

Conference Schedule

Sunday April 13, 2008

Please see abstract section of this program for abstracts of presentations. All project titles and abstracts are printed as received.

Session I: 12:30 – 1:30

Standish Room: Presentations

Allyson Impallomeni, Danielle Aviva Millman, Lucy Place, & Xinxin Jiang
“Peach Blossoms.”

Elise Bellefeuille, Roopa Bhopale, Greg Pruden, & Justin Wax Jacobs
“Elite and Popular Reactions to U.S. Casualties During the Vietnam and Iraq Wars.”

Digital Workshop I: Presentations

Sam Estabrooks
“The biddable ape, his fist closed tight around the nut in the glass jar:” Free Will and Social Conditioning in Marlowe’s Doctor Faustus.

Samantha Grandy
“Conceiving the Inconceivable: Conceptualizing Torture within the Modern State.”

Allison Pastel
“Underwear Goes Inside the Pants.”

Digital Workshop II: Presentations

Sharrol Bachas
“Cloning and Expression of Pseudoalteromonas haloplanktis Genes into E. coli.”

Micah Henzel
“KIF-5 Transcription factor promotes breast cancer cell proliferation through activating FGF-BP.”

Eric Koch
“The Role of GAP43 in Activity-Dependent Sharpening of the Retinotectal Map in Zebrafish.”

Atrium: Poster Session

JeanMarie Bianchi

“Living Well with Multiple Sclerosis: Evaluating the Effectiveness of a Half-Day ACT Workshop on Health and Behavioral Outcomes in Adults with Multiple Sclerosis.”

Kelly Bonetti

“ Saturation Transfer Difference NMR Studies on the Binding of the Antitubercular Agent Pyrazinamide to M. tuberculosis Fatty Acid Synthase I. ”

Daniel Cusher

“The role of Pregnane Xenobiotic Receptors (PXR) in the midbrain VTA for expression of sexual receptivity in rodents.”

Amanda Fanoun

“The Madrid Dialect and the Uses of the Discourse Markers vamos and hombre.”

Fareed Haddad

"Vibrational spectroscopy of the cornea and lens capsules."

Jonathan Friedman

“Soy isoflavone administration alters cognitive, affective, and socio-sexual performance in rats with no proliferative effects.”

Wesley Harlow

“ Population Structure of the malaria vector Anopheles (Nysshorhynchus) triannulatus from Central and South America. ”

Sehee Kim

“Sexual dimorphic effects of gestational stress on dendritic morphology and cognitive and anti-anxiety behavior of rats.”

Carolyn Koonce

“Progesterone facilitates lordosis of wildtype, but not 5 α -reductase knockout, mice.”

Danielle Llana

“Sex differences in behavioral effects of chronic progesterone to intact or castrated rats.”

David Oliver

“The Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002: Did Reformers Finally Whack the Mole?”

Julita Patrosz

“Defining the small structural changes in the human lens γ D crystallin – possible implications for cataract formation.”

Kimberly Roberts

“ Mindfulness and Health Behaviors: Is Paying Attention Good for You? ”

Joshua Rutter

“Out of the Closet And Into The Workplace: Perceptions of Managers in an Interview Based Setting.”

Session II: 1:45 – 2:45

Standish Room: Presentations

Zakhar Berkovich

“The Question of Jewish Identity in the Writings of the Russian-Jewish Immigrant Writers or Life of the Russian-Jews in Soviet Union.”

Amanda Kronen

“Behind the Candy Waterfall: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and the Modern Economic Imagination.”

Rachel Serkin

“Desire's Grievances: Political Desire and Frustration in Elizabethan Epyllia.”

Digital Workshop I: Presentations

Danielle Bellamy

"Competence and Ethnic Identity as Protective Factors against Problem Behaviors in African-American Adolescents."

Colleen Reilly

“A Community Built By Shame: How Lesbian Pulp Fiction Emboldened Women and Bolstered the Homophile Movement.”

Digital Workshop II: Presentations

Tom Cooper

“The Representation of White Christian Evangelicals by Christian Evangelical Interest Groups from 2004 to 2007.”

Catherine Kramer

“Gender Equality and Terrorism.”

Jayson Kratoville & Cyndi Mellen

“Economic Effects of State Abortion Rates.”

2:45 – 3:15 : Afternoon Refreshments

Served in the Atrium

Session III: 3:15 – 4:15

Standish Room: Presentations

Trisha Hahn & Erin Krammerer

“The Impact of Women in Legislatures on the Funding of Reproductive Healthcare.”

Jennifer Roman

“Transnational Social Movements at Work: Successes in Environmental Collective Action.”

David Warren

“Peculiar Primaries: What Went Wrong in New Hampshire? : An analysis of the pre-election polls preceding the Democratic Primary in New Hampshire on January 8th, 2008.”

Digital Workshop I: Presentations

Catherine Callahan & Elizabeth Carro

“Terrorist Networks.”

William Meredith

“The Role of Virginia in the Constitutional Convention.”

Vanessa Schrader

“American’s Understanding of the United States Constitution: Implications for Undergraduate Legal Studies and a Model Curriculum in Constitutional Studies.”

Digital Workshop II: Presentations

Christine Chan

“The Second Chinatown : Flushing, NY Revitalization and Development.”

Burton Kopaskie

“The Sino-Soviet Conflict and Its Implications on the Vietnam War.”

Cynthia Mellen

“African-American Roots Tourism in Brazil.”

Session IV: 4:30 – 5:30

Standish Room: Presentations

Jennifer Bernardelli

“Relational and Physical Aggression Across Ethnicity and Gender.”

Erin Corrigan

“Maternal Monitoring, Aggression, and Delinquent Behaviors in European American and African American Youth.”

Francelina Morillo

“Variables that Influence Tip-Of-The-Tongue.”

Digital Workshop I Presentations

Michael Lanci

“Piano Concerto and Its Evolution.”

Derek Smith

“Beethoven and the Symphony.”

Arla Wilding

“Franz Joseph Haydn: Father of the Classical Symphony.”

Undergraduate Research at the University at Albany Award and Funding Recipients, 2007-2008

Presidential Award for Undergraduate Research Nominees:

Sam Estabrooks

“The biddable ape, his fist closed tight around the nut in the glass jar:” Free Will and Social Conditioning in Marlowe’s Doctor Faustus. Nominated by Professor Lana Cable, English.

Samantha Grandy

“Conceiving the Inconceivable: Conceptualizing Torture within the Modern State.” Nominated by Professor Jennifer Burrell, Anthropology.

