



**Seventeenth Annual
College Honors Symposium**

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

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College Honors Mission Statement

The Ramapo College Honors Program is a community of faculty and students dedicated to intellectual, creative, and moral engagement. Honors students seek excellence through continual guidance and a distinctive curriculum of critical thinking, intercultural and international understanding, experiential learning, service, and interdisciplinary studies. The end of the program is the beginning of an enriched and accomplished life. Ramapo College invites all who have the aspiration, potential, and passion for discovery to join.

College Honors Administration 2025-2026

Director, Professor Erin Augis

Special Programs Coordinator, Donna Lee Schweizer

College Honors Faculty 2025-2026

Peter Campbell
David Coleman
Satarupa Dasgupta
Monika Giacoppe
Virginia Sandra Gonsalves
Yvette Kisor
Tae Kwak
Emily Leskinen
Samy Mustafa
Nathaniel Otjen
Stephen Rice
Rebecca Root
Kaitlin Sidorsky
Jeremy Teigen
Leah Warner

College Honors Advisory Board 2025-2026

Naseem Choudhury

Donna Flynn

Timothy Haase

Tae Kwak

Natalie Lemanski

Rebecca Leung

Joost Monen

John Gronbeck-Tedesco

Rebecca Root

Ruma Sen

Mihaela Serban

Nikhil Varma

College Honors Student Executive Board 2025-2026

Elizabeth Mendicino - President

Isabella Taveras - Vice President

Katelynn Haury - Treasurer

Hilda Tejeda Paulino - Secretary

Keira Gramlich - General Member

Cookie Wahba - General Member

2026 Sr. Project Symposium Agenda & Recognition Awards Ceremony

Welcome Introduction – 3:30 PM

Dr. Erin Augis, Honors Program Director

Opening Remarks – 3:35 PM

Dr. Cindy Jebb, President

Poster Session I – 3:45 PM

*Jillian Abbood, Danielle Braune, Jestina Brown, Emily Burns
Alyana Coelho, Esther Crowley, Vinod George, Sarah Glisson
Victor Gossett, Pranish Khanal, Gabriella LaMonica*

