



2ND ANNUAL
UNDERGRADUATE
HUMANITIES CONFERENCE

JAN. 28-29, 2021

Register to watch livestream:
www.humanities-institute.usf.edu



UNIVERSITY of
SOUTH FLORIDA
Humanities Institute

Welcome from the Humanities Institute

Welcome to the second annual Undergraduate Humanities Conference at the University of South Florida. This year the Humanities Institute is proud to welcome over 50 young scholars from 14 different schools and departments. Each student has interrogated a fundamentally humanistic question about how we engage with the world. The broad range of topics (from medicine to poetry) illustrate how our beliefs, values, and traditions impact every facet of our lives. The stories we hear, the places we live, the media we consume, all inform how we see and interact with the world. It is a joy to see these students' innate understanding of these connections and how their scholarship asks new and meaningful questions.

As USF continues to strive towards membership in the AAU, the Humanities Institute is proud to support undergraduate research (a principle AAU value). As part of the USF College of Arts and Sciences, the Humanities Institute plays a unique role in advancing research and education in the humanities at all levels.

Thank you to Jade Von Werder, the HI program assistant, for her hard work making this conference a success. I would also like to thank our Faculty Advisory Board for their support and leadership, as well as all faculty who encouraged their students to participate.

Finally, this conference has been made possible through the Clara Cooper Endowment for the Humanities. Dr. Cooper was a longtime faculty member in the Department of Humanities and Cultural Studies at USF and a tireless advocate for her students. Dr. Cooper's generous gift to the Humanities Institute ensures that this conference, as well as many other research-focused activities, will continue for decades to come.

To learn more about the USF Humanities Institute visit our website: www.humanities-institute.usf.edu.

Thank you and Go Bulls!

Liz Kicak, M.F.A.

Director, USF Humanities Institute

The Mission of the Humanities Institute at the University of South Florida is to generate critical dialogue about what connects us to each other and our world, facilitating those conversations through research, education, and community programs.

Thursday, Jan. 28

Welcome and Opening Remarks: 8:45am – 9:00am

Poster Session I: 9:00am – 10:00am

Jordyn Bizzell and Thushara Weerasuriya
Japanese Working Culture: A Study of Karoshi and Karo-Jisatsu

Ana Vidal
Partners' Concerns about Service Members' Post-Deployment Reintegration:
Examining Accounts Across Turning Points and Trajectories

Christine Grossman
Comparing Mental Health and Drinking Between Bisexual and Homosexual
Individuals at the Onset of COVID-19

Bhavana Madhu
Eldercare in Japan: History and Analysis

Maha Daas, Brooke Fasano, Victoria Giol, Christiana Hancock, Kiera Mallory,
Rejoy Sabin Thomas
Visual Thinking Strategies in an Online Environment

Poster Session II: 10:00am – 11:15am

Francesco Little
Closing the Language Gap One Work of Art at a Time

Pamela Espinoza
Ninchishō: How a Super-Aged Society is Approaching Dementia

Eryn Ward
No Rest for the “Wicked”? Stigma and Barriers for Substance Abuse
Sufferers Seeking Help in Japan

Isabella Da Silva Sodre
Understanding Systemic Corruption in Brazil: The Impacts of Operation Lava
Jato on the Oil and Civil Construction Industries

Tomas Sanjuan
“I’m Slowly Getting Better”: A Thematic Analysis of Online Communities
Working Towards Healing Ex-Misogynists

Allison Cates
Overworking in Japan: An Analysis of the Effects of Overworking
on Mental Health in Japan

Selective Reflection: Invisibility in Scholarship

11:30am – 12:30pm

Abigail Brown

Combatting LGBT Oppression: History and Literature

Ashley Rocks

Alternative Approaches to Classicism

Faith Genter

Queer in Kyoto: An In-Depth Analysis on Homosexuality in Japan

What the Eye Beholds: Visual Rhetoric

1:30pm – 2:45pm

Victoria Vadell

The Little Things: Subtle Details in Rainbow Rowell's *Pumpkinheads* Which Demonstrate the Narrative Efficacy of Graphic Literature

Madison Corbett

Form, "Prufrock," and Other Delusions: The Intersection of Text and the Character Study

Angelica Johnson

The Politics of Aesthetics: Exploring Female Beauty and Art in Zadie Smith's *On Beauty*

Lindsay Wilson

From Clever Hans to Bunny the TikTok Dog: An Exploration into Animal-to-Human Communication

Personal Poetics: Original Creative Projects

3pm – 4pm

Elena Samardjieva

Love and Hate

Nadaa Hussein

The Etymology of __: A Hybrid Experimental Form

Callie Politano

The Van Goethem: Reclaiming the Muse

“Othering” the Family Tree: Transgenerational Impacts

4:15 pm – 5:15pm

Angel Schrader

We Are at Goodbyes: An Overview of Italian Immigration

Matthew Gallot-Baker

Nazis, African-Americans, and Donald Trump: How Rhetoric is Used to Dehumanize Minority Groups

John Stewart

Effects of Transgenerational Trauma on Masculinity Portrayed in *Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi

Apply for the USF Undergraduate Research Conference!