Eric Koch

“The Role of GAP43 in Activity-Dependent Sharpening of the Retinotectal Map in Zebrafish.” Nominated by Professor John Schmidt, Biology.

Danielle Llana

“Sex differences in behavioral effects of chronic progesterone to intact or castrated rats.” Nominated by Professor Cheryl Frye, Psychology.

Francelina Morillo

“Variables that Influence Tip-Of-The-Tongue.” Nominated by Professor Jeanette Altarriba, Psychology.

Colleen Reilly “A Community Built By Shame: How Lesbian Pulp Fiction Emboldened Women and Bolstered the Homophile Movement.” Nominated by Professor Eric Keenaghan, English.

Vanessa Schrader

“American’s Understanding of the United States Constitution: Implications for Undergraduate Legal Studies and a Model Curriculum in Constitutional Studies.” Nominated by Professor James Acker, Criminal Justice.

Rachel Serkin

“Desire's Grievances: Political Desire and Frustration in Elizabethan Epyllia.” Nominated by Professor Ineke Murakami, English.

Undergraduate Conference Travel Support Nominees:

Daniel Cusher

“The role of Pregnane Xenobiotic Receptors (PXR) in the midbrain VTA for expression of sexual receptivity in rodents.”

Jonathan Friedman

“Soy isoflavone administration alters cognitive, affective, and socio-sexual performance in rats with no proliferative effects.”

Sehee Kim

“Sexual dimorphic effects of gestational stress on dendritic morphology and cognitive and anti-anxiety behavior of rats.”

Carolyn Koonce

“Progesterone facilitates lordosis of wildtype, but not 5 α -reductase knockout, mice.”

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Undergraduate Research Initiative:

The object of the Undergraduate Research Initiative is to introduce first and second-year University Scholars and students in The Honors College to the best practices of academic disciplines and to offer them the opportunity to apply some of these practices under the guidance of a faculty mentor. Professors who participate in the initiative work collaboratively with a student or a small group of students on a piece of their research or creative work. Professors also receive a stipend for their participation.

Students synthesize their findings and present their work at the annual Undergraduate Research Conference in the spring, and are granted a research award for their participation. These awards are funded by four private foundations: the Lita and Stephen Greenwald Research Fund, the Adelaide Schmid Research Fund, the C. and V. Slocum Fund, and the Adrienne Zimberg Endowment.

The Undergraduate Research Initiative is supported and coordinated by the Offices of the Vice President for Research, Vice President for Development, and the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education.

This year’s student participants in the Undergraduate Research Initiative are:

Elise Bellefeuille, Roopa Bhopale, Greg Pruden, and Justin Wax Jacobs. Faculty Mentor: Richard Lachmann, Sociology. Funded by the Adelaide Schmid Research Fund.

Catherine Callahan and Elizabeth Carro. Faculty Mentor: Professor Victor Asal, Political Science. Funded by the C. and V. Slocum Fund.

Fareed Haddad and Julita Patrosz. Faculty Mentor: Professor Jayanti Pande, Chemistry. Funded by the Lita and Stephen Greenwald Research Fund.

Allyson Impallomeni, Xinxin Jiang, Danielle Aviva Millman, and Lucy Place. Faculty Mentor: Vivien Ng, Women’s Studies. Funded by the Adelaide Schmid Research Fund.

Cynthia Mellen. Faculty Mentor: Professor Patricia Pinho, Latin American, Caribbean & U.S. Latino Studies. Funded by the Adrienne Zimberg Endowment.

Vanessa Schrader . Faculty Mentor: Professor James Acker, Criminal Justice. Funded by the Adrienne Zimberg Endowment.

Funding for these undergraduate research projects is provided by the Office of the Vice President for Research.

Abstracts – Arranged by Session and Room

Note: All project titles and abstracts are printed as received.

Session I

Standish Room

Allyson Impallomeni, Xinxin Jiang, Danielle Aviva Millman, and Lucy Place, “Peach Blossoms.” Undergraduate Research Initiative Project. Faculty Mentor: Vivien Ng.

We are working through the initial stages of converting a short story into a silent film. The play is based on a short story written in Hong Kong by Vivian Ng's grandfather. Our task involves providing a detailed description of the nature in which the play would take place and adapting the language of the prose for a silent film. We first organized the short story by translating it and completing specific missing text without misinterpreting the purpose of the writer. We then transposed the story into a script, which consists of stage direction, scenery portrayal, and character analysis. We will highlight facial expressions as well as the interactions between individuals. Additionally, we want the set to be just as extensive and representative. The staging will figuratively convey both emotional and tangible historical relevance. This requires research of art, architecture, and history that will be organized onto a PowerPoint presentation to clearly depict the transformation process from story to play.

Digital Workshop I

Sam Estabrooks, “The biddable ape, his fist closed tight around the nut in the glass jar:” Free Will and Social Conditioning in Marlowe’s Doctor Faustus

Senior Honors Thesis, English.

Presidential Award for Undergraduate Research Nominee. Nominated by Professor Lana Cable, English.

This paper, written as my undergraduate English honors thesis, examines the Faust legend, which numerous writers within Western culture have found compelling over the past several centuries, with regard to the perennially compelling issue of human agency. Traditionally, Faust is viewed as an aspiring

humanist who seeks to break free of the limiting structures of his world, which leads him to seal a pact with the devil, ultimately costing him his immortal soul. The main thrust of my argument is that, although there is certainly an extent to which Faustus' aspirations are a product of his agency, what underlies them on a much deeper level is actually his complicity with the values and institutions of his world. Thus, his professed views on traditional structures of authority, such as religion and classical academic disciplines, can never be taken at face value. Instead, they should be gauged in relation to the social currents of Marlowe's time as well as the material circumstances of Doctor Faustus' existence. His complicity with the institutions of his world are further revealed during his travels throughout the third and fourth acts, in which the way he employs his powers reveals his desire for social status and drive to impress authority figures. In order to make my points about the Faust legend, I also bring in various retellings of the Faust legend by writers as diverse as David Mamet, Jan Svankmajer, and Randy Newman. By demonstrating how the issue of agency has been played out through the many permutations of the Faust legend, I attempt to interpret the texts against each other in order that they may shed light upon each other.

Samantha Grandy, "Conceiving the Inconceivable: Conceptualizing Torture within the Modern State."

Presidential Award for Undergraduate Research Nominee. Nominated by Jennifer Burrell, Anthropology.

