



2024 CURIO

Interdisciplinary Building (IAB),

Wednesday April 17, 2024

2024 STATESBORO CURIO

CURIO Program

Interdisciplinary Academic Building

5:30 to 7:30	Poster Display	Lobby
5:30 to 5:45	Dean's Welcome	Lobby
6:00 to 7:15	Session I Presentations	Rooms 1012, 1015, 2025, 2028, 2029
6:00 to 7:15	Interactive Exhibit	IAB Gallery
7:30 to 8:45	Session II Presentations	Rooms 1012, 1015, 2025, 2028, 2029 T
8:45 to 9:00	Awards and Reception	Lobby

IAB
April 17, 2024
5:30 pm to 9 pm

The presentations are divided into the following categories:

Research

Creative Analysis

Portfolio

Posters

Presenters are listed alphabetically under the category of their presentation.

Research Presentations

Listed alphabetically



Research

[Menu](#)

Allison Ambrose

Advisor: Dr. Paul Tubig, Philosophy and Religious Studies

On Health Equity and Suffering

The process of determining whether a current health inequality also qualifies as a health inequity has become a major focus today within medical ethics. I question the motivation for this trend of “equity” and “equality.” Understanding the broader social factors that affect health is key, but the source of a health inequality is irrelevant when determining whether the state ought to ameliorate it. The conclusion that follows from strong emphasis on strict “equity” standards leaves many health needs unaddressed. Is society not still obligated to aid groups even if their suffering is not caused by injustice? To demonstrate this, I’d like to dig into modern conceptions of health inequities, focusing on a prominent account developed by Norman Daniels, Bruce Kennedy, and Ichiro Kawachi in their chapter, “Justice is Good For Our Health.” Then I’ll examine the terminology used by Margaret Little and others to describe inequalities that society is not culpable for and discuss how this changes our approach to emerging practices like cultural and structural competence. Finally, I’ll acknowledge the advantages of Fabienne Peter’s indirect approach to health inequities but encourage a different approach with a more involved attitude that focuses on testimonial and phenomenological reality.



Research

IAB 1015

6:00 - 7:30 pm

Danielle Ball

Advisor: Dr. Carol Jamison, English

An Analysis of the Pagan and Christian Elements in *Beowulf*

Beowulf is an epic poem that was originally written in Old English and contains a large number of seemingly contradictory references to both Christianity and paganism. This presentation is based off of my paper entitled “An Analysis of the Christian and Pagan Elements in Beowulf” in which I address several of the most important instances of either religion and posit that the inclusion of both religions in the text is representative of the changing religious beliefs at the time. I support this claim through close reading of the poem and extensive secondary research. Historically, critics have accepted the idea that Beowulf was a poem that circulated orally until being written down by a Christian monk who added references to Christianity. However, I use the ideas of Karl Reich to assert the possibility that Beowulf was reproduced multiple times, both orally and in written form, and that it started as a mostly pagan narrative that was adjusted to include aspects of Christianity as the prevailing religion of the area changed. Beowulf himself is characterized as ascribing to both Christian and pagan beliefs, indicating that this poem acts as a transitional work between the two eras of thinking.



Research

IAB Room 1020
7:30 – 8:45 pm

Max Besselman

Advisor: Dr. James Todesca, History

Why Pope Leo IX Declined to Endorse Peter Damien's Suggestions in *Liber Gomorrhianus*

This paper examines the reasons that led to Pope Leo IX's overall dismissal of Peter Damien's proposals in "Liber Gomorrhianus," a treatise that condemned the moral corruption within the clergy of the Catholic Church during the High Middle Ages. Though Damien suggested harsh penalties, such as excommunication and penances, Pope Leo IX favored a more lenient approach emphasizing rehabilitation over severe sanctions on clergy members. This paper analyzes the historical context inside and outside of the Catholic Church, including the emergence of a gay subculture in medieval cities and the Catholic Church's complex perspective on homosexuality. Additionally, this paper examines the lives of Peter Damien and Pope Leo IX in the years before Damien had written his treatise. After considering the history of Pope Leo IX and the Catholic Church, his refusal to accept Damien's suggestions can be attributed to two reasons: the Pope wanted to preserve the unity within the Catholic Church and focus on reforming the clergy members.



Research

IAB Room 1012

6:00 – 7:15 pm

Maggie Churilla

Advisor: Dr. Jeffrey Riley, Communication Arts

Chart-Toppers and Heart-Stopppers: Navigating the Pulse of Billboard's Hot 100 Chart

This study seeks to discover if genre popularity has varied and/or changed over time when examining Billboard's Hot 100 song chart. This content analysis examines the top 10 songs featured on Billboard's Hot 100 chart from 2010 to 2019 in order to determine if a change in genre preference during the decade is present. In total, 100 different songs were coded based on several categories using Billboard's website, Google's search engine feature, and the music-streaming platform, Spotify. Some of the coded categories include the artists' name, year the song was released, received ranking, song length, genre, and more. The gatekeeping theory presented by Kurt Lewin is especially useful when completing a content analysis on Billboard's Hot 100 chart. In this study, Billboard acts as the gate to music consumers; providing a set list of songs to the public based on their process of statistical gathering and personal judgement. The results of this study reveal a slight shift in music genre preferences overtime, though the same few genres consistently received top rankings and rotated with one another.



Research

IAB Room 1012
7:30-8:30 pm

Tavin Cochran

Advisor: Dr. John Goshorn, Communication Arts

The Representation of Young Black Men in 1980s and 1990s Sitcoms

Sitcoms are a great formulaic art form. Characters being in ridiculous situations in front of a live studio audience to emphasize the complexities of life is an exciting way of storytelling. When I was younger I noticed that I would relate to the main characters as if their flaws were my own. I enjoyed doing it. When I began relating to side characters as well, I understood the different roles in sitcoms. You will have a main character and a side character to compliment them. Seeing another young black male on television made me feel represented. Many shows have given different interpretations of young black men in conjunction to the rest of the family or cast. I will analyze 3 major network black sitcoms from the late 80's and 90's to examine their lead characters and side characters. This research will shed light on character types prevalent in that era.



Research

IAB Room 1015

7:30-8:30 pm

Alex Gholston

Advisor: Dr. Annie Mendenhall, English

After FYE: Exploring Sophomore Support at GSU

This presentation explains a research proposal I developed which investigates how the GS community (current students, faculty, and alumni) perceives the usefulness and applicability of the CORE 2000: Core Capstone, as well as its effectiveness in addressing and mitigating retention concerns in sophomores compared to the support offered to freshmen by its sister program FYE 1220: First Year Seminar. The aim of this proposal is to examine possible factors influencing worsening sophomore attrition rates and shed light on the disparities between freshman and sophomore support in higher education. Following the national trend of first year support initiatives' promising improvements in retention, the need for universities to again examine their student success strategies and fully address the transitional second year has become even more pressing. This proposal calls attention to the overwhelming lack of research on sophomore assistance initiatives and explores the potential refinement of existing programs like GS' CORE 2000 model.



