

# Royal Road: A Journal of Undergraduate Research

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**EDITOR**  
Dr. Joseph Letter

**STUDENT EDITORS**  
Taylor Landau  
Megan Merola

**FACULTY ADVISOR**  
Dr. David Reamer



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Royal Road features the best researched arguments produced in the University of Tampa's AWR 201: Academic Writing and Research course. Student essays are nominated by instructors and reviewed by a faculty panel; those that are selected for potential publication undergo a process of peer review and revision that reflects the standards of academic publishing. Selected essays are published annually and used as models for future sections of AWR 201.

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## Editors' Introduction

In this sixth volume of *Royal Road*, authors, editors, and professors all collaborated to make a fantastic issue with a wide variety of topics. The essays were originally composed in the 2020-2021 academic year and later revised in the 2021-2022 academic year. Research featured in this issue focuses on several biological sciences, social issues within different countries and religious institutions, and the COVID-19 pandemic. Each student was passionate about their topic and worked with student editors and professors to refine and present their findings. Everyone involved worked their hardest to ensure that this would be the best edition of *Royal Road* yet, which is an accomplishment we believe we have achieved.

For the past several months, we, the editors at *Royal Road*, worked tirelessly with the student authors and Dr. Reamer to compile, organize, and polish this new issue. The editing and publication process has remained largely the same from the previous years, but we believe the passions of the authors and our own new experiences editing the publication have made this edition of *Royal Road* new and dynamic. Along with Dr. Reamer, we met regularly to copyedit essays, correspond with authors, and organize the layout of the journal. Not only did this opportunity advance our skills as editors, but it also enhanced our academic experience here at The University of Tampa. Our first-hand experiences working as editors give us a plethora of skills for careers after our time in college. We are confident this issue of *Royal Road* will speak to the impressive efforts of every author and contributor that worked on this journal, and we hope this wide variety of topics will broaden your understanding of each respective subject.

This sixth volume of *Royal Road* showcases the talents, passions, and research of faculty, editors, and authors at The Uni-

versity of Tampa. We, the student editors, are incredibly thankful for this experiences that enriches our academic pursuits and enhances our skills as editors. We want to thank Dr. Reamer for his unwavering support and guidance throughout the entire process. This edition of *Royal Road* would not be possible without him. We also would like to thank Dr. Letter and the editorial board for selecting manuscripts and giving us the opportunity to work with the talented authors featured in this edition of *Royal Road*. We are excited to present the newest volume of *Royal Road*, and we hope the research presented to you broadens your worldview and expands your knowledge on these topics.

Taylor Landau  
Megan Merola  
*Student Editors*