



CONNECTICUT COLLEGE
**ALL-COLLEGE
SYMPOSIUM**

2020 Abstracts

Presented by seniors at the
All College Symposium,
November 6, 2020

AMMERMAN - SYMPOSIUM 2020 ABSTRACTS

Megan Aldrich

Musical Language

Musical language is a project that looks to challenge the ideas behind musical composition. Through an algorithm that I developed, a composition will be output. This algorithm will take text input and output a score for 4 voice parts.

Anna Baronsky

Visualizing Data with AR

I plan to show how to use Augmented Reality to visualize impersonal data and numbers of people in a more tangible and personal way. Throughout the summer there has been an increase in petitions due to the share-ability and simplicity to sign. While petitions are a good way to share information and call for change or action, they are easy to ignore and don't often have much lasting impact. With my project, I hope to increase the impact that petitions can have through AR visualizations of amounts of people.

Kevin Odwesso

Refashioning Batammaliba Architecture

Refashioning Batammaliba architecture aims at incorporating today's architectural concepts in a vernacular design which serves the needs of contemporary society. While maintaining the significance of the home as a 'person' with various body parts, it also aims at helping the audience to have an appreciation of how vernacular spaces are still applicable in our day to day living.

Carla Torres

Plants in a Different Light

By hearing people's stories about their relationship and connection with plants, the project's purpose is to be able to showcase how people view plants through the use of augmented reality. I will model a plant through their eyes and hopefully be able to represent connections and relationships through an animated 3D model in an interactive space.

Emma Furgueson, Tatiana Wiener

The Science of Why Men are Trash

We will create a virtual experience, portraying the hardships of modern women in society. This art experience consists of real life accounts that women have experienced to convey the daily struggles women work through. This is meant to make people feel uncomfortable and open the eyes of the campus community to better treat each other.

BODIES - SYMPOSIUM 2020 ABSTRACTS

Darriana Greer, Journee Hardaway

A Deep-Rooted Connection: Uniting the African Diaspora Through Rhythm and Dance
(Journee Hardaway and Darriana Greer will be giving a joint presentation)

This presentation focuses on the relationship of dance and rhythm between the countries of Ghana, Trinidad and Tobago, and the United States. While black people in these three countries have created their own cultures and have developed their own identities based on their unique experiences, you can identify the influence of Western Africa in these cultures and practices. The persistence of the dance circle is one element that is apparent in many social dances throughout the diaspora. We are using the dance circle as a framework to analyze the connections between dance, blackness, and geographical location.

Charlotte Harding

You Know the Feeling... Embodied Knowledge and Power

My project will analyze how embodied knowledge is affected by systems of power. Embodied knowledge is the visceral knowing and understanding of your experience. This comes into contact, and often tension, with systems of power in clinical settings as well as everyday social structures. I will use my research from Hip Hop Dance, The Cultured Body, Critical Sexuality as well as my experience with my internship. Furthermore, I will be conducting interviews for personal anecdotes of embodied knowledge and related issues of subordination. These anecdotes will be captions for a series of photographs that artistically represent the experience being described.

Elisa Kennedy

Whose Stage is it Really?

Who gets to tell their story? Who has the power to decide and create these narratives? Through my American Studies and Dance double major, and guided by my animating question of, "How does representation of bodies on stage reinforce certain erasures and inequities in U.S. society?", I have looked at how dominant bodies contribute to the erasure of bodies on stage, specifically in dance and in theater. These onstage narratives can be seen as parallel to the socio-political atmosphere of the U.S., as stories are erased and skewed by the dominant body's point of view.

Daphne Michie

Lovers, Snakes, and Beauty: What we Know about Cleopatra

Cleopatra is overly sexualized and her identity has been erased in western forms of storytelling. Men controlled the construction of narrative. Those in power have the ability to craft narrative for marginalized people. Marginalized people can be erased or misrepresented in western narrative.

Riley Myhaver

Movement as Therapy

As a dance and behavioral neuroscience double major, I am thoroughly interested about the intersections between these two subjects. From this overlapping interest, I came to the Animating Question "How can movement be used as a form of therapy?" Through this topic, I have explored how dance and movement in general can be used as a form for both psychological and physical therapy.

Chloe Peters

The "World's Oldest Profession" Then and Now

Sex work has long been referred to as the "world's oldest profession." Within various countries and across various times, sex work has existed and has been impacted by several social systems. After describing my experiences abroad in Denmark learning about sex work, I will then look at sex work within two separate social contexts: Ancient Greece and the present day US. I will look at the patriarchy and the legal systems for these contexts, and analyze how those systems impact the lives of sex workers, and then compare the lives of sex workers within these contexts.

Lexi Pope

Body & Mind in Motion

(Lexi Pope and Ayana Sequira will be giving a joint presentation)

We found that our animating questions compliment each other and overlap with a focus on mental health and physical/mental awareness. First we will discuss our animating questions, course itinerary, and global/local engagement components. Then we will facilitate an interactive movement segment. It will require participants to be mindful of specific parts of their body as they work through the movement. Finally, we will conclude our findings from this project, ask for audience participation to discuss their experiences with the movement segment, and reflect on our takeaways from this pathway.

Ayana Sequira

Body/Mind in Motion

(Lexi Pope and Ayana Sequira will be giving a joint presentation)

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CISLA - SYMPOSIUM 2020 ABSTRACTS

Amy Armata

How Local and Global Engagement assisted the Development of my Independent Study

I will be discussing the transition of my Senior Integrated Project from the field of education to the field of refugees and conflict resolution. Then, I will discuss how my experiences with local and global engagement over the summer helped me develop more skills and more information about my project. I will conclude my presentation by explaining the ongoing armed conflict in Senegal and the research questions I will be exploring further in the Spring of 2021.

Piper Baine

Exploring the Narratives of Identity Within Global Advertising

This project explores global marketing techniques, the storytelling behind brands, and the consumption habits of French consumers. It focuses on the concepts of branding, the globalization of brands, French luxury brands, stereotypes and connotations of brands, global advertising legislation, and language within advertisements. The research questions it intends to answer are: How does the English language interact with the French language within advertisements? How does this affect national identity and cultural narratives?

Elizabeth Berry

Ferrante and Feminism: Women Chasing Writing Leads to Friendship and Rivalry

Analyzing the role of second-wave feminism in Italy during the 1970s, specifically the practice of autocoscienza (consciousness-raising) via writing, in the third novel of Elena Ferrante's the Neapolitan Quartet titled "Those Who Leave and Those Stay." The research questions I intend to answer include: how does the relationship between the protagonists in the novel and their writing exhibit qualities of autocoscienza? And to what extent does the author and the readers themselves interact with this practice while reading the novel as well as in contemporary Italian feminism?

Carly Breslin

Gender and Color Associations Through Children's Views

The purpose of this research is to look at the correlation between color preference and gender socialization in children. With our changing world of social media and the rise of terms for differentiation amongst gender identification, it is important to see how gender schemas are formed in order to allow more open dialogue and acceptance for future generations. Through a correlational study, the researcher hypothesizes there will be a positive correlation between gender and color preference and will achieve these results by surveying parents of young children and college students.

Hannah Capucilli-Shatan

Contemporary Art and How It Reflects Current Politics in Italy

When I complete this project next spring, the research questions I intend to answer include: what topics are most common in political contemporary art? How does the 2019 Venice Biennale and its art reflect politics in Italy? How does the 2018 Manifesta Biennale in Palermo and its art reflect politics in Italy? How does contemporary art express sentiments about the European migration crisis, refugees, and the trends towards the far-right in elected bodies? How does the curation of these Biennales reflect current politics? What are my predictions for future Biennales?

Emily Cowan

Foreign Languages and Their Use in Korean Music

Focus on the ongoing use of foreign loan words in Korean language and the increased use of foreign languages in Korean music. Does this shift come from a desire to be more accessible to a global market, from a shift in the Korean language's use of foreign words, or simply because the words are available? When did the use of loan words become popular in speech versus in music? How do world music trends reflect in the languages that are used in Korean music?

Anayis Doolittle

The Impact of French Policy on France's Armenian Communities

My SIP is an analysis of the ways in which the French government's political and economic relationship with Armenia has impacted France's Armenian communities. In particular, the French government criminalized genocide denial in 2016, which created pushback from Turkish communities in France. Consequently, Turkey temporarily removed their French diplomat. However, on the other end of the spectrum, the Armenian community took this as an act of solidarity from the French government. I will be studying how French-Armenians viewed this policy change when it took place, and how they view their own identity and place in France.

Ashley Drummey

Notes of Earthiness and Identity: A Study of Spanish Viticulture

A history of valuing marketing above product quality in Spain's wine industry has led to a loss of traditional viticulture and vinification practices. For decades large producers have benefitted from this trend, but a new wave of 'terroirist' winemakers with the goal of "producing wines that express the special qualities of grape varieties, soils, and climates" (Gonzalez & Dans, 2018) is challenging Spain's traditional system. During this talk, I will be exploring the intersections between regional identity and sustainable agriculture in this emerging movement in Spain.

Kelley Spy Frumer

Northern Chinese Food

A taste of cuisine, culture, and culinary expression from Northern China.

Kayla Glemaud

The Negative Impact of the French Government and Societal Norms on Migrants

An exploration of how assimilation has impacted Northern African migrants from daily life to cultural practices for generations and how it's supported by government policy and French societal norms. Specifically, I will be examining Algerian, Tunisian, and Moroccan's histories with French colonization and the cultural changes to better understand how French law and society today continue to oppress migrants that live in France.

Zoe Honigberg

Bibliotheken und Gesellschaften: a Study of Public Libraries and Communities in Germany

Public libraries serve as equalizers in communities, providing resources and tools to all community members. However, each community has different needs, meaning each library must work to appropriately cater to those needs in programming, offerings, and accessibility. My internship research this past summer focused on the relationship between public libraries and communities in North America, and my CISLA SIP I will conduct in the spring of 2021 will focus on this relationship in the German context. In my presentation, I will summarize the questions I have already begun to explore and those I still intend to answer.

Fiona Hull

Neutrality and Humanitarian Challenges: UNRWA's Role in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Under the framework of forced migration, and diaspora, in this case, the Palestinian refugee movement(s), my research moves to answer the following questions: What are the social and political implications of different types of resettlement techniques, and what has UNRWA's role been in the development, or stagnation, of these techniques? How has UNRWA worked to maintain their status as a 'neutral' humanitarian body while facing global political criticisms? This research will strive to understand UNRWA's role as a 'neutral' actor while supporting the contingent of Palestinian refugees that steadily increased through the latter half of the century.