Research

IAB Room 2025

7:30 – 8:00 pm

Kamryn Gibson

Advisor: Dr. Jennifer Kowaleski, Communication Arts

The Evolution of Depictions of African-Americans in American Cinema

This research explores the dynamic evolution of the portrayal of African Americans in American cinema from its inception to the present day. The study delves into the historical context, analyzing how societal attitudes, political movements, and cultural shifts have influenced the representation of African Americans on the silver screen. Beginning with the early 20th century and the era of racial stereotypes, the research traces the transformative journey towards more authentic and multifaceted portrayals. Examining key milestones such as the Civil Rights Movement, blaxploitation films, and the rise of independent cinema, this research uncovers pivotal moments that have shaped the narrative landscape. It investigates how filmmakers and actors have played crucial roles in challenging stereotypes and fostering a more diverse and nuanced reflection of African-American experiences. Moreover, the study explores the impact of these cinematic depictions on public perception, societal attitudes, and the broader discourse on race in America. Through the lens of film, it seeks to understand the complex interplay between representation and reality, shedding light on both progress made and persistent challenges in the quest for authentic and empowering portrayals. As contemporary cinema continues to grapple with issues of diversity and inclusion, this research provides insights into the ongoing efforts to dismantle stereotypes, celebrate cultural richness, and contribute to a more equitable and representative cinematic landscape.



Research

IAB Room 1015
7:30 – 8:30 pm

Maya Johnson-McCauley

Advisor: Dr. Carol Jamison, English

"Widsith Came to Talk: Preservation of the Scop within Old English Poetry"

In this presentation, I discuss the role of the Old English scop in the context of the transition from orality to written works in Old English society. Scops served the role of the storytellers, historians, and moral authorities within Old English society, and they utilized Oral-Formulaic composition to compile and share the Germanic poetic tradition with the largely illiterate population, whose only written language before Christianity was made up of crude runic characters. When Christian missionaries made their way to England and brought with them the written language of Latin, the necessity of the scop dissipated; many stories were written down in Latin and the authority on moral and historical teachings fell to the church. Orality continued in many regards, but the occupation of the scop was no longer relied upon. However, the legacy of the scop was preserved through the written works that followed. I discuss the historical context of Old English society, outline the role of the scop, and analyze the scop as a character in poems such as "Beowulf," "Widsith," and "Deor" to highlight the legacy of the scop within written works and raise questions regarding the compositional choices of Christian scribes.



Research

IAB Room 1020
7:30 – 8:30 pm

Savannah Johnston

Advisor: Dr. Jeffrey Riley, Communication Arts

Welcome to the Xanny Family: A Content Analysis of Pharmaceutical Drug References in Rap Music

This quantitative content analysis explored charting rap music released from 1987 to 2022 to measure the amount of drug references in the lyrics, but specifically analyzed the pharmaceutical drug references in response to the recent opioid epidemic. This study found that almost half of the songs coded referenced drugs in general, with only 23 explicitly referencing pharmaceutical drugs. This study also analyzed the framing of pharmaceutical drugs to better understand artists' motives behind mentioning harmful substances. There was an even split between lyrics that glorified drug usage and those that showed a more nuanced, realistic take on drug usage.



Research

IAB Room 1015

7:30-8:30

Kayla Jones

Advisor: Dr. Joanna Schreiber, English

(Taylor's Version): What her Fight with Big Machine Records Means for the Intellectual Property of Creatives

My research presentation examines Taylor Swift's struggle over ownership of her back catalogue through Big Machine after her music masters were sold and the fallout affect that Swift's re-recording project has for the intellectual property rights of creatives. She embarked on her reclamation journey about a year following the sale of her masters to Scooter Braun. As of October 2023, Swift has successfully re-released over half of her first six albums. The impact of these (Taylor's Version)s have been set in stone, and record labels have started to react in opposition of her reclamation. New contracts handed to fledging artists have extended the length of time one must wait to re-record music up to thirty years post-original release. From my presentation, audience members learn about the lack of legal protections for the common agreement that an artist should own their masters. It is up to the artist and their representatives to either fight to own the whole of their work or to turn to other means of distribution through social media.



Research

IAB Room 1015
7:30 to 8:30 pm

STATESBORO CURIO 2024 PRESENTATIONS

Jaylee Kilgo

Advisor: Dr. Brian Feltman, History

The Life of Claude B. Terry

Through research conducted in Brian Feltman's World War I class, the life of Claude B Terry will be presented. Claude B Terry was a World War I Soldier from Bulloch County who was killed in action on July 18th, 1918.



Research

IAB Room 1015
7:30-8:30

Sutton Patterson

Advisor: Dr. James Todesca, History

Identity in Kievan Rus': An Inquiry into Staraya Ladoga's Ethnic Composition

Vladimir Putin claims that Ukraine is not a real country and that Ukrainians are in fact Russians. His reasoning is based on the long-held Soviet contention that the medieval principality of Kiev, or Kievan Rus', was founded by Slavic peoples. Kievan Rus' was an eighth to eleventh century kingdom that existed in today's Belarus, Ukraine, and Russia. The polemic over its origins dates back to 1749 when a debate began between the Normanists, who argued that Kiev was founded by Scandinavians and the Anti-Normanists, who firmly rejected that idea. By exploring archeological evidence from the town of Staraya Ladoga, this paper argues in favor of the Normanist school. It concludes that Staraya Ladoga and Kiev were founded by Scandinavians, but also incorporated a large population of non-Scandinavians.



Research

IAB Room 1012

6:00-7:00 pm

Zoey Pittman

Advisor: Dr. Jeffrey Riley, Communication Arts

Stepping into the Era of (Taylor's Version)

In this study, the music artist, Taylor Swift, and her re-recorded songs that are now (Taylor's Version) were compared to the original songs then examined for any changes that were made in the newer versions. The artifacts that were used in this study were all of the original songs and Swift's re-recorded version of the songs. Along with other media artifacts such as album cover changes, lyric changes and changes in minutes of the albums or songs. The theory that was applied was cultivation theory and how it is implemented in the phenomena of Swift and her music. The study did discover that there are several significant changes that Taylor Swift has made from her original songs to her re-recorded songs.



