Celebrating National Hispanic Heritage Month and Elizabethtown College Homecoming & Family Weekend

Alumni Spotlight on Sara Allocco
Honors Student Stamps Scholar Alumna
Class of 2020
Spanish and Political Science

Building on my study abroad experience in Valladolid, Spain at the Universitas Castellae 2018-2019 and traveling to Portugal, Italy, France, and Iceland; after graduating from Elizabethtown College as an Honors Stamps Scholar, I spent several months working with EducationUSA, a network affiliated with the U. S. Department of State. I served as a writing advisor for Spanish high school students guiding them through the U. S. college application process. Following this position, I moved to Santiago de Compostela, Spain for my Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship. I taught English to elementary and middle school students in Dodro, a small Galician town located just outside of Santiago, and I loved every minute of my Fulbright experience! Currently, I am a Spanish teacher at Fusion Academy in Boca Raton, Florida. Fusion Academy is a wholly unique institution offering 1:1, completely individualized education for middle school and high school students. My work is incredibly rewarding, and sharing countless special moments with my students truly makes teaching a wonderful calling! My interest in teaching Spanish language and culture is grounded in a passion for learning and civic engagement. My Middle Eastern and Hispanic roots contribute to the ease with which I connect with students of diverse backgrounds. While in high school, I led daily writing workshops for my peers; several were ESL students, many of whom had learning difficulties, this prepared me for my vocation as a teacher. I will forever be grateful to Elizabethtown College, the Honors Program, the Stamps Leadership Scholarship program, and advising/mentoring from Prestigious Scholarships and Fellowships for all of the one-of-a-kind opportunities I experienced during my formative college years. I fondly remember the Elizabethtown College community as a place where many priceless memories were made, and I know the relationships formed there are lasting a lifetime.
Lauren Comly Wins Eugene P. Clemens Award for Peacemaking 
Class of 2023 Engineering, Interfaith Leadership Studies, and Physics

On Wednesday, October 6, 2021 at the Annual Alumni Peace Fellowship Lecture, Lauren Comly, Honors Student Class of 2023, was awarded the Eugene P. Clemens Award. Dr. Eugene P. Clemens, was Professor of Philosophy and Religion at Elizabethtown College from 1965-2000. The award is overseen by the Center for Global Understanding and Peacemaking and implemented by the Elizabethtown College Alumni Peace Fellowship. The award has been established to honor, Dr. Clemens legacy of practicing and promoting peace, tolerance, and social justice throughout his career. The Eugene P. Clemens Award is annually given to a student who has demonstrated, by speech or actions, the promotion of peace, tolerance or social justice on campus or in their community. While Lauren Comly is majoring in Biomedical Engineering (and minoring in Physics), she is minoring in Interfaith Leadership Studies. Lauren was given this award to recognize her academic achievement in a Core class which counts for Core Areas of Understanding Humanities and Creative Expression called “Artistic Peacebuilding.” Lauren is putting her ideas about peace and interfaith work into practice in summer 2022 in an internship focusing on the applications of chaplaincy within the context of summer residential camps. Lauren Comly said, “I am very thankful to be a recipient this year. Thank you to the Elizabethtown College Alumni Peace Fellowship for making this award possible. I am truly honored. Interfaith has a huge impact on how we are able to understand and learn from each other. We are able to orchestrate peace and understanding once we ourselves are aware of the commonalities between all people.”

Claire Cuvo Wins Women in Tech Scholarship 
Class of 2024 Engineering and Spanish

Congratulations to Claire Cuvo ‘24, an Environmental Engineering major, who won a Women in Tech Scholarship at Technology Council of Central Pennsylvania’s live virtual event in September.

She wants to use her education to create a brighter and greener future by advancing the use of renewable energy and sustainable technology; all while showing the world that anyone is fit to be an engineer.