USF UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE

Apply to Present
bit.ly/usfspringconference

Take advantage of this great opportunity to present your research, network with others in your discipline, and to gain experience that makes you more marketable for graduate & medical school!

Applications due by February 26, 2021

Save the date for poster presentations and live
award ceremony on Teams

April 6, 2021, 1 pm - 2 pm



UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH
usf.edu/our
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UNIVERSITY of
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Student Success

Friday, Jan. 29

Misbehaving: Challenging the Conventions of “Womanhood”

9:00am – 10:45am

Marissa Corelli

Hortense Mancini: The Struggle of Being Seen As a “Good Woman.”

Lisa Shorts

Dante’s Sister

Ayesha Faisal

The Importance of Sita: A Look at the Historical and Cultural Context Behind the Interpretation of the Goddess

Shelby Wagers

Adventurous Women: From Moll Flanders to Ariana Grande

Madison Janning

Cultural Expectations of Antiguan Females in “Girl”

The Humanities and Healthcare

11:00am – 12:15pm

Anna Jablonska

Healthcare Accessibility and Mortality in 21st Century Russia

Aditi Parashar

Nutrition Cookbook for the Rural Communities in the Dominican Republic: Developing an Effective Educational Garden Program

Heather Hare

Difficult Conversations about End-of-Life

Exploring Social Issues Through Film

1pm – 2pm

Maya Quinones

Expressions of the Self: An Intersectional Analysis of *Moonlight*

Yesha Shukla

Structuring Liberation: Figures of Architecture and Social Formation in *Hereditary* (2018) and *Midsommar* (2019)

Avalon Jade Theisen

Avatar and Religious Justification for and against Mining

Grow and Thrive: Research Benefitting Children and Young Adults

2:00pm – 3:00pm

Bridget Godsil

For the Siblings: Providing Resources for Siblings of Children with Disabilities

Rachael Dominguez

From Foster Alumni to College Alumni: How Higher Education Can Better Serve Former Foster Children

Megana Tirupathi

Religion in Healthcare

Rand Shahrour

How Habit Formation Can Revolutionize Student Efficiency

Test and Medium: Digital Designs

3:15pm – 4:15pm

Andrea Bustamante

Charting Galaxies: A Form of Exploration

Maxine Haspel and Victoria Mendez

How Literature and Film Inform Race Relations

Danyah Toubeh

Truth vs Mainstream Media

Imprisoned: Cultural and Historical Perspectives

4:15pm – 5:15pm

Mariana Kellis

Abolitionist Perspectives on Russian Serfdom Before the Emancipation of the Serfs

Tiffany Nessler

Japan's Approach to the Rehabilitation of Convicted Individuals

Mia Weir

The Slavery of the Prison System in the United States of America

Scholar Biographies

Jordyn Bizzell (Biomedical Sciences)

Jordyn Bizzell is a senior at USF pursuing a major in biomedical engineering. The goal of her humanities research is to identify the cultural elements responsible for the mental health issues in the stressful working environment of Japan. After graduation she aims to pursue higher education in biomedical engineering.

Abigale Brown (English)

Abigale Brown will graduate in 2022 with a bachelor's degree in English with a concentration in Creative Writing. A recipient of USF's LGBT Special Collections Research Award in Fall '20, Brown is interested in historical oppression, queer studies, and research in mental illness.

Andrea Bustamante (Global Business Management and English)

Andrea Bustamante is a senior pursuing degrees in Global Business Management and Creative Writing. She serves as the president of The USF Kosove Society and enjoys diverse literature. Her creative work focuses on the intersections between culture, language, family, and identity. Andrea will devote the year after graduation to writing, volunteering, and working before pursuing a master's degree in Marketing.

Allison Cates (Psychology and Biomedical Sciences)

Allison Cates is a National Merit Scholar student at USF majoring in Psychology and Biomedical Sciences. She is involved in the Herd of Thunder marching band and is President of the honorary music fraternity Kappa Kappa Psi. She studies many topics within the field of psychology and other sciences and focuses on sociological issues that affect mental wellness.

