In keeping with Allegheny’s commitment to provide students with a liberal arts education of high standards, the Senior Project is not a mere report or semester paper, but a significant piece of independent study, research or creative work conducted under the supervision of one or more faculty members. The outcome of a Senior Project is more than a grade or a written document; for the student it often results in a new way of looking at complex problems and inspires an appreciation for the power of ideas that might previously have seemed like abstract concepts in a textbook. Often it can be a pivotal moment when a student realizes his or her own abilities and potential.
**ORAL PRESENTATIONS**

**10:30 AM**

**David Barlow**  
The Use of Modern Technology by Historical Institutions  
Major: History / Minor: Religious Studies  
Senior Project Advisor: Paula Treckel  
CC 301

**Becky Egg**  
Geometrical Structures Associated to a Finite Group  
Major: Mathematics / Minor: Spanish  
Senior Project Advisor: Harald Ellers  
CC 206

**Patrick Kahle**  
The Determinants of Mortgage Debt Growth  
Major: Managerial Economics / Minor: Mathematics  
Senior Project Advisor: Stephen Casler  
CC 303

**Timothy Wetsell**  
All the News Fit To Print on the Iraq War: A Study of the New York Times’s Coverage of the War in Iraq from September 12, 2001 to November 2, 2004  
Major: English / Minor: Political Science  
Senior Project Advisors: Laura Quinn, Courtney Bailey  
CC 302

**10:50 AM**

**Daniel Ferry**  
Dan’s Chelsea Guitars: A Neighborhood Music Store for the Whole World  
Major: Communication Arts / Minor: Political Science  
Senior Project Advisors: Michael Keeley, River Branch  
CC 206

**Shannon Fetcko**  
Gauss’s Formula for Date of Easter and Other Calendar Problems  
Major: Mathematics / Minors: Psychology, Economics  
Senior Project Advisor: Anthony Lo Bello  
CC 383

**Rachel Jurkowski**  
Kosovo’s Preventable War: The Consequences of Milosevic’s Exploitation of the Serbian National Identity, Myths, and Grievances  
Major: History / Minors: Political Science, Spanish  
Senior Project Advisor: Kenneth PInnow  
CC 301

**Doug Maloney**  
Cheating Justice: Albert Speer’s Defense at Nuremberg and “Los Casi Olvidados: Francisco Boix y la Experiencia Español en el Holocausto”  
Majors: History, Spanish  
Senior Project Advisors: Stephen Lyons, Teresa Herrera  
CC 302

**11:00 AM**

**Alexander W. Hays**  
Understanding the Marginalized: A Quantitative and Qualitative Analysis of the Economic Issues Facing Latinos in the 21st Century  
Majors: Economics, Spanish  
Senior Project Advisors: Stephanie Martin, Wilfredo Hernandez  
CC 206

**Kathryn Heasley**  
The Evolution of the Hag: A Feminist Critical Analysis of Roald Dahl’s Children’s Literature  
Major: English / Minor: History  
Senior Project Advisor: Jennifer Hellwarth  
CC 303

**Kaitlin Walsh**  
Effect of Structured Nature of an Art Project on Mood, Engagement, and Enjoyment in Children  
Majors: Studio Art, Psychology  
Senior Project Advisors: Sue Buck, Aimee Knupsky  
CC 301

**11:10 AM**

**Sean P. Fitzgerald**  
Slab Window Formation and Subsequent Eocene Intrusions in the Matanuska Valley, Alaska  
Major: Geology / Minor: English  
Senior Project Advisor: Ronald Cole  
CC 302

**Annie T. Ginty**  
A Matter of Balance: Baseline and Recovery Pulse Is Lower for Those with a Balanced Outlook in Regard to Life Stressors  
Majors: Neuroscience, Psychology / Minor: English Literature  
Senior Project Advisors: Sarah Conklin, Rodney Clark  
CC 206

**Lindsay Romigh**  
The Fight for Bilingual Education in Ecuador: A Difficult Process Complicated by the Disagreements between the Government and the Confederacion de Nacionalidades Indigenas del Ecuador  
Majors: International Studies, Spanish  
Senior Project Advisors: Shannon Mattiace, Wilfredo Hernandez  
CC 303

**Raymond Benjamin Sperry**  
Robert Nozick, Individual Rights, and the State  
Major: Political Science / Minor: Religious Studies  
Senior Project Advisors: Bruce Smith, Robbert Seddig  
CC 301

**11:50 AM**

**Andrew Mihalcin**  
How Do the Environmental Impacts of Home-brewed Beer Compare with Those of Anheuser-Busch’s Budweiser?  
Major: Environmental Studies / Minor: Religious Studies  
Senior Project Advisor: Eric Pallant  
CC 303

**Amy Lynn Negley**  
The West Comes East: Buffalo Bill’s Wild West and American National Identity  
Major: History / Minor: Mathematics  
Senior Project Advisors: Ian Binnington, Paula Treckel  
CC 302
Megan Petroccia
The Effects of Context on Cross Language Interactions During Production
Majors: Psychology, Neuroscience / Minor: Spanish
Senior Project Advisor: Aimee Knupsky
CC 301

Christopher Wahlmark
The Music of Proteins: Unique Analysis of Class III Peroxidases
Majors: Music, Biology
Senior Project Advisors: Ann Kleinschmidt, Jennifer Dearden
CC 206

POSTER PRESENTATIONS
ALL POSTER PRESENTATIONS ARE IN THE CAMPUS CENTER LOBBY EXCEPT WHERE NOTED

Molly Hanlon
The Role of Auxin in the Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Symbiosis
Major: Biochemistry / Minor: Writing
Senior Project Advisor: Catharina Coenen

