



UConn IDEA Grant  
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# UConn IDEA GRANT RECIPIENTS SPRING 2023 - COHORT 21

Congratulations to the 14 students who have been awarded UConn IDEA Grants to support 2023-24 academic year projects.

**Victoria Almazán '25**, Psychological Sciences & English, CLAS

*A Qualitative Study on Perceived Needs and Challenges of Latino/a Mothers and Co-Residential Grandparents: Development of a Communication Supplement for a Home Visiting Program*

Mentor: Dr. Cristina Wilson, Social Work

**Nithila Annadurai '24**, Psychological Sciences, CLAS; Computer Science, ENG

*Dynamical Processes in Rat Observational Learning*

Mentor: Dr. Etan Markus, Psychological Sciences

**Heather Bjerke '24**, Pathobiology, CAHNR

*The Relationship Between Nestling Sex-Ratio and Parasitism of Bluebirds and Tree Swallows Depending on Temporal Variation and Differences Between Species*

Mentor: Dr. Sarah Knutie, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

**Olivia Bowes '24**, Molecular and Cell Biology, CLAS

*The Effects of Phosphodiesterases on *Drosophila melanogaster* Sperm Storage*

Mentor: Dr. Jianjun Sun, Physiology and Neurobiology

**Sana Gupta '24**, Statistics, CLAS

*A Novel Imputation Strategy for Incomplete Compositional Data Analysis*

Mentor: Dr. Ofer Harel, Statistics

**Emily Longtin '24**, Nursing, NUR

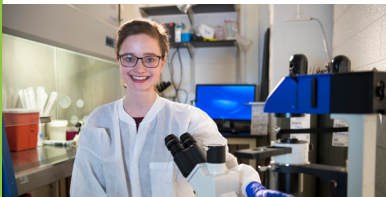
*Evaluating Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices of Nursing Students in Pediatric Shared Decision-Making*

Mentor: Dr. Katherine Bernier Carney, Nursing

**Joanie Papillon '24**, Puppetry, SFA

*Taurus: An Original Multidisciplinary Theatre Production*

Mentor: Matthew Sorensen, Puppetry



**UConn**  
ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS  
OFFICE OF  
UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

Funding for **original, creative, innovative**, student-designed projects including artistic endeavors, community service initiatives, research projects, entrepreneurial ventures and prototyping.

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**Irene Pham '24**, Art, SFA

*From Grandfather to Mother, from Mother to Daughter: Exploring Legacy, Immigration, Separation, and Intergenerational Relationships Through a Series of Paintings*  
Mentor: Douglas Degges, Art and Art History

**Trevor Religa '25**, Molecular and Cell Biology, CLAS

*The Synaptic Adhesion Protein C1QL3 in the Prefrontal Cortex Is Required for Learning Cognitively Challenging Tasks*  
Mentor: Dr. David Martinelli, Neuroscience

**Matt Silverman '24**, Electrical Engineering, ENG

*Fault-Tolerant Reconfigurable Microgrid*  
Mentor: Dr. Ali Bazzi, Electrical Engineering

**Hashem Sufyan '24**, Cognitive Science & Philosophy, CLAS

*A Contemporary Insight Into Ecological Crisis*  
Mentor: Dr. Thomas Bontly, Philosophy

**Wiktor Sz wajger '25**, Civil Engineering, ENG

*Urban Development Around Commuter Rail Lines: Analyzing Transit Oriented Development in Relation to Brownfields Along the CT Rail Hartford Line*  
Mentor: Dr. Stacy Maddern, Urban and Community Studies

**Alexa Udell '24**, Psychological Sciences, CLAS

*Trans-Photography: Gender Euphoria and Expression Through Portraiture*  
Mentor: Daniel Buttrey, Art and Art History

**Lianna Wagner '24**, Molecular and Cell Biology, CLAS

*A Dynamic Duo: The Arp2/3 Complex and WASP-Family Proteins in Lysosomal Integrity*  
Mentor: Dr. Kenneth Campellone, Molecular and Cell Biology

