

# Hampshire College Commencement



**DIVISION III SHOWCASE**  
**MAY 20, 2022**

## WEST LECTURE HALL

# ENVIRONMENTS AND CHANGE

**Moderators: Cynthia Gill & Laura Wenk**

## SESSION A

[illegible]

## SESSION B

**1:45 p.m.** . . . . . Raphael Le  
**2 p.m.**. . . . . Emily Kristensen  
**2:15 p.m.** . . . . . Willoughby Carlo  
**2:30 p.m.** . . . . . Marissa Neiberg

## MAIN LECTURE HALL

# IN/JUSTICE

**Moderators: Lailye Weidman & Robert Caldwell**

## SESSION A

9:30 a.m.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Blythe Wilde
9:45 a.m.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Gwen Peavey-Hunter	
10 a.m.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Mohammed Kawish	
10:15 a.m.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Robin White	
10:30 a.m.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Ali Caraveo	

## SESSION B

[illegible]

## MAIN LECTURE HALL

## MEDIA AND TECHNOLOGY

**Moderator: Thom Long**

1 p.m.. . . . . Sam Arnold

1:15 p.m. . . . . Tom Nicholson

1:30 p.m. . . . . Sunny Laprade

1:45 p.m. . . . . Sidney St. Ives

2 p.m.. . . . . Adam Ross

2:15 p.m. . . . . Nicholas Bythrow

2:30 p.m. . . . . Zahria Thomas

## EAST LECTURE HALL

## TIME AND NARRATIVE

**Moderators: Eva Rueschmann & Faune Albert**

## SESSION A

[illegible]

## SESSION B

[illegible]

# ENVIRONMENTS & CHANGE

## SESSION A

### WEST LECTURE HALL

10:30 a.m. . . . Adina Kirkland

10:45 a.m. . . . Aditi Stromayer

11 a.m. . . . Annie Ehler

11:15 a.m. . . . Tim Matthias

11:30 a.m. . . . Fianna Wilde

11:45 a.m. . . . Edward Looker

*Moderator: Cynthia Gill*

# ADINA KIRKLAND

she/her

## **The Molecular Components of Seasonal Reproduction and Dissociated Reproductive Patterns in *Thamnophis sirtalis***

What ultimately controls seasonal events, like reproduction, on a molecular level? This project proposes that the Clock gene pathway is involved in seasonal breeding, and may also be responsible for the dissociated reproductive pattern we see in garter snakes. First, I discuss the internal workings of biological rhythms and how the Clock gene system drives them. Then, I describe an overview of sexual reproduction, reproductive patterns, and pertinent biology. Finally, I include an in-depth discussion of my laboratory methods and results as I learn more about how the Clock gene system works and its implications in seasonal breeding.

Div III Committee: Cynthia Gill & John Castorino

# ADITI STROMAYER

she/her

## **Bat Ecology and Human Interactions**

My final project is on bats and their interactions with agriculture. Sharing this information through poems, drawings, and stories is about my interest in bats, and others are from other cultures.

Div III Chair: Brian Schultz & Christina Cianfrani



# ANNIE EHLER

she/her

## **A Treatise on the Emendation of the Neurobiological Basis of Sexual Identity**

How does the brain of straight people differ from gay people? Are bisexual people different than non-bisexuals?

What about trans versus cis people? This Division III showcase will explore the modern research attempting to answer these questions and present the current perspective from a neuroscientific lens.

Div III Committee: Cynthia Gill & Rayane Moreira

**WHAT'S NEXT? →** *"I will be staying in Southern California for research assistant work in behavioral neuroscience before moving on and aiming for a doctoral degree."*

# TIM MATTHIAS

he/him

## **Black Hole Heat Engines in Kerr-Newman de Sitter Space**

Certain types of black holes can be modeled as thermodynamic entities known as heat engines. Exploring these models can help determine the underlying structure of black holes.

Div III Committee: Kaća Bradonjić & Steven Roof

# FIANNA WILDE

she/her

## **Politics of Indigenous and Settler Land Relations, Storytelling, and Bird Migration**

My Div III centered around the question, What are the relationships of bird migration to settler and Indigenous land relations and practices? My ensemble and I engaged this question through devising an immersive theater experience, Dreaming of Winged-Kin. While also co-hosting a series of community art workshops. Throughout this process, I actively considered my positionality as a non-Indigenous person and asked each member of the ensemble to consider their own positionality in relation to this work.

