

Individualized Major Graduating Seniors



May 2023

December 2022 Graduates

Amy Chen

CLAS IMJR: Global Studies BA

Dual Degree: Journalism

Minors: Economics

Honors Program

Dean's List 3 semesters

Awards: Dave Solomon Scholarship (2020, 2021), Charles Litsky Scholarship (2021), John Breen Scholarship (2021), Global Korea Government Scholarship (GKS) (2021)

Study Abroad: South Korea (2021)

Primary Advisor: Nishith Prakash (ECON)

Thesis Supervisor: Marie Shanahan (JOUR)

Thesis: Korean and American Journalism: It's Online Presence and Interdisciplinary dimensions

Tristan Gorkin

CAHNR IMJR: Exercise Physiology and Nutrition BS

Internships: Tully Health Center (2019), Assisted in research in the Mission Heat Lab at Korey Stinger Institute

Primary Advisor: Jacob Earp (KINS)

Thesis: Ketogenic Diet Effects When Combined with Aerobic and Anaerobic Exercise

Sarah Hanna

CLAS IMJR: Health and Public Policy BA

Honors Program

Dean's List 5 semesters

New England Scholar (2021, 2022)

Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society

Primary Advisor: William Simonsen (PP)

Thesis Supervisor: Sharon Casavant (NURS)

Thesis: Adolescent Maternal Age and Neonatal Outcomes

Samuel Hughes

CLAS IMJR: Data Science BA

Double Major: Statistics

Dean's List 2 semesters

New England Scholar (2021)

Internships: Commercial Analytics Intern at Hologic, Inc. (2022)

Primary Advisor: Jun Yan (STAT)

Thesis Supervisor: Jun Yan (STAT)

Thesis: Quantitative Analysis of Field Hockey Penalty Corners

Spencer Murray

CLAS IMJR: Sports and Media BA

Primary Advisor: Thomas Meade (COMM)

James Parsley

CLAS IMJR: Sustainability and Climate Change BA

Dean's List 1 semester

Primary Advisor: Mary Donegan (URBN)

Jared Rudzinsky

CLAS IMJR: Data Science BS

Primary Advisor: Jun Yan (STAT)

Thesis Supervisor: Craig Calvert (OPIM)

Thesis: Predicting Performance of NFL Players Given Salary

May 2023 Graduates

Jasmine Aboumahboob

CLAS IMJR: Human Physiology and Sociomedical Sciences BS

Honors Program

Dean's List 5 semesters

Babbidge Scholar (2020)

New England Scholar (2021)

Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society

Awards: Health Research Program Recipient (2021), OUR Research Travel Award(s) (2021, 2022), SURF Award (2022), OUR Conference Presentation Award (2022)

Internships: MCB 4896 Undergraduate Research (Fall 2021, Spring 2022), MCB 4996 Honors Undergraduate Research (Fall 2022), Research with Dr. Ryan Talbert (Spring 2022, Fall 2022)

Primary Advisor: Ryan Talbert (SOCI)

Thesis Supervisor: Ryan Talbert (SOCI)

Thesis: Parental Smoking and Spillover Consequences for Adolescents' Risk Behaviors, Substance Use, and Immune Health

Farnaz Ahmad

CLAS IMJR: Gender, Health, and Reproduction BA

Dual Degree: Molecular and Cell Biology, Pathobiology and Veterinary Sciences

Honors Program, STEM Scholar

Dean's List 2 semesters

Internships: Clinical Research at Connecticut Children's Hospital (Fall 2021-current)

Primary Advisor: Mary Bernstein (SOCI)

Thesis Supervisor: Emily Reinhardt (PATH)

Thesis: Caffeine Consumption and Academic Performance in Adolescents

Zayan Ali

CLAS IMJR: Cognitive Neuroscience BS

Dual Degree: Engineering Physics

Dean's List 1 semester

Primary Advisor: Radmila Filipovic (PNB)

Thesis Supervisor: Heather Read (PSYC)

Thesis: A Data-driven Computational Approach to Electroencephalogram (EEG) Data Analysis

Celine Aliko

CLAS IMJR: Neuroscience BS

Double Major: Physiology and Neurobiology

Honors Program

Dean's List 5 semesters

Babbidge Scholar (2022)

Study Abroad: Neuroscience in Salamanca, Spain (2022)

