# NJSP

New Jersey Scholars Program

## ANNUAL REPORT 2018

## 2018 New Jersey Scholars Program

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## 2018 NEW JERSEY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Sunday, June 24 through Friday, July 27

#### Mind and Body: The Future of Being Human

## **Faculty and Staff**

History/Politics/Ethics David S. Figueroa-Ortiz

J.D. Columbia University, School of Law

Philosophy/Literature Marta Napiorkowska

Ph.D. University of Chicago

Sociology William Westerman

Ph.D. University of Pennsylvania

Science Leah Domb

Ph.D. Harvard University

Librarians Paula Clancy, Library Director

The Lawrenceville School Kristina Berg

Stephanie Eder Daniel Geary Jacqueline Haun Maureen Kane

Elizabeth W. McCall Sarah Mezzino

Autmn Sinai Peter Steinberg Michelle Young

**Housemaster of Cleve House** 

The Lawrenceville School

**Grey Simpson** 

Assistant Housemasters Colin Melazzo '16

Devika Kumar '15

**Program Director** 

The Lawrenceville School

David S. Figueroa-Ortiz

**Program Administrator** 

The Lawrenceville School

Cathleen Morgan

#### I. The Program

The purpose of the New Jersey Scholars Program is to provide an *extraordinary* intensive interdisciplinary five-week residential summer academic program at The Lawrenceville School in Lawrenceville, New Jersey for 39 of the most intelligent, outgoing, and highly motivated rising high school seniors who are residents of New Jersey. The Program is taught at the freshman-sophomore college level by a combination of college and Lawrenceville faculty. The Program concentrates on a single topic each year and the topic for 2018 was *MIND AND BODY: THE FUTURE OF BEING HUMAN*.

We are living in a time of rapid re-categorization of "the human being." Neuroscientists continue to push our understanding of the brain into territories affecting our beliefs about the "mind," "soul" and "will"; biologists claim animals show empathy, culture, and emotional lives that have more in common with ours than we ever imagined; social activists claim gender, race, and biology are identities to be selected, rather than inherited; technological entrepreneurs are actively pursuing initiatives to integrate the human brain with machines and make machines able to learn, self-organize, and invent; medical researchers hope to clone our organs and transplant them into our bodies, or splice out disease-causing DNA in utero, prolonging human life, perhaps, indefinitely; NASA has plans to colonize Mars. We seem perched to transcend the traditional limits of "the human condition" upon which millenia of human cultures have been built. Or are we? And if we do, what then? What will we say to an artificial intelligence that may demand to know what makes a mind a mind, a person a person, or someone valuable? Or anything valuable? What can it mean to be human in an age when traditional markers of humanity are up for grabs? What is the best future we can imagine? How can we get there? This year, we won't be looking to the past as a guide to answering traditional human questions. We will be looking to the future and developing answers to current questions so that it can be a bright one!

Students housed together in one dormitory, were expected to stay on campus through the session, with the exception of the long weekend in mid-July. The typical Scholar's day began at 8:30 a.m. with a 90-minute lecture presented to all Scholars and faculty by a member of the faculty (see **Appendix A**). Handouts containing additional information frequently supplemented such lectures and computer projection presentations accompanied the narrative. After the lecture, the Scholars divided into three seminar groups and met with the other members of the faculty for a 90-minute seminar discussion of assigned readings. After lunch, the seminar groups would assemble for another session from 1:30 until 3:00 pm. Because the faculty members always attended each other's lectures, references could be easily made to connections that crossed disciplines and areas of concentration. In this way, the Scholars examined how ideas encountered in one field might relate to those in another, and so, learn to think in an interdisciplinary manner.

The latter part of the afternoon was given over to free time, when the Scholars made use of the campus recreational facilities or tackled the substantial reading assignments. After dinner, study areas again found Scholars reading in Cleve House and the Bunn Library (see **Appendix B**).

The Program builds toward the completion of an original, interdisciplinary research project supervised by faculty members. Below is a brief description of each of the main disciplines for research, and a list of the students who chose to concentrate on that particular area.

#### **History/Politics/Ethics**

#### David S. Figueroa-Ortiz Columbia University School of Law, J.D.

The 2018 New Jersey Scholars Program explored "Mind and Body: The Future of Being Human" and pondered the history of how primarily Western society has explored the seeming duality of the human experience. Burke focused his inquisitive energies, and set out to discover possible way to understand how classical and Enlightenment thinkers approached this question. In history, we explored the origins of mind and body unity and duality, from Athens to Jerusalem to the European Enlightenment. Aristotle and Saint Paul kept us company as we engaged along the way with Francis Bacon, Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, Adam Smith, David Hume, Mary Wollstonecraft, and Erasmus Darwin. We also explored the legal and political implications of determining who matters to and before the law, the legal and practical implications of being. When does life begin? When does it end? Are we our bodies? How can we make political and legal sense of propositions that challenge our sense-perception such as transracialism or transgenderism? We also dove into fundamental assumptions of the law concerning free will and intentionality in relation to constitutional, contracts and tort law. Last, we attempted to formulate a vision of the "just society" by uncovering the ideas of political philosopher John Rawls.

Talav Bimnathwala Marilynn Miguel
Olivia Dell'Olio Sam Mueller
William Feng William Porter
Nick Fischer Kevin Xiao
Burke Jaeger

#### Literature/Philosophy

#### Markta Napiorkowska Universtiy of Chicago, Ph.D

This year, NSJP was unique in its focus on the future, rather than on our cultural inheritance of the past. In particular, through the disciplines of Literature & Philosophy, Politics & Law, Sociology, and Developmental Biology, we opened up the intellectual work of understanding and deciding the future of being human. We reflected on current innovations in medicine, social media, computing and artificial intelligence, and post-modern deconstruction of value – using literature, court cases, public policy and animal behavior as focal points.

