



COLLEGE of
CHARLESTON

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND
SOCIAL SCIENCES

HSS Scholar

Anthony Gaspar

MAJORS: HISTORY AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

Educational Highlights: Most recently, I received the “Outstanding Student Award” in the political science department for the 2015-2016 academic year and the Harper Kepler Award and Scholarship in 2014. Although my time in history has been short, it has been the most satisfying and academically rigorous year of my life. My so-called “victory lap” inspired me to learn Greek and Latin with the hopes that I will pursue graduate studies. Aside from my research, I’ve presented my work in history at the Historical Symposium at the College of Charleston. In political science, I took part in two conferences: one at Francis Marion University, and the other at the William V. Moore Student Research Conference here at the College.

Research Focus or Project: In history, I worked with Dr. Phyllis Jestice on my senior paper, *The Antiochene Dilemma*. The paper demonstrates how the Byzantine Empire’s belligerent policy toward the Principality of Antioch in the 12th century not only poisoned the empire’s relationship with the Latin West, leading to the Fourth Crusade and the sack of Constantinople, but reshaped the political and religious framework of the middle-east for the rest of the millennium.

In political science, I co-authored a paper with Dr. Jordan Ragusa, *Where’s the Tea Party*, published recently in *Political Research Quarterly*. Our research proved how the Tea Party Caucus in the House of Representatives exhibits “party-like effects.” This study enabled me to compare the modern Tea Party Caucus to its 1930s counterpart, the Conservative Coalition in my bachelor’s essay.

Future Plans: I hope to pursue graduate studies and build upon my research concerning Byzantium and its relationship with the Latin West.



This award presented by Jerold L. Hale, dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, and the Department of History at the College of Charleston on the 6th day of May, 2016.