Senior Thesis presentations are open to the entire VMI community and external guests. This year, all presentations will be held in 164 Scott Shipp Hall and will be live-streamed via Microsoft Teams. Links to each presentation are provided below.

Unless otherwise noted, uniform for all events is class dyke or Class B.

**Monday, 21 March 2022**

0800  **Eta Kappa Nu** Induction – Electrical and Computer Engineering Honor Society, Nichols Engineering Library, New cadet inductees, existing cadet members, and all Electrical Engineering Faculty and staff. (COL Squire)

0800  **Pi Tau Sigma** Induction – Mechanical Engineering Honor Society, 514 Nichols Engineering. Open to the public. (CAPT McMasters)

0830  **Beta Gamma Sigma** Induction – Business Honor Society, 265 Scott Shipp Hall, Economics and Business majors and friends. (COL Gerow and COL Cobb)

1400  Senior Thesis Presentation: **Leon M. Thomas**. “Democracies and Autocracies: Structural Factors that Determine Military Interventions,” Department of International Studies, Advisor: LTC Patrick Rhamey ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

**Tuesday, 22 March 2022**

1200  Senior Thesis Presentation: **Michael M. Hoffmann**. “Kicking the Army’s Vietnam Syndrome: The Cultural Renaissance of the Post-Vietnam Army,” Department of History, Advisor: COL David Gray ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

1300  Senior Thesis Presentation: **Logan M. Lamm**. “CubeSat Motion Simulation through Quadcopter State-Space Modeling,” Department of Mechanical Engineering, Advisor: COL Joseph Blandino ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

1400  Senior Thesis Presentation: **Daniel T. Hamner**. “The Role of Frigates and Small Vessels in Age of Sail Navies,” Department of History, Advisor: LTC Eric Osborne ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

2030  **Omicron Delta Epsilon** Induction – Economics Honor Society, 205 Scott Shipp Hall, Invitation only. (COL Allen and MAJ Landgraf)
**Wednesday, 23 March 2022**

1200  Senior Thesis Presentation: **Genevieve L. Petras.** “Vinamidinium Salts and Vinylogous Amides as Starting Materials for Pharmaceutical Treatment of Malaria and Leishmaniasis,” Department of Chemistry, Advisor: COL Stanton Smith ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

1300  Senior Thesis Presentation: **Rachael A. Dickenson.** “Performance of Soybean (Glycine max) Cultivars in Varying Rural Virginia Sites: Effect of Site Characteristics on Shoot Structure and Yield,” Department of Biology, Advisor: COL Anne Alerding ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

1400  Senior Thesis Presentation: **Tanner P. Mallari.** “Evaluation of Crowdsourcing Applications in Disaster Relief,” Department of Computer and Information Sciences, Advisor: Dr. Youna Jung ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

1500  Senior Thesis Presentation: **Matthew W. Stann.** “Structural Analysis and Optimization of Road Racing Bicycle Frames,” Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Advisor: COL Matthew Swenty ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

1945  **Modern Languages and Cultures Honor Societies** Inductions – Pi Delta Phi (French), Phi Sigma Iota (International), Sigma Delta Pi (Spanish), 500 Level Scott Shipp Hall, Invitation only. (LTC Carrico – PDP, Dr. Xie – PSI, Dr. Laroussi – SDP)

**Thursday, 24 March 2022**

0800  Senior Thesis Presentation: **Jacob A. Luchansky.** “The Social Network of Police Misconduct in Chicago,” Department of Applied Mathematics, Advisor: COL Karen Bliss ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

1000  Senior Thesis Presentation: **Ethan J. Schlussel.** “Performance of Additively Manufactured Thermal Insulation with Geometric Voids in Hypersonic Conditions,” Department of Mechanical Engineering, Advisor: CAPT Robert McMasters ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

1100  Senior Thesis Presentation: **Emma L. Flora.** “Pro-Choice, Pro-Life, or Other: Reframing the Abortion Issue Through Non-Minimal Narratives,” Department of English, Rhetoric, and Humanistic Studies, Advisor: Dr. Reshef Agam-Segal ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

1300  Senior Thesis Presentation: **Rhett M. Rezendes.** “An Intellectual History of Mariátegui and Lenin’s Contributions to the Shining Path Insurgency,” Department of History, Advisor: COL Geoff Jensen ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

1400  Senior Thesis Presentation: **Carson B. Knox.** “*Nostromo* and Schopenhauer's Sublime,” Department of English, Rhetoric, and Humanistic Studies, Advisor: MAJ Patrick Eichholz ([Click here to join the meeting](#))
1500 Senior Thesis Presentation: **Urie N. Conis.** “Rhetorical Analysis of Ian Shapira's Washington Post Articles,” Department of English, Rhetoric, and Humanistic Studies, Advisor: MAJ Adam Cody ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

**Friday, 25 March 2022**

1200 Senior Thesis Presentation: **Christopher M. Hulburt.** “Unearthed Contributors: African Americans at Virginia Military Institute, 1839-1851,” Department of History, Advisor MAJ Madeline F. Ramsey ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

1300 Senior Thesis Presentation: **Andrew S. Broecker.** “Does the Mind Place Limits on the Body?,” Department of Biology, Advisor: Col. Wade Bell ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

1400 Senior Thesis Presentation: **Jonathan T. Tobin.** Behavioral Outcomes, Hormone Secretion, and cFos Activation Identifies Telencephalic Regions Implicated in Siamese-fighting Fish, *Betta splendens*, Aggression and Resilience,” Department of Biology, Advisor: MAJ Molly Kent ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