Div III Committee: Robert Caldwell (co-chair) & Will MacAdams (co-chair)

# EDWARD LOOKER

he/him

## **Assessing Models of Multiple Sclerosis Through miRNA Expression**

For my Division III project, I have induced models of multiple sclerosis in zebrafish and investigated the expression of specific miRNAs associated with the disease. Up or downregulation of the miRNAs in model diseases compared to the human disease can tell us about common molecular pathways between them.

Div III Committee: John Castorino & Elizabeth Conlisk

# ENVIRONMENTS & CHANGE

## SESSION B

### WEST LECTURE HALL

1:45 p.m. . . . Raphael Le

2 p.m. . . . Emily Kristensen

2:15 p.m. . . . Willoughby Carlo

2:30 p.m. . . . Marissa Neiberg

*Moderator: Laura Wenk*

# RAPHAEL LE

he/him

## **Natural and Constructed Wetlands at Hampshire College: Comparing Dominant Vegetation and Hypothesizing Wetland Function**

I studied natural and constructed wetlands at Hampshire College to determine whether they are currently functioning as wetlands and their worth in protection. I also compared the diversity of plants at each site to help determine the tell-tale functions.

Div III Committee: Steve Roof & Christina Cianfrani

# EMILY KRISTENSEN

she/her

## **The Case for Transdisciplinary Research in Urban Planning and Public Health**

Complex problems like climate change require complex solutions, which is why I argue that fields like urban planning and public health need to use a more transdisciplinary approach to making cities and their residents resilient to climate change. I use urban greening both as a framework for discussing the importance of transdisciplinary work and in its own right as a mitigation strategy for climate change.

Div III Committee: Chris Cianfrani & Elizabeth Conlisk

*WHAT'S NEXT? → "Rest, online classes, and a job, hopefully."*

# WILLOUGHBY CARLO

she/her

## **Milk Politics: Dairy Industry Trends and Their Impacts on Farms**

I conducted a qualitative interview-based study where I talked to farmers and others related to the dairy industry about the struggles they are currently facing and what their hopes are for the future. This study was meant to engage farmers and other dairy industry stakeholders in a conversation about the environmental and economic concerns facing the dairy industry.

Div III Committee: Elizabeth Conlisk & Jennifer Bajorek



# MARISSA NEIBERG

she/her

## **Queer Witches and Magical Secrets: Revising The Witch University**

Creative writing and the revision process of the beginning of a novel. The novel focuses on themes of ableism, religious influence in government, and history being told by the winners.

Div III Committee: Uzma Aslam Khan & Jennifer Bajorek

# IN/JUSTICE

## SESSION A

### MAIN LECTURE HALL

9:30 a.m. . . . Blythe Wilde

9:45 a.m. . . . Gwen Peavey-Hunter

10 a.m. . . . Mohammed Kawish

10:15 a.m. . . . Robin White

10:30 a.m. . . . Ali Caraveo

*Moderator: Lailye Weidman*

# BLYTHE WILDE

she/her

## **Stories Through the Stars; What Birds Teach Us**

My div focused on an immersive dance piece asking questions about indigenous and settler land relations and what it be to be in right relations land and place. In addition I co-facilitated a workshop series which engaged the Hampshire community with birds, through a bird trip and art workshops.

Div III Committee: Robert Caldwell & Amy Jordan

**WHAT'S NEXT? →** *"I am looking forward to some rest and also going on a 10 day backpacking trip with my sister this summer."*

# GWEN PEAVEY HUNTER

she/her

## **In Companionship with Place: Learning Through Landscape Design**

My Div III explores the political and social dimensions of landscape architecture, particularly focusing on Hampshire's campus, and Indigenous scholarship. I am interested in the ways that land and space design/use, sometimes considered apolitical or neutral, affects the potential for human and non-human flourishing. The project is primarily in the form of written anthropological text and creative nonfiction, including interviews and archival research. The visual art component of my Div III is focussed less on producing an extensive body of work, but rather as an exercise in doing research and observations with many beings, including trees, air, birds, buildings, and pathways. Using visual art also helped me consider new frameworks and ways to analyze my written work.

Div III Committee: Nathan McClain & Roosbelinda Cárdenas

*WHAT'S NEXT? → "I plan to work on farms in the region, and then participate in a work study program at the John C. Campbell Folk School in NC. The school teaches folk crafts such as blacksmithing, weaving, glassblowing, pottery, etc. I then hope to work at a Camphill Community in the Northeast."*

# MOHAMMAD ABDULLAH KAWISH

they/them

## **“Mera Jism, Meri Merzi” (My Body, My Choice)**

“Mera Jism, Meri Merzi (My Body, My Choice)” is a documentary film that explores the Aurat Azadi March (Women Freedom March) on 8th March, 2020 in Islamabad, Pakistan and the many discourses that opposed the movement.

