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**Welcome to the Annual Undergraduate Research Conference at Nipissing University.**

I am delighted to welcome everyone to our undergraduate research conference. At Nipissing, we believe that research is an integral part of the undergraduate experience, and this conference is an opportunity to celebrate the hard work and dedication of our undergraduate students, their professors and their supporters.

We know this research represents countless hours of hard work and we are confident that the presentations and discussion will inspire and challenge us all and provide an opportunity for students to connect with fellow scholars, the community and members of the academy to gain valuable feedback on their work.

I want to express my appreciation for all the students who have prepared their work for presentation at this conference, the faculty who have mentored their students in this process, and all those who have contributed to the organization of this unique and exciting event. I hope you will enjoy the presentations and the conversations, and fully explore this opportunity to make a connection with our beautiful campus.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Carole Richardson'.

Dr. Carole Richardson  
Provost and Vice-President, Academic and Research (Interim)

## KEYNOTE ADDRESS

sixteenth annual ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●  
**UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE**



**Keynote Speaker – Dr. Susan Srigley**

**Why We All Need Death School:**  
Building Community through Death Literacy



**Fri, Mar. 24**  
**6:00-8:00 pm**

Nipissing Theatre (F213)  
Livestream available

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**The UGRC Committee would like to thank the following people for their support:**

Shawn Bester	Debra Iafrate	Dana Murphy
Laurel Bissonnette	Barbi Law	Fran O'Donnell
Melissa Busschaert	Hailey Leaman	Madison Peake
Carly Byers	Terry Kirkby	Casey Phillips
Steve Connor	Kristen Koester	Prasad Ravi
Melinda DeBenedet	Laurie Kruk	Carole Richardson
Hilary Earl	Christine Lalonde	Cathy Shaw
Marg Foisy Iwanchun	Barbi Law	Susan Srigley
Greg Foster	Noelle Livermore	Carol Szabicot
Denise Gauthier	Amber McCarthy	Meghan Venasse
Nicholas Gignac	James McCurdy	Kevin Vibe
Jacqueline Girard	Sarah McGowan	MacKenzie Vitunski
Maggie Horsefield	Riley McEntee	Dan Walters
		Kevin Wamsley

### **Faculty Judges and Moderators**

Denise Balogh	Nathan Kozuskanich	Laura Petersen
David Borman	Laurie Kruk	Gyllie Phillips
Maya Burak	Christine Lalonde	Sal Renshaw
Alain Carlson	Manuel Litalien	Madison Small
Lanyan Chan	Kristin Lucas	Susan Srigley
Stephen Connor	Kaitlynn Marrs	Mary Pat Sullivan
Reade Davis	Gillian McCann	Tyson Stewart
Carly Dokis	Dana Murphy	Rebekah Trudel
Hilary Earl	Jamie Murton	Renee Valiquette
Sherry Guppy	Margaret Owens	Sarah Winters
Kristian Johnson	Anna Pearson	
Serena Kataoka		

**Thank you to all the faculty who involved students in your research, encouraged them to apply to the conference, put together panels, and promoted free inquiry as an essential element of the university.**

sixteenth annual 

# UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE

Friday, March 24 – Saturday, March 25, 2023

Nipissing University, North Bay

## Program at a Glance

### Friday March 24, 2023

Time	Program	Location
3:00-6:00	<b>Registration</b>	NU Theatre (F213) Hallway
6:00-6:30	<b>Opening Remarks</b> Stephen Connor, UGRC Co-Chair Kevin Wamsley, President & Vice-Chancellor Carole Richardson, Provost & Vice-President Academic & Research (Interim)	NU Theatre (F213)
6:30-8:00	<b>Keynote Address</b> Professor Susan Srigley “Why We All Need Death School: Building Community through Death Education”	NU Theatre (F213)
8:00-10:00	<b>Poster Session</b>	NU Student Union Foyer
8:00-10:00	<b>Art Installations</b>	NU Student Union Gallery
8:00-10:30	<b>Reception</b>	NU Student Centre Foyer

### Saturday March 25, 2023

Time	Program	Location
8:30-noon	<b>Registration</b>	NU Cafeteria A246 Hallway
8:30-9:00	<b>Morning Coffee</b>	NU Cafeteria A246
9:00-10:30	<b>Concurrent Panels (Session 1)</b> 1. Conversations about Soldiers 2. Difficult Conversations: Teaching and Studying Challenging Texts 3. Conversations with PETS	A224 A226 B211
10:30-10:45	<b>BREAK</b>	NU Cafeteria A246



10:45-12:15	<b>Concurrent Panels (Session 2)</b>	
	4. Identity and Perspectives in Film, Novels, and at Teaching Sites	A122
	5. The Nature of Capitalism: Empire, Inequality, and Exploitation	A224
	6. Aspects of State Violence: Dictatorship, the Economy and Policing	A226
	7. Roundtable: History Education through Experience	B211
12:15-1:15	<b>LUNCH (provided for registered participants)</b>	NU Cafeteria A246
1:15-2:45	<b>Concurrent Panels (Session 3)</b>	
	8. Dark Humour and Finding Value(s) in Contemporary Popular Culture	A224
	9. Specters of Tyranny: Newspaper Coverage of Violence	A226
	10. Emerging Research: Politics, Art, and Mental Health	A122
	11. Roundtable: Death Exploration - Education for Nursing Students	B211
3:00-4:00	<b>Closing Ceremony and Prizes</b>	NU Cafeteria A246
	Kevin Wamsley, President, Vice-Chancellor	
	Barbi Law, Dean of Graduate Studies & Research	

**Friday March 24, 2023**

<b>3:00-6:00</b>	<b>Registration</b>	<b>Nipissing Theatre F213</b>
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<b>6:00-6:30</b>	<b>Opening Remarks</b>	<b>Nipissing Theatre F213</b>
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Stephen Connor, UGRC Co-Chair  
 Kevin Wamsley, President & Vice-Chancellor  
 Carole Richardson, Provost & Vice-President Academic & Research (Interim)

<b>6:30-8:00</b>	<b>Keynote Address</b>	<b>Nipissing Theatre F213</b>
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Professor Susan Srigley  
 “Why We All Need Death School: Building Community through Death Education”