Research

IAB Room 1012

6:00-7:00 pm

Destinee Walker

Advisor: Dr. Julia Griffin, English

Rites of Mourning: Plague and Remembrance in *Hamlet* and *Hamnet*

In 1596, William Shakespeare's son, Hamnet, passed away. The cause of his death has never been clear, but many people believe it was a result of bubonic plague. Maggie O'Farrell's 2020 novel, *Hamnet*, tells a fictional story of Hamnet's family as they deal with the aftermath of losing him to the disease. The novel ends with William Shakespeare putting on his first performance of *Hamlet* as his wife watches. When taking the backstory regarding Hamnet Shakespeare into consideration, themes such as plague and remembrance, which are obvious in *Hamnet*, become much clearer in *Hamlet*. The main difference is that *Hamnet* gives a realistic representation of a family losing a loved one during a pandemic, while *Hamlet* only alludes to the plague, mainly through its language. Although the representations of plague are different, both works deal with the theme of remembrance, as they both depict people mourning the loss of family members. This theme is obvious throughout *Hamlet*, as Hamlet's main goal is make sure his father is remembered, per his request. It is clear in *Hamnet* as well, as it ends where *Hamlet*'s goal begins, when the novel concludes with Shakespeare, who is playing the ghost, looking to his wife from the stage and saying the ghost's last words to his son in act 1 of the play: "Remember me."



Research

IAB Room 1020

7:30 -8:30 pm

Creative Analyses

Listed alphabetically

[Menu](#)

Bailey Grace Colsh

Advisor: Dr. Patrick Wheaton, Communication Arts

Two Worlds: A Semantic Analysis of the Disney Renaissance

The move to teach general semantics has grown as humans have begun to recognize the thought pattern and process of language and perception. In our society of popular culture, the idea of general semantics is presented to the world in easily digestible mediums. Disney movies such as 1989's *The Little Mermaid* and 1997's *Tarzan* have presented palatable representations of general semantics to an audience that is new or unused to such a concept. Through the Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis and the Semantic Triangle, the films can be used to teach general semantics to a new audience.



Creative

IAB Room 1015

7:30-8:30 pm

Abby Herndon

Advisor: Dr. William Holley, World Languages and Cultures

Descartes and Surrealism

Even though Descartes does not evoke the notion of Surrealism, there are many connections that can be made between this 16th century philosopher and the artist movement centuries later. Surrealistic art is not supposed to be aesthetic, it's supposed to make a statement. Descartes' writings were not meant to be entertaining; they were meant to encourage people think about his ideas. They both boil down to the search for truth and using unconventional methods to discover that which is true. Surrealism, as well, offers a different or novel approach to thinking about yourself and the world. Despite their differences in approach, the exploration of Descartes' writings and the surrealism artistic movement reveals the relationship between philosophical ideas and artistic expression.



Creative

IAB Room 1012

6:00-7:00 pm

Kennedi Williams

Advisor: Dr. Christina Olson

Ink and Intimacy: A Cultural Affair

In my creative analysis presentation, I will be reflecting on the poetry chapbook that I developed for my Honors College thesis, which explores the nature of love. This chapbook consists of a small collection of poems designed to showcase my own poetry as the outcome of my research on love and how it manifests in a multitude of different ways. This body of work will showcase my growth as a creative writer as it relates to voice, imagery, and structure. Each verse became a testament to my growth as a poet, reflecting not only a refined understanding of language and form but also a deepening connection to the emotions and experiences that shape our lives. As I navigated the delicate balance between vulnerability and craft, my poetic voice matured, weaving together intricate narratives and evocative imagery that painted the tapestry of my personal and creative development.. The goal of my research was not to find an answer to the question of 'what is love?', but to begin to understand why there is no answer at all.



Creative

IAB Room 2025

6:00-7:00 pm

Sofia Navarro

Advisor: Professor Laura Valeri, English

Ad Astra: A Section of my Non-Fiction Memoir

I will be doing an analysis and reading of a section of my nonfiction memoir, "Ad Astra." I will introduce my piece to give the audience the context and significance of my work. "Ad Astra" is a creative nonfiction memoir that combines flood subjects such as astronomy and NASA's telescope and rover programs with figurative topics of loss, family, and displacement. I break down the piece into four micro-chapters which explore concrete concepts of scientific research such as the process of supernova and the abstract concepts of grieving loved ones who are still alive and when one's childhood is lost to the past. It takes heavy inspiration from the braided essay structure commonly utilized in creative nonfiction essays, defined as taking between two to four concepts and weaving them together to connect to an overarching theme. This piece challenges its readers to make connections and understand the nuances between the literal and the metaphorical while using a creative genre and form. The purpose of the piece is to display how the use of style, interpolation within texts, and research can transform a creative essay as it pushes the boundaries of creative genres.



Creative

IAB Room 1015

6:00-7:00 pm

2024 STATESBORO CURIO

Portfolio Presentations

Presenters Listed Alphabetically



Portfolio

[Menu](#)

Vienna Cragin

Advisor: Dr. Lisa Dusenberry, English

A Novelist's Epic: An Avant-Garde Portfolio

My project aims to explain how I produced a creative portfolio to showcase my different skills in writing. I assembled my portfolio to establish my versatility as a creative writer across genres. I included narrative, poetry, and experimental work to endorse my proficiency in these specific categories that I wish to focus on in my career. This created a strong self-brand that emphasizes my values of clarity and creativity intertwined with innovative communication. The significance of my process developed my understanding of self-branding by bringing my attention to the small details. Everything in a portfolio can be used to speak about one's style, personality, and abilities.

In my presentation, I explain how I went about curating my pieces and formatting my portfolio into a narrative. I describe my creative process and how I used the portfolio's format to help substantiate my self-brand.



Portfolio

IAB Room 2025

6:00-7:00 pm

Jailyn Davis

Advisor: Dr. Lisa Dusenberry, English

My Creative Odyssey: Using the Skills of an English Major

The mark of any great writer is being able to connect with their intended audience. The best way to do that is to share stories that people can relate to. These could be connected to real life events. In my time at Georgia Southern University, I have honed the skills necessary to turn my memories of people, places and things that I love into stories and poems that will move others, that they may see and feel just as I do. These pieces hold a special place in my heart, as they both speak of the home of my childhood and the woman who raised me, and how these memories have shaped the woman I have become and the writer I want to be.



Portfolio

IAB Room 2026

6:00-7:00 pm

Michaela Ford

Advisor: Dr. Lisa Dusenberry, English

From College to Career: My Journey as an English Major; or, The Agency of an English Major

My presentation is a creative analysis of my senior portfolio, where I used the driving theme of agency to refine my work. My psychoanalysis essay on Joe Goldberg, my comparative paper on the Seven Deadly Sins in the Japanese anime Fullmetal Alchemist: Brotherhood, and the Early British literature poem Piers Plowman showed me that an academic paper is not always limited to the prompt, but rather my willingness to explore beyond its confines. While my speculative fiction piece, "Kavina," taught me how to format a story in Shunn Manuscript format, my project in Twine inspired me to become an interactive fiction writer with an emphasis on player agency and world development.