Emir Kulluk

The Disappearance of the French New Wave and the Aftermath

The French New Wave was deemed as a revolution in cinema during its peak within the 1960s, with countless contributions to the stories told within cinema, filmmaking techniques and the general artistic aura around cinema, ever since it was invented by the Lumière brothers in 1895. However, as the years moved on, French New Wave cinema went on a severe decline, with the name taking its place within the history books as an influential, but dated period within cinema.

Maria MacNeill

Understanding the Figure of the Woman in Italian-American Migrant Literature

As a topic that has only recently begun to be considered in a serious, academic manner, Italian-American migrant literature has the potential to bring us illuminating conclusions about our current world, which continues to face crucial issues of migration. This presentation will discuss how my initial research and remote internship experience at a center for Italian emigration studies have helped me to understand this topic and focus specifically on the role of women in this literature. The literary analysis that I am preparing to complete next semester will highlight Italian-American female voices and their narrative conceptions of themselves.

Samuel Marsh

Challenges of Third-Party Mediation in the Donbass Conflict

The ongoing war in the Donbass region of Ukraine has continued long enough to become one of the longest-lasting European wars in recent history, and despite continued efforts to end the conflict, ceasefires are still broken. I will be presenting on how my thesis intends to identify whether the lack of mediation success in Ukraine is correlated to any known factors that shape mediation outcomes or whether previously under-emphasized aspects have caused these efforts to remain unsuccessful.

Allison McNamara

Evaluating Microfinance and the Potential to Economically Empower Women in Peru

Microfinance loans have emerged as a leading method to reduce poverty and economically empower people in developing countries. Women in particular have become the primary recipients of microfinance loans. However, recent studies show that microfinance loans only have short-term benefits, and ultimately contributed to the indebtedness of many developing countries. My research studies the effectiveness of microfinance loans in the Sacred Valley of Peru, and their ability, or lack thereof, to economically empower women in this region.

Ann Monk

Education Policies, Obstacles and Opportunities for MENA Region Refugees and Migrants

My symposium presentation discusses my research and honors thesis on education policies, obstacles and opportunities for refugees and migrants in the Middle East and North Africa. I will begin by exploring my Connecticut College journey, including my coursework, volunteer work, study abroad experiences and internships. In particular, I will discuss my spring internship in Morocco as an English teacher for sub-Saharan migrants, and my remote summer internship with the Jordan-based organization Paper Airplanes working with Syrian refugee students. Lastly, I will explore how these experiences have influenced my research and the current state of my honors thesis.

Fiona Noonan

Why Did France's Yellow Vest Movement and Pension Strike Succeed?

While studying abroad in Paris for the fall 2019 semester, I witnessed two major social movements: the Yellow Vest movement and a pension strike. Each movement was in response to French economic policy and points to underlying anti-establishment sentiments and the rise of populism. Both caused major disruptions across the country. And in both cases, President Macron yielded to the protestors' main demand, indicating each movement's success in changing national policy. I will analyze the factors that may have caused President Macron to yield to protestors and strikers.

Nouhaila Oudija

The Economic Development Trajectory of Equatorial-Guinea

Despite having the third largest oil reserves in Africa, Equatorial Guinea remains a country with extreme rates of poverty and deprivation. The Equatoguinean people have seen marginal improvements in their standard of living since oil was discovered. This is due partly to the dictatorship that has ruled the country but also, as I hope to show, to the complicity of US oil companies and their indirect sponsorship of the regime. This case study ties into the broader theme of how foreign economic involvement can be a defining factor of the trajectory of political and economic development of African countries.

Medha Parnas

Women Corporate Leaders, Corporate Social Responsibility, Sustainability, and Company Policies: An Analysis

While indubitably a prevalent and prominent global issue, women's rights are on the rise, and in conjunction, their labour participation. Many corporations around the world are seemingly following a trend of hiring and promoting more women to key leadership positions in their corporate structures. This project will analyze the presence of women leaders in a corporate structure, their impact (if any) on corporate social responsibility and company policies, their approaches to sustainability, impact of intersectionality, and the underlying interrelations amongst these variables. This project will primarily focus on women corporate leaders in Peru, and in India for comparison purposes.

Priyanka Ramchurn

Accelerating the Global Momentum Around Blue Finance and Blue Investments

I will investigate how to leverage the amount of capital required to accelerate investment in the Blue Economy which has great potential to increase jobs, improve livelihoods and drive economic growth. I want to convey the endless possibilities this sector can create if we integrate science, finance, and ocean governance in a harmonious and effective way. I am proposing a revolutionary idea of creating a global ocean institution which will act as an umbrella institution to coordinate activities occurring in the oceans. It will include a research branch to drive innovations within the Blue Economy and a financial branch.

Jack Rider-McGovern

Teaching a Spoken Language: Moroccan Arabic

The study of Arabic in America is rather new and undeveloped in comparison to other colonial languages. Most courses focus on Modern Standard Arabic, the written form of the language used in formal media and writing, but without knowing a spoken dialect of Arabic, students are left unable to communicate with people in the Arab world. In my project, I will study the strategies used to teach students a purely spoken language and produce an elementary textbook of Moroccan Arabic

Jordan Rottger

Memories of War: WWII Commemoration and National Identity in Russian Film

My senior integrative project focuses on the remembrance of WWII through the lens of Russian film, exploring the role of film in creating and mythologizing Russian national memory of WWII. It will trace a brief history of Russian film, then compare and analyze a survey of Russian WWII films. Throughout the project, I will seek to answer these questions: How do the commemorations of WWII in Russian film compare to one another? How does each portrayal function in the discourse of Russian WWII remembrance and national identity? How might this continue to change in the future?

Christian Salguero

Why are Gly31, Gly33 and Gly35 highly conserved in all fluorescent proteins?

In our research lab, we are doing a comprehensive computational analysis of Green Fluorescent Protein (GFP) and some of its mutants. This would directly reveal the importance of the mutated residues and the impact that said mutations have on chromophore formation. This will be observed through molecular dynamics simulations and measurements between the key residues compared to those of naturally occurring GFP (wild-type). The mutations so far have been G31A, G33A, and G35A. During this semester we would like to continue to explore the G35A mutation and possible double mutants.

Emily Sandall

The Kuril Islands: Narratives of National Hegemony

At the end of World War II, the Soviet Union seized a chain of islands located north of Japan that had formerly been a part of the Japanese empire; the islands remain disputed territory to this day, and is the primary reason why a formal peace treaty between Russia and the Soviet Union had never been signed. This honors thesis explores museums in both Japan and Russia whose subject is the Ainu people indigenous to the disputed Kuril Islands, and how the narratives promulgated by those museums contribute to Russian and Japanese narratives regarding the rightful owner of the territory.

Abigail Schmitt

The Efficacy of Government and NGO Response to Food Insecurity in Peru

A comparative analysis of the efficacy of the Peruvian government and non-government organizational response to food insecurity among the Venezuelan migrant and refugee population of Lima, Peru, in the context of COVID-19. Semi-structured interviews, organization data, and academic publications will be used to synthesize the measures taken to reduce food insecurity and hunger. Framing this study through an anthropological lens will allow a broader understanding of the social and cultural impacts of food insecurity.

Lucas Siegel

Indian Maoism as a Social and Political Movement

Since 1967, Communist insurgents have waged a 'People's War' against India. What explains the persistent appeal of revolution in 'the World's Largest Democracy'? Despite the end of British rule in 1947, India's post-colonial elites preserved many colonial institutions. Marginalized groups in post-independence India, for whom 'democratic' institutions had borne little fruit, thus found themselves ripe for a revolutionary movement. Meanwhile, Communist movements around the world were capturing

the attention of large sections of India's educated population, some of whom became Maoist leaders. The dialectical contradiction between these two disparate social strata forms the basis of India's Maoist revolution.

Emily Suher

Analyzing the Representation of Women in 19th Century French Art

For my SIP, I will be analyzing the portrayal of women in 19th century French Impressionism. I will examine issues of gender, class, and politics that informed painters' depictions of women. I intend to take a closer look at the binaries that were imposed upon women at the time, from the urban prostitute to the leisurely bourgeois woman. The late 18th century and 19th century ushered in a time of great change in France, and these changes greatly influenced women and how they were painted.

Christina Tougias

Contemporary Discourse on Right-Wing Political Parties in France and Germany

As time changes, trajectories and objectives of political parties change as well. The Rassemblement National in France and the Alternative für Deutschland in Germany, two right-wing European political parties, appear to be diverging in directions in order to best advance their agendas. As the Rassemblement National moves in a more moderate direction with the goal of appealing to a greater percent of the population, the Alternative für Deutschland is moving in a more radical direction. Why are these political parties moving in these directions and what factors seem to be driving the parties to do so?

Hillary Tun

Confucian Traditions and Contemporary Political Discourse

大家好！Hello everyone!

My name is Hillary Tun. I am a CISLA Scholar majoring in History and minoring in Chinese Language Studies. My Senior Integrative Project (SIP) will examine the relationship between Confucian Traditions (儒家傳統觀念) and Contemporary Chinese Political Discourse (當代中國政治話語).

The three concepts central to my research are:

- 1) 幸福 (Happiness)
- 2) 小康社會 (Moderately Prosperous Society)
- 3) 中國夢 (Chinese Dream)

My SIP aims to answer the following questions:

What is Happiness in Confucian Traditions?

How does a Moderately Prosperous Society look in 21st Century China?

How does the rhetoric of Happiness shape contemporary political discourse?

Roy Walton

The Soviet Union and the International Brigades of the Spanish Civil War

The thesis is focusing on the International Brigades during the Spanish Civil War. I want to explore the role the Soviet Union played in war and in the material culture of the brigadiers. I am doing this by examining contemporary photography and looking for assemblages of items in an attempt to look for a collective material culture. I will compare this primary data set with two other data sets: one from Soviet photojournalists during the Second World War and another from Italian Blackshirts from the Spanish Civil War.