Abanoub Armanious Emily Moini
Austin Chen Joseph Sexton
Evelyn Doskoch Blane Soper
Claire Kenney Renee Shen

Serina Lin Andrew Velasquez

#### Science

#### Leah Domb Harvard University, Ph.D.

The title of the 2018 NJSP course was "Mind and Body: The Future of Being Human." In order to explore the future of being human, in my lectures and seminars we began with an exploration of how the human mind and body evolved in the past. We investigated the ways that the human species is unique, and we began to consider the contexts in which unique human adaptations emerged. We also examined how features once thought to be unique to humans, such as culture, empathy, cooperation and emotions, have evolved in other species. In considering the future of human health, we explored how advancements in the modern world have led to *both* longer lifespans and, paradoxically, increased chronic disease. We also explored how the concept of race developed, and considered possible ways to address racism in the future.

John Bigger Maya Shah
Christine Han Alexander Shen
Daniel Lee Grace Tan
Jillian Median Fabio Tessiore
Isabella Rocco Lily Zhu

#### Sociology and Anthropology

## William Westerman University of Pennsylvania, Ph.D.

The theme of this year's New Jersey Scholars Program was "The Future of Mind and Body." In the Sociology and Anthropology seminar, we looked at the relationship of minds, bodies, knowledge, power, and social institutions, and how that is changing today and in the future. We considered examples of minds and bodies working in cooperation, such as social media, narrative, sociolinguistics, play, medicine, pedagogy, disability studies, and collaborative arts such as cinema and dance. We also examined situations of bodies and minds in conflict, coercion, and contested authority, such as war, torture, systemic violence, and high school.

Joshua Atwater Claudet Miranda
Olivia Escousse Anisha Patel
Nina Fedoryka Anjali Ramesh
Elsa Hammerdahl Sudeshna Vemula
Mathew Kunkler Kenneth Yan

The faculty assisted their students in the research process, and the Bunn Library staff led by Paula Clancy provided invaluable professional guidance. The entire Program is indebted to their wonderful support of the Program.

As in past years, the field trip provided a major event in the middle of the Program. This year, the Scholars traveled to Philadelphia where they visited both The Franklin Institute and The Mutter Museum.

Another special highlight in this summer's program was the Arts Festival on the last Saturday of the Program. This tradition of staging an arts festival gives the Scholars the chance to actually *do* the subjects they have been studying, in addition to reading about them. It also allowed parents, brothers and sisters of present Scholars to experience the excitement their sons and daughters, brothers and sisters felt about the Program.

This year's Arts Festival (see **Appendix C**) began with a number of vocal and instrumental performances in the Clark Music Center. The event traveled to Woods Memorial Hall for Visual Arts with refreshments and an exhibition of the Scholars' work. From there the Scholars preformed works of poetry, dance and drama in the Heely Room. Families were then encouraged to bring their Scholars to a nice meal at one of the many fine restaurants in the surrounding area of Princeton.

The 2018 Program concluded on Friday, July 27 with a Graduation Ceremony in The Edith Memorial Chapel (see **Appendix D**).

#### II. The Scholars

Thirty-nine finalists were selected to attend the 2018 Program. A total of 279 candidates (including applicants from all 21 counties in New Jersey) applied to the Program. We invited 135 applicants to Lawrenceville for interviews with the faculty.

The 19 male and 20 female students selected to participate in the Program represented 13 out of New Jersey's 21 counties (see Appendix E). The counties that had the largest representation were Morris, Bergen and Mercer. The geographic composition of the students reflected a mixture of urban, rural and suburban backgrounds. Thirty Scholars came from public schools and nine from private schools. Appendix F lists all the Scholars by county and high school.

#### III. Scholar Response to the Program

The atmosphere that develops among the Scholars in this Program is unlike that seen in other youth organizations. This is because The New Jersey Scholars Program draws together an extraordinarily able and motivated group of students, which develops an extraordinary sense of mutual support. When they come for their interviews in the spring, the applicants receive a tour through the campus from the previous year's Scholars who make the academic demands of the Program vividly clear. The Program has been described, by a previous director, as "a boot- camp for the mind". It attracts students ready to be challenged. For many Scholars, their experience during the Program is an awakening to the life of the mind in a way they have never experienced before. When all of these young people live in one dormitory and meet the challenges together, an extraordinary camaraderie develops. The spirit of the experience has a way of discouraging cliques, and young people from many different backgrounds make firm friendships that bind the group together during the session and for many years afterward. The social lessons they learn from each other can be as powerful and enduring as the academic ones. In fact, the social and academic benefits are inseparable for it is the academic challenge that provides the opportunity for these students to unlock their own potential and learn how to meet the challenges with the help of their fellow Scholars. This year's Scholars had just that kind of elevating experience, as evidenced by some of the following excerpts from their evaluations of the Program:

Thank you thank you thank you for a magical, stimulating, inspiring summer!!!

Can I be a scholar next year?

I love New Jersey Scholars!! I love everything about it. I didn't want to leave- my parents literally had to pry me away. They couldn't get me out of Cleve.

I feel much more content with myself and my abilities; it was so validating and reassuring to be placed in the same pool as all of these other genuine, kind, and intelligent people. It was really nice to have people appreciate me and actually enjoy listening to me talk. I sometimes purposefully try not to talk at school for fear that people will think I'm too intellectual, but here, I just turn up the volume! The conversations with professors at lunch were wonderful.

