

Introduction

Welcome to the inaugural issue of *Crossing Borders: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Undergraduate Scholarship*!

As its title suggests, *Crossing Borders* values interdisciplinary thinking and the role of undergraduates in the creation of new knowledge.

As editors, we value writers whose work moves beyond one single disciplinary perspective and considers how disciplines inform and enhance each other. We define interdisciplinary work as teams or individuals who are integrating information, data, techniques, tools, perspectives, concepts and/or theories from two or more disciplines. From this interdisciplinary perspective emerges knowledge that can advance fundamental understanding or solve problems which lie beyond the scope of a single discipline or area of research.

Crossing Borders also encourages undergraduate students to be more critical consumers and producers of scholarly discourse. Our editorial process introduces undergraduate writers to the steps required for open-access, peer-reviewed publication and to the various genres of professional, academic communication. The work we publish thus offers models for future undergraduate scholars as well as new resources for the larger academic community.

Finally, we are committed to the writing process. Tutors in the K-State English department's Writing Center are available to help students tailor their ideas for an interdisciplinary audience, revise their drafts for submission and review, and prepare accepted manuscripts for publication.

All content in the journal is written solely by undergraduate students who contributed substantially to the research or creative activity on which the writing is based. However, publication is not limited to students at Kansas State. We invite undergraduates from other universities to submit their work as well.

In closing, we extend our thanks to the partnerships which have made this journal possible: [K-State Libraries](#), the [English department](#), the [University Honors Program](#), and [Frontier](#), an interdisciplinary program involving undergraduate students at Kansas State University and a number of other universities.

Please feel free to contact the editorial team at crossingborders@ksu.edu if you have any questions about types of submissions, the review process, or other topics related to the journal.