



University of Notre Dame
Department of Romance Languages &
Literatures

2021 – 2022 Recognition Ceremony

Recognition of Recipients

Undergraduate Academic Awards

Joseph Italo Bosco Award
For Superior Achievement In Italian Studies

Margaret O'Brien

Walter J. Langford Award
For Excellence In French Literature

Elaine Carter and Erin Fennessy

Walter J. Langford Award
For Excellence In Spanish Literature

Alena Coleman

Robert D. Nuner Award
For Excellence in Modern and Classical Languages In College of Arts and Letters

Alena Coleman

2021 Indiana Outstanding College Student of Spanish and Portuguese Award

The Indiana Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of
Latino/Hispanic College Student
(AATSP)

Alena Coleman

Margaret McGreevey

Madeline Soiney

Shannon Steines

Recognition of Recipients Undergraduate Service Awards

Mara Fox Award for Service to the Hispanic Community

Alena Coleman

Albert LeMay Award for Service to the Hispanic Community

Stella Cho

Clare Wieland

Recognition of Recipients Undergraduate Service Awards

José Tito Sigüenza Award for Service to Hispanic Youth
Madeline Soiney

Carlos Aballi Award in Hispanic Cultural Awareness
Lorena Morejón Lasso

Recognition of Honors Track Recipients

Iberian and Latin American Studies

Isabel Barnidge

Alena Coleman

Anna Renfroe

Madeline Soiney

International Economics Romance Languages

Josie Donlon

Recognition of Honors Societies Recipients

Pi Delta Phi ~ National French Honor Society

Sonja Stojanovic, Assistant Professor of French, Faculty Advisor



Alix Basden

Elaine Carter

Sarah Conley

Kyle Dorshorst

Emma Dudrick

Erin Fennessy

Patrick Gouker

Genevieve Klein

Caroline Kost

Eileen Leach

Ashley Lizana

Erin Markel

Sirak Negash

Caitlyn Schreier

Erin Swope

Maria Teel

Pi Delta Phi

~ National French Honor Society



Pi Delta Phi

~ National French Honor Society



Pi Delta Phi ~ National French Honor Society



Pi Delta Phi

~ National French Honor Society



Honors Societies Recipients

Gamma Kappa Alpha ~ National Italian Honor Society

Charles L. Leavitt IV, Associate Professor of Italian, Faculty Advisor



Kristyn Aiello
James Broderick
Sophie Canepa
Francesca Carlino
Gina Connors
Kathleen Coury
Elizabeth Cunningham
Josephine Diaco
Thomas Alexander Dunbar
Thomas Filip
Paul Gierl

Hope Halvey
Gabriella Hanahan
Naomi Hernandez
Irma Ibarra
Sofia Iezza
Maeve Koscielski
Maria Latham
Mia Lecinski
Michael Mezzacappa
Brennan O'Brien
Margaret O'Brien

Julia Pesola
Natalie Pratt
Anghy Ramos Valencia
Hayleigh Rockenback
Bruce Smith
Luke Stringfellow
Anna Volanth
Claire Wilson
Zhian Yin
Matthew Zawilenski

