UConn IDEA Grant Recipients
Spring 2022 - Cohort 19

Congratulations to the 22 students who have been awarded UConn IDEA Grants to support 2022-23 academic year projects.

Individual Projects

Ananya Aggarwal ’24, Molecular and Cell Biology, CLAS
Synthesizing Cisplatin Loaded Nanoparticles for the Intraperitoneal Treatment of Ovarian Cancer

Nour Al Zouabi ’23, Molecular and Cell Biology & IMJR: Rights, Health, and Refugees, CLAS
Refugees’ Post-Resettlement Barriers to Accessing Healthcare Services in the Northeastern United States During COVID-19

Joshua Estimé ’23, Psychological Sciences, CLAS
Influence of Parental Critical Consciousness on Socialization and Development of Haitian American Youth

Alexandra Goldhamer ’23, Molecular and Cell Biology & Human Rights, CLAS
The Attenuation of Diet-Induced Obesity Through Locus Coeruleus Chemoactivation

Haley Grayson ’23, Physiology and Neurobiology, CLAS
Investigating the Role of Srp in Programmed Cell Death in the Drosophila Ovary

Jerome Jacobs ’23, Allied Health Sciences, CAHNR
Measuring HIV Stigmas and Investigating the Role of mHealth for Stigma-Reduced HIV Prevention Services Among Men Who Have Sex With Men (MSM) In Malaysia

Alexandra Kapell ’24, Human Rights & Political Sciences, CLAS
The Impact of Framing Gender Based Violence as Torture

Madeline Kizer ’24, Marketing, BUS
UConn Swap Shop: Establishing a Clothing and Item Exchange for the UConn Community
Audrey Larson ’25, Materials Science and Engineering & Civil Engineering, ENG
Integration of Plastic Waste Into Concrete to Reduce Plastic Wastes and Improve the Properties of Concrete

Travis Lavigne ’24, Music Education & Composition, SFA
Original Musical Production and Recording

Sofya Levitina ’24, Physics & Mathematics/Statistics, CLAS
Analysis of Black Hole Accretion and Feedback in the CAMELS Simulations Using Artificial Intelligence

Meghan Myles ’23, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology & Applied Mathematics, CLAS
Determining the Developmental Stage of Sex Organ Abortion in Solanum polygamum and Solanum appendiculatum

Hailey Ngo ’23, Art, SFA
One World to Share: Exploring Cultural Appropriation in Opposition to Appreciation Through Art

Savannah Ngo ’23, Physiology and Neurobiology & Psychological Sciences, CLAS
The Effect of Verbal Suggestion and Transportation Placebo on Cold Pressor Pain Tolerance

Yewande Olumide ’24, Psychological Sciences, CLAS
"Kids on Bikes": Writing Sci-Fi for the 21st Century

Daisy Ren ’23, Civil Engineering, ENG; Chinese, CLAS
Wireless Sensor Development Using Arduino for Bridge Joint Monitoring

Laura Thurber ’23, Biomedical Engineering, ENG
Development of an In Vitro Model to Study Cell Response to Microelectrode Biomaterials in Central Nervous System (CNS)
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**Ethan Wicko ’24**, Mechanical Engineering, ENG  
*Bicycle Continuously Variable Transmission Validation*

**Kendalyn Zipf ’23**, Art, SFA  
*Art About US: Sculptures of the Fat Femme Body*

**GROUP PROJECT**

**Shannon Ahearn ’23**, Political Science, CLAS  
**Hannah Peterson ’23**, Allied Health Sciences, CAHNR  
**Nicole Pinto ’23**, Physiology and Neurobiology, CLAS  
*Spotlighting Student Success: Understanding the Role Played by First-Year Programs at the University of Connecticut*

Funding for original, creative, innovative, student-designed projects including artistic endeavors, community service initiatives, research projects, entrepreneurial ventures and prototyping.  
[ugradresearch.uconn.edu/IDEA](http://ugradresearch.uconn.edu/IDEA)