2014 Hollins Student Conference
For Women Who Are Going Places
Saturday, May 3, 2014
Moody Center

11:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.  **Registration** *(Lobby—main level)*

1:00 to 1:20 p.m.  **Opening Ceremony** *(Ballator Gallery—upper level)*

1:30 p.m. to 2:20 p.m.  **Presentations—Session 1**
- 101: The Personal is Political-Exploring Feminisms *(Ballator Gallery—upper level)*
- 102: The Politics of Representation in Global Media *(Goodwin Private Dining Room—main level)*
- 103: Conversations about Sex and Sexuality *(Janney Lounge—main level)*
- 104: Hollins on Display-Poster Presentations A *(Glass Dining Room—main level)*

2:30 to 3:20 p.m.  **Presentations—Session 2**
- 201: History. Memory. Revolution. War. *(Goodwin Private Dining Room—main level)*
- 202: Peeling Back the Layers-Illuminating Meaning in Art, Literature, and Language *(Janney Lounge—main level)*
- 203: Global Markets and Politics in the Late Capitalist Era *(Ballator Gallery—upper level)*
- 204: Hollins on the Stage-Performances A *(Rathskeller—lower level)*
- 205: Hollins on Display-Poster Presentations B *(Glass Dining Room—main level)*

3:30 to 4:20 p.m.  **Presentations—Session 3**
- 301: Perspectives in Religion and Social Change *(Ballator Gallery—upper level)*
- 302: Reenvisioning History *(Goodwin Private Dining Room—main level)*
- 303: Hollins on the Stage: Performances B *(Rathskeller—lower level)*
- 304: Hollins on Display-Poster Presentations C *(Glass Dining Room—main level)*

4:45 to 5:15 p.m.  **Closing Comments/Awards** *(Ballator Gallery—upper level)*
101: The Personal is Political-Exploring Feminisms
(Ballator Gallery— upper level)

Slurs, Propositions, and Patriarchy: An Online Dating Journalistic Venture
Rachel O’Connell, English

For almost a year, I have been a member of the online dating site OKCupid. Since my entrance to the site, I average about 140 visitors per week and my 300 message limit is reached on a bi-weekly basis. My project emerged when I began to notice similarities between the various messages. It is at this point that I have compiled about 50 pages of messages in 20 subdivided categories such as: “Compliments,” “Overt Sexual Attempts,” “Reverse Psychology,” and “Imminent Failure.” After I have completed gathering data, I will add personal commentary about my individual experience to each category, and my hope is that I will be able to publish this project in the future.

I believe this project to be of particular contemporary interest. Dating sites have become increasingly popular over the past decade and, in more recent years, they have become an outlet for a wider range of ages and lifestyles. My project seeks to take a look from a feminist perspective at the line between effective and offensive, passive and aggressive, awkward and amusing. Ultimately, it weighs both the costs and benefits of online dating as well as the costs of online “anonymity.” It is a work which combines my liberal arts background, utilizing my social, psychological, English, and problem-solving skills to their fullest.

Keywords: online dating, feminism, social implications

What is a Feminist?: Self Identification and Feminism
Sarah Pillow, Communication Studies

This paper looks at the way that people, women in particular, are choosing to identify or not identify in the third wave of feminism. This literature review looked at different sources to explore what it means to be a feminist, what self-identification is and why it is important, and how self-identification has shaped the latest wave of feminism. This paper begins to explore why people are choosing to embrace or abandon the label of “feminist” and what it allows the third wave of feminism to do—seeking to help answer the question of whether or not the term “feminist” is even needed in this day and age.

Keywords: feminism, third wave feminism, self identification

Can the Bible be Saved? Feminist Responses to Christianity
Madchen Specht, International Studies and Philosophy

This paper presents an analysis of two contrasting feminist approaches towards the Bible, regarding the idea of whether or not we can reinterpret the Bible to suit feminism. These views are that of feminist defenders of the Bible (Christian feminists), and feminists who reject it (feminist critiques). The goal of this paper is to present the two most frequent feminist reactions to the Bible, displaying that feminism differs wildly on this issue and strong arguments are made for both.
On each side this paper will cite works that explain the argument, examples from the Bible working to support that point, and the scholars who have done significant work in that area. The literature supporting this paper falls into two areas. The first is pertaining to Christian feminism, which is attributed towards mainly coming about during First Wave Feminism, with women such as Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Mary Baker Eddy. While they may be critical of the traditional view, they do not reject Christianity and the Bible completely, so the focus will be on their theories leading to the reconciling and/or adapting of the biblical canon. Some issues they address are the idea of a gender-transcendent or even feminine God, and patriarchal views of women. The second area of research is involving the counter-argument, the Feminist Critique. These are mostly Second Wave women such as Mary Daly and Rosemary Radford Reuther, who have found Christianity and especially the Bible to be irreconcilably hierarchal and patriarchal, leaving no place for women.

The intention of this paper is to provide a nuanced thesis that can articulate the strengths and weaknesses of each approach. The aim is to provide an informative, logical piece above all, with philosophical theory integrated throughout.

Keywords: feminism, philosophy, religion

The Helpless Daughter of India - American Media Representations of a Gendered Global South
Kindra Wyatt, International Studies

The Delhi Gang Rape (DGR) of 2012 riveted the world. Though already a horrific crime, international media systems have perpetuated a distinct and harmful discourse regarding “Indian culture” in the aftermath of the DGR. Specifically, American media coverage of the incident has exemplified rape myths, demonized the Global South and distanced the American public from the presence of rape culture in the United States. Utilizing qualitative research methods, including feminist critical discourse analysis, I analyze multiple American news media’s portrayal of the DGR, from December 16, 2012, the night of the incident, to January 31, 2013, a time span that includes coverage of the emerging details of the DGR, and the ensuing protests. I found that coverage of the DGR served to emphasize traditional notions of a victimized Global South woman, while the failure to speak to American rape culture reinforced the perception that the West is the dominant force in protecting women of color from their male counterparts. I argue that the American media sensationalized the DGR, simultaneously magnifying Global South rape culture while minimizing parallel Western rape culture.

