Honor Presentations: Spring 2021

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced us to adapt to the current laboratory research environment which has precluded undergraduate students from engaging in in-person research experiences. As a result, the Neuroscience Program has decided to allow students to conduct mentored literature reviews as a way to continue to gain experience and fulfill their major and honors requirements.

As a result, some students will be presenting literature reviews to earn the additional credits necessary to apply for honors. In addition, many students might find it necessary to present their literature review work at this years DREAMS in order to satisfy the honors presentation requirement.

NOTE: Presenting a literature review to satisfy the honors requirements is only meant for students who have not been able to obtain a significant amount of in-person lab experience. In other words, this is a last resort. Importantly, it is up to the student to work closely with their PI/lab supervisor to prepare their literature review for their honors presentation. If you are considering this option please speak with your PI/lab supervisor as soon as possible.

When preparing a literature review presentation for honors students should make sure they address the following:

1) State the goal of performing a synthesis of the literature
    a. who is the target audience
    b. what is missing from the current literature requiring a synthesis of data
2) Provide relevant background information specific to your topic
3) Methods: How did you decide what articles to include/exclude from your paper
4) Summarize and interpret the results of the review
    a. does the review clarify uncertainties in the field
    b. identify outstanding questions
    c. suggest future research aims

*Please review the information above with your PI and or Lab Supervisor and work closely with them when preparing your presentation. Neuroscience faculty will be judging each presentation to determine whether or not it has addressed the information outlined above.