<b>8:00-10:00</b>	<b>Poster Presentation</b>	<b>NUSU Foyer</b>
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**Moderator:** Dana Murphy

**Judges:** Denise Balogh, Alain Carlson, Christine Lalonde, Serena Kataoka, Mary Pat Sullivan, Tyson Stewart

**Panelists:**

**Kieran Blake** How Nipissing University Became the Best (Practice Spotlight Organization)

**Taylor Bottoms-Cau** Diversity and Cover of Bryophytes and Lichens in Relation to Recovery of Forest Roads after Abandonment

**Amanda Boudreau** A Year One Champion Project: Implementation of the Best Practice Guidelines into Student Nursing Practice

**Ethan Boyd** Site Suitability for Expansion around Nipissing University Campus using a GIS-based Model

**Vanessa Capraro-Arpino** Inhibitors of Pseudogymnoascus destructans as a Defence Against White-Nose Syndrome

**Noah Cornish** Assessing EF2 Tornado Impacts on Vegetation Cover using Super Dove Satellites

**Abeni Flynn** Tau-Pathology and Mitochondrial Profile Damage Quantification in an Alzheimer’s Disease Induced Animal Model

**Jaden Gilbert** Equine Assisted Learning: Can it Help Adult Survivors of Sexual Trauma?

**Emma Greg** A Disrupted Childhood: The Structuring and Foundation of a Child’s Life

**Lucia Gutierrez Lecuona & Megan Terriss** Implementation of Engaging Clients Who Use Substances BPG: Enriching Content to Create Meaningful Learning

**Justin Jutzeler** The US Debt to China: Global Influence and the new Cold War

<b>Rachel Lachine</b>	Examining Current Treatments for Depression
<b>Francois Xavier Larouche</b>	The Effects of Bilingualism and Age on Working Memory and Executive Functioning
<b>Hayden Lloyd</b>	Examining Current Treatments for Depression
<b>Megan MacKinnon</b>	Optimistic Environmental Messaging Increases State Optimism and in vivo Pro-Environmental Behaviour
<b>Madison Peake</b>	Visual Inhibition and Aging: Investigating the Effect of Delay in Binocular Suppression
<b>Kaelyn Perisic</b>	Evaluating the Effectiveness of the Acidithiobacillus Ferroxidans Bacteria in the Leaching of a Sulfide-based Ore that Potentially contains Zinc, Copper, and Iron
<b>Kyra Ritchie</b>	The Influence of Dietary Nitrate Supplementation on Muscle Blood Flow in Trained Athletes
<b>Caleb Shantz</b>	Embedding Indigenous Knowledge into Undergraduate Nursing Curriculum
<b>Cathy Shaw</b>	Distractibility of Speech Spoken Emotionally

<b>8:00–10:00</b>	<b>Art Installations</b>	<b>NUSU Art Gallery</b>
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<b>Sarah Ederer</b>	A Small Gathering
<b>Anna Grace Johnstone</b>	A Witch's Cottage
	Froog Goes Fishing
	It's 2 in the Morning
	Judith With the Head of Holofernes

<b>8:00–10:30</b>	<b>Reception</b>	<b>NUSU Foyer</b>
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## Saturday March 24, 2019

<b>9:00-10:30</b>	<b>Concurrent Panels (Session 1)</b>
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<b>#1</b>	<b>Conversations about Soldiers</b>	<b>A224</b>
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<b>Moderator:</b>	Laurie Kruk
<b>Conversant:</b>	Kaitlynn Marrs
<b>Judge:</b>	Mackenzie Vitunski
<b>Panellists:</b>	
<b>Allison Arculus</b>	<i>Soldier: Charles Raw</i>
<b>Jakob Krabi</b>	<i>Soldier: James Alexander Smith</i>
<b>Blair Kozuskanich</b>	<i>Soldier: Norman Victor Woodley</i>

<b>#2</b>	<b>Difficult Conversations: Teaching and Studying Challenging Texts</b>	<b>A226</b>
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**Moderator:** Kristin Lucas  
**Moderator:** Margaret Owens

**Panellists:**

**Doris Lucas** *"Seeking Epistemic Justice in Death and the Maiden and Promising Young Woman"*

**Lauren McReynolds** *"Racism in Othello"*

**Sarah Walker** *"Pedagogical Issues: Teaching Shakespeare in the Twenty-first Century"*

**Dani McLaughlin** *"The Rape Essay"*

<b>#3</b>	<b>Conversations with PETS Roundtable</b>	<b>B211</b>
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**Moderator:** Sal Renshaw

The GEND 2326 Pets course is out for its first walk around the block and we were genuinely surprised at how much there is to understand about the role of pets in people's lives. From the way pets are inseparable from issues of race and class—think about all those fancy expensive pedigrees—to the idea that gender shapes the way we engage with pets: ...men and cats? Big guys and small dogs? And what about all those cat ladies...to name just a few. Join us for a conversation about everything you didn't know you need to know about pets.

**Panellists:**

**Dana Griese**

**Vanessa Byrne**

**Leah Robertson**

**Maija Colbourne**

<b>10:30-10:45</b>	<b>BREAK</b>	<b>NU Small Cafeteria A246</b>
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<b>10:45-12:15</b>	<b>Concurrent Panels (Session 2)</b>
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<b>#4</b>	<b>Identity and Perspective in Film, Novels, and at Teaching Sites</b>	<b>A122</b>
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**Moderator:** Sarah Winters

**Judge:** Renee Valiquette

**Judge:** Kristian Johnson

**Panellists:**

**Stewart Duncan** *"Subverting the Male Gaze: A Feminist analysis of the First Two Cloverfield Films"*

**Doris Lucas** *"The Romantic Child in Anne of Green Gables and Who Has Seen the Wind"*

**Page Chartrand** *"How is Queerness re-emerging in Anishinaabe Teaching Sites?"*

	<b>#5 The Nature of Capitalism: Empire, Inequality, and Exploitation</b>	<b>A224</b>
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**Moderator:** Reade Davis  
**Judge:** Gillian McCann  
**Judge:** Rebekah Trudel

**Panellists:**

**Sydney Ventress** *"Women in the Labour Movement (1960s-1990s): A Response to the Gendered Inequalities of Capitalism"*  
**Jenna Naylor** *"The Link between Slavery and Capitalism"*  
**Justin Winn** *"How Cotton Slavery led to the Formation of United States Capitalism"*  
**Amanda Guertin** *"How to Create a Dynasty: Influence of Early Modern Women"*