Charlotte Williams

Attitudes Toward Special Education Among Chinese American Parents In A Cultural Context

My exploratory research focuses on the views of immigrant Chinese American parents of children receiving special education services, connecting it to research on the views Chinese native parents and larger society holds about disability. China has yet to embrace mental health and cognitive disability as topics for mainstream discussion resulting in a silence surrounding the issue. Based on prior experiences and research, I'm interested in understanding whether and how educational stigma exists in Chinese American parents.

CREATIVITY - SYMPOSIUM 2020 ABSTRACTS

Sydney Bryan

We're an Excess of Plastic

Research and exploration of the magnitude of the plastic pollution on our planet. What are plastic alternatives around the world? Who's already making solutions work? Culminating in a performance that involves movement invention and a sound score made from plastic.

Maggie Burns

Filmmaking, Representation, and Activism: A Look at Get Out

This project explores the importance of representation and how it can be used as activism in narrative fiction filmmaking. Representation is important to the experience of viewing the film, as well as how the film is perceived, discussed, and analyzed following a viewing. Who a viewer sees on the screen and the way that character is portrayed is key in identification, and can be used to further or break stereotypes, biases, and misinformation. In using Get Out as a case study, this project examines how representation is utilized and perceived, and what the representation means in a greater context.

Becca Collins

Performing Arts and the Power of Healing

During my college career, I have constantly been striving to answer the question: how can performing arts be used as a tool for healing? I have found meaningful connections between my theater, human development, music, and dance interests that lead me to believe that the performing arts have a huge potential to improve one's mental health socially, emotionally, and cognitively. I have particularly observed these findings within young children ages two to ten.

Amanda Ennis

Ceramic Chords: Musical Longing

Good sculpture develops the sense of touch, and must awaken in us this longing, argues art historian W. R. Valentiner. But in a pandemic, one cannot simply go around touching things, so I am going to virtually share my ceramic work through a series of nature videos. I have lyrics and guitar to play over the footage that describe feelings of confinement and stability as well as centering on the potter's wheel. The three ceramic pieces I created this semester work off each other, and the chord decisions do the same throughout the three songs simply changing keys.

Shonan Hendre

Artificial Intelligence and Custom Real-Time Object Detection Frameworks

A framework for real-time object detection for a automotive vehicle using Deep Learning such as ResNet and Convolutional Neural Networks to perform image processing and detection for custom objects

Martha Kenyon

Comedy from the Margins

This presentation will seek to explore the impact of comedy which comes forth from those who are ostensibly in the margins. Who is able to tell their stories? Are stories best portrayed by those who lived them? Must there be a thesis to one's story?

Talia Maglione

Communicating Botany Through Art

Botany and art fill my life and I have spent copious amounts of time exploring the intersections between them throughout my education. The most compelling intersection to me personally is the usage of art to communicate botanic information. I love the idea of using art to tackle complex and important ideas because, whether we notice it or not, we surround ourselves with art in life. Through the pathway I have been able to explore this connection extensively and begin to build my own body of artwork inspired by the nature surrounding me, the climate, science, and my own personal identity.

Jared Nussbaum

Creativity in the Individual and in Society

In my presentation, I explore what creativity is, and I use this definition to determine whether it is a personal or impersonal process—terms that I also define. I explain how a creative process evolves over time from the individual to society and ultimately back to the individual. I conclude that creativity is both a personal and impersonal process whose makeup is in a constant state of flux.

Carly Sponzo

Challenging Society Through Costume Design

In my time at Connecticut College, and in my future career as a costume designer, I explore how characters onstage may be designed in ways that shift audience perspective. This particularly relates to classical texts like Shakespeare - which have historically been and remain exclusive. It is important for me to investigate new representations of these characters; destabilizing the notion that these works are for a select group only and force them to be reflective of society today.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP - SYMPOSIUM 2020 ABSTRACTS

Rylee Arner

How to Create a Successful and Sustainable Coffee Shop

Throughout the last three semesters, I have been researching answers to my question on how to create a successful coffee house. My research has included courses taken at Connecticut College and a global/local engagement with Tastecraft Cafe. During this time, I experienced real-life problems and learned how to face challenges in an actual business setting. Problems such as sustainability, location, environment, and preference changes occurred, but with creativity and determination were, or are, being solved.

Samantha Barth

The Ugly Side of the Beauty Industry

My integrative project is an independent study that I will complete in the spring of 2021. I will look at the beauty industry critically and through a sociological lens. I interrogate if and how the beauty standards that makeup brands perpetuate are racist/sexist, and how a seemingly "shallow" industry relates to broader social issues. I hope to determine if more inclusive branding would help makeup brands from a business standpoint, and will make recommendations as to how beauty brands can be less harmful in this way.

Cameron Drayton

Creating the Right Online Platform for Sustainable Clothing

For my pathway symposium, I will be addressing the question "How can eCommerce and affiliate platforms help consumers shop sustainably while accommodating changes in shopping trends?" I am interested in finding ways to allow consumers to easily shop sustainably. Many consumers want to shop sustainably, but quickly encounter issues with finding great products. I am interested in filling this need.

Koby Giglietti

Sustainability through Urban Gardens and their Positive Impact in Communities

My Animating Question dives into communities that lack healthy food and produce for reasons such as being located in a food desert or individuals being immune-compromised. Urban Gardens are developing across many large cities to help bring such food directly into the hands of those that need it the most. Through careful consideration, directors at urban gardens are entwining healthy habits with overall positive engagement through local community members. Such education and opportunity can forever change individuals and communities to being able to provide for themselves and living more joyful lives.

Larsen Henken

Maintaining a Healthy Lifestyle While Staying Motivated

What is an efficient, effective, and affordable way to maintain a healthy lifestyle while staying motivated? It is evident that there is a key first step -- education on motivation and what "being healthy" can look like. After completing my global-local engagement, studying abroad in Copenhagen, Denmark, I realized and learned that there is no "one size fits all" when it comes to achieving positive well-being and ultimately a healthy lifestyle.

Phung Khiem, Mia Nguyen

Promoting Sustainable Fashion and Taking Advantage of Natural Resources in Vietnam

Mai Nguyen and Khiem Phung, working together, recognize a trend in Vietnam in which local brands that use sustainable material do not attract millennials and Generation Z even though they are groups who make more apparel purchases than any other generation. Why does this gap exist? We notice that those brands do not usually have creative or appealing designs to attract these customers. The purpose of this presentation is to provide promotion strategies and methods to make use of natural resources and traditional practices for eco-friendly production.

George Lantz

Funding Underfunded Nonprofits

Many nonprofits struggle to achieve steady funding. This project aims at identifying the problems nonprofits face in regard to fundraising. By forming professionalized networks with local businesses and government, nonprofits can identify valuable sources of funding in the short and long term context. Also, by establishing specific, measurable goals, nonprofits can organize internally to become more efficient and effective in their efforts. This project combines real world-experience with academic research to reach its conclusion.

Ian McAleer

Equipping the Healthcare System to Patients' Needs During Crises

During economic downturns, people neglect healthcare maintenance, and during pandemics, businesses undergo rigorous expensive research and development. I hypothesize that a coordinated approach to vaccine production and initiatives that reinforce healthy habits during economic downturns or pandemics would lead to a healthier population. Supported by government regulation and initiatives including the "Let's Move" initiative. Healthy lifestyle promotion during economic downturns led to maintaining a healthier longer living population. A coordinated vaccine production approach would promote quicker responses to various illnesses including Covid as it enables avoidance of redundant research and development time and cost.

Devin McNamara

Effective Communication of Products and Services in Health and Wellbeing

How can I effectively communicate products and services in health and wellbeing to individuals and how much of an impact could it have on their lives? I have learned that there are many ways to communicate this to people. That being said, there are specific variables and considerations that I have learned to specifically value, such as building rapport with the client, creating "Buy-In, becoming genuinely interested in them, along with understanding where people stand on a continuum of behavioral change.

McKaela Simons

Technology and the Environment: How Technology Could Help or Hurt Us

Technology has always had a major impact on the environment from the industrial revolution to the growth of renewable energy technology. This presentation will dive into how new technologies like artificial intelligence have the possibility to and currently are impacting the environment both positively and negatively.

Colin Spinney

How do You Improve Access to Lacrosse?

Lacrosse is a very regionalized sport and not accessible to parts of the country. Throughout this process, I have explored the hurdles that influence the spread of lacrosse and how we can set up a process to sustain an organization within the New London area.

Brett Stirling

What is the Process of Endowing a Collegiate Sports Team?

What is the process of endowing a collegiate sports team? Using actual budget numbers from our Athletic Director I am looking to figure out what we will need in capital and realistic market returns to make an individual sports team autonomous. Reflecting on my global/local experience at a private equity firm in Hong Kong I learned that the most important thing in raising capital is to have a proven track record. In order to build a track record as such, it is important to start with small grassroots yet tangible fundraising projects.

Ian Stockham

Startup/Technical Hubs as an Economic Stimpack

What is the ideal environment to foster startup hubs/technical hubs? How do these “hubs” help to benefit the economies which surround them?

EYE OF THE MIND - SYMPOSIUM 2020 ABSTRACTS

Thomas Degenhardt

The Connections Curriculum and the Liberal Arts: A Pathway Based Perspective

The Connections Curriculum is the result of long thoughtful deliberation about how to create a good framework for providing a liberal arts education. In view of what the liberal arts are, why did this thoughtful deliberation result in a curriculum that looks like it does now? My best answer to this question so far is that it gets students to use the critical thinking skills that their education is supposed to cultivate as they move through their education; thereby having them learn by doing.

Sarah Van Deusen

Literature, Eroticism, and Pedagogy

Student-teacher affairs are often incredibly detrimental to all parties involved, especially to the young victim. The literature regarding this issue also evidences the irony that the victim in these relationships—sometimes a student, sometimes the figure of a daughter or a son, but always that of an individual in a position of inequality—is oftentimes portrayed as the instigator in the situation. How can our culture reconcile the destructive reality of these relationships with its collective sexual fantasy involving them? How are these structures of desire and power linked to our knowledge, and how might we begin their undoing?

Elizabeth Vinsson

Constructing Stories: How the Liberal Arts Connect to Publishing

How Do the Liberal Arts Develop an Understanding of the Construction of Stories? How Does This Type of Education Prepare One for a Career in the Publishing Industry? I will be discussing how my liberal arts education has helped me understand how narratives in all forms develop, and what narratives have historically has elevated visibility. I will connect this to my experience at Scholastic and what I hope to achieve in my own career in the publishing industry.

