





# HACKLEY RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

A NIGHT OF PRESENTATIONS LED BY THE STUDENTS OF THE INDEPENDENT RESEARCH PROGRAMS OF SCIENCE, ENGLISH, ORAL HISTORY, AND HISTORY, AS WELL AS THE RUSS HOGG GRANTEES. Welcome to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Hackley Research Symposium. Tonight, you will hear presentations that represent a year or more of independent research. We are incredibly proud of the high-quality work the students have achieved and know you will be impressed with them too.

In this program booklet, you will find program descriptions, room assignments for each student that is presenting, a short synopsis of their work, along with student profiles for our seniors.

### **Schedule of Events**

7:30pm	Opening Remarks   King Chapel
7:45pm	Session I*   Goodhue & Raymond Classrooms
8:15pm	<b>Break</b> Light refreshments served in Goodhue Lounge
8:30pm	Session II*   Goodhue & Raymond Classrooms

\* We respectfully ask you stay in a single room for an entire session so as not to disrupt the student presentations.

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### **Independent Science Research Program (ISRP)**

The ISRP provides students with a passion for science the opportunity to participate in authentic scientific research in a genuine setting. This three-year program is designed to give students first-hand experience in conducting research, thus bridging the gap between a traditional high school science curriculum and the process behind real-world scientific discoveries. Students in the program spend each summer after sophomore and junior years working closely with research scientists to conduct self-designed experiments, either in academic, medical or industrial labs. The program culminates with the students submitting their results to regional, national and/or international science and engineering fairs.

Sophomores	Juniors	Seniors
Annie Sheikh	Alicia Zhu	Allison Chin
Elan Suttiratana	Arjun Virk	Aniketh Arvind
Jacob Nadol	Francesca Jones	Eliza Podvalny
Macey McLane	Matthew Gluckman	Katherine Chen
Nima Jones	Rafael Castro	NJ Roc-Sennett
Obinna Nnamdi	Trashgim (Jimmy)	Remi Myers
Phillip Ianchulev	Mulosmani	Sam Nadol
Shikhar Misra	Vivek Malik	
Sophie Huang		

STUDENT	ROOM	SESSION
Alicia Zhu	G111	I
Allison Chin	G101	I
Aniketh Arvind	G111	I
Annie Sheikh	G104	II
Arjun Virk	G108	II
Elan Suttiratana	G101	I
Eliza Podvalny	G104	I & II
Francesca Jones	G101	I
Jake Nadol	G101	II
Katherine Chen	G108	I
Macey McLane	G111	I
Matthew Gluckman	G111	II
Nima Jones	G108	II
NJ Roc-Sennett	G108	II
Obinna Nnamdi	G108	I
Phillip Ianchulev	G108	I
Rafael Castro	G101	II
Remi Myers	G101	II
Sam Nadol	G111	II
Shikhar Misra	G104	I
Sophie Huang	G111	II
Trashgim (Jimmy) Mulosmani	G104	II
Vivek Malik	G104	I

### Session I (7:45 – 8:15)

### A 3D Image Analysis Workflow to Investigate Pathology of Alzheimer's Disease

Allison Chin '24

Aimed at reducing the potential for inaccuracies, I applied my workflow to labgrown brain tissues to examine how Lewy Bodies are affected by astrocytes with the APOE4 gene-a genetic risk factor for Alzheimer's Disease.

### Providing Accessible Information on Race Based Skin Cancer Variations

Francesca Jones '25

My project has been focused on studying the differences in skin cancer across racial groups. I am working on spreading educational information on this topic through a website, social media account, and brochure.

### Speech to Text Models Operating in Different Languages and Scripts Elan Suttiratana '26

I plan to test the performance of OpenAI's speech-to-text model Whisper on languages from the Indian subcontinent, and compare their accuracy and accuracy calculations with the accuracy of Latin scripts.

#### Session II (8:30 - 9:00)

# Decreased Daytime Sleep and UPR Provoked by The Treatment of Thapsigargin in Drosophila

Remi Myers '24

Treating flies with a drug called Thapsigargin to investigate its effects on daytime sleep and the Unfolding Protein Response in fruit flies.

