



BUTLER UNIVERSITY

2026



President's Message

Butler University is pleased to once again host the Undergraduate Research Conference (URC), an event that has a rich history going back to 1988. Each year, we add something new to keep the URC evolving.

From its beginnings as a science-only research showcase, the Butler URC has expanded to promote excellence and encourage undergraduate students from all disciplinary areas to highlight their unique research efforts. We are very pleased to welcome a talented group of undergraduates from institutions across the country to campus. The Butler URC continues to be one of the largest interdisciplinary undergraduate research conferences in the country.

I would like to thank the many people who have planned and prepared for the URC this year. From the student presenters, the faculty advisors, the conference moderators, the conference and events staff, to the Provost's Office, your hard work and dedication have provided a conference of new and renewed connections.

Best of luck to each of you as you present your work today. Please remember to support your colleagues by attending as many sessions as you can and fully engaging in this exchange of ideas and sharing of knowledge. I trust that the 2026 Butler URC will inspire you to continue to pursue knowledge as you seek to offer the world solutions to the many challenges we face.

Sincerely,

James M. Danko

President, Butler University





Welcome to the 2026 Undergraduate Research Conference

The Butler Undergraduate Research Conference (URC) began in 1988; the purpose of this event is to encourage students from all disciplines to become involved in research and creative endeavors. We believe that the best way to teach research and creativity is by doing it. Only through the process of asking questions and solving problems can one become experienced in the methods of research and creativity.

Welcome to Butler University

We acknowledge that we gather here at Butler University on the traditional land of indigenous peoples including the Potawatomi, Miami, Delaware, and Shawnee. We honor with gratitude the land itself and the indigenous peoples past and present who have stewarded it throughout the generations. This calls us to commit to continuing to learn how to be better stewards of the land we inhabit, while also acknowledging that some were brought to this land not by choice.

Save the Date

2027 Undergraduate Research Conference Friday, April 9

Abstract deadline: Friday, February 12, 2027

Please share this information widely with your network. We hope to have an even larger group of students and faculty next year!

Interested in helping to plan the 2027 URC? Please complete the volunteer form on the URC website: <https://www.butler.edu/academics/undergraduate-research-conference/>

Feeling Creative? Would you like to help design the **2027 URC Sticker**? Contact Dr. Lindsay Lewellyn (llewelly@butler.edu) with URC Sticker ideas.

The URC has gone GREEN

Butler University, Office of Sustainability has given the Undergraduate Research Conference official recognition as a **certified Green Event**. The Green Your Event program was created to encourage the adoption of sustainable practices among event organizers and planners at Butler University. This event had to score a 75% out of 42 possible points related to waste reduction, resource conservation, and reduction in energy to qualify.

This event has earned points by:

- Using all-electronic advertising to reduce paper consumption
- Selecting a venue that uses LED lighting and is LEED Gold certified
- Eliminating all single-use plastic items
- Providing visitors with information about sustainable transportation options
- Sharing resources that highlight Butler University's sustainability initiatives

LEED certification is a globally recognized symbol of sustainability achievement and leadership. LEED buildings are structures that have achieved certification under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program, which promotes sustainable building practices and environmental responsibility. Buildings that have received this certification have been designed to reduce waste, conserve energy, and decrease water consumption. Butler has committed to certifying new builds and renovations with a minimum of Silver rating through the LEED program. The **Science Complex, which includes Gallahue Hall and Levinson Family Hall, achieved LEED Gold in 2023** showing Butler's dedication to building a greener, healthier campus for the future.

As a Green Event, we have committed to reducing waste associated with the event. Therefore, we encourage all attendees to **bring their own reusable water bottle** and use the water refill stations around campus. We encourage attendees **to utilize labeled recycling bins as much as possible.**





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General Conference Etiquette and Navigating the URC

- **Event Check-in:** Check-in for the event will be available beginning at 8 am just outside the Reilly Room in Atherton Union. *Off-campus attendees must visit the check-in desk to obtain a parking pass and meal ticket.* Prior registration is required for meal tickets and parking passes
- **Oral Presentation Etiquette:**
 - Look over the sessions and identify topics of interest.
 - Arrive at the room early to find a seat.
 - **Do not enter or leave the room during one of the talks.** This can be disruptive and distracting to the speaker.
 - If you do not plan to stay for the entire session, you may enter or leave between talks, but do your best to minimize disruptions.
 - At the end of the talk, there should be a few minutes for questions. This is your opportunity to **participate in the session**; speakers love to answer questions about their work!
 - The speakers have been asked to stay in the room for 10 minutes after the end of the talks. This would be a great time to ask another follow-up question or further interact with the speaker.
- **Poster Presentations and Etiquette:**
 - Consult the Abstract List and schedule to identify the time and location of the posters you would like to visit.
 - Each session is only 75 minutes, so make sure to keep an eye on the clock so that you have enough time to see all of the posters on your list.
 - Think about a poster presentation as a conversation. You should expect to spend ~5-10 minutes at each poster, and you are welcome to ask questions as the speaker presents; you don't need to wait until the end of their presentation.
 - Even if you are not an expert in this field, you can always ask a question! For example, how did you get involved in this project? What is the biggest thing you learned from doing this work? How would you follow up on this project?
- **Poster Session Booths:** During the poster session, multiple booths will be set up in the Reilly Room. These booths will be advertising graduate and professional programs, off-campus and on-campus opportunities (see *Booth* section starting on pg. 9). As you are walking around the poster session, drop by some of the booths to learn more about opportunities available.