Gamma Kappa Alpha

~ National Italian Honor Society



Gamma Kappa Alpha

~ National Italian Honor Society



Gamma Kappa Alpha

~ National Italian Honor Society



Gamma Kappa Alpha

~ National Italian Honor Society



Recognition of Honors Societies Recipients

Sigma Delta Pi ~ National Spanish Honor Society

Ben Heller, Associate Professor of Spanish, Faculty Advisor



Yanik Ariste

Isabel Barnidge

Brendan Bettencourt

Stella Cho

Alena Coleman

Valentina Espinoza

Bridget Foley

Kristina Kane

Sophia Kics

Alexander Lewis

Elizabeth Maxwell

Christopher Mercadante

Sydney Missigman

Margaret Molinsky

Grace Monagan

Amani Morrell

Bridget Napoli

Megan O'Gorman

Anna Pappas

Madeline Soiney

Shannon Steines

Emma Tamer

Avery Wright

Jeffrey Yatsuhashi

Sigma Delta Pi

~ National Spanish Honor Society



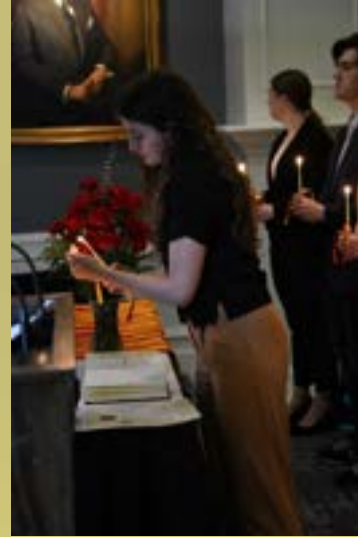
Sigma Delta Pi

~ National Spanish Honor Society



Sigma Delta Pi

~ National Spanish Honor Society



Sigma Delta Pi

~ National Spanish Honor Society



Sigma Delta Pi

~ National Spanish Honor Society



Senior Thesis Spanish



ARTS & LETTERS

2022 Senior Thesis Projects

Isabel Barnidge

- Major: Spanish
- Supplementary Major: Arts & Letters Pre-Health
- Minor: International Development Studies
- Advisor: Pedro Aguilera-Melillo

'A War in the Shadows': The Reconstruction of the Spanish Civil War through Volunteer Nurses' Care Narratives

In my Spanish thesis, I analyzed the personal texts of four nurses who served during the Spanish Civil War: Spaniard Ana Pibernat, American Lee M. de Vries, British Priscilla Scott-Elliott, and Swiss Elisabeth Edelberg. After studying their writings, I presented a new genre of war literature: the care narrative. I further argued this type of narrative should be obligatory reading when it comes to war education. My thesis asserted that women's voices and efforts are crucial to war retellings.

As a Spanish and pre-health major, I wanted to pursue a topic that bridged the two disciplines. Over the course of my studies, I have often felt women's absence in both the humanities and the sciences. My project aimed to shine a light on the efforts of female nurses from around the globe to care for those injured during the Spanish Civil War. These women utilized both their talents and their interests while serving during a divisive conflict.



Study everything. Do anything.™

Senior Thesis

International Economics - French

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME | ARTS & LETTERS | 2022 Senior Thesis Projects



Health Outcomes and Corruption in Africa

My thesis looked at the effects of transparency (as measured through access to information laws) on corruption and health-outcomes in Africa. I used the M-barometer, a large-scale dataset that asks Africans about their perceptions of government, as my primary source.

My research in the Kellogg International Scholars Program exposed me to the M-barometer and all the possible directions it could go. I have always been excited about public health, so this was a great topic to explore.

Alix Baden

- Major: International Economics (French)
- Minor: Honors Program in Public Service
- Glynn Family Honors Program
- Kellogg International Scholars Program
- Advisor: Lutz Preuss

Received funding from the Glynn Family Honors Program.

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Senior Thesis

International Economics - Spanish

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2022 Senior Thesis Projects



The Impact of COVID-19 on Borrowing Costs for Latin American Governments

My thesis looked at the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on borrowing costs for Latin American governments, as measured by sovereign bond spreads. I used Google WebHistory data to probe for how hard a country was hit by the pandemic and investigated the relationship between COVID-19 and bond yields.

This topic allowed me to use my background in financial economics to investigate how the pandemic has affected bond markets in Latin America, a region of interest for me because of my studies in Spanish and Portuguese.

Josie Denton

- Major: International Economics (Spanish Concentration in Financial Economics and Economics)
- Minors: Brazilian and Portuguese Studies
- Advisor: Zachary Skangsted



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Senior Thesis

International Economics - French

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME | ARTS & LETTERS

2022 Senior Thesis Projects



A Comparative Analysis of the French and American Approaches to Competition Policy in the Digital Economy

I compared the approach that France's competition authority has taken to regulate the digital economy to that of antitrust agencies in the United States. In general, the European Union and its member countries like France have brought a greater number of successful cases against Big Tech firms for violating competition rules, while the United States has a lot of political rhetoric regarding the impact of these companies but with comparatively fewer results. I focused on one case, in which France successfully fined Google for abusing its dominance in the digital advertising market.

I chose this topic after researching the role that Facebook played in allowing the French giant Jaures ("Yellow Vests") protests to spread. I did that as part of the Davly in Decision project with the Rawnsley Institute for European Studies and the Dublin Global Gateway during last year's Winter Session. Through this, I discovered how European nations have started to take the lead on grappling with the societal and economic effects that American Big Tech companies have caused around the world.

Received funding from the Rawnsley Institute for European Studies.


