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.
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.
Poster Presentations
ALL POSTER PRESENTATIONS WILL BE IN THE LOBBY OF THE HENDERSON CAMPUS CENTER.
10:00 AM - NOON

Sahar Arbab
Green Deeds in the Mead: An Environmental Education Program for Lower-Income Youth in Meadville, PA
Major: Environmental Studies / Minor: English
Project Advisors: Thomas Eatmon and Eric Palmer

Lauren Bader
And so, to Bath: Jane Austen and the Historic City of Bath, Site for Health, Entertainment and Character Development
Major: English / Minor: History
Project Advisors: Diane D’Amico and Susan Slote

Douglas Barber
Implications for Tectonic Control on Paleogeography and Sediment Dispersal Pathway: Integrated U-Pb Detrital Zircon Age-Analysis of the Paleogene Missouri River Headwater System, SW Montana
Major: Geology / Minor: Economics
Project Advisor: Bob Schwartz

Sarah Barlow
Twentieth Century War and Liberal Arts Education at Allegheny College
Major: History / Minor: Art History and Computer Science
Project Advisor: Ian Binnington

Matthew Bocchi
Courtesans of Venice: Social Fluidity in the Time of the Renaissance
Majors: Art History, History, and Women’s Studies
Project Advisors: Amelia Carr, Barbara Shaw, and Paula Trequel

Natalie Cappellazzo
The Implications of Resource Wealth for Human Development Outcomes
Major: Political Science / Minor: English
Project Advisors: Shannon Mattiace and Shanna Kirschner

Jordyn Chartier
La Lengua Porteña: A Historical Linguistic Perspective
Major: International Studies / Minor: Spanish and Chinese
Project Advisor: Shannon Mattiace

Kathryn Cragg
An Unwanted Kiss, An Unwanted Lie
Major: Communication Arts / Minor: Political Science and Writing
Project Advisors: River Branch and Michael Keeley

Nicholas Diana
The Effect of Sex and Priming on Inattentional Blindness to Sexist Stimuli
Majors: Psychology and Neuroscience
Project Advisor: Aimee Knupsky

Abby Dishler
Determination of the Secondary Structure of Group II Bulges Using the Fluorescent Probe 2-Aminopurine
Major: Biochemistry / Minor: History
Project Advisor: Martin Serra

Eric Engelhardt
Using IOZone to Measure the Cost of Using Hard Disk and Solid State Drives
Major: Computer Science / Minor: Music
Project Advisor: Gregory Katphammer

Colleen Friel
Auxin Effects on Root Exudation
Major: Biochemistry / Minor: Economics
Project Advisor: Catharina Coenen

Caitlyn Fuoco
Exploring the Current Shift in Fan/Producer Relationships
Major: Communication Arts / Minors: Psychology and Creative Writing
Project Advisor: Ishita Sinha Roy

Kyle Greenberg
The Influence of Pogonotrophy on Male College Students’ Perceived Masculinity
Major: Psychology / Minor: Communication Arts
Project Advisors: Joshua Searle-White and Calion Lockridge

Alivia Haibach
Crosses and Kofeyyes: Minority Integration Theory in Egypt
Major: International Studies / Minor: Religious Studies
Project Advisor: Shanna Kirschner

Brennan Hamilton
The Meeting of Heaven and Earth: The Lay Construction of Seville’s Holy Week
Majors: Spanish and History
Project Advisors: Teresa Herrera and Kale Haywood

John Hecht
The Effect of Benzalkonium Chloride Residues on Adhesion and Biofilm Formation by Wild-Type and Benzalkonium Chloride-adapted Haemophilus ducreyi
Major: Biology / Minor: English
Project Advisor: Tricia Humphreys

Max Hennessy
Determining the Roles of innexin2 and 5 in the Drosophila Melanogaster Immune System
Major: Biology / Minor: Economics
Project Advisor: Bradley Hersh

Ashley Jones
Illustrating High School Mathematics Using Origami
Major: Mathematics / Minor: Psychology
Project Advisor: Tamara Lakins

Abigail Kmiecinski
June 16, 1976: The Intersection of Liberation, Education, and a Powerful Young Generation in Soweto, South Africa
Major: History / Minors: French and Psychology
Project Advisor: Barry Shapiro

Charley Larkin
What is “Right”? How Do You Define “Right”? How about “Left”?
Major: Art and Technology / Minor: Psychology
Project Advisor: Sue Buck