- **Networking Hotspots:** These will be set up in the first-floor atrium of Levinson Family Hall. We encourage you to visit these spaces, interact with other attendees, and start to build your professional network. There will be some icebreakers or discussion questions set up at the tables, so you can use these to initiate conversation.

Food and Drink

Lunch will be available at **Atherton**, which offers a variety of food options (hot food, salad bar, sandwich station, desserts, etc.). The dining services team is well-trained in food allergy awareness and offers many options for students with food allergies and celiac disease. **Daily menus can be accessed at butler.cafebonappetit.com.** Menu items that are appropriate options for most diners with celiac disease are labeled “made without gluten-containing ingredients” and can be filtered to streamline searches using the dietary preferences filter. A designated toaster for specialty bread products is available to students as needed. Top 9 allergens are included in menu names and/or descriptions whenever possible.

Meal tickets will be provided for off-campus visitors and for Butler student presenters who do not have a meal plan. **Lunch tickets will be available at the Check-in desk outside the Reilly Room in Atherton Union.**

The URC is a Green Event (see *above*), so we will be doing our best to minimize waste. Please **bring your reusable water bottle**, which can be filled at stations around campus (typically near restrooms).

Some limited snacks will be available at the poster sessions and in the Networking Hotspots. Due to the large number of attendees, we apologize that we cannot guarantee snack options compatible with all food allergies or sensitivities.



2026

Professional Development Sessions

This year, we are pleased to offer the following professional development sessions. We hope you will join us for one or all the sessions!

9:00 am-9:30 am; Pharmacy and Health Sciences 150

Communicating with Purpose: How to Make Your Research Understandable and Valuable

Dr. Matthew Lanham (Business Technology & Analytics)

Clear communication is essential for research to have influence beyond an academic setting. This talk offers practical guidance on presenting complex ideas in simple language, identifying a project's main message, and explaining its value to a general audience. Students will learn how to translate technical details into accessible insights while preserving the substance of their work. The session also shows how a short three-minute video shared on LinkedIn can strengthen a professional profile and open doors for future opportunities. By focusing on clarity, purpose, and audience needs, students can present research that is both understandable and meaningful.

10:00 am-11:00 am; Pharmacy and Health Sciences 150

Ethical Code: AI and Undergraduate Research

Dr. James McGrath (Philosophy and Religious Studies) and **Dr. Ankur Gupta** (Computer Science and Software Engineering)

The latest AI technology is simultaneously impressive and confusing. Much of the confusion stems from divergent messaging from tech companies, universities, and professors, each of whom may have their own AI policy. This session will describe the technology “under the hood” of LLMs, chatbots, and other generative AI technology, discuss how it can be authentically used in support of research endeavors, and explore ethical considerations about its use in research efforts. We will end with a live demonstration of an AI tool and how it can be used for a real research problem.



2:30 pm-3:30 pm; Jordan Hall 141

Research Advocacy 101: Why it matters and how to get involved

Dr. Jen Kowalski (Biological Sciences, LAS), **Dr. Molly Nebiolo** (History, Anthropology, & Classics, LAS), **Pranesh Raghavendran** (Physics & Astronomy, LAS), and **Dr. Brian Weidner** (Music Education, JCA)

*This workshop will provide attendees with an overview of federal, state, and local funding for research and creative projects across the sciences, arts and humanities, and education. Recent cuts and other challenges to this funding will be shared. Participants will then engage in brainstorming stakeholders, messaging, and processes needed for effective research advocacy. At the close of the session, we will identify collective ongoing actions and collaborations in which individuals might engage with one another, lawmakers, and the public to advocate effectively for research funding. **Suggested Audience:** Faculty and students doing research and/or interested in participating in advocacy for research support and funding to lawmakers and/or the public*

Networking Hotspots

To facilitate networking and interaction among faculty and student attendees, we will be hosting Networking Hotspots in the first-floor atrium of Levinson Family Hall. These Hotspots will be available for attendee use throughout the day.