	<b>#6 Aspects of State Violence: Dictatorship, the Economy, and Policing</b>	<b>A226</b>
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**Moderator:** Manuel Litalien  
**Judge:** Madison Small  
**Judge:** Stephen Connor

**Panellists:**

**Hailey Leaman** *"Nature or Nurture: The Downfall of Nazi Germany's Irma Grese"*  
**Michael Marchand** *"The Spectre of Tyranny"*  
**Alex Moreau-Dalpee** *"Stalin's intent for the First Five-year Plan. Planned murder or Disastrous experiment?"*

	<b>#7 Teaching History through Experience (Roundtable)</b>	<b>B211</b>
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**Moderator:** Anna Pearson

Experiential learning (EL) in higher education pedagogy is a means to teach the past. In particular, EL offers unique possibilities for PSE students to consider ways in which our collective memory of war informs our Canadian identity and past. While the past cannot be experienced, historical sites can be. This round table offers three related perspectives on EL in three different geographical contexts: north-western Europe, Poland, and virtual EL as a way to identify commonalities among multiple perspectives of EL and how it contributes to a broader understanding of best practices and applications of EL in the Post-Secondary Educational setting.

**Panellists:**

**Taylor Wetzel** *"Into that Darkness: Poland, World War II, & the Holocaust"*  
**Patrick Fournier** *"Warpath 2018: The Algonquin Regiment Study Tour"*  
**Hanna Osburn** *"Into that Darkness: Poland, World War II, & the Holocaust"*

<b>12:15-1:15</b>	<b>LUNCH (provided for participants)</b>	<b>NU Small Cafeteria A246</b>
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<b>1:15-2:45</b>	<b>Concurrent Panels (Session 3)</b>
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<b>#8</b>	<b>Dark Humour and Finding Value(s) in Contemporary Popular Culture</b>	<b>A224</b>
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**Moderator:** Gyllie Phillips

**Judge:** Sherry Guppy

**Judge:** Jamie Murton

**Panellists:**

**Neva Belanger** *“Time and Time Again’: An Examination of Eternal Recurrence and Choice in Palm Springs and the Glass Hotel”*

**Jessica Greco** *“Dark Humour and Finding Value(s) in Contemporary Popular Culture”*

**Emily Bruce** *“Fleeing the Cage: The Choice of Faith in Waiting for Godot and Palm Springs”*

**Doris Lucas** *“Life is Meaningless ... Or is it? How Brechtian and Absurd Theatre, Nietzsche, and Camus Explore the Meaning of Life in Waiting for Godot and Inside”*

<b>#9</b>	<b>Specters of Tyranny: Newspaper Coverage of Violence</b>	<b>A226</b>
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**Moderator:** Nathan Kozuskanich

**Judge:** Maya Burak

**Judge:** Hilary Earl

**Panellists:**

**Amanda Guertin** *“A Genocide by Any Other Name: American Media Portrayal of the Armenian Genocide”*

**Noelle Livermore** *“The Miami Herald - The Newspaper of the Cuban Revolution in Little Havana”*

**Sydney Ventress** *“Rosa Parks: From Resistance to Desegregation”*

**Justin Winn** *“Media Coverage of the FLQ Crisis”*

<b>#10 Emerging Research: Politics, Art, and Mental Health</b>	<b>A122</b>
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**Moderator:** Carly Dokis  
**Judge:** Lanyan Chan  
**Judge:** David Borman

**Panellists:**

**Jared Gagne** *"The Consistent Nation: How Canadian Motives for Foreign Policy did not Change Between 1900 and 1967"*  
**Greg Hornby** *"An Examination of Rock Art in Ontario"*  
**Lauren Davey** *"Programs to Address Mental Health in Place of ER"*

<b>#11 Death Exploration: Education for Nursing Students (Roundtable)</b>	<b>B211</b>
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**Moderators:** Susan Srigley

Four nursing students will explore how best to support their dying and deceased patients and loved ones in a society notorious for death denial. Nursing students feel unprepared and under-educated about death as it relates to the nursing care they provide. We would hypothesize that if nursing students took at least one death studies course in their BScN, their comfort levels and perceived competence to cope with death and dying in practice would be greatly improved and could positively inform different aspects of "death care," including hospice, care of a deceased body, communication with family members, and MAiD.

**Panellists:**

**Haley Gignac**  
**Emma Childs**  
**Alison Hampel**  
**Maddi Marsh**

<b>3:00-4:00</b>	<b>Closing Ceremony and Prizes</b>	<b>NU Small Cafeteria A246</b>
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Barbi Law, Dean of Graduate Studies & Research (Interim)  
Kevin Wamsley, President & Vice-Chancellor

## ABSTRACTS

### POSTER PRESENTATIONS

#### **Blake, Kieran**

“How Nipissing University Became the Best (Practice Spotlight Organization)”

The School of Nursing at Nipissing University was awarded the designation of Best Practice Spotlight Organization (BPSO) by the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario (RNAO) in 2021. Being a BPSO is a worldwide recognition that is bestowed upon organizations demonstrating a commitment to excellence in nursing by implementing the RNAO's Best Practice Guidelines (BPGs) into education curricula. These BPGs are thoroughly researched guidelines that use peer-reviewed methods to gather qualitative and quantitative data to inform the best-practice model of care. This research outlines the current BPGs that have been implemented into the undergraduate nursing programs at Nipissing University. BPGs have been implemented into the undergraduate nursing programs at Nipissing University.

#### **Bottoms-Cau, Taylor**

“Diversity and cover of bryophytes and lichens in relation to recovery of forest roads after abandonment”

Road ecology is a relatively new field, and bryophytes and lichens are understudied groups important in recovery. The purpose of this research is to determine how the stage of recovery and level of activity on forest roads in the Nipissing Forest influences bryophyte/lichen cover and diversity. During the summer of 2022, bryophyte and lichen samples were collected from subplots on forest roads and then identified into genera. Preliminary results show 27 genera of bryophytes and lichens were collected. The results will provide an index of bryophyte/lichen richness and abundance relative to recovery.

