effectiveness, patient satisfaction, treatment adherence, or overall health outcomes. Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-methods studies were included. Overall, findings indicated a positive association between nurses' cultural competence and patient outcomes. These findings support the continued integration of cultural competence into nursing practice as a strategy to improve patient outcomes and reduce health disparities.

Barker, On'Yae

A Comparative Study of Work-Related Stress Among Nursing Educators and Educators in Other Disciplines

This cross-sectional study examined and compared levels of work-related stress and burnout between nursing educators and faculty in non-nursing disciplines at William Paterson University. Data was collected using an online survey that included demographic questions, a modified version of the Perceived Stress Scale (PSS), and the Maslach Burnout Inventory–Educators Survey (MBI-ES). Purposive sampling targeted full-time faculty members with at least one year of teaching experience. Although responses were obtained from participants in both nursing and non-nursing disciplines, the overall sample size was insufficient to support meaningful statistical comparisons between groups. Due to the limited population size in each faculty group, reliable conclusions regarding differences in stress and burnout levels could not be drawn. These findings underscored the challenges of participant recruitment in faculty research and highlighted the need for larger, more representative samples in future studies to better examine occupational stress and burnout among educators.

Blaza, Jessica Anne Colegio

The Effectiveness of Non-pharmacological Approaches on Pain Management in Pediatric Oncology Patients: An Integrative Review of the Literature

Pain is a significant concern for pediatric oncology patients undergoing intensive treatments such as chemotherapy and surgery. Although medications are the primary pain management, they present risks including adverse effects, tolerance, dependence, and increased susceptibility to infection in immunocompromised children. Assessing pain in this population is challenging due to the developmental differences in how children perceive and communicate discomfort, often leading to inadequate pain management. This integrative review explores the effectiveness of incorporating nonpharmacologic interventions alongside conventional drug therapy to address pain in pediatric cancer patients. Guided by the PRISMA framework, a literature search of CINAHL, Medline (via EBSCOhost), and Google Scholar examined English-language studies published between 2017 and 2024 that focused on integrating nonpharmacologic strategies into treatment plans. Findings suggest that integrating nonpharmacologic approaches enhances comfort, improves the overall care experience, and is associated with reduced reported pain levels through collaborative efforts among patients, families, and healthcare providers.

Borras, Stephen Isaiah

Music Technology and the Ever-Changing Face of Music Production

This project covers how technology is currently shifting the music recording industry and production practices. In this project, I will review various music recording/production tools, testing and comparing their quality. My investigation will focus on topics such as analog signals vs digital emulation for production, different tools like compressors and microphones, and how certain applications and plugins evolved from analog technology. Ultimately, this paper seeks to uncover the current state of recording technology for the DIY artist.

Burke, James Nicholas

The Effects of Religion on Morality

The relationship between religious identity and moral development remains a critical area of study as traditional denominational ties shift toward secularization. This study synthesizes twenty sources to explore how religiosity shapes ethics. While historical and philosophical models suggest religion provides necessary rational conditions for morality (McGaughey, 2020; Mihaylov & Theocharides, 2025), research indicates a trend among college students toward "generic" Christian identities and a reliance on external mentors to resolve moral challenges (Davignon et al., 2013; Glanzer et al., 2025). To further investigate these trends, this study will be conducted among college students (ages 18–30) at William Paterson University. Utilizing a survey-based methodology, this research aims to determine if moral reasoning differs significantly between practicing religious students and those with no religious affiliation. By analyzing these responses alongside demographic data, the study aims to clarify how the presence or absence of faith influences the resolution of ethical conflicts.

Burke, Morgan

The Burden of the Bat: An Analysis of Batman

This thesis explores the psychological and sociological evolution of Batman, analyzing how profound childhood trauma serves as the primary driver of his transition from victim to protector. It examines the systemic corruption within the Gotham City Police Department and local government as the catalyst for his vigilantism and the development of his strict moral code. Additionally, it investigates the creation of villains through environmental and systemic failures. By evaluating the effectiveness of Arkham Asylum and the fine line between redeemable and irredeemable villains, the research determines how these fictional dynamics mirror real-world issues. Ultimately, by bridging the gap between fiction and reality, this research highlights how Batman's narrative reflects modern real-world debates on justice reform, mental health, and institutional decay. This study further argues that Batman's internal conflict symbolizes the struggle between individual agency and failing social structures, offering a profound commentary on the necessity and the danger of seeking justice outside the law.

Burke, Shannon Nicole

MLIH Art Foundation Business Plan

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Cacaci, Roberto

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Cardona, Gabriella Lucia

Exploring the Postpartum Experiences of Spanish Speaking Mothers: A Qualitative Analysis

In this study, a qualitative method was utilized to understand the experiences of primarily Spanish-speaking mothers during their labor, postpartum, and discharge experiences at St. Clare's Dover Hospital. Data was to be collected through an open-ended survey consisting of seven basic questions and seven detailed questions. Questions included asking about possible factors that could have affected their experiences, such as their support system, age, mode of birth, and whether they have insurance. The more detailed questions, such as describing their hospital experiences, interactions with nurses, and whether speaking primarily Spanish played a role in their care. The inclusion criteria focus on Latino/Hispanic women who only speak Spanish or have Limited English Proficiency, twenty years or older. This study aims to investigate how nurses can contribute to providing culturally competent care for primarily Spanish-speaking women during their hospital stay. Advocating for patients is the most crucial action a nurse can take.

Childs, Dylan

As We Are

My series, *As We Are*, shares stories of coming of age which explore the interplay between independence and intimacy. I aim to remain conscious and grateful as I photograph to preserve memory. Each of us lives a story uniquely ours. In search of what will make us feel whole, we find comfort in moments where our stories overlap. We embrace our individuality and hold faith that we will be welcomed as we are. When we show up authentically, we play freely. We nurture our sense of wonder and allow imagination to guide us. At times, we surrender together to a larger imagination, and boundaries between us fade. This connection is intimate and nourishing. We experience growing pains together in our vulnerability. We are learning what it is to become men and women. Our dynamics shift constantly, but we are bound by trust and honor. When we are not understood by those we love, we are still loved in equal measure.

Cioffi, Kyra

Where Art Meets Architecture: Building a Jazz Octet from the Ground Up

This project examines the formation of a grassroots jazz octet as both an entrepreneurial venture and creative platform, with particular focus on the mental health dimensions of bandleading. The thesis documents the practical steps of assembling a cohesive ensemble, curating repertoire, and establishing sustainable operations, while exploring the logistical and psychological pressures involved in leading an ensemble. Using a mixed-methods approach - including venue-scouting, performance analysis, and reflective journaling - the study investigates strategies for balancing artistic integrity with operational considerations such as funding, marketing, and audience engagement. Findings show how intentional structures, open dialogue with bandmembers and networks, and mindful leadership practices can destigmatize psychological challenges on and off the bandstand. This research contributes to scholarship on music entrepreneurship, ensemble management, and arts wellness, offering insights for musicians, bandleaders, and arts administrators engaged in the intersection of art, wellness, and enterprise.

Clavijo, Xavier

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Cockett, Alauna Alize

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Coloso, Daniel Bondoc

Does Poor Sleep Quality Affect the Academic Performance of Nursing Students?

Poor sleep quality was a common issue among nursing students who managed demanding coursework, personal responsibilities, and clinical obligations. Research showed that insufficient sleep impaired memory, focus, and overall cognitive performance, which were essential for academic success. Although many studies examined sleep and academic outcomes among college students, fewer studies focused specifically on nursing students. This integrative review examined how poor sleep quality influenced the academic performance of nursing students. Literature was collected using PubMed, CINAHL, and Google Scholar following PRISMA guidelines. Studies were included if they were published in English, measured sleep quality using the Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index (PSQI), and assessed academic performance using GPA or exam scores. Findings from the review showed that poor sleep quality was consistently associated with lower GPA, decreased concentration, impaired cognitive functioning, and overall reduced academic performance among nursing students.

Cooper, Tyler

Rick Pitino: A Study on his Philosophy and Coaching Legacy

My thesis examines the success of college basketball coach Rick Pitino and his no nonsense style in pushing his athletes to greatness. His players say he has an uncanny ability to be a father figure, and he teaches them lessons for life beyond the game of basketball. My research highlights the many ups and downs of his coaching career from the early 1970's to the present. I offer a profile of coach Pitino as the Savior, seamlessly rebuilding broken programs to become winners. By contrast, his career has led to NCAA scrutiny, sanctions and even his firing at the University Louisville. Yet his succession of the great Lou Carnesecca at St. John's University marked his comeback, after many thought he would never coach again. My thesis reveals the two sides of coach Pitino's career, from disgrace to legend.

