

Individualized Major Graduating Seniors



May 2021

December 2020 Graduates

Mackenzie Blanusa

CLAS IMJR: Atmospheric Science (BS)

Dual Degree: Marine Sciences

Minor: Mathematics

Dean's List 3 Semesters

Internship: Cooperative Institute for Modeling the Earth System (CIMES) Internship, Princeton/NOAA GFDL (March 2021-May 2021)

UConn SURF Grant: "The Effect of Storm Type and Source Region on the Chemical Composition of Precipitation along the Long Island Sound Coastline" (Summer 2019)

New England Scholar (2019, 2020)

Primary Advisor: Robert Mason (MARN)

Thesis Supervisor: Claudia Koerting (MARN)

Thesis: The Effect of Storm Type and Source Region on the Chemical Composition of Precipitation at Avery Point

Emily Burke

CLAS IMJR: Youth Development and Wellness (BA)

Honors Program

Dean's List 7 Semesters

Primary Advisor: Blair Johnson (PSYC)

Thesis Supervisor: Marlene Schwartz (HDFS)

Thesis: Difference Between Policy Language and Implementation of School Wellness Policies: the WellSAT-I

Alexander Chiu

CLAS IMJR: Religious Thought (BA)

Double Major: English

Dean's List 4 Semesters

Primary Advisor and Thesis Supervisor: Richard Sosis (ANTH)

Thesis: Diabolisations of Spirits by Christian Missionaries in 16th Century China

Matthew Jane

CLAS IMJR: Computational Neuroscience (BS)

Dean's List 1 Semester

Primary Advisor and Thesis Supervisor: James Chrobak (PSYC)

Thesis: The incremental predictive validity of the upper tail of cognitive ability on socioeconomic variables

Brian Keating

CLAS IMJR: Sport Promotion (BA)

Dean's List 1 Semester

Internship: Hospitality and Operations Intern for PGA Championship

Primary Advisor: Thomas Meade (COMM)

Anneke Levine

CLAS IMJR: Global Health (BA)

Minor: Sustainable Community Food Systems

Honors Program

Dean's List 6 Semesters

Primary Advisor: Chrystal Smith (ANTH)

Thesis Supervisor: Sarah Willen (ANTH)

Thesis: On Listening: A Praxis towards Global Health

Allan Quade

CLAS IMJR: Crime, Law, and Justice (BA)

Double Major: Psychology

Minor: Sociology

Dean's List 2 Semesters

Internship: Greater Hartford Legal Aid

New England Scholar (2018)

Primary Advisor: Blair Johnson (PSYC)

Valeria Sarmiento

CLAS IMJR: Global Health and Nutrition (BA)

Dual Degree: Molecular and Cell Biology

Dean's List 3 Semesters

IDEA Grant (2019) Investigating the Mechanisms of Plastid Division in the Human Pathogen *Toxoplasma gondii*

Primary Advisor: César Abadía (ANTH)

May 2021 Graduates

Jason Alaska

CLAS IMJR: Law and Urban Development (BA)
Dual Degree: Business Real Estate
Dean's List 2 Semesters
Primary Advisor and Thesis Supervisor: Thomas Miceli (ECON)
Thesis: Assessing the Aftermath of Eminent Domain Takings

Brielle Berkowitz

CLAS IMJR: Global Healthcare (BA)
Double Major: Anthropology
Dean's List 4 Semesters
Babbidge Scholar (2020)
New England Scholar (2019)
Primary Advisor: Pamela Erickson (ANTH)

Sydney Bond-Cavanagh

CLAS IMJR: Documentary Filmmaking in the Marine World (BA)
Dean's List 1 Semester
Primary Advisor: Helen Rozwadowski (HIST)
Thesis: The New Wave

Rei Bufi

CLAS IMJR: Art, Globalization, and Activism (BA)
Dual Degree: Molecular and Cell Biology (BS)
Minors: Physiology and Neurobiology, Human Rights
Dean's List 2 Semesters
Internship: Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences at Wake Forest School of Medicine (Summer 2019),
LiveWell Dementia Specialist (January-May 2021)
Summer Undergraduate Research Fund (SURF) Award (2020)
New England Scholar (2020)
Primary Advisor: Samuel Martínez (ANTH)

Michael Burke

CLAS IMJR: Consumer Behavior (BA)
Minor: Economics
Primary Advisor: David Atkin

Luis Castaneda

CLAS IMJR: Healthcare and Social Inequality (BA)
Primary Advisor: Edna Brown (HDFS)

Brenda Castillo Jiminian

CAHNR IMJR: Child Development and Health (BS)

Minor: Human Development and Family Sciences

Primary Advisor: Jessica Beaudet (AHS)

Thesis Supervisor: Tania Huedo-Medina (AHS)