Conor Smith

Collectivism and Individualism: Experiences within the Liberal Arts

GLOBAL CAPITALISM - SYMPOSIUM 2020 ABSTRACTS

Muhammad Ahmed

The New Global Worker-Employee Relationships

How has globalization changed the dynamics of worker employee relationships in the United States?

Finn Boed

Corporations in Government & Politics: An Uneasy Balance

How do multinational corporations influence the sovereignty of governments and people's representation in politics?

Haakon Brooks

Sustainable Modes of Development Under Global Capitalism

Looking to the future, what type of developmental relationship between already developed (core) and underdeveloped/developing (periphery) states is most sustainable to pursue?

Molly Carabatsos

The Gendered Wage Gap

Do governments in capitalist societies foster gender norms that legitimize gender inequality?

Kevin Fellows

The Sustainability of Global Supply Chains

In answering my animating question, "can global capitalism succeed at a transnational level by creating more sustainable supply chains?" I explore how my academic coursework at Connecticut College, my study abroad experience, and my work in the Global Capitalism Integrative Pathway helped shape my thinking on this overarching question. Based on these experiences, I draw the tentative conclusion that sustainable supply chains can support global capitalism at a transnational level dependent on accountable suppliers, incentivizing sustainability, setting tangible reduction targets, encouraging industry collaboration, and the utilization of reverse logistics.

Maria Ferreira

Colonial Impacts on Political Development

How does colonialism impact colonized political development?

Lauren Munster

Capitalism and Terrorism Within the Global Sphere

How has global capitalism fostered Anti-American rhetoric and terrorism across the globe?

Madeline Stavis

Ethical Consequences of Capitalism

What are the ethical consequences of capitalist cost cutting practices and are there ways to improve them?

Jessica-Lyn Sweet

The Relationship Between Increasing Globality and Cultural Homogenization

Does increasing globality, as a result of global capitalism, result in the homogenization of cultures, languages, and identities?

GNC - SYMPOSIUM 2020 ABSTRACTS

Tess Beardell

Growing Community from Seed

Food and land are two characteristics of the human experience that remain constant regardless of culture or place. Every person must eat to live and every person lives on Earth's land. In this way, these characteristics are great equalizers and tremendous sources of power. My work in the Goodwin-Niering Center acknowledges the value of community-based agriculture as a tool to create coherent, empowered, and resilient communities and explores how fresh food, grown well, can be as nourishing to the Earth as it is to human communities.

Addie Daly

Realistically Making Industrial Agriculture More Sustainable

I will identify 3-4 realistic changes that I (and my advisors) believe could be made to an industrial scale farm that focuses on corn or soybeans. These changes would be things that would make the farm more sustainable and that could actually be implemented. Once I have identified these changes I think should be made, I will investigate the policy surrounding these changes and see if the policy can be altered to better support the new and sustainable modifications.

Cleo Dolde

Examining Various Restoration and Forest Management Methods in Tropical Rainforests

A focus on the tropical forestry and restoration approaches of different organizations worldwide. I will examine these organizations in a theoretical manner from both a scientific and marketing standpoint. From this research, I plan to determine the most effective tropical rainforest restoration methodologies while considering the ethical, economic, and feasibility factors involved as well. I will complete this project in the Spring 2021 semester as an independent study.

Caty Fortin

Environmental Justice Movements and Remediation In American Cities

A discussion of my internship with Sustainable Connecticut working with CT towns on their sustainability work and learning more about municipal government structure and processes. I will be using this knowledge to look at an American city as a case study to understand mobilization work against city councils and industry that perpetuate environmental racism and injustice against vulnerable communities.

Naveen Goonerante

Seasonal and Annual Variation in Species and Reason for Admission at TSBR

In preparation for my Senior Integrative Project, I interned at Tristate Bird Rescue and Research Inc. (TSBR), a non-profit bird rescue based in Newark, Delaware. Since 2015, TSBR has been keeping records of all its patients in an online database, Wildlife Rehabilitation MD (WRMD). For my Senior Integrative Project, I am going to use the data from the years 2015 to 2019 and look at how the bird species admission, and the reason for admission changes seasonally and between years to look for any interesting patterns and determine the greatest threats to birds in this area.

Morgan Maccione

A Culture of Waste: Food Waste Diversion Efforts

Food waste is a serious, but easy-to-solve issue. Humans' discard and consumption habits are reflected in our trash and in landfills. Just as we can learn about habits and lifestyles of a particular group from an

archaeological dig site, we can learn about our current habits and lifestyles by looking at our waste. What are the long-lasting impacts of waste on the environment and how can waste be diverted, or better yet, reduced? I will research “sustainable” discard habits and factors that contribute to food waste on the consumer level and manufacturer level.

Grace Neale

The Effect of Exposure to Environmental Toxins on the Brain During Childhood

An investigation on the effects of environmental toxins on the brain, specifically during childhood. As much as we know about how caring for our environment is important, and even how caring for the health of the environment can benefit our own human health as well, we often do not think about just how much our environment can affect our health and subsequently how it affects our society, even with seemingly unrelated societal issues in our world today. My SIP will use rat models, exposing them to environmental toxins at different life stages before they complete behavioral tests.

Joanna Rucker

Ecotourism in Latin American Islands

Ecotourism is nature-based tourism that should educate visitors while contributing to the local economy and environmental conservation. It is becoming increasingly prevalent worldwide. However, there are many potential negative impacts of the ecotourism industry and it is often not as sustainable as intended. It can cause harm to the environment and result in increased inequality and economic inefficiency. I will analyze the environmental and economic impacts of the ecotourism industry and explore ways to be an environmentally conscious tourist.

Ella Rumpf

The Ethics of Single-Use Items and the Zero Waste Lifestyle

An exploration of the ethics of single-use items and whether or not we should strive to live zero waste lifestyles. I aim to understand our moral obligations when it comes to using single-use items, whether or not producers or consumers are responsible for the resulting waste, and critically assess the zero waste movement.

Julia Whelan

Chimpanzee Display Behaviors: An Analysis of Accumulative Stone-Throwing

Chimpanzees are highly intelligent animals that perform a variety of different behaviors, each with its own unique purpose. Accumulative stone-throwing behavior has been observed in one community of chimpanzees located in Guinea-Bissau. I collected and analyzed data collected from camera trap videos recorded in 2017 in order to develop and propose an explanation for this novel and seemingly inexplicable behavior.

Shefka Williams

Examining the Future of Local Food Systems

My Senior Integrative Project for the Goodwin-Niering center will focus on exploring current local food systems and how to move towards one that is more environmentally sustainable and inclusive.

HOLLERAN - SYMPOSIUM 2020 ABSTRACTS

Grace Amato

Revolutionary Friendships: Transnational Feminism, Sandinistas and the Demilitarization of Vieques

My presentation centers the role of United States feminists of color in the Sandinista Revolution in Nicaragua and in the movement to demilitarize Vieques in Puerto Rico to consider activists' approaches to confronting US imperialism in Latin America. I use transnational primary sources from the late twentieth century focused on differential oppositional consciousness of feminists during these struggles. My analysis connects scholarship on transnational feminist movements, particularly Vietnam peace activists, to recognize solidarity as revolutionary. My study is an example of solidarity work as "theory in the flesh," bringing together a theoretical and practical examination of these two critical movements.

Giselle Barahona

Environmental Justice and Communities of Color: Creating Resilient Communities for the Future

Historically, society's most vulnerable communities have burdened the nation's mistreatment of the environment, especially communities of color. These communities have been targets to host facilities that have negative environmental impacts, like landfills, and are often deprived of environmental benefits, like access to waterfronts. Since the 1980s, the environmental justice movement, led by people of color, has been promoting environmental and social justice by recognizing the direct link between capitalism, public health, and the environment, demanding safe, clean communities. Today, the challenge becomes how to balance addressing the environmental issues without jeopardizing the affordability of living in these communities.

Audrey Black

The Power of Personal Narrative in Impacting Social Change

In James Baldwin's words, the "precise role of the artist, [is to] make the world a more human dwelling place." Utilizing this ideology, I intend to explore the use of personal narrative in creating change. While working for GLAAD I worked to create a curriculum about the power of narrative in activist circles, and I assisted young writers by editing their stories for GLAAD's online publication AMP. I intend to explore how creative writing can impact social change as I work on my senior thesis, a creative writing piece about mental illness in LGBTQ youth.

Lydia Chase

Pandemic-Fueled Inequality: COVID-19 and Agricultural Producers vs Consumers

Migrant agricultural laborers in the United States have long faced underpayment, strenuous hours of employment, and substandard working conditions. The COVID-19 pandemic has made this worse, and exacerbated existing inequalities within the United States food system. Due to agriculture being deemed an "essential" business, farmworkers have been required to work and those looking for a pandemic diversion have been able to garden. This presentation will study this contrast between migrant agricultural laborers, made more vulnerable to the virus as producers in this essential industry, and middle class leisure gardeners, offered a sense of "escape" from surrounding chaos as consumers.

Joshua Coleman

Social Mobility In a Divided Society: Housing Segregation in Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland offers a unique insight into how a nation continues to grapple with its colonial legacy, despite the country only celebrating its centenary in 2021. Virtually all towns and cities are still segregated based on religious tribalism: Protestants on one side and Catholics on the other. Ultimately, these developments have been dictated by the way housing has been historically managed with perceived

social differences hampering long-term integration. Subsequently, I argue that these divisions still mean that resources are continually being duplicated for each side of the community, which is leading to inefficient resource allocations.

Jacee Cox

Higher Education and Public Goods: Expanding Equity in a Post-Pandemic Society

Despite what institutions of higher education preach about opportunity and the value of a college degree, graduates increasingly fear falling through socioeconomic cracks. Students are functioning within what some scholars call a “caste system” of higher education, which necessitates large financial investments in exchange for mere socioeconomic survival. This caste system disproportionately affects disadvantaged and marginalized populations within American society. Through intersectional, historical, and political lenses, this research examines how enhancing and improving the perception and administration of higher education as a public good can work to ameliorate social justice inequities and dismantle this “collegiate caste system.”

Genevieve Duff

The Opportunity for Equitable Schooling through Bilingual Education

With the number of emerging bilingual students on the rise, it is essential to implement bilingual education in schools to support student development. However, in an age of high-stakes testing and English-focused instruction, bilingual education has been devalued, further perpetuating xenophobic ideologies and the marginalization of these students. English-only policies are based on a deficit-thinking attitude towards bilingualism which can be damaging to students’ identity formation and academic success. My research examines the historical context for bilingual education and the teaching practices necessary to implement effective and equitable bilingual programs and to disrupt xenophobic educational structures.

