

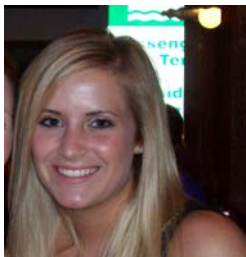
2008 - 2009 Philosophy Award Winners



Taylor Hamrick is a recipient of Departmental Honors. His Bachelor's Essay, "Teleosemantic Theories of Intentionality," defends a theory of mental content (i.e., a theory of how mental states come to be about things in the world) based on scientific practice in cognitive science. In addition to his work in philosophy, Taylor is also a mathematics major, completing a project investigating the application of Zipf's law to aspects of natural language. After graduation, Taylor plans to study the art of craft brewing with the goal of operating a craft brewery.



John Poland is a 2009 School of Humanities and Social Sciences Scholar and a recipient of a Philosophy Department Outstanding Student Award. John is a double major in Marine Biology and Philosophy. In the Philosophy Department, he focused on issues in the philosophy of biology and philosophy of mind. An independent study on philosophy and evolutionary theory led to a paper on the "levels of selection" problem. This paper was accepted for presentation at the undergraduate session of the 2009 MidSouth Philosophy Conference in Memphis, TN. John served as president of the undergraduate philosophy club for the 2008-2009 academic year, which held regular meetings and made a trip to the 2009 meeting of the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology. John plans to apply to graduate school in philosophy.



Emily Snyder is a 2009 School of Humanities and Social Sciences Scholar as well as a recipient of a Philosophy Department Outstanding Student Award. She is a dual major in Political Science and Philosophy. Her approach to philosophy reflects her desire to explore connections between different areas of philosophy and between different disciplines. After graduation, Emily will be studying law at the Emory Law School, and she hopes to eventually practice law in the Southeast.



Amanda Torroni is a recipient of Departmental Honors. Amanda's interests included continental and environmental philosophy. Bridging the gap between her Italian minor and Philosophy major, Amanda conducted an independent study on the semiotics of the Italian philosopher Umberto Eco. She completed a Bachelor's Essay in bioethics on the ethical implications of patenting of human genetic information. Amanda will be teaching English in Rome during the summer of 2009, and hopes to return to school to complete a Ph.D.