#### **Boudreau, Amanda**

“A Year One Champion Project: Implementation of the Best Practice Guidelines into Student Nursing Practice”

Throughout the 6-semester program, students will learn from their peer BPG leaders about each of the 8 required best practice guidelines. These BPGs include person and family-centered care, pressure injuries, embracing culture and diversity, preventing nurse fatigue, end-of-life care, pain management, substance use, and preventing/reducing falls. Students are required to touch upon at least 5 of these BPGs by the end of the program, and there will be a test in the final semester surrounding 8 BPGs.

#### **Boyd, Ethan**

“Site Suitability for Expansion around Nipissing University Campus using a GIS-based Model”

This research project will answer the question, using the Nipissing University campus boundaries and self-recognized areas close to the campus, where are suitable locations for development? Using ArcGIS software, I will create a model that shows areas on and around the Nipissing University campus that are suitable for development. The potential locations will be assessed for multiple variables, wetlands, bodies of water, linear water features, roads, zoning by-law constraints, zoning by-law, soil survey complex, and elevation. The result will be a GIS model of the Nipissing University Campus with highlighted areas where development is suitable.



**Capraro-Arpino, Vanessa**

“Inhibitors of *Pseudogymnoascus destructans* as a Defence Against White-Nose Syndrome”

White-nose syndrome (WNS) is a devastating disease affecting bats globally. The causative agent is *Pseudogymnoascus destructans*, a microscopic fungus. As bats occupy important ecological niches, widespread decrease in population wreaks havoc on the ecological systems they inhabit. Rapid decimation has inspired fervent efforts to prevent the extirpation or extinction of bat taxa, including the use of ultraviolet radiation, antimicrobial compounds, and genetic and immunological interventions. This literature review focuses on botanical substances and compiles all known methods of treatment to counter WNS. The potential for plant-derived substances in mitigating this disease is significant, and a combination of treatments is ideal.

**Cornish, Noah**

“Assessing EF2 Tornado Impacts on Vegetation Cover using Super Dove Satellites”

Southern Ontario experiences frequent tornadoes during the spring, summer, and fall. Actinolite was devastated by an EF2 Tornado that struck in July of 2022. The use of Super Dove satellites for assessing Tornado damage on vegetation cover can provide accurate and efficient analysis as well as improve our understanding of the impacts of severe weather on our forests and wetlands. The initial results proved accurate and efficient in analyzing the destruction of forested areas using change detection algorithms.

**Flynn, Abeni**

“Tau Pathology and Mitochondrial Profile Damage Quantification in an Alzheimer’s Disease Induced Animal Model”

Alzheimer’s Disease (AD) can lead to deficits in cognition and behaviours including memory, learning, language, and recognition. Tauopathies in the locus coeruleus (LC) is a biomarker of AD. Abnormal tau proteins may induce neurodegeneration and metabolic dysfunction via mitochondrial toxicity. Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) was used to analyze mitochondrial profiles in AD induced rats. It is predicted that rats induced with AD will express a higher ratio of damaged mitochondria relative to the control groups. The results from this research will contribute to the development of novel quantitative and preventive methods for AD.

**Gilbert, Jaden**

“Equine Assisted Learning: Can it Help Adult Survivors of Sexual Trauma?”

Equine Assisted Learning (EAL) may promote self-awareness and critical skills such as effective communication, honesty, respect, and trust, although it has rarely been formally evaluated. The present study examined changes in psychosocial variables in adult survivors of sexual trauma following their participation in an EAL program. Currently, 7 survivors of sexual trauma have completed a once weekly, 8-week-long EAL program. Preliminary results indicate that Equine Assisted Learning may be effective in improving hope and trust in this sample of adult survivors of sexual trauma.

**Greg, Emma**

“A Disrupted Childhood: The Structuring and Foundation of a Child’s Life”

This paper discusses how early childhood trauma negatively affects the child’s behaviour, physical development, and immune functioning, and even alters their neurochemistry. Trauma can happen

at any point in a person's life, and we are often unaware we are victims of trauma, even in the womb. How we react to adverse life experiences can drastically and negatively affect our health and future generations. The goal of my research is to raise awareness of what trauma can do to an individual as well as provide a better understanding of trauma-informed care, and how to heal from these experiences.

### **Gutierrez Lecuona Lucia and Megan Terriss**

"Implementation of Engaging Clients Who Use Substances BPG: Enriching Content to Create Meaningful Learning"

We received positive feedback from students when outside sources were utilized to supplement BPG content. We wanted to know how content enrichment would impact engagement and uptake of the BPGs in SPP nursing students. Applying the knowledge-to-action cycle, we leveraged expert sources to identify the practice gaps within the BPG, Engaging Clients Who Use Substances. We facilitated discussions and critical analysis in the remaining sessions while adding research consisting of expert sources, media, and narrative inquiry. Quantitative and qualitative data showed that content enrichment and supplementation allowed for more meaningful engagement and uptake of the BPGs.

### **Jutzeler, Justin**

"The US Debt to China: Global Influence and the new Cold War"

This research sought to discover the nature of China's large holdings of US debt. Specifically, whether the holding of such debt was beneficial or detrimental to China. Various perspectives on the issue were analyzed as well as data on China's US debt holdings as well as the global influence of both the United States and China from 2011-2020. This data showed that as China gained influence around the world, it reduced its US debt holdings. This indicates that China's current position as a US creditor is the result of a period of weakness relative to the United States.

### **Lachine, Rachel**

"Examining Current Treatments for Depression"

What is the most effective modality to clinically treat depression? Our methodology will be to observe current research and derive educated conclusions. Our method will examine current literature to derive how physicians currently treat depression. The most effective way to treat depression will rely heavily on the diagnosis derived from the patient's presenting signs and symptoms.

### **Larouche, Francois Xavier**

"Effects of Bilingualism and Age on Working Memory and Executive Functioning."

Does bilingualism provide an advantage in terms of selective attention? In this study, I assessed priming for previously presented sentences in monolingual and bilingual participants. In one priming task, participants fully attended to some sentences while in another priming task, they ignored other sentences while performing a visual task. Later, participants identified the final word of difficult-to-understand sentences, with some sentences being the earlier fully attended sentences, others being the previously ignored sentences and others brand new. Only monolinguals demonstrated priming from the ignored sentences. Bilinguals, demonstrating superior selective attention ability, showed no priming from the ignored speech.