Keywords: Global South, rape, media, feminism

102: The Politics of Representation in Global Media
(Goodwin Private Dining Room—main level)

False Advertising: Israeli Media and the Politics that Govern It
Angelica Carranza, Political Science and International Studies

Political dramas, such as The West Wing and Borgen, have allowed for politically controversial topics previously shunned to become significant in political discourse within, and beyond, their countries of origin. These dramas can become powerful tools when dealing with censorship challenges provided by the government, especially when citizen discourse and protest is shut down continuously through a government’s power. This research paper
will explore this idea further, specifically looking within the Middle-Eastern country of Israel. The potential within Israel for political television dramas to engage ideas that would have otherwise been censored by the media will be investigated through the analysis of Israeli political society. The impact of this on an Israeli political drama and further, the impact of the political drama on civil discourse, will be examined. An Israeli political drama would allow for an increase in civil discourse as it would demonstrate issues obliquely to the public through the mask of fiction, creating an opening shift in Israeli political discussion. The political discourse constructed and directed through popular culture in reaction to the political drama would allow for an increase in acceptance of these controversial topics, pushing political discourse within Israel to increase.

Keywords: politics, Israel, government, media

Challenging Social Inequality and Defining Cultural Identity through the Counter Hegemonic use of Language Within Franco-Maghrebi Hardcore Rap

Marissa Johnson, French and International Studies

This research project explores how hardcore Franco-Maghrebi rap music challenges social inequality, defines the cultural identity of this community and fosters solidarity through its manipulation of the usage and structure of language to challenge French cultural dominance. Hardcore Franco-Maghrebi rap directly responds to French socio-cultural policies designed to assimilate the Franco-Maghrebi community within French society through a process of French linguistic homogenization. Consequently, hardcore Franco-Maghrebi rap addresses how language functions as a social passport for this community to address its marginalization, redefine its economic and social status, and demand its rights as citizens. This research was conducted using discourse analysis, reader-response, and a deconstructionist critical approach to the lyrics of four major hardcore Franco-Maghrebi MC’s, Rocé, Médine, Mokless, and L’Algérino, to analyze the counter-hegemonic function of language within their texts. These artists were chosen not only because they form a part of the Franco-Maghrebi diaspora in France, but also because they have a personal connection with the banlieues and neighborhoods of major French cities where marginalized groups of this diaspora live. Accordingly, their lyrics provide an informed commentary on the social implications of language and its usage by this community.

Keywords: music, identity, social equality

Female Representation in Tango Canción

Tayler Morris, Political Science

Since tango was originally, and almost exclusively, composed, produced, and sung by men coupled with the origins of tango, I knew that the perspective of women would be abnormally negative. The issue of this project was to identify and explore how female characters were represented in tango canción, or lyrical tango. I read many lyrics of tangos and found and compared how the tango spoke of women and their role. I looked for the speaker’s attitude and point of view towards women. I also read texts that studied different tango composers and their most famous/influential pieces and their common themes. After extensive research, I compiled and explored the numerous roles of females in tango canción. Women in tango canción are presented in three standard forms: absence, presence, and departure and rarely in a positive, amiable light. The extent to which a speaker’s attitude toward the female character showed loving qualities varied based on who the women were.
For example, when the female was favored in a positive light, she was often the speaker’s mother. When the female was described as evil or cruel, she was often the speaker’s lover.

**Keywords:** tango, Argentina, gender, representation

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### 103: Conversations about Sex and Sexuality
*(Janney Lounge—main level)*

**Hillary Clinton Creates Multiple Personas to Address the World on LGBT Rights**

Lindsey Dooley, Communication Studies

The purpose of this paper is to provide a clear understanding of the rhetorical tools Hillary Clinton used in order to effectively address the world to advocate equal rights for people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered. This paper performs a critical rhetorical analysis of Clinton’s speech she delivered in 2011 to the United Nations in which she claims lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered rights are human rights. I argue that Clinton breaks her audience into three different categories of those in favor of equal rights for LGBT, those opposed, and those who hold no opinion on the issue. She then effectively addresses these audiences by crafting multiple personas through the rhetorical use of tone, structure, and supporting materials. I prove this by using evidence from her 2011 United Nations address, and modeling my argument around Edwin Black’s rhetorical concept of second persona. This concept suggests the speaker takes on the position of first persona and the audience of second persona. By identifying the beliefs and ethics of her audiences Clinton shapes a message for each to come to the same conclusion of human rights being LGBT rights.

**Keywords:** LGBT, second persona, Hillary Clinton, United Nations

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**Surrendering the Innocence: Attitudes about Sexuality Based on Ethnicity**

Ashley Gao, Sociology

The research will be conducted to sociologically examine the possible correlation between how differing aspects of ethnicity affect views on sexuality. The question I will be attempting to answer is: How do attitudes about sexuality vary among females with different racial/ethnic identities? In this research I will explore various individuals’ experiences and the construction of their attitudes towards sexuality. Using this information, I will see varying attitudes among females with different racial/ethnic identities. Differing aspects of how the view of sexuality is influenced includes: virginity, culture, gender roles, religion, sexual behavior, and sexual orientation. I will attempt to answer how these attitudes vary amongst women of different ethnic identities. The method that will be implemented will be an ethnographical approach by conducting semi-structured interviews. An intensive analysis of these interviews will be done, to see the connections and differences of factors that will hopefully be seen of each participant’s experience. This work is significant in the sense the research will broaden society’s knowledge of sexuality, and benefits the work being done on the intersectionality of ethnicity/race, sexuality, and identity.

