Department of Political Science

Honors Theses 2015

Brandyn Arnold, “Constitutionalism in Latin America: The Politics of Constituent Assemblies.” Advisor(s): Armando Razo

Kristen Cherry, “Discourse and Doctrine: Bush Administration Rhetoric and Reality in the War on Terror.” Advisor(s): Abdulkader Sinno, Marjorie Hershey

Mara Gonzalez Souto, “Pariahs Past Recall? The Case of Classical Criminal Justice and Restorative Justice.” Advisor(s):

Kelsey Gorman, “Elections, Stereotypes and the American Voter: Application of Black and Female Stereotypes to American Electoral Candidates.” Advisor(s): Matthew Hayes


Zachary Lubelfeld, “(title)” Advisor(s):

Gabrielle Malina, “Negotiating the Conflict Between Religious Beliefs and Political Attitudes.” Advisor(s):

Elizabeth Masten, “The Phenomenon of Foreign Fighters: Motivations of Foreign Combatants in the Middle East.” Advisor(s): Michael McGinnis, Marjorie Hershey

Renae Peden, “Female Descriptive and Substantive Representation: A Complied Correlation” Advisor(s): Bernard Fraga

Shelby Truitt, “Democratization in Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia after the Arab Spring.” Advisor(s):

Christine White, “(title)” Advisor(s):

Xiaoyu Zhao, “The ‘Hidden Dragon’: Explaining Chinese Aggressive Foreign Policy on the South China Sea Dispute.” Advisor(s): Sumit Ganguly and Norman Furniss

Honors Theses 2014

Sarah Babb, “Religious Right? American Evangelical Partisanship and Political Ideology” Advisor(s): Chris DeSante, Matthew Hayes, and Jack Bielasiak

Theodore Brackemyre, “The Relevance of Potimum Currency Area Theory to the Speed of Federal Integrations.” Advisor(s): Russell Hanson, Istvan Benczes, and Jack Bielasiak

Suzie Caldwell, “Interstate War and Domestic Repression After 9/11: The Case of Afghanistan and Iraq Wars.”, Advisor(s): Karen Rasler, Abdulkader Sinno, and Jack Bielasiak

Laura Douglas, “Street Art in London: Breaking Windows or Displacing Populations?” Advisor(s): Jacek Dalecki, Russell L. Hanson, and Jack Bielasiak

Cassady Palmer, “Unions and Schools: The good, the bad, and the unknown of education influence.” Advisor(s): Gerald Wright, Laura Bucci, and Jack Bielasiak

Triet Pham, “Escaping the Constraints: A Focus on the United Nations Security Council to Explain the United States
Use of Force.” Advisor(s): Timothy Hellwig, Nick Cullather, Jack Bielski

Samuel Quigley, “The Evolution of the Role of Terror in Communist States.” Advisor(s): Dina Spechler and Jack Bielski

Rahaf Safi, “(title)” Advisor(s):

Dimitrije Tasic, “Economic convergence and the EU integration process: The case of post-communist Balkan countries.” Advisor(s): Timothy Hellwig, Istvan Benczes, and Jack Bielski


Nikhil Vasudeva, “(title)” Advisor(s):

Honors Theses 2013

Zhe Feng, “Chinese Food Safety: What Can We Eat in China?” Advisor(s): Jeffrey Hart and Scott Kennedy (May 2013)


Alexander Mirowski, “Cyber-paradise Lost – An examination of Obstacles in the Cybersecurity Policy-Making Process.”, Advisor(s): Jeffrey Hart and Nathan Ensmenger

Aileen Richardson, “The European Political Environment 1974-2012: The Political Consequences of Crisis Response.” Advisor(s): Timothy Hellwig and Dina Spechler

Sarah Turner, “Success in Social Movements: Looking at Constitutional-Based Demands to Determine The Potential Success of Social Movements.” Advisor(s): Timothy Hellwig and Fabio Rojas

Honors Theses 2012

Brian Blankenship, “Dropping the Bomb: Explaining Nuclear Reversal.” Advisor(s): Dina Spechler and Sumit Ganguly (May 2012)(Nominated for William Jennings Bryan Award)

Joshua Bruce, “A Cultural Theory of Judicial Decision Making Among United States Supreme Court Justices.” Advisor(s): Eileen Braman and Timothy Lemper (KSOB) (May 2012)(Nominated for William Jennings Bryan Award)

Kristen Ditsch, “The Influence of Logo Design and Branding on Political Campaigns.” Advisor(s): Yanna Krupnikov and Nicole Bauer (BAJ May 2012)(Nominated for William Jennings Bryan Award)

Benjamin Nellans, “Congressional Veterans and the Foreign Policy Power.” Advisor(s): Russell Hanson and Michael Faber (May 2012)

Kylie Poulis, “Intervention from Above: The United States, Russia, and Power Transition in the Middle East.” Advisor(s): Karen Rasler and William Thompson (May 2012)

Jordan Rose, “The Politics of Funding State Veteran’s Benefits during Economic Downturn.” Advisor(s): Gerald Wright and Nate Birkhead (May 2012)(Nominated for William Jennings Bryan Award) (Copy of thesis not available)