1500 Senior Thesis Presentation: **Kyle W. Tidwell.** “The Effects of Chronic Stress on the Behavior, Brain and Hormones of Betta Fish,” Biology, Advisor: MAJ Molly Kent ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

**Monday, 28 March 2022**

0800 **Sigma Tau Delta** Induction – International English Honor Society, 164 Scott Shipp Hall, All current members, new inductees, and English Faculty are welcome to attend. (LTC Knepper)

0800 **Tau Beta Pi** Induction – Engineering Honor Society, 514 Nichols Engineering Building, Members only. (COL Blandino, COL Newhouse, LTC Feinauer)

0800 **Gamma Sigma Epsilon** Induction – National Chemistry Honor Society, 203 Maury-Brooke Hall, Chemistry majors and Faculty. (LTC McCain)

0800 **Psi Chi** Induction – The International Honor Society in Psychology, 410 Carroll Hall, Inductees, members, and Psychology faculty. (COL Sullivan)

1100 Senior Thesis Presentation: **Christopher H. Soo.** “Narco Souvenirs for Sale: The Fight Against the Touristification of Colombia’s Narco Heritage,” Department of Modern Languages and Cultures, Advisor: Dr. Sabrina Laroussi ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

1200 Senior Thesis Presentation: **Robert T. C. Hoeft.** “The Impact of Housing Policy on Economic and Educational Outcomes by Race in Norfolk, Virginia,” Department of Economics and Business, Advisor: COL Tinni Sen ([Click here to join the meeting](#))
Tuesday, 29 March 2022

1500 Senior Thesis Presentation: J**ames D. Foster. “Pyrolysis Reactor Burning Plastic Feedstock,” Department of Mechanical Engineering, Advisor: CAPT Robert McMasters ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

1000 Senior Thesis Presentation: Thaddeus Z. Wegrzyn. “Longitudinal Physiological Assessment of VMI Cadets in their 1st Class Year Compared to the Ratline,” Department of Biology, Advisor: MAJ Daniel Baur ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

1300 Senior Thesis Presentation: Loic R. Bignan. “Software Development and Hardware Integration of KeydetSAT-1,” Department of Mechanical Engineering, Advisor: COL Joseph Blandino ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

1400 Senior Thesis Presentation: Joseph L. Malazo. “Benevolent Liminal Deities: The Regulation of Information Communication Technology in Democracies,” Department of International Studies, Advisor: MAJ Timothy Passmore ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

1500 Senior Thesis Presentation: Bridget A. Hughes. “The Blood of Patriots and Tyrants: Examining the Justifications of the American Revolution,” Department of International Studies, Advisor: COL Ryan Holston ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

1730 Phi Alpha Theta Induction – National History Honor Society, Subs Mess, Crozet, Invitation only. (MAJ Arndt and MAJ Ramsey)

Wednesday, 30 March 2022

1100 Senior Thesis Presentation: Noah E. Kirk. “Polarization and Interstellar Extinction in the Direction of Open Star Cluster NGC 6633,” Department of Physics Department, Advisor: Col. Gregory Topasna ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

1300 Senior Thesis Presentation: Alexander S. DiPrampero. “The Impact of Box Size in a Direct Shear Box Test,” Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Advisor: Dr. Jai Kyoung Jung ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

1400 Senior Thesis Presentation: Grayson H. Hurst. “Analyzing the Benefits of Porous Pavement on Surface Temperature and Water Quality at Interstate 81 Exit 140 Park and Ride,” Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Advisor: Dr. Tanjina Afrin ([Click here to join the meeting](#))
1500  Senior Thesis Presentation: Ana L. Lawrence. "Psychosocial History and Combat Exposure as a Predictor for Post Deployment Mental Health Issues," Department of Psychology, Advisor: LTC Sara Whipple (Click here to join the meeting)

Thursday, 31 March 2022

0925  Senior Thesis Presentation: Jackson D. Mercer. : Dirty Fights and Clean Soldiers: Collective Identity Construction in Selected American War Films at the Turn of the 21st Century,” Department of English, Rhetoric, and Humanistic Studies, Advisor: LTC Catharine Ingersoll (Click here to join the meeting)

1100  Senior Thesis Presentation: Luke S. Nicksic. : Does the Equal Weight Index Fund Dominate the Market Capitalization Index Fund for the Long Term Investor?,” Department of Economics and Business, Advisor: Col. Jeff S. Smith (Click here to join the meeting)

1300  Senior Thesis Presentation: Caleb J. Ogle. “Exploring the Potential to Understand the Ecology of Insectivorous Bats Using Photographs Posted to iNaturalist,” Department of Biology, Advisor: COL Paul Moosman (Click here to join the meeting)

1400  Senior Thesis Presentation: Alexander N. Rice. ” Monitoring Foot Traffic with Internet of Things Devices,” Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Advisor: COL James Baker (Click here to join the meeting)

Thursday, 7 April 2022

1945  Pi Sigma Alpha Induction – Political Science Honor Society, 504 Scott Shipp Hall, Invitation only. (COL Hierman)

Monday, 18 April 2022

1830  Sigma Pi Sigma Induction – Physics Honor Society, Moody Hall Activities Room, Cadets and Faculty are welcome to attend. (Col. G. Topasna)