# Computational analysis of motor abnormalities in handwriting samples of schizophrenia patients

Rafael Castro '25

Schizophrenia is a globally prevalent psychiatric disorder that causes abnormalities in handwriting. My project focused on the development of a highly accurate and accessible computational model to distinguish handwriting samples between schizophrenic patients and healthy patients.

### Efficacy and Safety of Weekly Semaglutide Treatment in Obese Adolescents

Jake Nadol '26

Although semaglutide, more commonly known as Ozempic, is already established as an effective treatment for type II diabetes and obesity, it has not yet been studied whether or not it is effective or safe for use by teenagers.

### Session I (7:45 – 8:15)

# Identification of Mitochondrial Dysfunction as a Shared Disease Signature in CADASIL and Alzheimer's Disease

Eliza Podvalny '24

This study explores the similarities between Alzheimer's Disease and CADASIL, a vascular disease, with a focus on the role of small blood vessel damage in both conditions, aiming to uncover novel treatment strategies.

#### Novel Immunotherapy to Treat T-cell Lymphoma

Vivek Malik '25

I validated and tested the effectiveness of an antibody-drug conjugate (ADC) immunotherapy targeting the ICOS receptor protein to treat T-cell lymphoma.

# Understanding the acceleration of our universe by calibrating optical devices for cosmic photometry

Shikhar Misra '26

Optical devices undergo uncertainty when measuring wavelengths that pass through the atmosphere. Using above-atmospheric balloons to calibrate these devices will help scientists better understand dark energy and the expansion of our universe.

#### Session II (8:30 - 9:00)

# Identification of Mitochondrial Dysfunction as a Shared Disease Signature in CADASIL and Alzheimer's Disease

Eliza Podvalny '24

This study explores the similarities between Alzheimer's Disease and CADASIL, a vascular disease, with a focus on the role of small blood vessel damage in both conditions, aiming to uncover novel treatment strategies.

# Using Large ML Models to Segment Cells in Patient Tissue Images *Trashgim (Jimmy) Mulosmani '25*

I used a machine learning model, called the Segment Anything Model, to identify where individual cells are present in patient tissue images, allowing scientists to analyze how cells interact with one another in the human body.

### Studying risk genes associated with Bipolar Disorder Treatments Annie Sheikh '26

I plan on studying the correlation between specific known risk genes for bipolar disorder and how patients will respond to certain medications such as mood stabilizers or antipsychotics.

### Session I (7:45 – 8:15)

# Investigating Extracellular and Intracellular Antibody Immunity to Therapeutic Adeno-Associated Viral Vectors

Katherine Chen '24

I am studying how to improve the safety and efficiency of viral-delivered gene therapies, which can cure genetic diseases.

# **Prevention of ocular infections with UV-C sterilization of eyedrops** *Phillip Ianchulev '26*

Pathogens such as P. Aerguinosa and Staph. Aureus contaminate eye dropper bottles, causing patient infection and possible death. UV-C radiation on eye dropper bottles kills all pathogens and bacteria on eye dropper tips, providing patient safety.

### Machine Learning for drug repurposing treatments for Alzheimer's Disease

Obinna Nnamdi '26

I am studying how machine learning models are developed and utilized for drug repurposing, specifically for Alzheimer's Disease.

### Session II (8:30 - 9:00)

### Mechanisms connecting STK11 loss with anti-PD-1 resistant lung tumors

NJ Roc-Sennett '24

My research created a workflow that identified genes prevalent to immunotherapy resistance in lung cancer patients.

# Analyzing the impact of oxyfuel carbon capture in the cement industry *Arjun Virk* '25

I am performing an economic and environmental analysis to assess the feasibility of implementing and scaling oxyfuel carbon capture in the cement industry.

### Neural Repair in an Alzheimer's Brain

Nima Jones '26

I'm researching a specific method of repairing dying neurons. I'm using the data of regeneration in the peripheral nervous system and translating it so that it can be used in the central nervous system.

### Session I (7:45 – 8:15)

# An Improved Deep Neural Architecture Search Net-Based Wearable Object Classification System for the Visually Impaired

Aniketh Arvind '24

I developed a highly comprehensive machine learning model and a novel wearable device to allow the visually impaired community to more efficiently classify commonly-used, centi-scale objects, and better understand their surrounding environments.