Torture is a method of terror utilized by tyrannical dictatorships and progressive democracies alike. Shrouded in secrecy and taking place behind prison walls, it is a concept with the power to fascinate, horrify, and repulse. Dominant conceptualizations of torture are better suited for advancing state projects of power maintenance than for serious academic discussion, thus necessitating the construction of a new framework for the study of this phenomenon. Torture was approached from two angles within this research project: in terms of a constant process and as a discrete act. It will be shown that such a bifurcation of the massive concept of torture assists in exposing the hidden political alliances and ideological struggles which lead to very real and visible consequences in the lives of torture victims, connecting the experiences of individual survivors to a larger process.

Allison Pastel, "Underwear Goes Inside the Pants."
Course Project. Project Advisor: Brenda Kirkwood.

"Underwear goes inside the pants," by Lazy Boy is a song that sheds a new light on promoting change in the world. As Americans we hear every day that there's an obesity epidemic going, but meanwhile we will still wait on long lines at the drive-thru of our favorite fast food restaurants. The song is accompanied by pictures that I put together to make a stronger impact on the viewer. The main goal of this project was to make people think about the consequences of their actions, and to open people's eyes to the continuing growing problems throughout the world.

Digital Workshop II

Sharrol Bachas, "Cloning and Expression of *Pseudoalteromonas haloplanktis* Genes into *E. coli*."

Research Assistant to: Professor Pan Li, Biological Sciences.

It is remarkable how psychrophilic bacteria are able to perform metabolic reactions at temperatures close to the freezing point of water. At low temperatures cellular metabolism is not favored, double-stranded DNA becomes more stable due to stronger base pairing and enzymatic activity is known to decrease with

temperature. Many questions arise such as: how are psychrophilic bacteria able to replicate their genome and perform enzyme catalyzed reactions in such extreme conditions? Are helicases from this class of bacteria more powerful in contrast to mesophilic bacteria? Is there any other DNA binding protein assisting in DNA replication? To answer these questions we are currently in the process of cloning and expressing genes of helicase and DNA-binding proteins from the Antarctica Bacterium *P. Haloplanktis* into *E. coli* BL21 (DE3). The recombinant protein products will be analyzed by biochemical and biophysical methods to gain further insight into the phenomenon of cold climate adaptation.

Micah Henzel, "KLF-5 Transcription factor promotes breast cancer cell proliferation through activating FGF-BP."

Independent Study Project. Project Advisor: Professor Ceshi Chen, Professor Hanqui Zheng, AMC.

Breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths in US women. 70% of the cause is over expression of Estrogen Receptor (ER). These cancers are usually invasive and the prognosis is poor. Kruppel-like Factor 5 (KLF-5) is a zinc-finger transcription factor which promotes cell proliferation, cell cycles, and angiogenesis. Research may suggest that FGF-BP is a downstream protein of KLF-5. FGF-BP has been shown to promote cell proliferation in ER negative invasive breast cancer cell lines. To know whether KLF-5 promotes breast cancer proliferation through inducing FGF-BP we first examined KLF-5 and FGF-BP's relationship in a panel of breast cancer cell lines. We found that in ER-Negative invasive breast cancer cells KLF-5 and FGF-BP are co-expressed. Over expression of KLF-5 by adenovirus in non-invasive breast cancer lines increased FGF-BP expression. In contrast knocking down (under expression) of KLF-5 decreased the expression of FGF-BP.

Eric Koch, "The Role of GAP43 in Activity-Dependent Sharpening of the Retinotectal Map in Zebrafish."

Senior Thesis Project, Biology. Thesis Advisor: Professor John Schmidt.

Presidential Award for Undergraduate Research Nominee. Nominated by Professor John Schmidt.

Visual activity acts via NMDARs to refine developing retinotectal maps by shaping retinal arbors. Retinal axons add and delete many trial and error branches, and NMDA receptor activation is thought to stabilize individual branches that are in the correct area. Indeed, dynamic rates increase when MK801 blocks NMDARs, as if this prevents release of a stabilizing signal. Arachidonic acid has been proposed to be that stabilizing retrograde signal since Ca^{++} entering through NMDARs activates phospholipase A2 (cPLA2) to release AA (Bliss & Collingridge, Nature 1993), and since exogenous AA reverses the increased dynamic rates caused by MK801. AA released by a second enzyme (DAG lipase) mediates L1/NCAM/FGF stimulation of axon growth via protein kinase C (PKC) phosphorylation of GAP43 to stabilize F-actin (Meiri et al. J Neurosci. 1998). We proposed that postsynaptically released AA, as a retrograde signal, taps into this presynaptic growth control mechanism. Therefore, we developed a system for expression of GAP43-GFP fusion proteins in retinal ganglion cells to test for effects of GAP43 levels of expression and phosphorylation. Fertilized eggs are injected with a DNA construct driving neuron-specific expression from the alpha-1-tubulin promoter. Embryos are screened for GFP expression in the eye and then for labeled arbors in the tectum. Overexpressing wildtype GAP43 caused growth of twice as many branches, but did not increase the dynamics. Expression of mutant GAP43-changing the serine that receives the phosphate to unphosphorylatable alanine - - also showed enhanced

growth, so that most growth does not appear to be dependent on phosphorylation. Deletion of all but the first 20 amino acids of GAP43 (membrane targeting region) had little effect on the growth or dynamics, but increased branching by over 60%. However, blocking presynaptic PKC caused not only increased dynamic rates but near complete arrest of growth and branching, suggesting that other PKC substrates are involved. Three possible pathways are the phosphatidylinositol 3 kinase (PI3K)-PKC-GSK3 β (Glycogen Synthase Kinase) system, the Focal Adhesion Kinase (FAK) complex and the substrate MARCKS (myristoylated alanine-rich C kinase substrate). In the next phase, we will use either GFP fusion proteins expression or antisense oligos injected into the eye and DiO labeling of arbors to test effects of altering these pathways.

Atrium Poster Session

Jean Marie Bianchi, "Living Well with Multiple Sclerosis: Evaluating the Effectiveness of a Half-Day ACT Workshop on Health and Behavioral Outcomes in Adults with Multiple Sclerosis."

Senior Honors Thesis. Thesis Advisor: Professor John Forsyth.

