



Honors Student Academic Achievements 2019-2020
2020 Graduates with Distinction in their major and University Honors

This year several of our honors students were nominated by their thesis advisor for entrance in the national NCHC Portz Scholar Thesis Contest in recognition of their outstanding work. These are: Jordan Arnell, Elizabeth Atwood, Adam Begeman, Gillian Breuer, Hannah Burbach, Katy Constandinides, Corina Coulter, Lisl Davies, Caralea Grant, Elizabeth Hamilton, William Holtzmann, Marianne Hughes, Alex Kofler, Robin Kuebler, Michelle Kyster, Megan McCaughey, Will Moody, Kate Petty, Melissa Shambach, Avery Stackle, Thanh (David) Viet Anh Vo, Matthew Walter, and Morgan Windmueller.

Jincy Abraham

Accountancy thesis: "Nonprofessional Investor Reaction to Loss Classifications on the Income Statement"

Advisor: Keith Sellers

Josiah Aklilu

Computer Science thesis: "What's Poppin' App (iOS Application Development)"

Advisor: Mohammed Albow

Sophia Anner

Biological Sciences thesis: "Effects of advanced maternal age on sperm and reproductive tissue mass in male offspring"

Advisor: Robin Tinghitella

Jordan Arnell

International Studies thesis: "Development in the United Arab Emirates: The Influence of Unification and Post-Colonial Circumstances"

Advisor: Ahmed Abdrabou

Elizabeth Atwood

International Studies thesis: "Locating Autonomy Within Women's Reproductive Health in Chiapas, Mexico"

Advisor: Dr. Rebecca Galemba

Alex Becht

Computer Science thesis: "OneDU: Fostering Campus Community Connectedness via Mobile Applications"

Advisor: Daniel Pittman

Adam Begeman

Chemistry thesis: "G-Quadruplexes Act as Sequence Dependent Chaperones via Protein Oligomerization"

Advisor: Scott Horowitz

Gillian Breuer

Management thesis: "Intergenerational Non-Profit Management: Tools and Strategies"

Advisor: Peter J. Bower
Hannah Burbach
Biological Sciences thesis: "A phylogenetic study on the activation mechanism of MC5 receptors by the Pituitary Hormone ACTH"
Advisor: Robert M. Doves

Katy Constantinides
International Studies thesis: "Queering Human Capital"
Advisor: George DeMartino

Corina Coulter
Computer Science thesis: "Good Choices: Technological and Ethical Considerations to Increase Public Trust in Unmanned Aerial Systems"
Advisor: Kerstin S. Haring

Anna Daley Laursen
Gender and Women's Study thesis: "The Limitations and Potential of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of the Indigenous Peoples: An Analysis through the Lenses of Indigeneity and Gender"

Cate Daniels
Intentional Studies: "Creating a Sustainability Ethic in Artisanal Fisheries"
Advisor: Tara Boyle

Lisl Davies
Public Policy thesis: "Homeless Veterans in Colorado"
Advisor: Lapo Salucci

Taruni Donti
Biological Sciences thesis: "p53R248W induces higher tumorigenesis rates in a BRAFV600E melanoma mouse model"
Advisor: Joseph Angleson

Emily Elsey
Business Information & Analytics thesis: "Emily Elsey Honors Portfolio"
Advisor: Amy L. Phillips

Josie Evans
Biological Sciences thesis: "Female Preference for Male Courtship Song Components in a Hawaiian Population of a Cricket with a Novel 'Purring' Song"
Advisor: Robin Tinghitella

Carter Fite
Marketing thesis: "Distinction Portfolio"
Advisor: Joshua Ross

Tasha Feichtinger
Art History thesis: "Giovan Pietro Bellori and the Legacy of Le Vite"
Advisor: Scott B. Montgomery

Megan Fitzpatrick
Burns School of Real Estate and Construction Management thesis: "Daniels Distinction Portfolio"
Advisor: Eric A. Holt

Meghan Garrant

Language & Literature thesis: "Violent Fascination: Serial Killers in the Weimar Republic"
Advisor: Wilfried Wilms

Ellen Gee
Computer Science thesis: "Pointed: an Ionic React Personal Planning Mobile App"
Advisor: Daniel Pittman

Taylor Goelz
Business Information & Analytics thesis: "Utilizing the DMAIC Process to Demonstrate Common Problems with Data Management & Enterprise Systems: A Case Study Over Three Industries"
Advisor: Jack Buffington

Caralea Grant
Marketing thesis: "Women in Advertising: A feminist lens on womanhood in Coca Cola's marketing between 1930-1960"
Advisor: Gia Nardini