#### Age-Related Neural Dedifferentiation in Rapid Instructed Task Learning

Alicia Zhu '25

Understanding the mechanisms in the brain behind the differences between younger and older adults when learning a novel task from instructions.

# **Multivalent Array-Based Sensing in Diagnostics and Drug Discovery** *Macey McLane '26*

I am looking to develop an accessible paper-based sensing array inspired by mammalian olfactory system to diagnose the severity of liver fibrosis.

#### Session II (8:30 - 9:00)

### Design and Development of a Low-Cost Sonic Anemometer Sam Nadol '24

Research into the use of the speed of sound through the atmosphere to measure wind speed with no moving parts.

### Artificial Intelligence in Drug Development: Predicting Trial Outcomes from Patents

Matthew Gluckman '25

I utilize artificial intelligence, specifically natural language processing and machine learning, to analyze life science patent data and predict the outcomes of clinical trials, demonstrating the potential of these technologies to improve efficiency and decision-making in drug development.

### Using a Fungal Model to Replicate the Functions of Human Telomeres *Sophie Huang '26*

Telomeres are DNA structures at the ends of chromosomes, and they play a significant role in aging and cancer development. I am studying a fungal model that can help scientists understand the functions of telomeres in human cells.

### Senior Science Research Student Profiles

#### Allison Chin

Field of study: Neuroscience

I have been researching Neuroscience to help fight against Alzheimer's Disease.

I've always been interested in science, and I loved how it allows us to understand how the world works. Neuroscience captivated me, as I find it thrilling how tiny electrical pulses in your brain cause thoughts, feelings,



personality, actions, etc. I first became focused on Alzheimer's Disease after my grandma's diagnosis a couple years ago. I was fortunate enough to find two separate internship experiences, researching the psychology and biology behind Alzheimer's. I plan to pursue STEM and research in college, as well as art! Outside of the classroom, I love painting and drawing portraits, listening to music (current favs are Taylor Swift, Noah Kahan, Lorde, and Del Water Gap), reading, baking when I can, hiking with friends, and taking naps. Currently trying to start following sports, reading more classics, and trying watercolor!

#### Aniketh Arvind

Field of study: Assistive Computer Vision

I engineered a wearable device that allows the visually impaired to understand their surroundings.

Looking back on my Hackley experience, I would deem ISRP to be the most impactful gift I received. The program's guidance afforded me the opportunity to conduct cutting-edge, machine learning research at the



BioRobotics Lab in Wisconsin, and ultimately led me to Princeton where I will begin my Electrical Engineering and Machine Learning studies this fall. As someone who is constantly thinking of novel solutions to unsolved problems, a result of my deep penchant for entrepreneurship and the tech startup scene, I was motivated to tackle the issues my blind great-grandmother was facing. Thus, my project comprises a comprehensive machine learning model and a novel wearable device that allows the visually impaired to detect small, vital objects in their surrounding environments. Aside from machine learning research and academics, I am a global non-profit founder, avid mobile-app developer, award-winning pianist and violinist, and club cricketer for the Connecticut Cricket Academy.

### Eliza Podvalny

Field of study: Neuroscience

My research explores an alternative approach to targeting and treating Alzheimer's Disease.

There's something so fascinating to me about the workings of our brain, operating at remarkable speeds and managing so much, yet still we do not precisely understand how it functions. What intrigues me most is



its ability to encode and store our valuable memories. I joined IRP to further explore this interest, ultimately leading me to focus on Alzheimer's Disease research. Over the summer, I collaborated with my lab to explore a novel approach to the disease, determining that targeting vascular dysfunction could halt progression earlier on. By comparing Alzheimer's pathology with that of a vascular disease known as CADASIL, I uncovered promising therapeutic avenues that I'm eager to further pursue in college. Beyond science, I love to play the piano, walk with friends and my dog, Phoebe, and listen to genuinely all genres of music.

#### Katherine Chen

Field of study: Gene Therapy

I studied how to improve the safety and efficiency of gene-editing therapies to cure genetic diseases.