Portfolio

IAB Room 2029

6:00-7:00 pm

Addison Hall

Advisor: Dr. Lisa Dusenberry, English

The Development of Creativity and Characterization in Writing: My Senior Portfolio Analysis

My presentation is a creative analysis of my senior portfolio. I designed my portfolio to showcase how my creative work demonstrates my creativity and the depth of my characterization. I have included pieces of creative nonfiction, fiction, and poems that I have revised and reflected on to create the best version of my own work. Each renewed artifact represents different skills that I have gained in my journey as a student, such as creativity, structure, voice, focus, etc. and how I have used each skill to further my abilities as a writer. Each piece has begun as an outlet of my own personal thoughts and feelings and since has transformed into well-developed pieces of writing, because of the tools and techniques I have learned as a student. Through this presentation, I hope to show my development, what I have learned, and how it has affected my writing in a way that has made me a better creative writer.



Portfolio

IAB Room 2025
6:00-7:00 pm

Destinee McCloud

Advisor: Dr. Lisa Dusenberry, English

Teaching to Improve the Gap: Reading Interventions

My creative analysis will examine how I used portions of my senior portfolio to show my qualities and innovation as a reading teacher. Read180, previously used as an intervention, allows the seventysix students I serve to showcase their abilities through both a phonological awareness and reading inventory exam. These tests factor what each student is capable of completing without additional support. It then breaks down the areas they may need support in and creates a timeline of lessons for students to complete. My goal is to have at least 65% of students improving with a 20% growth rate by May, 2024. Being able to teach students to read on grade level has not only boosted my resume up but also opened the door to self brand what I could do with an English degree in the education world. Utilizing skills such as creative thinking processes, analyzing textual data, and communications allows me to showcase the professional persona my senior portfolio reveals with the work I have done as an innovative reading teacher. Read180 has now become the center of my Language Arts class in order to lessen the gap with students who are two or more grade levels below.



Portfolio

IAB Room 2029

6:00-7:00 pm

Nicholas Sheredy

Advisor: Dr. Lisa Dusenberry, English

My Past at Georgia Southern and my Future Goals

In this creative analysis of my Senior Portfolio, I explore through the choices made during the development of my portfolio to demonstrate the culmination of my literary skills and my future professional endeavors. I discuss the reasons behind the artifacts selected and the process of creating a portfolio that best demonstrates my accomplishments and expertise. The artifacts selected for my portfolio not only represent the best of my abilities in literary analysis and creative writing but also highlight three competencies that align with the National Association of Colleges and Employers. My artifacts chosen fully to demonstrate my abilities of critical thinking by utilizing context and logical analysis in an argument, leadership by taking charge and effectively leading a group towards a common goal, and my proficiency with technology in a work environment.



Portfolio

IAB Room 2029

6:00-7:00 pm

Brayden Short

Advisor: Dr. Lisa Dusenberry, English

From Creation, to Revision, to Compilation

This presentation's goal is to display how I curated a portfolio of my works to encompass and showcase several skills I have learned during my time as an English Major. Within it, I show skills in research, analysis, creative non-fiction writing, and creating style sheets for editing. As part of my creative analysis, I discuss my goals for compiling pieces, ones that displayed my skills in writing within multiple styles, as well as skills in editing and style sheet creation. These goals simultaneously exemplify where I would like to go in my career post-graduation. To further illustrate my creative choices, I'll discuss how I curated three texts that I created: "Modern Media and the Display of Current Feminist Issues", "The Rights Given by Copyright", and "I'm Sorry, You're Just a Mystery: A Journey with Endometriosis, Mental Health, and Self-Discovery". Alongside these texts is an APA style sheet for editing and revision purposes. All four of these compiled documents display different skills within the realms of creation, writing, and editing. With these skills, I intend to enter the career world to become an editor and author. Overall, this curation benefits me by aiding in my self-branding by exhibiting my writing skills.



Portfolio

IAB Room 2026

6:00-7:00 pm

Jeremy Simmonds

Advisor: Dr. Lisa Dusenberry, English

Creative Writing: An Analysis of Imagination

I am a passionate writer with a love for writing and crafting stories to resonate with the common person to engage in a world to escape the harsh reality of our own. To that end, I aim to become a Freelance Writer and a Writer for one or many entertainment studios from animation, plays, poetry, movies, and video games. I chose to present a Manuscript for my Advanced Fiction Writing where I showcase my creative writing skills along with my ability to answer questions my professor presented to me. These questions related to my experience creating the story and my communications with the people who would critique my work.



Portfolio

IAB Room 2026

6:00-7:00 pm

Poster Presentations

Presenters Listed Alphabetically



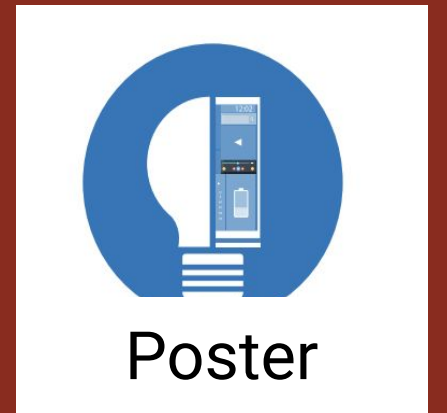
[Menu](#)

Carson Blackford

Advisor: Dr. Grant Gearhart

How Large Language Tools can Change Language-Interpreting

The use of large language models such as ChatGPT and other similar AI platforms represents an innovative technological advancement that has the potential to significantly bridge the language gap prevalent in our contemporary society. For years, language disparities have posed invisible barriers, impeding communication and hindering various aspects of global interactions. Businesses, regardless of their scale, have often found themselves compelled to allocate substantial financial resources towards hiring human interpreters, with no guarantee of satisfactory outcomes. However, with minimal dedicated time and effort, these AI software solutions possess the ability to make groundbreaking progress within both the business and social environments. Through my experiences of translating with my personal knowledge and AI's help, I will demonstrate results proving that AI can transform interpreting from a daunting task into a streamlined component of the transactional process.



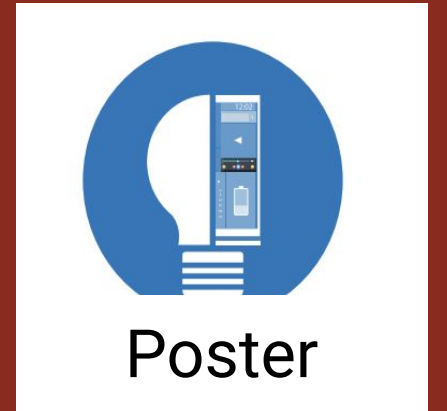
IAB Lobby

Jake Braswell

Advisor: Dr. Cathy Skidmore-Hess, History

The Rapid Mass Organizing of Religious Guerrilla Forces during the Maji Maji War

The Maji Maji War started as several separate peasant uprisings against the colonial government of German East Africa in response to high taxes and cotton quotas before being organized into a religious, nationalist movement spurred on by religious figures who prophesied a revolution against the Germans. The most well known leader was Kinjikitile who claimed to be possessed and blessed by deities and who could make a potion that turned German bullets into water called maji from which the name of the rising was derived. The organization of the splintered resistance forces formed along religious and political lines in the territory, forming a loose confederation of armies operating as guerrillas out of the wilderness. The tactics used against the colonial forces were effective, but the Germans circumvented their resistance by starving the entire population. The colonial forces burned crops and fields in order to break the spirit of the fighters as well as force them out, leading to the deaths of between seventy thousand and three hundred thousand people due to starvation.



