

Symposium for Student Research, Scholarship and Creative Achievement

Thursday, April 16, 2026

8:00 AM – 3:00 PM Registration

11:30 AM – 12:00 PM Lunch for Presenters and Faculty Mentors

12:15 PM Welcome from the Provost

Robert M. Smith Student Center

ORAL PRESENTATIONS SCHEDULE

8:30 AM – 4:00 PM

Time:	Title:	Presenter(s), Faculty Sponsor(s) & Department:	Location:
8:30 – 8:50 AM	<i>Coping Skills Groups with Prisoners</i>	Christie Denniston Dr. Yvonne Eaton-Stull, Dr. Denna Hays, and Dr. Christopher Streidl Psychology, Social Work, and Recreational Therapy	Room 320
	<i>Effects of a Common Pharmaceutical Contaminant of the Aquatic Environment on the Stress Response in Crayfish</i>	Anna Greer and Tadiwanashe Musanhu Dr. Paul Falso Biology	Room 321
	<i>How Does Partisan Leadership Affect Voters' Willingness to Use Mail-In Ballots?</i>	Jacob Campbell Dr. Nicholas Spina Social Sciences	Room 322
8:55 – 9:15 AM	<i>Coping Skills for Trauma With and Without Therapy Dogs</i>	Madalyn Gorgacz Dr. Yvonne Eaton-Stull Psychology, Social Work, and Recreational Therapy	Room 320
	<i>Foraging Preferences of the Non- Native Earthworm Eisenia fetida Among Native and Invasive Plant Species</i>	Erin Melcher Dr. Cory Shoemaker Biology	Room 321
	<i>Moral Values and Democratic Evaluations of Domestic Military Deployment</i>	Isabella DeVivo, Owen Wignall, Charli Severo, and Nolan Holtz Dr. Nicholas Spina Social Sciences	Room 322
9:20 – 9:40 AM	<i>Animal-Assisted Grief Support in Correctional Settings: A Comparative Study</i>	Neva Lilla and Benjamin Porter Dr. Yvonne Eaton-Stull Psychology, Social Work, and Recreational Therapy	Room 320
	<i>Investigating the Mechanisms of Resveratrol-Induced Heat Stress Resistance in Drosophila: The Role of Heat Shock Response and Unfolded Protein Response</i>	Heer Zaveri Dr. Martin Buckley and Dr. Stacy Hrizo Biology	Room 321

	<i>Do Masks on Law Enforcement Affect an Individual's Democratic Satisfaction?</i>	Ray Eschenbach, Sophia Maritato, and Maxwell Atwood Dr. Nicholas Spina Social Sciences	Room 322
Time:	Title:	Presenter, Faculty Sponsor & Department:	Location:
9:45 – 10:05 AM	<i>Exercise for Wellness</i>	Madalyn Gorgacz, Ivy Patterson, and Joaquin Homze Dr. Yvonne Eaton-Stull Psychology, Social Work, and Recreational Therapy	Room 320
	<i>Validation of Commercially Available Wrist-Worn Devices for Maximal Oxygen Consumption Measurement</i>	Alaina Holmes Dr. Mingchia Yeh, Dr. Beth Larouere, Dr. Joyan Urda, and Dr. Steven Verba Exercise Science	Room 321
	<i>The Influence of Social Media Platforms on Democratic Perceptions</i>	Audrey Johnson and Abigail Putnick Dr. Nicholas Spina Social Sciences	Room 322
10:10 – 10:30 AM	<i>Recovery Lifestyle</i>	Rachel McDermitt and Caleb Hankee Dr. Yvonne Eaton-Stull Psychology, Social Work, and Recreational Therapy	Room 320
	<i>Perceived Neighborhood Environment, Mental Health Conditions, and Cannabinoids Vaping Among U.S. Adolescents: A Mediation Analysis</i>	Cassidy Newmyer Dr. Nikhil Ahuja Public Health Sciences	Room 321
	<i>The Influence of Lobbying Framing on Perceptions of Democracy in the United States</i>	Kyle Johnson, Hayden Fritz, Sean Logue, and Saige Stewart Dr. Nicholas Spina Social Sciences	Room 322
10:35 – 10:55 AM	<i>Extension Problems for Prism Manifolds</i>	Colten Cunningham Dr. Kirk McDermott Mathematics, Statistics, and Physics	Room 320
	<i>It Starts in the Home: Adult Literacy Impacts on Student Learning</i>	Kayleigh Bayer Dr. Jenna Copper Curriculum, Instruction, and Educational Leadership	Room 321
	<i>Malapportionment and the Mind: How Partisan Advantage Shapes Beliefs About Democracy</i>	Andrei Pagnotta, Schuyler Madison, and Cameron Weatherly Dr. Nicholas Spina Social Sciences	Room 322
11:00 – 11:20 AM	<i>Floating Art Exhibition</i>	Riley Lennon, Megan Evans, and Converse Kennedy Ms. Heather Hertel, Dr. Louis Christensen, Dr. Franklyn Charles, Dr. Jack Livingston, and Dr. Judith Silva Art	Theater