My seventh-grade biology class sparked my interest in genetics, and I have been fascinated ever since. When I came to Hackley in 9th grade, I decided to pursue IRP so I could dive deeper into the field of genetics. I've spent



the past two summers at Regeneron Pharmaceuticals studying and finding ways to evade immunity against adeno-associated virus (AAV) vectors, a reengineered virus used to deliver gene-editing therapies in patients. Aside from academics and research, I play piano and am involved with the Girls Who Code Club at Hackley. In my free time, I love reading, hiking with friends, and listening to music.

### NJ Roc-Sennett

Field of study: Genetics and Molecular Biology

I identified genes that can be connected to immunotherapy resistance in lung cancer patients.

My love for genetics first manifested in middle school, and ever since then I've been interested in the underlying molecular mechanisms of disease. Our DNA is the universal blueprint, and so many secrets can be



uncovered if we look hard enough. My research project aimed to understand why certain lung cancer patients are resistant to one type of immunotherapy by working backwards from a genetic mutation and finding specific genes that are altered downstream of this change. Outside of the classroom, I play the guitar in multiple bands — I've been involved in almost every Hackley Coffeehouse since I first joined the school in 9th grade. I'm also on the varsity fencing and track and field teams. In my free time I enjoy spending time with my friends and family, visiting coffee shops, and reading books.

### Remi Myers

Field of study: Cell Biology & Neuroscience

I have been studying how different drugs affect negatively impact sleep and protein function in flies.

I have always been interested in STEM and as I have grown within the field, I found a love for understanding how the brain works. I began focusing on sleep specifically after an encounter I had with sleep paralysis.



That experience made me inquire about what impacts the brain and how sleep plays a role in it. I got the opportunity to work at the University of Pennyslavnia where I got to put my interest into action and began investigating a drug, Thapsigargin, to see if it reduced daytime sleep in flies and if it lead to the unfolding protein response. Outside of science I love playing tennis, dancing, and acting. I am a super active person and am always looking for something to do with my friends and family.

#### Sam Nadol

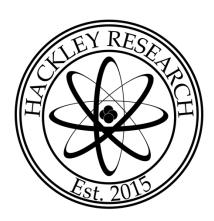
Field of study: Static Sonic Anemometers

My research measured the speed of sound through the atmosphere with no moving parts to calculate the current wind speed.

I've always been interested in how things work. In preschool, I was an avid user of the "take-apart table" and in middle school, I'd started building things rather



than just taking them apart. That continued all the way through to my IRP project, where I thought of a concept to measure velocity directly, realized it wouldn't work, and then applied it to sound instead, which resulted in the ability to measure the velocity of the atmosphere. In college, I want to continue making things, and plan to major in electrical engineering. Aside from creating things, I also enjoy building and fixing computers through my non-profit RebootPC, programming, and fencing.



### **Independent Research in History (IRH)**

IRH offers students the opportunity to conduct advanced research and writing at the college level under the guidance of Mr. Stephen Fitzpatrick and Mr. Andy King. Students develop their own topics or research questions, review the scholarly literature in the relevant discipline(s), understand and employ the research methodologies relevant to their research, and write on the research question, ultimately producing significant research essays or other summative projects.

Juniors	Seniors
Aran Basu	Aiden Wasserman
Mika Nuzum	Nevin Mital
Ronen Fleck	Phoebe Abrahms
	Sabrina Reyes
	Spencer Ormsby
	Teddy Estrada
	Travis Knaggs

STUDENT	ROOM	SESSION
Aiden D. Wasserman	R116	II
Aran Basu	R117	I
Mika Nuzum	R122	I
Nevin Mital	R117	I
Phoebe Abrahms	R116	I
Ronen Fleck	R117	I
Sabrina Reyes	R116	I
Spencer Ormsby	R122	II
Teddy Estrada	R117	I
Travis Knaggs	R122	II

### Raymond R116

### Session I (7:45 – 8:15)

### Votes, Voices, and Vexation: Exploring the Dynamics of Contested U.S. Presidential Elections

Phoebe Abrahms '24

This research examines the causes, complexities, and reactions to "contested" American Presidential elections, with a focus on the years 1876, 2000, and 2020.