Oral Presentations – 4:30 PM

Tina Nosrati – Anemoia

Theodore Walton – 30 min. TV Screen Play

Elizabeth Mendicino – The Act of Forgetting: An Autoethnography

Poster Session II – 5:15 PM

Elizabeth Mendicino, Jamie Metz, Magdalena Nikolova

Tina Nosrati, Jesiah Owens, Numa Quraishi

Kristen Senesi, Riley Stein, Cookie Wahba

Theodore Walton, Emma Wunder

Award Recognition Ceremony & Photos – 6:10 PM

Dr. Erin Augis, Honors Program Director

College Honors Sr. Symposium Presenters

Jillian Abbood

Major: Accounting

Research Title – *Life Cycle Cost and Environmental Impact*

Sponsor: Prof. Nathaniel Otjen | Reader: Prof. Michael Cornell

Bibhu Bhatta

Major: Computer Science

Research Title – *Framework for Action-based Software Architecture*

Sponsor: Prof. Ali Al-Juboori | Reader: Prof. Lawrence D'Antonio

Danielle Braune

Major: English and Literary Studies

Research Title – *You're a Fine Girl (Novella)*

Sponsor: Prof. Hugh Sheehy | Reader: Prof. Edward Shannon

Justina Brown

Major: Biology

Minor: Chemistry

Research Title – *Hemochromatosis Diagnostic*

Fall Sponsor: Prof. Joost Monen | Reader: Prof. Kaneez Odgers

Spring Sponsor: Prof. Kokila Kota

Emily Burns

Major: Communication Arts

Concentration: Digital Journalism and Writing

Minor: Women's Gender & Sexuality Studies

Minor: Museum and Exhibition Studies

Research Title – *Global Writers and Emulation of Literary Voice*

Sponsor: Prof. Todd Barnes | Reader: Prof. Lisa Williams

Alyana Coelho

Major: Chemistry

Research Title – *Chemistry in our Schools*

Sponsor: Prof. Stephen Anderson | Reader: Prof. Jay Carreon

Esther Crowley

Major: Biology

Research Title – *Unequal Access, Unequal Outcomes*

Sponsor: Prof. Speights Gardan | Reader: Prof. Cort Engelken

Vinod George

Major: Computer Science

Research Title – *What Makes Best NHL Receiver?*

Sponsor: Prof. Matthew Jobrack | Reader: Prof. Osei Tweneboah

Sarah Glisson

Major: Political Science

Minor: Public Policy

Research Title - *The Framing of Socialized Medicine in America*

Sponsor: Prof. Kaitlin Sidorsky | Reader: Prof. Pat O'Connor

Victor Gossett

Major: Environmental Science

Minor: Plant Studies

Research Title – *The Design and Proposal of Rain Gardens*

Sponsor: Prof. Eric Wiener | Reader: Prof. Natalie Lemanski

Katelynn Haury

Major: Social Work

Concentration: Children's Yoga Teacher Certification

Minor: Environmental Studies

Minor: Contemplative Studies

Research Title – *Impact of Self-Help*

Fall Sponsor: Prof. John McTighe | Fall Reader: NA

Spring Sponsor: Prof. Emily Leskinen | Spring Reader: Prof. Engelken Cort

Pranish Khanal

Major: Data Science

Research Title – *Stochastic Calculus for Finance*

Sponsor: Prof. Kenneth McMurdy | Reader: Prof. Victor Miller

Sophia Kopreski

Major: Political Science

Minor: Public Policy

Research Title – *Youth Experience in Politics*

Sponsor: Prof. Kaitlyn Sidorsky | Prof. Alexander Urbiel

Gabriella LaMonica

Major: Psychology

Research Title – *How Emotion of Music Impacts Simple Task Performance*

Sponsor: Prof. Lysandra Perez-Stromolo | Reader: Prof. Leah Warner

Elizabeth Mendicino

Major: Communication Arts

Concentration: Digital Journalism and Writing

Research Title – *Migration of German Roma During WWII*

Sponsor: Prof. Mihaela Serban | Reader: Prof. Jacob Labendz

Jamie Metz

Major: Psychology

Minor: Substance Use Disorders

Research Title – *The Effects of Tactile Experience*

Sponsor: Prof. Maya Poran | Reader: Prof. Joseph Cataliotti

Magdalena Nikolova

Major: Biology

Minor: Neuroscience

Research Title – *Wearable Technology to Track Homeostatic and Circadian Regulations of Sleep*

Sponsor: Prof. Paramjeet Bagga | Fall Reader: Prof. Joost Monen

Spring Reader: Prof. Scott Frees

Tina Nosrati

Major: Computer Science

Minor: Visual Arts

Research Title - *Animoia*

Sponsor: Prof. John Peffer | Reader: Prof. Fariba Nosrati

Jesiah Owens

Major: Business Administration, MBA Program

Research Title – *The Cultural Dimension of Tourism Demand*

Sponsor: Prof. Timothy Haase | Reader: Prof. Mark Skowronski

Alexander Samieske

Major: History

Minor: Museum and Exhibition Studies

Research Title – *Ethnic and Queer Museums in Czech Republic*

Sponsor: Prof. Jacob Labendz | Reader: Prof. Stephen Rice

Kristen Senesi

Major: Sustainability

Minor: Marketing

Minor: Environmental Studies

Research Title – *The Economic Impact of Renewable Energy on Business*

Sponsor: Prof. Rikki Abzug | Reader: Prof. Nathaniel Otjen

Riley Stein

Major: Data Science

Minor: Crime and Justice Studies

Research Title – *How Fake news Influences Politics Globally*

Sponsor: Prof. Osei Tweneboah | Reader: Dir. Jacob Labendz

Daniela Turfan

Major: Marketing

Research Title – *How Social Media Influences Marketing*

Sponsor: Prof. Christina Chung | Reader: Prof. Desislava Budeva

Evelyn Voitsekhovitch

Major: Biology

Minor: Neuroscience

Research title – *Cancer Rates Among Immigrants from Soviet Union*

Sponsor: Prof. Joost Monen | Reader: Lisa Cassidy

Cookie Wahba

Major: Biology

Concentration: Osteopathy

Minor: Neuroscience

Minor: Public Health

Research Title – *Molecular Mimicry of SARRS-CoV-2 Proteins Against Human Olfactory Receptors*

Fall Sponsor: Prof. Joost Monen | Reader: NA

Spring Sponsor: Prof. Ashley Stuart | Reader: Prof. Rena Bacon

Theodore Walton

Major: English Literary Studies

Concentration: Creative Writing

Minor: Civic & Community Leadership

Research Title – *30 Minute TV Screen Play*

Sponsor: Prof. Kelly Dolak | Reader: Prof. Rowlett Scott

Emma Wunder

Major: Accounting

Minor: Finance

Research Title – *Organizational Structures Supporting the Range of Learners*

Sponsor: Prof. Malavika Sundararajan | Reader: Prof. Michael Cornell