Primary Advisor: James Chrobak (PSYC)

Thesis Supervisor: John Salamone (PSYC)

Thesis: Local Field Potentials in the Male Rat Nucleus Accumbens During Effort-Based Behavior

Michelle Antony

CLAS IMJR: Community Health BA

Double Major: Molecular and Cell Biology

University Scholar 2022

Honors Program

Dean's List 8 semesters

Babbidge Scholar (2020, 2022)

New England Scholar (2021)

Awards: SURF Award (2021)

Primary Advisor: Laura Mauldin (HDFS)

Thesis Supervisor: Caroline Dealy (Craniofacial Sciences)

Thesis: EGFR Family Signals in the Chondroprogenitor Response to Articular Cartilage Injury

Kathryn Atkinson

CLAS IMJR: Food Studies BA

Dual Degree: Nutritional Sciences BS

Minor: Minor in Classics & Ancient Mediterranean Studies

University Scholar 2022

Honors Program

Dean's List 8 semesters

Babbidge Scholar (2021)

New England Scholar (2020)

Awards: UConn Humanities Undergrad Research Fellowship Honorable Mention, UConn Academic Excellence Scholarship, Wilfred B. Young Leadership Award, Hennry & Ebba Hansen Leadership Award, Mary M. And Katherine E. Connelly Sisters Scholarship, Willard H. Allen Scholarship, Werth Innovator

Study Abroad: Italy (2022)

Internships: The Plant-Powered Dietitian (2021-2022), American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (2020), CLiCK Willimantic (2022)

Primary Advisor: Alexia Smith (ANTH)

Thesis Supervisor: Alexia Smith (ANTH)

Thesis: *Cenabis Bene*: A Culinary Odyssey through *Apicius*

Poorna Balakumar

CLAS IMJR: Asian Arts, Culture and Feminism BA

Dual Degree: Molecular and Cell Biology, Pathobiology and Veterinary Sciences

Minors: Health Care Management

University Scholar 2022

Honors Program

Dean's List 6 semesters

Babbidge Scholar (2020, 2021, 2022)

Awards: SURF Award, Presidential Scholar

Research: Clinical Research at Connecticut Children's Medical Center under Dr. Sharon Smith (2021-Current),

Research at Kuchipudi Art Academy in Chennai, Indian under Smt. Srimayi Vempati

Primary Advisor: Bandana Purkayastha (SOCI)

Thesis Supervisor: Matthew Cohen (DRAM)

Thesis: Gender and Transnationalism in Modern and Classical Indian Dance

Isabel Barton

CLAS IMJR: Visual Journalism and Culture BA

Dean's List 8 semesters

Babbidge Scholar (2022)

Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society

Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society

Study Abroad: Florence, Italy (2022)

Independent Project: Story Project with The Connecticut Whale (2023)

Primary Advisor: Steven Smith (JOUR)

Kalaiya Blanchard

CLAS IMJR: Global Studies BA

Double Major: Chinese

Dean's List 7 semesters

Babbidge Scholar (2022, 2021)

New England Scholar (2020)

Study Abroad: South Korea (2022)

Primary Advisor: Alexis Dudden (HIST)

Abigail Botschka

CLAS IMJR: Global Health and Bioethics BA

Dean's List 3 semesters

Internships: Internship and research at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Department of Epidemiology and Population Health (2022-2023)

Primary Advisor: Laura Mauldin (HDFS)

Thesis Supervisor: Jane Pryma (SOCI)

Thesis: Burnout Among Medical School Faculty Related to Identity Within the Workplace

Kaitlyn Conte

CLAS IMJR: Sport Operations and Promotion BA

Primary Advisor: David Atkin (COMM)

Alexandra Dominguez

CLAS IMJR: Global Studies BA

Dual Degree: Fine Arts

Honors Program

Dean's List 7 semesters

Babbidge Scholar (2022)

New England Scholar (2021, 2020)

Awards: Connecticut Art Director's Club Spirit of Creativity Award (2022) and Gold in Books (2022)

Study Abroad: South Korea (2022)

Primary Advisor: Peter Zarrow (HIST)

Thesis Supervisor: Eleanor Ouimet (ANTH)

Thesis: North Korean Deforestation Solutions: How a Multi-Level Approach Can Facilitate Inter-Korean Cooperation

Kevin Dunn

CLAS IMJR: Sport Promotion BA

Primary Advisor: David Atkin (COMM)

Owen Fiore

CLAS IMJR: Data Science BS

Honors Program

Dean's List 5 semesters

Primary Advisor: Jun Yan (STAT)

Thesis Supervisor: Jun Yan (STAT)

Thesis: Is it runners that are getting faster or is it the shoes?