Read the full article on NorthcentralPA.com here:  
Welcome Ahsa Sadhukhan First Year Honors Stamps Scholar in the Momentum Program Class of 2025 Biology

I have to admit; I was incredibly nervous to begin my first year of college. Intellectually, I knew I was as prepared as anybody else for the transition from high school. This understanding did nothing to quell my nerves, unfortunately. Beginning my Elizabethtown College orientation early, on the other hand, did quell my nerves. Momentum began the week before Orientation Weekend. First years and transfer students attended a series of Zoom meetings led by Professor Benowitz, the Kinesis Peer Academic Advising Team, and a plethora of guest speakers. Here we learned about Elizabethtown’s rich history, how to succeed as a college student, and one another’s aspirations. After moving onto campus early, our conversations continued. Because of Momentum, I had “people” before the academic year even began. After Momentum Week ended, Honors Orientation began. Here we focused on team building through activities hosted by the team from Gretna Glen. We had thought-provoking conversations exploring the importance of communication, perseverance, and flexibility for college and beyond. For the first time, we met our FYS professors and FYS Peer Mentors who would shape the beginning of our college journeys. I loved having one last opportunity to destress before classes began. A few weeks later, the Stamps Scholars came together for our annual retreat. One evening we gathered for dinner and ice breakers. The next day we traveled to Camp Kirchenwald for high ropes adventures, goal setting, and bonding. After each activity, we reflected on how the lessons we were learning could be applied to our college experiences and futures beyond school. Honestly, I am not a fan of heights, so my favorite part of the day was the car ride back to campus when we shared stories of our lives back home. The Momentum, Honors, and Stamps program made my transition to college as easy as it possibly could have been. Now, not a day goes by when I do not see a friendly face from Momentum. I see the lessons we learned from Honors put into action in the classroom. I love having impromptu conversations with other Stamps Scholars. All three programs helped me meet members of the community I might otherwise not have gotten to know. I am so thankful to be an Elizabethtown Momentum student, a member of the Honors Program, and a Stamps Scholar.

Spotlight on Honors Student Leader Ruth Jacob Class of 2023 Engineering and Architecture

Throughout my past three years here at Elizabethtown College, I have had the unique privilege of being a part of both the Momentum Program and the Honors Program. During this time, I have held positions within both programs as a Kinesis Peer Academic Advisor, Kinesis Team Co-Captain, and Honors Council Representative. Being a part of these aspects of student life has been truly rewarding. As a Kinesis I am able to work closely with First Year Momentum students who come into college feeling as lost as I did, and I am able to mentor them as they successfully achieve their academic and leadership development goals. As Co-Captain, I get to work with Professor Benowitz and see the inner workings of the Momentum Program and support it on another level. The Momentum Program as a whole is a family like none other and is one of the main reasons for my successes at Elizabethtown College. It has contributed to who I am today as a student and as a person, and the Honors Program has likewise impacted me in a very positive way. Starting with my First Year Seminar, I was able to quickly identify my passions and how the Honors Program would help me set and achieve realistic goals. Serving on Honors Council since my first year further instilled this as well as helped me to strive for greatness in not just my classes, but the everyday tasks I complete when helping my students or working within an organization.
Learning, Serving, & Leading

Honors Student Andrew Furman is Student Senate President
Class of 2023 Political Science and Communications