This program was amazing. I wish I could continue all of these discussions. I find myself now thinking of new research topics and yearning for someone to talk to about them. Thank you for providing this opportunity for us and for future scholars.

#### IV. Acknowledgements

No one deserves greater credit for the success of the 2018 Program than the full time faculty who in five weeks delivered lectures, led seminars, supervised the dormitory, and guided research projects, all with great flexibility and dedication. The Program is in their debt.

In the Bunn Library, Paula Clancy (Library Director), Kristina Berg, Michelle Stephanie Eder, Daniel Geary, Jacqueline Haun, Maureen Kane, Elizabeth McCall, Sarah Mezzino, Autumn Sinai, Peter Steinberg, Michelle Young cheerfully devoted many hours of their time to help the students with their research and instruct them in the mysteries of the computer resources on campus. We could not have been able to run the Program without their inestimable professionalism.

The residential staff, particularly Assistant Housemasters Devika Kumar and Collin Melazzo did so much to make Cleve House a relaxed, inviting and warm place for the Scholars -- their home away from home. So much goes on in the dormitory that is crucial to the total experience and the housemasters successfully created the atmosphere that promoted that experience.

Cathy Morgan, deserves special thanks for administrating the Program. Among other tasks, she handled the logistics of the application, evaluation and interview process; and strategized for the continuing growth of the Program. On the behalf of the Board, I thank her for her huge contributions to the New Jersey Scholars Program.

NJSP's financial data and database are accurate and reports to the Trustees are interesting and informative thanks to Heidi Dreyfuss.

I would also like to thank Ryan Ball, Director of Summer Programs and John Schiel, Assistant Director, for their never-ending support.

The New Jersey Scholars Program owes its existence to strong financial support from many sources (see **Appendix G**).

The Program also owes a debt of gratitude and heartfelt appreciation to the many alumni(ae), their families and many friends who contributed this year. Finally, the Program is grateful to its Board members who have given of their time and talent as well as their treasure. Their efforts have been invaluable and sustaining.

#### V. Financial Statements

The New Jersey Scholars Program worked hard to keep expenses within the projected budget during Fiscal 2018 (September 1, 2017 to August 31, 2018).