IAB Lobby

Whitley Gatch

Advisor: Dr. Bill Allison, History

Dong Loc Junction: Balancing Acts of Honor, Masculinity, and Femininity

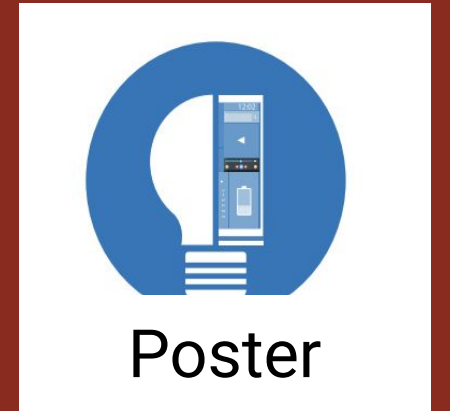
A part of Operation Rolling Thunder, Dong Loc Junction experienced extreme tragedy during the American War in Vietnam. Dong Loc Junction was a pivotal intersection on the Ho Chi Minh Trail. In July of 1968, ten Vietnamese girls, aged 17-22, were killed in a bombing. In the present day, the girls' labor is immortalized in a masculine manner, exemplified through stone carvings depicting the girls in robust, masculine poses, symbolizing their work on the Ho Chi Minh trail. However, the femininity of the girls is expressed at their grave site located near the monument. The graves are serene, with incense floating in the air and white flowers adorned on the graves, denoting purity. In contrast, American memorials hardly ever recognize the role of women in the Vietnam War. Only after several years was an addition made to the National Vietnam Veterans Memorial, representing women's service during the war. The monument in Vietnam memorializes both heroism and sacrifice. Whereas the National Vietnam Veterans Memorial serves as a reminder of the tragedy that occurred in Vietnam. Countering American-centric and male-biased interpretations of the Vietnam War allows for a deeper understanding of a war in which all individuals, regardless of gender, were involved.



IAB Lobby

Seth Lee

Advisor: Dr. Robert Batchelor, History and Digital Humanities



Places!

Places! Is a game that lets the user experience what it is like being an actor at a summer theatre camp. The game follows the actor throughout 2 weeks at a summer theatre camp and the user is presented with choices on what to do throughout their time at camp. These choices will determine the outcome of the final show and the user's future in the production. Similar in gameplay to Life is Strange or Until Dawn, This game will present you choices during conversations with other characters or at milestone events in the game; The player will eventually have either good or bad consequences respective to the line of decisions they have made throughout the story. Players will encounter milestone events such as auditions, Rehearsals, tech week, and performances. Creating the game based in a summer theatre camp lets the user develop an idea of the time and commitment, as well as a rough realistic timeline, needed for a theatrical production at a low-stakes level.

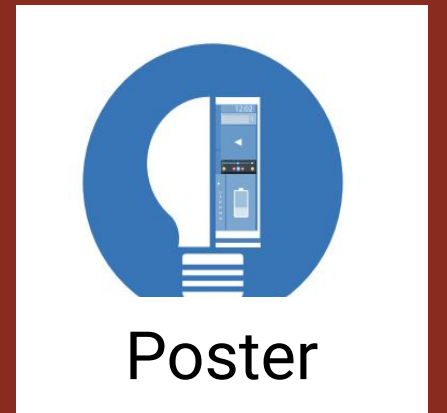
IAB Lobby

Braden Lott

Advisor: Dr. Robert Batchelor, History and Digital Humanities

Raider Run

Raider Run is a tile-based movement board game in which players will be able to play as a Viking warrior. Players will progress through the game by moving through the tiles and by completing tasks indicated by different cards. Throughout the game, players will encounter hardships that are inspired by hardships the Vikings would have faced during the Viking age. Players will also encounter specific battles that occurred in history and will draw a card that explains the events of each battle. By doing extensive research, I have created a game in which players will not only be able to learn about the Vikings and their raids on England, but they will also be able to do so in a fun and entertaining way. My game is designed to allow players to learn more about the Viking Age in hopes of inspiring them to pursue further knowledge on the topic and to inform otherwise unknowing people about the Vikings.



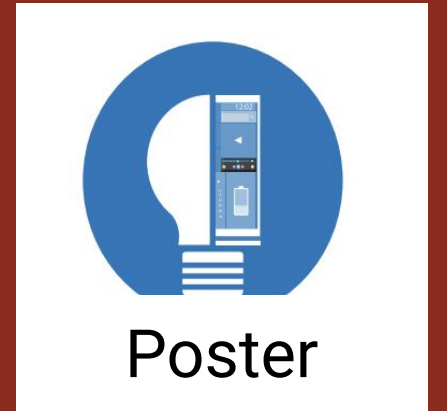
IAB Lobby

Enzo Montero

Advisor: Dr. Cathy Skidmore-Hess, History

Moluccan Refugees Fight for Dutch Recognition in the Netherlands

My research follows the struggle of Molluccun refugees in the Netherlands. After the Dutch Indonesian war the Dutch lost and left a maassive refugee issue for the Mollucans of Indonesia. Reason why the Mollucans of Indonesia were the main supporters for the Dutch in the conflict. After conflict Indonesia became a Singular republic and single outed the Mollucans. This led to massive killing of Mollucans. In which the Dutch allowed 12,000 Mollucans to seek refuge in the Netherlands .By the 1970s Mollucans in the Netherlands were considered stateless and Dutch did not acknowledge them for statehood. This led to terrorist actions done by Mollucans in the Netherlands to fight for Dutch recognition.



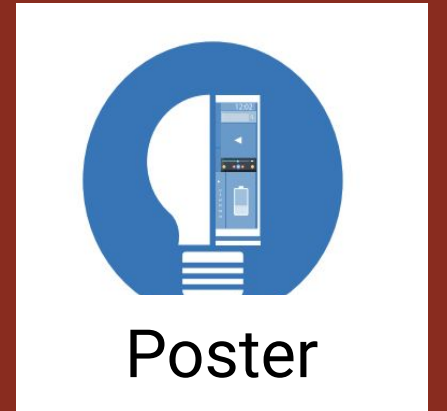
IAB Lobby

Abby Noonan

Advisor: Dr. Bill Allison, History

The Michigan War Dog Memorial

The Michigan War Dog Memorial is a non-profit organization located in South Lyon, Michigan. The memorial was established in 2012 and still has service dogs being actively buried there. The site originally “started as a family pet cemetery in the 1930s” and then was restored by Phil Weitlauf into the memorial. Weitlauf was a Vietnam War veteran and decided he was the right person to help restore the cemetery. The mission of the memorial is to “provide research for military records and/or service records” to honor K-9s for their service at no cost to the owner. The memorial allows people to understand the service these dogs did and provide them the respect they deserve. During the Vietnam War “4,234 ‘War Dogs’ were deployed... and it is estimated [that] they saved over 10,000 [human] lives.” The dogs were used to detect explosives and boobytraps left by North Vietnamese. After America announced they were pulling out troops from Vietnam, an order came down from Washington DC to leave the dogs. The memorial is used to commemorate the left behind heroes of the Vietnam War.