Meg Hiestand
Fronteras, Limbos y “Conga Lines”: La Identidad Latina en el Cine Norteamericano Contemporáneo
Major: Spanish / Minors: Economics, Latin American/Caribbean Studies
Senior Project Advisors: Barbara Riess, Wilfredo Hernandez

Carrie Miller
A Matter of Life and Death: Six Characters in Search of an Author’s Artistic Immortality
Major: Theatre / Minor: History
Senior Project Advisor: Mark Cosdon

Zane Miller
Grasping Photons (ART GALLERY)
Major: Art & Technology / Minor: Biology
Senior Project Advisors: Amara Geffen, Darren Miller

Kara Ostrosky
Kinetics of DNA Duplexing in Various Ionic Strengths Using Stopped-Flow Spectroscopy
Major: Chemistry / Minor: Economics
Senior Project Advisor: Alice Deckert

Marina Rezk
The Effect of Carbon Dioxide on the Ventilatory Responses of Control and Nicotine-Exposed Neonatal Mice: Implications for Sudden Infant Death Syndrome
Major: Neuroscience / Minor: Political Science
Senior Project Advisors: E. Lee Coates, Jeffrey Cross

Heather Schubert
Divina Sapienza and Divina Providenza, and Their Importance in a Baroque Art Theoretical Debate in the Academia di San Luca
Major: Art History / Minors: Political Science, French
Senior Project Advisor: Richard Schindler

Adam J. Simbeck
Introduction to Computational Electromagnetics: Manipulation of the MD-GRAPE Accelerator Board
Major: Physics / Minor: Economics
Senior Project Advisors: Gary Bedrosian, Jamie Lombardi

Raymond Benjamin Sperry
Robert Nozick, Individual Rights, and the State
Major: Political Science / Minor: Religious Studies
Senior Project Advisors: Bruce Smith, Robert Seddig

Christopher Case Whiting
The Design and Construction of a Surface Plasmon Resonance Imaging Apparatus for the Study of Patched Hydrophobic Surfaces
Major: Physics / Minor: Psychology
Senior Project Advisor: Richard Schindler

Jill Zuspan
Oh My God Tattoos: An Investigation of the Relationship Between the Degree of Religious Imagery in a Tattoo and Its Overall Appeal and Acceptability
Majors: Psychology, Religious Studies
Senior Project Advisors: Joshua Searle-White, Carl Olson

Jessica Badach
The Professional Writing Pyramid: A Study of Practical and Personal Choices
Major: English–Technical/Professional Writing
Minor: VESA: Values, Ethics and Social Action
Senior Project Advisors: Susan Slote, Diana Brautigam

Jesse Beauchamp
Lithofacies and Depositional Environmnet Analysis of a Road Cut Along US 22 Near Wintersville, Ohio
Majors: Studio Art, Geology
Senior Project Advisors: Bob Schwartz, Todd Grote

Elizabeth Benvin
Irreconcilable Differences? The Origins of Contention Between Tibet and China
Major: International Studies / Minors: Spanish, Chinese
Senior Project Advisors: Sharon Wesoky, Rui Wu, Guo Wu

Arielle Conti
Incorporation Green Materials Into Allegheny’s New Admissions House
Major: Environmental Science / Minor: Economics
Senior Project Advisors: Eric Pallant, Scott Wissinger

Kristin Devine
The Politics of Writing in Iran
Major: Political Science / Minor: English
Senior Project Advisor: Shannan Mattiace

Lucas Glover
The Effects of Dorsal Hippocampal or CA3 Lesions on Spatial Reference and Working Memory in Two Spatial Tasks
Majors: Neuroscience, Psychology
Senior Project Advisors: Jeffrey Cross, Amy Wiseman

Siera Goodnight
Effects of Melatonin on Daytime Sleep Architecture in College Students
Majors: Neuroscience, Psychology
Senior Project Advisors: Sarah Conklin, Jeffrey Cross

Melinda Haarmeyer
Effects of Inflammatory Bowel Disease and Prednisone Hemisuccinate on Parathyroid Hormone and Bone Density
Major: Biology / Minor: French
Senior Project Advisor: Charles Welsh
HISTORY
Since the College’s first commencement in 1821, Allegheny students have showcased their exceptional academic achievements through a senior capstone experience of one kind or another. At times it involved an oral defense, at others a written thesis. The notion of a written Senior Project coupled with a comprehensive oral examination first appeared in the 1942 College Catalogue. In the 1970s, oral examinations shifted from a general defense of disciplinary expertise to a more focused verbal presentation of the Senior Project findings.

PREPARATION
The Senior Project provides students with an opportunity to integrate discipline-specific scholarship with the communication and research skills necessary for professionals in the 21st century. During their first year at Allegheny, students write, speak, and research frequently in their first-year seminars. By the sophomore year they are ready to undertake the complexities of writing and speaking in a specific discipline. They further hone these disciplinary communication skills in a junior seminar, the final preparatory phase for the Senior Project. By the senior year students are sufficiently prepared to undertake a scholarly endeavor approximating those experiences they will face as professionals in their field.

REALIZATION
The culminating experiences of the Senior Project are as varied as the disciplines that produce them, from recitals, performances, and exhibits to written and oral presentations on laboratory research. Many illustrate unusual combinations of disciplines, interests and skills. The Senior Project Celebration offers an open forum for students to present their projects, allowing seniors to refine their skills in presenting to a broad audience and share ideas with other students and the campus community.