Creamer, Sean

The Complexity of Queer Identity Discovery

Acceptance for and knowledge of queer identities continues to rise. My research explores whether people who learn about queer terminology earlier are more likely to identify as queer, and if people who have learned about queer terminology earlier are more likely to describe their identities more complexly. Through online discussions, memoirs, and a simple study among a small focus group about their own experiences, I explore patterns of identity construction. I investigate the subjects' anecdotal descriptions of their gender identity, sexual identity, and romantic identity, as well as when they first learned about gender identities, sexual identities, and romantic identities. I also discuss other potentially related aspects such as awareness of intersex individuals. I conclude that as people are learning about queer identities from an earlier age, and general awareness grows, people will be more likely to feel comfortable identifying as queer.

Cugliari, Christopher

Project Legends

My honors thesis is a multicamera live switch studio production about video games and friendships made because of them. This creative project focuses on the idea of friendship and how video games can help nurture some of the most important relationships. My creative process for this project is letting inspiration take the wheel most times to come up with new ideas, and then writing those ideas down. The most important thing that I discovered was to not rush my creative process, and to always see my ideas through, even if they were spawned the day before. This work matters because growing up there has always been a stigma around online gaming and the people that you meet along the way, and I wanted to show that sometimes, those friendships that are made can be better than the ones you make in real life.

Dagoro, Rianne Francine L.

What interventions are most effective in reducing burnout to improve retention in the nursing profession?

Nursing burnout is a prevalent issue within the healthcare system, compromising patient care and workforce stability. Burnout, characterized by emotional exhaustion, depersonalization, and a decline in personal achievement, contributed to absenteeism, decreased job satisfaction, and increased job turnover. This integrative review analyzed evidence-based interventions to reduce burnout and improve nurse retention, which included twelve peer-reviewed studies published within the past ten years included, along with one supplementary theoretical article. Literature searches were conducted using MEDLINE via PubMed and CINAHL via EBSCOHOST following PRISMA guidelines. Inclusion criteria required studies that focused primarily on registered nurses and utilized validated tools such as the Maslach Burnout Inventory (MBI), the Depression, Anxiety, and Stress Scale (DASS-21), and the Perceived Stress Scale (PSS). Individual interventions, including resilience training and mindfulness-based strategies, demonstrated short-term reductions in emotional exhaustion and depersonalization. Organizational interventions, such as leadership support and teamwork programs, were associated with long-term improvements in job satisfaction and retention.

David, Jordan

*Adaptive Pollen Hoarding in Nurse Honey Bees (*Apis mellifera*)*

Pollen provides essential protein for brood development and colony health in honey bees. While foragers collect pollen from diverse plant species, nurse bees regulate how it is stored and used within the hive. This study tests the hypothesis that higher-protein pollen is consumed soon after collection, whereas lower-protein pollen is preferentially stored. Weekly pollen samples were collected from pollen traps representing foraged pollen and from brood combs representing stored pollen in WPU apiary hives to allow direct comparison of incoming and stored resources. Pollen species including *Plantago lanceolata*, which has higher protein content than *Lotus corniculatus*, and the lower-protein species *Cichorium intybus*, were identified and quantified using hemocytometry and light microscopy. Statistical comparisons of species composition between foraged and stored pollen suggest that nurse bees preferentially use the highest-protein pollen, *P. lanceolata*, while storing relatively more *L. corniculatus*, indicating selective nutritional regulation within the colony.

DeBonta, Noel

The Effects of Physical Activity on ADHD Symptoms

Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is a neurodevelopmental condition characterized by persistent challenges in attention, hyperactivity, and impulse control. One influential study by Cuffe, Moore, and McKeown (2005) used nationally representative data from over 10,000 children to examine the prevalence of ADHD symptoms in the United States and revealed that around 7% of children exhibited ADHD symptoms, with boys, White children, and those ages 9–12 showing the highest likelihood of diagnosis. Newer studies have focused more directly on interventions that might reduce ADHD symptoms. Verret et al. (2012) conducted an exploratory trial in which 21 elementary-aged children with diagnosed ADHD participated in a structured 10-week physical activity program, including aerobic exercise, strength training, and motor skill development conducted three times per week. Children showed measurable improvements in attention, impulse control, and overall behavior both at home and at school. To further explore this relationship, the present study implemented an anonymous survey through Qualtrics with approximately 200 participants. The survey included 15 items assessing participants' ADHD diagnosis status, physical activity frequency, type of activity, and perceived changes in attention, impulse control, hyperactivity, restlessness, mood, and energy levels following exercise. Participants also evaluated how physical activity influenced their academic focus and whether increased school-based activity breaks might improve concentration.

Delannoy, Sophia

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Divinagracia, Janah Marie

Seeking the Cecum

The cecum is a small pouch above the mouse large intestine that retains material for fermentation and nutrient extraction. Longer retention in the cecum would increase extraction. We observed that some fecal pellets are re-ingested while others are not attractive to the mice. We hypothesized that cecum-derived pellets would not be re-ingested and would show distinct microbiota from non-cecal pellets. To test this, mice were fed standard food containing metal beads to track gut transit. We collected pellets in various time-course scenarios and dissected euthanized mice for cecal contents. We examined microbiota using Bacterial-universal PCR primers and taxon-specific primers for *Lactobacillus*, *Bifidobacteria*, and *Akkermansia* in a quantitative PCR analysis.

Douglas, Aaliyah

Racial Narratives in Colonial and Post-Colonial Gothic Literature

Gothic literature is a multifaceted genre that utilizes the atmosphere of the macabre in order to evoke emotions such as fear and terror. Critics have regarded its mythical realism and deviancy as lowbrow, but gothic literature is a notable genre because it incorporates racial tropes in an obvious way that historical literature frequently hid. I argue that works like *Beloved*, *Kindred*, *Wuthering Heights*, and *Frankenstein* are all high literature that uses gothic motifs to examine the evolution of racial trauma from colonialism and capitalism. The use of horror to depict colonial and capitalist forms of exploitation allows the voices of racially marginalized characters to speak to the traditional gothic themes of oppression, subjugation, and otherness. I conclude that postcolonial gothic literature sets out to challenge imperialist structures and ultimately provides commentary on the repressed histories and violence of colonization through these same motifs.

Dziekonski, Brandi

Analyzing the Relationship Between Early Childhood Trauma and Psychiatric Disorders in Early Adulthood

In the United States poor mental health is a rising public health issue, and the prevalence of psychiatric disorders is increasing. This integrative review examined the relationship between Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and the development of psychiatric disorders in younger adults (age 18-40). The current literature review was conducted following the PRISMA guidelines, utilizing databases such as CINAHL, PubMed, and ERIC. Eligibility criteria included literature published in English, study was conducted between 2015-2024, participants were between ages 18-40, and if studies focused on ACEs, childhood trauma, and psychiatric disorders. A total of nine articles were included in this review. The findings show consistent results that determined ACEs have both significant and long-lasting effects on behavioral, psychological, and physiological functioning in early adulthood, and throughout life span. It is also determined that genetics and environment do have contributing factors to psychological outcomes.

Ekwe, Sydney C.

The Effects of Mental-Illness Stigma on Help-Seeking Behaviors and Access to Care in Nigeria: An Integrative Review

Mental health disorders are a significant public health issue in Nigeria, where stigma and cultural misconceptions limit access to care. This integrative review examined literature on the prevalence of mental illness and how stigma restricts treatment. Following the PRISMA framework, a search was conducted across CINAHL, Cochrane Library, and PubMed databases using keywords such as “mental health stigma” and “access to care AND mental illness AND Nigeria.” Eligibility criteria included peer-reviewed studies focused on Nigerians, published in English, and addressing prevalence, stigma, or barriers to treatment. Of 45 identified articles, 10 were selected for review. Findings revealed that stigma, driven by cultural misconceptions, limited mental health literacy, etc., discourages help-seeking behaviors and contributes to delayed treatment and poorer mental health outcomes. These findings highlight the need for stigma-reduction interventions and improved access to culturally competent mental health services to promote early treatment and improve overall health outcomes in Nigeria.