Victoria Duszak

Racial Disparities in Neurological Disease: The Role of Scientific Inequity

Neurological disorders affect hundreds of millions of people worldwide. An estimated 47.5 million people suffer from dementia globally, with approximately 7.7 million new cases diagnosed yearly. These diseases disproportionately affect people of color, with African Americans being twice as likely to suffer from Alzheimer’s Disease than whites. Poor understanding of this and other disparities can be traced to scientific inequities in neuroscience research. Specifically, low recruitment among minority populations for research and underrepresentation of researchers of color in this work contribute. This presentation examines these issues and addresses specific disparities in Multiple Sclerosis and Alzheimer’s Disease.

Kiely French

The Effect of Childhood Trauma on Development

Childhood trauma, specifically abuse, neglect and instability in the household, has been proven to lead to negative outcomes in adulthood, including substance abuse, poor physical and mental health, and high-risk behavior. I have come to understand trauma to be possible from a range of potent life stressors, including the experience of a pandemic, through my placements at York Correctional Institute, the Homeless Hospitality Center, and Henry J. Austin Health Center. These experiences have shaped a senior integrative project focused on how the excess expression of the cortisol hormone, resulting from trauma, affects the developing brain.

Isabelle Goldberg

American Exceptionalism in U.S. History Curricula

American history lessons promote patriotism to instill a sense of pride in our nation. This encouragement of our students is part of the generational refresh of civic-minded adults and political leaders. However, promoting unencumbered American exceptionalism in classrooms omits important lessons extracted from negative chapters of America's past that could help address today's national struggles with nationalism, improve policymaking, and stimulate a more informed electorate moving forward - perhaps shaping a better version of patriotism. In my presentation, I will outline my project, which aims to understand how to make American history curricula more critical, inclusive, and informative.

Erin Greateorex

HIV Prevention in Communities and Schools

Only, 24 states and the District of Columbia require sex education in schools, and 34 mandate HIV education. How does this influence sexual health disparities in the United States? And how can we do better? This presentation examines the current limitations of school-based HIV prevention and how community-based HIV/ AIDS service organizations respond. Building on outreach/prevention work in my internship at a Maine AIDS service organization, my senior project will develop an educator's guide for sex education that covers medically relevant information for sexual health, within an identity affirming and sex positive framework.

Andy Guevara

Social and Policy Barriers Facing Immigrants and their Families in the US

In this presidential election year, immigration policy is one of the many urgent issues that voters are focusing on. Recent pictures and stories surrounding the dangerously overcrowded conditions and mistreatment of immigrants at detention facilities have sparked discussions around the country on how exactly immigrants are treated in the U.S. In addition to their legal status, immigrants are faced with many social challenges that not only impact them but also future generations. This presentation examines the experiences of immigrants in the U.S. and battles they must overcome like language acquisition, food insecurity, and anti-immigration rhetoric and policy.

Andra Gurley-Green

Navigating College with Invisible Chronic Illness: Addressing Bias and Barriers

The symptoms of invisible chronic illness (ICI) are equally as unseen as the burden that students with ICI bear. While there are policies and procedures in college designed to assist students with disabilities through their experience, these policies (e.g. mandatory attendance) are inherently ableist. To properly address the needs of students with ICI, the student-professor and student-policy interactions must be understood. My research addresses how college accessibility policy and its implementation influences faculty perceptions of accommodation legitimacy and feasibility and examines how more informative and transparent communication may reduce both bias and barriers for students with ICI.

Stephania Lopez

Do Our Neighborhoods Make Us Fat? Exploring Disparities in Health and Nutrition

The nation is experiencing an obesity epidemic, with more than two-thirds of American adults classified as overweight or having obesity. While concerning, even more concerning are the disparities in this trend. The prevalence of obesity is higher in low-income populations, as well as in racial and ethnic minority groups, compared to socially-advantaged populations. Furthermore, inequalities in obesity rates vary among neighborhoods, resulting in further health disparities. In this presentation, I will examine food environment and health, and describe my independent study looking at the effect of diet and rearing environment on the learning and memory of rats.

Stephanie Martinez

Beyond the Ballot Box: Latinx Political Participation

“The sleeping giant” was a hopeful take on the future of Mexican-American voter participation during the 1950s. This hope has instead come to represent the unfulfilled political potential of the greater contemporary Latinx population. Most political science literature surrounding Latinx political participation has focused on the role of language, immigration, and descriptive representation in shaping decisions to participate. This study examines how Latinx Americans conceptualize political participation on their own terms. Expanding on the growing area of political ethnography, this study can also deepen our understanding of what constitutes political participation in American politics beyond the ballot box.

Julia O'Connell

The Construction of Self: A Study on Asian American Identity

Although Asian Americans are perceived as the model minority through stereotypes that permeate our everyday rhetoric, this perception is not constant. In fact, specific events in history have uncovered the yellow peril stereotype, pointing to the idea that the model minority stereotype does not always hold true. In my research, I examine how events throughout American history have constructed certain attitudes toward Asian Americans and the way in which this has led to their personal racial identity development. This presentation will use the sociological perspective to understand how affinity to the Asian American identity affects behavior in society.

Clare Peyton

A Guide for the Actor: Developing Critical Consciousness in Theatre

Theatre education in the United States is underfunded, often inaccessible, and largely non-inclusive. Similarly, Westernized theatrical opportunities on/off the stage have historically centered whiteness and white supremacist culture. I will argue that one way theatre educators and practitioners could shift these patterns is with a more social justice-informed approach. For my senior project, I am creating an actor's guide for approaching character and scene analysis that centers an analysis of power, privilege, oppression, and diversity in intersectional identities, all of which are at play, but often neglected, in every character's circumstances in a theatrical piece.

Devon Rancourt

Memories of Russian Language Class in Bulgaria During Socialism

In Bulgaria, the Russian language became a mandatory school subject after World War II, when Soviet influence took hold, and remained a requirement until the end of socialism in 1990. To study adaptation and resistance to this totalitarian educational practice, I am conducting an ethnography of Russian language teaching in Bulgaria focusing on memories of Bulgarians who were students at the time. This presentation will analyze the history of teaching Russian during the socialist period in Bulgaria in addition to the memories of people who have lived through this experience and their relationship to the Russian language today.

Kairis Rivera

The Show Must Not Go On: White Supremacy in Theatrical Training

The “We See You” movement has brought forward the institutionalized racism that theatre has advocated for. Through a series of interviews with BIPOC actors, who support the “We See You” movement, readings of scholarly articles, and recollections of my own experience in theatrical training, I intend to critique the ideology that has been rooted in an actor's training; white supremacy. There is a demand to reframe the acting training, to resist the teachings of being an exception and object in the lies of representation. The end project, a solo performance, orders anti-racist training and the significance to participate.

Aidan Sachs

Antiracism Education in the Elementary School Classroom

Our public education system is flawed. The curriculum is outdated and non-inclusive. Teachers are not adequately prepared to teach students equitably and with a social justice lens. Recent, tragic events in our country show us that it is not enough to be “not racist.” To create a more just society, we must be antiracist, and actively dismantle the systems that reproduce racism. Schools serve as a key starting point. In this presentation, I will examine available antiracism curricula, recent policy threats to antiracist education, and discuss my work with the Maine Department of Education’s Student Cabinet’s Antiracism Subcommittee.

Talley Sacks

Dismantling the School-to-Prison Pipeline: Social-Justice Informed Mental Health Advocacy

Why are so many children of color going to court instead of recess? Research on the school-to-prison pipeline points to the criminalization of behavior problems in a racist educational system. Within the juvenile justice system, 50-70% of children meet the criteria for mental health diagnoses. These children are marginalized students of color whose behavioral difficulties at school were met with punishment rather than mental health resources. My research argues that educational institutions are critical sources of access to mental health resources and social-justice informed, school-based mental health advocacy can help dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline.

Gabby Veilleux

Considering PTSD Specific to Human Trafficking Survivors: an Animal Model Study

Post-traumatic stress disorder affects roughly 8% of the population. Only recently has there been an acknowledgment that the type of trauma one experiences can influence the likelihood of developing PTSD and how it presents. Human Trafficking is a prolonged and repetitive traumatic experience targeting vulnerable populations lacking resources in the country they are smuggled into. The mental health effects of this complex trauma are under-researched and thus treatment models are underdeveloped leading to inadequate support for trafficking victims. My research aims to address these limitations by developing an animal model for examining the neurobiological underpinnings of human trafficking trauma.

Marianna Wells

US Asylum Policy Effectively Eliminates Asylum from Latin American Nations

U.S. asylum policies, specifically the Migrant Protect Protocol (MPP), the Third Country Transit System and the Prompt Asylum Case Review (PACR) program are an affront to international humanitarian law and effectively eliminate asylum from Latin American countries. These laws were designed to reduce asylum applications from Latin America and have put those who are fleeing for their lives at greater risk of extortion, assault, trafficking, and death. This study will use migration and ethnographic data and the case studies of Venezuela and Guatemala to analyze the true impact of these US asylum policies.

PEACE AND CONFLICT - SYMPOSIUM 2020 ABSTRACTS

Peace and Conflict Pathway: Discussion of the Journey of the class of 2021:

Nikki Alexander
Nicole Caputo
Grace Desroches
Brooklynn Hayes
Grace Killian
Aidan McCarthy
Katie Skinner
Brooke Sponzo
Maxwell Whisnant

Working collaboratively and in a creative media format, the Peace and Conflict class of 2021 created a group video to share their experiences in the pathway and their learning journey as a group. In the discussion, they will have an opportunity to elaborate on their impressions, to answer questions from the audience, and to discuss how they hope to continue their work after graduation. Finally, the group will have an opportunity to return to the fundamental concepts introduced in their first class, PAX 201, and imagine how those ideas and ideals still resonate in their lives.

POWER/KNOWLEDGE AND CITIES & SCHOOLS - SYMPOSIUM 2020 ABSTRACTS (Joined into one pathway in 2020, as “Power, Knowledge and Practice”)

Abigail Acheson

Global Citizenship in American Universities

American universities are increasingly emphasizing global citizenship and global-local engagement in their programming and curricular design. What purpose does this serve and who benefits from this? As volunteer tourism and international study abroad grow, what kinds of subjects do they produce, how are they complicit in unequal power dynamics, and what could be done to avoid strengthening racism and imperialism via these programs?