Booths

In addition to research posters, we are pleased to host the following booths in the Reilly Room of Atherton Union.

Getting Involved in Research Advocacy

Stop by to sign up for ongoing discussions and actions toward research advocacy. We are also looking for initiatives already in the works that can serve as a foundation for ongoing, coordinated action across disciplines.

- **For more information, contact:**
 - Dr. Jen Kowalski jrkowals@butler.edu
 - Dr. Brian Weidner bweidner@butler.edu
 - Pranesh Raghavendran praghavendran@butler.edu
 - Dr. Molly Nebiolo mnebiolo@butler.edu
- **Booth open:**
 - 11:00am-12:15 pm – Dr. Jen Kowalski
 - 12:00-1 pm – Pranesh Raghavendran
 - 1:00-2:30 pm – Dr. Brian Weidner
 - 3:30-4:45 pm – Dr. Brian Weidner, Dr. Jen Kowalski, Pranesh Raghavendran, and Dr. Molly Nebiolo

Office of Online Education and Educational Technology

The Office of Online Education and Educational Technology (OEET) invites students, faculty, and staff to explore the future of digital pedagogy at our booth. We are actively recruiting for our Digital Ambassadors (DXA) program, offering student positions in Media Design, Communication, and Accessibility, including our newly established DXA AI Educator Student Lead role. Beyond student employment, we are proud to showcase our comprehensive support services and professional development initiatives for faculty and staff, with a specific focus on AI-integrated learning. We are particularly excited to promote the upcoming Faculty Leadership in AI-Integrated Learning application, designed for educators eager to pioneer AI implementation in their curricula. Whether you are a student looking for a high-impact internship or a faculty member seeking to lead in the digital space, stop by to learn how OEET can support your professional and academic growth.

- **For more information, contact:**
 - Evan Kinch, ekinch@butler.edu
- **Booth Open:** 11 am-4 pm



Getting Involved in Undergraduate Research

Undergraduate research can be a transformative part of your academic journey, and getting started is easier than you might expect. Prospective undergraduate researchers can stop by to talk with experienced student researchers about how they got started and what research has meant for them, including the Butler Summer Institute, the Big East Research Symposium, and other opportunities.

- **For more information, contact:**
 - Dr. Lindsay Lewellyn, Professor of Biological Sciences, Director of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity, llewelly@butler.edu
 - Dr. Caleb Class, Assistant Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences, member of the Programs for Undergraduate Research (PUR) Committee, cclass@butler.edu
- **Booth Open:** 11:00am-4:00pm

Butler University Office of Sustainability

Visit the Office of Sustainability booth to learn about internship opportunities in the sustainability field and explore how you can get involved at Butler through our Green Programs, campus-wide initiatives, and everyday actions that make a positive impact.

- **For more information, contact:** Noelle Schacht (nschacht@butler.edu)
MaCie' Weathers (mdmoore4@butler.edu)
- **Booth Open:** 11:00am-1:00pm

First Gen in STEM

Please join faculty and student attendees to discuss ways to get involved in STEM research. Discussions could include how to identify research opportunities, how to build strong relationships with faculty mentors, graduate programs, or post-baccalaureate opportunities in STEM, etc. **This gathering is not limited to first-generation college students.**

- **Booth Open:** 1:00-4:00pm



UIndy College of Health Sciences Graduate Programs

Learn more about graduate programs (PT, OT, Nursing, and more!) in the College of Health Sciences at the University of Indianapolis.

- **For more information, contact:** CHSAdmissions@uindy.edu
- **Booth Open:** 1:00-4:00pm

Unwrapping eye-tracking research in marketing research

I will be promoting my current research study using eye-tracking to recruit research assistants and also participants.

- **For more information, contact:** Dr. Xiaowen Xu: xxu4@butler.edu or Dr. Chi Zhang: czhang2@butler.edu
- **Booth Open:** 12:00pm-4:00pm



Information for Presenters

Oral Presentations – rooms throughout campus

Oral presentations will be limited to 15 minutes, including questions. We recommend planning for your talk to be ~12 minutes with 3 minutes for questions. The moderators will warn you when you are nearing the end of your allotted time. If you run over, they will have to interrupt you to move on to the next speaker.

Speakers should plan to arrive at their assigned room at least 15 minutes early. This will allow the moderators to meet each speaker and explain the session's structure. Any slide presentations or files needed for the presentation must be loaded onto the computer in advance. This will allow the moderator to easily transition between talks. **Speakers are also asked to stay for an additional 10 minutes after the session ends.** This will give the audience an opportunity to ask additional questions.