Madison Corbett (English)

Madison Corbett is a first-year English Literature student at USF. She received her AA at the State College of Florida in 2020. She was selected to publish an academic essay on Stevie Smith's poem, "Not Waving but Drowning," in SCF Lakewood Ranch's academic journal, Spotlight. She will present at an upcoming conference in 2021.

Marissa Corelli (History)

Marissa Corelli is a senior at USF majoring in History. Her academic interests include Ancient Greece, the British Empire, European history, and gender and sexuality. After undergraduate studies, she plans to further her education by getting a master's degree in British history followed by a PhD. Marissa hopes to become a college professor in the future.

Isabella Da Silva Sodre (International Studies)

Isabella Da Silva Sodre was born and raised in Brazil. In 2017, Da Silva Sodre moved to South Florida with her parents to experience studying abroad. She started at USF in Fall '19 as an International Studies and World Languages and Cultures major. She is currently involved in three school organizations: Her Campus, French Club, and Minorities in Pre-Law.

Rachael Dominguez (Sociology)

Rachael Dominguez is a Sociology major with a concentration in Inequalities and Social Justice. After her graduation in Fall '20, Rachael plans to go to graduate school and continue her studies in the field of Sociology. Having a passion for both children and the inequalities that exist within the institution of foster care, she wishes to specialize in the Sociology of Education.

Pamela Espinoza (Cell and Molecular Biology and World Languages and Cultures)

Pamela Espinoza is a junior majoring in Cell and Molecular Biology and World Languages and Cultures. Growing up in El Salvador has shown Espinoza the dire need for good quality healthcare that many countries face. To find solutions to this, Espinoza thinks it is important to have an interdisciplinary approach. Espinoza's goal is to be a doctor focusing on global health while integrating medical humanities.

Ayesha Faisal (History)

Ayesha Faisal is a third-year History major with a focus in the medieval world. Her research is focused on religion and literary texts in South Asia, as well as the Medieval North Atlantic.

Matthew Gallot-Baker (English)

Matthew Gallot-Baker is a senior at USF studying English with a concentration in professional writing and rhetoric and is pursuing a minor in Political Science and a General Business Certificate. Gallot-Baker's goals after college are to attend law school and practice international law. Currently, Gallot-Baker is the Executive Director of the Minorities in Pre-Law nonprofit association.

Faith Genter (Chemistry)

Faith Genter is a senior at USF studying Chemistry. Genter hopes to go into drug research and medication manufacturing. Genter's mother is a wonderful humanitarian who inspires Genter to ask questions and keep an open mind when delving into the world of current events.

Bridget Godsil (Nursing)

Bridget Godsil is a fourth-year Nursing major with a Deaf Studies minor. She is a current Judy Genshaft Honors College student who, after graduation in Spring '21, plans to specialize in oncology or critical care. Bridget plans to eventually pursue a PhD in Nursing Science with a research focus on the health disparities that exist within intersectional populations.

Christine Grossman (Psychology)

Christine Grossman is an undergraduate transfer student and serves as a research assistant in both the HEART and PAR Labs on the USFSP campus. Her major is Psychology and she is pursuing an Entrepreneurship minor. Her research interests include LGBTQ mental health, substance use, and discrimination. She is currently looking at data collected at the onset of COVID-19 comparing mental health in heterosexual, bisexual, and homosexual individuals

Christiana Hancock (Psychology)

Christiana Hancock is a senior at USF studying Psychology and pursuing a General Business Certificate. Her interest in holistic wellness, and what individuals can do to promote wellness in themselves and in others, guides her academic studies. Most recently, she studied Visual Thinking Strategies and facilitation techniques as a means of reducing anxiety.

Heather Hare (Biomedical Sciences)

Heather Hare is an Honors student at USF majoring in Biomedical Sciences. Heather developed an interest in medical humanities through her current role as a research associate at Tampa General Hospital where she works closely with doctors and social workers in clinical research and pathway management. After graduation, Heather plans to attend medical school.

Maxine Haspel (Environmental Science)

Maxine Haspel is a first-year college student with a passion for social and environmental justice. She plans to graduate in 2024 with a B.S in Environmental Science and Policy and a minor in Spanish. After graduating, Maxine hopes to pursue a career with the National Park or Forest Service while continuing to uphold her commitment to social justice movements in her personal time.

Nadaa Hussein (Political Science and International Studies)

Nadaa Hussein is a senior at USF studying Political Science with a minor in Creative Writing.