Div III Committee: Abraham Ravett & Susana Loza

# ROBIN WHITE

he/him

## **Gender in the Woods: A Queer Ecology Graphic Novel**

What do forest plants have to do with gender? *Gender in the Woods* is an experimental graphic novel combining memoir and fiction that is set in the Hampshire Woods. Inspired by the emerging field of Queer Ecology as well as works of indigenous authors like Robin Wall Kimmerer and Enrique Salmon, who write of the teachings of plants, this book provides an alternative view to the nature/culture divide that separates humans from nature and explores how non-humans can indeed be teachers of, and havens for, queerness.

Div III Committee: Uzma Aslam Khan & Serena Aurora  
Himmelfarb

# ALI CARAVEO

she/her

## **The War on Drugs**

The war on drugs has normalized structural racism. This Div is a guidebook to the war on drugs and how to end it.

Div III Committee: Alan Goodman & Margaret Cerullo

*WHAT'S NEXT? → "Disrupt white supremacy."*

# IN/JUSTICE

## SESSION B

### MAIN LECTURE HALL

11 a.m. . . . Kat Rodde

11:15 a.m. . . . Sam Thomas

11:30 a.m. . . . Shiori O'Neil

11:45 a.m. . . . Moussa Siby

Noon . . . Daniela Werlin-Martinez

*Moderator: Robert Caldwell*



KAT RODDE  
she/her

**J-11 in Cuba: Political Subjectivity, US Foreign  
Policy and International Solidarity**

“J-11 in Cuba” is a collection of three essays that explore the political, social, economic and racial roots of the largest protest movement in Cuba in the 21st century.

Div III Committee: Roosbelinda Cardenas & Omar Dahi

**WHAT'S NEXT? →** *“After graduation, I will go home and take a nap.”*

# SAM THOMAS

he/him

## **Creating Fantasy Literature in the Modern Age**

Exploring the modern process of writing, editing, and producing a graphic novel to industry standard. Additionally, exploring new ways to make fantasy both insightful and engaging as a genre.

Div III Committee: Alejandro Cuellar & Jeffrey Wallen

**WHAT'S NEXT? →** *"After graduating I will further fine-tune my script before sending it to the publishing company known as The Black Library. Then I will await to hear back while beginning work on another script to send out to publishers."*

# SHIORI O'NEIL

they/them

## **Education Towards Liberation**

My Division III project examines and deconstructs taken for granted knowledge within the field of early childhood education. I critique how these practices fuel the reproduction of capitalism, neoliberalism, and colonialism.

With this knowledge, I then engage in a discussion of what liberating early childhood education could be. I work towards creating education that is a part of the fight for global liberation.

Div III Committee: Rachel Conrad & Lili Kim

# MOUSSA SIBY

he/him

## Colonialism in Mali

My Div 3 talk about the colonial legacy left in Mali after more than 60 years of independence.

Div III Committee: Margaret Cerullo & Omar Dahi

**WHAT'S NEXT? →** *"I want to find a job based on what I studied at Hampshire."*

# DANIELA WERLIN- MARTINEZ

they/them

## **“Se les olvido que éramos semillas”: A subversive exploration of family relations**

This project explores the intricacies of what it takes to remain human amidst systemic forces that demand we rupture any real relationships to ourselves and others. I have centered my family as a means of portraying resistance in everyday life. The two chapters I wrote are about love and identity where I attempt to capture the moments in which we assert our humanity as a means of helping us to see ourselves outside of the colonial gaze that paints a hegemonic picture of reality.

Div III Committee: Amy Jordan & Roosbelinda Cárdenas

**WHAT'S NEXT? →** *“I’m spending the summer in México, mostly in Mexico City with my mom. Then I’ll be moving to New York for the foreseeable future.”*

# MEDIA & TECHNOLOGY

## MAIN LECTURE HALL

- 1 p.m. . . . Sam Arnold
- 1:15 p.m. . . . Tom Nicholson
- 1:30 p.m. . . . Sunny Laprade
- 1:45 p.m. . . . Sidney St. Ives
- 2 p.m. . . . Adam Ross
- 2:15 p.m. . . . Nicholas Bythrow
- 2:30 p.m. . . . Zahria Thomas

*Moderator: Thom Long*

# SAM ARNOLD

he/him

## **Project Barrens: Narrative**

The demo of a horror point and click game developed by a small group of students. My work was focused directly on the narrative elements of the game.