**Keywords:** attitudes, sexuality, ethnicity, race, virginity, culture, sociology

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**Analyzing the Efficacy of Argumentative Tools in Mary Fisher’s “A Whisper of AIDS”**

Abigail Mumma, Communication Studies
The AIDS movement was beginning to pick up speed in the early 1990s in order to inform the public of its dangers as opposed to the previous method of ignoring the disease altogether. Both the Democratic and Republican parties included an affected speaker at their respective conventions to support their AIDS platform. Mary Fisher, an HIV-positive mother of two who was viewed as the “All-American Republican Princess,” was chosen to speak at the Republican National Convention. This paper analyzes tools within Mary Fisher’s speech from the 1992 convention, “A Whisper of AIDS,” that allowed her to successfully grab her audience’s attention and focus the spotlight on AIDS during a time when the disease was swept under the rug. By means of rhetorical criticism, I argue that her use of ethos, pathos and logos form a personal connection with her traditionally conservative audience. I expect to find that through her use of the three argumentative techniques, Fisher instills fear and sympathy in her audience and dispels the myth that AIDS is solely a “gay man’s disease.”

Keywords: AIDS, argumentative tools, rhetorical criticism, Mary Fisher

104: Hollins on Display-Poster Presentations B
(Glass Dining Room—main level)

Synthesis and Application of the Mono-acetate Compound Re2(O2CCH3)Cl4(dpmpCN)2

Chesley Ammermann, Chemistry and Psychology
Two routes with distinct intermediates were chosen in the ongoing research to synthesize a mixed phosphine complex with the formula cis-Re2(O2R)2Cl2(dpmp)/(dpmpCN). Of these two routes, route 1 resulted in the successful synthesize of the compound Re2(O2CCH3)Cl4(dpmpCN)2; this compound is notable as it is a new compound in this field of chemistry and the structure has been verified by x-ray crystallography through VT labs. This presentation will focus on the background work leading up to the synthesize of Re2(O2CCH3)Cl4(dpmpCN)2 and its role in current research.

Keywords: synthesis, NMR Spectroscopy, mono acetate derivative, crystal structure

Higher Education, Higher Cost: An Income-Contingent Approach

Catherine Hensly, Business and Economics
Tuition continues to climb at a rate exceeding inflation while real wages remain stagnant, resulting in declining affordability and availability of higher education in the United States. In considering the international income-contingent repayment programs (ICRS) of Australia and the U.K. as well as recent proposals made for the states of Washington and Oregon, I apply an income-contingent model to a small state-funded university in Virginia. Using a case study and net present value approach with data published by Radford University, I analyze my proposed ICRS program to determine its efficacy and sustainability as an alternative payment method.

My findings suggest that my proposed ICRS program is both feasible and sustainable for the class of 2014. I also find that the program is advantageous for the participating students, promoting equity across genders and mitigating the burden they assume immediately following graduation when their disposable income typically is at its lowest levels. The proposed program addresses the affordability of higher education crisis in that it makes higher education more accessible to students who would otherwise be deterred from pursuing
it. Furthermore, the model’s simplicity lends itself to being a more transparent payment option in a sea of increasingly byzantine financing options.

*Wyndham Robertson Library Research Award Winner

The Relationship Between Activity Level and Habitat and its Influence on Striping Patterns in Schoolmaster Fish

**Felicity Mampe, Chemistry with a concentration in Biochemistry**

The Lutjanus apodus (schoolmaster) fish experiences metachrosis prompted by a variety of external and internal factors including change in background color, habitat, excitement, courtship, feeding, and threat of predation. We investigated correlation between the presence of stripes on schoolmaster fish and their activity level and environment. Our data was collected in three different habitat types: mangrove, reef, and grassbed. We swam from one end of the bay to the other and noted the number of schoolmasters seen, striping patterns, activity level, and whether or not they were in a structure. We collected data at nine locations around the island. We found the highest population density in the mangrove and grassbed habitats but the most data variety in reef habitats. We ran a chi-squared test and our data showed no relation between striping patterns and activity level and habitat. We concluded that further research and a larger sample size are necessary to achieve more conclusive results.

*Keywords: striping patterns*

Cloning and Characterization of Ss-cyp-13, a Gene Encoding a Cytochrome p450 in the Parasitic Nematode, Strongyloides Stercoralis

**Adeiye Pilgrim, Chemistry with a concentration in Biochemistry**

Strongyloides stercoralis is a parasitic nematode which affects more than 100 million people worldwide, particularly in tropical regions. Although the burden of disease is significant, there has not been a corresponding effort to develop effective therapeutic regimens for what should be a very treatable condition. The infectious third-stage larvae (L3i) of S. stercoralis are similar morphologically and perhaps, also possess similar signaling pathways to the developmentally arrested dauer larvae of Caenorhabditis elegans, a model organism that has been studied for decades. One gene that controls dauer development in C. elegans is daf-9, which encodes a cytochrome P450. I have cloned an S. stercoralis homolog of daf-9, Ss-cyp-13 from both complementary (cDNA) and genomic (gDNA) DNA. In addition to a negative control, Ss-cyp-9 and the positive control, Ce-daf-9, these will be assessed for in vitro activity using mammalian expression systems. This is a significant opportunity for discovery of a novel drug target in the face of growing antihelminth resistance and lack of effective treatments.