Ashley Lehr
Restaurant Industry Strategy: Exploiting Demographic Change in a Weak Economy
Majors: Economics and Spanish
Project Advisors: Don Goldstein and Teresa Herrera
Jiarong Li
Examination of Keynesian Economics in the Case of Sino-German Economic Relations after the Global Financial Crisis in 2008
Majors: International Studies and German / Minor: Economics
Project Advisors: Sharon Wesoky, Jochen Richter, and Jialu Liu

Chelsea Litman
Past, Present, Future: The Enduring Influence of Marcel Duchamp’s Fountain in Art
Major: Art History / Minor: French Studies
Project Advisor: Richard Schindler

Annie Maglione
The Effect of Creative Drama on Children’s Self-Efficacy for Peer Interaction
Majors: Psychology and Communication Arts/Theatre
Project Advisors: Deb Dickey and Beth Watkins

Daniel Marcus
The History of Culture and Politics in the NBA
Major: History / Minors: Economics and Communication Arts
Project Advisor: Frank Forts

Colleen McCaughey
From Chorus Girl to Leading Lady: A Political Actor’s Journey through American Musical Theatre
Majors: Theatre and Political Science
Project Advisor: Dan Crozier

Kelsey McNary
Recommended Surface Casing Depths to Help Prevent Groundwater Contamination from Hydraulic Fracturing in Western Crawford County, Pennsylvania
Majors: Environmental Studies / Minor: Geology
Project Advisors: Rachel O’Brien and Chris Shaffer

Alexandra Miller
The Automobile Industry: Strategies for New Entrants
Major: Economics / Minor: Studio Art
Project Advisor: Stephen Onyeiwu

Amy Ochsenreiter
A Green Roofing Material for Historic Bentley Hall
Major: Environmental Science / Minor: History
Project Advisors: Eric Pallant, Richard Bowden, and President James Mullen

Mike Oliphant
A World Set Apart
Major: English / Minor: Psychology
Project Advisor: Christopher Bakken

Sara Polito
The Effects of Propentofylline on Fetal Tissue Graft Survival and Integration in the Unilateral 6-Hydroxydopamine Rat Model of Parkinson’s Disease
Majors: Neuroscience and Psychology
Project Advisors: Jeff Cross and Jeff Hollerman

Brittany Rauzan
Functionalization of Polymers Using Cyano Biphenyl Derivatives with Application for Solar Cells
Major: Chemistry / Minor: Psychology
Project Advisor: David Statman

Benjamin Schwartz
A Story of Leverage: Cyclical Patterns in Consumer Credit Growth
Major: Economics / Minor: Religious Studies
Project Advisors: Stephen Casler and Tomas Nonnenmacher

Anna Shrier
Waiting for Paint to Dry
Major: Studio Art / Minor: Geology
Project Advisor: Sue Bucck

Zachary Silberman
V1309 Sco: A Cosmic Lighthouse Showing Astronomers the Way
Major: Physics / Minor: Classical Studies
Project Advisor: Jamie Lombardi

Kelly Smith
The Effects of Conus Textile Venom on the BK Channel, hSlo1.1
Major: Neuroscience / Minor: Religious Studies
Project Advisor: Lauren French

Keiron Stoddart
EPR Studies on the Spin Crossover Characteristics of Trigonal Bipyramidal Metal Clusters
Major: Physics / Minor: Economics
Project Advisor: Dona Petasis

Trista Sykes
Classically-Conditioning Immunity in Sprague-Dawley Rats
Major: Psychology / Minor: Religious Studies
Project Advisor: Rodney Clark

Jillian Tavares
Red Shoes, Revisited: Exploring Confessional Poetry and Feminist Consciousness-Raising
Majors: English and Women’s Studies
Project Advisors: Barbara Shaw and Christopher Bakken

Laura Thorn
Not Really a Refugee: A Constructivist Perspective on Changing Forced Migration Norms
Major: Political Science / Minor: German
Project Advisor: Shanna Kirschner

Michael Vlah
Role of Caddisflies in Liberating Detritus-bound Nutrients and Energy to Food Webs in Temporary Alpine Ponds
Major: Biology / Minor: Environmental Writing
Project Advisor: Scott Wissinger

Anulekha Venkatram
From Self to Sisterhood—The Palace of Illusions as an Empowering Revision for Hindu Women
Major: English / Minors: Spanish and Economics
Project Advisor: Lloyd Michaels

Amanda Woodside
Have a Left Frontal Day: Coffee, Depression, and EEG
Major: Neuroscience / Minor: Dance and Movement Studies
Project Advisor: Sarah Conklin

Anna Zimmerman
The Subsidy-Stress Response of Fish Indices of Biotic Integrity (IBIs) to Land Cover for Streams of Northwestern Pennsylvania
Major: Biology / Minor: Psychology
Project Advisor: Scott Wissinger