YEAR END FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Scholars	2017	2018
Parents	9/1/16-8/31/17	9/1/17-8/31/18
Subtotal   42,478   38,462   45,680   41,997	\$ 27,484	\$ 34,894
Board Gifts	17,276	19,513
Matching Gifts	44,760	54,407
Corporations	45,192	
Foundations   10,000   5,000   10,000   10,000   Friends   6,580   17,618   11,640   6,900   10,000   10,000   10,000   17,618   11,640   6,900   10,000   1	2,825	5,690
Friends 6,580 17,618 11,640 6,900 Contributed Facilities & Services 41,305 42,034 42,685 43,500 Interest and Dividends 315 140 141 2,810	2,859	3,812
Contributed Facilities & Services   41,305   42,034   42,685   43,500   Interest and Dividends   315   140   141   2,810   Challenge Grants   40,000   -   -     Total   \$ 187,185   \$ 153,841   \$ 181,104   \$ 153,815      Expenditures	15,000	10,000
Interest and Dividends	6,325	
Total		20 (000 Temporal C
Total	3,270	4,137
Expenditures		.49
Teaching Faculty \$ 16,000 \$ 16,000 \$ 14,750 Administrative Salaries & Taxes	\$ 162,013	\$ 175,552
Administrative Salaries & Taxes		
Administrative Salaries & Taxes	\$ 20,250	\$ 20,250
Supervision   6,000   6,900   7,000   8,000   Room, Board & Facilities   72,940   72,146   71,366   74,144   Books and Supplies   6,265   4,487   3,818   896   Field Trips & Program Exp   2,650   2,486   2,212   3,186   Interviews   - 36   161   Liability Insurance   2,636   2,765   2,878   2,982   Workers' Comp Insurance   1,487   1,317   1,566   1,492   Overhead   9,927   9,089   8,013   8,370   Alumni Association   212   879   129   332   Total   160,401   162,890   153,960   155,075   Surplus/(Deficit)   \$ 26,784   \$ (9,049)   \$ 27,144   \$ (1,260)   Parents   20,000   Administrative Salaries   26,000   Board Gifts   35,000   Payroll Taxes   5,100   Matching Gifts   3,000   Supervision   9,000   Corporations   2,500   Library Use   2,000   Foundations   10,000   Room and Board   32,500   Facility Rental   40,950   Friends   6,500   Facility Rental   40,950   Interviews   250   Interviews	(LONS)(1) 900(10)800(10)	1400000 SERVICES
Room, Board & Facilities   72,940   72,146   71,366   74,144		71,705,700
Books and Supplies	A	- T. F. T. T. T.
Field Trips & Program Exp		
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Workers' Comp Insurance         1,487         1,317         1,566         1,492           Overhead         9,927         9,089         8,013         8,370           Alumni Association         212         879         129         332           Total         160,401         162,890         153,960         155,075           Surplus/(Deficit)         \$ 26,784         \$ (9,049)         \$ 27,144         \$ (1,260)           Projected Budget 2018-2019           9/1/18-8/31/19         Expenditures           Income         Expenditures           Scholar Alumni         \$ 32,800         Teaching Faculty         \$ 20,250           Parents         20,000         Administrative Salaries         26,000           Board Gifts         35,000         Payroll Taxes         5,100           Matching Gifts         3,000         Supervision         9,000           Corporations         2,500         Library Use         2,000           Foundations         10,000         Room and Board         32,500           Friends         6,500         Facility Rental         40,950           Un-Kind         <	273	537
Workers' Comp Insurance         1,487         1,317         1,566         1,492           Overhead         9,927         9,089         8,013         8,370           Alumni Association         212         879         129         332           Total         160,401         162,890         153,960         155,075           Surplus/(Deficit)         \$ 26,784         \$ (9,049)         \$ 27,144         \$ (1,260)           Projected Budget 2018-2019           9/1/18-8/31/19         Expenditures           Income         Expenditures           Scholar Alumni         \$ 32,800         Teaching Faculty         \$ 20,250           Parents         20,000         Administrative Salaries         26,000           Board Gifts         35,000         Payroll Taxes         5,100           Matching Gifts         3,000         Supervision         9,000           Corporations         2,500         Library Use         2,000           Foundations         10,000         Room and Board         32,500           Friends         6,500         Facility Rental         40,950           Un-Kind         <	3,110	3.237
Alumni Association 212 879 129 332  Total 160,401 162,890 153,960 155,075  Surplus/(Deficit) \$ 26,784 \$ (9,049) \$ 27,144 \$ (1,260)  Projected Budget 2018-2019 9/1/18-8/31/19  Income Expenditures  Scholar Alumni \$ 32,800 Teaching Faculty \$ 20,250 Parents 20,000 Administrative Salaries 26,000 Board Gifts 35,000 Payroll Taxes 5,100 Matching Gifts 3,000 Supervision 9,000 Corporations 2,500 Library Use 2,000 Foundations 10,000 Room and Board 32,500 Friends 6,500 Facility Rental 40,950 Woods income 2,800 Books and Supplies 3,500 In-Kind 40,950 Field Trips & Program Exp. 3,000 Investment income 2,500 Interviews 250 Interest 25 Liability Insurance 3,400 Workers' Comp Insurance 9,125 License & Certification Fees	1,226	1,199
Total   160,401   162,890   153,960   155,075	9,768	9,067
Surplus/(Deficit)   \$ 26,784 \$ (9,049) \$ 27,144 \$ (1,260)	133	141
Projected Budget 2018-2019   9/1/18-8/31/19	154,817	152,919
Projected Budget 2018-2019   9/1/18-8/31/19	) \$ 7,196	\$ 22,633
Scholar Alumni		
Scholar Alumni         \$ 32,800         Teaching Faculty         \$ 20,250           Parents         20,000         Administrative Salaries         26,000           Board Gifts         35,000         Payroll Taxes         5,100           Matching Gifts         3,000         Supervision         9,000           Corporations         2,500         Library Use         2,000           Foundations         10,000         Room and Board         32,500           Friends         6,500         Facility Rental         40,950           Woods income         2,800         Books and Supplies         3,500           In-Kind         40,950         Field Trips & Program Exp.         3,000           Investment income         3,500         Interviews         250           Interest         25         Liability Insurance         3,400           Workers' Comp Insurance         9,125           License & Certification Fees         300		
Parents         20,000         Administrative Salaries         26,000           Board Gifts         35,000         Payroll Taxes         5,100           Matching Gifts         3,000         Supervision         9,000           Corporations         2,500         Library Use         2,000           Foundations         10,000         Room and Board         32,500           Friends         6,500         Facility Rental         40,950           Woods income         2,800         Books and Supplies         3,500           In-Kind         40,950         Field Trips & Program Exp.         3,000           Investment income         3,500         Interviews         250           Interest         25         Liability Insurance         3,400           Workers' Comp Insurance         9,125           License & Certification Fees         300		
Board Gifts   35,000   Payroll Taxes   5,100		
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Corporations         2,500         Library Use         2,000           Foundations         10,000         Room and Board         32,500           Friends         6,500         Facility Rental         40,950           Woods income         2,800         Books and Supplies         3,500           In-Kind         40,950         Field Trips & Program Exp.         3,000           Investment income         3,500         Interviews         250           Interest         25         Liability Insurance         3,400           Workers' Comp Insurance         9,125           License & Certification Fees         300	E	
Foundations         10,000         Room and Board         32,500           Friends         6,500         Facility Rental         40,950           Woods income         2,800         Books and Supplies         3,500           In-Kind         40,950         Field Trips & Program Exp.         3,000           Investment income         3,500         Interviews         250           Interest         25         Liability Insurance         3,400           Workers' Comp Insurance         9,125           License & Certification Fees         300		
Friends         6,500         Facility Rental         40,950           Woods income         2,800         Books and Supplies         3,500           In-Kind         40,950         Field Trips & Program Exp.         3,000           Investment income         3,500         Interviews         250           Interest         25         Liability Insurance         3,400           Workers' Comp Insurance         1,400           Overhead         9,125           License & Certification Fees         300		
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In-Kind   40,950   Field Trips & Program Exp.   3,000     Investment income   3,500   Interviews   250     Interest   25   Liability Insurance   3,400     Workers' Comp Insurance   1,400     Overhead   9,125     License & Certification Fees   300		
Investment income   3,500   Interviews   250     Interest   25   Liability Insurance   3,400     Workers' Comp Insurance   1,400     Overhead   9,125     License & Certification Fees   300		
1,400   Workers' Comp Insurance   3,400   Workers' Comp Insurance   1,400   Overhead   9,125   License & Certification Fees   300		
Workers' Comp Insurance 1,400 Overhead 9,125 License & Certification Fees 300		
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	67	
Total \$ 157.075 Total \$ 157.075		

Respectfully submitted, David Figueroa-Ortiz, Director

#### Appendix A

#### **2018 LECTURE LIST**

#### History/Politics/Ethics

#### David S. Figueroa-Ortiz Columbia University School of Law, J.D.

#### Persons: Who Matters before the Law and Why

Legal systems define duties and obligations, liabilities and privileges that create distinctions – inequalities and exclusions by design – with tremendous impact on the political life of societies.