Fernando, King Nathan

Music and Poetry: The Fusion of Two Creative Art Forms

This creative project combines two separate art forms: instrumental music and poetry. Music and poetry come together to create a spoken word album organized into 10 musical tracks. The music amplifies the atmosphere of the poetry by expanding on the emotions that each poem conveys. The album represents 28 minutes of recorded material. Some of the poems written for the album come from personal experiences yet are modeled on poets such as Chi Cheng, Michael Gira, and Georg Trakl. The instrumental part of the album draws from musical influences such as John Frusciante, Matt-Kwasniewski Kelvin, and Bruce Springsteen. The entire album showcases the use of minimalist production using a computer, a DAW (Digital Audio Workstation), an interface, a microphone, and a guitar.

Funciello, Nino

How Healthy is Your Dining Hall Meal? An Assessment of Food Environments at Colleges in Northern New Jersey

College is vital for young adults to develop healthy eating habits. Food environments on campuses influence eating positively or negatively. Students are exposed to unhealthy foods like ultra-processed options high in sodium, sugar, and bad fats. Understanding the balance between ultra-processed foods and healthier choices is key. This research asks: How do college dining halls promote healthy or unhealthy eating? How common are ultra-processed foods in college dining halls? Data on food environments and choices were collected from ten North Jersey campus dining halls using the Cafeteria Food Environment Instrument to systematically gather data. This presentation will discuss the campus food environment's quality, including nutrition information, education, and the ratio of fresh and healthy foods to ultra-processed foods.

Gelaver, Marielle Joyce

Institutional Mental Health Programs for Nurses

Nurses experience high levels of stress and burnout from chronic work conditions. Institutional mental health programs are key services to promote well-being and maintain a healthy work environment. This literature review focuses on the institutional mental health programs that are offered to help support nurses mentally and psychologically throughout their careers. Research indicates that specific work-related counseling, training on resilience and cognitive-behavioral skills, and transition to practice programs significantly decrease levels of depression, anxiety, and burnout. Many programs not only help nurses but ultimately affect patient care and patient satisfaction. Overall, the research showed that institutional mental health programs are beneficial and needed across hospitals and in-patient care settings.

Gil, Leila

The Relationship Between Awareness of Hearing Loss and Listening Habits Among College Headphone Users

This study explored the relationship between headphone use, hearing-loss awareness, and listening habits. It tested the hypothesis that although young adults understand that loud and frequent headphone use can lead to hearing loss, many still listen at unsafe volume levels. Data showed more than third of students had an average volume higher than recommended for safe hearing habits and two thirds had a maximum volume that was above the safe level.

Glenn, Kristian

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Goca, Arieta

Shifting Views: A Literature Review on How Crime and Generational Experiences Shape Police Legitimacy

Police legitimacy plays a critical role in shaping community trust, cooperation, and perceptions of fairness. However, attitudes toward law enforcement vary widely across communities and generations. This literature review examines how neighborhood crime rates and generational experiences influence perceptions of police legitimacy, while also considering the role of gender. Research has found that exposure to crime, neighborhood disorder, and high-profile incidents of police misconduct contribute to differing levels of trust (Tuch & Weitzer, 1997). Additionally, younger generations, shaped by media coverage and social movements, often report lower confidence in law enforcement (Sheridan-Johnson et al., 2025). By comparing literature on perspectives across age groups and community contexts, this review synthesizes how broader social and environmental conditions shape perceptions of policing, identifies key gaps in the literature, and proposes directions for future research aimed at strengthening police-community relationships.

Gonzalez, Isabela Maria

MLIH Art Foundation Business Plan

This business plan advises the Margareta Levitchi International Health Foundation (MLIH), an art-based venture focused on Renaissance-era religious and secular paintings, giclée prints, and art-inspired home décor, on creating a scalable, financially stable, and mission-driven structure. This plan presents comprehensive business and industry analyses, a revised management structure, social media-focused marketing strategies, and financial projections to support MLIH's expansion. Overall, the plan will enhance MLIH's market position, creating financial stability and long-term growth within a niche market serving both religious and secular art segments.

Gonzalez, Solenni

Everything that Breathes: A Collection of Poems

This creative project, a collection of 12 poems, captures life in its many forms: emotions, fleeting moments, small and grand experiences, memories, and everyday observations. The collection invites readers of any background, regardless of their familiarity with poetry, to connect with its themes. Organized into thematic sections—people, places, and things; nature; and shared human experiences—these poems engage the audience through the five senses. This sensory approach allows readers to connect with specific feelings or events and reflect on how they relate personally. The poems aim not only to capture meaningful moments but also to encourage deeper thought about how our sensual experiences shape our individual lives. Drawing inspiration from established writers, and in dialogue with their works, these poems draw on various literary techniques to present familiar aspects of life through fresh perspectives. Ultimately, the project encourages readers to slow down and find significance in ordinary experiences.

Gualano, Anthony

The Art of DIY

The Art of DIY focuses on musicianship in its rawest form; full compositions created from the most basic instruments and equipment. My thesis draws on research into creativity as a natural human instinct. In this project, I examine different musical albums across the last 60 years that constitute the predecessors to the DIY trend that became prominent with artists on a budget in the 1990's-2000's. My creative project entails a full, home-recorded album using makeshift-gear that includes instruments, interfaces, monitors, and various types of drum machines and microphones that I have purchased throughout the years. Along with demonstrating time-based and dynamic-based processing techniques utilized in the sound engineering field, this album showcases effective songwriting techniques and structures that I have cultivated over the years.

Guerra Morales, Andres M.

The Sound of Salsa: Limitations of Latin Music Producers and How Equipment Affects the Recording Process

This paper considers the complications that music producers and sound engineers from Latin America face when entering the profession of sound engineering. The main objective of the research presented is to compare the variety of available options in the market for equipment, software, and recording courses and to provide a curated list to guide upcoming producers in the field. This research is then applied to the creation of an original salsa album. Specific questions will include: how does the music recording environment in Latin America compare to others in terms of budget and opportunities? What are the best alternatives for high-end studio equipment and techniques? What makes one music production course better than others? What are some common obstacles and their solution that new sound engineers interact with? And finally, how do these complications and limitations influence the recording process and result?

Gurung, Prince

AI Translation Tools and the Academic and Social Experiences of International Students

This mixed-methods survey examined how international students use AI translation tools and how this shapes comprehension, confidence, and campus communication. Seven students completed online Likert items and open-ended questions about benefits and challenges. Participants reported frequent academic and everyday use, generally positive effects on understanding and communication, and nuanced concerns about mistranslations, tone, and Overreliance.

Harry-Ogbeba, Oribiiwarisote

How does immigration affect the mental health and healthcare-seeking behavior of undocumented immigrants, and how can nurses help?

Immigration status deeply affects the health and well-being of undocumented immigrants in the United States. Many people face daily barriers such as fear of deportation, lack of insurance, financial strain, and language difficulties. These challenges make it especially hard to access healthcare, with mental health services being the most difficult to reach. As a result, many delay or avoid care, which often leads to ongoing anxiety, depression, stress, and trauma. This integrative review examined the connection between immigration status, mental health outcomes, and healthcare-seeking behavior. Following PRISMA guidelines, peer-reviewed studies published between 2007 and 2024 were retrieved from CINAHL, PubMed, PsycINFO, and Scopus. Findings revealed that undocumented status was strongly associated with increased anxiety, depression, stress, and trauma-related symptoms. Barriers including fear of deportation, financial insecurity, and language challenges reduced healthcare utilization, particularly for mental health care. Studies indicated that culturally sensitive care, community support, and nurse-led advocacy improved healthcare engagement. The review highlighted nursing's essential role in reducing disparities and promoting equitable access to care for undocumented immigrants.

Hartung, Taylor

How Well Do State Breast Cancer Screening Programs for Low-Income Women Communicate Access?

Breast cancer is one of the most common cancers affecting women in the U.S., and for a lot of low-income women, state health department websites are the first place they look for information. Some of these sites are easier to use and understand than others. This project focuses on the accessibility of state breast cancer websites, specifically how well they help low-income women find services, understand who qualifies for free or low-cost screenings, and determine next steps. All 50 state breast cancer websites were evaluated using a scoring rubric that examines clarity, eligibility information, transportation resources, visuals, and availability of online application tools. This presentation will explain how effectively state breast cancer screening programs make their services accessible to low-income women. It will highlight data on the readability of the information provided, the clarity with which eligibility requirements are explained, and how well each state outlines the next steps if a screening detects breast cancer.