A growing body of evidence indicates Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) shows great potential to be effective for several problems relevant to Multiple Sclerosis including depression (Zettle & Rains, 1989), anxiety (Roemer & Orsillo, 2007), and chronic pain (Dahl, Wilson, & Nilsson, 2004). The purpose of the present study was to investigate the effectiveness of a brief half-day ACT workshop, focused on teaching mindfulness, defusion strategies, and value-guided action to a group of persons suffering from MS (n = 18). Our intent was to evaluate the usefulness of this workshop in terms of its impact both psychologically and physically relative to MS individuals in a wait-list control group (n = 12). Participants in both groups were assessed initially and then at a 3-month follow-up. We anticipated that components of the ACT workshop would be helpful, and that practicing defusion and mindfulness strategies would help support the workshop attendees to live well with MS in a manner consistent with their values.

Kelly Bonetti, "Saturation Transfer Difference NMR Studies on the Binding of the Antitubercular Agent Pyrazinamide to M. tuberculosis Fatty Acid Synthase I."

Course Project. Project Advisor: Professor John Welch.

To pursue the study of fatty acid synthase I (FASI) as a antitubercular target, the enzyme must be purified from *Mycobacterium smegmatis* mc22700. This mycobacterium is a recombinant strain where the native *fas1* gene has been deleted and replaced with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (Mtb) *fas1* gene. The non-pathogenic *M. smegmatis* doubles much faster facilitating experimentation. Our objective is to assess the activity or overall inhibition of FASI by 5-chloropyrazinamide (5-Cl-PZA) and analogs. Through repeated experimentation, it is essential to determine the mechanism of action for pyrazinamide and the kinetics inhibiting both *M. tuberculosis* and *M. smegmatis*. Once clearly understood, this pathway will illustrate the mechanism of action of not only PZA but also analogs that are more potent inhibitors.

Daniel Cusher, "The role of Pregnane Xenobiotic Receptors (PXR) in the midbrain VTA for expression of sexual receptivity in rodents."

Senior Honors Thesis, Psychology/Biology. Thesis Advisor: Professor Cheryl Frye.

Progestogens facilitate behavior in estrogen primed rats. In the midbrain ventral tegmental area (VTA), these effects occur through actions of progesterone's metabolite, 5 α -pregnan-3 α -ol-20-one (THP). Previous studies have demonstrated that removal of peripheral sources of sex steroids (ovaries and/or adrenals) attenuates reproductive behaviors, and subsequent administration of THP to the VTA reinstates these behaviors. Furthermore, disrupting the metabolism of cholesterol to THP in the VTA also attenuates these behaviors, implicating de novo production of THP from cholesterol. This de novo production requires specific enzymes, and up regulation of these enzymes can increase levels of THP. The Pregnane Xenobiotic Receptor (PXR) promotes gene transcription for some of these enzymes, and THP is a positive modulator of PXR. Our preliminary data indicates that PXR is present in the VTA, thus PXR may be responsible for increases in THP in the VTA. In order to determine PXR's effects in the VTA, we will administer PXR antisense oligonucleotides to the VTA to knockdown any effects it may have and begin to establish functional consequences. If PXR mediates production of THP, then knockdown of PXR in the midbrain VTA will attenuate reproductive behaviors. If PXR knockdown in the midbrain VTA does not attenuate reproductive behaviors, then PXR may be responsible for THP increases in other brain areas.

Amanda Fanoun, "The Madrid Dialect and the Uses of the Discourse Markers *vamos* and *hombre*."

Senior Honors Thesis, Spanish. Thesis Advisor: Professor Lotfi Sayahi.

This project highlights the distinctive linguistic features of the Madrid dialect. It considers the morphological, phonological, and lexical aspects of the dialect which contribute to the uniqueness of speech spoken in the capital of the Spanish peninsula. The focus of the project, however, is the investigation of two particular discourse markers, *vamos* and *hombre*. The research is introduced by a thorough definition of discourse markers, and their general positions and functions within discourse. The featured markers *vamos* and *hombre* are defined according to their historical and grammatical definitions with a focus on the intrinsic semantic meaning of *vamos* and its influence upon its function as a discourse marker. The occurrences and functions of these markers are recorded as data from a Madrid news program in an attempt to define their purpose and use within the spontaneous speech of this dialect.

Jonathan Friedman, "Soy isoflavone administration alters cognitive, affective, and socio-sexual performance in rats with no proliferative effects."

Independent Study Project. Research Advisor: Professor Cheryl Frye.

Soy isoflavones are natural plant derived chemicals that are structurally and chemically similar to estrogen. They have been purported to have several beneficial effects, and as such are sold as dietary supplements in many U.S. stores over-the-counter. Our research examined the effects of isoflavones on affective, cognitive, and socio-sexual behavior in an animal model, along with possible concomitant cancerous effects. Young-adult, intact and gonadectomized (GDX) male and female rats were surgically implanted with a chronic-delivery of soy isoflavone supplement. Four days after surgery they underwent the following tests: standard sex testing (males), paced mating (females), open field activity (affective), elevated plus maze (affective), social interaction, object placement/recognition (cognition), Morris water maze (cognition), and forced swim (affective), with final analysis of uterine, ovary, and prostate weight. Isoflavone administration made significant changes to sex testing, elevated plus maze, social interaction, and water maze activity, with no significant increase in tumorigenesis.

Wesley Harlow, "Population Structure of the malaria vector *Anopheles (Nyssorhynchus) triannulatus* from Central and South America."

Independent Study Project. Project Advisor: Professor Jan Conn.

Anopheles triannulatus s.l. (Diptera: Culicidae) is a Neotropical malaria vector in some regions of South America. We investigated the population structure of the complex, using samples from eleven localities throughout South America and Panama. 167 specimens were sequenced for approximately 700 bp of the mitochondrial COI gene. A minimum spanning network showed distinct lineages from Ecuador, Venezuela, Panama+ Venezuela, and Brazil. All of the networks showed considerable diversity and several mutational steps were found within the lineages with the smallest number in Panama and the largest within Brazil. We will determine which of our different lineages match the three named species within the *Anopheles triannulatus* species complex (*An. triannulatus*, *An. halophylus*, and *An. new species*). Upon completion of sequencing and trimming the COI gene sequences additional analyses will be conducted to test whether variance is within or between lineage; and whether any lineage has undergone a recent expansion.

Sehee Kim, "Parental stress on cognitive behavior and dendritic morphology of female and male rats."

Independent Study Project. Research Advisor: Professor Cheryl Frye.