Violet Better

Our Different Concepts of Climate Change

My research involves different fields of knowledge and how they relate to various meanings of climate change to the individual. Looking through different lenses, I explore the different factors - whether psychological, societal, or geographical - that play a role in shaping the concept. Through various books, courses, and other experiences throughout my college years, I have taken into account these different factors to explore the depths of why we disagree on climate change and how these factors can help lead us towards a solution.

Lara Cazemajou

Somali Refugee Resettlement in Maine and Minnesota

The resettlement of Somali refugees has transformed the political and social landscape of communities across the United States. Through an examination of Somali refugee resettlement in Lewiston, Maine, and Minneapolis, Minnesota from 1990 to 2016, I hope to better understand different waves of resettlement by exploring the following questions: what pull factors created the variables necessary for the success of Somali-American communities? How did two predominately white, historically conservative states become havens for Somali immigrants? And, what can the resettlement experiences of Somali refugees teach us about agency in migrant communities?

Natasha Claudio

The Colonization of Curriculum: Silencing Puerto Rican Voices in U.S. Literature

In my presentation, I will be discussing the ways Puerto Rican poets are not included in the studies of U.S. literature in schools. I will be arguing that schools are colonial spaces, which continue to be white and male dominated. Colonization of the U.S literature curriculum negatively affects Puerto Rican children who attend these schools by working to keep Puerto Ricans oppressed in the United States. I will be reimagining a curriculum for these students. Libraries can serve as space for curriculum-building around identity for communities of color. In my presentation, I imagine a library model similar to the Nuyorican Poets' Cafe, which gives voice to poets of the diaspora. I will be focused on the New London Public Library specifically, and their collection of Puerto Rican literature, as well how they can improve.

Emma Coles

Housing and School Funding: Examining Equitable Access to Education

This project focuses on how policies surrounding school funding and housing create inequitable access to education, and how this can be changed. Examining redlining's legacy of discrimination and the perpetuation of inequality that funding based on property taxes creates, this project aims to highlight how

inequality is often individualized, as well as the intentionality and interconnectedness of the systems that currently exist. In light of the COVID pandemic, many are calling for a radical reimagining of education, and it's time for structural change to ensure that education is finally the great equalizer it's always proclaimed to be.

Lily Davey

Science as Subjective: A Departure from the Absolute Truth Narrative

This presentation will walk viewers through the evolution of my animating question, largely shaped by my personal experience as a female physics and mathematics major. Topics discussed include the STEM gender gap, the presence of bias in the creation of scientific knowledge, and the harmful impacts of treating scientific knowledge as Absolute Truth.

Katherine Farr

Decolonization, Active Collections, and the Future of History Museums

My project will attempt to explore how city museums act as schools, the curricula and hidden curricula of American history museums, whether or not such museums are "decolonizing" or otherwise changing to fit the modern day, and if so, how. I will use the two museums I have interned at, the National Archives and Records Administration Museum, and the National Museum of American History, as case studies.

Mark Formisano

How Effects of Colonialism and Capitalism Override Typical Measures of Democracy

My intention is to highlight how the systematic pressures placed in a contemporary and historical contexts are critical in understanding the perceived success or failure of nations. The most influential of these forces are capitalism and colonialism, which often fail to be put under direct scrutiny when examining the presence of democracy, corruption, political instability, and representation.

Aruna Gopalan

Public Memory of the Indian Partition

Public memory of a historical event is formed by various factors, among them government documents and official narratives of the event. By drawing upon government archives and the works of scholars writing about the Partition of the Indian subcontinent, I aim to explore how the common narratives of the Partition (present in public education, museums, etc) are directly affected by which narratives are present within government records. Through acknowledging the marginalized peoples and voices absent from government records, we can begin to reconstruct a new form of Partition history and begin to question the goals of public history itself.

Walter Komishane

Funding Under-Resourced Public Schools and Creative Solutions

Throughout this presentation, I will be going through the main reasons why funding under-resourced public schools needs to be fundamentally changed. I will also be talking about the ways in which talking about creative solutions to funding public schools is itself a problematic solution in its own right. The main focus will be how the current system of funding negatively affects under-resourced communities as well as communities of color. There will also be discussion about how educational funding is affected by political culture at large and how historical and political influences have prevented these communities from obtaining the resources they need to support their population.

Renna Kuzdzal

Resisting English Language Hegemony

With so many misconceptions surrounding immigrants, particularly surrounding their language use and ability to learn English, how do immigrants in the U.S. resist the dominance of the English language? This presentation briefly looks at those misconceptions and how immigrants respond and resist the dominance of English in the United States.

Sydney Lamb

The Cost of Diversity: Differential Benefits of Diversity in Higher Education

The inclusion of students from a multitude of backgrounds objectively has a very positive impact on higher education. This inclusion has also been exceptionally important to the students who, for most of the history of higher education, were not welcomed to these institutions. However, when considering diversity we must take a critical approach and ask ourselves what it means to be at a "diverse" school for the students who serve as the diversity. This presentation will attempt to answer this question with a specific emphasis on the experience of students of color attending PWIs.

Sarah Lawler

The Production of Scientific Knowledge and Public Health Inequity

The production of science, although presented otherwise, is inherently biased. Power and political needs influence the creation, production, and teaching of scientific knowledge. My research is focused on how structures of power influence scientific fields, specifically the production of knowledge and public health inequity. By studying these issues from an intersectional lens, I hope to challenge the narrative of scientific "truth" and evaluate science's hidden biases.

Colby Rees

How is Technology Dangerous?

Technology creates ease in everyday life. From ordering food with a touch of a button to messaging friends within seconds, technology has aided in the growth of the 21st century. With the positive advantages to technology, the dangers can sneak in. The increase in surveillance applications in work places and people monitoring through social media has led to smart devices being essential for work and life as a way to be part of the technological society. Those in control of this information and who have access to the advancing technology can benefit, but even those who benefit are in danger from the information. The dangers of technology expand to users of applications to those without access for accessibility reasons. The social and technological implications of modern technology are changing how people work, live, and risk a loss in individualism.

Hadley Sherman

Power in the Asylum

Basically, I will be incorporating my art thesis into my project. My thesis is about my experiences with mental health and particularly my manic episode last year and being institutionalized. For my project, I will be focusing more on the power dynamics in the "asylum" between all people involved, as well as power structures in general society with people with mental illness.

Mary Sherwin

Catholic School Closures

The topic of interest I will be focusing on is the outcomes of students that attended Catholic schools that no longer exist. My high school closed in May of 2018, forcing roughly 190 students to find new schools to finish their high school degrees. Therefore, my question is: How are student outcomes affected when a Catholic school closes?

Maria Tucker

Repatriation of Art and Artifacts

Museums have lately been criticized for holding on to acquisitions made under colonial occupation, and they are now being forced to reconcile with their colonial past. However, there are hurdles and obstacles that a museum and source nation have to navigate in order to come to a mutual agreement of either returning the objects or loaning them. Disputes of having objects returned to their country of origin have been going on for decades. I hope to bring to light some of the arguments being made as well as the history behind some of these disputes.

Mary Grace Vallacchi

Museums: Past & Present

Museums have a long history of racism and classism, so it isn't surprising that many people around the country have been advocating for the decolonization of these institutions. Through various classes at Conn I have learned about many inequalities in the world and realized how those injustices are present in every aspect of life, even my own field of interest as an Art History major. Thus, in this presentation I intend to explore the classist roots of American museums, how those histories manifest in today's museums, and why they still remain a source of unbiased knowledge.

Katey Vesta

Societal Hierarchies and Reproduction in Micro-Societal Spaces

"I wish I could live in a way that isn't dictated by the rules and expectations of society." The thought has certainly crossed many people's minds - certainly those who are disenfranchised or oppressed in some way by the regime in which they live. Historically there have been countless attempts to create some form of new social order that would fix any such perceived flaws. However, is it possible for people to escape pre-existing societal power hierarchies, or are they doomed to simply recreate the same structures in any other community they attempt to create?

Emmanuel Williamson

The Hardship Of Cocoa

My Global engagement looks at the world of farming Cocoa in Ghana. This Research reveals the corruption of the Chocolate market through the hardship of Cocoa producing countries. In this study, I looked to expose the disparities between Cocoa exporting countries and importing countries. I hope to reveal the business behind the universal delicacy chocolate. I visited cocoa farms and documented photos of the cultivation process. I also researched this study with the guidance of the HOD at Ashesi University Dr. Stephen E. Armah.

PUBLIC HEALTH - SYMPOSIUM 2020 ABSTRACTS

Keira Abbott

Physical & Mental Importance of Hippotherapy

I am currently interested in exploring how working with animals, specifically horses, can have positive effects on people with disabilities. The participants that take lessons at High Hopes work have a range of abilities and are all unique individuals. I learned that each person may require a slight variation in the lesson plan but overall, they all experience growth from the riding experience. This growth can be achieving the goals set for them, the joy that riding brings them, or the physical and health benefits from riding.

Ahmed AboHamad

Science Policy Wars and the Public Health

During pandemics, we often think of the solution as finding a vaccine, foregrounding science as the most valuable academic endeavor to achieve this goal. People tend to disregard the importance of other domains, like philosophy, assuming that it is not as essential for the public health as medicine. Nonetheless, we need philosophy in making decisions about which research to fund and whom to prioritize for treatment, implementing equitable policies that prioritize the health of every member of the community, and building and maintaining trust in science. My animating question is: Why is philosophy as important as sciences during pandemics?

Mairi Anthony

Recognizing Healthcare Disparities Among Individuals With Disabilities

This presentation discusses the healthcare disparities among individuals with existing physical or intellectual disabilities

Matthew Baronas

Green Infrastructure Impact on City Health

Analysis of health benefits of green infrastructure on city health. Description of my experience as an intern at Central New Hampshire Planning commission. How my experience expanded my knowledge of how planners implement green infrastructure and promote health in their regions. Example of Concord, New Hampshire's implemented and future planned green infrastructure.

Nicole Belanger

What Resources Do Patients Have Within Hospitals to Advocate for Their Treatment?