Anna Jablonska (Biomedical Sciences)

Anna is a freshman international honors student at the University of South Florida majoring in biomedical sciences and minoring in Spanish. Her research inter-

ests include diversity in healthcare and production of melanin in racially diverse patients. In fall 2023 she plans on applying to osteopathic medical schools to continue her medical journey in pursuit of becoming a pediatrician.

Madison Janning (English)

Madison Janning is a senior at USF majoring in English with a concentration in Literary Studies and minor in Education. This past semester, Janning has enjoyed learning about gender and its role in literary texts. Janning plans to enter the MA in English program at USF and teach English at the collegiate or secondary education level in the future.

Angelica Johnson (English)

Angelica Johnson is a third-year English major with a concentration in Literary Studies and a minor in Women and Gender Studies. She is fascinated by the way literature reflects, reinforces, and/or subverts societal narratives that uphold structures of oppression. This is her second presentation in the Undergraduate Humanities Conference.

Mariana Kellis (History)

Mariana Kellis is a senior History major at the University of Central Florida with minors in Political Science and Russian Studies. Mariana's research interests include Russian serfdom and social class relations during the Russian Imperial era. Mariana intends to earn a PhD in History and teach Russian and Eastern European history at the university level.

Francesco Little (Integrative Animal Biology)

Francesco Little is a Venezuelan-American artist and student who works to address social issues of importance to better understand and connect people of different backgrounds. The research Little is presenting at this conference is meant to serve those trying to learn English. It focuses on building confidence which in turn facilitates intercommunity relationship building and the unification of people.

Bhavana Madhu (Biomedical Sciences)

Bhavana Madhu is a third-year student at USF and part of the Judy Genshaft Honors College. Madhu is majoring in Biomedical Sciences and has an interest in global healthcare studies.

Victoria Mendez (English and Political Science)

Victoria Mendez is a first-year English and Political Science major at the University of South Florida. In her free time, she enjoys writing for the USF Odyssey. She hopes to graduate in 2023 and eventually be involved in campaign management, while continuing to be active in the fight for social justice.

Tiffany Nessler (Integrative Animal Biology)

Tiffany Nessler is a junior at USF and a member of the Judy Genshaft Honors College. She is majoring in Integrative Animal Biology while also pursuing a minor in Psychology with intentions to attend veterinary school after she graduates.

Aditi Parashar (Biomedical Sciences)

Aditi Parashar is a second-year student majoring in Biomedical Sciences and minoring in Psychology. On the Pre-Med track, Parashar hopes to go to medical school and become a pediatrician. Parashar is a peer mentor for the Honors College and is involved in the organization of PAMSA. Parashar is an ICU ambassador at Advent Health and a captain of a Bollywood Dance Team.

Callie Politano (English)

Callie Politano is a recent graduate of USF's English department and begins her MA in Women & Gender Studies in Spring '21. During her undergraduate career, Politano's concentration in literary studies allowed her to investigate how women and queerness appear in literature. As a graduate student, she plans to continue studying the implications of these findings as way of reclaiming narratives.

Maya Quinones (Communications and Theatre Performance)

Maya Quinones is a senior majoring in Communications and Theatre Performance. When not busy learning lines and performing with the USF School of Theatre, Quinones engages in media studies through communications courses. Quinones has a passion for telling stories and critically analyzing them through a diverse range of lenses.

Ashley Rocks (History)

Ashley Rocks is a History major graduating in Spring '21 and plans to attend medical school. While not a career goal, history is a large passion and has been integral in shaping Rocks' outlook on the world. Rocks holds leadership positions in clubs such as Friends of MSF and Bulls for Moffitt and enjoys photography and sewing.

Rejoy Sabin Thomas (Biomedical Sciences)

Rejoy Sabin Thomas is a third-year undergraduate student from the Judy Genshaft Honors College (JGHC) majoring in Biomedical Sciences. Thomas conducted a capstone research project with five other students from the JGHC. These students are Brooke Fasano, Christiana Hancock, Kiera Mallory, Maha Daas, and Victoria Giol.

Elena Samardjjeva (English)

Elena Samardjjeva is a third-year student at USF majoring in English and Literature. Samardjjeva's poetry explores work inspired by real life situations and people that had an effect on Samardjjeva in some way. Samardjjeva enjoys cooking, hiking, and practicing yoga.

Tomas Sanjuan (Sociology and Public Health)

Tomas Sanjuan is in his final year majoring in Sociology and Public Health. His areas of interest include social theory, gender & sexuality, qualitative methods, and community-based participatory research. After graduation, he plans to enroll in graduate school to continue his education in Sociology with the hope of pursuing an academic career in the future.