The project focused on effects of stress in late pregnancy on neural development of offspring. Offspring ($n=5/\text{grp}$) were gestationally exposed to thrice daily restraint stress, variable stressors, interleukin -1 b (IL-1 b I m g), or were not manipulated daily from gestational days 17-21. Male and female offspring were assessed for cognitive and anxiety behavior in object recognition and open field tasks, respectively, between post-natal days 28-30. Dendritic morphology in hippocampus, cortex, and hypothalamus was assessed via Golgi-Cox staining. Compared to control offspring, no difference in number of dendritic spines and dendritic length were observed in male offspring. However, males had poorer cognitive performance compared to controls. Compared to controls, female offspring gestationally exposed to thrice-daily restraint or IL-1 b demonstrated reduced number of dendritic spines in cortex as well as decreased dendritic length. Females also had increased anti-anxiety-like behavior. Thus, prenatal stress resulted in sexually-dimorphic decrements in dendritic morphology and cognitive/affective behavior.

Carolyn Koonce, "Progesterone facilitates lordosis of wildtype, but not 5 α -reductase knockout, mice."

Research Assistant to: Professor Cheryl Frye.

Progesterone (P) facilitates lordosis in estrogen (E)-primed mice and some of these effects may be due to actions of its 5 α -reduced metabolite 5 α -pregnan-3 α -ol-20-one (3 α -5 α -THP). We investigated this using 5 α -reductase knockout mice. The responsiveness of ovariectomized, E-primed 5 α -reductase knockout mice to P-facilitated (P: 0 mg, 125 mg, 250 mg, or 500 mg, SC) lordosis was compared to that of their E-primed wildtype (WT) littermates. Sexual behavior was assessed by pairing experimental, hormone-primed, female mice with proven stimulus male mice for 10 minutes or 10 mounts. The percentage of mounts that elicited a lordosis (lordosis quotient, LQ) and the quality of lordosis (lordosis rating, LR) was scored. The percentage of sexual contacts that elicited aggression (kicking, boxing, vocalizing, tail rattling) was calculated (aggression quotient, AQ). P administration produced significant,

dose-dependent effects (500 and 250 > 125 > 0 mg) to increase LQs and LR_s, and decrease AQ_s, of E-primed WT, but not 5 α -reductase knockout, mice. These findings suggest that metabolism of P to 3 α -5 α -THP may be essential for its facilitative effects on lordosis.

Danielle Llana, “Sex differences in behavioral effects of chronic progesterone to intact or castrated rats.”

Senior Honors Thesis, Psychology/Criminal Justice. Thesis Advisor: Professor Cheryl Frye.

Progesterone (P4) and its metabolites are known to play an integral role in sexual behavior, such as mating, and reproductive processes, such as pregnancy. However, progestogens may also influence the expression of some social, affective, and/or cognitive behaviors. Yet, sex differences in effects of P4 have not been systematically examined. As such, we investigated effects of chronic P4 administration on behavior of intact or castrated male and female rats. Intact (Experiment 1) or gonadectomized (GDX. Experiment 2) male or female rats were subcutaneously implanted with silastic capsules that were empty or contained P4. Behavior of rats in social (social recognition), cognitive (object placement), and affective tasks (open field, marble burying) was evaluated. Experiment 1: P4 to intact males or females decreased time investigating an unfamiliar conspecific. P4 to males increased anxiogenic marble burying and decreased place learning while the opposite effects of P4 were seen among intact females. Experiment 2: P4 to GDX males or females increased time investigating an unfamiliar conspecific and decreased anxiogenic marble burying behavior. P4 to GDX females, but not males, increased place learning. These data suggest that there are sex differences in response to P4 among male and female rats that may be modulated by endogenous hormonal milieu.

David Oliver, “The Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002: Did Reformers Finally Whack the Mole?”

Senior Honors Thesis, Political Science. Thesis Advisor: Professor Anne Hildreth.

The subject of my thesis is to examine what role the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002 has had on the role of soft money and interest group advocacy in campaigns and elections for federal office, as the goals of the Act were to reduce the influence and role of these two types of fundraising and spending on federal elections. In order to find out if this has indeed happened, my thesis will examine the 2004 Presidential election and a dozen races from the 2006 mid-term congressional elections to determine if soft money and interest group advocacy receded in any discernible significance in the first two major election cycles since the Act was passed in 2002.

Julita Patrosz, “Defining the small structural changes in the human lens γ D crystallin – possible implications for cataract formation.”

Undergraduate Research Initiative Project. Faculty Mentor: Jayanti Pande.

Several human genetic cataracts are associated with mutations in a single amino acid residue of the protein known as γ D crystallin. Recently, the Glu107Ala (or E107A) mutation has been included in this list, and it has been associated with a nuclear cataract. We have made recombinant human γ D crystallin and its E107A mutant, and are in the process of comparing its structure with that of the wild-type protein. In this process we will make use of several spectroscopic techniques – circular dichroism, Tryptophan fluorescence and high-resolution NMR spectroscopy of the ¹⁵N-labeled protein. We will also present

preliminary NMR data, suggesting that the wild-type protein may itself undergo a structural change, when the protein is expressed in low and limiting sugar concentration. Results will highlight small structural changes, while the overall protein structure remains folded and intact.

Kimberly Roberts, “Mindfulness and Health Behaviors: Is Paying Attention Good for You?”

Senior Honors Thesis, Psychology. Thesis Advisor: Professor Sharon Danoff-Burg.

Mindfulness is a concept that emerged thousands of years ago within the Buddhist tradition, yet has only recently become familiar to the Western world. Simply defined, mindfulness is a way of paying attention – a “moment-to-moment, non-judgmental awareness” (Kabat-Zinn, 2005, p.24) that involves focusing on the experiences of the present moment. The psychological and physical health benefits of mindfulness have been investigated in several studies. For example, Zvolensky et al. (2006) found that greater levels of mindfulness-based attention among young adults were associated with perceptions of better physical and psychological functioning. These findings suggest that mindfulness plays an important role in understanding both physical and mental health processes. My study attempted to replicate these findings, while examining specific behaviors that influence health. College students (N=553) completed questionnaires assessing health status, positive and negative health behaviors (e.g., sleep and smoking), and five facets of mindfulness. I hypothesized that participants who scored higher on mindfulness would report better health, engage in fewer harmful behaviors, and practice more beneficial ones. Partially consistent with prediction, results indicated that particular health behaviors correlated significantly with the nonreactivity factor of the Five Facet Mindfulness Questionnaire (FFMQ; Baer et al., 2006). Clinical and research implications are discussed.

