Examples of Past Senior Honors Project Topics/Titles

SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Art
- Veiled Incarnation
- A Study of Copying in Art Education: Historical Approaches and Contemporary Applications
- Children’s Book Illustration: Take a Chance

Music
- A History of Popular Music in the Twentieth Century: The Influences of My Music
- Christian Children’s Songs in Zambia
- Indian Tabla Drumming
- Russia and the Restricted Composer: Limitations of the Self, Culture, and Government
- Sounds of the Symphony Educational Orchestra Concert
- Alexander Glazunov and his Violin Concerto: History, Biography, and Performance Perspective
- Johannes Brahms’s Ballades, Opus 10
- From Sight to Song: A Resource for Approaching Musicality with Young Students

Theater
- Elizabethan Costume and Design
- Mr. Bundy

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, EDUCATION, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Biopsychology
- Prayer and Stress: How Prayer Mediates the Body’s Physiological Response to Stressors

Business Administration
- Economics of Wages in American Baseball

Criminal Justice
- The Nature of Crime and Punishment in Rural and Urban Settings

Elementary Education
- Scaffolding Visual Literacy -- A Comparison of Podcasting and Docents
- Same-Gender vs. Mixed-Gender Small Groups: Which is Better?
Human Development and Family Science

- Maternal Perspectives on Child Care Quality
- Adolescent Orphans and Development: Strategies in Development Targeting Orphan Adolescents Transitioning into Adulthood

Psychology

- Greatest Predictor of Intolerance: Christianity or Culture
- The Significance of Distal Influences on Adolescent Romantic Relationship Satisfaction
- The Phenomenon of ADHD: A Cultural and Historical Perspective on the Rapid Rise of Attention-Deficit

Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work

- What is Community?: Commitment and Capital Among Three Groups
- Loneliness Across Cultures: A Cross-Cultural Investigation of Loneliness Among University Students in Uganda and the United States
- Student Learning Principles of Sociology: Impact of Discussion Group on Development of Sociological Imagination and Sense of Civic Responsibility
- Strengths of Urban Youth: An Examination of North Philadelphia Teenagers and their Development and Talents
- Negotiating Development: An Ethnographic Study of Implemented and Latent Cultural Capital of the Christian Karen of Northern Thailand
- Renaissance or Ruin?: Creating an Arts and Culture Destination in North Philadelphia

Sustainability Studies

- An Evaluation of Messiah College’s Sustainability Studies Major & Survey of Best Practices

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES

Biblical and Religious Studies

- Nonviolence in the Real World
- "We Belong to the Land": Palestinian Christian Theology, Active Reconciliation and Nonviolent Direct Action in Israel-Palestine
- Christian Theology and Development in Latin America: How the Church Shapes Intangible Capital and Values—Considering an Anabaptist Perspective
- Like Father, Like Son? What does it mean for Jesus to be the “Son of God?”
- The Stranger in Chapel: A Study of Atheist and Agnostic Minorities on a Christian College Campus and Beyond
Christian Ministries

- Outreach Possibilities for the Grantham Church
- Spiritual Formation for Campus Worship Leaders
- Mennonites in Pennsylvania Prison Ministry and Reform

Communication

- Empathy by Media: How Communication Affects Compassion

English

- “As if Language Had Surrendered”: Transcending Speech in the Plays of Brian Friel
- Reader-Response, Deconstructive, and Collaborative Paradigms of Creative Writing: an Experiment
- The Threefold Journey: Development of Home, Society, and Psyche
- Self in Struggle: Levels of Resistance in Nonwestern Autobiography
- Milton’s Dialogic Community of Creation: Paradise Lost and an Environmental Ethic of Partnership
- The "Other" Approach: Reconciling Feminist Readers to George Eliot
- E. E. Cummings: Lyrical Modernist
- The Novels of Cormac McCarthy & Wendell Berry: persons attempting to find a motive in these narratives will be prosecuted
- The dialogic relationship between tragedy and comedy in The Brothers Karamazov
- Keeping Alive the Memory: Modern Philosophies of Myth in Tennyson and Tolkien
- Face(ing) Evil and Brother: Idealism and the Face in Myshkin and Alyosha

History

- Favoritism in the Courts of Early Modern England
- Loyalty and Dissent in Civil War Maryland: William Wilkins Glenn and the Suppression of the Daily Exchange
- The Historicity of Jane Austen: examining courtship in eighteenth-century England
- Providential Progress: The Post-Revolutionary World of Robert Crawford
- The Can-Opener Gourmet: Poppy Cannon and American Culture in the 1950s
- Redefining the Security-Development Nexus: Peace and Sustainable Development in Eastern Congo

Modern Languages

- Teaching English as a Second Language in 2003: Content-Based Instruction for English Language Learners
- Acquisition of French & English Accents in Process of 2nd Language Learning

Philosophy

- The Nature of Inductive Logic
- Kant, Romanticism, and Beauty in Science and Mathematics
- A Philosophical Investigation of the Ontological Status of Mathematical Entities
Politics

- The Democratization of Mongolia: the Implications of an Unlikely Success Story in Northeast Asia
- Finding the Community in Community Development Corporations: The Role of CDCs in Social Capital Development and Community Empowerment
- Immigrants and Civic Participation
- Executive Prerogative - "In re Neagle" & the Institutional Actors who Changed the Presidency
- Why Violence Isn’t the Answer
- War and Corruption: A Political History of Uganda
- Supermadres y la mujer política: An Analysis of Female Political Mobilization in Latin America with Lessons from Chile and Argentina
- Orphaned and Vulnerable Children: A Model for Care
- A Cautionary Tale of Two Extremes: Religion and Politics in the U.S. and the U.K.

