



Footnotes

Department of History, University of Northwestern – St. Paul

Offering courses in History, Political Science, Economics, and Geography

Fall 2024

Congratulations Graduates!

In December 2023 we celebrated with **Alejandro Najera-Wolcott** at the completion of his program, and May 2024 brought congratulations for **Greg Berger, Nick Frese, Nathan Gale, Selah Her, Will Jaenchen, Zach Morse, Isaac Pilon, and Jackson Thompson**. Each student has contributed to our program through their active studies, enthusiastic participation in events, and support for fellow students. We wish them all God's best as they take their next steps.



Internships in Washington, DC and St. Paul

During the Fall 2023 semester several of our students completed political science internships in Washington, DC: **Nick Frese, Caleb Phillips, Isaac Pilon, and Will Jaenchen** served in the offices of US Senators and a Christian advocacy organization. In Minnesota, **Alejandro Najera-Wolcott** completed his internship with a local law firm. In the spring semester three students completed internships in the Minnesota Legislature: **Selah Her** and **Hayden Kuiper** worked in the House of Representatives, while **Christian Watkins** served in the Senate. These students all had an opportunity to apply their learning in practical ways in a workplace setting.



Footnotes



Campus Guests!

We regularly invite guests to our classrooms, to provide students a time to engage with a variety of specialists. This year **Prof. Leanna Swanson** invited Assistant Ramsey County Attorney **Makenzie Lee** to speak to her US National Government course on the workings of our criminal justice system. In April our department hosted a special event to encourage students to connect their studies of world history with the global realities of ministry. Missions leader **I'Ching Thomas** spoke in Nazareth Chapel to students and community members on “*Human Flourishing in Confucian Thought: A Christian Response.*” Our partner for this event was Northwestern alumna **Joann Pittman**, who serves with ChinaSource. This organization provides educational programs which connect believers and provide reliable, up-to-date information on Christianity in China.

Special Events!

Northwestern students love to meet for social gatherings large and small. Recent department events have included fall welcome picnics at Prof. Swanson’s home, a Christmas party, a winter game night with the Swansons, and a May bonfire and marathon volleyball game on the shores of Lake Johanna.



Special Events! (continued)



We also have continued our participation in **Day at the Capitol**, an annual February event at the Minnesota State Capitol organized by the Minnesota Private College Council. Students received training on policy advocacy and met in small groups with legislators to discuss current legislation, with coordination by **Prof. Leanna Swanson**.

In February, **Jackson Thompson ('24)** contributed to the **Scholars at the Capitol** program, with the support of **Dr. Adina Kelley**, history professor and director of the Eagle Scholars Program. At this event Jackson and students from around Minnesota presented their research projects and demonstrated the high quality of private university education.



Student Government

Northwestern history and political science students continue to enthusiastically serve in UNW student government. This year **Caleb Phillips** takes on the role of communication director, while **David Cairns**, **Jenny Liang**, and **Ellis Meyer** participate as senators.



Footnotes



Updates from Alumni

- **Kelsey Kuball** ('24 History minor) has been accepted into the M.A. in History program at Washington State University.
- **Ellie Simpson** ('22 Politics, History, and Economics major) begins her law school studies this year at the University of St. Thomas.
- **Tessa (Johnson) Gill** ('16 History major) now serves as Reception and Placement Case Manager for Arrive Ministries in Richfield.
- **Scott Anderson** ('12 History major) completed his Ph.D. in history at the University of Missouri.



Prayer Request

Please pray for **Dr. Adina Kelley** and her family as she completes a difficult series of treatments for cancer this year. Pray for healing, peace, and encouragement. We trust in our all-powerful and loving God during this very challenging time.

Please write and share your updates with us—we are always glad to hear from you!
 Dr. Matt Miller, Department Chair, mlmiller@unwsp.edu

The department thanks Faith Paul for her assistance in creating this newsletter.