Hayth, Abigail

The Effects of Color on Advertisements of Energy Drinks

This study examined college students' preferences for energy drink advertisements, asking them about preferences for different types of ads and color vs black and white versions of those ads. Half of the participants reported they did not drink energy drinks. Participants preferred the color version for most ads and reported that the color was more important than the content of the advertisements. These findings align with, and add to, previous research.

Herrera, Mia

How do modern animated series challenge the perception of animation as an unserious, childish medium, and what storytelling techniques do they use to convey mature themes?

Despite the increasing popularity and recognition, the mainstream appeal of animation for adults is growing ever more obvious. Even in prestigious ceremonies, animation is often viewed through narrow, child-centric lenses, further reinforcing the misconception that it cannot convey a mature or meaningful narrative. As animation has become more of a universal medium of storytelling, many titles have received critical acclaim not only for their use of visual style, narrative structure, worldbuilding, and soundtrack, but how these elements are utilized to explore emotional and heavy topics. I will focus on the following animated shows: Arcane, The Blue-eyed Samurai, and To Be Hero X. I conclude that the rising influence of adult-oriented animated series on popular culture highlights animation's evolution into a respected medium for meaningful and impactful storytelling.

Herring, Abigail

A Lavish Bouquet of Dead Fish

A Lavish Bouquet of Dead Fish is a four-part illustrated free-verse poetry collection composed by me, featuring over twenty pieces. Each part will allude to a section of the poem placed on the back of the book. The work explores the experiences of a young adult and the things in life that are hard to let go of, whereas the developed illustrations act as supplemental media to help the reader envision the words on the page. The illustrations are multimedia pieces including watercolor, pencil, and select digital components, that all serve as a vessel for storytelling. This book brings the reader through thoughts of belonging, intimacy, and broken relationships, while simultaneously inviting the reader to experience the natural world. One goal of this thesis is to explore the medium of poetry as an art form and how the written word can collaborate with visual art to communicate more effectively.

Jalahej, Azer

Worth the Watch? Exploring Whether Watching the News Is Still Valuable

I am researching whether news is designed for any actual public benefit. Previous researchers, including Elisa Shearer and David Ardia, have noted a serious decline in the news content available to most Americans. My thesis covers not only news channels, but also – and especially – social media news pages. Are news producers genuinely keeping us informed, or are they taking advantage of us just for financial profit or other self-serving motives? I explore the perceptions of declining quality of the news through exposing how media critics, journalists' professional groups, news consumers, and other stakeholders regard the news online and especially in social media. Currently, streaming news is on the rise and will be expected to dominate the stability of cable news. In a recent twist, both CNN and MSNBC have lost their corporate ties, and CBS news is now led by a skeptic of mainstream media. These developments demonstrate the rapid change of trust in traditional media. In conclusion, I explore options to remain informed without following corporate news.

Jovel, Camila

Anti-Immigrant Rhetoric and State Policies: Impacts on Hispanic Healthcare Access

There is a limited body of research on the impact of anti-immigrant rhetoric on Hispanic access to healthcare in the United States. Policies on access to health care for public programs are mostly set at the state level. There is variation by state in access to publicly funded healthcare. Some states provide access to immigrants with legal status, while others may also provide some access to immigrants without legal status. The election of 2024 and its aftermath was marked by escalating anti-immigrant rhetoric. In addition to this, the Big Beautiful Bill significantly cuts federal funding for health care provided by states - combined with anti-immigrant rhetoric, this may result in further erosion of health care for immigrants. To document anti-immigrant rhetoric and discussions about immigrant healthcare, I will have accessed systematically gathered data from national and regional English-and Spanish-language newspapers. To document any changes to immigrants' eligibility for health care services since January 2025, I reviewed state health care policy websites for ten states (those that provide the most coverage for immigrants and states with large immigrant populations), recording all findings and updates in a Google Sheet.

Kasbarian, Avery

Effects of Certified Nurse Midwives on Birth Outcomes in Hospital Settings

Disparities in maternal and neonatal outcomes remain a vital concern in the United States, particularly in rural and underserved communities. Certified Nurse Midwives (CNMs) offer a patient-centered model of care that emphasizes holistic support, reduced medical interventions, and interdisciplinary collaboration. This integrative review examines peer-reviewed studies published between 1995 and 2025 to assess the effect of CNM-led care on birth outcomes in comparison to physician-led models. The findings consistently show that CNM-led care is linked to lower rates of cesarean sections, inductions, and instrument-assisted deliveries. Additionally, CNM-led births are associated with better maternal recovery, higher Apgar scores, and fewer neonatal intensive care unit admissions. The evidence demonstrates the effectiveness of CNMs in increasing access to quality maternity care in rural and underserved areas, which are areas that are particularly affected by the national physician shortage. The literature consistently supports integrating CNMs with other providers, facilities, and models of care to improve maternal and neonatal outcomes, enhance patient satisfaction, and reduce overall healthcare costs. Through policy and practice changes, midwifery models of care could help reduce disparities and strengthen the United States maternity care system.

Khadka, Raunak

Use of AI Among WPU Students

This study examines how students at William Paterson University integrate and perceive the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools in their academic work through a Qualtrics-based survey design. As technologies such as ChatGPT and AI-powered study platforms become more widely available, student engagement with these tools is rapidly increasing, potentially influencing learning behaviors, academic integrity, and research practices. Participants complete a brief online questionnaire measuring frequency of AI use, perceived benefits, ethical concerns, and awareness of institutional policies. Quantitative responses are analyzed using descriptive statistics and cross-tabulations, while open-ended responses undergo basic thematic analysis. Findings are expected to highlight patterns of AI adoption across disciplines, identify key motivations and concerns surrounding AI use, and provide evidence-based insights to inform institutional policy development and responsible, student-centered integration of AI in higher education.

Kirby, Luna

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Kolesnik, Maria

Parental Influence on Jazz Performers: The Development of Paternal Musical Relationships

This research examines the effect that jazz musicians have on their children, focusing on why and how they follow in their parents' footsteps and pursue music as a career. This paper will center on paternal influence in particular, and will analyze research regarding musical parenting as a whole. In addition, this paper will include interviews with well-known jazz musicians whose fathers shaped them into the players they are today. The research presented will address the importance of parental involvement in early childhood music education, the experience different musicians have had with their parents, as well as the necessity to dig deeper into the reasons behind this phenomenon.

Leonard, Timothy

The Role of Audio Processing in Defining Hip-Hop Identity

Hip-Hop is a genre that is deeply rooted in individuality and innovation, using these technologies to blend personal expression with a broader cultural narrative. This research project investigates the impact of audio processing tools on shaping the unique identities of Hip-Hop artists. By focusing on processing such as autotune, sampling, and mixing, this study will explore how these tools extend beyond technical use to influence artistic branding, cultural representation, and connection with the audience. The research will focus on seven key sources to understand how sound engineering shapes Hip-Hop's identity. It examines J Dilla's unique use of sampling, which revolutionized the way beats were made (Diaz, 2014). The study also looks at how mixing techniques help producers create specific emotions and how sampling blends old music with new ideas to make something original (Exarchos, 2008; Schloss, 2004). Additionally, it highlights the role of DJs in experimenting with sound and creating the energetic feel of live Hip-Hop (Katz, 2012). By analyzing these examples, the research shows how technology is used as a way for artists to express themselves and connect with their audience.

Liller, Frederick

The Rise of Discrimination in Law Enforcement

Racism has been deeply involved in law enforcement since the beginning of the profession. Despite reforms and changes made to law enforcement policy and practice, the issue persists. This study examines the relationship between racism and law enforcement, focusing on how historical patterns of discrimination continue to shape today's policing practices and the criminal justice system. Relying on data from national crime databases on police interactions with people in select cities, this study analyzes the role of race in police stops. The study aims to examine racism in law enforcement and proposes potential solutions to addressing this issue at the institutional and societal level.

Locquiao, Denzel

Effects of Virtual Reality Education on Nursing Students

The rapid development of virtual reality technology in recent years has raised questions about its implementation in the education system. In particular, questions have been raised about the value and benefit of virtual reality in both undergraduate and graduate nursing education. This integrative review examined the current literature on the use of virtual reality in nursing education for students. A literature search was conducted by roughly following the PRISMA guidelines and using the CINAHL databases. The studies were conducted between February 2015 and February 2025, and published in English, discussing the effects of virtual reality in nursing education at both undergraduate and graduate levels. A total of 11 articles, such as scoping reviews, mixed methods, and qualitative studies, were analyzed. The literature suggests VR effectively enhances nursing students' clinical performance, knowledge, and self-efficacy; however, limitations in psychomotor skill development and barriers including cost and usability remain significant challenges to implementation.