Oral presentations will be held in various buildings around campus (*see the map on pg. 14*). **Jordan Hall (#44), the Sciences Complex (#58 - Gallahue Hall, Levinson Family Hall, and Holcomb building), and the Pharmacy and Health Sciences Building (#51)** form a U-shape. Gallahue Hall, Holcomb, and Levinson Family Hall are connected to each other on the first floor; Jordan is connected to Gallahue on the second floor, and the second floor of Holcomb is connected to the third floor of the Pharmacy and Health Sciences Building. A few of the oral presentations will also be held in **Dugan Hall (#23)**.

Poster Presentations – Reilly Room

There will be multiple poster sessions held throughout the day. Poster presenters should arrive a few minutes before their session begins to hang their poster on the assigned board. Note: Each poster will have both a letter and a number. **The letter indicates which poster session they will be presenting, and the number corresponds to the label on the poster board.** Each poster board is 40 inches by 60 inches, so as you prepare your poster, please make sure it fits within these dimensions. *Push pins will be available within the Reilly Room.*



Getting to Campus

- If you are driving to campus, please consider carpooling to reduce transportation emissions
- If you are close enough to walk, please consider doing so
- **Check-in and the poster sessions** will be held in **Atherton Union** (#5 on the map below)

Parking

Off-campus visitors should park in the **parking garage** (#62 on the map below). Butler students and faculty should park in their normal spots on campus.

Public Transportation

- Use the IndyGo online trip planner to get step-by-step directions, including what route to take, what bus to board, where to board, and what time the bus is departing.
 - <https://www.indygo.net/plan-your-trip>
- Payment and Fares: Use the MyKey fare app on your mobile phone: <https://www.indygo.net/fares-and-passes>
- [Route 19](#) and [Route 28](#) serve the Butler campus directly with several stops:
 - The circle drive between Fairview and Clowes
 - The bus pulls off south of the HRC
 - 49th and Boulevard Place by Apartment Village

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the student presenters for sharing their research and the faculty mentors for their guidance throughout these students' projects. We are also grateful to faculty and student moderators who ensured the oral presentation sessions ran smoothly. Finally, we thank Ashlee Tietje for creating the 2026 URC designs.



Butler University CAMPUS MAP



VP - Visitor Parking

map.butler.edu

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|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Alpha Chi Omega | 13. Carter House | 24. Efroymson Center for Creative Writing | 46. Kappa Kappa Gamma |
| 2. Alpha Phi | 14. Center for Faith and Vocation | 25. Eidsen-Duckwall Recital Hall | 47. Lambda Chi Alpha |
| 3. Apartment Village | 15. Christian Theological Seminary | 26. Butler Esports Park | 48. Lilly Hall |
| 4. Atherton Mall | 16. Clowes Memorial Hall | 27. Facilities Management | 49. Norris Plaza |
| 5. Atherton Union | 17. College of Education | 28. Fairbanks Center for Communication and Technology | 50. North Mall |
| 6. Bookstore/Starbucks | 18. Cornerstone Plaza | 29. Fairview House | 51. Pharmacy and Health Sciences Building |
| 7. BU Police Department | 19. Davey Athletic Complex | 30. Fairview Welcome Center | 52. Pi Beta Phi |
| 8. Bud and Jackie Sellick Bowl | 20. Delta Delta Delta | 31. Founder's College | 53. Phi Delta Theta |
| 9. Butler Athletic Fields | 21. Delta Gamma | 32. Health and Recreation Complex | 54. Phi Kappa Psi |
| 10. Butler Way Mall | 22. Delta Tau Delta | 33. Hinkle Fieldhouse | 55. Residential College (ResCo) |
| 11. The Farm at Butler | 23. Dugan Hall (Lacy School of Business) | 34. Holcomb Gardens | 56. Robertson Hall (Office of Admission) |
| 12. Café South | | 35. Holcomb Memorial Carillon | 57. Ross Residence Hall |
| | | 36. Holcomb Observatory and Planetarium | 58. Sciences Complex (Sallatue Hall, Holcomb Building, and Levinson Family Hall) |
| | | 37. Holcomb Pond | 59. Shelton Auditorium |
| | | 38. Howard L. Schrott Center for the Arts | 60. Sigma Chi |
| | | 39. I-Lot | 61. Sigma Nu |
| | | 40. Indianapolis Greenway Canal and Path | 62. Sunset Avenue Parking Garage, and Chatham Tap |
| | | 41. Irvington House | 63. Tennis Courts |
| | | 42. Irwin Library | 64. University House |
| | | 43. Jordan College Annex | 65. University Terrace Apartments |
| | | 44. Jordan Hall | |
| | | 45. Kappa Alpha Theta | |



