Professor Benowitz, four Honors students, and one Momentum student gave presentations at the 56th Annual Conference of the National Collegiate Honors Council in Orlando, Florida October 27-31, 2021. The theme of the conference was "Reimagine Honors: Past, Present, Future." From left to right: Lauren Comly ’23, Andrew Furman ’23, Professor Benowitz, Kyle Cappucci ’22, Eric Schubert ’23, Kailey Caroland ’22.

Kailey Caroland ’22 and Lauren Comly ’23 presented a round table discussion entitled, “Honors Connection Uninterrupted: Virtual Opportunities to Foster Community.”

Professor Benowitz, Kyle Cappucci ’22, Andrew Furman ’23 and Momentum student Eric Schubert ’23 presented “Honors Community-Based Learning Uninterrupted: Pandemic Possibilities.”

At the conference, NCHC released a monograph entitled, Place, Text, Community: City As Text in the Twentieth Century. Professor Benowitz authored the chapter entitled, "Transforming Community Based Learning Through City As Text" in Part 3: "Designing City As Text Integrative Learning Experiences." In his chapter Professor Benowitz discusses how he has integrated the NCHC pedagogy City As Text into the Honors program, his Honors First Year Seminar, his community based learning Honors research seminar about local history and historic preservation, and Honors and Momentum programming.

As part of the conference, NCHC hosted an event at the Epcot Theme Park in the Walt Disney World Resort.
Honors Student Athlete Spotlight

Mia L. Cudmore, Class of 2025
Women’s Soccer

This first semester of college as a student athlete in the Honors Program has been more beneficial than I could have anticipated. I chose Elizabethtown College for its excellent academics and specifically the Honor’s Program because it offers students amazing opportunities and resources as compared to other colleges. I have learned my choice of being a part of the Honor’s Program was the right choice. This Honors Program is offering me many beneficial resources and is challenging me to excel in my academics. The support from professors, FYS Peer Mentors, and my FYS classmates has been extremely helpful while playing soccer in season. Participating in varsity sports on campus has allowed me to learn new skills and establish friendships helping me acclimate to my new life in college. I have had a very busy schedule with classes, labs, practices, and games, and it was a hard adjustment at first but, the support I receive from my team and members of the Honor’s Program has made my first semester go smoothly. The time management skills I have learned and the accountability I set for myself throughout this past semester has enabled me to keep a high GPA and still be able to play the sport I love. The other benefit from the Honor’s Program was the courses are offered. My Honors FYS with Professor Benowitz is a very engaging class where I am learning many essential skills to be used throughout my life, for example presenting and writing research papers, so I will be prepared for future challenges. The Honors courses in this program are preparing the students for upper-level classes and graduate school. I am looking forward to continuing in this program and seeing how much I can accomplish!

Community Engagement & Leadership Guidelines

Winter break is a great time to participate in a community engagement leadership project to fulfill your Honors co-curricular requirement. In line with our College’s motto – Educate for Service – and the Honors Program’s motto – Learn, Serve, and Lead – the majority of our Honors Program students already engage in service, community engagement, and leadership opportunities. The Honors Program requires students to submit yearly reflection papers on their 15 hours of volunteer service, community engagement, and leadership opportunities annually as part of the Honors Program’s co-curricular requirement. 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 in good standing who have completed 16 credit hours of Honors courses may apply for academic research grants up to $1,000 total to support research and scholarly activity. The Office of Prestigious Scholarships and Fellowships offers Summer Enrichment Grants up to $1,000 to help fund summer research, selective internships, or enrichment travel related to course of study. Summer Enrichment Grants are for Honors students who are on a path enabling them to apply for prestigious scholarships and fellowships in the future. These nationally competitive scholarships and fellowships fund such opportunities as specialized study abroad, independent research, and graduate study.
Nicholas Mich Study Abroad Experience
Class of 2022 International Business and Finance

Being able to travel to Costa Rica was one of the greatest and most impactful opportunities I have ever had. Although Covid-19 had plagued the world, I was still able to make the trip to San Jose in person. I was originally planning on traveling to Barcelona and Granada, Spain; however, programs shut down or changed their itineraries at the last minute to offer only a virtual study abroad experience. Eager to have a true study abroad experience in a foreign country, I applied to the Costa Rica program with CIS Abroad. Although it was very last minute, I was accepted and included in the trip for the Fall 2021 semester.

Although I have traveled outside of the country previously, I had never been in a foreign country on my own. I had also never lived in a city alone domestically, and I was not sure what to expect when I arrived. While I was there, I enveloped myself in multiple classes focused on the Costa Rican culture, creative leadership, international relations, and the conservation of marine biology. I was able to go on trips to the museum and the northwestern coast of the country to experience the breathtaking sights at Mountain Escazú and Irazú Volcano.