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Senior Thesis

International Economics – Spanish & Portuguese

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME | ARTS & LETTERS

2022 Senior Thesis Projects




Fouad El Zaghibi

- Major: International Economics
- Advisor: Fernando Simoes

The Effect of the Slave Trade on Modern-Day Levels of Trust

I estimated the effect of the transatlantic slave trade on modern-day levels of trust in Brazil and Argentina. I used data from the seventh wave of World Values Survey (conducted between 2017 and 2020) to obtain different measures to construct a trust variable in Brazil and Argentina. I also used data from Slave Voyages to get figures associated with the slave trade in Brazil and Argentina. Interpersonal, institutional, and political trust/intrust have been shown to have significant impacts on economic performance and growth, and is therefore an important variable to study in the field of economics.



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Senior Thesis Spanish



ARTS & LETTERS

2022 Senior Thesis Projects



Sophia Kics

- Major: Spanish
- Supplementary Major: Arts & Letters/Pre-Health
- Minor: Gender Studies
- Kellogg International Scholars Program
- Advisor: Vanessa Wiesner

Liberation and 'Higienismo': Chilean Feminism in *Acción Femenina*

I explored the manner in which the Chilean feminist magazine *Acción Femenina* represented the development of Chilean feminism during the first half of the 20th century. I evaluated the presence of "higienismo" (or social hygiene) in the magazine, and asserted that in upholding traditional concepts of feminine beauty, the ideology also policed the feminine body and, in doing so, hindered the progress of early Chilean feminist movements.

I have worked with Vanessa Wiesner in the Kellogg International Scholars Program for the past three years and have extensively read and researched *Acción Femenina* while assisting her with her book. I noticed the magazine's contrasting themes of radical feminism and traditionally feminine beauty practices, and I developed this into my thesis topic.



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Senior Thesis

International Economics - French

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME | ARTS & LETTERS

2022 Senior Thesis Projects



Genevieve Klein

- Major: International Economics (French)
- Supplementary Major: Global Affairs
- Minor: Data Science
- Advisors: Denise Della Rossa and John Fitch

Violence and Health Care in the Democratic Republic of Congo

My senior research project analyzed the relationship between conflict and health outcomes in the Democratic Republic of Congo following economic sanctions enacted by the United States to prohibit sourcing tin, tantalum, and tungsten for electronic manufacturing. In addition to heightened violence and decreased household incomes posing as barriers to the uptake of health services, the eastern Congo remains fraught with sexual violence against women and male-dominated gender dynamics that decrease the demand for health care services.

Over the summer, I interned with USAID's Integrated Health Program in the Democratic Republic of Congo. I was tasked with identifying the program's greatest successes, using data analytics on its key indicators. Despite the efforts of USAID interventions, there was little uptake. Therefore, I was curious to explore the underlying cultural and social dynamics that could influence the demand for health care.



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Senior Thesis Spanish



ARTS & LETTERS

2022 Senior Thesis Projects



Samantha Manfreda

- Majors: Computer Science and Spanish
- Advisor: Ben Heller

Translating Letters from Norah Borges

Explored the life of visual artist and art critic Norah Borges through her words and eyes as she described places she has visited, books she has read, interactions she has had, and more in personal letters spanning 40 years. Working with these handwritten letters has been fascinating. In many ways, they felt like a portal into her world.



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Senior Thesis

International Economics - Italian

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME | ARTS & LETTERS

2022 Senior Thesis Projects



Brennan O'Brien

- Major: International Economics (Global)
- Minor: Real Estate
- Minor: French Science

The Effect of the Euro on Italian Olive Oil Exports

When a country adopts a shared currency with other countries, it relinquishes its ability to conduct its own monetary policy. Thus, a country cannot weaken its currency to make its exports more attractive. Having a shared currency, though, can facilitate trade with other countries in the union, among other benefits. I intended to determine what effect Italy's adoption of the euro had on its exports of olive oil.

I thought it was interesting to talk about a product so integral to Italian culture, as well as to its economy. Wearing a mask during the first couple weeks of this semester hampered my learning process, but I was able to overcome this with hard work.



Study everything. Do anything.

