

ACLA Presidential Undergraduate Prize 2022

**Samantha Pinto (University of Texas at Austin), Akshya Saxena (Vanderbilt University),
and Xiomara Cervantes-Gómez (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)**

Winner: Elena Steiert for “Ariadne as Heteropessimist: Finding Queer Futures in the Poetry of Catullus, H.D., and Analicia Sotelo”

Elena Steiert’s honors thesis is an ambitious, transhistorical exploration of the figure of Ariadne in poetics across the classical, modernist, and postmodern Latinx periods. Contemporary theoretical framings and compelling methodological innovation mark the intellectual rigor of Steiert’s project, and point toward future work that could more deeply engage queer and feminist Latinx theory alongside classical tradition.