Joshua Rutter, “Out of the Closet And Into The Workplace: Perceptions of Managers in an Interview Based Setting.”

Senior Honors Thesis, Business Administration/Psychology. Thesis Advisor: Professor Sylvia Roch.

The United States Government Bureau of Labor Statistics (2007) has reported an increasingly diverse workforce over the past several decades. The research literature has explored issues faced in the workplace based on gender, race, ethnicity, physical disability, and physical characteristics, however, the empirical research on the issues faced by Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender individuals in work settings is limited. Drawing from various social psychological and organizational theories, the current study examines if and to what extent the perceived sexual orientation of a manager based on a written description of an interview influences levels of organizational commitment, organizational justice, and task based motivation and whether the sexual orientation of participants influences participant responses of working with the manager.

Session II

Standish Room

Zakhar Berkovich, “The Question of Jewish Identity in the Writings of the Russian-Jewish Immigrant Writers or Life of the Russian-Jews in Soviet Union.”

Senior Thesis Project, Biology/Judaic Studies. Thesis Advisor: Rachel Harris.

What does it mean to be a Jew in Former Soviet Union? What does it mean to live during the “Thaw” for Jewish writer? How do themes of Identity, fear, and family play in the works of Russian-Jewish immigrant writers, who now live in Israel and the USA? The presentation will describe these and other relationships. It will also lead to the question of Identity for the Russian-Jew.

Amanda Kronen, “Behind the Candy Waterfall: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and the Modern Economic Imagination.”

Senior Honors Thesis, English. Thesis Advisor: Professor Bret Benjamin.

The chocolate flows through the river in Willy Wonka’s magical factory. He watches as the children, admitted by their Golden Tickets, scramble about desperate to consume his products. The gleam in his eyes betrays his intentions, and the loving figure of confectionary wonder suddenly takes on the characteristic of a predator. *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, released in 2005 under the direction of Tim Burton, provides a valuable and difficult site for discourse in the modern economy. The film can alternately be seen as propaganda for the modern corporation or warning against the practices of consumption that so many enjoy. Indeed, perhaps it never truly accomplishes either goal in its attempt to remain diplomatic. As more and more citizens of the world desire increasing levels of wealth it becomes necessary to bridge the growing divide between consumption and production. While the children run about the waterfall the Oompa-Loompas watch, denied a voice and subject to the perpetual role of jester. Although the movie offers no clear answers, the viewer can insert the beginnings of the discussion that must occur. Through an in-depth analysis of the film and the surrounding issues of consumption, including American marketing and conditions of cocoa production, the true significance of Willy Wonka can begin to come to light.

Rachel Serkin, “Desire's Grievances: Political Desire and Frustration in Elizabethan Epyllia.”

Senior Honors Thesis, English/Medieval & Renaissance Studies. Thesis Advisor: Professor Ineke Murakami.

Presidential Award for Undergraduate Research Nominee. Nominated by Professor Ineke Murakami.

The epyllia are a remarkable yet mysterious literary product of late sixteenth century England. At first read these are highly sexualized works that stem from the classical world of Ovidian myth. I believe that the epyllia transcend far beyond sexual purpose and instead capture the desires and frustrations a body of Elizabethan individuals: aspiring male youths. Towards the end of the century the monarchy was experiencing difficulties and as a result there were few placements available in the court. Through a combination of literary, critical and historical texts, I will be looking at political and cultural forms of desire to explain how they successfully parallel the aspirations and frustrations of the young male aristocracy and middle class. I will be drawing heavily upon the works of epyllia authors Thomas Lodge, Christopher Marlowe, William Shakespeare, and Francis Beaumont.

Digital Workshop I

Colleen Reilly, “A Community Built By Shame: How Lesbian Pulp Fiction Emboldened Women and

Bolstered the Homophile Movement.”

Presidential Award for Undergraduate Research Nominee. Nominated by Eric Keenaghanm, English.

The lesbian pulp fiction novels of the 1950s and 1960s receive little recognition from queer scholars. I assert that these works are an extremely important part of queer history that affected the building of the homophile movement. The concept of shame that they contained and how it changed throughout the publication period of these novels contributed to the social changes of the time. In this work I provide an overview of the historical moment in which the novels were published and the definition of shame. This is followed by an analysis of select pulp novels, and how these novels affected real life homosexuals and vice versa. Also addressed is how a shared experience of shame allowed women to come together in social action.

Digital Workshop II

Tom Cooper, ‘The Representation of White Christian Evangelicals by Christian Evangelical Interest Groups from 2004 to 2007.’”

Senior Honors Thesis, Political Science/MPA. Thesis advisor: Professor Michael Malbin.

For my Honors Thesis, I am looking to see if the White Christian Evangelical community of the United States was in fact represented by White Christian Evangelical interest groups from 2004 to 2007. In order to do this, I am comparing the views expressed by the interest groups Alliance Defense Fund, American Family Association, Family Research Council, Focus on the Family and Traditional Values Coalition to public opinion data on White Christian Evangelicals from this period. By doing this, I expect to find that White Christian Evangelical interest groups had represented a narrow set of values based interests while White Christian Evangelicals as a whole had expressed a broad range of views on a wide variety of issues. In other words, I plan to find through my research that White Christian Evangelical interest groups had not truly represented the interests of the White Christian Evangelicals which they claimed to represent.

Catherine Kramer, “Gender Equality and Terrorism.”

Senior Honors Thesis, Political Science. Thesis Advisor: Professor Victor Asal.

The field of women and terrorism is relatively unexplored by quantitative or qualitative studies. This study seeks to explore the connection between the level of gender equality in a state and its affect on the level of female participation in terrorist organizations. Based on feminist literature, studies of women in the military, and other terrorism literature it is expected women’s involvement in terrorist organizations will increase as gender equality increases. Three methods are utilized including a qualitative analysis, and quantitative analysis using a Chi Square and multivariable statistical analysis.

Jayson Kratoville & Cyndi Mellen, “Economic Effects of State Abortion Rates.”

Course Project. Project Advisor: Professor Victor Asal.

We are conducting a comprehensive examination of the abortion rates in the United States, specifically to what extent a woman's economic situation influences her decision to abort. Abortion is a hot-button issue in contemporary United States politics, one that incurs a balance of emotion and reason as it translates into public policy. The importance of this issue in both current policy and upcoming elections requires a more enlightened examination of the socio-economic topics surrounding it. Therefore, we feel that the current lack of focus in the political science community on the economic factors of abortion rates is a significant hole that needs to be filled.