*Keywords: parasitic nematode, cloning, Strongyloides stercoralis*
2:30 to 3:20 p.m. Presentations—Session 2


(Goodwin Private Dining Room—main level)

Tammany Braves and Fiery Girls: The Legacy of the Uprising of Twenty-thousand and the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire

Leah Ilana Craig, History

As part of independent historical research, I examined the events surrounding the garment workers’ strike of winter 1909-1910, known as the Uprising of Twenty-thousand, as well as the tragedy of the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire. These events, while little known in public consciousness, had a profound effect on the development of American history, from the fall of Tammany Hall to the notorious People vs. Max Blanck. I consulted various primary sources available to me through Cornell University, including newspaper articles from The New York Times, Joseph Pulitzer’s New York World, and socialist newspaper the New York Call. In addition I reviewed Triangle fire survivor testimony and striker testimony, including that of Clara Lemlich. Invaluable to my research was the partial trial transcript of People vs. Max Blanck, made available by Cornell University. While there are few secondary sources on the subject, Leon Stein’s classic The Triangle Fire was a starting point, with David von Drehle’s updated tome Triangle: The Fire that Changed America an especially helpful resource in chronicling the rise and fall of Tammany during the strike. Through my research I found that these events fundamentally shaped American history, and set the pace for the New Deal that would culminate in the 1930s.

Keywords: triangle, fire, strikers, history

Analysis of a High Ranking Military Official’s Farewell Address to Congress

Andrea Sofia Guerra, Economics

General Douglas MacArthur was found guilty of acts of insubordination against the President of the United States, Harry Truman. These acts of insubordination led to the immediate discharge of his military duties. General MacArthur was considered an American hero for his military leadership in World War II and the general appointed to lead the United Nations forces in South Korea during the Korean Wars of 1950. The discharge of his military duties ignited an American controversy because the public revered him. General MacArthur delivered a farewell address to Congress in 1951 as a direct response to this controversy. Through this address he aims to defends himself and salvage his reputation as an American hero. Communication scholars Ware and Linkugel identify four distinctive strategies that speakers use in apologia speeches, speeches to defend oneself. The four distinctive strategies are denial, bolstering, differentiation, and transcendence. In this paper I argue that General MacArthur effectively utilizes denial and bolstering strategies to reform his reputation in the eyes of the larger American civil audience.

Keywords: rhetoric, Congress, apologia, controversy
“As good almost kill a man as kill a good book”: Censorship and the Development of the Public Sphere in the English Civil War and Today

Cecelia Parks, History and Political Science

In 1641, state censorship of the press lapsed in England with the start of the Civil War, causing an explosion of printed material. This project studies the results of that explosion, particularly the development of the English public sphere. Media theorist Jürgen Habermas’ classic chronology of the development of the English public sphere is challenged, and laws and pamphlets from this time period are examined to understand how the public sphere emerged, how it functioned, its output, and attempts to control it. The parallels of the early English public sphere with the Internet’s potential to become a modern, global public sphere are also discussed. The English public sphere emerged as a direct result of the lapse in censorship, and it allowed a much wider range of people to engage in public debates, though it was still limited by education and financial status. Once removed, censorship proved difficult to re-implement. Today, the Internet faces similar challenges of literacy and socioeconomic status as well as fragmentation and isolation from the vast amount of information available online.

Keywords: censorship, public sphere, England, Internet

Southern Women and Collective Memory of the Civil War

Maya Rioux, International Studies

With the founding of the women’s group, the United Daughters of the Confederacy (U.D.C.) in 1894, the women of the South began a campaign to change the way the United States viewed the Confederate Army in the fight across the Mason/Dixon Line. Objectives of the U.D.C. that were pushed most vehemently during the organization’s peak of success in the early decades of the twentieth century included: patriotic, memorial, benevolent, historical, and educational. While all of these objectives remain important to the U.D.C. today, in the period from 1900-1930 the purpose of educating both contemporary and future generations about the «true» history of The War Between the States (Southern history’s renaming of the Civil War) became most influential in the efforts of the women of the U.D.C. By creating and endorsing written memoirs, speeches, and even educational texts, the United Daughters of the Confederacy influenced the South’s collective memory of the Civil War.

Keywords: gender, history, collective memory

202: Peeling Back the Layers-Illuminating Meaning in Art, Literature, and Language

(Janney Lounge—main level)

“Is there no pardon anywhere?”: How Denise Giardina Represents Appalachian Culture with the Red Fox and Japanese Skull

Bethny Barrett, English

This is an excerpt from my senior honors thesis, which analyzes the Biblical allusions in Denise Giardina’s Storming Heaven and The Unquiet Earth and Diane Gilliam’s Kettle Bottom. This presentation will focus on one passage from The Unquiet Earth. In the scene, Giardina uses a skull and a fox symbolically. Both represent a different aspect of Appalachian culture. In this episode, Giardina introduces the fox and skull, and they reappear
throughout the novel. The main character, Dillon, realizes the loss of his heritage through the
death of the fox, and the skull situates Appalachian struggles within an international context.
Through these symbols, Giardina invites readers into the culture and traditions of Appalachia
as well as reveals the hurt harbored by her characters, which extends to the Appalachian
region generally.

*Keywords: literature, Appalachia, Giardina*

**The Words Escape Me: An Examination of Attributed Performance in Modern English**
Lindsey Narmour, English

The purpose of this project is to examine how the English language is spoken in such a way
as to perform action outside of the words’ original meanings. The project will examine
several popular examples as well as numerous random examples of the humorous ways the
English language takes on new meaning, how the language removes itself from its original
meaning, and how it comes to imply something wholly different from its rudimentary intent.
Examples will draw from linguistic situations where language is displayed as though the
words themselves are capable of taking on life, performing action, and attributing meaning.
The project will furthermore examine how the modern English language might be viewed as
its own living entity, capable of creating and performing its own meaning without the
necessity of a human vessel. The project will also touch on the resulting importance of a
vehicle for spoken words and the implication for the independent performance of the modern
English language as implied by this research.

