**NICK DENNING**

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**EDUCATION**

WESTERN OREGON UNIVERSITY, Monmouth, OR

Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy // Minor in English Literature

WOU Honors Program, Summa cum laude, GPA 3.98

Published works include: “Teaching the Discipline of Western Philosophy”

*Denning, Nick, "Teaching the Discipline of Western Philosophy According to its Own Values and in Reference to Pedagogical Research" (2022). Honors Senior Theses/Projects. 262.*

*https://digitalcommons.wou.edu/honors\_theses/262*

University of Oregon, Eugene, OR

Working towards an MA in philosophy

**AWARDS AND HONORS FOR LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE**

The University Housing Nine Terms of Service Award (2022), Bestowed due to:

One-year service as a Hall Government President (2018 - 2019)

One-year service as a Resident Assistant (2019 - 2020)

One-year service as an Advising Resident Assistant (2020 - 2021)

Five Certificates of Distinction in Leadership

Hall Government Member of the Year (2019)

Discover Leadership Member of the Year (2019)

Discover Leadership Mentor of the Year (2020)

WOU’s Incidental Fee Committee Membership (2020, 2021)

**ACADEMIC DISTINCTION**

WOU Honors Program 2018 – 2022

While this program involves a unique general education schema, and the composition of a thesis (see above), it also encourages personal connections between professors and students, as well as between cohort members. Close friends and professorial mentors are its true gift.

Governor of WOU’s Phi-Sigma-Tao chapter Fall 2019 – Spring 2020

Phi-Sigma-Tao is a nationally recognized society of philosophy. Here people could gather (kind of like in a book club) to discuss monthly readings in political philosophy, ethics, social philosophy, and all that fun stuff.

Dean’s List for 3.5 or greater GPA: 12 semesters out of 12 semesters

President’s List for 4.0 GPA: 10 semesters out of 12 semesters

**JOBS, AND VOLUNTEERING**

WESTERN OREGON UNIVERSITY

Discover Leadership Member (2018-2019)

Discover Leadership is an extracurricular program created and sponsored by WOU. It invites incoming students to learn, each week for eight weeks, about how leadership can be defined, and specifically how community-oriented service leaders work towards the public good. For my conclusory service project, my group members and I spent a weekend cleaning up trash around the Monmouth area, and the WOU campus.

Hall Government, President (2018-2019)

As a freshman, I was elected as President in Hall Government. We held educational programs and social events, mediated grievances, and gave a voice to student desires and concerns. Our famous Backyard Bash, which featured a treasure hunt, grill-out, volleyball, and a playing of the Goonies, has left something of a legacy. Our weekly “Spill-The-Tea” event encouraged Ackerman residents to learn more about pressing social issues, and gave a space for the injustice of ableism, micro-aggressions, and xenophobia to be talked about.

Food Pantry Volunteer (2019-2020).

For one-to-three hours a week, I staffed the food pantry, stocking shelves, and making sure that anybody who desired anything knew precisely where to find it.

Resident Assistant (2019-2020).

My job entailed supervising and assisting 30 plus University residents throughout the year. In addition to hosting six educational programs I also provided fun activities to build relationships. I was exposed to and required to assist in moral difficulties, involving roommate conflicts, substance abuse, sexual assault, and mental health.

Advising Resident Assistant (2020-2021).

In addition to the above-mentioned responsibilities, I advised a hall government program, which put on educational programs for whole residence halls. In response to COVID-19, we founded a Minecraft server for folks to hang together on. We also worked alongside the WOU art gallery in order to host a painting event, in which the artwork of every student participant could be framed in Campbell Hall. This was a huge success, with over 60 pieces of art submitted.

Discover Leadership Mentor (2020, 2022).

As a mentor, I helped students navigate WOU job applications, as well as setup their conclusory service project: tabling about stress management techniques in 2019, and picking up trash (in the WOU campus, Main Street Park, and Winegar Park) just this year.

Incidental Fee Committee (2019, 2020)

Our group of seven students, working alongside university staff, were tasked with distributing over four million dollars between 13 different institutions. While unpaid, this position was instrumental in teaching me to interpret legal documents, listen to those seeking funds, and weigh the opposing logical arguments being made for and against meaningful and contested decisions. During those two years, we fought hard for students, and the University, prioritizing social programs (like Abby’s House, and Child Care), as well as student and faculty jobs whenever possible.

Incidental Fee Steering Committee (2020)

This group is responsible for making sure that the process (the by-laws) of the Incidental Fee Committee is fair and just. During the Summer of 2020, myself, the Senate President, ASWOU President, Judiciary Administrator, and IFC President adjusted these bylaws in order to account for the significant decline of on-campus credit-hours produced by the pandemic. Prior to our efforts, it was anticipated that 90% of the IFC’s projected income (3.7 mil) would have been void.