It is my great pleasure serving as President of Student Senate. In this role I am calling upon the information I learned in Professor Benowitz’s Honors course, “Leadership Theory and Personal Narrative,” becoming a more effective and proactive leader on campus. Currently, I am working with Senate to reevaluate student employment compensation, lobbying for a more market competitive wage. Additionally, I am bringing leadership in finalizing, by semester’s end, Senate’s Strategic Plan. I also serve as a Peer Mentor for Professor Benowitz’s Honors First Year Seminar “America in the 1980s: To The Max.” This summer I hope to travel across the nation, retracing the route taken by John Steinbeck and told in his book, Travels with Charley (1962). I first read Steinbeck’s travelogue in Professor Benowitz’s Honors FYS “An American Journey: Exploring Democracy with Alexis de Tocqueville.” Steinbeck’s travel memoir serves as an inspiration for my American road trip and conducting research looking deeper into the lives of those left behind during these great expeditions. I am planning on using my background in Political Science and Communications to document the stories of the people I meet on my cross cultural journey. This project will be funded, in part, by a Summer Enrichment Grant from the Office of Prestigious Scholarships and Fellowships. I am working with Professor Benowitz preparing to apply for The Fulbright-National Geographic Storytelling Fellowship. This fellowship, a component of the Fulbright U. S. Student Program, provides opportunities for selected Fulbright U. S. Student grantees to participate in an academic year of storytelling on a globally significant theme. This fellowship is made possible through a partnership between the U. S. Department of State and the National Geographic Society. I took Professor Benowitz’s Honors course, “Elizabethtown History: Campus and Community.” I am preparing for a Summer Scholarship, Creative Arts and Research Projects (SCARP) launching a National Trust for Historic Preservation “This Place Matters” campaign for the National Historic Distract of Marietta, Pennsylvania.

HON 205 Leadership Theory and Personal Narrative

Offered every spring semester this Honors seminar examines a wide variety of theories, practices, models, and examples of leadership. Students discern types of leadership skills they possess, and leadership skills they wish to develop. Course content focuses broadly on leadership theory and studies in grand strategy. Students research and discuss leadership theories and practices in a field of their choosing. Students write a personal leadership narrative which is used in applying for grants, graduate schools, employment, competitive post graduate scholarships and fellowships.
Spotlight on Honors Student Athlete

Bryce Keller, Class of 2024
Finance and Exercise Science

This is the fall semester of my sophomore year enrolled in the Honors Program and I can say with certainty I made the right choice to be an Honors student. While I chose Elizabethtown for both academic and athletic reasons, one of the biggest influences on my decision was the Honors Program. It provides more resources, peers, professors, and an extra level of rigor to my academic experience. As for the athletic side of my life on the baseball team, it has been fantastic so far! The team, coaches, and atmosphere are all amazing and I have already made lasting memories in just one full season. It is very comforting to know I am surrounded by support from my teammates, as well as everyone in the Honors program. So far in my academic experience, I have managed to balance my academics and athletics. There are so many resources here to help, and since the campus is made up of a ton of varsity athletes, professors are supportive in working with athletes to achieve their academic and sports goals. My experience as an athlete and my course work in the Exercise Science program has shown me the importance of integrating into my daily schedule exercise for stress relief, physical health, and keeping myself grounded; it has been helpful in my academic progress. There is a connection between mind and body and so regarding time management, it is important to make time for exercise and physical activity. The Honors classes I have taken so far have been great. My Honors FYS and Honors Public Heritage courses were both very interesting and enriching. I felt like there was more focus on diving deeper into the content, as well as an environment focused around understanding, rather than just memorizing material. The best example I can give of this is Professor Benowitz’s Honors community based learning class, where we examined the historical context of this geographic area and used what we learned to produce scholarship, which was published, to inform local public policy. My scholarship in this course contributed to local economic development which I found very interesting as a Finance major. These experiences so far were unlike any other class I have taken in high school or college. I am very excited to continue working towards graduating from this prestigious program. It is truly an honor.

The Honors 201 community based learning course is based on the National Collegiate Honors Council’s active learning pedagogy called Place As Text™. This approach to learning integrates Honors students into the local community strengthening town and gown relationships. The course and pedagogy align well with the Honors Program’s motto: “Learn, Serve, Lead” and with the motto of Elizabethtown College: “Educate for Service.”

Community Engagement & Leadership Guidelines

Check out these organizations that may be of interest for completing your Honors Community Engagement & Leadership requirements and building your work experience. Know of any other organizations? Send them to honors@etown.edu.