*Keywords: English, language, pop culture*

**Odilon Redon: Prince of the Fin de Siècle**
Stephanie Stassi, Art History

Odilon Redon is a symbolist artist traditionally thought of as an isolationist that looked to his
dreams for inspiration. However, this fails to see the artist in his entirety due to how Redon
was deeply inspired by many facets of his contemporary society. The first half of this study
focuses on cementing the connection between Odilon Redon and Joris-Karl Huysmans. The
second half is an in depth analysis of Redon’s folio titled *Les Origines* in order to show the
strong connections between the artist and nineteenth-century evolutionary theory. Odilon
Redon should not be seen as an isolationist, but as an artist that was deeply intrigued by the
anxieties and intellectual ideas of his times. Thus, he is the prince of the Fin de Siècle.

*Keywords: symbolism, Redon, literature, science*

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**203: Global Markets and Politics in the Late Capitalist Era**
(Ballator Gallery—upper level)

**Resource Extraction on New Guinea Island**
Maya Florence Adelman Cabral, Interdisciplinary: Peace, Conflict, and Justice Studies

This paper presents an analysis of resource extraction on New Guinea Island, which contains
part of Indonesia as well as the country of Papua New Guinea. New Guinea Island, the
second largest island in the world, has an extreme amount of biodiversity, which means that
these two nations contain many natural resources that appeal to consumers in the Global
North. The goal of this paper is to explore how gold mining corporations from the Global
North have affected the lives of native Papuans ecologically, economically, and culturally. To do this, I explore how the pan-Indigenous movement of the world has worked to support indigenous Papuans.

My methodology for this research will be a case study, based on the work of sociologist Al Gedicks, which will both describe and analyze. I anticipate that my results will show that mining on New Guinea Island most directly affects marginalized indigenous communities, and that any local resistance to global extraction originates from said indigenous peoples. *Keywords: social protest movements, resource extraction, indigenous peoples, environmentalism*

**The Cost of Free Trade: Taiwanese Protectionism and KMT Legitimacy**

*Alex Pell, International Studies*

This work analyzes how recent Taiwanese protests against the proposed trade pact with mainland China weakens the legitimacy of the KMT government. By using a discourse analysis and looking at interviews and administrative records I will determine if the protests affect the KMT government’s image as a valid regime. By portraying the trade pact as undemocratic, protestors undermine the idea that the KMT majority party has Taiwan’s best interests in mind. The government supported trade pact is represented as an attack on Taiwan’s sovereignty and thus the government supporting it is deemed to be authoritarian and fiscally irresponsible. A free trade area would not only harm Taiwan’s national industry but also provide China with more control of the state. Because Taiwan’s sovereignty is contested, any policy that realigns the state with China can be seen as an attack on Taiwan’s national identity and political independence. The KMT party has been working to maintain ties with China, which many feel destroys the independence Taiwan has been seeking. *Keywords: free trade, protectionism, Taiwan, China, sovereignty, autonomy and political economy*

**(Glo)besity**

*Marissa Richerson, Environmental Studies*

In the past few years Mexico has passed the United States as the fattest country in the world. This is attributed to the richness of the traditional Mexican diet, lack of exercise, and over consumption of soda. Mexico is the largest consumer of soda in the world, with Coca-Cola providing 75% of its sodas. To address this issue Mexico decided to adopt a soda tax that would amount to one peso to discourage citizens from purchasing sugary drinks. My project is an evaluation of national forces for and globalized neoliberal forces against the adoption of the tax. I was originally concerned with whether the tax would be sufficient to fight Mexico’s obesity and diabetes epidemic. I found that the tax issue was really a struggle between Coca-Cola and the Mexican government. My process included reviewing articles of the following subjects: the efficacy of soda taxes in different countries, the rates of obesity in Mexico as they coincide with rates of increased soda consumption, water distribution problems, and water privatization by Coke. I found that the central issue is water distribution that is exacerbated by Coke, but a soda tax still unfairly punishes poorer Mexicans and would not solve the problem of obesity. *Keywords: globalization, obesity, tax, neoliberalism, water privatization*
204: Hollins on the Stage-Performances A
(Rathskeller—lower level)

The Dual Nature of the Compositions and Performances of Agustín Barrios Mangoré

Leilani Dade, Music and French

In recent years, the music of Latin America has become of great interest to music researchers and has provided a wealth of opportunity to both academics and performers. My project focuses on Augustin Barrios, an early 20th century Paraguayan composer who created a more unified musical identity for Latin America as a result of his experimental melding of dance forms from different regions. Barrios’ eclectic combination of influences helped him carve out a niche as a performer and composer in both Europe and Latin America.

The purpose of my project is to examine the dual nature of Augustin Barrios’ compositions and performances in reference to his European and regional Latin American folk influences. I have analyzed two of his most well-known pieces: La catedral, a European inspired piece which is widely regarded as one of Barrios’ greatest masterpieces, and Danza Paraguaya, a more popular piece based upon a traditional form of Paraguayan folk dance.

As part of my presentation, I performed movement II (Andante Religioso) and movement III (Allegro Solemn) from La catedral, which I will also play for this conference.

Keywords: music, composer, Paraguay, guitar

ForceQuit: A Young Adult Science Fiction Novel

Abby Hargreaves, English

As technology continues to evolve, so does society. Seventeen-year-old computer hacker Hallie Fletcher encounters more change than she could ever expect in the year 2099 as computer hardware installed in the brain, Brainware, begins attacking some users. While trying to stop the virus from spreading, Hallie is also navigating toxic relationships and fighting misogyny at every turn. A young adult science fiction novel in progress, ForceQuit works not only as a coming of age story, but also as an examination of what it means to be a young woman in a man’s world.