Div III Committee: Jennifer Gutterman & Nathan McClain

# TOM NICHOLSON

he/him

## Project Barrens

Project Barrens

Div III Committee: Jennifer Gutterman & Kaća Bradonjić

**WHAT'S NEXT? →** *"The story of this project does not stop here! Development will resume over the summer and will continue until the game is complete."*



# SUNNY LAPRADE

she/her

## Queer Enough

An hour long narrative standup performance exploring queerness, transness, and mortality.

Div III Chair: Viveca Greene & John Slepian

**WHAT'S NEXT? →** *"Continuing my television work, as well as producing comedy shows and trying to become the next big standup comedian!"*

# SIDNEY ST. IVES

he/him

## **It's Not Enough to Know Yourself**

A (reflexive) autobiographic documentary about gender identity, transition, and representation.

Div III Committee: Patricia Montoya & Laura Wenk

# ADAM ROSS

he/him

## **Observable Inaccuracies in the Multiperspective Perceptron Branch Predictor**

In this paper we discuss the methodology utilized to increase the performance of Jiménez's Multiperspective Perceptron Predictor. Namely, through the analysis of individual prediction performance statistics, we are able to optimize the corrective capabilities of the alternative prediction provided in low confidence primary prediction ranges. By locating predictive combinations with a higher than 50% misprediction rate, we are able to determine that the currently implemented definition of a 'low confidence' prediction causes overcorrection, making it less viable for a larger range of primary prediction values. Using the alternative prediction in the identification of these high misprediction combinations allows us to implement a stronger misprediction filter than the ones currently used in the predictor. This modification results in an average misprediction per thousand instructions improvement of 0.00057 MPKI, 0.00139 MPKI, and 0.00695 MPKI for the 8KB, 64KB, and Unlimited hardware budget implementations respectively. Additionally all these filters have a small enough memory footprint to keep each predictor within its respective memory budget.

Div III Committee: Salman Hameed & Will Colon

# NICHOLAS BYTHROW

he/him

## **Diabolical: The Culture of 4chan**

This project analyses how cultural elements of the website 4chan--particularly those associated with the alt-right--spread to mainstream social media sites and impact reality.

The purpose of this project is to shine a light on how influential 4chan has been throughout Internet history and how its culture has made its way into mainstream political conversations.

Div III Committee: Viveca Greene & Eva Rueschmann

**WHAT'S NEXT? →** *"After graduation, I will be working as a video editor and social media manager for Security in Context, an initiative run by Hampshire College's Omar Dahi. As I search for as many journalism and communications-based jobs as I can juggle, I'll continue to self-publish my novels and poetry collections on Amazon."*

# ZAHRIA THOMAS

she/her

## **Surviving Hampshire: An Ethnographic Manifesto**

In this essay, I argue that the Hampshire college administration exploits black and brown students to further institutional knowledge while also deradicalizing the students throughout their time on campus. I use edited transcriptions from my interviews, books based in critical race theory, the Hampshire College archives, and personal experience to validate the experience of many Black, Indigenous, and Persons of color (BIPOC) on campus.

Div III Committee: Susana Loza & Alejandro Cuellar

# TIME & NARRATIVE

## SESSION A

### EAST LECTURE HALL

11:15 a.m.	.	.	Abigail Evans
11:30 a.m.	.	.	Will Newhall
11:45 a.m.	.	.	Break
Noon	.	.	Iyanu Bishop
12:15 p.m.	.	.	Anna Kempf
12:30 p.m.	.	.	Samuel Komack

*Moderator: Eva Rueschmann*

# ABIGAIL EVANS

she/her

## A Semantics of Japanese Martial Arts

My Div III project was a study in Super-linguistics, an emerging field within Linguistics which applies linguistic theories to non-language things. I focused on Japanese Martial Arts because of the time I spent practicing them here at Hampshire. There was a research study, a theoretical paper, and a comic book adaptation involved in my project.

Div III Committee: Faune Albert & Alex Cuellar

*WHAT'S NEXT? → "My plan is to work for a couple years and then go to grad school. I'm thinking about going abroad to England or Norway, but I might apply directly to the PhD program for Linguistics at UMASS."*

# WILL NEWHALL

he/him

## **The History and Science of Epilepsy and the Post-Ictal State**

I cover the history and science of this unusual phenomena that epilepsy patients experience. I use history and science to explain it.