Senior Thesis Spanish



ARTS & LETTERS

2022 Senior Thesis Projects



Anna Reefree

- Major: Spanish
- Supplementary Major: Greek Letters/Pro-Health
- Minor: Gender Studies
- Advisor: Thomas Anderson

Mississippi as a Symbol of American Bigotry in Cuban Writing

My thesis examined how Mississippi and the South were represented by Cuban writers during the Civil Rights Movement. I also showed how, by reporting on instances of racial hatred in Mississippi and connecting them to the South and the United States as a whole, Cuban writers could transform the state into a symbol of American bigotry and hatred to elucidate the systems of oppression woven into the foundation of American democracy.

I chose this topic because I have always been acutely aware of how people view the state of Mississippi, as well as my home's sordid past. After taking a class on U.S. and Caribbean relations, I became very interested in Cuba and its revolutionary past. After guidance from Thomas Anderson, I found a way to academically combine these interests.

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Senior Thesis Spanish



ARTS & LETTERS

2022 Senior Thesis Projects



Madeline Soiney

- Major: Spanish and Global Affairs
- Minor: Latin Studies
- Advisor: Marisol Moreno

The Shibboleth of Subjugation: The Weaponization of Language Against Ethnic Haitians in the Dominican Republic

In the Dominican Republic, Haitian immigrants and Haitian-Dominicans are marked by an "otherness" that deprives them of both cultural and legal Dominican identity. Anti-Haitianism is ingrained in the country's institutions, as demonstrated by the discontinuance of birthright citizenship which disproportionately targets Dominicans of Haitian origin.

For my thesis, I explored the link between language and power in the Dominican Republic, demonstrating that language has been weaponized against Haitian migrants and their descendants in an attempt to keep power in the hands of those who are deemed to be "true Dominicans."

Throughout my undergraduate career, I have engaged in interdisciplinary study about the Dominican Republic. In various Spanish courses, I read about racial identity and anti-Haitianism. And in a global affairs course, I wrote a policy proposal that addressed the denaturalization of Haitian-Dominicans. In my senior thesis project, I wanted to bridge the gap between these two approaches and analyze the situation in the Dominican Republic through both sociocultural and political lenses.

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Senior Thesis

International Economics - French

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME | ARTS & LETTERS

2022 Senior Thesis Projects



Erin Swepe

- Majors: Accounting and International Economics
- Advisor: James Spence

The Fiscal Neutrality of Reduced Post-Secondary Tuition in France

One argument for free college tuition is that, as post-secondary graduates tend to earn more, they will essentially pay back the government for their tuition through higher income taxes, making free or reduced tuition an implicit loan. My paper took an accounting approach to estimating whether reduced college tuition in France is fiscally neutral. These calculations may provide a basic understanding of how post-secondary earnings increase government tax receipts in relation to what the government spends on post-secondary tuition.

As the United States debates free public higher education, it is necessary to examine the affordability of other higher education systems that offer significantly subsidized tuition. As I am also interested in France's social mobility, I wanted to understand whether post-secondary government subsidized tuition increases post-secondary educational opportunities for students of all backgrounds there, especially those from less wealthy backgrounds.

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Graduating Class of 2022

French and Francophone Studies

Elaine Carter

Sarah Conley

Emma Dudrick

Margaret Elliott

Erin Fennessy

Patrick Gouker

Kathleen Frances Hart

Caroline Kost

Arianna Latuda

Eileen Leach

Ashley Liana

Abygael Lustig

Erin Markel

Sirak Negash

Joseph Schott

Caitlyn Schreier

Maria Teel

Graduating Class of 2022

Iberian and Latin American Studies

Yanik Ariste
Isabel Barnidge
Brendan Bettencourt
Kalleigh Burke
Stella Cho
Robert Chu
Alena Coleman
Grant DelVecchio
Valentina Espinoza
Bridget Foley
Quinlan Gallagher

Sara Hopkins
Mikala Izzo
Kristina Kane
Patrick Kelly-Dutile
Sophia Kics
Emma Kozuch
Alexander Lewis
Samantha Malloy
Samantha Manfreda
Elizabeth Maxwell
Colin McVeigh

Christopher Mercadante
Sydney Missigman
Margaret Molinsky
Grace Monagan
Amani Morrell
Emily Murphy
Bridget Napoli
Kayla Nenninger
Ifeyinwa Nwebube
Megan O'Gorman
Walter Osterberger