Keywords: young adult science fiction, feminism, biological technology, relationships

The Lai of the Blue Knight

Maura Lydon, English with a concentration in Creative Writing

This is a short-fiction project based on the lai, a medieval French form of story or ballad. The lai is set at Hollins, if Hollins was a medieval kingdom with a tourney for control of different buildings. The piece is written for both read and spoken work; the original lais would have been memorized orally as troubadours travelled from town to town.

I plan to read the lai aloud, though I do not plan to memorize the piece. It is 1600 words, taking about eight minutes to read. The piece was created simply to mimic the form of a lai, the only stipulation that it must be set at Hollins. It takes some liberties with cultural expectations, namely the cast made up entirely of women. But in the manner of lais, there is no physical description of characters beyond a generic ‘beautiful.’

However, in execution, it is a tale of romance as well as knightly tourneys. This lai is a piece on the struggle between love and honor that so characterized medieval literature.

Keywords: reading, fantasy, knights, women
Tropes of Women in the Action Genre

Kacee Eddinger, Communication Studies and English

In the action genre, women are often shown as sidekicks or damsels in distress. Since men are so often portrayed as the hero/protagonist, when women step into the hero/protagonist role, they are not viewed as women, but men masquerading as women. Filmmakers utilize codes, here called “tropes,” that serve as extra markers to identify the women protagonists as women. However, the literature identifying these tropes was several decades old. This paper asked if any of the tropes still remained within more modern action films. Using a generative method to code Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters (2013), Pacific Rim (2013) and Haywire (2011) for five different tropes found within the literature review, the films revealed that four (daughter hood, revenge, appearance and fetish) tropes were still present within the text, one (motherhood) had been eliminated, and a new trope (partnership) had appeared within the texts. These findings indicated that codes to identify women action heroes as women were still a necessity within the genre. However, the codes are changing, and are not as strictly adhered to as described by the literature for previous films.

Keywords: women, tropes, action films

“Rave Culture: Performative Discourse Through Movement”

Madeleine Horton, Communication Studies

The subculture known as “rave” has many connotations and misconceptions. What was once considered a haven to marginalized social groups now includes a less authentic atmosphere for many to abuse. My paper aims to analyze the intricacies of this subculture, which has been widely misunderstood as a drug-addled underground of delinquent and rebellious youth without a clear cause to protest. My goal is to illuminate the core ethos and ideals of the roots of rave culture, which is masked by recent media depictions and a commercialized form presented by mass media. The conflict between the grassroots origins of rave and this recent cultural phenomenon is the defining characteristic for its current struggle for legitimacy and authenticity. I am writing an extended literature review to provide an understanding of what scholars in the field have gathered through ethnographic research during the formative years, contrasted by current observations through forms of mass media.

Keywords: rave, subculture, emotion, solidarity

The Temporary Success of Mary Fisher’s “A Whisper of AIDS”

Amanda Parsons, Communication Studies

This report examines the rhetorical techniques utilized by Mary Fisher in her 1992 speech “A Whisper of AIDS,” including persona, evidence, and thesis. In this speech, Fisher asserts that AIDS awareness is an important issue which affects everyone, and that anyone is at risk of AIDS infection, even if they believe they are safe. In this research, I explore Fisher’s shifting persona, which changes from mother to Republican to AIDS community member, and the ways in which it helped her identify with her audience. I pinpoint instances in which Fisher uses striking evidence to support her claim. Lastly, I explain how Fisher’s choice to focus on the concept of AIDS awareness instead of the application may have deprived her audience of
critical information needed for long-term change. This report suggests that these rhetorical choices made Fisher’s speech effective in the short term, but not long-lasting, based on Fisher’s own observations.  
*Keywords: AIDS/HIV, rhetoric, persona, Fisher*

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### 3:30 to 4:20 p.m.  Presentations—Session 3

#### 301: Perspectives in Religion and Social Change  
*(Ballator Gallery—upper level)*

**Panel Description:** Religion is a major factor in shaping cultural development and progress in a multitude of ways. From domestic violence, to mental illness, to thoughts of immortality, religion plays a key role in how communities and individuals think of, respond, and react to social problems and fears. These three research projects each focus on the personal, societal, and philosophical aspects of religion and daily life. These concepts will be examined using various theories and applying them to a religious setting, in order to show the progression of religious thought in response to more modern society. The various research projects in this panel are being undertaken as a part of the Religious Studies Senior Seminar as a graduation requirement. This research will contribute to the ways in which people think about the connections between religion and society by examining changing perspectives in various religious traditions and cultures as times evolve and change.  
*Keywords: religion, culture, pluralism, social change*

**Women of Faith and Abuse: How Christian Responses to Domestic Violence Impacts the Victim**  
*Megan Gilmore, Sociology and Religious Studies*

Throughout history, Christianity has responded to various social problems. One issue that has surfaced recently is domestic violence. However, the different denominations within Christianity each have their own unique perspective when responding to domestic violence. These responses will affect both abusers and victims who are members of their respective denominations. In order to better understand how the reaction from a Christian church affects the victim and abuser in domestic violence situations, literature addressing domestic violence from three denominations will be examined. This literature will include Christian affiliated blogs and church web pages. These denominations will include Baptist, Catholic, and Episcopal churches. Once the literature has been gathered it will be examined using a feminist lens to analyze whether or not the literature empowers the abuser or victim. The expected results of this study are that churches that have a history of progressive ideology will be more likely to empower the victims of domestic abuse than churches that have had a more conservative historical pattern.  
*Keywords: domestic violence, Christianity, feminism*