**Lloyd, Hayden****“Examining Current Treatments for Depression”**

What is the most effective modality to clinically treat depression? Our methodology will be to observe current research and derive educated conclusions. Our method will examine current literature to derive how physicians currently treat depression. The most effective way to treat depression will rely heavily on the diagnosis derived from the patient’s signs and symptoms they are presenting with.

**MacKinnon, Megan****“Optimistic environmental messaging increases state optimism and in vivo pro-environmental behaviour”**

The relationship between state optimism/pessimism and pro-environmental behaviour is ambiguous. Existing research has focused on cross-sectional data, trait-level optimism–pessimism, and related constructs like subjective well-being. Building previous literature and attending to these gaps, the study primed 140 North American adults with bogus optimistic or pessimistic environmental news articles to induce state optimism/pessimism. Participants then reported their state optimism/pessimism levels and various eco-friendly behaviours. Results confirmed that optimistic environmental messaging increased state optimism, which predicted greater PEB. Results highlight the importance of sharing environmental messages optimistically when attempting to promote ecological behaviour.

**Peake, Madison****“Visual Inhibition and Aging: Investigating the Effect of Delay in Binocular Suppression”**

In this study, the effect of introducing a time delay between pre-exposure to words and a later binocular suppression task was investigated. Response times to previously ignored, previously attended, and new words were measured immediately after the presentation and after a time delay. Immediately after the initial presentation, younger and older adults responded faster to previously ignored words than new words. After a delay, both groups responded equally fast to ignored and new words. Thus, all participants demonstrated similar priming from ignored words, but only immediately after the initial presentation. This research challenges the idea of a generalized age-related inhibitory decline.

**Perisic, Kaelyn****“Evaluating the effectiveness of the Acidithiobacillus ferrooxidans bacteria in the leaching of a sulfide-based ore that potentially contains zinc, copper, and iron.”**

The potential of bioleaching of metals from their ores in place of the traditionally used but less environmentally friendly methods is the subject of this research. A sphalerite ore sample obtained from a northern Ontario mine was treated through a bioleaching process in which Acidithiobacillus ferrooxidans microorganisms were used. The bacteria’s ability to leach out copper and zinc as a function of the bioleaching duration and slurry density was investigated. The results show that 28 days of bioleaching produce the best metal recoveries. Additionally, the results demonstrate that low slurry density presents the best metal recoveries.

**Ritchie, Kyra**

“The influence of dietary nitrate supplementation on muscle blood flow in trained athletes.”

Increased nitric oxide (NO) bioavailability via nitrate (NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>) supplementation may improve muscle blood flow (mBF) in sedentary individuals; however, has not been confirmed in trained athletes who may have enhanced endogenous oxygen-dependent NO production. This study examined a NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> vs. placebo (supplement) on mBF in normoxia vs. hypoxia (FiO<sub>2</sub>) in trained athletes. mBF was evaluated using near-infrared spectroscopy-derived changes in total hemoglobin during venous occlusion. No significant interaction between, or main effect within, factors of supplement or FiO<sub>2</sub> ( $p > 0.05$ ) was observed. This suggests that NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> supplementation in trained athletes does not enhance mBF via increased NO bioavailability.

**Shantz, Caleb**

“Embedding Indigenous Knowledge into Undergraduate Nursing Curriculum”

All nursing educators are responsible for advancing the Canadian Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action. Therefore, professors and instructors developing and delivering nursing curricula are obligated to adjust existing undergraduate nursing programs to include Indigenous Knowledge (IK). The literature on embedding IK into nursing curricula identifies some obstacles. Beginning in 2023, faculty teaching in the BScN program at Nipissing University will provide a course entitled Indigenous Health and Wellness. Students will explore Indigenous healing practices and determinants of health. Research regarding teaching/learning tools, pedagogical methods, and assessment criteria that can be used in this important course will be discussed.

**Shaw, Cathy**

“Distractibility of Speech Spoken Emotionally”

Are older adults more distracted by emotionally irrelevant speech? Would some emotional speech cause more distraction than other emotions? To answer these questions, we had older and younger participants complete a visual task (counting stars) while ignoring different types of emotional speech, including happy, angry, and fearful. We presented the different conditions randomized across 80 trials and assessed how much the speech distractors slowed counting speeds compared to trials without distraction. While we expected more interference from angry and fearful speech, the different distractors proved equally distracting. Older adults were only slightly more distracted than younger adults.

## ART INSTALLATIONS

### **Ederer, Sarah**

#### **"A Small Gathering"**

Drawing inspiration from the surrealist and German expressionist movements, I explore the emotional experience of attending social events after the recently mandated lockdowns.

### **Johnstone, Anna Grace**

#### **"A Witch's Cottage"**

A wee forest witch has invited you to come and visit her busy little cottage. It is full of ingredient stores and furniture she has made herself, little bones collected from the woods, and tiny artworks. Look closely, just be careful of the spell bowls and candles that are all about!

### **Johnstone, Anna Grace**

#### **"Froog Goes Fishing"**

Meet Froog! They have a little picnic with jam and toasts to share, a wee basket of woven horsehair for fish, and a functional little fishing rod. Froog likes to adventure and always has a place for a new friend!

### **Johnstone, Anna Grace**

#### **"It's 2 in the Morning"**

This is a wipe-away oil painting of the emotion that hits in the wee hours of the morning, when trauma and memories come to visit, and the artist turns paint as healing.

### **Johnstone, Anna Grace**

#### **"Judith With The Head Of Holofernes"**

Inspired by the works of Artemisia Gentileschi and Gustav Klimt, this painting is both a message of courage in the face of abuse but also of healing through art and paint. Having deftly beheaded her opponent, Judith cools her weary body in the water. Surrounded by flowers and the weight of both her gorgon-headed sword and her victory, she is figure of strength and vulnerability, pain and recovery.

## UGRC RESEARCH PAPER ABSTRACTS

### **Atkin, Barry**

“The Historical Relationship between Parliamentarians and Public Servants in Canada”

This paper looks at the historical relationship between parliamentarians and public servants in Canada. This was done by examining Hansard’s debates obtained through the LiPaD project. References to public servants by elected officials in parliament were counted to determine if there was any shift in the frequency of debate of public servants in Parliament over time. We hypothesized that the discussion of public servants would vary by time, belonging to the governing party, and ideology. We found that time and ideology did not significantly impact the discussion of public servants, while members of the governing party were less likely to reference public servants.