Scott Williamson, “Divided We Stand – The Resilience of Monarchies in the Arab Spring.” Advisor(s): Abdulkader Sinno and Jack Bielasiak (May 2012)(Nominated for William Jennings Bryan Award)

**Honors Theses 2011**

Ryan Cowan, “Congressional Interest in Professional Sports During the Steroid Era.” Advisor(s): Armando Razo (May 2011)


Justin Kingsolver, “Prospects for Continued European Political Integration.” Advisor(s): Timothy Hellwig and Brendon Westler (Tentative May 2012)(William Jennings Bryan Award)

Corey Mason, “Democracy in Tanzania?: The Role of NGOs in Fostering Government Accountability.” Advisor(s): Lauren MacLean and Jennifer Brass (SPEA)(May 2011)

Isak Nti Asare, “The Throne and the Ballot Box: The Formal Integration of Traditional Institutions in the Modern African State and Democratic Consolidation.” Advisor(s): Lauren MacLean and Beverly Stoeltje (ANTH)(May 2011)


Honors Theses 2010

Rachel Fullmer, “Partisanship in the Judiciary.” Advisor(s): Marjorie Hershey and Eileen Braman (May 2010)


Andrew Hahn, “The Effect of Globalization on the Nationalist Sentiment of a Nation’s Populace.” Advisor(s): William Scheuerman and Tim Hellwig (May 2010)


Gwendolyn Sams, “The Land is Exceptional: Why the United States Lacks Universal Health Care.” Advisor(s): Norman Furniss and Lauren MacLean (May 2010)

Honors Theses 2009

Nathan Click, Sponsor: Marjorie R. Hershey (December 2009) (copy of thesis not available)


Honors Theses 2008


Honors Theses 2007


Chris Wagner, “When Does the West Intervene? The Cases of Bosnia, Kosovo, Rwanda, and Darfur” Sponsors: Lauren Morris MacLean and Gerald Wright. (May 2007)


Honors Theses 2006


Rebekah Trey, “Poor Participation: The Effects of Welfare Reform on Low-Income Voter Participation” Sponsor(s): Marjorie Hershey and Lauren Morris MacLean (August 2006)


**Honors Theses 2005**


Jonathan L. Harris, “Globalization, Political Community & World Order,” Sponsor(s): Gerald Wright and Beate Sissenich (May 2005) (William Jennings Bryan Award)


Honors Theses 2004

Katherine Beyer, “Grassroots Reconciliation in Northern Ireland: The Irish Children’s Fund,” Sponsor(s): Karen Rasler


Kyra Busch, “One Town at a Time: Global Food Networks and Rural Sustainability,” Sponsor(s): Jean C. Robinson and Timothy Tilton (May 2004)(Nominated for Williams Jennings Bryan Award)


Catherine S. Drew, “In the National Interest: Russian Foreign Policy Under Putin,” Sponsor(s): Henry Hale and Dina Spechler (May 2004)(Nominated for Williams Jennings Bryan Award)


Christina Maria Sorley, ”One Voice for Europe: The Intergovernmental Common Foreign and Security Policy Haunts the European Union in the International Arena,” Sponsor(s): Beate Sissenich and Norm Furniss (May 2004)

Jonathan Zarich, “The Abolition of Slavery in America,” (?) Sponsor(s): Russell Hanson (May 2004)(copy of thesis not available)
Honors Theses - 2003


Honors Theses – 2002


Dave Cann, "Devil's Dearth Unearthing Class Division in the American Dream," Sponsor(s): Norman Furniss and John Summers (May 2002)

Necmeddin Bilal Erdogan, "Cyprus: How Turkish Foreign Policy Making Relates to Domestic Policy Dynamics?" Sponsor(s): Norman Furniss and John T. Koumoulides (May 2002) (Nominated for William Jennings Bryan Award)
Jacob Hannan, "Strange Bedfellows? The Latin American Progressive Church and the Socialist International," Sponsor(s): Russell Hanson and Jeffrey Isaac (May 2002)(William Jennings Bryan Award)

Brian Holman, "The Supreme Court and the Establishment Clause," Sponsor(s): Gerald Wright and Judy Failer (May 2002)


Whiteley, Elizabeth A, “From the fringes to the mainstream: the National Front in France. The creation of a Third Way,” Sponsor(s): Norman Furniss and Michael Berkvam (May 2002) (Nominated for William Jennings Bryan Award)

**Honors Theses - 2001**


Daphne Kackloudis (May 2001)(copy of thesis not available)

Emily Lipp, “Hate Speech in America: From the Federal Courts to Our Communities.” Sponsor(s): Jeffrey Isaac and Norman Furniss (May 2001)

Philip Roessler (May 2001)(copy of thesis not available)


**Honors Theses - 2000**


Candace Blake (August 2000)(copy of thesis not available)

Abigail Groff, “An Affront to Human Dignity: Attacking Hate Speech.” Sponsor(s): Judith Failer and Dana Chabot (May 2000)

Patrick Kelly, “Politics and Information Technology in Russia: An Analysis of the Past, Present, and Future of Russian Computers and Information Technology.” Sponsor(s): Jeffrey Hart and Norman Furniss (May 2000)

Verena Radulovic (May 2000)(copy of thesis not available)
Andrew Yoder (May 2000)(copy of thesis not available)