**Immortal Evolution: The Search for Eternal Life from Ancient Taoism to Modern Science**  
*Sarah Landauer, English with a Concentration in Creative Writing and Religious Studies*
In Taoism, the search for immortality began with the desire to preserve the human body eternally through alchemy and evolved into a search for spiritual immortality. The modern Transhumanist Movement seeks to scientifically achieve immortality by digitally preserving consciousness, or merging human consciousness with machines. Would the success of the Transhumanist Movement be the same as achieving spiritual immortality according to Taoist thought? Content analysis will compare and contrast Taoist attempts at eternal life with modern science’s attempts, tracing the historical progression of humanity’s fascination with longevity and desire to live forever. More analysis includes philosophical discussions regarding whether the soul and consciousness are the same, as well as the concept of preserving as opposed to transcending the human body. The research project is still in progress, but anticipated results will show a disconnect between Taoist thought and the concept of digital immortality. The complementary nature of the body and spirit in traditional Taoism would be incompatible with the transhumanist goal of freeing consciousness from the constraints of a faulty human body.

Keywords: Taoism, alchemy, immortality, transhumanism

Delusional Behavior and Demonic Possession: Examining Pentecostalism

Angela Welch, English

This research study explores whether or not the Pentecostal Christian Church’s belief in demonology prohibits people who are mentally ill from receiving medical treatment. Symptoms of schizophrenia and other forms of delusional behavior are remarkably similar to the Pentecostal Church’s perceived signs of demonic possession. While Christianity can often provide the framework for inner peace and healing, the Pentecostal Church’s approach to managing such symptoms is greatly different from the medical approach in cases of delusional behavior and thinking. Further research will examine whether or not the spiritual healing practices within the church are effective ways to manage these symptoms. If the Pentecostal’s methods of symptom management are not effective, the research will further explore whether or not members of the church are hindered from seeking medical management of their symptoms because of the Pentecostal tie to demonology. While this research is still in progress, anticipated results will show that the Pentecostal Christian Church’s belief in demonology does hinder its members from seeking medical management for mental illnesses pertaining to delusional behavior. Their approach to managing these symptoms is also likely to be found ineffective.

Keywords: mental illness, Christianity, demonology

302: Reenvisioning History

(Goodwin Private Dining Room—main level)

The Wonderland

Suprima Bhele, Studio Art

This project is named “wonderland” because we are making the 3D models of the seven wonders of the ancient world in modern architectural ways. Most of those places have disappeared so this project would be for the revival of our ancient civilization. In addition I will also be using ancient ways of expression of art, painting to create the seven wonders of the modern world. This would be a new way of looking at our civilization and
how it has changed, developed with time. How some matters advanced but how we forgot some discoveries made by our ancestors.

Keywords: art and time

Wirewalker: Poems

Grace Gorski, English and French
In 1902 and 1903, Miss Addie Nelson performed with the Ringling Brothers’ Circus as a tightrope walker. Outside of those years, it is as if she never existed. Wirewalker uses verse to construct an imagined life for this circus performer that history forgot. Written as an English honors thesis, the project explores the early 20th century circus by focusing on Addie’s imagined experience: performing, traveling, living on a train, breaking into an established community, and more. Wirewalker also explores more universal themes, such as sexuality, growing up, and the complicated relationships that people form with their peers and their parents. The project highlights the challenges and rewards of writing distinct poems that are connected by narrative. It also examines ideas of structure through the ordering of individual poems and the layered interaction of metaphor and more literal language. Wirewalker has been an exercise in the careful blending of historical details and imagined circumstances that is a necessary skill when writing creative work with a historical background.

Keywords: circus, poetry, historical interpretation, narrative

303: Hollins on the Stage-Performances B

(Rathskeller—lower level)

Exploring the Human Condition: Race, Privilege, and Politics in America

Ashley Elizabeth Evans, Psychology
This project is a collection of performance poetry focused on race and its existence in a supposed non-racist America. During the conference, I will be performing a few works from my complete project, which revolves around several court cases such as current events involving Trayvon Martin and Jordan Davis, as well as others in history like Emmett Till and Junius Stinney and personal experiences where I have felt marginalized. This work signifies the importance of race in a “post-racism” America. The project began last summer with the verdict of the Trayvon Martin case and has continued ever since. This project reflects the voice that needs to be heard in this country. Though it is not fully developed, nor will I be able to perform all pieces within the ten minutes allotted, the project should be opening future discussions on the topic, both in the African American community and outside of it.

Keywords: race, privilege, politics, poetry

The Hunter and the Hunted

Kacee Eddinger, Communication Studies and English
In 2012 a plague fell upon the United States. Those infected became irrational, destructive and attacked others without any regard for their lives. In 2016, any uninfected persons flee to the sanctity of walled Citadels built across the country by the Mythic Corporation, a martial law body composed of not just human soldiers, but elves, werewolves, and other creatures. In 2020, only two Citadels remain. Lorna Cays, a criminal in the eyes of the Mythic Corp., must
return to an infected Citadel to retrieve research of a possible cure for the plague. Though innocent of the charges laid against her, Lorna knows she cannot trust old friends or those in power. It is all she can do to survive in a world trying to kill her from both sides.  
I wanted to write The Hunter and the Hunted as a different kind of zombie novel, where other mythical creatures were involved, and one with a twist about the nature of the zombies. Particularly, I wanted to make a story where the elves were the bad guys and the zombies, the good guys. This work signifies a large leap in my thinking about writing, and I believe in my writing ability.