### **Arculus, Allison**

“Personnel File: Soldier Charles Raw”

This paper examines the life and death of Canadian soldier Charles Raw with a focus on why Raw lied about his age to enlist in the army and leave his simple farming life in Saskatchewan.

### **Belanger, Neva**

“‘Time and Time Again’: An Examination of Eternal Recurrence and Choice in Palm Springs and The Glass Hotel”

The exploration of philosophy in contemporary popular culture allows for the introduction of new interpretations of various theories. Friedrich Nietzsche’s theory of eternal recurrence states that life is an endless cycle that will continue to repeat itself eternally and that the constant affirmation of our choices is necessary in order to live a fulfilling life. In many popular contemporary works that demonstrate the theory, such as Emily St. John Mandel’s, *The Glass Hotel* and Max Barbakow’s film *Palm Springs*, the characters attempt to assign meaning to the suffering that the cycle creates, only driving themselves to become even more unhappy.

### **Bruce, Emily**

“Fleeing the Cage: The Choice of Faith in *Waiting for Godot* and *Palm Springs*”

In a secular world, the existence of God and human autonomy are often in conflict with one another. This paper focuses on the problem of faith versus free will in Samuel Beckett’s *Waiting for Godot* and Max Barbakow’s film *Palm Springs*, starring Andy Samberg. Using Soren Kierkegaard’s concepts of a subjective faith in God and the “knight of faith,” I demonstrate that in these works of literary and popular culture, it is the characters’ conscious choice to have subjective faith in a rationally impossible situation that aids them in the full realization and use of their own free will.

### **Byrne, Vanessa**

“Conversations with PETs”

The GEND 2326 Pets course is out for its first walk around the block and we were genuinely surprised at how much there is to understand about the role of pets in people’s lives. From the way pets are inseparable from issues of race and class—think about all those fancy expensive pedigrees—to the idea that gender shapes the way we engage with pets: ...men and cats? Big guys and small dogs? And what about all those cat ladies...to name just a few. Join us for a conversation about everything you didn’t know you need to know about pets.

**Chartrand, Page**

“How is Queerness re-emerging in Anishinaabe Teaching Sites?”

This project aims to understand how queerness is reclaiming space in Anishinaabe teachings in and around the Nswakmok area. Elders and Knowledge keepers are bringing topics of queerness into their teaching sessions but have specific understandings and missing information about these identities. The methodology was informed by Anishinaabe ways of doing, decolonial Indigenous research practices, and grounded theory. Data was collected through one-on-one interviews via Microsoft Teams. Preliminary conclusions include queerness as being welcomed by the community, easily discussed and understood through one’s sense of being a marginalized identity. this research fills a large gap in existing works.

**Childs, Emma**

“Death Exploration Education for Nursing Students”

Four nursing students will explore how best to support their dying and deceased patients and loved ones in a society notorious for death denial. Nursing students feel unprepared and under-educated about death as it relates to the nursing care they provide. We would hypothesize that if nursing students took at least one death studies course in their BScN, their comfort levels and perceived competence to cope with death and dying in practice would be greatly improved and could positively inform different aspects of “death care,” including hospice, care of a deceased body, communication with family members, and MAiD.

**Colbourne, Maija**

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**Davey, Lauren**

“Programs to Address Mental Health in Place of ER”

There are many reasons why those who are homeless struggle with mental health issues. They also visit the emergency department at a hospital because it is rare for them to have a family doctor and a home address to be in the health insurance system. It is also because there is a grave shortage of primary care focusing on mental health. This paper reviews the existing literature to understand the impacts of a lack of mental health services on the connection between homelessness and mental health. It also proposes program development to address homeless people’s lack of access to health services.

**Duncan, Stewart**

“Subverting the Male Gaze: A Feminist Analysis of the First Two Cloverfield films”

This paper examines how the first two films in the Cloverfield franchise subvert misogynistic tropes familiar in the horror genre. By analyzing the portrayal of female characters and their agency in the films, the paper explores how the two films challenge the misogynistic dominant



narrative structures of mainstream Science Fiction and Horror cinema. Using the framework established by Professor Carol J. Clover, the paper explores how the films reject sex-based narrative punishment, use camera perspectives to dissuade the chastity-based “Final Girl” trope, and through subversion, highlights the deep-rooted misogyny in the films pertaining genres.

### **Elwadya, Khalaf**

#### **“Privacy Policies of Major Social Media Companies: A Comparative Analysis”**

Recently, social media companies have emerged as the principal sources of data collection. However, concerns have been raised regarding the possibility of such data being utilized in ways that could compromise users’ privacy. Despite having privacy policies detailing data collection, usage, and sharing, most users do not take the time to peruse these policies thoroughly. This paper scrutinizes these privacy policies and summarizes their salient features. We also identify key differences among companies and analyze their track records of lawsuits to determine if they have violated their privacy policies or the laws of countries where their services are available.

### **Fournier, Patrick**

#### **“Warpath 2018”**

In 2018 I went to Europe on an experiential learning (EL) course that traced the path that the Algonquin Regiment took during World War II. In this session, I will discuss the impact of learning history through EL. I will also consider the domestic connections of the Algonquin Regiment in North Bay and the commemorative and EL activities I participated in, while in the Netherlands, and the impact these had on me.

### **Gignac, Hailey**

#### **“Death Exploration Education for Nursing Students”**

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### **Gagne, Jared**

#### **“The Consistent Nation: How Canadian Motives for Foreign Policy did not Change Between 1900-1967”**

This paper will examine Canadian International ambitions both in the era in which it was a dominion under the British and the era after the second world war. What will be argued is that the consensus that Canada broke out of its shell is false, and the golden age of Canadian foreign policy does not mark a significant change in Canadian federal policy. In other words, Canada’s foreign policy was ultimately consistent during this era with little change in Canadian aspirations on the world stage.



**Greco, Jessica**

“Dark Humour and Finding Value(s) in Contemporary Popular Culture.”