### Code Blue: Crisis and Controversy in the Latin American Healthcare Model

Sabrina Reyes '24

My research focuses on the exploration of critical medical anthropology, ethnographic variations, and the interplay of ethics and social factors in Latin American Medicine.

### Session II (8:30 – 9:00)

# Tectonic Shifts: The Viability of Implementing an Offshore Balancing Grand Strategy in US European Policy

Aiden D. Wasserman '24

An offshore balancing grand strategy in Europe would entail US troops departing the continent and departing the NATO alliance. This paper analyzes the ramifications of such actions in areas such as the European balance of power, nuclear proliferation, potential security competitions, economic interdependence, and the containment of Russia.

### Raymond R117

### Session I (7:45 – 8:15)

# Cultural Imprints: Analyzing the Memorialization of Three Civil War Battles Through Their Identities

Ronen Fleck '25

Through a three-pronged case study examining key battles of the Civil War Era, specifically, the Siege at Vicksburg, the Sand Creek Massacre, and the Battle of Gettysburg, this research project aims to analyze how the culture and identity of a site influence the memorialization of the conflict at battle sites. This study explores the role these factors play in shaping the remembrance of conflicts from the Civil War Era.

### From Hammers to Harmonies: The Evolution of Work Songs as Tools of Resistance

Aran Basu '25

My project analyzes the musical traditions of laboring communities, focusing particularly on poetry represented in the "work song." These songs serve as expressions of struggle and oppression within these communities, and consequently function as catalysts for social and political revolutions.

#### Session II (8:30 – 9:00)

#### Nietzsche's Post-Faustian Vision: A Spenglerian Analysis of Nietzsche's Great Politics

Teddy Estrada '24

I have been looking at Friedrich Nietzsche's philosophy and criticisms of Germany through Oswald Spengler's historical philosophy.

# Aging Gracefully?: The Consequences of an Aging Population on the Developed World

Nevin Mital '24

My research paper focuses on the future problems that declining birth rates (and subsequently older populations) will pose to developed nations and federal social programs.

### Raymond R122

### Session I (7:45 - 8:15)

### **Tutus and Taboos: An Exploration of Cultural Appropriation in Ballet** *Mika Nuzum '25*

My research analyzes the continuous perpetuation of cultural appropriation within the ballet industry, with a specific focus on the roles of the dancers, directors, and audience members as key stakeholders.

#### Session II (8:30 – 9:30)

# The Failure of Neoliberalism in Russia and the Path to Putin Spencer Ormsby '24

After the collapse of the USSR, the subsequent incorporation of Neoliberal policies left Russia in a dire predicament which paved the way for later economic growth and the imminent rise of the Putin regime.

### A Collectivized Collapse: Lessons in Economic Reform from Communist Countries

Travis Knaggs '24

My research compares economic reforms in the Soviet Union post-Stalin with China after the Great Leap Forward. In examining the two countries, I will be looking at what causes collapse in a communist country.

### **Senior History Research Student Profiles**

#### Aiden Wasserman

#### Field of Study: International Relations Theory

Researching the viability of implementing Primacy and Offshore Balancing as Grand Strategies in US-European Policy

Since I was little, I have been fascinated by maps. Each region on the map felt like a world of its own: unique and limitless. Inevitably, I exhausted my stock of countries to discover and had to find a new way to study the world we live in. I turned to international relations (IR) to



understand the structural factors that shape the global system. One area of IR particularly stood out to me: Theory. IR theoretical analysis establishes broad assumptions about factors that shape states' interaction in the international system's inevitably anarchic nature. One IR theory, Realism, stresses the roles of security & power in states' behavior. Realism asserts that the best grand strategy for an insular nation like the US is offshore balancing, which husbands national resources by passing the buck to regional powers to contain the rise of potentially hostile powers. Most IR professors advocate for offshore balancing in the Middle East and East Asia, but few devote academic attention to Europe. My paper further explores the complications of implementing such a grand strategy in US-European Policy.

I will attend Tufts University to study International Relations, with the eventual goal of joining the US Diplomatic Corps.

#### **Phoebe Abrahms**

#### Field of Study: American Presidential Elections

Researching what it means for a presidential election to be "contested", and the causes behind these disputes.

