Congratulations to our Graduating Honors Students

In celebration of their stellar hard work, perseverance and dedication to their scholarly and service commitments, we recognize our Honors Program Seniors and proudly present the Class of 2021.

Joshua Albin
Kelly Armstrong
Jacob Beranek
Ian Bowler
Niklas Byriel
Kathryn Carter
Jessica Cox
Hannah Dinsmore
Jeremy Eberly
Kaitlyn Edinger

Ava Framm
Meghan Glaspey
Meghan Kenney
Emma Knight
Brianna Komiske
Alexander Koontz
Elizabeth Luscavage
Kaedy Masters
Allison Melnikoff
Aprille Mohn

Allyson Nace
William Paterson
Holly Phillips
Caitlin Rossiter
Jessica Rubelmann
Samantha Seely
Kealey Shyk
Matthew Smith
Morgan Sommers
Aiyana Tietze-Di Toro

Learn, Serve, and Lead

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Honors Seniors Spring Celebration

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Congratulations to the Honors Class of 2020!

Although their sendoff did not shine as brightly last spring, their accomplishments, grit and determination sparkled. We celebrate and recognize the Honors Program Class of 2020.

Sara Allocco  Lydia Lawson  Amber Swanick
Rory Dudley  Sara Luckenbill  Mika Thomas
Olivia Geiger  Savannah Martinez  Jack Trego
Grace Gibson  Meghan Matje  Alexis Trionfo
Sarah Guttmann  Liuba Miranosava  Madison Tyrrell
Sara Holsing  Carli Monostra  Lianne Uroda
Catherine Hughes  Sarah Moyer  Alyssa Van Lenten
Isobelle Hughes  Natalie Nye  Rebecca Voler
Kaitlyn Jacoby  Hannah Paymer  Ethan Waugh
Delaney Klepper  Samantha Romberger  Kristin Wilkinson
Kaitlyn Knecht  Alissa Stoneking  Jonathan Wiseman

Honors Student Matthew Smith is Oxford Bound

Matthew Smith '21, Senior History and Middle Eastern Studies major, will be furthering his education at the University of Oxford this coming fall. Matt will be working toward an MPhil in Modern Middle Eastern Studies from October 2021 to June 2023. For his MPhil thesis, Matt plans to continue his research on Pan-Arabism in the twentieth-century Middle East, specifically focusing on the United Arab Republic between Egypt and Syria (1958-1961) and the short-lived and often ignored Arab Federation between Jordan and Iraq (February - July 1958).

Matt’s road to Oxford was a long one. He started working with Professor Jean-Paul Benowitz on his statement of purpose in the Spring of 2020 through Honors 205: Leadership Theory and the Personal Narrative – a class Matt highly recommends for both the skills students gain and the incredibly insightful discussions led by Professor Benowitz. After many months and revisions, Professor Benowitz helped Matt produce a high-quality, concise statement.

Oxford University is one of the oldest, continually operating academic institutions in the world - with the earliest records of teaching dating back to at least 1096 CE. King Henry III granted Oxford its royal charter 1248 CE. The university has many notable alumni involved in international affairs, including British Prime Ministers Margaret Thatcher, Tony Blair, David Cameron, and Boris Johnson, and President Bill Clinton (the first and only US President to attend Oxford). Several other international leaders have also attended Oxford: King Abdullah II of Jordan, Prime Minister Imran Khan of Pakistan, and Sultan Haitham bin Tariq Al Said of Oman, among others.

Matt - having traveled to East Asia, Africa, and the Middle East - has never been to Europe, and is quite excited to study, live, and travel on the continent over the coming two years. Matt attributes this achievement to the one-of-a-kind advising, incredible opportunities he has had through the Honors Program, and the support of the faculty and staff here at Elizabethtown College.
Congratulations Honors Program Award Winners

Jessica Cox '21, an Honors Senior majoring in Sociology/Anthropology with a minor in Peace and Conflict Studies, has been working with Advoz, a community organization based in mediation and restorative practices as an intern during the spring semester. She contracted this internship for honors credits and wrote an essay about the intersection between sociology and conflict resolution for the “Why is Sociology Important?” Annual Applied Worldwide Undergraduate Essay Competition. Through participant observation and semi-structured interviews with Advoz staff members, Jessica found that a background in sociology was important (and perhaps even necessary) for conflict resolution work. Culture, religion, and race are present during conflict and without a foundational understanding of structures and social dynamics, resolution can be unsuccessful.

In her essay she utilized the sociological imagination as envisioned by C. Wright Mills in 1959 to discuss the benefits of applying the sociological imagination to conflict resolution. She was honored to be recognized by Applied Worldwide and placed second in the international competition. This opportunity was shared with her by her mentor and internship advisor, Dr. Kozimor. Jessica noted that Dr. Kozimor encouraged her to apply to this competition and present her paper during SCAD this past month. Jessica stated that she was “so grateful to have been given opportunities to submit my work and am proud to represent both the Elizabethtown’s Sociology department and the Honors program.”

Outstanding Thesis Award Winner: Matthew Smith

Pan-Arabism: Origins and outcomes of Post-Colonial Unions
Advisors: Dr. Brian Newsome and Dr. Oya Ozkanca

Outstanding Thesis Award Honorable Mention: Allyson Nace

HaMLton: Gross Box Office and Sentiment Analysis for Broadway Shows
Advisor: Dr. Peilong Li

Outstanding Thesis Award Honorable Mention: Ian Bowler

Analysis of Applications and Matriculation to Elizabethtown College
Advisor: Dr. Peilong Li
Congratulations to our Outstanding Professor Award Winner

Outstanding Professor Award:

Dr. Jeffrey Rood
Associate Professor of Chemistry
Department Chair

The Honors Program Student Council selected Dr. Jeff Rood for the Honors Program Outstanding Professor Award and noted, "he is a thoughtful and intelligent teacher who clearly cares about what he teaches, and it shows during class time. He is considerate of his students' time and understands how to work to meet every students' varying needs."

Dr. Rood shared, "I'm honored to receive the Outstanding Professor Award and thankful to the Honors Council for thinking of me for this recognition. Working with our students is the best part of my job and I am grateful to have had the opportunity to engage with outstanding students in the Honors Program in various ways over the years."

Celebrating the Honors Program Class of 2021
Senior Celebration ~ May 12, 2021
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Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable summer break!