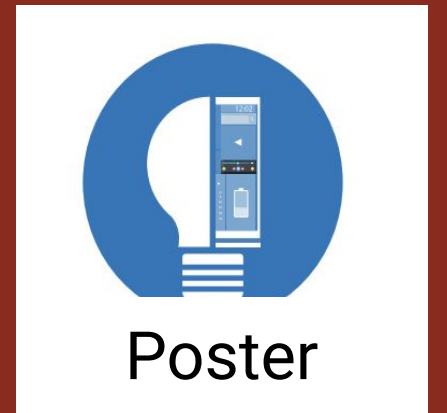
IAB Lobby

Mary Anna Saunders

Advisor: Dr. Brian Feltman

The Life of Sergeant George Guy Burgess

I have been doing research on the life of a Bulloch County Resident named George Guy Burgess. This is in collaboration with Dr. Feltman and my World War One class. This project is to remember the life of a fallen soldier from the First World War that was a resident of Bulloch County. Through the use of Ancestry I have found multiple records that document his life from birth till his departure for the Western Front and to his death. This includes where he was born, died, what battles he fought in, his marriage, and where he is buried.



IAB Lobby

Parker Timmons

Advisor: Dr. Bill Allison, History

English Language-Learning Curriculum for Emory Hospital Staff

This Language Instruction Training course, specifically designed for ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) instructors at Emory Healthcare, serves as a pioneering educational tool to enhance English language proficiency among non-English speaking employees through detailed modules. This comprehensive program aims to equip educators with essential tools and strategies for effective language teaching within a diverse healthcare setting. Recognizing the pivotal role of language educators in fostering a culture of inclusivity and effective communication, this module focuses on facilitating language acquisition and developing communication skills among staff members. The training is uniquely tailored to the healthcare sector, emphasizing the importance of language skills in delivering superior patient care and supporting Emory Health Systems' mission. The course amalgamates innovative pedagogical approaches, practical applicable methods, and a multitude of resources to provide educators with the necessary guidance for teaching English in a healthcare context. It aims to create a collaborative learning environment that values diversity, promotes cultural understanding, and encourages the exchange of knowledge for instructors. By implementing the techniques and strategies provided, educators will be able to support non-English speaking employees in their language learning journey, enabling them to communicate effectively with patients and colleagues.



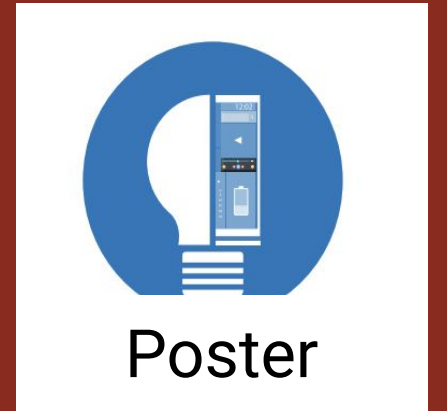
IAB Lobby

Adam Washburn

Advisor: Dr. Cathy Skidmore-Hess, History

Masculinity and Warfare of the Zulu Nation

The purpose of this paper will be to examine the link between masculinity and the warfare practices of the Zulu Nation from the early 19th century to the end of the Anglo-Zulu War. I will be using various sources including scholarly articles and books written about the man the Zulu Nation was named after, Shaka. My primary sources will come from the London Gazette and London Time Archives. These sources will be reporting on the Anglo-Zulu War. The historical context of this paper will begin with the reign of Shaka and end with the Anglo-Zulu War. My main argument will answer the question: How does warfare directly correlate with masculinity in the Zulu Nation?



IAB Lobby

Many Thanks to the CURIO 2024 Judges

Dr. Olga Amarie
Dr. Shana Bridges
Dr. Jeffrey Burson
Dr. Julie de Shantal
Dr. Chris Caplinger
Dr. John Parcels

Kevin Reagan
Dr. Linda Rohrer Paige
Dr. Joanna Schreiber
Roger Smith
Dr. Rebecca Ziegler



Research



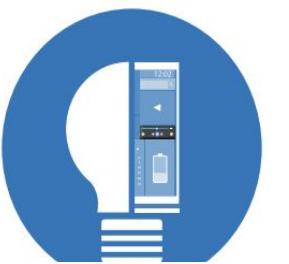
Creative



Portfolio



Performances



Poster

**And Many Thanks
to the caterers and the
volunteers**



Research



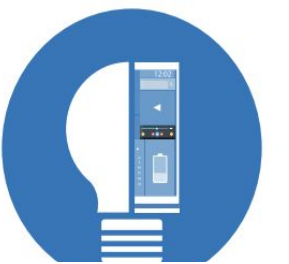
Creative



Portfolio



Performances



Poster



2024 CURIO

ARMSTRONG STUDENT UNION

Thursday April 18, 2024

2024 ARMSTRONG CURIO

CURIO Program

Armstrong Student Union

10:00 am to 12 pm	Poster Session	Savannah Ballroom (211 A)
12:30 pm to 12:45 pm	President's Welcome (GS4)	Ogeechee Theater (224)
1:00 pm to 1:45 pm	Keynote (GS4)	Ogeechee Theater (224)
1:30 pm to 2:00 pm	CURIO check-in	Tybee Room (236)
2:00 pm to 2:45 pm	Research Presentations	Savannah Ballroom (211A)
2:00 pm to 2:30 pm	Creative Presentations	Ogeechee Theater (224)
2:45 pm to 3:30 pm	Performances	Ogeechee Theater (224)
3:15 pm to 4:15 pm	Research & Portfolios	Savannah Ballroom (211A)
4:15 pm to 5:00 pm	Presenters' Awards	Savannah Ballroom (211A)

Student Union
Thursday April 18, 2024
10 am to 5 pm

The presentations in this program are divided into five categories:

Posters

Research

Creative Analysis

Performances

Portfolios

Presenters and abstracts are listed alphabetically within each presentation category.