- Act for Humanity Foundation - https://www.afhfoundation.org/
- Church World Service (Lancaster) - https://cwslancaster.org/
- On Earth Peace - https://www.onearthpeace.org/
- Tabor Community Services - https://wearetenfold.org/

You can find the full guidelines, more suggested engagement opportunities, and log-sheet here: https://www.etown.edu/programs/honors/engagement-and-leadership.aspx
Honors Students Community Based Learning Road Trip

On Saturday 18 September 2021 Honors students Jackson Lager, Jordan Lilly, Samantha Phillips, and Abigail Sholes, (not pictured) Kyle Cappucci, Ruth Jacob, Emily Erden, and Madaline Shaffer visited the John Harris-Simon Cameron Mansion at the Historical Society of Dauphin County, in Harrisburg, where they toured Alexander Family Research Library and Archives. Professor Benowitz led the group in a historic architecture tour of Pennsylvania Governor’s mansions on Front Street in Riverfront Park along the Susquehanna River and the Pennsylvania Capitol Complex. These eight Honors students are among 15 students enrolled in Professor Benowitz’s Public Heritage Studies course PHS 202 Museum Studies and Museum Education.

The Honors Program
The Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies
PRINT: People, Religion, Information Networks, and Travel
Digital Humanities Projects

On Tuesday 20 September 2021 Honors students attended a presentation by Dr. Rosalind Beiler, Associate Professor of History at the University of Central Florida. Dr. Beiler is the visiting Snowden Fellow at the Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies. Dr. Beiler gave an interactive presentation about her digital humanities project called PRINT: People, Religion, Information Networks, and Religion. This digital history project is funded by Omohundro Institute and the Pennsylvania Historical Society in Philadelphia. PRINT is an electronic repository of 17th and 18th century letters from Swiss, Dutch, German, and French Quaker and Anabaptist groups documenting the colonial transatlantic world. Dr. Beiler’s research team at the University of Central Florida will be using the scholarship of our Honors students and their ArcGIS story maps about local history as a model for sharing the resources of PRINT. Honors students enrolled (past & present) in Professor Benowitz’s Honors courses, with digital humanities components, met with Dr. Beiler to discuss launching this academic partnership.
Upcoming Honors Events

U. S. Foreign Policymaking Leadership Sessions with Ambassador Craig

Thursday, October 28 and November 11 @ 7:00pm
in the Steinmen Brinser Lecture Room
Attending all sessions count for community engagement and leadership service hours.

Honors Student Study Abroad Presentations

Friday, November 5 @ 5:00pm
in the Honors LLC, Schlosser Lounge
Hear from students who have studied abroad and learn of opportunities available for Honors students who wish to study abroad.

The Honors Program is a community of scholars comprising a wide variety of perspectives and backgrounds. Our supportive network of Honors students, alumni, faculty, and staff approach scholarship and service with an interdisciplinary approach. Consistent with our commitment to the College’s mission of peacemaking and social justice, we are a community of learners celebrating diversity with an international and cross-cultural perspective.

Course Registration and Spring Semester 2022 Schedule Building Academic Advising Session

Friday, October 22 @ 4:00pm via Zoom
Please join Dr. Ozkanca, Professor Benowitz, and Luke Mackey for our virtual academic advising session for the Spring 2022 semester. We will answer questions regarding choosing courses, especially for the Honors Program, and building your spring semester schedule for the Spring 2022 semester. This session will be recorded and available afterward for those who are not able to attend the live virtual meeting.
The Zoom link is: https://etown.zoom.us/j/91879689823.

Elizabethtown College Homecoming and Family Weekend

October 15 - 17

Friday, October 15 @ 6:00pm - Honors Program Class of 2020 Virtual Celebration via Zoom
Saturday, October 16 @ 11:00am - 26th Annual Homecoming Parade and Homecoming Day Kick-Off
Full schedule and details about Homecoming can be found here: https://www.etown.edu/homecoming/
Know of Something Newsworthy?

Feel free to send your accomplishments to honors@etown.edu for us to feature in our next newsletter. Please be sure to include a picture.

Our newsletters are published the middle of each month so please keep this deadline in mind when submitting your accomplishments.

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LEARN, SERVE, AND LEAD