Maya Foster

CLAS IMJR: Community Health and Wellness BA

Dean's List 1 semester

Primary Advisor: Ryan Talbert (SOCI)

Alexander Grant

CLAS IMJR: Visual Storytelling and Film Art BA

Double Major: English

Dean's List 6 semesters

Primary Advisor: Gregory Semenza (ENGL)

Thesis Supervisor: Gregory Semenza (ENGL)

Thesis: Fatal Vision: Macbeth's Tragic Manifestations in Tarkovsky's Stalker

Katherine Hayward

CLAS IMJR: Global Health BA

Honors Program

Dean's List 5 semesters

Study Abroad: Switzerland (2022)

Independent Study Project: Microplastics, The Environment, and Reproductive Health

Primary Advisor: Laura Donorfio (HDFS)

Thesis Supervisor: Eleanor Ouimet (ANTH)

Thesis: The Intersection of Herbicide Policy, Exposure, and Health at the University of Connecticut

Carter Higgins

CLAS IMJR: Exercise Biology BS

Primary Advisor: John Redden (PNB)

Krista Hobbib

CLAS IMJR: Sport Media and Digital Production BA

Dean's List 5 semesters

Babbidge Scholar (2022)

New England Scholar (2021)

Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society

Primary Advisor: David Atkin (COMM)

Thesis Supervisor: Stephen Stifano (COMM)

Thesis: The Face Behind the Fans: A Three-Episode Docuseries about UConn Basketball Fans

Maria Kelley

CLAS IMJR: Law, Social Justice, and the Family BA

Dean's List 3 semesters

New England Scholar (2022)

Awards: Leadership Scholarship, Cohen Student Leadership Scholarship, 100 Years of Women Scholarship,

Provost's Award for Excellence in Community Engaged Scholarship

Study Abroad: Costa Rica (2022)

Internships: Selected as a legal intern with the CHRO (2020), selected as BOLD Scholar (2021)

Primary Advisor: Preston Britner (HDFS)

Thesis Supervisor: Preston Britner (HDFS)

Thesis: Investigating Youth-Serving Agencies Co-Design Processes

Aaliyah Kerr

CLAS IMJR: Law and Urban Development BA

Double Major: Political Science

Honors Program

Primary Advisor: Philip Birge-Liberman (URBN)

Thesis Supervisor: Virginia Hettinger (POLS)

Thesis: The Tale of Two Cities: The Connection Between Racist and Discriminatory Housing Policies and Access to Quality Food in Urban Communities

Anthony Latif

CLAS IMJR: Healthcare Operations BS

Double Major: Molecular and Cell Biology

Honors Program

Dean's List 3 semesters

Primary Advisor: Rahul Kanadia (PNB)

Thesis Supervisor: Sharon Smith (MCB)

Thesis Title: Association of Insurance Status and the Ability to Schedule Orthopedic Appointments in Connecticut

Tessa Malesky

CLAS IMJR: Biochemistry BS

Double Major: Math

Dean's List 7 semesters

Primary Advisor: Thomas Seery (CHEM)

Lydia Margolien

CLAS IMJR: Health Policy and Disparities BA
Double Major: Statistics
Honors Program
Dean's List 4 semesters
Primary Advisor: Jane Pryma (SOC)
Thesis Supervisor: Jane Pryma (SOC)
Thesis: Sociological Perspectives on Female Genital Cosmetic Surgeries

Sara Mohamedzein

CLAS IMJR: Global Health BA
Yale New Haven Hospital CORE Student researcher (2021-22)
Awards: Rowe Scholar (2017, 2018, 2019)
STEM Leadership Scholar (2017, 2018, 2019)
Robert T Kennedy Scholar (2017, 2018, 2019, 2020)
Drs. Nima Patel and Daniel McNaughton Scholar (2017, 2018, 2019)
Primary Advisor: Ryan Talbert (SOC)