Research



Creative



Portfolio



Performances



Poster

Poster Presentations

Presenters are listed alphabetically



[Menu](#)

2024 AMSTRONG CURIO

Michaela Dore, Psychology

Advisor: Dr. Grant Gearhart, World Languages

Empowering Voices: Student Initiatives at MESE

This presentation showcases student-led initiatives at MESE, a migrant equity organization dedicated to empowering and educating migrants and the Hispanic community about their rights and potential impact. Through a lens of community engagement, students have spearheaded projects aimed at amplifying voices and fostering social change. Critical thinking is at the forefront of these endeavors, as students analyze complex issues facing migrant communities and devise strategic solutions. They leverage their knowledge to organize events that educate migrants about their rights and entitlements, provide support to immigrant families, and equip individuals with tools for navigating life in America. Moreover, these projects serve as a platform for developing essential career competencies. Students cultivate teamwork, communication, and leadership skills while collaborating with diverse stakeholders and advocating for migrant rights. Central to the success of these initiatives is the application of language as a tool for empowerment and inclusion. Students effectively communicate with migrant populations, bridging linguistic and cultural barriers to facilitate meaningful dialogue and action. We highlight the integral role of student-led initiatives in advancing migrant equity and social justice, underscoring the interconnectedness of community engagement, critical thinking, career competencies, and applied language in driving positive change.



Poster

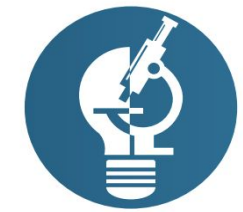
Savannah Ballroom
(211A)

10:00 to 12:00 pm

2024 ARMSTRONG CURIO

Research Presentations

Presenters listed alphabetically



Research

[Menu](#)

2024 ARMSTRONG CURIO

Gabrielle Reilly, Comm Studies

Advisor: Prof. Pam Bourland-Davis, Communication Arts

Audience Perceptions of Social Issues in Contemporary Theatre

This study identified ways in which social issues were presented in contemporary theatre through a collegiate production of *Marian, or the True Tale of Robin Hood*. Participants involved in the show through technical or onstage roles (N - 6) were interviewed about their experiences with the social issues in the play prior to and as a result of their involvement. Participants who were in attendance of the show over the course of four production dates (N - 67) were anonymously surveyed and answered questions on a scale relating to their ability to identify the social issues presented as well as their perception of the issues. The participants that held technical or onstage roles as well as participants who attended the production that identified with a social issue presented were able to positively perceive the inclusion of the issue and its benefits than those who did not identify with a social issue presented.



Research

Savannah Ballroom
(211A)
2:00 - 2:45 pm

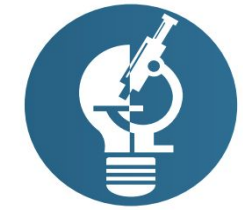
2024 ARMSTRONG CURIO

Allie Strausl, English

Advisor: Dr. Amanda Konkle, English

Marilyn: More Than Just Another Showgirl

Marilyn Monroe has been an icon of female sexuality in the American 1950s for decades now- her roles as a ditzy blonde and her seductress figure prominently in most discussions of Hollywood at the time, but her desire to be seen as more is often ignored. My research analysis paper, Marilyn: More Than Just Another Showgirl, explores one of the many attempts she made to be seen as a serious actress by sharing details surrounding the production and marketing of the 1957 film *The Prince and the Showgirl*. Although the contents of my paper are meant to encourage its audience to change how they view the dazzling starlet, the form is just as integral; my research is packaged in a style that mimics magazine articles to emphasize the importance that the press played in the construction of Monroe's image and its continued influence for her deconstruction in contemporary portrayals. My presentation will be an exploration of the creative process behind the curation of my paper: the reasons for its form, decisions about the organization of its contents, and the significance of both for elevating my argument.



Research

Savannah Ballroom
(211A)
3:15 - 4:15 pm

Emmalyne Roper, English

Advisor: Dr. Jane Rago, English

A Life of Her Own: Exploring the Cultivation of Feminist Language on the Subject of Girlhood

The genesis of feminism has no linear path, but instead, is a culmination of various historical events and literature coalesced to form our contemporary understanding. The Victorian Era, 19th-century England, is rich with early women's suffrage and the cultivation of Eurocentric, gendered language. This essay begins its analysis with a Victorian text from a popular magazine The Girl's Own Paper, which marketed itself towards young women seeking advice. My specific area of interest was the early feminist language on girlhood that is explored in an issue of The Girl's Own Paper: "Between School and Marriage." This work defines girlhood as a time of independence for women outside of their families or husbands. My research explores how the attitudes surrounding girlhood have shifted over time and endured. I explore a thematic longing for girlhood introduced in "Between School and Marriage" that reminisces with Adrienne Rich's poem "Snapshots of a Daughter-in-Law" and Taylor Swift's song "Nothing New." Each work is representative of girlhood within its time while remaining interconnected. To understand the progression of girlhood is to understand an elemental part of feminism; therefore, asking the question of how far we have come and how much farther we have to go.



Research

Savannah Ballroom
(211A)
3:15 - 4:15 pm

2024 ARMSTRONG CURIO

Pilcher Thornton, Comm Studies

Advisor: Dr. Shana Bridges, Communication Arts

Great Again: A Rhetorical Criticism of Donald Trump's Inaugural Address

The key purpose of this presentation is to analyze Donald Trump's 2017 inaugural address from the viewpoint of rhetorical criticism. More specifically, through the lenses of ideological and genre criticism. Regarding ideological criticism of Trump's inaugural, his intentions, word choice, rhetorical situation, and underlying themes of his address were assessed from an ideological standpoint. The "MAGA" ideology was revealed to be present in Trump's inaugural address through his rhetoric regarding hegemony and his attempts to domesticate this resistant ideology on the national stage. When Trump's address was approached from the perspective of genre criticism, he proved to have operated within the parameters of the appropriate genre for the most part. Trump adhered to most major principles within the genre of inaugural addresses, but there were a handful of instances throughout his speech where he subliminally strayed from the path of precedent. In summary, this essay served to unpack both the essence and presence of the MAGA ideology; in addition to analyzing Trump's inaugural address from the viewpoint of genre.



Research

Savannah Ballroom
(211A)
2:00 - 2:45 pm

2024 ARMSTRONG CURIO

Creative Analyses

Presenters listed alphabetically



Creative

[Menu](#)

2024 ARMSTRONG CURIO

Jessica Day, English

Advisor: Prof. Laura Valeri, English

Song of the Wheels

I will read and then analyze my original poem "Song of the Wheels" by comparing it to the two poems that influenced it. My poem is inspired by my impressions of Thomas Hood's "Song of the Shirt" and Elizabeth Barrett Browning's "The Cry of the Children" both written in 1843. The concepts and imagery in both Protest Poems made an impression on me, and my own experiences in the exploitative modern American workforce. My poem is an imitation of the two Victorian poems from the perspective of the people in power. I set out to mimic the style of the two poems while switching the perspective from the oppressed to the oppressor in a way similar to how many modern labor rights songs have in the past five years. The goal was to give the sincerity of the originals a twist towards the satirical while still keeping the themes of the children's labor rights in mind to try to connect to a more modern reader.