Angel Schrader (English)

Angel Schrader graduated from USFSP in December '20 with a major in English Language and Cultural Studies and minor in Psychology. Angel is fascinated by the way stories, both fiction and nonfiction, can help people understand who they are and help them feel understood and appreciated.

Rand Shahrour (Psychology)

Rand Shahrour is a freshman on a Pre-Med track majoring in Psychology. Shahrour is interested in habit formation and how it can maximize student and human efficiency.

Lisa Shorts (History)

Lisa Shorts returned to USF after many years in the IT field, wanting to combine her passion for History and her technology experience to expand the field of Digital Humanities. It is her intention to continue on to a master's degree in Digital Humanities and work in this field, expanding our ability to research and experience materials otherwise unavailable to larger audiences.

Yesha Shukla (Humanities and Cultural Studies and Psychology)

Yesha Shukla's interests include contemporary horror film, specifically in terms of the genre's capacities for rearticulating representation, politics, and abstraction in its moving-image forms. Shukla aims to examine how each might illuminate and transform social relationships within and beyond film worlds.

John Stewart (English)

John Stewart is a senior at USF. He is an English Literary Studies major with a minor in Deaf Studies. He has a particular interest in feminist literature and literature that examines gender identity. After graduating in the summer of '21, John plans to pursue a master's degree in English.

Avalon Jade Theisen (Religious Studies)

Avalon Jade Theisen graduated from USF with her Religious Studies BA and Food Studies certificate in Fall '20. Her research interests include comparative religions, ecology, food, and related ethics. After graduate school, she plans to be a Religious Studies and Honors College professor, helping students gain greater interfaith understanding to more effectively work together to solve global issues.

Megana Tirupathi (Biomedical Sciences and Psychology)

Megana Tirupathi is a junior studying Biomedical Sciences and Psychology at USF. She is fascinated with issues that she and her peers face in the healthcare setting. She believes there is need for more spiritual and religious care in healthcare and is trying to bring awareness to this issue.

Danya Toubeh (Biomedical Sciences)

Danya Toubeh is a Pre-Med Honors student with a passion for STEM that is punctuated by an interest in the humanities and social sciences. Among other art forms such as community art, Toubeh plans to use film-making as a doctor to help solve public health problems. Toubeh values the saying, God loves if one of you does something to do it with utmost quality (Prophet Muhammad).

Victoria Vadell (English)

Victoria Grace Vadell is a passionate scholar who loves developing her knowledge of literature and creating new points of view within her field. She is a barista and writing consultant on the side but has the utmost pride in being a student first. She would like to pursue graduate school elsewhere after her time at USF but will always remember her home. GO BULLS!

Ana Vidal (Communication)

Ana Vidal is from Miami, Florida, where she graduated with an AA in 2014. She served in the Marine Corps before returning to pursue a double major in Communication and Physics. She is working as an undergraduate RA on a project interviewing military spouses and their service member's post-deployment adjustment. Ana also works as a mentor and tutor for the Warrior-Scholar Project.

Shelby Wagers (English)

Shelby Wagers is a senior undergraduate student at USF studying Creative Writing and Studio Art. They focus on the relationship between the arts, literature, and empathy and aspire to create projects that people can empathize with and identify with. They are specifically interested in researching how certain peoples are represented in media and how this compares to their reality.

Eryn Ward (Integrative Animal Biology)

Eryn Ward is a junior pursuing a degree in Integrative Biology [Animal Track], with hopes of becoming a wildlife and exotics veterinarian. She is also interested in psychology and how stigmas surrounding certain disorders effect the treatment and social view on those who may have them.

Thushara Weerasuriya (Biomedical Engineering)

Thushara Weerasuriya is a junior at USF pursuing a major in Biomedical Engineering and minor in Entrepreneurship. She is a part of the Honors College and aspires to establish her own BME company after attending graduate school. The purpose of her research is to spread awareness on the effects that stressful work environments have on mental health.

Mia Weir (English)

Mia Weir graduated in December '20 with a bachelor's degree in English with a concentration in Creative Writing. Weir is from Belize City and is interested in reading, writing, photography, and music.

Lindsay Wilson (Biomedical Sciences)

Originally from Cincinnati, Ohio, Lindsay Wilson is a first-year Pre-Med student in USF's Honors College. Her paper on Animal-to-Human Communication, inspired by Bunny the talking TikTok dog, was part of her First Year Thesis in the course Acquisition of Knowledge. Lindsay's research interests include developmental and behavioral biology and psychology.



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