

Honors Senior Spotlight



Emily Johnson '22

Hometown: Kingston, New Hampshire

Major: National Security Studies

Minor: Russian Language Area Studies

Thesis Title: Evaluating the Impact of the Holodomor on Ukrainian Sentiments Toward Russia

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Matthew Schmidt

What is your thesis about?

My thesis attempts to evaluate whether or not the events of the Holodomor in 1932-1933 still play a role in how Ukrainians feel towards Russia. Specifically, it uses quantitative and qualitative data analysis to see if negative sentiments existed toward Russia immediately following the Holodomor, and if those feelings still exist today.

What motivated and/or inspired you to select this as your research topic?

After visiting Ukraine as part of Dr. Schmidt's War course in 2019, I became incredibly interested in Ukrainian history, and especially the Holodomor. I became interested in this event, its causes, and whether or not this event still plays a role in how some Ukrainians feel towards Russia today.

Do you have any advice for future Honors students thinking about writing an Honors Thesis?

Pick a topic you are interested in and start early!

After graduating, what are your plans?

I will be beginning a job as a Security Analyst for Raytheon Technologies.