Thesis: Sexual Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Among Latino Populations

Kayla Claiborne

CLAS IMJR: East Asian Studies (BA)

Double Major: Political Science

Primary Advisor: Alexis Dudden (HIST)

Daniel Cole

CLAS IMJR: Sport Promotion (BA)

Minor: Digital Marketing and Analytics

Dean's List 2 Semesters

Primary Advisor: Rory McGloin (COMM)

Jake DeFrancesco

CLAS IMJR: Neuroscience (BS)

Honors Program

Dean's List 2 Semesters

Primary Advisor: Geoffrey Tanner (PNB)

Thesis Supervisor: Holly Fitch (PSYC)

Thesis: Compounding Effects of SES on Pre-Natal Neurological Health

Anna Deneen

CLAS IMJR: Global Studies (BA)

Dean's List 2 Semesters

Study Abroad: Italy (Spring 2019)

Internship: Gottier Investments, Windsor, CT

Primary Advisor: Mark Boyer (GEOG)

Erin Dennehy

CLAS IMJR: Law and Society (BA)

Double Major: Political Science

Honors Program

Special Program in Law

Dean's List 6 Semesters

Internship: UConn Honors Congressional Internship, Legal Recruiting Intern at Robinson + Cole (Summer 2019)

SHARE Grant Recipient, IDEA Grant Recipient (AY 2020-21)

Babbidge Scholar (2019), New England Scholar (2018)

Phi Beta Kappa

Primary Advisor: Jeffrey Dudas (POLS)

Thesis Supervisor: Virginia Hettinger

Thesis: Public Perception of the Legitimacy of the Supreme Court

Molly Desrochers

CLAS IMJR: International Law, Rights, and Justice (BA)

Double Major: English

Dean's List 3 Semesters

Study Abroad: University of Edinburgh, Scotland (Spring 2019)

Primary Advisor: Molly Land (HRTS/LAW)

Thesis Supervisor: Sara Silverstein

Thesis: The Impact of Media on the Rohingya Crisis: The Resurgence of Anti-International Opinion during the International Court of Justice Case against Myanmar

Alisha Drabek

CLAS IMJR: Women, Health, and Wellness (BA)

Primary Advisor: Phoebe Godfrey (SOCl)

Brianna Dyer

CLAS IMJR: Global Studies (BA)

Double Major: Human Rights

Minor: French

Honors Program

Dean's List 7 Semesters

Study Abroad: Copenhagen, Denmark (Spring 2020)

Internship: ICTY Digital Archive Project at the Thomas J. Dodd Center

Kaplan Scholarship (Dec 2020), Open Society Foundation Human Rights Scholarship (Aug 2020), Aetna

Writing in the Disciplines Award (Paper topic: Genocide in Xinjiang)

New England Scholar

Alpha Lambda Delta

Primary Advisor: Charles Lansing (HIST)

Thesis Supervisor: Richard Wilson (ANTH)

Thesis: Ethnic Cleansing within International Law

Floraine Evardo

CLAS IMJR: Human Health (BS)

Honors Program

Dean's List 2 Semesters

Primary Advisor: Kiet Tran (CHEM)

Thesis Supervisor: César Abadía (ANTH)

Thesis: The Right to Health and the Philippine Drug War

Yuliya Faryna

CLAS IMJR: Global Health (BS)

Minor: Molecular and Cell Biology

Honors Program

Dean's List 5 Semesters

Bridge to Guanin Alternative Break to the Dominican Republic

Primary Advisor: Chrystal Smith (ANTH)

Thesis Supervisor: Elizabeth Kline (MCB)

Thesis: Risk Factors for WIC Non-Participation by Parents of Eligible Children

Simone Fournier

CLAS IMJR: Healthcare and Aging (BA)

Honors Program

Dean's List 5 Semesters

Internship: Texas Department of Health and Human Services Office of Aging Coordination

IDEA Grant (Summer 2020) Barriers to End of Life Planning Among Connecticut Older Adults

Primary Advisor: Terry Berthelot (HDFS)

Thesis Supervisor: Edna Brown (HDFS)

Thesis: Factors in End of Life Planning Among Connecticut Older Adults

Justin Franklin

CLAS IMJR: Data Science (BA)

Minor: Computer Science

Internship: Experimental Machine Learning Subdivision at Travelers, Hartford, CT

Primary Advisor and Thesis Supervisor: Jun Yan (STAT)

Thesis: Comparison of Fraud Detection Methods: A Case Study with Insurance

Jonathan Granata

CAHNR IMJR: Exercise Physiology and Nutrition (BS)

Dean's List 1 Semester

Primary Advisor: Douglas Casa (KINS)

Olivia Hamula

CLAS IMJR: Global Studies (BA)