I will focus my animating question on the treatment of patients within a hospital setting. Nurses and physicians on staff have incredibly high stress jobs. They need to be able to develop unique courses of action for hundreds of patients on a weekly basis while working long and exhausting shifts. They must also do so while maintaining ethical and non-discriminatory treatment practice.

Willa Bogedal

Therapy in a Changing World

I will be focusing on the importance of talk therapy. I will also be illustrating how it can help individuals strengthen their interpersonal relationships within their communities. Lastly, I will touch upon the importance of therapy during the age of coronavirus.

Katie Carlson

Declaring Racism a Public Health Crisis

How my education around racism in public health as well as working with a public policy organization this summer has influenced my desire to pursue a career in the field of public health.

Carvens Charles

What is the Prevalence of Sexual Education in Non-Affluent Communities?

I worked with a doctor to teach minority young men regarding sexual education. It is important that we reach out to the younger generation about safer sex practices, or they will learn the wrong information elsewhere.

Sarah Clark

How does Accessibility to Blood Compare Across Communities?

Through local engagement with the American Red Cross Blood Drives and global engagement in Denmark and with Sierra Leone, I questioned the accessibility to blood comparatively across communities globally. Numerous articles have been published describing the blood shortages across the country due to COVID-19. It is important to think outside of our own community and consider the implications globally. How does this blood shortage compare internationally? The Public Health Pathway has informed me on the inequities regarding accessibility. My public health experience has cultivated an interest in discovering accessibility issues regarding blood availability for transfusions.

Taeva Cohen

Covid-19; an Elitist Pandemic?

A timeline of my learning to show how I have grown in my understanding of public health with an emphasis on my global learning experiences. I relate my learnings on health inequities to COVID-19 and how the pandemic has elevated these inequities, both here in the United States and globally.

Molly Craven

Exploring Attitudes towards Vaccination, and the Factors that may Inform those Attitudes

Courses I've taken at Conn that explored topics like bioethics and the role of storytelling in illness, as well as my experience interning at a hospital have shown me that everyone has their own unique set of experiences that inform their relationship with the healthcare field. I am interested in how the public's attitudes towards the healthcare field, specifically vaccination, have changed and what factors have influenced that change. My exploration of these questions have also been impacted by living during the COVID-19 pandemic and witnessing the response to the prospect of a COVID-19 vaccine.

Meredith Cronin

How Does the Representation of Different Races and Genders Affect Athletics?

The presentation involves a reflection of my own personal experience at Connecticut College, while showcasing the intersection of both public health and athletics. The discussion will delve deeper into the relatedness of both, and exclaim the importance of one to the other.

Abbie Cronin

How to raise awareness in regards to men's mental health?

I will be looking at the stigma surrounding men's mental health. I had a personal experience watching my brother struggle with his own mental health and not feeling like he could confide in the people he was closest to. I believe that starting a conversation opens up the doors to allow others to also share their story. There is a large problem in the medical field regarding the approach general practitioners take

towards addressing mental health. I hope to go to medical school after college and further incorporate this idea into a potential career as a doctor.

Caroline Cullen

The Impact of Retail Pharmacies on Community Public Health

Retail pharmacies are often overlooked for their importance in supporting communities outside of medication dispensing. Throughout my unique experience working in a pharmacy during a global health crisis, I have observed many unexpected aspects of pharmacy that I would like to bring with me into my future professional endeavors.

Maggie DiPalo

What is the Impact of Intergenerational Trauma on Health Outcomes among Marginalized Groups?

Mental health needs to be addressed as a collective concern instead of an individual deficit. Societal, economic, and cultural downfalls contribute to a lacking health care system that pushes away people who need care the most; people of color, victims of trauma and abuse, and those with little to no economic resources. Mental health difficulties arise and are labelled as a personal failure of the psyche, the brain, or one's coping abilities. This is not true nor helpful when thinking about mental health in minoritized communities. As a society, we have created mental health disparities through centuries of racist, dehumanizing practices that weave their way into every institution; this is called historical trauma. May we no longer see symptoms of mental illness as solely a result of unique individual circumstances but also as an outcome of an unjust society.

Shannon Finnegan

How political conflicts affect people's trauma mentally and physically post-crisis?

I am focusing on how political conflicts have traumatic impacts on people and what steps can be taken to improve their trauma. This concept originated from some of the government courses I took both in Connecticut and abroad. Some of which included torture, terrorism, organized crime, and politics of refugees. I wanted to go more in-depth than the politics of it and look at both the mental and physical effects on people. Some of the solutions I wanted to focus on was artistically based and focused on people expressing themselves.

Matthew Gilmore

Community Based Public Health Initiatives: How Can We Help Without Hurting More

Community based public health initiatives can be defined as, "Community Health refers to the health status of a defined group of people and the actions and conditions, both private and public, to promote, protect, and preserve their health" (McKenzie et al., 2005). These types of public health initiatives can either be very successful or the implementation can pose problems for a particular community causing the initiative to fail. Throughout my pathway I have worked to bring this question together as well as examine the components that make these initiatives successful or failures through examples such as The Northern Karelia Project.

Roo Hottois

An Open Letter: Reclaiming Agency in Narratives of Mental Illness Through Poetry

The power of expressive arts therapy—specifically, biblio/poetry therapy—in reclaiming and renegotiating agency in narratives of mental illness.

Elle Kass

What is the Relationship Between Sleep and Trauma Disorders Within our Society?

Public health issues are those that impact the health of entire communities and societies. Sleep disorders and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) affect 15-21% and 3.6-9.7% of the United States population, respectively (American Sleep Association; US Department of Veterans Affairs). Through the Public Health Pathway, I was able to connect my background in sleep medicine with my current studies in PTSD, and explore how these two psychological disorders are similar and different within the context of the US society and across different academic disciplines.

Claire Kinne

Why is Maternal Health in the US so Poor?

My experience in the Public Health Pathway has been centered around the tragic state of maternal healthcare in the United States. As I have come to understand, our poor health outcomes for mothers and babies are a symptom of racist policies and attitudes that enforce all kinds of inequity in our society. In this presentation I reflect on what I have learned throughout my time at Conn and explain why I advocate for expanding the role of doulas and providers who practice intimate maternal care.

Victoria Kretzmer

The Science Behind Criminal Justice

My presentation seeks to identify the aspects of science that contribute to criminal justice. Specifically, forensic science, pathology and neuroscience. The presentation will discuss various controversies in criminal justice regarding race and mental health. These topics will be tied together and the question of whether science can improve the system and create a safer community for all, will be addressed based on my experiences.

Amanda LaMacchia

Access and Treatment for Psychiatric Patients in the United States and Sweden

My presentation is about comparing psychiatric treatment in Sweden to the United States. Treatment for forensic psychiatric patients in Sweden is very different than that offered in the United States; the treatment centers around the individual progress of the inmate rather than the fulfillment of a given sentence. The Swedish system focuses heavily on reducing the rate of re-offense for inmates. The United States, on the other hand, maintains a relatively high rate of recidivism, suggesting that this system lacks the necessary behavioral programs to rehabilitate the inmates.

Stephanie Lewis

What Creates Racial Health Disparities in Perinatal Care and Birth Outcomes?

Health disparities exist across many aspects of identity. One of the most apparent disparities exists in the world of maternal care. Race in America is a crucial factor for impacting quality of perinatal care, mother mortality rates, and infant birth outcomes. Black American mothers are much more likely to die in childbirth, or to have a baby with lower birth weight or other health complications. This is not the case globally. What is it that leads to this American racial health disparity? How can we use global thinking to create meaningful change in America to protect Black mothers and infants?

Isabella Loffredo

How Do Community Stigmas Around Mental Health Affect Access to it?

Looking at different prominent stigmas within various communities as well as their mental healthcare systems. I have seen a correlation between the two; places where mental illnesses are looked at as a disability or embarrassment also may have less adequate healthcare in place for these individuals seeking help.

Hannah Lombard

Let's Talk About Disparities In Mental Health Resources

I will reflect on my path throughout my four years at CC, that have led me to explore so many different avenues that have ultimately sparked my interest in the inequalities and disparity of who has the ability and inability to receive mental health treatment, specifically therapy. I begin by sharing my story on where I began at Conn, and where I have ended up by honing in on the milestone moments and experiences that have changed my path's direction. Including real world situations that have influenced me, and finally conclude with passion about accessibility to mental health treatment.

Mazey Loomis

Does Trust in PBH Experts Differ in the U.S. and Denmark?

My first few semesters at Conn I thought I wanted to be a doctor and was very uncertain about what the pathway would look like for me. However, the fall of my Junior year I had the opportunity to study away in Copenhagen, Denmark. This experience played a large role in shaping my education and my pathway experience. Observing the United States' response to the COVID-19 crisis has opened my eyes to the way Danish citizens have more trust in their public health experts compared to U.S. citizens.

Hannah Maki

Access to Mental Health Treatment and Racial Inequalities

Careful attention to the availability and access to mental health treatment is critical now more than ever before. In the U.S., disparities in the field of mental health are perpetuated by systems of oppression that serve to disproportionately affect minoritized individuals and communities. In my presentation, I will be examining how my experiences at Connecticut College have fostered my curiosity about how racial inequalities affect access to mental health services.

James McNiff

How the Environment Relates to Public Health Outcomes

The environment influences public health outcomes. This relationship can be seen clearly in water quality. When infrastructure either fails or is not present, poor water quality causes widespread illness. For this reason, protecting water quality and the ecosystem that supports it also protects people.

Tanner Michaelis

Overcoming Racism and Discriminations in Health Care

This presentation will cover topics revolving around the racial discriminations that are seen in health care. Some of the topics that will be discussed include how different insurances affect who is able to be seen by certain providers and the effects of having to wait several months to be seen because of the type of insurance you have. Also include, how health care providers are biased toward white patients compared to non-white patients. My presentation will also include graphs and images that display different informative information about these topics and how they are relevant to my presentation.

Meghan Murray

Access to Healthcare and Quality Medicines: A global Perspective

"What are the factors that limit access to healthcare and quality medicines in lower and middle income countries and how can we improve this?" In many countries, access to healthcare and medicine does not translate to access to effective and safe medicines. Prevalence of counterfeit medicines are high in the supply chain of many countries, specifically in Africa. My time abroad in London with a Health Program, as well as my internship at the United States Pharmacopeia will be highlighted. I will also talk about the courses I have taken which have inspired this question/interest.