Lopez, Kendrick

Racial bias in the NFL toward White and Black Quarterbacks

This study explores the drive of racial bias in National Football League (NFL) quarterback evaluations, as well as its effects for career possibilities, leadership perceptions, and professional advancement. Relying on qualitative and quantitative evaluation of available data and scholarly literature, this study examines patterns in draft selections, coaching decisions, performance assessments, and media narratives to identify tendencies that may perpetuate prejudices about intelligence, athleticism, and leadership capacity. The findings aim to contribute to a deeper knowledge of structural injustices in professional sports, to provide insight into how more equitable evaluation procedures might be developed in sport management and organizational leadership settings. By uncovering systemic trends that influence opportunity and perception, the study emphasizes the importance of standardized, evidence-based evaluation criteria that eliminate subjective bias. These findings seek to promote more equal leadership pipelines, increase diversity in key roles, and inspire further scholarly research on race, power, and decision-making in professional sports.

MacArthur, Faith

Nursing Interventions to Enhance Care for Pediatric Patients with Special Needs

Children with special healthcare needs, including those with communication and physical disabilities, experience lapses in nursing care. The negative effects on both the children and their families are linked to insufficient nursing education and training in caring for this population. This integrative review examined research articles that discuss the different obstacles children with special healthcare needs face in the healthcare system, and how healthcare facilities could facilitate more effective care and communication. Using PRISMA guidelines an electronic search using the databases CINAHL and Google Scholar were conducted. Eligibility criteria included peer reviewed articles within the past 15 years, written in English, involved healthcare topics, and focused on the pediatric population between the ages 0-18 years old. The findings highlighted common challenges stemming from limited nursing preparedness and identified strategies to improve healthcare quality, including providing nurses with additional education and training and enhancing their communication and collaborative skills.

Maichin, Daniel

Balkanizing the United States

My research examines the stark regional differences in the United States that undermine its governance and explores how redrawing the boundaries of the United States into sub-regions might offer an alternative form of statehood. My model is based on the workings of the European Union, and I look at: defense and border control, economics, infrastructure, and cultural ties. I utilized existing research about what it means to be classified as a "nation" on the international level, as well as what factors are important domestically for a country to be functional and sustainable in the long term. My model proposes how the United States can operate as different regional areas while preserving a federal system. I conclude that these new states could coexist with less friction and gain benefits while preserving a federal structure to provide oversight, international aid, foreign policy, and facilitate a judicial system.

Marcucilli, Angela

Nothing By Mouth Diets for Low-risk Laboring Mothers: An Integrative Review

It continues to be standard clinical practice for birthing mothers to be placed on a nothing by mouth or water only diet during labor. This common practice was begun in 1946 to prevent pulmonary aspiration (Mendelson's Syndrome), even when a woman is considered "low-risk" for such an event. Low-risk pregnancy is defined as having no maternal or neonatal conditions that could cause harmful labor outcomes to themselves or their neonate. Surveyed women report that this practice leads to discomfort and dissatisfaction. This integrative review investigated whether or not this standard is supported through an assessment of the current science and literature on the practice of nothing by mouth diets in low-risk laboring mothers. It was concluded that the risk of pulmonary aspiration is insignificant and food consumption during labor does not increase risk of adverse outcomes to the mother or the neonate. Further research is needed to initiate a change in clinical practice.

Marquez, Ashley

Against Silence, patriarchal violence, and symbolic justice in Dead Girls

My research is on the social problem of femicide, focusing on the novel *Chicas Muertas (Dead Girls)* by the Argentine writer Selva Almada. Her novelization analyzes gender violence against women in Argentina, focusing on femicides from the 1980s and 1990s. The social problem of femicide currently impacts more than 133 women murdered every day in Latin America. This is a fundamental part of a broader question about the patriarchal, social, and legal structures that perpetuate violence against women and hinder access to justice. My research uses textual analysis, literature review, and an interdisciplinary theoretical approach to examine how the novel works against the normalization of anti-female violence and promotes a critical and empathetic collective memory. I conclude the work represents a broader effort to break the silence and contribute to symbolic and cultural justice for women and victims of femicide in Latin America.

Mecca, Sydney

Mecca-nisms

Mecca-nisms represents an album of original music informed by the concepts and techniques utilized by three significant composers: Wayne Shorter, Joe Henderson, and Melissa Aldana. The inspiration for this project stems from my newfound interest and admiration for the art of jazz arranging and composition. With this inspiration, I conducted research and analysis to arrange and compose an album of my own music. For my research and analysis, I selected three tenor saxophonists that demonstrate profound originality, creativity, and expression as models for my own work. In my thesis, I outlined the compositional approaches utilized by these three composers in their harmonic content, arrangement choices, sonic textures, and personal flair. Through my research and writing, I demonstrate my deeper understanding of jazz composition and the compositional works of these three composers by responding to these models with this album, *Mecca-nisms*.

Mendoza, Julienne

Can early introduction of potential allergens reduce the risk of developing food allergies in infants?

Food allergies among children have become a public health concern with rates doubling over the past two decades. This systematic review examines the impact of introducing common food allergens in infants ages 4 to 6 months to reduce the likelihood of developing food allergies. Medical advice once recommended delaying allergens, but research now suggests early exposure may help prevent food allergies. Pediatric food allergy data was drawn from ten articles sourced from CINAHL and PubMed. All articles were published between 2010 to 2024 and were from peer-reviewed journals. The findings show that introducing allergens like peanuts and eggs at 4–6 months lowers the risk of IgE-mediated food allergies. With the most recent research from October 2025, published by the American Academy of Pediatrics, it was found that implementation of early allergen introduction guidelines was associated with measurable declines in peanut allergy and overall IgE-mediated food allergy in young children.

Montero, Aiden

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Nanku, Aliza

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Niroula, Abhash

Fields or Floors? A Study of Exercise Environment and Memory Performance

This study examined whether exercising outdoors leads to better post-exercise memory performance than exercising indoors. Participants completed a digit-span task immediately after their practice session. Preliminary data from fifteen male athletes showed expected decreases in accuracy as digit length increased. Comparisons between indoor and outdoor exercisers cannot yet be made due to an imbalanced sample, but further data collection is underway to determine whether outdoor activity enhances short-term memory.

Nunez, Tanisha

Childhood Trauma and its Link to Schizophrenia: Neurobiological and Psychosocial Pathways

Schizophrenia is a severe psychiatric disorder characterized by disturbances in thought processes, emotions, and behavior that impair daily functioning. Increasing evidence suggests that adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) may contribute to its development, highlighting interactions among environmental, psychological, and biological factors. This integrative review examined the relationship between childhood trauma, including emotional, physical, and sexual abuse, and the onset of schizophrenia. Following the PRISMA flow diagram, a literature search was conducted using Google Scholar and CINAHL. Eligibility criteria included peer-reviewed articles published in English from 2005 to 2025, conducted worldwide, and focused on participants aged 18 and older. Of 200 studies identified, 10 met criteria and were included. Selected studies used validated tools such as the Childhood Trauma Questionnaire-Short Form and the Positive and Negative Syndrome Scale. Findings indicate childhood trauma increases schizophrenia risk and may influence symptom severity and progression, supporting early identification and trauma-informed care.

Nwafor, Ahamefule

Bordered Bandwidth: A study on American attitudes toward the tension between protecting data and preserving technological innovation

As concerns over data privacy and national security continue to grow, governments are increasingly considering policies that require data to be stored within national borders. Digital sovereignty and data localization have emerged as central debates in the United States, raising questions about the balance between security, economic innovation, and global connectivity. This project examines how stricter data localization policies could impact technological innovation, international collaboration, and public perception within the U.S. By analyzing existing legislation, economic research, and public opinion data, the study evaluates whether efforts to protect national data infrastructure may unintentionally contribute to digital isolation.

Nyman, Niko

"Singin' in the Rain"

An average audience generally associates tap dance with Broadway entertainment. Names like Gene Kelly, Fred Astaire, and Ginger Rogers come to mind as the quintessential Broadway performers of the 1930s and 40s. My creative project, *Singin' in the Rain*, is all about breaking that Broadway stereotype, and showcasing the role tap dance plays as a musical instrument. This short film features a tap dancer (me), pianist, and bass player playing the tune, "Singin in the Rain" by Nacio Herb Brown. As I tap, I improvise rhythmically with other musicians. In addition to my role as a dancer, the musical performance, arrangement, cinematography, editing and recording were all directed by me.