#### The Law and Being: Abortion, Euthanasia, Life, Death, and the Self

The non-existent and the dead have no rights, suffer no injuries, and enjoy no protections. But when does existence – and therefore rights, injuries, and protections – begin, and when does it end?

#### Identity: Gender, Race, Ability, and the Law

If we are our bodies, then certain aspects of identity are governed, controlled, influenced, or limited by physiological characteristics that the law may or may not take into account. However, if we are not our bodies, physiology is less relevant than individual psychology in determining the meaning(s) of justice. How does or should the law take into account these possibilities?

#### Justice, the Optimized Ape, and the Law

What conceptions of morality does the law – contracts, torts, constitutional – need, presuppose, and advance?

#### The Cyborg Future and the Law

How will the law have to change to accommodate the increasing integration of human life and robotic technologies?

#### Sociology and Anthropology

## William Westerman University of Pennsylvania, Ph.D.

#### Homo What?

What makes a human a human? Where are the boundaries – are they biological or social? Is it our mind, our body, our cultural practices, or social rules that determine human-ness today and in the future?

#### Our Mind and Our Body in Community

We are a social animal, and so our mind and body do not live in isolation. How does our social relationship with others define and shape our mind and our body? Does community help us learn and flourish? What is the future of community?

#### The Social and Cultural Future of Medicine

We all have a body, one that is vulnerable and susceptible to illness and injury. The practice of medicine has evolved to such an extent that it has lengthened our life span, but medicine is not just scientific practice. It is embedded in cultural practices and social institutions – both rapidly changing. What does the future of the body look like given social and cultural changes in the healthcare system?

#### The Anthropology and Sociology of the Digital Age (I)

Our culture and society have undergone massive transformation in the last quarter century – an impact as large if not larger than the development of movable type. Anthropologists, sociologists, and media and communications scholars have begun to study the practice and effects of social media and the potential of/for so-called artificial intelligence.

## The Anthropology and Sociology of the Digital Age (II; Dementia, Old Age, and Dying: The Future of *Your* Mind and Body

After completing the topics from the previous lecture, this lecture will consider what happens, in one way or another, to each of us, drawing on social work in addition to sociology and anthropology. Whether our minds remain sharp to the end or not, we all die; no one gets out of here alive. What is the future of the care of the old and dying in our society? What is the rarely discussed impact on survivors?

#### Literature/Philosophy

#### Marta Napiorkowska University of Chicago, Ph.D.

#### Introduction to Consciousness: Why Is It a Philosophical Problem?

The philosophical question "What sort of a being is a human? What sort of A being am I?" is millennia-old. Unlike their predecessors, guided in the past by intuitions, philosophers in the second half of the 20th century began to use science to seek answers. To frame our conversations about the future of being human, we need to understand what we know about being human now. Today, we will review what philosophers know and see if we can find out, testing our own intuitions along the way.

#### Consciousness, Self, and Identity

Though we believe we are all part of a group of beings called human, almost all of us also believe we are individuals in some sense. What is the form that this individuality takes? How does the brain construct it? Using discoveries in neuroscience and studying cases in medicine, philosophers are constructing various interesting models of how this "I" exists and drawing startling conclusions about human identity. Brains in vats and virtual reality are nothing compared to what we seem to be!

#### Other Consciousness: Robot and Animal Minds

Having reviewed consciousness and selves, we can turn to other entities in the world that may have them: animals and computers. We will discuss animals that appear to have high IQs and computers that appear to have reasoning ability. To what degree and in what way may they be conscious or have selves and therefore ought to be thought about and treated by us in the same ways that we think about and treat other human beings? Which ethical obligations do we have? Can we develop real relationships with them? What responsibilities do they have?

#### **Consciousness and Free Will**

From the moment we sense we are a self different from those around us, we also seem to develop desires for this self and then make decisions and take actions to fulfill those desires. We attribute those actions to our self, and we attribute others' actions to their selves. We assign responsibility, blame, rewards to others, believing they acted consciously and of their own wills. However, given everything we've said already about consciousness, you can imagine by now that this picture is not so simple. We will review what is known about "free will" from the point of view of neuroscience and consciousness to examine whether human beings giving rewards or punishments to any other human beings makes any sense.

#### Designing Consciousness, Altered States, and Enlightenment

From using psychoactive or psychotropic drugs, to engaging in concerted mindfulness practices such as meditation, to developing micro-machines and neural-bioengineering, human beings like to play with, try to control, and maybe even design their consciousnesses, from which everything stems. We will review some of the research covering the effects of human actions on either their own or others' brains and the results on states of consciousness. After all, this seems to be the next step of human evolution. Let's better design more ethical, happier people! Why not?

#### Science

#### Leah Domb Harvard University, Ph.D.

#### **Human Evolution**

Part 1: human evolution in a geologic time-frame, our primate heritage, and milestones in human evolution. Part 2: evolution of behaviors, including proximate and ultimate explanations for behaviors, species-typical behaviors, and sociality.

#### Culture: From a Biological Point of View

What is culture, and is it connected to why humans have such large brains? Or not? Part 1: social learning and culture in other species, with a focus on our closest relatives. Part 2: hypotheses for brain evolution in our species. Part 3: have human cultures promoted our genetic interests?