Art, Film, and Media
 Gallahue Hall 150
 Moderator: Dr. Steve Nyktas

<i>Time</i>	<i>Presenter</i>	<i>Title</i>
9:00 - 9:15	Ella Adams	Modern Gays and Old-Fashioned Queers: Our Nation's Gay History and Current Culture
9:15 - 9:30	Riley Dugan	Therapeutic Storytelling: Connecting Visual Art and Story Creation as a Healing Practice
9:30 - 9:45	Cecilia Sagel	Beloved: An Illustrated Look into the Gospel of John
9:45 - 10:00	Nohemi Aguilar-Sanchez	Still With You
10:00 - 10:15	Laurence Apple	Roger Brown: Sexuality and Identity
10:15 - 10:30	Katelyn Skinner	Kilimanjaro Wonders: the Tiny Idea that Went BIG
10:30 - 10:45	Trinity Smock	Rooted
10:45 - 11:00	Brychan Livingston	The Childhood Archive: Exploring the childhood experiences of transgender individuals through objects
11:00 - 11:15	Darby McLoughlin	Frames of Touch
11:15 - 11:30	Andy Pal	From Viewer to Participant: Building Emotional Stakes and Audience Advocacy Through Original Film Marketing in the Internet Age
11:30 - 11:45	Alexander Peters	In 49 States: A Visual Observation of Fan Engagement
11:45 - 12:00	Chloe Jeffers	Bark Loud, Wear Proud: Jersey and Apparel Design for Butler Women's Basketball
12:00 - 12:15	Belen Sepulveda	The lived Experiences of Latinos in America
12:15 - 12:30	Allison Soards	UnForgotten
12:30 - 12:45	Katherine Castline	Still Processing



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Natural Sciences

Gallahue Hall 104

Moderators: Dr. Kristi Schaefer, Anna Lankisch, Molly Kubal, and Alexa Hernandez
(Session 1)

Dr. Rebecca Black, Kelsey Hodgman, and Nia Williams (Session 2)

<i>Time</i>	<i>Presenter</i>	<i>Title</i>
8:30 - 8:45	Sarah Anne Hook, Clara Reynolds, Kennedy Kinsler, Hannah Moser, Tatiana Schmidt, Mavi Chauhan, Ali Moulton	Noteworthy Natives: A Celebration of Art, Music and Botany
8:45 - 9:00	Emma Walker	The Role of 5-HT1A Autoreceptors in Drosophila Activity Levels and its Relationship to Sex
9:00 - 9:15	Sahar Atmar and Aarish Sakib	Broad-Spectrum Potential of Known SARS-CoV-2 3CLpro Inhibitors and Inhibitory Activity Against the Main Protease of Common Cold Coronavirus HKU1
9:15 - 9:30	Samantha Capehart	What Makes a Plasmid Successful in Bacteria?
9:30 - 9:45	Aarish Sakib and Sahar Atmar	Evaluating the Neutralizing Capacity of SARS-CoV-2 3CLpro Inhibitors Against Murine Coronaviruses Expressing the 3CLpro Protease of Human Common Cold Coronavirus OC43
9:45 - 10:00	Milica Nenadovich	Investigation of the potential ligand-binding partners of the G protein-coupled receptor FSHR-1 under oxidative stress in <i>C. elegans</i>
10:00 - 10:15	Javad Dehghan	Reward Sensitivity and Impulsive Decision-Making in Young Adults: Evidence from a Delay Discounting Task
10:30 - 10:45	Javad Dehghan	Chronotype and Cognitive Performance in Emerging Adults: Behavioral Evidence from Attention and Working Memory Tasks
10:45 - 11:00	Jace Green	Electromagnetic Instability of an Extremal Kerr Black Hole
11:00 - 11:15	Jonathan Lora	Development of a Green Dihydroxylation of Alkenes
11:15 - 11:30	Sydney Klemish	Global Charge of Plant Cell Wall Enzymes and Their Role in Crop Disease
11:30 - 11:45	Jin Guo and Mark Altman	A Determination of Air Emissions and Air Quality Impacts from Production in Indiana USA's Paper and Fabricated Metals Industries.
11:45 - 12:00	Jonah Lee, Michael Haro, Sean Byrnes, and Braydon Sheets	EPICS - Engineering Projects in Community Service / Nursing / for Prevention of Overdose and Treatment Errors in Children Taskforce (CDC-PROTECT)



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Crossroads of URC: Human Health Across Disciplines

