Department of Political Science

Honors Theses 2016

Lauren Aylward - tbd
Derek Fisher - tbd
Lillian Judge - tbd
Tyler Nocita - tbd
Katelyn Lutz – “Marriage and Citizenship: An Analysis of Same-Sex Marriage Bans.” Advisors: Margie Hershey, Lindsey Breitwieser


Elizabeth Mitchell – “The Effects of Context on Social Identity.” Advisors: Matthew Hayes, Margie Hershey

Ashley Spesard – “Impacts of Mandated Religious Education of Immigrant Attitudes in Germany.” Advisors: Tim Hellwig, Margie Hershey

Cody Vaughn - tbd
Emma Wesslund – “The Real Problem with Youth Voters.” Advisors: Bernard Fraga, Margie Hershey

Robert (Quishi) Yin - tbd

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, 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 Potium 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 Bielasiak

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

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 Bielasiak


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)


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 Nichole 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 Poulin, “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**


Tabitha Lucas, “Ownership of Human Remains and Burial Sites: Controversy and Consensus” Sponsor(s): Judy Failer and Jean C. Robinson (may 2006) (Nominated for William Jennings Bryan Award)


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)


David B. Shafer, “The Libertarian Experience: Why the Libertarian Party Has Not Been Successful,” Sponsor(s): Marjorie Hershey and Michael Ensley (May 2005) (Nominated for Williams Jennings Bryan Award)

Laura Siegel, “Explaining the Recent Rise in Anti-Semitism in Europe” Sponsors: Dina Spechler and Jack Bielsiak (December 2005)

**Honors Theses 2004**

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


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)


Honors Theses - 2003


Honors Theses – 2002

Ian Berliner, "The Health Insurance Crisis In America: Why Reform is Necessary," Sponsor(s): Marjorie Hershey and Norman Furniss (May 2002 )(Nominated for William Jennings Bryan Award)

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

Ncemedin 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)