Onugha, Theresa

Maternal Mortality in the U.S. among Minority Women

Maternal mortality is a prevalent Public health concern in the United States having the highest maternal mortality rates among all developed countries. Minority women, especially Black women, suffer higher rates largely due to a history of implicit bias, racial disparities, and continued discriminatory care practices. This integrative review draws from research that studies Maternal Mortality and racial inequality in the United States, to describe barriers in equitable healthcare. The research processes utilized PRISMA guidelines and online databases including CINAHL, PubMed, and Google Scholar. Eligibility requirements include, a publication date from 2009-2025, articles written in English, discussed racial factors in adverse care, interventions with policy making, and included firsthand accounts of bias treatment. The findings showed that implicit medical bias, poor communication, and overall lack of cultural competence, all contribute to differential clinical care.

Additionally, themes of racial trauma, provider mistrust, and psychological stress that negatively impact perinatal experiences.

Oshuporu, Kezia

A Comprehensive Review of Black Maternal Mortality:

Understanding Causes, Inequities and the path to better care

Black maternal mortality remains a serious issue in the United States, with Black women dying from pregnancy-related complications at rates three to four times higher than White women. This paper explored how systemic racism, healthcare provider bias, and limited access to quality care contributed to these disparities. An integrative review was conducted using CINAHL, Cochrane Library, and Google Scholar to locate sources published between 2020 and 2025. The review included research studies, policy analyses, editorials, and patient narratives shared through documentaries and interviews. Findings showed that racism within healthcare systems, implicit bias, gaps in maternity services, and inadequate postpartum follow-up significantly worsen outcomes for Black mothers. Proposed solutions included implementing standardized care protocols, increasing bias training for healthcare professionals, expanding community-based support programs, and strengthening policies that promote health equity. The review also highlighted the critical role nurses play in early recognition of complications, patient advocacy, and providing culturally respectful, life-saving care.

Osman, Seif

Evaluation of using stem cell therapy as a treatment for Parkinson's disease

Parkinson's disease (PD) is a progressive neurodegenerative disorder with limited disease-modifying treatments. This research project compared experimental stem-cell therapies with established physical therapy/exercise interventions using meta-analysis. Clinical trials were gathered from PubMed, Medline, and ClinicalTrials.gov if they enrolled adults with idiopathic PD, used one of these interventions, and reported pre- and post-treatment scores on UPDRS/MDS-UPDRS or related scales. Effect sizes were converted to Hedge's g and pooled using fixed-effect, inverse-variance weighting. Eight stem-cell studies (107 participants) showed a moderate-to-large overall improvement ($g = -0.79$, 95% Confidence Interval: -1.02 to -0.57; Percentage of Heterogeneity, $I^2 = 55.7%$). Six effect sizes from physical therapy/exercise trials also produced a moderate-to-large benefit ($g = -0.67$, 95% CI: -0.84 to -0.51; $I^2 = 74.1%$). These findings suggest that stem-cell therapy is promising but should be viewed as a potential complement - not a replacement - to evidence-based physical rehabilitation.

Ostolaza, Carissa

Depression During Menopause: Addressing Socioeconomic and Menopause-Specific Risk Factors

Menopause is a period of drastic change in a woman's life that is associated with greater risk for depression. Research has helped to identify a variety of socioeconomic factors that contribute to a heightened risk of depression during menopause, such as one's geographic residence and access to adequate healthcare, income, level of education, and cultural bias. Other significant predictors of depression include menopause-specific factors such as the timing of menopause, vasomotor symptoms, and physiological changes. This review of the literature will detail risk factors for depression in women during menopause and will evaluate the effectiveness of treatments that are commonly offered to this population, such as cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT), behavioral treatments, and mindfulness-based therapies. Particular attention will be paid to the role of both socioeconomic and menopause-specific factors contributing to disparities and inequities faced by women seeking quality healthcare. Overall, the goal of this thesis is to acknowledge the benefits of evidence-based treatments, identify gaps in the research literature, and shine light on the issues that make it increasingly difficult for women worldwide to access adequate health care.

Padwelka, Ava Nicole

William Paterson Students' Opinion on Generative AI in Higher Education

The use of artificial intelligence (AI) has become increasingly incorporated into daily life and applications. Many people find themselves using AI to assist in brainstorming and other work. This study seeks to understand how particularly university students are using AI tools and their opinions on AI's current role in education. As generative AI such as ChatGPT becomes more and more prevalent, as well as being integrated into life and education, understanding how students view AI usage policies and their use of artificial intelligence is essential. Utilizing a survey, students' perspectives on the use of artificial intelligence in the classroom and by professors were gathered, along with how they perceived the current policies on campus. The data collected will demonstrate how the students are using or not using artificial intelligence in their academic work, the impact on academic integrity, and if the university policies are sufficient to address proper or improper use of AI.

Paiva De Almeida, Thays

Comparative Analysis of National Dietary Guidance for Infants and Children Across a Sample of Middle- and High-Income Countries

Poor diet quality has increased significantly among children worldwide and is associated with the higher consumption of ultra-processed foods (UPFs). Early feeding practices are crucial for the establishment of healthy dietary habits across the life course, however, there is limited research on pediatric feeding guidelines across countries. The research asks, what do national dietary guidelines say about healthy eating and ultra-processed food (UPF) consumption for children across a sample of middle-income and high-income countries? This study uses qualitative content analysis of national dietary guidelines from 14 middle- and high-income countries. To identify key recommendations for infant and child feeding, information is being collected on topics such as infant feeding, dietary supplementation, ultra-processed food, and added sugar. This presentation will compare and describe the feeding recommendations across the selected countries and evaluate the advice provided on foods with limited nutritional value such as UPFs and food and drink with added sugar.

Perez Ramos, Francisco Pablo

*Gene Expression of *Karenia brevis* Caspase-like Genes Over the Course of the Growth Curve*

Karenia brevis is a toxic dinoflagellate endemic to the Gulf of Mexico, where it forms near annual Florida red tides causing death of marine organisms and human illness. Blooms can last for long periods of time and then rapidly terminate. Programmed Cell Death (PCD) and caspase enzymes have been proposed as a mechanism responsible for the rapid termination of blooms. Four different caspase-like sequences have been identified in a *K. brevis* transcriptome. Previous bioinformatic analyses suggest that *K. brevis* caspases may be unique caspase-like proteins, and the four caspases may perform distinct cellular functions. This study examined gene expression of two of these caspase-like genes during different stages of growth to begin to understand their function in *K. brevis* and bloom termination. Current results suggest that the two caspase-like genes examined show differences in expression supporting the hypothesis they may be involved in distinct cellular roles.

Pokharel, Alisha

Scam or Safe: A Study of Students' Link-Clicking Behavior

Phishing scams were a common cybersecurity threat that tricked people into clicking fake links or sharing personal information. This study examined how well college students could identify phishing versus legitimate web links. Eighty-three undergraduate students completed an online task where they evaluated eight text-based links and decided whether each one was safe or a scam. Overall, students performed slightly better than chance, with an average of 4.71 correct responses out of 8. Confidence was not significantly related to accuracy, meaning students who felt more confident were not necessarily more correct. Response time was also not related to accuracy. However, confidence and response time were negatively related, showing that students who reported higher confidence tended to respond more quickly. These results suggested that confidence reflected decision speed rather than actual phishing detection ability. Understanding these patterns helped highlight the importance of improving cybersecurity awareness and education for students.

Quezada-Rios, Mia

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Quimby, Joseph

The Impact of Physical Activity on Executive Function in Elementary Students

This study explored relationships between physical activity and self-control among children in elementary school. Impulses were counted using a checklist, including spinning, tapping, vocal outbursts and laying down as the behaviors of interest. Observations occurred before and after physical activity. This data were to be compared and inform how movement impacts self-regulation and executive function in young learners. Results indicate that the total number of impulsive behaviors decreased with age and physical activity.

Ramilo, Simone

Beyond the Visual: The Role of Music in Shaping Emotional and Narrative Immersion in Studio Ghibli Films

Studio Ghibli is an animation company that weaves beautiful storytelling with charming animation and timeless music. Their films tell stories built on universal themes and feature scores that entice viewers through evocative music that transcends cultural boundaries. Ghibli is able to intertwine its narratives with heart not only through character and story but especially through its soundtrack. The music sets a kind of rhythm that is not traditionally found in American animation. Other critics have marveled at the role of music in establishing the films' lasting popularity. I highlight the impact of Ghibli's musical compositions on the audience's immersion, and on the success of their films worldwide. This study relies on a close analysis of academic articles, musical scores, interviews, published articles, and online video sources. This study reveals how important and distinctive a musical score can be in cementing animation's global popularity and creating lasting impacts for audiences.