Session III

Standish Room

Trisha Hahn & Erin Krammerer, "The Impact of Women in Legislatures on the Funding of Reproductive Healthcare."

Course Project. Project Advisor: Professor Victor Asal.

The majority of research concerning women's representation in government focuses on their impact on legislation. Minimal data is available regarding women in government and the execution of policy, especially policies related to traditional women's issues. In this analysis we used correlation and regression methods to observe the impact women have on the level of spending allocated toward reproductive healthcare, at a cross-national level.

Jennifer Roman, "Transnational Social Movements at Work: Successes in Environmental Collective Action."

Senior Honors Thesis, Political Science. Thesis Advisor: Professor Thomas Walker.

The Kyoto Protocol launched global efforts to stop climate change. Its success was contingent on cooperation from world powers. The Netherlands, along with many nations, ratified the Protocol and implemented policies. The U.S., however, did not ratify the Protocol. What explains these conflicting choices? Rational choice critiques collective action, citing inhibitors such as tragedy of the commons and free-riders. If nations with high emissions aren't reducing emissions, why would small nations reduce emissions knowing their efforts would be cancelled out? According to rational choice, collective action is only utility maximizing if many actors participate. Since the U.S., the largest emitter, did not join the collective effort, the Netherlands's choice seems irrational. Yet, actors continue to act collectively. Developing transnational social movements (TSMs) explain increased cooperation to solve global collective action problems. Through globalization, TSMs spread, accruing more support. Through understanding TSMs, we can see how collective action can succeed.

David Warren, "Peculiar Primaries: What Went Wrong in New Hampshire? An analysis of the pre-election polls preceding the Democratic Primary in New Hampshire on January 8th, 2008."

Independent Study Project. Project Advisor: Professor Anne Hildreth.

The days preceding the Democratic Primary in New Hampshire predicted a resounding win for Presidential hopeful Barack Obama. An average of the pre-election polls taken mere days before the primary predicted an almost eight percentage point victory for Obama. Yet, Presidential contender Hillary Clinton won the primary by more than two percentage points. This research seeks to analyze why the pollsters were inaccurate about predicting the actual results of the New Hampshire Democratic Primary. Additionally, the accuracy of the pre-election polls preceding all of the states that held Democratic and Republican primaries or caucuses before March 8th, 2008 were analyzed for accuracy and if their results predicted the outcome of the election. It was found that last minute events on the campaign trail potentially influenced the New Hampshire electorate. Additionally, it was found that the independent nature of New Hampshire voters embraced the “underdog” effect and sided with Hillary Clinton.

Digital Workshop I

Catherine Callahan and Elizabeth Carro, “Terrorist Networks.”

Undergraduate Research Initiative Project. Faculty Mentor: Professor Victor Asal.

Since September 11th there has been increased attention on the issue of Terrorism in the United States. One of the factors that has been identified has been the impact that terrorist networks have on the ability of terrorist organizations to carry out different kinds of attacks. In this research we take a closer look at two smaller networks, exploring what factors make up these links and how they may explain the behavior of the linked organizations.

Billy Meredith , “The Role of Virginia in the Constitutional Convention.”

Senior Honors Thesis, U.S. History. Thesis Advisor: Professor Ann Withington & Professor Nadia Kizenko.

An examination of the role of Virginia played in the Constitutional Convention, and how the state responsible for the calling of the Convention, as well as the plan the delegates will follow in creating the Constitution, falls to disorder. Using Madison’s Notes on the Convention as a guide, this paper also studies the influence of the Virginia Constitution of 1776 on the Virginia plan as well as on the ideas the Virginia delegation expresses throughout the Constitutional Convention.

Vanessa Schrader, “American’s Understanding of the United States Constitution: Implications for Undergraduate Legal Studies and a Model Curriculum in Constitutional Studies.”

Undergraduate Research Initiative Project. Faculty Mentor: Professor James Acker.

Presidential Award for Undergraduate Research Nominee. Nominated by Professor James Acker.

My research project began with reviewing existing literature concerning American’s knowledge of the United States Constitution. My research paper begins with a discussion on why civic education is important and necessary in our society. It then presents the results of studies reviewed about American’s

knowledge about the United States Constitution. These results state that there is a lack of understanding about the Constitution, even though there is mandatory coursework in secondary schooling that pertains to government and civics. The paper then reviews colleges and universities that have programs in Legal Studies and related fields, created in response to our lack of knowledge about civics. Comparisons between their curricula are made regarding objectives, structure, and course offerings. The paper concludes by stating that a Legal Studies program should be established at the University at Albany. In order to make this argument a proposed model for this program is presented.

Digital Workshop II

Christine Chan, "The Second Chinatown : Flushing, NY Revitalization and Development."

Senior Honors Thesis, History. Thesis Advisor: Professor Amy Murrell-Taylor, Professor Nadia Kizenko.

Flushing , New York is a growing urban center within New York City and has been called by many as the second largest Chinatown within city limits. Current development of this area is the second wave of development and revitalization. The first wave was between 1975 and 1990 and the focus of this study. The first wave revitalized the Downtown Flushing area and allowed economic growth that continues to this day through many bilingual businesses and cultural stores. The cultural stores and restaurants represent the culture of the neighborhood so much that it almost feels as if you are in another country.

The variety of languages and cultures in this area make it unique, and evidence of this can be found in the local school populations which are composed of Latino, Hispanic, Chinese, Korean, Japanese, Black and White students. The ethnic and cultural changes can be seen through census data, educational data, library statistics, newspapers, photographs and in-person interviews can be presented as evidence to the first wave of revitalization and change.

Burton Kopaskie, "The Sino-Soviet Conflict and Its Implications on the Vietnam War."

Senior Honors Thesis, History. Thesis Advisor: Professor Nadieszda Kizenko.

My presentation will consist of information pertaining to the Sino-Soviet relationship that developed shortly into the Cold War era and the affect its breakdown had on the Vietnam War. The relationship between China and the Soviet Union that developed early in the Cold War was under the guiding principle to further advance the socialist camp of the world. However, because of ideological difference that would result between the countries' leaders, the relationship would subsequently breakdown and lead to both countries viewing their former ally as an enemy. While the breakdown of the alliance was occurring, the situation in Vietnam was growing more hostile and would eventually break out into an escalated war. During their actual fighting that took place during this war, China and the Soviet Union participated in Vietnam and used it as a justification for which countries' policy would reign supreme and which country would be the leader of the socialist camp of the world.