Pharmacy and Health Sciences Building 106

Moderators: Dr. Tonya Bergeson and Lucas Bornman

<i>Time</i>	<i>Presenter</i>	<i>Title</i>
8:45 – 9:00	Faith Sponseller	Investigating the Expression of Cyclin E1 (CCNE1) in Mantle Cell Lymphoma
9:00 - 9:15	Dania Presteguín	Group B Streptococcus in Pregnant Women: Universal Guidelines and Protocols
9:15 - 9:30	Man Kiim	Evaluation of Pharmacist Interventions During Short-term Medical Mission Trip.
9:30 - 9:45	Caroline Lurker and Kierstyn Duffy	Unintended Highs: Patterns of Pediatric Cannabis Ingestion in a State Without Legal Use
9:45 – 10:00	Rida Jawad	Comparative analysis of gut microplastics in present-day and pre-2005 Eastern gray squirrels (<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>)
10:15 - 10:30	Deanna Frick, Ellie Jobe, and Alexa Stockrahn	Toxins in Breast Milk in the News: How Media Coverage Frames Environmental Contaminants
10:30 - 10:45	Andres Uscategui and Paola Leyva	Food Security Among Asset-Limited, Income-Constrained, and Employed (ALICE) Households
10:45 – 11:00	Kara Sabanski	Effects of Dyadic Conversation on Musical Prosody and Sundowning in Adults with Dementia
11:00 - 11:15	Amelia Moor	The Role and Impact of Servant Leaders in the Clinical Physical Therapy Space



Social Psychology
 Levinson Family Hall 127
 Moderator: Dr. Andrea Kunze

<i>Time</i>	<i>Presenter(s)</i>	<i>Title</i>
9:30 - 9:45	Jameson Culp, Alyssa Carlson, and Amaya Pittman	Understanding Motivation: What Drives Individuals to Participate in Stand-Up Comedy
9:45 – 10:00	Mylee Besse and Olivia Patel	Social Media and its Impact on Social Anxiety
10:00 - 10:15	Savannah Crawford and Kaia McCarty	How Cultural Expectations Influence Facial Expressions
10:15 - 10:30	Arianna Foster	Predictors of Flourishing
10:30 - 10:45	Parker Stone	Columns, Cloth, and The Constitution: Analyzing Symbolic Representations of American Values through U.S. Presidential Portraits

Cognitive Psychology
 Levinson Family Hall 127
 Moderator: Dr. Tara Lineweaver

11:00 - 11:15	Riley Dugan	Reframing the Occult Ritual of Tarot as a Culturally Inclusive Storytelling Tool
11:15 - 11:30	Javad Dehghan	Reward Sensitivity and Impulsive Decision-Making in Young Adults: Evidence from a Delay Discounting Task
11:30 - 11:45	Sara Lugo and Luke Andritsch	Sensing Slipperiness: The Role of Vision, Touch, and Hearing in Perceiving Surface Friction
11:45 – 12:00	Gabriel Young	An analysis of the role of ecological events on reaction time and prediction accuracy
12:00 – 12:15	Aden Rice and Sierra Adkins	OXTR as a Predictor of Emotional Intelligence



Psychology
 Holcomb Building 154
 Moderator: Dr. Brian Day

9:30 - 9:45	Ava Beeler	Life as a Human, Not as a Participant: The Lost Art of Psychology and Science
9:45 – 10:00	Bryanna Bailey	"ChatGPT is my Therapist": An Investigation into the Efficacy of an LLM's Treatment of Depressive Symptoms
10:00 - 10:15	Toriana Garmon	Examining Insomnia Using Daytime Versus Bedtime Rumination
10:15 - 10:30	Morgan Carter and Olivia Cook	Stress Hormones in Subclinical PTSD: How Trauma Reshapes the Body's Daily Rhythms
10:30 - 10:45	Catherine Williams, Karma Chandler, and Phoenix Moody	A Guide on Guidance: Support Group Facilitation

Psychology & Criminology
 Holcomb Building 154
 Moderators: Dr. Fabiana Alceste and Jaclyn Neukirch

11:00 - 11:15	Audrey Ecelbarger	Are Documentaries Entertaining or Informative? Perceptions of Expert Interviews on False Evidence Ploys
11:15 - 11:30	Maurice Kessner	Stigma of Substance Use Disorders and its Relation to Juror Decision Making
11:30 - 11:45	Claire Yontz	Switching the Snitch: In criminal cases with a female defendant, are female JIs more credible than male JIs?
11:45 – 12:00	Madison Pierce-Holtzman	Socially-Sanctioned Rape: Do Group Ideologies Undermine Individual Empathy?



