



Saint Peter's University **Honors Program** *Presents*

THE 2021 HONORS THESIS DEFENSES

Please join us to hear our senior Honors students present their research.

3:00-5:00pm

All thesis defenses will take place virtually via Zoom.

Tuesday, April 6th

Natalia Kita, *Reading for Empire in Petrofiction: Hegemony's Dissolution Through Oil-Powered Mastery*
Advisor: Dr. Michael Walonen, English

Ricke Bell, *Diversity in Young Adult Literature*
Advisor: Dr. Cynthia Walker, Communication & Media Culture

Desiree Armas, *Moving on from the Pauw Wow: How Five Women of Color Made Change Happen*
Advisor: Dr. Anna Brown, Social Justice

Wednesday, April 7th

Evelynn Pham, *A Heightened Scrutiny for Sexual Orientation under the Equal Protection Clause*
Advisor: Dr. Lori Buza, Accounting & Business Law

Zaheerah Ahmad, *Why Is There a Lack of Diversity in the Partnership Level at Accounting Firms?*
Advisor: Professor Philip Sookram, Accounting & Business Law

Nicolas Sadek, *Corporations' Utilization of the Tax Code to Their Advantage as well as to Better the Community*
Advisor: Dr. Lori Buza, Accounting & Business Law

Thursday, April 8th

Hannah Almontaser, *The ICU Nurse Experience During the Coronavirus Pandemic*
Advisor: Professor Sandra Horvat, Nursing

Taylor Sanchez, *Lying for a Good Cause: Do Moral Beliefs License Acceptance of Immoral Behavior?*
Advisor: Dr. Brittany Hanson, Psychology

Andres Machin, *Writing, Religion, Relativism, and Sin in the Renaissance Works of Lazarillo de Tormes and the Poetry of François Villon*
Advisor: Dr. Mark DeStephano, Classical and Modern Languages and Literatures

Friday, April 9th

Anthony Crincoli, *The Paradox of Financial Literacy: An Obstacle and Pathway to Upward Social Mobility*
Advisor: Dr. Samar Issa, Economics & Finance

Keven Ventura, *A Study on the Audit Busy Season: Manager and Employee Perspective and Retention Rates*
Advisor: Professor Brigid D'Souza, Accounting & Business Law

Monday, April 12th

*Igor Khvorostian, *How the Political Intrigues of the Russian Elite Ruins the Oil and Gas Sectors*
Advisor: Professor Jerome Kotch, Economic & Finance

*Due to international time differences, this thesis defense will take place at 12:00pm EST on this date.
All other defenses will take place at 3:00pm EST as scheduled.

Kagan Shaw, *Bitcoin Funds: An Overview of a Flawed Equity*
Advisor: Dr. Devin Rafferty, Economics & Finance

Anton Moore, *Comparing New Zealand's and the United States' Response to Covid-19 Based on a Keynesian Approach*
Advisor: Dr. Devin Rafferty, Economics & Finance

Ahmed Shehata, *Coronavirus and Inequality*
Advisor: Dr. Edwin Dickens, Economics & Finance

Tuesday, April 13th

Jili Zhu, *Impact of Immigration on the United States*
Advisor: Dr. Chanaz Gargouri, Business Management

Cinthya Munoz Tepan, *The Only Goal that Matters: A Fight for Equal Pay in the Soccer Industry*
Advisor: Dr. Marilú Marcillo, Business Management

Andrew Handal, *How Does Your Zipcode Impact Access to Higher Education?*
And What Does Attaining a College Education Mean in Terms of Earning Potential and Economic Mobility after 40 Years?
Advisor: Dr. Marilú Marcillo, Business Management

Wednesday, April 14th

Jacob Adelhoch, *From Emancipators to Eugenicists: The Republican Party's Racial Realignment, 1868-1928*
Advisor: Dr. John Johnson, Jr., History

Gineen Abuali, *Democratic or Despotic? Police Violence against Protest Movements in the United States and Palestine*
Advisor: Dr. David Gerlach, History

Thursday, April 15th

Angel Kaufman, *Effects of Preservatives and Emulsifiers on the Gut Microbiome*
Advisor: Dr. Jill Callahan, Biology

Adam Daoud, *The Antibacterial Effect of Photoactive Metal-Free Materials*
Advisor: Dr. Wanlu Li, Chemistry

Yaidelis Lopez Jimenez, *Vitamin D and Melatonin Used as Protective Chemicals Against Bisphenol A in Xenopus Laevis (Clawed Frog)*
Advisor: Dr. Christina Mortellaro, Biology

Monday, April 19th

Alejandro Gomez Gonzalez, *A Sustainable Pathway for Water Depollution via Catalytic Water Oxidation*
Advisor: Dr. Yosra Badiei, Applied Science & Biotechnology

Ariana La Rosa, *Ruthenium Based Water-Oxidation Catalyst Incorporating Amide Ligands*
Advisor: Dr. Yosra Badiei, Applied Science & Biotechnology

Masiel Infante, *Problematizing Intuitive Universals in Socioscientific Reasoning: Using Meta-Epistemic Reasoning Practices to Link Mechanisms to Context*
Advisor: Dr. John Ruppert, Biology

Wednesday, April 21st

Andrew Galarza, *Studies on the Effects of Cytochalasin B and Calcium on Amphibian Cleavage, a Model System for Oncogenesis*
Advisor: Dr. Daniel Fried & Dr. Laura Twersky, Biology

Chantal Chacho, *A Review on the Effects of Simvastatin (Zocor) and Atorvastatin (Lipitor) on Alzheimer's Disease and Vascular Dementia*
Advisor: Dr. Laura Twersky, Biology

Karen Canales, *A Review on the Potential Protective Effects of Naringin and Cinnamaldehyde Independently and in Combination against Bisphenol A-Exposed Xenopus laevis (Clawed Frog)*
Advisor: Dr. Christina Mortellaro & Dr. Laura Twersky, Biology

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://saintpeters-edu.zoom.us/j/4392266923?pwd=N1ZwR2VYRitETE1HNFYvU1I2LzdjUT09>

Meeting ID: 439 226 6923
Passcode: 9gFe6U

For more information about the 2021 thesis defenses, please contact Lauren Squillante
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