Ideas surrounding existentialism and philosophy, like morals and values, are often explored within entertainment media, such as the television show *The Good Place* and the film *Palm Springs* using humor. These films explore an individual's ability to adapt and learn new values within a crumbling society, and whether ethics can change based on experiences. Using ideas from philosophers like Nietzsche, we can see how ethics and values are formed and develop as experiences and consequences occur to characters within these films. Allowing for the interpretation of values on a larger scale, do individuals grow with experiences or fall short when necessary?

**Griese, Dana**

“Conversations with PETs”

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**Guertin, Amanda**

“A Genocide by Any Other Name: American Media Portrayal of the Armenian Genocide”

How does media change our perception of events; in the moment and the future? How can historians use these media sources to find bias and societal context? I will answer these questions using American Newspapers of Records from the Great War that provide unique insight due to American neutrality during much of the war. These newspapers provide historians with important context into where the society stood concerning the massacres of the Armenians that were taking place during the war. The reporting of the massacres shaped the cultural and societal remembrance of the events that transpired.

**Guertin, Amanda**

“How to Create a Dynasty: Influence of Early Medici Women”

The powerful Medici family once ran the city of Florence. People know the names of men such as Lorenzo the Magnificent but what about their wives and mothers? The women that married into the family at its beginning brought much-needed prestige to the Medici name and a vast network of connections. This paper will look at the influence held by these women, specifically how it helped the Medici bank. Using both primary and secondary sources, I will explore how this influence was used and the results of that influence.

**Hampel, Alison**

“Death Exploration Education for Nursing Students”

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could positively inform different aspects of “death care,” including hospice, care of a deceased body, communication with family members, and MAiD.

### **Hornby, Greg**

“An Examination of Rock Art in Ontario”

The project seeks to examine pictographs, petroglyphs and nearby habitation sites in North Bay, Temagami, and Peterborough to identify similarities in style and compare date ranges for their creation by compiling archaeological and ethnographic evidence available. Were these examples related? Do they have a coherent ritual intention? Or are they meant for utilitarian signage purposes? Were they created and understood by separate socio-economic groups or do they have meaning to the entire population within the geographic area? The anticipated conclusion is that these symbols serve a multitude of purposes and were created over a long span of time.

### **Krabi, Jacob**

“Personnel File: Soldier James Alexander Smith”

I examine the Life and death of a Canadian soldier in World War Two. I focus on the life of James Smith K107, who served in Italy. He was a miner and became a soldier serving three years. From Saskatchewan to Italy, his journey was long and arduous.

### **Kozuskanich, Blair**

Personnel file: Soldier Norman Victor Woodley

This research presentation investigates the life of my grandfather’s uncle who fought and died in the Second World War. The research was done by looking through letters and photos that were sent home to the family during the war. This research paper hopes to shed more light on what war was like for the average soldier.

### **Leaman, Hailey**

“Nature or Nurture: The Downfall of Nazi Germany’s Irma Grese”

Irma Grese a 22-year-old Nazi perpetrator, was hung by the British for the ill-treatment and murder of prisoners. This project attempts to understand why she says she did what she did, and what historians have argued regarding her behaviors. Was she behaving in a manner due to orders, or was it something within her that went beyond the call of perpetrators? I have examined the transcripts of the Belsen Trails, and sources from historians to suggest that while orders are a piece of her behavior, she went above the call of duty and committed crimes for her reasons.

### **Livermore, Noelle**

“The Miami Herald: The Newspaper of the Cuban Revolution in Little Havana.”

“Calle Ocho”, Little Havana became an epicenter of the Cuban exile community from the Cuban Revolution. As newspapers reflect the time period in which they were created and catch sight of society during the time, I am using The Miami Herald between December 31, 1958, and January 14, 1959 to answer; In what ways did The Miami Herald interpret and/or challenge the events in Cuba? And what was the intended “Narrative” and its meaning? To help understand the importance of the reactions to the fall of Havana as they represent the turning of the tide in the western hemisphere.

**Lucas, Doris**

“Life is Meaningless... Or is it? How Brechtian and Absurd Theatre, Nietzsche, and Camus Explore the Meaning of Life in *Waiting for Godot* and *Inside*”

Post-WWII, Theatre became more existential and influential for performance entertainment. This paper uses an absurdist lens to examine Samuel Beckett's, *Waiting for Godot*, and Bo Burnham's, *Inside*, as examples of existential performance art, combining dramatic theory with absurdism to uncover life's meaning. As products of the Theatre of the Absurd, *Waiting for Godot* and *Inside* covertly assert the topics of suicide and freedom through seemingly meaningless actions, forcing the audience to grow introspective about the absurdity of living; by analyzing Bertolt Brecht's and absurdist theatre, and Friedrich Nietzsche and Albert Camus, life's meaning may be uncovered in these texts.

**Lucas, Doris**

“Seeking Epistemic Justice in *Death and the Maiden* and *Promising Young Woman*”

This paper aims to critically analyze the effects of testimonial injustice in Ariel Dorfman's play, *Death and the Maiden*, and Emerald Fennell's film, *Promising Young Woman*, by considering feminism, epistemology, and philosophical concepts from Kate Manne, Heather Stewart, and Maria Acosta Lopez. By employing Manne's and Stewart's theories to analyze these texts allows us to better understand the damages associated with rape culture. Lopez's ideas about being heard and validated also contribute to the essay's focus on examining the dangers of testimonial injustice. Despite the ambiguous endings of both texts, the protagonists do obtain some justice through their actions.

**Lucas, Doris**

“The Romantic Child in *Anne of Green Gables* and *Who Has Seen the Wind*”

The Romantic Period transformed how societal expectations of childhood were perceived. This paper examines L.M. Montgomery's 1908 novel, *Anne of Green Gables*, alongside W.O. Mitchell's, *Who Has Seen the Wind*, published in 1947. By combining romanticism with gender criticism, I establish how the “Romantic Child” figure differs between the opposing genders, in two distinct periods, through each novel's main character. Anne and Brian exhibit essential components of the “Romantic Child,” such as a devotion to nature; yet the differences in setting and especially gender ultimately create a different experience of romanticism and childhood for both characters.

**Marchand, Michael**

“The Spectre of Tyranny”

The research question is how various English historians have interpreted Stalinism and how these views have changed over time and influenced people's knowledge and attitudes.