Throughout my four years at Hackley, I have taken many history courses to delve into my profound interests in history and politics. I have been a part of the Independent Research in History course both my junior and senior



years, focusing on Newt Gingrich's impact on the GOP last year. This year, I wanted to continue to conduct research related to the history of American politics, and I eventually landed on this topic regarding contested elections. In the research process, I was especially driven by the pertinence of my research question given that we are amidst another divisive presidential election season.

Outside of my involvement in the history department, I have engaged many facets of the Hackley experience. I am a captain of the debate team and a leader in Hackley's admissions ambassador program. I have also played on various Hackley sports teams, including tennis and squash. Beyond the hilltop, I love to ski, hike, travel, and spend time with family and friends.

#### **Nevin Mital**

Field of Study: United States Public Policy

Researching the effects of population aging on publicly funded social programs

Hi! I'm a senior at Hackley this year, and I've been a Hackley student since kindergarten. I also have two sisters who have already graduated from Hackley (Riya '17 and Nina '21). I enjoy playing squash, being outdoors,



and I've always loved history, which is why I chose to join the Independent Research in History program this year. Recently, I've been intrigued by public policy and the demographic change that is occuring in the US and elsewhere in the developed world, specifically about how the US population, on average, is aging. Thus, my research project covers the effects of the population aging and the ramifications for governmental policy and age-based social programs like Social Security.

### Sabrina Reyes

Field of Study: Medical Malpractice in Latin America

I have been researching medical malpractice in Latin America and the Latin American healthcare model in relation to the ethics and social customs of different regions and groups in Latin America.

Having attended Hackley since Kindergarten, I have been able to thoroughly understand and explore many of



the subjects that Hackley has to offer. My interest in medical malpractice and law stemmed from a conversation with my mother, who strove to find a compromise for my inclination towards both medicine and law. My desire to focus on the ethics and customs of Latin America derives from my own Salvadoran heritage and experience. Noticing the differing ethics and practices between my own family and other families, I sought out to explore the differing principles of certain groups with the lens of Latin American healthcare. Outside of school, I enjoy dancing, tutoring, writing, and spending time with friends and family.

### **Spencer Ormsby**

Field of Study: Russian History and Economics

Researching Russian economics after the collapse of the USSR through the lens of Neoliberal policies

Since coming to Hackley in 6th grade, my favorite courses have always involved history and social studies. Upon taking the 20th Century World History course last year, I became fascinated by the ways in which countries across



the world were able to rebuild after WW2 and evolve into the contemporary societies we see today. This led me to write my final paper last year about The East Asian Miracle and how Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan, and South Korea were able to experience rapid industrialization, record-high growth rates, and become leading international financial centers. During my research for this essay, I became fascinated with the Neoliberal economic model and how countless other countries employed similar fiscal and monetary policies during the 20th century. I carried this interest over to my IRH project this year and analyzed the initial failure of neoliberal policies in Russia, how it gave way to the rise of Putin, and the future implications for Russia and its economy. Outside of my research, I am a member of the debate team, enjoy reading, spending time with friends, and watching movies.

### **Teddy Estrada**

Field of Study: German History and Philosophy

I have been analyzing Friedrich Nietzsche's political philosophy as a symbol of Oswald Spengler's history morphology.

I am a senior and have been at Hackley since I was a freshman. I first became interested in Nietzsche in freshman year when I was writing a history paper about



criticisms of the Enlightenment. I was already interested in the philosophy of Arthur Schopenhauer at the time, and from there my interest in German philosophy grew. Last year I wrote a paper that involved some research on the history of democracy in Germany, which drew on my knowledge of Nietzsche. I have greatly enjoyed my history classes throughout my time at Hackley and am currently taking three this year, including American Law, Government, and Independent Research in History. Outside of my classes, I enjoy my time on the track team and playing piano and bass in the Hackley Jazz Combo.

### **Travis Knaggs**

**Field of Study:** Economic Reform in Communist Countries

I have been researching the causes of the failure of Soviet Reform under Gorbachev and the simultaneous success of China under Deng Xiaoping's modernizations.