Maggie Singman

CLAS IMJR: Environmental Health BA
Double Major: Human Rights
Honors Program
Dean's List 7 semesters
BOLD Scholar
New England Scholar
Primary Advisor: Anji Seth (GEOG)
Thesis Supervisor: Eleanor Ouimet (ANTH)
Thesis: The Powerful Nexus Between Art and Environmentalism

Neeharika Sistu

CLAS IMJR: Global Health BA
Double Major: MCB
Honors Program
Dean's List 7 semesters
Primary Advisor: Debarchana Ghosh (GEOG)
Thesis Supervisor: Audrey Chapman (UCHC)
Thesis: Using the Right to Health to Create a Legal Framework for Analyzing States' Responsibilities Regarding Climate Change

Molly Smith

CLAS IMJR: Advertising, Design, and Visual Media BA

Dean's List 6 semesters

Babbidge Scholar (2020, 2021)

Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society

Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society

National Society of Collegiate Scholars

Awards: Connecticut Art Director's Club Spirit of Creativity Award (2022) and Gold in Books (2022)

Primary Advisor: Stephen Stifano (COMM)

Thesis Supervisor: Stephen Stifano (COMM)

Thesis: Exploring Visual Communication Design as a Form of Business Promotion

Pranav Tavildar

CLAS IMJR: Data Science BA

Dual Degree: Computer Science

Honors Program

Dean's List 1 semester

Internships: Drug Discovery Research with Jinbo Bi and Minghu Song (2020), Member of the UConn Statistical Data Science Lab for work with the UConn Sports Analytics Symposium, Independent Study Research on Statistical Simulations and its Application in Stem Cell Division with Haim Bar, Technology Development Program Intern at Optum/United Health Group Hartford Location (2022)

Primary Advisor: Jun Yan (STAT)

Thesis Supervisor: Jun Yan (STAT)

Thesis: Correlation Analysis of Twitter Sentiment and Fossil Fuel Stock Valuation

Aaron Wang

CLAS IMJR: Data Science BS

Primary Advisor: Jun Yan (STAT)

Thesis Supervisor: Walter Krawec (CSE)

Thesis: Cybersecurity

Shannon Yeung

CLAS IMJR: Data Science BS

Dean's List 1 semester

Primary Advisor: Jun Yan (STAT)

Thesis Supervisor: Jun Yan (STAT)

Thesis: Varying Effects of Short-Term Interest Rates

Michael Zheng

CLAS IMJR: Data Science BS

Double Major: Statistics

Dean's List 3 semesters

Primary Advisor: Ofer Harel (STAT)

Thesis Supervisor: Derek Aguiar (CSE)

Thesis: Application of Data Mining in Predicting Mixed Martial Arts Fights

August 2023 Graduates

Nour Al Zouabi

CLAS IMJR: Rights, Health, and Refugees BA

Dual Degree: Molecular and Cell Biology

Minors: Chemistry, Human Rights

Honors Program

Dean's List 1 semester

Awards: SHARE Award (2022), UConn IDEA Grant (2022, 2023)

Primary Advisor: Sara Silverstein (HIST)

Thesis Supervisors: Elizabeth Holzer (SOC) and Sara Silverstein (HIST)

Thesis: Refugees' Post-Resettlement Barriers to Accessing Healthcare Services in the Northeastern US during Covid-19

Sumeet Kadian

CLAS IMJR: Healthcare and Society BA

Minor: Healthcare Management and Insurance Studies

Dual Degree: Molecular and Cell Biology

Honors Program

Dean's List 5 semesters

New England Scholar (2020, 2021)

Primary Advisor: Sarah Willen (ANTH)

Thesis Supervisor: David Goldhamer (MCB)

Thesis: Analysis of Postnatal Neurogenesis in a Hydrocephalic Mouse Model

Mikayla Mancini

CLAS IMJR: Persuasive Writing and Visual Storytelling BA

Dean's List 3 semesters

Primary Advisor: Martine Granby (JOUR)

Thesis Supervisor: Darcie Dennigan (ENGL)

Thesis: Activist Zines and Campus Culture: 50 Years of the UConn Free Press

Miriam Mathew

CLAS IMJR: Sociomedical Sciences BS

Primary Advisor: Colleen Spurling (MCB)

Alexandra Schibli

CLAS IMJR: Holistic Health and Wellness BA

Primary Advisor: Crystal Park (PSYC)