Halle Paredes

COVID-19 & Normative Ethics: A Global Assessment of Triage and Reopening Strategies

In this project, I take a comparative look at the United States, the United Kingdom, and Sweden's response to COVID-19 and how they reflect values that pervade their populations. Though each nation took different policy approaches to the COVID-19 outbreak, overarching similarities between these three nations include the disregard for vulnerable populations in order to preserve financial, political, or cultural values. These decisions have resulted in the public's continued distrust in their government and instigated a shift in public attention towards blaming non-compliant individuals for the spread of COVID-19 despite mismanaged policy.

Katy Pelletier

Using Educational Video Games To Teach Children about COVID-19

As a senior computer science major, I chose this topic because I am passionate about education. By taking what I have learned from computer science, public health, and psychology, I am creating an educational video game for a research project.

Riley Peragine

How do Poverty and Race Affect a Person's Health?

My presentation is going to reflect on how different classes and experiences influenced my animating question and career plans. The public health thematic inquiry course began to open my eyes to health disparities. My Medical Anthropology course furthered my understanding of the different factors that affect health through a research project. I completed my local engagement at the New London Community Meal Center, which allowed me to meet many people from a variety of racial and socioeconomic backgrounds. This engagement allowed me to see a different perspective in person, rather than just looking at data.

Erik Perrini

The Immune System And How Immunological Variation Among Populations Affects Health Outcomes

I chose the Public Health Pathway at Conn because it matched up well to my interests in pre-med. Along this pathway, I took a large variety of science classes and courses in other subjects that helped me understand different perspectives of knowledge. One of them, Immunology, which I plan to pursue as a career, is the subject of this video. In my presentation, I'm hoping to show the importance of the immune system and immunology to our world and the importance of understanding immune variation. A stronger understanding of immunology can result in positive health outcomes.

Nicole Poole

What are the Effects of Chronic Stress on Minority Health Outcomes?

Imagine if stress regarding your skin color directly impacted how long you live? Stress about your race affecting your access to fair healthcare? An exploration into the molecular effects of chronic stress unveiled the comorbidities and early death caused by chronic stress. My internship at Good Samaritan Medical Center in Brockton, Massachusetts exposed that the medical world fails to uphold the pillar of medical justice. Combining these two findings results in stigma, lack of resources, and discrimination in medicine creating unjustifiable chronic stress on diverse communities leading to poor health outcomes.

Shea Shawgo-Manley

Mind-Body Disconnect: How We View Mental Health Compared to Physical Health

The current public health climate creates a novel opportunity to investigate the relationship between mental and physical health. I have had an interest in the Mind-Body Connection for many years, but

minimal knowledge. Along with my psychology major, the Public Health Pathway helped to examine both facets of health, ultimately enabling me to deeply reflect on my own experiences.

Sara Topalovic

How Does the Cost and Quality of Palliative Care Influence the Volume of Patients Admitted?

Through a padlet presentation, I will discuss the ways in which my personal experiences, courses, and global and local engagement have changed my perspective on public health. I will also incorporate how these experiences ultimately led to my animating question.

Jordyn Turin

Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Obstetrics and Gynecology

Lizbeth Villa

How is One's Mental Health and Well Being Influenced by Identity?

I will be talking about the ways in which non-western methods of healing have served as healthcare for individuals based on their cultural identity and the position that they have in society. I will be looking specifically at Mexican Americans (sometimes other latinos as well) use curanderos as a resource for mental, physical, and emotional balance through herbal healing, prayer, and personal therapy with curanderos.

Cassidy Vincent

How Can Social Determinants of Health Explain COVID-19 Case Patterns?

Systemic racism is pervasive throughout nearly every American institution, and race-based inequities are present in housing, healthcare, and income, just to name a few. The COVID-19 pandemic coupled with widespread protests around racial injustice ensured that already longstanding health inequities would be brought to the forefront in 2020. COVID-19 already disproportionately affects minority and low income Americans, whether you look as broadly as the United States or as specifically as a single neighborhood in Bridgeport. Calling attention to these disparities is the first step in fixing them, which is what I hope to accomplish in this presentation.

Yuening Wang

The Role of Culture Difference in Memories from Chinese and American Students

Because of my interests in personality psychology and global awareness of public health, I conducted a cross-cultural study in self-defining memory between Chinese and American college students. The global engagement in China let me recognize how important academic performance plays a role in Chinese college students, which was also supported by my research findings. By taking CHI 401, I interpreted this emphasis on academic performance among Chinese students as a result of Chinese unique education system and social structures.

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND SUSTAINABILITY - SYMPOSIUM 2020 ABSTRACTS

Tucker Alissi

Indigenous Peoples In Law and Decolonization

I will be examining the historical oppression of indigenous peoples through legislation. I will examine this oppression through multiple lenses, including domestic and international. After this examination, I will turn to the modern era of social unrest and protest. I will examine the significant strides indigenous peoples have made in both law, and decolonization. That is, I will examine the reclamation of indigenous people's cultures and lands, through legislation, social initiatives, and protest.

Ian Anderson

Water In Crisis: Inadequate Water Policies In Jamaica and Thailand

While growing up in Jamaica, healthy drinking water was not of the norm in which various relatives of mine passed away. Throughout my two years of being the Sustainability and Justice Pathway, I have focused on water policies in Jamaica and Thailand. During my time studying abroad in Thailand, I have engaged with citizens and studied various political documents that portray that inadequacy in water policies. In this presentation, I will explain different water policies in Jamaica and Thailand while focusing on what is causing pollution within the water as a result of inadequate water policies.

Emma Chisholm

The Critical Role of State Government in the Survival of Family Farms

Over the past two years, I studied the survivability of small-scale farms across New England. Through my summer internship at the MA Department of Energy Resources, I engaged with farmers concerned for their future. With Covid-19 and the looming threat of climate change, many farmers feel abandoned. The Massachusetts government incentivized renewable energy for struggling farmers. These incentives are vital in successfully navigating a competitive market. Large-scale producers have effortlessly avoided many of the challenges faced by family farmers. In assessing the factors farmers are up against, I have conceptualized their endurance through these pressing times.

Hattie Cookson

Sea Level Rise Planning and Management in Coastal Cities

Coming into this pathway, I was focused on climate change and specifically thinking about environmental issues; however, throughout the pathway, I realized how important so many different lenses are in terms of answering a question like mine about sea level rise. How is sea level rise impacting coastal cities and what are their management plans? In this pathway, I have had to learn, acknowledge, understand, and explore all different lenses. In this panel, I will discuss how this pathway has pushed me to progress my question and shift the way I look at my topic and ultimately all global issues.

Julia Enright

From Prison Reform to Child Development: The Evolution of my Animating Question

My animating question began with an interest in the role of motherhood for incarcerated women, specifically prison nurseries. However, my experiences outside of the classroom have shaped and altered my question throughout my years at Conn. I have volunteered at a preschool in New London, interned at a nonprofit organization that runs group homes for children, and interned with a psychiatrist who focuses on children and educational outcomes. These experiences have altered the way that I view child development, and shifted my focus from the role of the mother, to how a child's development is impacted through parental incarceration.

Nina Fazio

Think Globally, Act Locally: Applying Social Justice and Sustainability to Local Government

Prior to joining this pathway, I was environmentally centered and did not take into account the intersectionality of sustainability. After taking this pathway, I have grown to appreciate this aspect of life; most importantly how social justice and sustainability go hand-in-hand, especially when applied to government. In a time of society where there is turmoil at the higher levels of government, sparking protests regarding both social justice and sustainability, it is important to look inward, and investigate what changes you can enact at the local level.

William Gannon

The Civil Rights Movement: Then and Now

This presentation analyzes the influence of social justice movements on government. This analysis includes a historic look into the American Civil Rights Movement from the 1950's through the 1960's. Research is focused on the passage of key pieces of Landmark Civil Rights Legislation, notably the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments. Additionally, the Black Lives Matter Movement is analyzed as a modern-day civil rights movement. Specifically, research into the effects that local protests have on influencing the legislation proposed by local elected officials is analyzed. A segment of the presentation will also compare and contrast both movements.

Claire Lee

The Extensive Role of Social Justice and Sustainability: Women in Leadership

My experience within the social justice and sustainability pathway has taught me that the phrases social justice and sustainability are much more than just words and instead should be treated as an ideology to live and examine life through. My classes, study abroad experience, and internships have given me many opportunities to see these ideologies in action. In my animating question I look at the different role that women leaders have played in responding to environmental crises'. This question examines social justice and environmental issues within the framework of the three pillars of sustainability.

Darby Mack

Social Justice through Alternative Economic Models

My time in the Social Justice and Sustainability pathway has increased my awareness of the shortcomings of our system and the benefits of adopting strategies that are used in other countries successfully. It has also allowed me to integrate social justice related topics into my coursework. I have had the opportunity to form new relationships with classmates and been able to find community through common ground. I was particularly interested in examining other countries' economic models and had the chance to do so through studying away in Denmark and in my own research.

Max Pont

Gentrification, Food, Community, and the Pandemic

From the beginning of the pathway, my animating question has been concerned with gentrification and its effects on food-related community spaces, particularly immigrant-run small restaurants, groceries, and street vendors. In the US where rents and housing insecurity are increasing daily, unpacking the myriad ways in which gentrification impacts community resilience matters. Through taking courses locally, globally, and across disciplines throughout the pathway, I've been challenged to look at my question in new ways, taking into account both the pandemic's exacerbation of gentrification and how restaurant worker/street vendor activists and their allies are resisting displacement.

Alex Saucedo

Social Justice in Technology: Unequal Access During Covid

As a STEM major and interested in social justice. I wanted to find the intersection of the two. As a result, my animating question started as finding solutions to the lack of diversity in STEM; however, with Covid-19, it has made me want to look into the lack of access of technology. Many students cannot attend online class because their families do not make enough to pay the internet bill or even buy a laptop / computer. Does the lack of technology / resources contribute to the lack of diversity? If so, what can be done to help these students out?

Gretchen Volk

Mental Health and the Environment

While many people study how environments affect mental health, I wondered how mental health affects the ways in which we interact with environments. My internship in the summer of 2019 with the mental health association helped me work on my question a little bit. As I talked more with people from my internship this summer, I got to think about my question's wording. Overall, after taking various courses at Connecticut College, I see that there are so many different connections between subjects. I will be connecting my animating question to classes I have taken and the internships I have had.