In addition, I built a very close relationship with my host mom, Carmen, since her husband passed away and her children all married and moved out of the house. She did not speak much English, so we purely communicated in Spanish. My host mom and I would go out all the time during the weekends, buying groceries and visiting local hotspots. We shared indoor hobbies, such as playing board games, watching TV during dinner, and putting puzzles together. I really enjoyed the time I got to spend with her, and we still talk and message each other frequently.

Everything happens for a reason, and I knew I would not be able to have this wonderful experience if the programs in Spain were not canceled or adjusted. I am glad I visited Costa Rica, and I am enthralled that I was able to live the study abroad experience in person during a time where travel is considered impossible.

View Nicholas Mich’s and Brooke Bergman’s Study Abroad Presentations Using the Link or QR Code Below

https://cutt.ly/studyabroadfall2021
Honors Homecoming Highlights
October 15-17, 2021

The theme for Homecoming & Family Weekend Parade floats was after-school television programs. The Honors Student Council’s “Thomas & Friends” float was the winner.

Natalie Blanton
Honors Council President

Kyle Cappucci
Honors Student

Honors Council Parade Float
Honors Alumni Spotlight:
Dr. Phillip Belder, Class of 2016

Phillip Belder graduated from Elizabethtown College in 2016 with a Bachelor of Science in Biology as part of the 3+4 accelerated BS/DMD Pre-Dental Affiliation Program. In his undergraduate experience, Phillip served as President of the Honors Student Council and the Hillel Club. Phillip was involved with the Center for Community and Civic Engagement participating with “A Day of Community Engagement” known as “Into the Streets” and serving as a mentor for “Moving Forward Together” a program establishing relationships between the students of Elizabethtown College and the students of the Milton Hershey School promoting academic achievement, emotional development, and contributions to the community. Phillip attended the National Collegiate Honors Council annual meeting as well as the national conference for Young Americans for Liberty. The focus of Phillip’s Honors Thesis was an investigation of metagenomic sequencing of oral microbiome flora within the Lancaster County Amish community. Phillip earned his doctorate from the Temple University School of Dentistry and subsequently joined his father in practicing as a general dentist in the Philadelphia metropolitan area with special interests in implantology, restorative, and cosmetic dentistry. Phillip treats multilingual patients, Russian and Spanish, in Montgomery and Bucks Counties. On Monday, October 18, 2021, the Health Professions Advisory Committee hosted an event entitled, “Pathways from Elizabethtown College to Dental and Psychiatric Practice: Advice for All Pre-Health Students” where Phillip presented to STEM students about his dental school experience and current work as a dentist.

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.
Honors Center Art Gallery

Many thanks to Ezekiel Ciafre & Samantha Phillips for taking the initiative with adding Honors Student Artwork to the Honors Center!

Please stop by the Honors Center to see students’ artwork. If you would like to have your artwork displayed in the Honors Center, please contact honors@etown.edu.

Ezekiel Ciafre
Class of 2023
Public Relations Major
and Graphic Design Major
Marketing Minor

Samantha Phillips
Class of 2023
Biology Major
Studio Art Minor
and Psychology Minor

Veronica Zerebilov
Class of 2023
Occupational Therapy Major
Studio Art Minor
Honors Center Art Gallery

Hayden Mitchell  
Class of 2023  
Graphic Design Major

Ruth Jacob  
Class of 2023  
Civil Engineering Major  
Architecture Minor

Ally Bonicker  
Class of 2023  
Public Relations Major  
and Professional Writing Major

Catherine McMahan  
Class of 2024  
Psychology Major  
Fine Arts Minor  
and Coaching Minor
Upcoming Honors Events

U. S. Foreign Policymaking Leadership Sessions with Ambassador Craig

The next session will be held on Thursday, January 13 @ 7:00 pm in the Honors Center.
Attending all sessions count for community engagement and leadership service hours.

Course Registration and Spring Semester 2022 Schedule Building Academic Advising Session

If you missed the Zoom academic advising session for Spring 2022 Honors scheduling, you can view it using the link or QR code.
https://cutt.ly/spring2022advising

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.

NRHC Conference Opportunity for Students

The Northeast Regional Honors Council (NRHC) Conference will be held from April 7-10, 2022 in Philadelphia.

If you are interested in presenting or attending, please email honors@etown.edu to let us know.

The proposal deadline is Monday, November 29.

More information about the NRHC Conference can be found here: https://www.nrhchonors.com/2022-conference

We wish you the best as you are finishing the semester and good luck with your final exams! Feel free to reserve any of the study carrels in the Honors Center for a quiet study area using the link or QR code to reserve the carrel.
https://www.picktime.com/honors
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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