Benjamin Pampush
Anna Pappas
Anna Renfroe
Emily Silva
Madeline Soiney
Shannon Steines
Emma Tamer
Mabry Webb
Clare Wieland
Avery Wright
Jeffrey Yatsushashi

Graduating Class of 2022

International Economics Romance Languages and Literatures

Alix Basden

Josie Donlon

Kyle Dorshorst

Fouad El Zoghbi

Genevieve Klein

Brennan O'Brien

Erin Swope

Graduating Class of 2022

Italian Studies

Kristyn Aiello
James Broderick
Sophie Canepa
Francesca Carlino
Gina Connors
Kathleen Coury
Elizabeth Cunningham
Josephine Diaco
Thomas Alexander Dunbar
Thomas Filip
Paul Gierl

Hope Halvey
Gabriella Hanahan
Naomi Hernandez
Irma Ibarra
Sofia Iezza
Maeve Koscielski
Maria Latham
Mia Lecinski
Michael Mezzacappa
Margaret O'Brien
Julia Pesola

Natalie Pratt
Anghy Ramos Valencia
Hayleigh Rockenback
Bruce Smith
Luke Stringfellow
Zachary Tabellione
Anna Volanth
Claire Wilson
Zhian Yin
Matthew Zawilenski

Graduating Class of 2022

Portuguese

Gutemberg Almeida

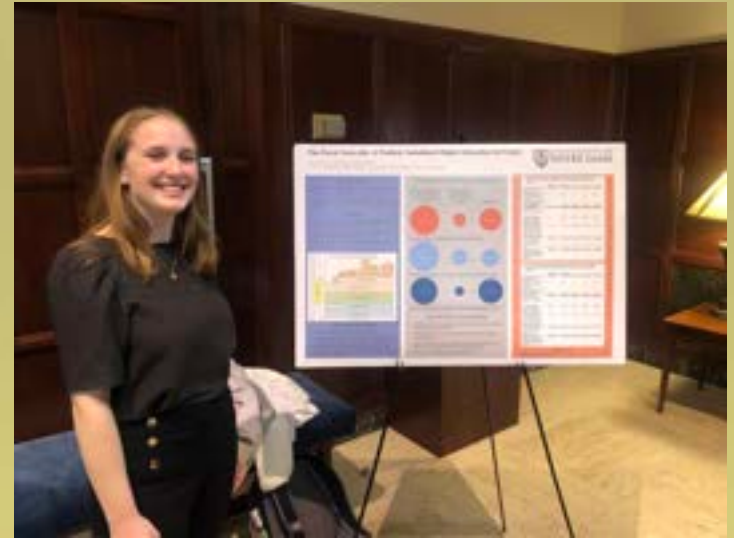
Cristian Araujo

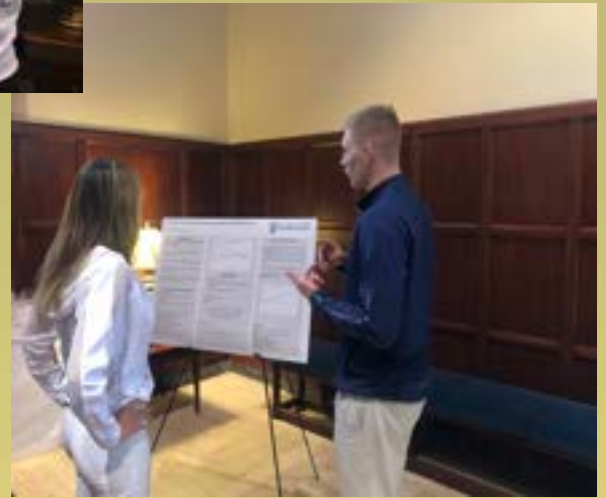
Josie Donlon

Caroline Hogan

Daniela Parra

Spring 2022 International Economics Romance Languages Poster Session





Graduate Degrees

French

Kathleen Quinn ~ M.A.

Madelyn Steurer ~ M.A.

Italian

Giulia Mondello ~ M.A.

Giovanni Vedovotto ~ Ph.D.

Maria Videtta ~ M.A.

Spanish

Olivia Crowley ~ M.A.

Selene Ortiz ~ M.A.

Ruth Solarte Gonzalez ~ Ph.D.













ROSP 30017 - Intro to Translation CBL. Singing for
community partner El Hogar del Sagrado Corazón in Chile



**HAY ÁNGELES VOLANDO
EN ESTE LUGAR**