I have always been fascinated by what allows some countries to rapidly rise into global dominance while



others fall into disarray in the same timeframe. In 10th grade, I wrote my paper on how quickly the US was able to rise into global power due to select policies passed during the American Civil War. In my research, I began to look at the specifics behind how the failure of Soviet political and economic reform programs Perestroika and Glasnost in the 1980s accelerated Soviet collapse while the economic reforms passed by the CCP under Deng Xiaoping led to the country's growth into a global power. Outside of my research at Hackley I run 3 seasons on the Hackley XCTF teams and will be running in college for Dickinson. I also enjoy backpacking and I am looking to get into mountaineering.

# Independent Research in Oral History & Storytelling

Students explore how memory shapes our understanding of the past through the creation and interpretation of oral history. The first part of the course focuses on building interview skills through both handson practice and the study of interview-based works like podcasts and documentaries. In the latter part of the course, students design and carry out an inquiry-based project rooted in their own original oral history research. These projects might include a documentary-style film or podcast, traditional research paper, or a journalistic or literary piece. Put another way, students will learn how to listen to people's stories in order to tell a story of their own.

Freshmen	Sophomore	Juniors
Andre McMahon Gabrielle Paes	Sebastian Mann	Annabel Previdi Charlie Perlman

STUDENT	ROOM	SESSION
Andre McMahon	G113	I
Annabel Previdi	G113	II
Charlie Perlman	Goodhue Library Display	
Gabrielle Paes	G113	II
Sebastian Mann	G113	I

### Session I (7:45 - 8:15)

# Revealing the Structure of Tribalism: Exploring Division in American Society

Andre McMahon '27

Project compiled from interviews with Americans across generations on their personal experience with tribalism in their lives. Providing a picture of how our society functions, and why it is often divided.

### Savoring Stories: Unveiling the History and Perspectives around School Lunch

Sebastian Mann '26

A breakdown of the complicated history of school lunch and the range of access for students to both healthy food and nutritional education.

#### Session II (8:30 - 9:00)

#### The Many Lives of Taimi Previdi

Annabel Previdi '25

After a series of interviews with my 90-year-old grandmother, a scrapbook communicates her stories from growing up in Finland during World War II to living in Sweden, London, and Hamburg, and finally immigrating to the US to become a stewardess for Pan-Am and start a family.

#### The Untold Stories of People with Hidden Conditions

Gabrielle Paes '27

Through interviews with a range of individuals about their experiences having different autoimmune conditions we learn about the parts of peoples' lives that we can't always see.

### Goodhue Library Display

### **Humans of Hackley**

Charlie Perlman '25

Everyone in the Hackley community has their own story and my project seeks to highlight various people through photography and interviews.

### **Russ Hogg Grants for Creative Expression**

Russ Hogg Grants for Creative Expression provide an opportunity for students to further their interest in creative expression and innovation in ways that fall outside the normal course offerings at Hackley. Jason '89 and Alexandra Hogg P '19, '22 established The Russ Hogg Endowment for Creative Expression to honor the life's work of Russ Hogg, Jason's father and a former Hackley trustee. The Hoggs' philanthropic leadership inspired friends and family to join them in creating this endowment in Russ's name to foster creativity and innovation in myriad forms and fields, including technology, the creative arts (performing, visual, and digital), science, entrepreneurialism, global challenges, and interdisciplinary inquiry.

Grants support the design, research, implementation, and completion of a number of independent student projects that span the course of one year. Grants can be used towards costs associated with research, course work, travel, construction, model-building materials, or other documentable expenses related to the project. Grants may be individual or team-based.

Sophomore	Junior
David Lefkovits	Rafael Castro

STUDENT	ROOM	SESSION
David Lefkovits	G201	I & II
Rafael Castro	G201	I

#### Session I (7:45 - 8:15)

#### **Hackley Solar Project**

David Lefkovits '26

The Hackley Solar project is researching the possibility of Hackley installing solar energy and how solar can benefit the school as a whole.

### HappyCampus: Measuring Mental Health at Hackley

Rafael Castro '25

I developed an app which I plan to release to the student body next year to help individuals track and address their mental health through quick, regular surveys.

### Session II (8:30 - 9:00)

#### **Hackley Solar Project**

David Lefkovits '26

The Hackley Solar project is researching the possibility of Hackley installing solar energy and how solar can benefit the school as a whole.