Creative

Skidaway (244)

2:00 - 2:30 pm

2024 ARMSTRONG CURIO

Amy Phelps, English

Advisor: Prof. Laura Valeri, English

Meeting the Muse: A Creative Analysis of A *Course in Demonic Creativity* by Matt Cardin

This project is a multimedia short story slide presentation with a musical accompaniment. The project was created using Canva online design software and features some AI-generated images that were created using the software as well as stock images and templates. This presentation tells the story of how I met my "creative daemon," as defined by Matt Cardin in *A Course in Demonic Creativity*, though I choose to refer to this spirit as a "muse". The video presentation is accompanied by the song "In My Heart" by Moby, which I chose because the song is a personal anthem and mantra, and it embodies the Spirit of the piece. Following the story presentation, I will discuss how this project has influenced and advanced my creative output, and explain how my current and future projects tie together thematic interests including marketing and personal development.



Creative

Skidaway Room
(244)
2:00 - 2:30 pm

Performances

Presenters are listed alphabetically



Performances

[Menu](#)

2024 ARMSTRONG CURIO

Brianna Lancaster, English

Advisor: Prof. Laura Valeri, English

Through a Strasburg Window and The Roses Still Bloom

The mark of any great writer is being able to connect with their intended audience. The best way to do that is to share stories that people can relate to. These could be connected to real-life events. In my time at Georgia Southern University, I have honed the skills necessary to turn my memories of people, places, and things that I love into stories and poems that will move others, so that they may see and feel just as I do. These pieces hold a special place in my heart, as they both speak of the home of my childhood and the woman who raised me and how these memories have shaped the woman I have become and the writer I want to be.



Performances

Skidaway Room
(244)

2:45 pm to 3:15 pm

Kimberly Bronte, English

Advisor: Dr. Jane Rago, English

The Importance of Being Scholarly: A Pedantic Play for the Academically Inclined

I will be presenting an audio performance of my play, *The Importance of Being Scholarly: A Pedantic Play for the Academically Inclined*. This was written as a modern imitation of Oscar Wilde's play, *The Importance of Being Earnest: A Trivial Comedy for Serious People*. Following Wilde's blueprint gave me the confidence I needed to try my hand at an artistic style, as creative writing has never been my forte. By imitating his play, I was able to push aside my hesitancy and grow as a writer. In my imitation, I endeavored to capture Wilde's quippy tone, simple structure, and his exploration of ingenuine morality. I have kept the names the same, or similar, to the original story for ease of transition. For example, by using "Algernina," my reader knows that this character will exhibit many of the same traits as Oscar Wilde's Algernon. Where I could, I kept to the structure and format of the original work, for example, the use of italics and parenthesis when describing a scene, an action, or a speaker's tone. As seen with Wilde's original characters, the subjective morality and logic exhibited in this story are deeply flawed and taken to the extreme for comedic effect.



Skidaway Room
(244)
2:45 pm to 3:15 pm

2024 ARMSTRONG CURIO

Rider Lemmond, English

Advisor: Prof. Laura Valeri, English

Animals

For most people growing up in the age of the internet, it takes just a Google search to witness atrocities if you're curious, which most people are. Or you can stumble upon violent acts entirely by accident. Nearly every day, we consume media that glorifies violence both dramatized and real. We see so much of this, that it becomes normal to us instead of horrible. At best, this leads to apathy of human suffering. At worst, this leads to young people seeking to commit dangerous acts because they don't understand the gravity of these actions. I will be reading excerpts from a short story I crafted for my fiction writing class this semester called Animals. The story comments on the increasing and dangerous normalization of violence that leads to desensitization. In this story, we see a teenager come to realize the consequences of his morbid curiosity as he underestimates the impact of the violence he commits.



Performances

Skidaway Room
(244)

2:45 pm to 3:15 pm

2024 ARMSTRONG CURIO

Portfolio Presentations

Presenters listed alphabetically



Portfolio

[Menu](#)

2024 ARMSTRONG CURIO

Brianna Bella, English

Advisor: Prof. Laura Valeri, English

From College to Career: My Journey as an English Major

This presentation will explore the works I submitted for my assessment portfolio in my Senior Portfolio class this semester and reflect upon my professional growth as an English major. The works I will discuss correlate to the Student Learning Outcomes you are to reach as an English major at Georgia Southern. The artifacts highlight research, analysis, audience, and process. My research paper, "Inclusive Language: The Responsibility of an Editor," shows my ability to synthesize multiple sources to prove my thesis. My analysis paper, "The Working Class," shows my ability to analyze and interpret the rhetorical situation of a text. I will review a style sheet I created that addresses a specific audience which displays my ability to anticipate readers' needs and expectations. I will also highlight how these works have contributed to my professional development in gaining specific skills to enter a career, which includes writing, reading comprehension, communication, and research.



Portfolio

Savannah Ballroom
(211A)

3:15 to 4:15 pm

2024 ARMSTRONG CURIO

Cheyenne Brosam, English

Advisor: Prof. Laura Valeri, English

My Creative Odyssey: Using the Skills of an English Major

The following presentation will cover my Senior Portfolio Assignment and the process behind making it. Growing up I always had a passion for writing and literature; I pursued this passion by continuing my education and majoring in English. This project includes personal works that show my development and understanding of what I have learned in my college career. Included in this project are 2 poems, a short story, and 2 essays. These works show an understanding of the SLOs required for the English major as I analyze different works and character tropes, research topics to further my argument, create a voice and community, and revise as I grow as a writer. The process of curating this project depended on my abilities to write, rewrite, and perfect certain works. The majority of these projects were done as a way of personal expression and growth as opposed to one done for an assignment. Through these works, I not only show the academic skills of a writer but also the soft skills professionals look for— self-development, teamwork, and technology.



Portfolio

Savannah Ballroom
(211A)
3:15 to 4:15 pm

Many Thanks to 2024 Armstrong CURIO Judges & Volunteers

Dr. Lisa Dusenberry
Johannah Fortner
Dr. Christopher Garland
Dr. Carol Jamison
Dr. Karla Jennings
Dr. Annie Mendenhall
Dr. Jack Simmons
April Trepagnier
Dr. Felicity Turner



Research



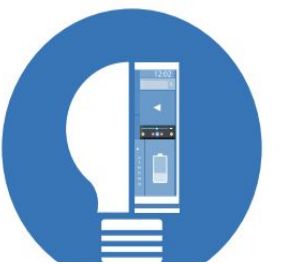
Creative



Portfolio



Performances



Poster

CURIO 2024

Armstrong Committee

Dr. Allison Belzer, History

Dr. Casey Shachner, Betty Foy Sanders Dept of Art

Dr. Morgan Rempel, Philosophy

Prof. Laura Valeri, English

**Many thanks to Dr. Shainaz Landge
and the GS4 Symposium
for all the support and assistance.**



Research



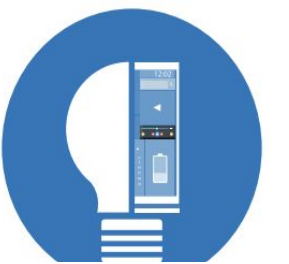
Creative



Portfolio



Performances



Poster