#### **Evolution of Altruism and Morality**

Do we have a moral instinct? Evolution of altruism in other species. Understanding basic principles of morality in our species, and how morality in our species could be adaptive.

#### **Consequences of an Evolved Morality**

Consequences of an evolved morality in our species, including generosity, cooperation, moralistic aggression, xenophobia, and racism.

#### Mismatch

If humans have evolved a tribal nature that revolves around life in relatively small and exclusive cooperative social groups, how do we explain the enormous social groupings of the modern world? Are our bodies and minds.

#### Appendix B

#### **2018 BOOKS**

Mind and Body: The Future of Being Human

Brave New World Aldous Huxley Harper Perennial; Reprint edition, 2006

Consciousness: A Very Short Introduction Susan Blackmore

Oxford University Press; 2nd edition, 2018

Copenhagen Michael Frayn Anchor, 2000

Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?: The inspiration for the films Blade Runner and Blade Runner 2049

Philip K. Dick Del Rey, 1996

Flesh in the Age of Reason: The Modern Foundations of Body and Soul

Roy Porter

W. W. Norton & Company; Revised ed. Edition, 2005

Wired for Culture: Origins of the Human Social Mind

Mark D. Pagel

W. W. Norton & Company; 1st edition, 2013

#### Appendix C - Arts Festival

#### dance, film and poetry

#### 6:20 pm Memorial Hall

My Honest Poem Again, After Rudy Francisco Olivia Dell'Olio The Long Islanders Claire Kenny & Austin Chen Kenneth Yan i tried to write a poem Evelyn Doskoch Shakespeare Monologue Claire Kenny Morning on Horseback Nick Fischer Claudet Miranda My Parents Crush & Wetland Country Grace Tan

EMCEES

FESTIVAL ORGANIZERS ..... Claire Kenny

Lily Zhu

Marilynn Miguel Kenneth Yan Andrew Velasquez

Abanoub Armanious Claudet Miranda Sam Mueller Austin Chen Nina Fedoryka Renee Shen

Program drawn & designed by Grace Tan

This event was made possible with the help

#### the Program Faculty

Dr. Leah Domb Mr. David Figueroa-Ortiz Dr. Marta Napiorkowska Dr. William Westerman

Mr. Greg Simpson, Housemaster of Cleve House Devika Kumar & Collin Melazzo, Assistant Housemasters

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the New Jersey Scholars Program welcomes you to the 2018 arts festival Saturday, July 21

#### music program

Tempest Sonata Mvmt 1 - Ludwig van

#### 4:00 pm Clark Music Center

The Entertainer - Scott Joplin John Bigger, recorder I Would Rather Go Blind - Beyonce Maya Shah & Daniel Lee Claire de Lune - Claude Debussy Claire Kenny One Summer's Day - Joe Hisaishi William Feng & Christine Han Stand by Me - Ben E. King Seminar C Acapella When We Were Young - Adele Renee Shen & Anjali Ramesh Prelude Op. 23 No. 5 - Sergei Rachmaninov William Porter Small Bump - Ed Sheeran Jillian Medina & Collin Melazzo All I Ask of You - Andrew Lloyd Webber Claire Kenny & Olivia Escousse Accompanied by Olivia Escousse I'm Yours - Jason Mraz Ukulele Trio Austin Chen, Maya Shah, & Grace Tan Laung Laachi & Gal Ban Gayi Catching Waves Composed & performed by Olivia Escousse Riptide - Vance Joy Claire Kenny & Burke Jaeger Fireflies/Baby It's Cold Seminar A Choir All of Me - John Legend Andrew Velasquez Accompanied by Grace Tan Count on Me - Bruno Mars Austin Chen & Emily Moini Claire Kenny, Will Feng, Olivia Escousse, Evelyn Dosckoch, & Kenneth Yan Accompanied by Grace Tan Ukulele Medley Canon in D - Johann Pachelbel Kevin Xiao & Daniel Lee

#### arts display

## Memorial Hall

5:30 pm

Claire Kenny

Featured Pieces: The Complexity of the Human Body Abanoub Armanious Bread Garden Emily Moini Developing Through the Intangible Nina Fedoryka Burke Jaeger The Future of Being Human Josh Atwater And Then It Was Less Bleak Because We Said So Alexander Shen What Does It Feel Like? The Identity Crisis of an Owl Name Display

Untitled

Joseph Sexton Show Me What I Missed Grace Tan Photography Collection: Best Work Fabio Tessiore The Bumblebee Blaney Soper Nature Series: Sage & Wild Lily Zhu Venice Illustration Isabella Rocco An Untitled Short Film for Joseph Montesitos Marilynn Miguel

A Snapshot of Me Elsa Hammerdahl Blind Drawings Matthew Kunkler & Grace Tan

Talav Bhimnathwala

#### Appendix D - Graduation **Graduation Program**

#### Special Thanks

The Trustees of the New Jersey Scholars Program would like to thank the following <u>alumni</u>(ae), parents, trustees and friends whose generous gifts have helped make this program possible:

Christopher J. Librizzi '98

Brian Lutz Carolyn Makuen '80 Gerald & Sarah Maris P'17

David W. Mayo

Christian Alacantar '94 Cryo & Renee Averbach P'16 Laura Sabel Bauer '84 Marcelline V. Baumann P'98 Kanlesh H. & Jyoti K. Bhatia P'17 Jonathan Cummings & Hilary Hegener P'17 rank L. Douglas Family Fund P'88 Heidi L. Dreyfuss John F. Duffy '80 Donald Elefson James E. Franklin P'89 Thomas J. Gilman '79 Emily A. Greene '78 Brian P. Gregory '91 Mr & Mrs. James L. Halowell Christina Harcar '85