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Psychology: Mental Health

Gallahue Hall 103

Moderator: Dr. Bob Padgett

9:30 - 9:45	Audrey Black	Make Way for Noddy: Developing Innovative Interventions for Children with ASD
9:45 - 10:00	Maggie Wimsatt and Kaitlynn Wyne	"Scrolling and Self-Worth: How Social Media Engagement Styles Relate to Adult Self-Esteem"
10:00 - 10:15	Breanna Edwards and Kennadi Lakins	Interaction of Sensory Seeking and Mental Health on Nicotine Usage
10:15 - 10:30	Kaylyn Johnson	Sensory Processing and Sexual Sensory Play
10:30 - 10:45	Calder Williams	Examining how political orientation effects participants' willingness to get along

Educational Psychology

Gallahue Hall 103

Moderator: Dr. Shelby Terwillegar and Riley Cleveland

11:00 - 11:15	Emma Magee	The Missing Piece: Teaching Brief Intervention Practices to Future Educators to Increase Emotion Regulation and Peer Support for Students.
11:15 - 11:30	Natalie Virgil	Can Targeted Intervention with Future Educators Strengthen Instructional Practices Related to Academic Achievement and Motivation?
11:30 - 11:45	Ashtyn Marcum	The Impact of Screen Time on Child Behavior
11:45 - 12:00	Kaitlyn Schroeder	The Role of Institutional Knowledge on First-Generation College Students' Academic Ego-Integrity



English

Jordan Hall 201

Moderators: Dr. Natalie Carter, Mackenzie Inman, and Elijah Smith

<i>Time</i>	<i>Presenter</i>	<i>Title</i>
9:00 - 9:15	Emma Beaulieu	From Drive-Ins to DMs: The Timeless Threat of Predators in Joyce Carol Oates' "Where are you Going, Where have you been?"
9:15 - 9:30	Gemma Cascarano	A University's Public Purpose
9:30 - 9:45	David Chritton	"Make the stomach believe": Embodied Truth-Telling in The Things They Carried
10:00 - 10:15	Lily Upadhyay	Lack of Voices Leads to A Lack of Action
10:15 - 10:30	Mia Hutton	In Search of What Was Silenced: How DEI Fulfills the Liberal Arts' Responsibility to Remember
10:30 - 10:45	Haylee Florkee	Honoring Our Literary Mothers and Grandmothers
10:45-11:00	Kate Thuma	Heaven in My Head: Finding beauty, interest, and humor in grief through five essays on death

Race, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Jordan Hall 305

Moderator: Dr. Mira Assaf

<i>Time</i>	<i>Presenter</i>	<i>Title</i>
1:45 - 2:00	Jacob Donahoe	Neurodivergent men and the Limits of the Patriarchy
2:00 - 2:15	Elliot Gray	Burn the Bisexual Witch: How Lawyers in the Depp V. Heard Case Weaponized Biphobia
2:15 - 2:30	Casey Hofmann	The Conflation of Gender and Sex Categories: An Analysis of Their Overlaps and Distinctions



Classics

Levinson Family Hall 128

Moderator: Dr. Lynne Kvapil and Abby Ruble

<i>Time</i>	<i>Presenter</i>	<i>Title</i>
9:00 - 9:15	Mia Di Iorio	Keeping Up with the Ptolemies
9:15 - 9:30	Jeramiah Envoy	Egyptian Board Games: The Religious and Secular Roles of Senet and Aseb.
9:30 - 9:45	Kareline Jones	Ptimes of Ptolemy I
9:45 – 10:00	Charlotte Harrison	Hatshepsut: Architect of an Empire and Divine Ruler
10:15 - 10:30	Adeline Strickler	The Evolution of Women's Choruses In Archaic and Democratic Athens
10:30 - 10:45	Charlotte Harrison, Alexis-Rose Shorter, Aaron Tanglertpaibul	Challenging Perceptions: Disability and Social Standing in Ancient Athens
11:00 - 11:15	Taryn Duchnowski	Gender Roles and Inequalities for Women and Goddesses in New Kingdom Egypt



History and Anthropology
 Jordan Hall 305
 Moderator: Dr. Sholeh Shahrokh

<i>Time</i>	<i>Presenter</i>	<i>Title</i>
9:30 - 9:45	Taryn Duchnowski	Gender Roles and Inequalities for Women and Goddesses in New Kingdom Egypt
9:45 – 10:00	Caleb Evans	Small Town Secrets: Histories of Extremism in Rural Indiana Towns
10:15 - 10:30	Natalie Goo	The Effectiveness of Art in Supporting Mental Health and Minority Identity in Hispanic Individuals
10:30 - 10:45	Emma Podvorec	The Murder of Regilla: Roman Law and Modern American Parallels in Intimate Partner Homicide
12:30 - 12:45	Julia Rock	Satanic Panic; An Analysis through Role-Playing Games
12:45 – 1:00	Vivian Rodkey	Art Collecting, Indiana, and Eliza Niblack
1:00 - 1:15	Elijah Smith	Another Picture to Burn: The "IT" Girls of Early 20th Century in American Popular Culture
1:15 - 1:30	Rayah Yehnert	"Ein radikaler Bruch": Group Identity and the Deutsche Christen Revision of Hymns (1933 - 1945)