Elizabeth Hamilton
Religious Studies thesis: "Shakti: Conceptualizing The Divine Feminine and the Material Woman"
Advisor: Benjamin Nourse

Carlie Harrison
Languages & Literatures thesis: "Climate Change Mitigation in the Ecuadorian Andes: Soil Protection and Indigenous Conversation Epistemologies"
Advisor: Alison Krogel

Grace Harrison
Marketing thesis: "Daniels Distinction Portfolio-Marketing"
Advisor: Gia Nardini

Abigail Hodell
Business Information & Analytics thesis: "Distinction Portfolio"
Advisor: Amy Phillips

William Holtzmann
Physics & Astronomy thesis: "Characterizing and Understanding the Nucleation of Optical Vortices"
Advisor: Mark Siemens

Marianne Hughes
International Studies thesis: "How Power Dresses: The Gendered Aesthetics of Uniform; A Comparative Case Study of Contemporary Female Heads of State and/or Government in Australia, Indonesia, and the Philippines"
Advisor: Marie Berry

Brenden Humphreys
Religious Studies thesis: "The Implications of Leadership in Deuteronomy in Terms of Regressive Religious Tendency"
Advisor: Benjamin Nourse

Erin Jones
Business Information & Analytics thesis: "Business Analytics Daniels Portfolio Distinction"

Advisor: Paige Baltzan
Alex Kofler
Computer Science thesis: "Betting on Blockchain: Implementation of a Sports-Based Betting System on the Ethereum Blockchain"
Advisor: Nathan S. Evans

Robin Kuebler
Finance thesis: "Valuing Blockchain Systems"
Advisor: David B. Cox

Michelle Kyster
Chemistry & Biochemistry thesis: "Photoassisted [4+2] Cycloaddition Following by Modification"
Advisor: Andrei Kutateladze

Sam Lindsey
Computer Science thesis: "AuriScrib"
Advisor: Daniel Pittman

Ethan Locke
Business Information & Analytics thesis: "Portfolio"
Advisor: Tom Hall

Mary Manship
Languages & Literatures thesis: "Lo tradicional y lo moderno: Las preferencias del tratamiento médico en el mundo andino"
Advisor: Alison Krogel

Megan McCaughey
Biological Sciences thesis: "Examining the Roles of the Conserved MRNA Deadenylase Complex on Drosophila Neuronal Structures"
Advisor: Scott Barbee

Becca McCubbin
Physics & Astronomy thesis: "Photoluminescence and Photocurrent in Perovskite Solar Cells"
Advisor: Mark Siemens

Claire Milligan
Accountancy thesis: "Maneet Perception on GSCM Announcements of Publicly Traded Companies"
Advisor: Keith Sellers

Will Moody
Biological Sciences thesis: "Role of Fxs-causing mutations in FMRPE 12H RNA binding domains in the regulation of its function in vivo"
Advisor: Scott Barbee

Taylor Munchrath
Accountancy thesis: "Distinction Portfolio"
Advisor: Kathleen Davisson

Georgia Olsen
Biological Sciences thesis: "EHBP1 and EHD2 regulation of angiogenesis in Danio rerio"
Advisor: Erich Kushner

Anna Panella

Music thesis: "Senior Recital"

Advisor: Paul Naslund

Kate Petty

Biological Sciences thesis: "Plant Functional Traits and Cattle Forage in Tamarix Invaded Regions"

Advisor: Anna Sher

Maya Piñón

Languages and Literatures thesis: "La minoridad intermediaria exitosa: el caso de los nikkei en Perú"

Advisor: Alison Krogel

Melissa Shambach

International Studies thesis: "Entrepreneurship and Youth Unemployment in Jordan"

Advisor: Katherine Tennis

Avery Stackle

Psychology thesis: "Analysis of Forensic Interview Techniques"

Advisor: Anne DePrince

Nicolas Tarasewicz

Geography and the Environment thesis: "Neighborhood-Level Impacts of Street Trees"

Advisors: Erika Trigoso, Kristopher Kuzera

Jack Trembath

Theatre thesis

Advisor: Steven McDonald

Thanh (David) Viet Anh Vo

Psychology thesis: "How deception and feedback about one's believability affect emotion and recall"

Advisor: Leanne ten Brinke

Matthew Walter

Public Policy thesis: Growing the Colorado Wine Industry: Compliance Reduction

Advisor: Lapo Salucci

Morgan Windmueller

Psychology thesis: "Nonverbal shame expressions predicts believability of sexual assault survivors"

Advisor: Leanne ten Brinke

Lauren Zurcher

Languages, Literatures, & Cultures thesis: "La Joie Devivre"

Advisor: Frederique Chevillot