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The New Jersey Scholars Program would also like to thank these foundations and corporations for their generous support and matching

Harris Matthews Charitable Fund Iowa Foundation for Education, Environment and The Arts Goldman Sachs Matching Gifts Johnson & Johnson Matching Gifts Raytheon Matching Gifts

Processional

"Canon in D" by J.S. Pachelbel, 1680 William Feng, Daniel Lee, & Kevin Xiao

Opening Remarks David Figueroa-Ortiz

Program Director

Arts Festival Reprise "Catching Waves" by Olivia Escousse

Oliva Escousse

Leonard Teti '94 Remarks

President of the Board of Trustees

Trustee Reflection Rahul Bhatia '17

Arts Festival Reprise "All of Me" by John Legend

Andrew Velasquez & Grace Tan

Scholar Reflections Anisha Patel

Joseph Sexton

David Figueroa-Ortiz Sauerman Award

Awarding Certificates William Westerman '78

David Figueroa-Ortiz Marta Napiorkowska Leah Domb

"Also sprach Zarathustra" by Richard

Strauss, 1896



#### **Graduating Scholars**

Anthropology & Sociology William Westerman '78

> <u>Anisha</u> Patel Anjali Ramesh

Claudet Miranda Elsa Hammerdahl Joshua Atwater Kenneth Yan Matthew Kunkler Nina Fedoryka

Olivia Escousse Sudheshna Vemula

History, Law & Politics David Figueroa-Ortiz

Burke Jaeger Kevin Xiao Marilynn Miguel Nick Fischer Olivia Dell'Olio Sam Mueller Talav Bhimnathwala William Feng William Porter

Literature & Philosophy Marta Napiorkowska

Abanoub Armanious Andrew Velasquez Austin Chen Blane Soper Claire Kenny Emily Moini Evelyn Doskoch Joseph Sexton Renee Shen

> Science Leah Domb

Serena Lin

Alexander Shen Christine Han Daniel Lee Fabio <u>Tessiore</u> Grace Tan Isabella Rocco Jillian Medina John Bigger Lily Zhu Maya Shah

#### Appendix D - Remarks at Graduation

#### Joseph Sexton 2018 Class Representative

NJSP has given me many, many questions and few conclusions. One of those questions, is if there should be some disclaimer when you signing off on the acceptance packet. Just a little something gently reminding you to be prepared to surrender and obliterate pretty much any certainty of anything you have ever thought or assumed in basically your entire life.

Confusion, at first, is scary. To change your world inside out and upside down, can feel a bit destabilizing. Realizing that every "why" has another "why" behind it can feel overwhelming. Whether discussing Descartes in seminar or whether or not we're all in a computer simulation at 2 in the morning, NJSP has given us a sense of the sheer boundlessness of this world. And as the weeks progressed, this fear of the unknown transformed to an excitement, to a sense of wonder and joy. "I don't know" became exhilarating.

As you are shattering your perceptions of reality, such disruption may leave you disillusioned, feeling as though there is nothing to *know* with complete certitude. And that's the truth-- or rather, that's my *belief*... NJSP has taught me the power of *belief*, of *trust*. That learning isn't about *eliminating* doubt completely, but instead about managing and *using* such doubt to try and inch closer to some semblance of what we call "the truth."

There was a point in the program when I felt like I couldn't believe in anything, but then I looked around me. I saw 38 other teens diving head first into the unknown, going through the same daze and fascination and turbulence and awe that I too was experiencing. **And it was then that I realized I could** <u>believe</u> in people. That amidst the chaos of our minds, we all knew nothing, together.

And of course, I don't *know* this. Maybe each of you, right here in the audience in front of me, are philosophical zombies without consciousness, simply executing commands, not truly experiencing the same feelings that I'm feeling. Or maybe I am, speaking up here right now, just a projection of your mind, and *you* are the only person truly experiencing the "qualia" of anything in the universe. Maybe. But I know how I feel. And I feel a connection. A profound sense of community. Love. Whether you'd like to call this God or a biological mechanism or both, whatever it is, I know I feel *something*. Something that allows me to **believe** in the power of each other.

I could go on, but I'll try and keep this down to the 2 minutes. So, trustees, housemasters, professors, and fellow scholars, I thank you, for we have all helped each other find ourselves in the world around us. That much, I *believe*, is true.

#### Anisha Patel 2018 Class Representative

Good afternoon faculty, family, and fellow scholars. These past few weeks have been quite a whirlwind and it's difficult to sum up everything we've experienced together into a neat package. I came here with many expectations about what I would learn, but I certainly did not anticipate leaving with a such a drastic change in perspective. Together we've been challenged to step outside our comfort zone and open up our minds to new ideas and beliefs. In doing so, we have had such meaningful conversations and experiences and I am truly grateful for the opportunity to open so many doors in the way that I think. I feel both honored and privileged to have shared this time with such incredible individuals. From Harkness discussions to conversations over dinner, I have been humbled by the insights that all of you bring to the table. Moreover, I'm certain that we'll never forget nights of listening to Claire's impressions of Dr. N, Abanoub's jokes, and Claudet singing In My Feelings. It has been an absolute pleasure to build meaningful relationships and learn from such a remarkable and diverse group of scholars. Everyone here holds a unique perspective and I've learned that there is so much beauty in celebrating our differences. Watching the sunrise last week, I realized that how we perceive and interpret our experiences is all about perspective. As someone is watching the sunset, another is watching it rise. Depending on where you are standing, the sun can look completely different and there can be thousands of views of the same thing. As we look back on this experience, we realize that we can all take away something different from the program. It has shaped us and helped each of us grow in different ways and it's something that we will be able to apply to so many aspects of our lives. This is a chapter that we truly will never close and I hope that the bonds we've built here will forever be cherished. It is likely that all 39 of us may never be gathered in the same place again and life is going to take us to all sorts of places. However, as we go our separate ways, we should remember that we are always watching the same sun, and no matter where we are, we will all see it rise again. Thank you.