Minor: Political Science

Study Abroad: Paris, France (Spring 2020)

Internship: HeadCount (Summer 2020)

Primary Advisor: Richard Langlois (ECON)

Grace Anne Da Fonseca Pinto Herrick

CLAS IMJR: Global Health (BA)

Honors Program

Dean's List 1 Semester

Primary Advisor: Sarah Willen (ANTH)

Thesis Supervisor: Rhiannon Smith (PSYC)

Thesis: The Critical Need for Early Childhood Development Programs in Uganda

Madison Isherwood

CLAS IMJR: Sport Promotion (BA)

Internship: UConn Athletics Gameday Assistant

Primary Advisor: David Atkin (COMM)

Aaron Johnson

CAHNR IMJR: Sustainable Urban Design (BS)

Study Abroad: Portugal (Summer 2019)

Primary Advisor and Thesis Supervisor: Mariana Alfonso Fragomeni (PSLA)

Thesis: Remote Co-Design for Detroit City Planning

Derek Jones

CLAS IMJR: Sport Promotion (BA)
Double Major: Communication
Primary Advisor: Thomas Meade (COMM)

Soumee Kar

CLAS IMJR: Human Computer Interaction (BA)
Minor: Computer Science
Internship: Graphic Design and Multimedia Intern at Guiding Light Orphans, Inc., Avon, CT (Jan 2021 - May 2021), UX/UI Designer at The Werth Institute, VentureWerx Project (March 2021 - May 2021)
Primary Advisor: Saraswathi Bellur (COMM)

Apoorva Kulkarni

CLAS IMJR: Human-Computer Interaction (BA)
Minor: Computer Science
Dean's List: 2 semesters
Internship: Product Design Intern at Vital Strategies, NY (Jan - Aug 2021)
Primary Advisor: Saraswathi Bellur (COMM)

Fatou Lack

CAHNR IMJR: Exercise and Nutritional Health (BS)
Dean's List 1 Semester
Primary Advisor: Douglas Casa (KINS)

Kyle Leite

CLAS IMJR: Music Entrepreneurship (BA)
Internship: Fall 2020- Warner Music Group Career Classroom Series Participant, Spring 2021- Finessed Media, Inc. (Multimedia Intern)
Primary Advisor: David Atkin (COMM)

Jessica MacIntyre

CLAS IMJR: Cognitive Neuroscience (BS)
Honors Program
Dean's List 6 Semesters
Primary Advisor and Thesis Supervisor: John Salamone (PSYC)
Thesis: Identifying Cortical Electrode Placements in the Rat Using Histological Techniques

Siara Maldonado

CLAS IMJR: Global Health (BA)
Honors Program
Dean's List 3 Semesters
Primary Advisor: Pamela Erikson (ANTH)
Thesis Supervisor: Marysol Asencio (SOC)
Thesis: The Culture of Health Framework & COVID-19: Implications of Pandemic Inequities on Black and Latinx Communities

Paulina Maranges Perez

CLAS IMJR: Development and Genetics (BS)

Minor: Psychology

Study Abroad: Umbra Institute, Perugia, Italy (Spring 2020)

Internship: IQBiotech Genetics Laboratory (Summer 2019)

Primary Advisor: John Salamone (PSYC)

Natalya Marquez

CLAS IMJR: Fashion Merchandising (BA)

Minor: Digital Marketing and Analytics

Study Abroad: London, England (Spring 2020)

Primary Advisor: Stephen Stifano (COMM)

Bryant Mercado

CLAS IMJR: Law and Society (BA)

Additional Degree: Management

Internship: Traveler's Edge Program

Primary Advisor: Kimberly Bergendahl (POLS)

Imani Morgan

CLAS IMJR: Health, Minorities, and Inequality (BA)

Minor: Latino Studies

Dean's List 2 Semesters

Internship: The ELM Project

Primary Advisor: Marysol Asencio (SOCl)

Shreya Murthy

CLAS IMJR: Criminology (BA)

Double Major: Human Rights

Additional Degree: Finance

University Scholar

Honors Program

IDEA Grant (2018)

Human Rights Institute Internship Fellow (2019)

Primary Major Advisor: Bradley Wright (SOCl)

Thesis Supervisor: David Richards (POLS)

Thesis: Working Toward a Safer Future: Mitigating the Effects of Regulatory Capture in the Aviation Industry

Lily Muzzarelli

CLAS IMJR: Inequality, Rights, and Justice (BA)

Double Major: Political Science

Dean's List 2 Semesters

Internship: Holyoke Police Department, Holyoke, Massachusetts (Fall 2019),

Primary Advisor: Michael Morrell (POLS)

Laura Nardelli

CLAS IMJR: Organizational Behavior and Leadership (BA)