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, AND HEALTH

Computer Science

- Configuration for GNU
- Developing Software for Cognitively Disabled Children: Teaching Time Telling Skills
- Service Learning and the Intelligent Water Project

Engineering

- Integrated Renewable Energy Design Group (INREN Design)
- Messiah College PC to Scoreboard Integration
- Pulse Width Modulated Control for LED Lighting
- Renewable Energy Data Logger
- Low Horsepower Dynamometer
- Prosthetic Knee Redesign
- Drive-Train Redesign of the Hand Powered Tricycles
- Mahadaga Pump Project: Durability Testing and Redesign of a Handicap Accessible Pump for Irrigation in West Africa
- Biodiesel: Process Design and Quality Assurance
- Flight Tracking and Messaging Systems
- Oxygen Concentrator Modification: Intake Filter Testing and Analysis
- WERCware – Wireless Enabled Remote Co-Presence
- Disability Resources Group – Tricycle Mobility Project: Front-End Redesign
- Village Water Ozonation System

Environmental Science with Adventure Education

- Messiah College Adventure Programs: Policies & Procedures Handbook

Health and Human Performance
• The Effects of a Short-term Plyometrics Program on Hamstring Strength in Female Collegiate Soccer Players
• No Difference Observed in Sedentary Time per Week between NCAA DIII Distance Runners and Recreationally Active College Students

Mathematical Sciences

• Resolving Sums of Conjugate Radicals
• Elliptic Curves
• Bhaskara’s Method for Solving Pell
• How Long is Your Block? Strengthening Understanding of Measurement in a Relevant Urban Context
• Math Across Cultures: A Resource for Burkinabè Children
• Correlation: Beginning History through Development of Function
• The Math-Crafts Connection
• Voice Recognition: A Foundation

Natural Sciences

• Isolation of Genetically Homogeneous Cell Lines Immortalized by a Wild Type or Mutant Form of the Simian Virus 40 Large Tumor Antigen
• Technique of soil core digestion for use in palynological studies take from vernal pools
• Feeding and Semaphoring Behaviors of the Panamanian Golden Frog, Atelopus Zetiki
• Age Estimation by Skeletochronology of Salamanders Collected on Messiah College Campus
• Instrumental Learning and Pedal Movements in Bufo Americanus
• Activity of Traditional Topical Treatments against Pathogens Common in Wound Infections
• Effect of Non-Native Shrub Removal on White Tailed Deer Herbivory
• New Restriction Analysis Exercise for Introductory Biology
• Self-association studies of yeast TATA binding protein using an “E. coli” two-hybrid system
• Effects of Plasmodium Falciparum, Genotypic Variability of MSP-1 and MSP-2 on Malarial Disease Severity Using Nested PCR Technology
• Biocatalytic Reduction of Imines to Amines Using Daucus Carota
• Monitoring CD4+ T Lymphocyte Induction by a Mouse Polyomavirus Epitope inserted into the Simian Virus 40 Large Tumor Antigen (SV40 Tag)
• Generation of a T Cell Receptor Transgenic Mouse; Assembly of the Full-sized Expression Cassette
• Comparing the immunological potencies of two viral epitopes: LT529-543 from the Simian Virus 40 Large Tumor Antigen vs. LT678-690 from the Large Tumor Antigen of murine Polyomavirus
• Toads and Toes -- Does the “toe twitching” in the American and Fowler’s toad result in pedal luring?
• Developing and Implementing an Index of Biotic Integrity for the Limestone Streams of Central Pennsylvania
• Reproductive Ecology of Ambystoma opacum and the Construction of a Guide for Larval Identification
• Presence and Prevalence of Bd (Batrachochytrium Dendrobataridis) in Central Pennsylvanian Woodland Vernal Pools
• Carboxylate Self-Assembled Monolayers on Polished Zinc Selenide
• Quantification of Histidine from Plant Extracts using High Performance Liquid Chromatography and Electrochemistry
• Investigating an Alternate Synthesis Pathway for Aspernigrin A
Nursing

- College Students’ Attitudes Toward Seeking Help for Mental Health Problems: A Vignette Approach
- Compassion in Transcultural Nursing Care

Nutrition and Dietetics

- The Effect of Residence on the Dietary Status of Female College Students: A Comparison of Dietary Intake of Iron, Calcium, Folate, and Vitamins B6, B12, and C in Students Living in Dormitories and Apartments
- Nutrition Status of Burmese Refugee Children Receiving Supplemental School Lunch
- Determination of Water Content in Ice Cream Toppings: A Summary of Research Findings at the JM Smucker Company
- Assessment of Malnutrition Among Albanian Elderly Participating in Home Meal Delivery Using the Mini Nutritional Assessment