Ramirez, Yocelin

The Psychological, Social, and Academic Impacts of School Shootings on Students: A Phased Literature Review

School shootings and active shooter preparedness have become persistent realities in the United States schools, contributing to heightened anxiety among students and their families. This review of the literature examines whether students experience school-shooting anxiety, explores parental perceptions of safety, evaluates the psychological impact of lockdown drills, and identifies effective interventions to support student well-being. Empirical research indicates many students experience fear, stress, and trauma-related responses related to both direct and indirect exposure to school violence and preparedness practices. Parents report increased anxiety and changes in child-rearing behaviors that may unintentionally intensify children's emotional distress. Although lockdown drills are designed to improve safety, evidence suggests they frequently worsen anxiety without clear proof of effectiveness. The literature emphasizes the importance of collaborative efforts to address school-shooting anxiety with trauma-informed practices, accessible school-based mental health services, and alternative safety measures that reduce fear while maintaining security.

Rauniyar, Rohit Kumar

Developing a Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) Model for Medical Image Recognition

Skin cancer (including melanoma) can be life-threatening if not detected early, and dermoscopic imaging provides a non-invasive way to examine suspicious skin lesions. In this project, I developed an end-to-end convolutional neural network (CNN) pipeline to perform multi-class classification of dermoscopic skin-lesion images into disease categories. The workflow involves acquiring datasets from some source, performing image preprocessing (resizing and normalisation), and implementing class balancing through data augmentation to address class imbalance in the dataset. The data is trained using a CNN model, tuned key hyperparameters, and performance is evaluated using standard classification metrics (e.g., accuracy and sensitivity/recall) to assess how well the model distinguishes between lesion classes. The project concludes with a reproducible implementation and a discussion of limitations and practical considerations for using deep learning as clinical decision support rather than as a standalone diagnostic system.

Reimer, Mikayla

Calyx: Promotional Content

This thesis project, titled *Calyx: Promotional Content*, integrates branding and storytelling to develop a comprehensive multimedia campaign for musical artist Calyx. The project includes the creation of a cohesive visual identity, a fully designed website, tour posters, and social media content that translates the artist's sound, aesthetic, and narrative into a unified visual presence. My work prioritizes mood, tone, and emotional connection, leveraging the content as an extension of the artist's creative voice. By merging artistry with strategic execution, this project demonstrates how multimedia promotion can amplify authenticity and shape a compelling artist experience in today's evolving music landscape.

Reyes, Angelina Liana

Reimagining of the Fates

11x14 watercolor painting depicting my modern interpretation of the Three Fates: Clotho, Lachesis, and Atropos, Greek goddesses portrayed as figures who spin, measure, and cut the thread of human life. Guided by the technical and literary understandings developed through my research and classwork over the years, my project and thesis explore transparency, edge control, and value structure, all of which I draw upon to balance luminosity with symbolic depth. Inspired by the dynamic composition and painterly confidence of Chiron and Achilles by John Singer Sargent, this painting reimagines the Fates within a contemporary visual language. Through layered washes, controlled bleeding, and atmospheric contrast, the piece examines themes of agency, inevitability, and interconnectedness, while showcasing that watercolor as a medium is capable of both delicacy and monumental narrative expression.

Rivera, Jared Alexander

How Personality Shapes Game Preferences

Video games have long been a central form of entertainment, and research now explores how they reflect individual differences in personality and behavior. Studies suggest that traits from the Five-Factor Model influence gaming preferences, with extraverted individuals favoring social or action games and open individuals drawn to creative or narrative genres. These findings indicate that video game choices may mirror deeper psychological tendencies and offer insights into identity expression through interactive media.

Ruhin, Badrul Alam

MLIH Art Foundation Business Plan

This business plan advises the Margareta Levitchi International Health Foundation (MLIH), an art-based venture focused on Renaissance-era religious and secular paintings, giclée prints, and art-inspired home décor, on creating a scalable, financially stable, and mission-driven structure. This plan presents comprehensive business and industry analyses, a revised management structure, social media-focused marketing strategies, and financial projections to support MLIH's expansion. Overall, the plan will enhance MLIH's market position, creating financial stability and long-term growth within a niche market serving both religious and secular art segments.

Sanchez, Ashtin

The Role of AI in Healthcare Decision Making

This study employed a quantitative methodology to assess individuals' usages of Artificial Intelligence (AI) towards healthcare decision making. Data was collected using a Qualtrics survey that asked participants to rank their rate of usage and attitude towards certain topics, such as who would be their first point of contact for a health concern or what specifically they talk to AI about. Additionally, the survey also collected demographic information, such as age, gender, and educational level. Participants for this survey were recruited by word of mouth and snowball sampling. The survey was distributed to all adults over the age of 18, but the majority of respondents (57%) were aged 18-24. The study revealed that most of the time people used AI to look up their symptoms, seek wellness advice, and understand medical terms. This study was novel because it explored a previously understudied topic. With the rise of AI, people are becoming more comfortable with seeking medical information from online sources instead of a healthcare professional. This exploratory survey can be useful to healthcare clinicians like nurses to better understand how people are getting health information. It also may alert them to the fact that many people who seek information in this way may be misled by inaccuracies and unverified advice. This will ultimately change how healthcare providers and nurses approach patient education and understanding.

Sanchez, Kasai Imanai

MLIH Art Foundation Business Plan

This business plan advises the Margareta Levitchi International Health Foundation (MLIH), an art-based venture focused on Renaissance-era religious and secular paintings, giclée prints, and art-inspired home décor, on creating a scalable, financially stable, and mission-driven structure. This plan presents comprehensive business and industry analyses, a revised management structure, social media-focused marketing strategies, and financial projections to support MLIH's expansion. Overall, the plan will enhance MLIH's market position, creating financial stability and long-term growth within a niche market serving both religious and secular art segments.

Schwartz, Madeline A.

Anxiety, Depression, and Coping In Nursing Students

Nursing school shapes not only a nursing student's knowledge around nursing practice but also their emotions towards their career and their work ethic. The amount of anxiety and depression a student faces and how they cope with these feelings can play a large role in how they treat patients, how long they will stay in the nursing field, their view of nursing, how likely they are to advance their educations, and other aspects of their life during and after school. This mixed-methods study sought to explore these emotions and statements using an online survey to collect data. The participants consist of full-time nursing students in the four-year Bachelor of Nursing program in their third or fourth year of school, or having begun clinical classes. Surveys included open ended questions on anxiety, depression, and coping as well as three modified instruments the Generalized Anxiety Disorder 7-item scale (GAD-7), Brief Coping Orientation to Problems Experienced (Brief-COPE), and others to collect data and look for trends and similar experiences in students. Initial survey results found nursing students had anxiety and depression related to exams, class, and clinical as well as impaired coping especially related to maintaining a normal sleep schedule. This raises the issue that colleges need to provide more and better suited support to nursing students.

Sherwood, Tommy

Brave New Radio Sports Recap

Brave New Radio Sports Recap comprises a series of sports news packages covering local high school sports and Pioneer sports. All included recaps represent a collaboration with William Paterson University's student-run radio station, 88.7 Brave New Radio, where I have worked for the past 3 years. Using techniques for compelling storytelling, my goal is to make the recaps easy to follow, whether the audience consists of avid sports fans or people unfamiliar with the sports world. While aiming to be engaging, I must also be concise, as timing is crucial in radio transmissions, and news is aired during the breaks in talk shows. By combining journalistic accuracy with creative narrative techniques, this project not only informs listeners but also elevates local sports coverage to a professional broadcast standard.

Snyder, Jameson

Utilizing Sound Identification to Determine Bird Species Richness in Suburban, Farmland, and Forest Habitats

Previous ethological and ecological studies have shown a correlation between bird species richness and habitat types, some involving the Intermediate Disturbance Hypothesis in their rationale. This study explored the relationship between sonic richness and habitat in a suburban-rural area in Morristown, intending to determine which habitat type — suburban, farmland, or forest — would yield the highest bird sonic richness. With the utilization of Merlin Bird ID, two patches of each habitat type were sampled for thirty minutes over an entire summer season (early-June to mid-October) to record singing birds and use their song to determine which species were present. Results have shown that farmland areas yielded the highest number of Passeriformes, and all listed taxonomic families within that order were present in farmland patches. The results suggest that sonic richness is highest in habitat patches of intermediate disturbance that still offer essential resources for survival, such as food, water, and nesting.