Minor: Communication

Internship: Agency Communications Department, New York Life Insurance Company (Summer 2019),
Marketing Department, New York Life Insurance Company (2020)

Primary Advisor: Janet Barnes-Farrell (PSYC)

Hayley Newhouse

CLAS IMJR: Human Resources and Work (BA)

Minor: Business Fundamentals

Internship: Travelers Insurance, Human Resources Leadership Development Program (HRLDP)
(Summer 2020)

Sigma Alpha Pi (The National Society for Leadership and Success), Certification in Professional
Development

Primary Advisor: David Atkin (COMM)

Francisco O'Toole

CLAS IMJR: Global Studies (BA)

Double Major: Arabic and Islamic Civilizations

Primary Advisor: Jeremy Pressman (POLS)

Dengkaiyi Ou

CLAS IMJR: Sport Operations (BA)

Dean's List 1 Semester

Phi Beta Kappa

Internships with Wuxi Broadcast and TV Station and the Wuxi Snooker World Cup; Teaching Assistant at
the Nike Training Camp; and Assistant Coach in HS Men's Basketball Team

Primary Advisor: Stephen Stifano (COMM)

Bryn Sconzo

CLAS IMJR: Fashion, Gender, and Culture (BA)

Minor: Communication

Dean's List 1 Semester

Primary Advisor: David Atkin (COMM)

Laura Skinger

CLAS IMJR: Visual Media and Promotion (BA)

Double Major: English

Primary Advisor: Stephen Stifano (COMM)

Adriana Sowell

CLAS IMJR: Sociomedical Sciences (BS)

Primary Advisor and Thesis Supervisor: Sarah Willen (ANTH)

Thesis: The Embodied Impacts of Racism and Covid 19

Andrew Tammaro

CLAS IMJR: Data Science (BS)

Minor: Digital Marketing and Analytics

Honors Program

Dean's List 1 Semester

Internship: Wealth Management Intern, Janney Montgomery Scott (Spring 2019-Spring 2021); Cooperate Strategy and Data Analytics Intern, 1BusinessWorld (Summer 2020-Spring 2021)

Primary Advisor: Jun Yan (STAT)

Thesis Supervisor: Haim Bar (STAT)

Thesis: NFL Front Office Analytics with R

Desiree Torres

CLAS IMJR: Film and Social Justice (BA)

Double Major: Political Science

Dean's List 2 Semesters

Primary Advisor: Jeffrey Ogbar (HIST)

Lucie Turkel

CLAS IMJR: Comparative Literacy and Cultural Studies (BA)

Honors Program

Dean's List 6 Semesters

Study Abroad: Granada, Spain (Spring 2020)

Internship: Digital Editorial Intern, Reader's Digest (Summer 2020); Communications Intern, The Connecticut Forum (Fall 2020-Spring 2021); Writing Intern, The Phi Beta Kappa Society (Spring 2021)

Phi Beta Kappa, Honorable Mention for the Aetna Writing in the Disciplines Award Humanities division (2020), Alpha Lambda Delta, First Place for the Jennie Hackman Memorial Prize for Short Fiction (2018)

Primary Advisor: Martha Cutter (ENGL)

Thesis Supervisor: Jeffrey Ogbar (HIST)

Thesis: Comparing African Cultural Retention and its Effect on Racial Attitudes in the Music and National Identities of Cuba and the United States

Morgan Webb

CLAS IMJR: Visual Media and the Environment (BA)

Primary Advisor: Stephen Stifano (COMM)

Christopher Wiezbicki

CLAS IMJR: Crime, Law, and Justice (BA)

Double Major: Political Science

Honors Program

Dean's List 5 Semesters

Internship: Legal Field

Primary Advisor: Brad Wright (SOCI)

Thesis Supervisor: Kimberly Bergendahl (POLS)

Thesis: Racial Disparities Ignored: Examining the Effects of a Ban on Affirmative Action on Increased Minority Arrest Rates in Michigan's Juvenile Justice System

Nicole Zatserkovniy

CLAS IMJR: Law and the Environment (BA)

Double Major: Political Science

Honors Program

Dean's List 5 Semesters

Internship: Office of Congressman Jim Himes

Primary Advisor and Thesis Supervisor: Charles Venator

Thesis: How Did Ambiguity Across State Laws Lead to Preemptive Federal Legislation Banning Microbeads?

Haley Zawilinski

CLAS IMJR: Criminology (BA)

Double Major: Sociology

Dean's List 1 Semester

Internship: Connecticut Against Gun Violence

Primary Advisor: Brad Wright (SOCL)

August 2021 Graduates

Mahima Cielappa

CLAS IMJR: Healthcare Systems and Human Health (BS)

Primary Advisor: Anastasios Tzingounis (PNB)