## Appendix E

#### CLASS OF 2018 STATISTICS

COUNTY	APPLIED	ACCEPTED
Atlantic	4	
Bergen	46	5
Burlington	12	3
Camden	10	2
Cape May	3	
Cumberland	2	1
Essex	14	
Glouster	5	1
Hudson	13	4
Hunterdon	2	
Mercer	19	5
Middlesex	29	3
Monmouth	28	4
Morris	28	6
Ocean	8	
Passaic	8	1
Salem	2	
Sommerset	19	2
Sussex	6	
Union	19	2
Warren	2	<u>-</u>
TOTAL	279	39

	Female	Male
Public	16	14
Indedendant	4	5

## Appendix F

## Scholars in the Class of 2018

Abanoub	Armanious	Bayonne High School	Hudson
Joshua	Atwater	Shawnee High School	Burlington
Talav	Bhimnathwala	Manalapan High School	Monmouth
John	Bigger	Mount Olive High School	Morris
Steven	Chen	Bridgewater-Raritan Regional High School	Somerset
Austin	Chen	Westfield High School	Union
Olivia	Dell'Olio	West Milford Township High School	Passaic
Evelyn	Doskoch	Governor Livingston High School	Union
Olivia	Escousse	Gill St. Berhard's School	Somerset
Nina	Fedoryka	Clearview Regional High School	Gloucester
William	Feng	Bishop Eustace Preparatory School	Camden
Nicholas	Fischer	Colts Neck High School	Monmouth
Elsa	Hammerdahl	Piscataway High School	Middlesex
Christine	Han	Ridgewood High School	Bergen
Claire	Kenny	Haddonfield Memorial High School	Camden
Matthew	Kunkler	Bordentown Regional High School	Burlington
Daniel	Lee	Tenafly High School	Bergen
Serena	Lin	Moorestown Friends School	Burlington
Jillian	Medina	The Lawrenceville School	Mercer
Marilynn	Miquel	Vineland High School	Cumberland
Claudet	Miranda	Union City High School	Hudson
Emily	Moini	The Pennington School	Mercer
Sam	Mueller	Biotechnology High School	Monmouth
Anisha	Patel	Middlesex High School	Middlesex
Anjali	Ramesh	Parsippany High School	Morris
Isabella	Rocco	Parsippany High School	Morris
Bryan	Sanchez	Bayonne High School	Hudson
Joseph	Sexton	Dr. Ronald E. McNair Academic HS	Hudson
Maya	Shah	Mount Olive High School	Morris
Alexander	Shen	Northern Highlands Regional High School	Bergen
Renee	Shen	Randolph High School	Morris
Blane	Soper	The Hun School of Princeton	Mercer
Grace	Tan	Academy for Advancement of Science & Tech	Bergen
Fabio	Tessiore	Ranney School	Monmouth
Andrew	Velasquez	Roxbury High School	Morris
Sudheshna	Vemula	Middlesex County Academy for Science, Math & Eng.	Middlesex
Kevin	Xiao	The Lawrenceville School	Mercer
Kenneth	Yan	Dwight-Englewood School	Bergen
Lily	Zhu	West Windsor-Plainsboro HS South	Mercer

#### Appendix G

## The New Jersey Scholars Program thanks these foundations and corporations for their generous support and matching funds in 2017-2018

Goldman Sachs Matching Gifts
Harris Matthews Charitable Foundation
The Iowa Foundation for Education, Environment, and The Arts
Investors Bank
Johnson & Johnson Matching Gifts
Raytheon Matching Gifts
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Wells Fargo Matching Gifts

The New Jersey Scholars Program expresses its deep gratitude to the following foundations and corporations for their generous support and matching gifts during the past five years

Bank of America Barclays Capital Boeing Chubb & Sons CME Group Deutsche Bank Goldman Sachs

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Verizon Foundation

Wells Fargo Foundation

#### Appendix G, continued

## The New Jersey Scholars Program recognizes and thanks the following donors for their generous support in 2017-2018

Kenneth Abbott '78 P'11 Marco E.

Acerra '94

Christian Alcantara '94

Cyro & Renee Averbach P'16

Laura Sabel Bauer '84 Marcelline V.

Baumann P'98

Kanlesh H. & Jyoti K. Bhatia P'17

Jonathan Cummings P'17 Hunter Dougherty '10

Dr. & Mrs. Frank L. Douglas P'88 Heidi L.

Dreyfuss

John F. Duffy '80 Donald Elefson

Alison Noble Escalante '94 James E. Franklin P'89 Thomas J. Gilman '83

Emily A. Greene '78 Brian P.

Gregory '91

Mr. & Mrs. James L. Hallowell Christina

Harcar '85

Steven Hellman '81

Stephen J. Kastenberg '83 Ashish

Khanna '92

Kristine Renee Kleutghen '98

Ronald Krock '05

Christopher J. Librizzi '98

Jeffrey Lieberman '91

**Brian Lutz** 

Carolyn Makuen '80

Gerald & Sarah Maris P'17

David W. Mayo

Willam L. & Marianne D. McComb P'11

Adam Offenhartz '80

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