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Sam Houston State University

2023 Common Reader

Undergraduate Research Poster Contest

**Purpose**

This research poster competition encourages and recognizes Bearkats who investigate and produce a research poster based on themes of the 2023-2024 SHSU common reader, *The Anthropocene Reviewed*, by distinguished author, John Green.

**Common Reader Undergraduate Research Prompt**John Green’s core message in the book is to maintain a sense of curiosity and wonder with the world around you.

*“It has taken me all my life up to now to fall in love with the world, but I’ve started to feel it in the last couple of years. To fall in love with the world isn’t to ignore or overlook suffering, both human and otherwise. For me anyway, to fall in love with the world is to look up at the night sky and feel your mind swim before the beauty and the distance of the stars. It is to hold your children while they cry, to watch as the sycamore trees leaf out in June. When my breastbone starts to hurt, and my throat tightens, and tears well in my eyes, I want to look away from feeling. I want to deflect with irony, or anything else that will keep me from feeling directly. We all know how loving ends. But I want to fall in love with the world anyway, to let it crack me open. I want to feel what there is to feel while I am here.” – John Green*

This book presents topics from many disciplines, and students are encouraged to develop a research poster that interests them and aligns with a topic in the book. **Please develop a research poster in which you analyze one of the topics or develop your own topic in collaboration with your faculty advisor.** Since we hope these posters will be presented at the Undergraduate Research Symposium next spring, submissions should comply with the [guidelines for a Poster Presentation](https://www.shsu.edu/academics/honors/symposium/guidelines) found on our website, where you can find [helpful resources](https://www.shsu.edu/academics/honors/symposium/resources) for creating posters as well.

**Eligibility**The contest is open to all undergraduates who enroll full time (minimum 12 hours) at Sam Houston State University in the fall 2023 and spring 2024 semesters.

**Prize**

Two scholarships valued at $500 will be awarded to students who submit winning posters. An additional $500 scholarship will be awarded during the spring semester to a student who presents their research at the Undergraduate Research Symposium.

**Application**

Electronic submissions of the research poster are required and must be submitted to [honors@shsu.edu](mailto:honors@shsu.edu) by 5:00 pm, Friday, October 27th. Submissions should be sent as email attachments (Microsoft Word documents, PPT files, RTF files, or PDF files only). For questions, please email [honors@shsu.edu](mailto:honors@shsu.edu).

**Rules of the Contest**

1. All applicants must be undergraduate students enrolled at Sam Houston State University full time during the fall 2023 and spring 2024 academic terms.
2. All research posters will be electronically produced. Winning students will be notified, and winning posters will be printed standard size according to the NGL requirements after the contest judging.
3. All submissions must include the submission cover form information on the next page. The electronic poster itself must not contain the student’s name since electronic posters will be evaluated anonymously.
4. A student may submit only one entry.
5. Winners will be notified by the Elliott T. Bowers Honors College.

SUBMISSION COVER FORM

The 2023-2024

Sam Houston State University

Common Reader

Fall 2023 Undergraduate Research Poster Contest

Entry due no later than 5 pm on Friday, October 27th

Electronic submissions of the research poster are required

and must be submitted to [honors@shsu.edu](mailto:honors@shsu.edu).

Student’s Full Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s ID Number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s Email Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Faculty Advisor’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_

I am submitting an original research proposal poster for the SHSU Common Reader

2023 Undergraduate Research Poster Contest. I certify that this research is my own work.

I understand that my research poster may be submitted to the

2023 Undergraduate Research Symposium.

The poster may be used by Sam Houston State University for publication in promotional materials.

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Student Signature Date