**Exploring Food Insecurity in Vermont During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

**Margaret Chafouleas ’22**  
Environmental Studies, CLAS; Journalism, CLAS  
**Mentor: Steven Smith, Journalism**

In Vermont, a state that is regarded as having one of the most socially responsible and sustainable food systems, nearly 30 percent of its residents have experienced food insecurity in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic. Through documentary film, this project will explore food security in Vermont and how the pandemic has affected resident’s ability to eat.

**Bridging the Gap: Exploring Political Polarization in the UConn Student Body**

**Musa Hussain ’23**  
Sociology, CLAS  
**Mentor: Michael Morrell, Political Science**

This project will explore political polarization in the UConn student body through a qualitative analysis of students’ moral and political understandings of opinions opposing their own. The goal is to understand how students can engage in respectful discourse without compromising political values.

Born out of the UConn Cooperative’s commitment to public engagement, innovative entrepreneurship, and active mentorship, the UConn Co-op Legacy Fellowship —Change Grants provide undergraduates the opportunity to pursue student-designed or student-led projects that represent the legacy of the UConn Co-op, including service initiatives, creative endeavors, advocacy, engaged research, and social entrepreneurship. Fellows receive up to $2000 to support project expenses. Applications are accepted twice per year in October and February.

More information on the UConn Co-op Legacy Fellowship—Change Grants can be found at [ugradresearch.uconn.edu/change](http://ugradresearch.uconn.edu/change)