Div III Committee: Cynthia Gill & Jim Wald



# IYANU BISHOP

she/her

## **Thru the Abyss - A Performance Based Research Project**

My Division III Project is a one woman play I wrote, co-directed, and starred in. The play chronicles my journey through and out of the “abyss”, a theoretical world I created that signifies the real way marginalized folks feel inside and outside of their body.

Div III Committee: Will MacAdams & Susana Loza

# ANNA KEMPF

she/her

## **Artist's Book: The Connection Between Homeschooling and the Idealized Pioneer Ethos**

My Div 3 project consists of an exploration of modern conservative homeschooling and its connection to a desire to step back into the past that I have dubbed an 'idealized pioneer ethos', through the creation of an artist's book.

Div III Committee: Eva Rueschmann & Nathan McClain

# SAMUEL KOMACK

he/him

## **Creating a Liberatory Media in the Imperial Core**

I produced two media studies video essays which seek to analyze past film and television through a critical decolonial, Marxist lens. Through this project, I tried to learn from past media to inform the future, ensuring that film and television can aid in the revolutionary project of building a better society.

Div III Committee: Dr. Susana Loza & Dr. Eva Rueschmann

# TIME & NARRATIVE

## SESSION B

### EAST LECTURE HALL

1:15 p.m. . . . . Ciara Barstow

1:30 p.m. . . . . Mei Li Francis

1:45 p.m. . . . . Sam Bergeron

2 p.m. . . . . Peter Hume

2:15 p.m. . . . . Ida Kao

2:30 p.m. . . . . Sophie Ritchie

*Moderator: Faune Albert*

# CIARA BARSTOW

they/them

## **"Greeting Grief"**

My Div III produced a book of art and poetry surrounding two losses and the hope for healing, as well as a gallery of thirteen of those pieces for exhibition.

Div III Committee: Nathan McClain & John Slepian

# MEI LI FRANCIS

she/her

## **Kin, a Novella**

When Chinese American adoptee Amelia Stillwater finally works up the courage to begin the search for her biological father, she is met with surprising resistance from those around her. For reasons that she can't quite put her finger on, her bumbling father Thomas, sharp-tongued mother Linda, and frightened birth mother Maeve remain hesitant toward her quest for knowledge. As Amelia embarks on a journey of self-discovery, secretly sending off her DNA to a genetic testing service, her persistent desire for the truth unravels a surprising love story that forces readers to question the intricate bonds of family, race, gender, and biology in America.

Div III Committee: Faune Albert & Lili Kim

# SAM BERGERON

he/him

## **Euphoria: A Memoir**

As a teenager in central Texas, I came out as transgender and began my transition. This memoir follows my trajectory through music, home, and interpersonal relationships as I finished high school and fought for the ability to change my life permanently.

Div III Committee: Junko Oba & Jeffrey Wallen

# PETER HUME

they/them

## **Once in the Future: An Arthurian Descendant Story**

Once in the Future: An Arthurian Descendant Story is the first part in a three-part novel that follows Ari Pancoatl (they/them) from the night they discover they're one of many descendants of the legendary King Arthur, up into adulthood. The story weaves together topics of intergenerational trauma, grief, fate vs choice, cycles and patterns, social and personal change, identity, and the ever-changing Arthurian tradition.

Div III Committee: Eva Rueschmann & John Castorino



IDA KAO  
she/her/they

## **Bad Memory: A Genealogy of Hampshire College Student Governments and Publications**

My Div III is about Hampshire College's rocky history of creating effective, long-lasting student governments and newspapers. My work includes interviewing alums associated with various governments and publications at Hampshire to understand how they experienced the creation, continuation/decline, or dissolution of a particular government/publication. I have also gone through the College Archives to examine past student publications to continue A History of Student Activities and Achievements, a history of Hampshire College compiled by and for students.

Div III Committee: George Fourlas & Lili Kim

# SOPHIE RITCHIE

she/her

## **I Remember: An Illustrated Family Memoir**

My Div 3 is a graphic novel that explores my family's history and our Franco-American heritage. The narrative spans 4 generations, and focuses on the women in my family: me, my mom, my grandmother, and my great-grandmother.

Div III Committee: John Slepian & Laura Wenk



# **HAMPSHIRE COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT 2022**

**[commencement.hampshire.edu](https://commencement.hampshire.edu)**

Many thanks to ALL the graduating students!

## **CONGRATULATIONS!**

And thanks to the village of staff, faculty and students that made this showcase possible.