University Honors Program Newsletter

University Honors Program, Georgia Southern University

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Congratulations Spring Graduates!

The Honors Program is pleased to announce that there were over 90 graduates this spring. We know the hard work students on both campuses completed during their time in the Honors Program has prepared them for whatever challenges they will face. Please join us in wishing them all the best as they move on to the next steps in their lives.

Statesboro Campus

Kayla Allen
Civil Engineering

Ashleigh Marion
Early Childhood Education
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nursing</th>
<th>Computer Science</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Megan Fromme</td>
<td>Elise Rustine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Education</td>
<td>Graphic Design</td>
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<tr>
<td>Darrell Fullmer</td>
<td>Laurel Sabadosh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Multimedia Film &amp; Production</td>
<td>Criminal Justice &amp; Criminology</td>
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<td>Margaret Geddy</td>
<td>Jordan Salvador</td>
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<td>English and French</td>
<td>Marketing</td>
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<td>Shelby Georges</td>
<td>Kaley Scanlon</td>
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<td>History</td>
<td>Nursing</td>
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<td>Jonathon Hall</td>
<td>Amanda Sexton</td>
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<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Anthropology</td>
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<td>Brandi Hawkins</td>
<td>Emily Elizabeth Shannon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nursing</td>
<td>Political Science and Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vernon Herrington</td>
<td>Alea Simmons</td>
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<td>Civil Engineering</td>
<td>Management</td>
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<td>Madison Heydinger</td>
<td>Janice Simon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nutrition &amp; Food Science</td>
<td>Criminal Justice &amp; Criminology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caitlyn Hicks</td>
<td>Jenae Smith</td>
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<td>Biology</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
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<td>Kadien Hill</td>
<td>Danielle Souza</td>
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<td>History</td>
<td>Biology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kaitlyn Hodges</td>
<td>Kristi St. Clair</td>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
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<td>David Jackson</td>
<td>Richard Steele</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theatre</td>
<td>Physics and Mathematics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abigail Johnson</td>
<td>Elizabeth Stovall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exercise Science</td>
<td>Political Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kathryn Keith</td>
<td>Quinton Taylor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anthropology</td>
<td>Biology</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Madison Kelly  
Biology

Amber Ugbo  
Nutrition & Food Science and  
Exercise Science

Bailey Kirk  
Mathematics

Ashley Williams  
Biology and Psychology

George Lavallin  
Economics

Sydney Wright  
Biology

Kyle Leep  
Computer Science

Claire Zecha  
Nursing

Reid Loveless  
Biology

View pictures from the Statesboro Campus Honors Graduation Recognition Ceremony [here](#)!

Armstrong Campus

Sara Baker  
Rehabilitation Sciences

Ha Huynh  
Biology

Cameron Bowles  
Nursing

Lydia McKee  
Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Mary Carpenter  
Rehabilitation Sciences

Abigail Meert  
History

Cicely Curtis  
Nursing

Stephanie Owens  
Fine Arts

Laura D'Alessio  
Biology/Biochemistry

Mukti Patel  
Biology

Sierra Diemer  
English

Lydia Peavy  
Cell & Molecular Biology

Teresa Durham  
English

Courtney Sanderlin  
Nursing

Emily Flingos  
Biology

Randi Schroedel  
Cell & Molecular Biology
Elias Frazier  
Psychology

Micheal Freeman  
Liberal Studies

Assata Griffin  
Child & Family Studies

Jonathan Hatala  
Psychology

Lily-Ann Huerd  
Nursing

Stacie Sims  
Nursing

Michael Swanson  
Liberal Studies

Michael Underwood  
Computer Science

Tessa Wilkins  
Health Science Informatics

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Honors Alumni are encouraged to update their information here!

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**Opportunities Adding Up**
As her final semester at Georgia Southern University ended, things began to add up for Bailey Kirk (mathematics ’18). Kirk has participated in the University Honors Program since her first-year in 2014. Throughout her time, she has taken advantage of opportunities such as peer leading, participating as an alternative break trip leader, and presenting her research at conferences. Each of these individual experiences inspired her decision to continue her education and pursue a master’s degree in teaching.

This June, she will begin graduate studies at Georgia State University. She was awarded the fully-funded Woodrow Wilson Fellowship. Her focus in graduate school will be on teaching in low-income schools.

Click [here](#) to read more!

### First-Year Experience Awards Honors

Every year, the Office of First-Year Experience recognizes a student, a faculty member, and a staff member whose work with first-year students is exceptional. This spring, two of these three winners were from the same honors section of a First-Year Experience class. Peer Leader Morgan Gallahue (biology ’18) was recognized as the 2018 Peer Leader of the Year, and Dr. Francis Desiderio, the Associate Director of the University Honors Program, was recognized as the 2018 Outstanding Advocate for First-Year Students.

During her freshman year, Gallahue was a student in Dr. Desiderio’s Honors
FYE, *The Meaning of Place*. That course explored the built environment from an interdisciplinary perspective with a particular focus on how people attach meaning to place. This year, the course theme is *Soccer Cultures around the World*. While Gallahue was not well-versed in the sport, she agreed to work with Desiderio in the year-long course that covered the fall seminar and the connected spring Global Citizens course.

Click [here](#) to read more!
Senior honors student Reid Loveless (biology '18) was recently awarded the 2018 Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK) Leader of the Year Award in Athletics. During Loveless' career at Georgia Southern University, he focused on academics, club sports, and community service. The recent honors graduate was involved with the wrestling and climbing team as well as leading the wetland clean-up initiative.

Click here to read more about Loveless' achievements!

Honors Students Win Awards at Eagle Showcase

Georgia Southern University annually hosts the Eagle Showcase: Excellence in Service-Learning. The Office of Leadership and Community Engagement works with The Honors Society of Phi Kappa Phi to make this event possible for undergraduate and graduate students to present posters on service-learning projects. Two honors students were recognized, at this event, Vernon Herrington and Andrea Appleton. Herrington received first place in the undergraduate poster category, and Appleton received the People’s Choice Award.

Herrington worked with a group of students, developing a 3D model of local intersections. Herrington specifically made a model of the Brampton Avenue and Bermuda Run intersection to make recommendations on improving traffic flow. After their research, the group donated the model to the City of Statesboro engineers to help the redesign process.
Appleton worked with Dr. Jerri Kropp and Dr. Trent Maurer during her First-Year Experience course, Animal-Assisted Therapy. The class worked with the Statesboro Parks and Recreation Department's program, Stirrup Some Fun. The program provides therapeutic horse-riding for children with disabilities. Appleton explained the benefits such as increased self-esteem and confidence while reflecting on her own journey volunteering with the program.

Herrington and Appleton are active students both on and off campus. Their projects exemplified the importance of civic engagement, and both of them are using their time and resources to help the Statesboro community.

Click here to see the award-winning posters!