**Marsh, Maddie**

“Death Exploration Education for Nursing Students”

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could positively inform different aspects of “death care,” including hospice, care of a deceased body, communication with family members, and MAiD.

### **McLaughlin, Dani**

#### **“The Rape Essay”**

Our culture struggles to consider verbal coercion as a serious form of sexual assault because of its subtle nature and apparent controllability. As such, individuals verbally coerced into sex are perceived as complicit and are often invalidated if they choose to express feelings of victimization. We need a radical change in our culture’s understanding of sexual assault to encompass even the subtlest forms of harassment such as verbal coercion. To do so, we must first understand how gendered socialization processes, the enculturation of the dominant man and passive woman are responsible for male aggression and female silence in sexual relations.

### **McReynolds, Lauren**

#### **“Racism in Othello”**

My paper examines the stereotypical ideologies used in Shakespeare’s Othello to discriminate against its main character, Othello. By looking at Iago’s prejudice against Othello, the juxtaposition between black and white, and understanding the concept of race in the 16th century, this paper raises the question of whether Othello is an inherently racist play. I discuss why Othello is such a problematic play and why it is important to understand these problems as it highlights the systemic issues present, which lead to racist interpretations of both the play and its characters.

### **Moreau-Dalpee, Alexander**

#### **“Stalin’s Intent for the First-Five-year plan. Planned Murder or Disastrous Experiment?”**

Throughout the First Five-year plan, millions would be murdered by state violence. With this, why would Stalin do this to the nation, and were there any upsides to his policies, or was the senseless killing for nothing more than one man’s power? What have historians and other professors said about Stalin’s intent for the First Five-Year plan? With this, there are two camps of thinking, Devasationalists, and Experimentalists, arguing about what the First Five-years plan was truly about and how it failed, with both camps blaming Stalin for either the failure of implementation or for the policy itself.

### **Naylor, Jenna**

#### **“The Link Between Slavery and Capitalism”**

My research project analyzes the history of capitalism with regard to slavery, and how the two impacted one another. I use various primary and secondary sources to answer my research question asking if slavery was critical to the formation of capitalism. Through my analysis I discover how capitalism experienced a significant shift as a result of slavery, concluding that slavery, in fact, played a major significant role in producing the capitalist ideologies we understand today.

### **Osburn, Hanna**

#### **“Into that Darkness: Poland, World War II, & the Holocaust”**

In 2019 I took an experiential learning course on the history of the Holocaust in Poland. Along with a full-term in the classroom, in the spring we spent 2 weeks visiting important historical sites where the Final Solution occurred. We also toured museums and important sites of Polish-Jewish

relations. I will consider in what ways visiting sites of violence impacted me and my understanding of the Holocaust.

**Pearson, Anna**

**“Teaching History Through Experience”**

Experiential learning (EL) in higher education pedagogy is a means to teach the past. In particular, EL offers unique possibilities for PSE students to consider ways in which our collective memory of war informs our Canadian identity and past. While the past cannot be experienced, historical sites can be. This round table offers three related perspectives on EL in three different geographical contexts: north-western Europe, Poland, and virtual EL as a way to identify commonalities among multiple perspectives of EL and how it contributes to a broader understanding of best practices and applications of EL in the Post-Secondary Educational setting.

**Robertson, Leah**

**“Conversations with PETs”**

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**Ventress, Sydney**

**“Women in the Labour Movement (1960s-1990s): A Response to the Gendered Inequalities of Capitalism”**

This research paper explores the gendered inequalities of capitalism and how women responded by exploring women’s role in the labour movement in Canada from the 1960s to the 1990s. I will argue that capitalism was built on patriarchal ideologies and women responded to the discrimination through the labour movement when they fought for higher wages, better working conditions, and minimizing sexism within the workplace. I hope to answer this research question: in what ways is the capitalist system patriarchal and how did women protest these inequalities during the labour movement in Canada between the 1960s and the 1990s?

**Ventress, Sydney**

**“Rosa Parks: From Resistance to Desegregation”**

In this research paper, I am looking at the case of Rosa Parks (1955) and her act of resistance on a Montgomery, Alabama, public bus to the desegregation of public transportation nearly a year later. I hope to use newspapers to show how the media interpreted Rosa Parks’ actions and the subsequent protests in the area and the nation. I hope to answer this question: In what ways did the media interpret the actions of Rosa Parks, and did these interpretations change from the time of defiance to the time of change?

**Walker, Sarah****“Pedagogical Issues: Teaching Shakespeare in the twenty-first Century”**

This research essay examines the approaches of several Shakespeare scholars who teach Shakespeare in their post-secondary classrooms in race-conscious and colonialism-conscious ways. My research question was whether teaching Shakespeare in a race and colonialism-conscious way could limit the harm teaching Shakespeare can cause marginalized students. Through an analysis of the findings from several Shakespeare scholars who implemented this method, and an examination of present-day culture, I find that teaching Shakespeare, no matter the approach causes harm to marginalized students.

**Wetzel, Taylor****“Into that Darkness: Poland, World War II, & the Holocaust”**

In 2019 I took an experiential learning course on the history of the Holocaust in Poland. Along with a full-term in the classroom, in the spring we spent 2 weeks visiting important historical sites where the Final Solution occurred. We also toured museums and important sites of Polish-Jewish relations. In this discussion, I will consider the pedagogical value of experiential learning and how it has enhanced my understanding of history.

**Winn, Justin****“How Cotton Slavery Led to the Formation of Capitalism in the United States”**

This paper examines the linkage between the formation of the United States economy and American cotton slavery. This research paper will question how the use of sadistic violence towards enslaved people contributed to the formation of a capitalist economy and what parts of the United States benefited from slavery and cotton production as well as how it relates to capitalism. The anticipated conclusion of this paper is that American cotton slavery was crucial to the formation of capitalist businesses and the economy that exists today.

**Winn, Justin****“Media Coverage of the FLQ Crisis”**

This paper will examine the FLQ crisis which took place following the quiet revolution in Quebec. This paper will use methodology on how newspapers and media are used to create bias and public opinion. The research paper will question the ways that the Anglo-Canadian media perceived and interpreted the ideas, ideologies, and actions of the FLQ. The major events that this paper will focus on are bombings, the kidnapping and murder of Pierre Laporte, and the eventual capture of the FLQ leaders.



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