*Keywords: zombies, fantasy, fiction, novel*

**Karate**

Amanda Parsons, Communication Studies

This was the first poem I wrote while attending Hollins, and it remains one of my most successful. It incorporates literary elements including metaphor, personification, and vivid imagery. The mindset depicted in the poem is my own while attending North Star Karate School, an experience whose effects still remain with me today. At this time in my life, I had a lot of difficulty interacting with other children my age, and that is what inspired this poem. My purpose was to convey my feelings of isolation from this time. This poem examines the elaborate fantasies of childhood, and the potential consequences of disconnecting from reality. It is relatable in that many individuals have experienced a sense of isolation and disconnection from the world around them, which often manifests in one’s childhood. My hope for this poem is to help such individuals either identify progress they have made, or to acknowledge that sometimes, isolation is imagined; invented by our own uncertainties.

*Keywords: childhood, fantasy, karate, isolation*

**Mercedes and Eugenia: A Salvadorean Love Story**

Cynthia Romero, English

This excerpt is taken from my English honors thesis, a novel-length work of creative nonfiction about my maternal grandparents’ adolescence in El Salvador. My purpose in writing this thesis was to record for posterity the true story of my grandparents’ struggles to be together in spite of the hardships they faced. After his mother’s death, my grandfather, Mercedes Delcid, was raised by his strict, demanding aunts while his father sought work in far-off fields. When Mercedes was sixteen, he met my grandmother, Eugenia Ventura, whom he courted for four years. Unfortunately, Eugenia’s mother disapproved of Mercedes and his family, and she therefore went to extreme measures to ensure that Eugenia avoid Mercedes. When Mercedes proposed, Eugenia’s mother refused to give her consent. Nonetheless, Eugenia decided to live with Mercedes, and they eventually married and remained together for 72 years, until my grandfather passed away last year. My thesis signifies the culmination of a year-long work of research about El Salvador’s culture in the early twentieth century, and about my family’s history in particular.

*Keywords: multiculturalism, El Salvador, creative nonfiction, romance*
Fractal Tiling Investigations

Rachel Carleton, Mathematics and English with a concentration in Creative Writing

Because of their self-similar nature, fractals can easily be used to generate tilings in the plane. In this paper, we use techniques from the article “Fractal Tilings in the Plane” by Darst, Palagallo and Price to investigate various fractal tilings. We consider both examples from the article and our own variations in order to analyze the properties of fractal tilings. We first look at basic tiling configurations before investigating tilings that have radial symmetry and tilings that use a change of basis matrix to create new configurations. All tilings are generated using an iterated function system and the lattice points determined by the column vectors of a 2 by 2 matrix M. In addition, we give a proof of Pick’s Theorem to show the relationship between the number of lattice points (which form the complete residue set of M) contained within a fundamental parallelogram determined by the two column vectors of M.

Keywords: fractals, tilings, linear algebra

Triangles in Hyperbolic Geometry

Thao Thanh Nguyen, Mathematics

Euclid introduced five postulates as the fundamentals for the study of geometry. Over time his fifth postulate has been singled out as the most controversial. In fact, mathematicians have attempted unsuccessfully to prove this postulate, aka the parallel postulate, based on the first four for more than 2000 years. In the 1820s, Bolyai, Gauss, and Lobachevsky each decided to assume the negation of Euclid’s fifth postulate and this assumption led to a new branch of geometry, non-Euclidean geometry. In this paper, I will discuss the discovery of non-Euclidean geometry to provide a background for understanding several ideas in hyperbolic geometry. We will construct basic tools for the Poincare disc model of hyperbolic geometry. The goals of this paper are to explain the angle sum theorem of hyperbolic triangle and prove several triangle congruence theorems in neutral geometry. We will highlight several hyperbolic results that are quite different from results that we learned in high school Euclidean geometry.

Keywords: hyperbolic geometry, math, angles, triangles

Newton’s Fractals All Around: Newton’s Method and Fractals

Christine Somersett, Mathematics and Political Science

Newton’s method is a topic that is accessible to calculus students. We use Newton’s method to approximate the zeros of a given function using an iterative process. When considering a function with several zeros, the initial point determines which root of the function we obtain. However, this method can be extended to the complex plane, where we use Newton’s method to produce several interesting fractals. This project investigates Newton’s function, \( N(x) = x - \frac{f(x)}{f'(x)} \) and shows how to determine decimal approximations to the roots of \( f(x) \) for both real and complex valued functions. We also examine the basins of attraction for roots of both real and complex valued functions. Our work gives several examples to show how Newton’s method and the corresponding basins of attraction create amazing designs in the complex plane for a given function. It is interesting to see how a simple idea can be extended to new settings and reveal complicated and beautiful fractal patterns.

Keywords: fractals, Newton’s method
A Network Analysis of the Hollins University Basketball Team

**Chanci Lynn Wright**, Mathematics

Using ideas from network theory and the article “Basketball Teams as Strategic Networks,” we analyze several games of the 2013-14 Hollins University women’s basketball team. We will determine whether the team’s network is significantly different when comparing wins and losses. Four games, including two wins (were against Southern Virginia University and Washington and Lee University) and two losses (against Shenandoah University and Lynchburg College), are considered. In this paper, we create two weighted graphs, defining players as nodes and ball movement as the directed edges. We also compute several metrics (including degree centrality, team entropy, uphill/downhill flux, flow centrality, and clustering) to compare our weighted graphs with quantitative measures. The goal of this project is to use network theory to analyze and compare the Hollins basketball team’s strategic play during wins and losses. We will capture the networks for the two outcomes using the weighted graphs and metrics mentioned above and use the results to determine whether or not a significant difference exists between the two.

*Keywords: mathematics, sports, basketball*

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4:45 to 5:15 p.m. **Closing Comments/Awards**