2026

Political Science
 Levinson Family Hall 124
 Moderator: Dr. Rhea Myerscough

<i>Time</i>	<i>Presenter</i>	<i>Title</i>
1:00 - 1:15	Camden Carlile	The Politics of Populist Approval: Testing Populist Theory Through Black Lives Matter and Trumpism
1:15 - 1:30	Isabella Ferree	Artificial Intelligence in Alternative Dispute Resolutions: Algorithmic Bias and ADR Outcomes
1:30 - 1:45	Luke Morris	The Evangelical Path to the Presidency
1:45 – 2:00	Allie Riggs	International Spillover: How External, Global Events Such as Brexit and COVID-19 Have Impacted Housing Prices Within the Republic of Ireland
2:00 - 2:15	Meghan Moses	True Crime: An Aid or Deterrent to Justice?
2:15 - 2:30	Alyssa Shaia	Women's Economic Perceptions and Political Behavior
2:30 - 2:45	Wynn Wellington	The Celebrity Effect: How Age Shapes Voter Response to Political Endorsements
2:45 – 3:00	Schyler Altherr	Major Party Effects on Third Party Politics: Policy Co-optation in the 2010's

Sociology, Criminology, and Forensics
 Holcomb Building 156
 Moderators: Dr. Steve Barnard and Ash Anderson

<i>Time</i>	<i>Presenter</i>	<i>Title</i>
1:00 - 1:15	Hailey Palomo	Constructions and Discussions about Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion on Reddit
1:15 - 1:30	Matthew Zetzl	How did the Portrayal of Police, Criminals, and Victims Changed in Entertainment Media Post 2020?



Organizational Leadership and Communication

Dugan Hall 121

Moderator: Dr. Carly Varrone

<i>Time</i>	<i>Presenter(s)</i>	<i>Title</i>
9:00 - 9:15	Gillian Fiol, Natalie Klein, and Elle Martin	Identity Signals and Hiring Bias: Evaluating Mitigation Strategies in Modern Recruitment
9:15 - 9:30	McKenna Curliss	Burnout Behind the Screen: Leadership in the Always-On Social Media Workplace
9:30 - 9:45	Trevor Fox	Analyzing Media Conversations Around Sports Gambling and Vulnerable Audiences
9:45 – 10:00	Kelli Scheck	Interpersonal & Performance coaching
10:00 - 10:15	Amelia Black	Organizational Drivers of Employee Burnout: An Integrative Literature Review
10:30 - 10:45	Cassia Campbell	Mapping and Evaluating Butler's Dining and Accommodation Messaging for Students with Dietary Restrictions
10:45 – 11:00	Katherine Foe	Understanding "personality hires" and the impact of these employees on leadership development
11:00 - 11:15	Emilee Daniel	The People Yearn For More: Profitability, Productivity, and the Death of Third Places
11:15 - 11:30	Natalie Zagorski	A literature review and analysis of the organizational stakeholders necessary for collaborative climate resilience within the field of urban planning
11:30 - 11:45	Mary Greene	Hospitality Leadership: Emerging Leaders and Credibility



Poster Sessions Reilly Room of Atherton Union

There will be **four poster sessions** held throughout the day in the Reilly Room in Atherton Union. Poster presenters should arrive a few minutes before their session begins to hang their poster on the assigned board. **Note: Each poster will have both a letter and a number; the letter indicates the poster session (A-D), and the number corresponds to the label on the poster board.** Each **poster board is 40 inches by 60 inches, so as you prepare your poster, please make sure it fits** within these dimensions. *Push pins will be available within the Reilly Room.*

	Time	Topic Areas
Poster Session A	11:00 am- 12:15 pm	Education Art, Art History, Photography Health Sciences Speech, Language, and Hearing Science Public Health Physics and Astrophysics Computer Science Mathematics Engineering History Political Science Anthropology Sociology and Criminology
Poster Session B	12:30 pm-1:45 pm	Psychology, Neuroscience, Biology, Chemistry, Biochemistry
Poster Session C	2:00 pm-3:15 pm	Business Economics Strategic Communication English
Poster Session D	3:30 pm-4:45 pm	Psychology, Neuroscience, Biology, Chemistry, Biochemistry