Cynthia Mellen, "African – American Roots Tourism in Brazil."

Undergraduate Research Initiative Project. Faculty Mentor: Patricia Pinho.

Roots tourism encourages African-Americans to appreciate their origins by visiting locations where African-American culture has been preserved. Apart from Africa, Brazil is one location where many customs such as religion, dancing, and food preparation have survived the Diaspora. Roots tourism entails three kinds of inequalities: the disparity between those who have access to travel and those who do not; the belief of many of the African-American tourists that they will exchange what they view as their "modernity" for the "traditions" of the local black communities with whom they interact during their travels; and the much greater access of African-Americans to the means through which they can represent Africa and the Diaspora. Largely, it is African-Americans who define the meaning of a place and how it relates to roots tourism. This study explores the asymmetry which permeates the relations between blacks located in the North and the South of the American continent, focusing on their cultural and political consonances and dissonances, as well as their unequal access to global currents of power.

Session IV

Standish Room

Jennifer Bernardelli, "Relational and Physical Aggression Across Ethnicity and Gender."

Research Assistant to: Professor Hazel Prelow.

The present study examined the roles of perceived discrimination and school connectedness on the aggressive behaviors (physical and relational aggression) of an ethnically diverse sample of urban adolescents. The sample included 117 European American and 138 African American adolescents, 109 of which were male and 146 female from a small northeastern city. Males were found to use more physical aggression than females. While both males and females engaged in relational aggression at equal levels, African American youth were found to be more relationally and physically aggressive than European American youth. As youths perceived more discrimination, they engaged in more relational and physical aggression.

Erin Corrigan, "Maternal Monitoring, Aggression, and Delinquent Behaviors in European American and African American Youth."

Research Assistant to: Professor Hazel Prelow.

Problem behaviors among minority youth are important to study because finding which factors can potentially deter these behaviors will ensure better ways to prevent them. The present study shows that maternal monitoring is negatively related to delinquency and physical aggression for both European (n= 119) and African American (n= 139) urban high school students, of which the average age was approximately 16. The findings reveal that on average the reported means of maternal monitoring and delinquency did not differ significantly for European and African American youth. However, the reported means of physical aggression for European and African American students were significantly different, in that African American students reported more physically aggressive behaviors. These results suggest the importance of parental actions in determining youths' behavior. Indications of these results are important for intervention and prevention programs and implementing education for parents.

Francelina Morillo, "Variables That Influence the Tip-Of-The-Tongue (TOT) Effect."

Research Assistant to: Professor Jeanette Altarriba.

Presidential Award for Undergraduate Research Nominee. Nominated by Professor Jeanette Altarriba.

The tip of the tongue phenomenon (TOT) describes the instances in which a person is unable to recall a word, but knows that recall is inevitable. TOT's are affected by different variables such as target word frequency (Harley & Bown, 1998). In the current study, target word frequency and word concreteness were manipulated. Participants saw definitions and were asked to provide the word that fit each description. On occasion, they claimed to have experienced a TOT. We found that words that are of low frequency in the language, and words that are abstract, typically produce more TOT's than other types of words. Understanding the conclusions that lead to TOT's can facilitate the development of strategies that one might use to diminish or otherwise eliminate them, especially when they are chronic, such as in aphasic patients and others with similar afflictions.

Digital Workshop I

Michael Lanci, "The Piano Concerto and Its Evolution."

Course Project. Project Advisor: Professor Max Lifchitz.

This presentation will compare and contrast three piano concerti by three composers representing different stylistic eras. The classical era will be represented by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's D minor piano concerto No.20, K466. The concerto No.2 by Franz Liszt in A major will represent the Romantic era and the Impressionist era will be represented by Maurice Ravel's concerto in G major. The focal point of this presentation will revolve around the contrasting treatment of the four basic elements involved in the construction of these highly successful piano concertos. Each concerto will be structurally analyzed for its treatment of the principles underlying the "Sonata Allegro" form in relation to the "Classical" standard. The creative use of the tonal system will be examined for the color and emotion generated by the use of particular chords and chord progressions typical to each composer. Each concerto will be analyzed for the stylistic trademarks that make each one of these masterpieces so unique. Particularly, the composer's use of the piano, in opposing and supporting roles, and the relation between soloist and orchestra. Finally, the treatment of orchestra in each piece will also be discussed. Particularly, the new and interesting demands placed on the orchestra for atmospheric and emotional purposes.

Derek Smith, "Beethoven and the Symphony."

Course Project. Project Advisor: Professor Max Lifchitz.

As an influential figure in the transitional period between the Classical and Romantic eras, Beethoven did much to change the way musicians approached composition. Over the course of his lifetime, Beethoven composed nine symphonies. Interestingly, the scope of his symphonic style represent the musical changes that were occurring (and that Beethoven helped facilitate), and were seemingly metaphorical of his personal life. Not only are Beethoven's First and Ninth symphonies different in sound, they are also different in structure. Symphonic works of the past had followed a specific procedure for the order and style of the movements. Beethoven's Ninth Symphony for instance, had greatly deconstructed the formalities of Symphonic composition and was subsequently met with mixed reviews. It would seem as if Beethoven's talent was better understood after his death than during his life.

This presentation will briefly examine Beethoven's life and more importantly discuss the differences between his First Symphony written in the Classical style, and his Ninth Symphony's influence on the Romantic style. Listening examples from each movement of his First and Ninth Symphonies will be used.

Arla JN Wilding, "Franz Joseph Haydn: Father of the Classical Symphony."

Course Project. Project Advisor: Professor Max Lifchitz.

Characterized by simplicity and balance, the music of the Classical Period (1750-1825) adhered to more simple, rational musical forms and included less complicated melodies and textures than compositions of the Baroque Era. The prominent composer, Franz Joseph Haydn, dominated and defined this era. He relied on strict adherence to standard musical forms of the Classical Era: Sonata-Allegro, Theme and Variations, Compound Ternary, Minuet and Trio, as well as Rondo. He excelled in many musical genres of the late eighteenth century, including symphony, sonata, string quartets, the Mass and other Church works.

This presentation compares two of Haydn's symphonies: No. 8, *Le Soir*, written in 1761, and Symphony No. 94, the so-called *Surprise Symphony* (1791). It includes aural examples from these two works, demonstrating Haydn's dynamic musical gift and establishing him as a composer whose music revolutionized an era.