	<i>Building Strong Foundations: Engaging Families in the 5 Early Literacy Skills Essential for Kindergarten Success</i>	Ave Pushchak Dr. Samantha Fecich Curriculum, Instruction, and Educational Leadership	Room 321
	<i>Affective Polarization and Democratic Ideals</i>	Mack Stauch Dr. Nicholas Spina Social Sciences	Room 322
11:30 AM -12:15 PM	Lunch for Presenters and Faculty Sponsors Location: Room 323		
Time:	Title:	Presenter, Faculty Sponsor & Department:	Location:
2:00 – 2:20 PM	<i>Implementing Intergenerational Communication Programs in FYRST Seminars: Lessons Learned</i>	Faculty Presentation Dr. Maureen Walsh and Dr. Betsy Kemeny Exercise Science and Psychology, Social Work and Recreational Therapy	Room 320
	<i>GIS Tracking of Tornado Alley’s Shift</i>	Elijah Calzada Dr. Jialing Wang Chemistry and Environmental Geosciences	Room 321
	<i>Political Imagery and Public Opinion Study</i>	Colton Walker Dr. Nicholas Spina Social Sciences	Room 322
2:25 – 2:45 PM	<i>Adolescence and the Reframing of Masculinity</i>	Elizabeth Smallsreed Dr. Lauren Shoemaker Languages, Literatures, Cultures, and Writing	Room 320
	<i>Computational Analysis of MUP1/ART1 Protein Interactions</i>	Max Reeder Dr. Jessica Sarver Chemistry and Environmental Geosciences	Room 321
	<i>The Impact of Gender on Citizen’s Perceptions of Democratic Performance</i>	Meadow Weimer and Sarah Dunn Dr. Nicholas Spina Social Sciences	Room 322
2:50 – 3:10 PM	<i>Nemuritor Drăculea Vampirul: A Comprehensive History of Vampires in Film and Literature</i>	Jess Sentgeorge Dr. Ryan Stryffeler Languages, Literatures, Cultures, and Writing	Room 320
	<i>PA211: Referral Methods, Client Information, and Their Impact on Unmet Client Needs</i>	Cassandra Clemency Dr. Xintong Wang, Dr. Yi Li, and Dr. Sunita Mondal Finance, Accounting, Marketing and Economics	Room 322
3:15 – 3:35 PM	<i>“Sex” in the City: Analyzing the Female Urban Writing</i>	Costello Keene Dr. Danette Dimarco Languages, Literatures, Cultures, and Writing	Room 320
	<i>Crisis Communication Within the Adidas Yeezy Partnership</i>	Anna Counihan and Logan Shingledecker Dr. Allison Peiritsch Communication, Media, and Sport Management	Room 321

	<i>What is Behind the Mask? An Exploration of the Human Experience Through Movement</i>	Gianna Dobrich Ms. Melissa Teodoro Dance	Room 322
Time:	Title:	Presenter, Faculty Sponsor & Department:	Location:
3:40 – 4:00 PM	<i>Duolingo App: How Effective is Using Digital Platforms for Language Learning in the Long-Term?</i>	Amariah Morgenstern Dr. Joseline Burgos Languages, Literatures, Cultures, and Writing	Room 320
	<i>Classroom to Newsroom: Journalism in Action</i>	Samantha Toki Dr. Katrina Quinn Communication, Media, and Sport Management	Room 321
	<i>Sparkling Synchronized Showgirls: Radio City Rockettes and the Illusion of Inclusion</i>	Lia Palermo Ms. Melissa Teodoro Dance	Room 322