Susanto, Colleen

Gaming and the Brain: How Play Changes Us

Video game use is highly popular among young adults, and individual and contextual factors influence its effects on emotional well-being. This literature review examines the relationship between emotional regulation and problematic video game use, highlighting evidence that emotional dysregulation, particularly emotional suppression, difficulty changing negative thought patterns, and using games to escape reality, is strongly associated with unhealthy gaming behaviors. Young adults who struggle to manage negative emotions are more likely to use gaming as a coping strategy, increasing their risk for excessive or addictive patterns. Stress, feeling unsupported, and negative life experiences further contribute to problematic gaming, while theoretical models suggest that frustration of autonomy, competence, and relatedness may promote obsessive play. Overall, the literature indicates that problematic gaming results from an interaction of emotional vulnerability, motivational processes, and environmental stressors, emphasizing the importance of strengthening emotional regulation in prevention and intervention efforts.

Sutuj, Natali

Exploring Nurses' Perspectives on Language Barriers in the Emergency Department

Language barriers between nurses and patients hinder effective patient care. This research study employed an exploratory, mixed methods approach to assess how nurses perceive and manage language barriers, particularly in the emergency department. An additional area of focus was on the availability of interpreters in patient care. An adapted survey instrument based on the peer-reviewed tool, Communication over Language Barriers Questionnaire (CoLB-Q), was utilized. An anonymous online survey distributed via Qualtrics was implemented to collect data at two hospital sites within a single healthcare organization. This study used purposive sampling to recruit registered nurses with at least six months of experience in the emergency department who have cared for patients with limited English proficiency. Data from this study adds to the current understanding about language barriers in the emergency department, and reveals the challenges nurses encounter when caring for patients who communicate in a different language.

Tamang, Niraj

A Game-Based Method to Study Why Students Fall for Online Scams

This study investigates how university students recognize and respond to online scams using a Qualtrics-based slot machine-style game. Participants place virtual bets, experience small wins, and face withdrawal fees that escalate from \$5 to \$20, simulating real-world scam tactics. Behavioral and emotional responses are analyzed through mixed methods. Findings are expected to reveal cognitive and emotional factors influencing scam susceptibility, offering insights for developing effective, game-based cybersecurity education.

Toledo, Sandra Guadalupe

Impact of Childhood Trauma in Adult Behavior and Lifestyle

Childhood trauma has been shown to impact an individual's life over the course of their adulthood. However, most research to date has focused on the psychological impact of childhood trauma. This review of the literature will broaden the discussion about childhood trauma to focus on its long-term physiological effects, including irregular sleep schedules and chronic illness. Research has demonstrated that trauma does not just change the mind but has a significant effect on an adult's health and lifestyle as well.

Tolentino, Amelia

Long-term effects of Cesarean sections on mothers and achieving a safe and beneficial recovery

Cesarean sections can create several complications to many women that choose this delivery method. This integrative review will examine current literature and research on the long-term effects of cesarean sections on mothers, and what nursing intervention should be provided in order to achieve a beneficial recovery. Databases such as CINAHL, Google Scholar, and National Library of Medicine: PubMed, were used to research the literature. Eligibility criteria include literature published in English and written between 2018 to 2025, peer-reviewed, and that discuss the effects of cesarean sections on mothers. For articles with original research, the main criteria are mothers who had a cesarean section. Findings showed that uterine rupture, placenta previa, and placental abruption are possible complications of cesarean sections. However, through a combination of tools, such as Enhanced Recovery After Cesarean (ERAC) and the Informational-Motivational-Behavioural (IMB) model, complications can be reduced and help mothers achieve a beneficial recovery after cesarean section.

Travis, Ava Victoria

Does Poor Sleep Quality Affect Academic Performance?

Alarm fatigue is a common challenge nurses face in many hospital settings. It occurs when nurses are exposed to large numbers of nonactionable or non-urgent alarms, which contribute to increased stress, delayed response times, and risks to patient safety. This integrative review examined how alarm management strategies reduced alarm fatigue and improved quality of nursing care. A structured literature search was performed using the CINAHL database. A PRISMA-style flow diagram was used to illustrate the article selection process. Included studies were peer reviewed, published within the last five years, in English, and focused on nurses and alarm management. Eleven studies met the inclusion criteria including randomized controlled trials, quality improvement projects, descriptive studies, and integrative reviews. Findings showed interventions, such as alarm education, bundled alarm strategies, and individualized alarm settings reduced nonactionable alarms, improved nurse response to clinically significant alarms, supported nurse well being, and promoted higher quality patient care.

Walsh, Patricia

How are women and girls who participate in athletics affected physically and psychologically, and what broader factors contribute to the high turnover rates of female athletes?

This thesis examines the high turnover rates among female athletes, in particular, the physical and psychological factors that influence their participation in athletics. Female athletes face unique challenges their male counterparts do not, such as a higher rate of injuries, like ACL tears, which are more prominent in women and can significantly impact their ability to compete. These physical setbacks can also intersect with their mindset: mental health, confidence, and motivation to continue in the recovery process. In addition to a higher rate of injury, girls and women also face external societal and cultural pressures relating to body image, gender norms, and performance expectations. My project combines scholarly research with interviews from athletes, coaches, and trainers to better understand these experiences firsthand. I highlight the significant reasons many girls and women leave athletics and provide recommendations for improving support for them and encouraging long-term participation in sports.

Wells, Renee

Beyond the Scoreboard: Analyzing Mental Health in NCAA Student-Athletes

While mental health concerns are common among college students, student-athletes often face additional demands, including intense training schedules, academic responsibilities, performance expectations, and social pressures. These factors, combined with a persistent stigma surrounding mental health in athletic culture, may discourage athletes from seeking support. This study asks how the demands of collegiate athletics contribute to mental health struggles and what strategies institutions can implement to better support student-athletes. Using a mixed-methods approach, the research includes a review of existing literature from psychology, sports studies, and medical sources, as well as case studies, personal narratives, and surveys and interviews with student-athletes at William Paterson University. The findings aim to highlight key mental health challenges, such as anxiety, depression, and burnout, while also evaluating institutional supports and proposing strategies colleges can adopt to improve mental health resources for student-athletes.

Winn, Killian

Making an Album in 2026

My album, *Ominous Dancing Zen*, focuses on current and contemporary challenges of making an album and compares this process to that of artists in the last hundred years. I will make my own album to try to understand the process and accurately reflect it in my thesis. The current tools at a musician's disposal are more plentiful than ever before, offering greater liberties in both the creative and recording process, both of which determine the resulting sound of the music. Many different methods of recording are available, from analog tape to digital audio workstations. In addition, the various microphones and audio input devices can be as crucial to a record's sound as the musicians playing the music. In addition to different recording techniques, contemporary musicians have the opportunity to blend many different styles, thereby creating entirely new styles that both reflect their influences and explore uncharted territory. By setting out to make an album of my own, I will learn firsthand how the creative and recording processes have taken shape in 2026.

Woods, Aiden

The Aiden Woods Group: Developing a Band in the 2020s

The research presented in *The Aiden Woods Group: Developing a Band in the 2020s* examines the development of a cohesive sound as a band with consistent personnel and repertoire and the realities of putting that idea into practice as a bandleader in New York City today. Further discussed are the composing and bandleading techniques of my musical inspirations and the ways in which the goals and the techniques I employ as a composer and bandleader have changed over the course of this study. The development of my band, repertoire, and original music is presented through a collection of recordings from February 2025 to March 2026. Each recording is accompanied by liner notes describing the reason for performing the composition, the ways in which the composition changed through consistent practice and performance, and the importance of these changes to the cohesion of the band's sound.

Wohlrabe, Evan

Bebop and Beyond: Exploring the Compositional Styles of Monk, Parker, and Coltrane

Bebop and Beyond examines the compositional styles of three major figures in the jazz tradition, Thelonious Monk, Charlie Parker, and John Coltrane. I explore each of these musicians' styles by analyzing their compositions and composing my own works—all of which incorporate their concepts. I have written one original composition emulating the style of each model composer's unique musical language; my compositional choices relate back to the analysis of these model works. I have also written an arrangement of each composer's original compositions, adding modern concepts to their work while further exploring new possibilities for interpreting their music.

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