The Honors School
Annual Research Conference
2008

Third Annual Honors School Research Conference

Bey Hall, H.R. Young Auditorium
Saturday, April 19, 9:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

It is with great pleasure that The Honors School presents its Third Annual Research Conference

Student presenters include research in the fields of:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Chemistry</th>
<th>Psychology</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business Finance</td>
<td>Business Management</td>
<td>Business Marketing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>Foreign Language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Political Science</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Order of Events

9:30 a.m. Welcoming Remarks—Dr. Richard Veit, Associate Professor: History and Anthropology

SESSION ONE 9:50—12:50
Normajean Garriton (HS)
Ashley Melici (HS)
Sara Davidson (BM)
Michael Edwards (BK)
Michael Maggiore (BF)
Alexandra Ricco (BK & BM)
Michael Capon (BK)
Ian Craig (BM)
Aimee Babbin (CE)

BREAK 12:50—1:20

SESSION TWO 1:20—4:00
Richard Price (EN)
Sara Van Ness (EN)
Monica Fodor (FS)
Alexandra Bartlom (PY)
Laura Buckley (PY)
Kimberly Green (PY)
Bethany Mattson (PY)
Chelsie Winston (PY)

Additional students completing Thesis but unable to attend include:

Kathleen Field (CE), Dan Neal (CJ)

**Please see last page of program for Thesis titles, Chief Advisors and Second Readers.
**Normajean Garrton**  
*Abstract*: This thesis will explore, and understand from a historical perspective, how a society creates killers from a distinguished profession such as medicine. The importance of this project is evident in shedding light on medical experiments conducted on human patients in the Nazi concentration camps of World War II. The project will transition from a description of the Nazi mindset regarding the evolution of the Aryan race, focus on particular doctors and experiments, and from there it will attempt to analyze the doctor mentality; seeking to answer the fundamental question of how a person sworn to protect and save mankind can knowingly commit horrible acts against life. In addition to looking at experiments that used freezing, radiation and high altitudes, there is also a focus on the Lebensborn project; another medical experiment, which looked to creating super humans by impregnating German women by S.S. soldiers. The Nazis are not the first to experiment on humans, but an attempt to understand their behavior and the reasoning behind it may be the key to avoiding a repetition of the past.

**Sara Davidson**  
*Primetime Protests: The Changing Image of Women and African Americans in Situation Comedies*  
*Abstract*: As part of their fight for equal rights, feminist groups and civil rights groups attempted to change the portrayal of their respective groups on television. Both groups realized how influential television was on the American people and attempted to change public opinion through television. There are various reasons why the changes to the Primetime schedule took place; however, the changes that took place were not as outstanding as the social and political changes that occurred for the groups. This paper examines various shows including The Mary Tyler Moore Show and analyses why and what, if at all, changes occurred.

**Michael Edwards**  
*Future Trends of Internet Advertising*  
*Abstract*: The internet has been a major frontier for businesses and consumers alike. Nearly ten years into its acceptance into mainstream commerce, many businesses still have a minimal understanding of how to reach the online consumer. This thesis provides a basis for understanding all major forms of internet advertising. Based on this comprehension, trend analysis is used to interpret three of the most important market developments in the field of internet advertising. With a thorough examination of these trends, a hypothesis is put forth to determine a major path that internet advertising will take within the next five years.

**Michael Maggiore**  
*NYC: A Real Bust*  
*Abstract*: The volatility of the current real estate market is a matter of the greatest concern as it directly and indirectly affects all citizens of the United States. This project studies the market effects of reducing a contracting company’s tax benefits on financing real estate projects, including both economic and social ramifications. There exists an unforeseen correlation between the revision of tax exemption 421-a to the policies of 486-a and the supply of real estate in NYC. As the real estate market stabilizes, the general value of residential properties will begin to exhibit close correlation to the parameters of the supply and demand model. The speculative investor exacerbated the current downturn in prices in NYC through the creation of an artificial environment of infinite opportunities. This same investor is now dissuaded from the NYC real estate market due to rising inventories, declining sales, and difficulty in attaining any debt financing with the associated tax burdens of 486-a. This project studies the market effects of reducing a contracting company’s tax benefits on financing real estate projects, including both economic and social ramifications. There exists an unforeseen correlation between the revision of tax exemption 421-a to the policies of 486-a and the supply of real estate in NYC. As the real estate market stabilizes, the general value of residential properties will begin to exhibit close correlation to the parameters of the supply and demand model. The speculative investor exacerbated the current downturn in prices in NYC through the creation of an artificial environment of infinite opportunities. This same investor is now dissuaded from the NYC real estate market due to rising inventories, declining sales, and difficulty in attaining any debt financing with the associated tax burdens of 486-a. This paper demonstrates that as home prices have fallen in NYC, it has become more difficult for developers to obtain debt financing as demonstrated through the calculation of the effective rate of interest charged on construction loans and primary data generated from Madison Estates. The supply of housing projects has decreased dramatically, evident through declines in new construction, rising inventories, and large expansion of Starbucks worldwide. This article elaborates a new strategy in combining two growing American fads, first, as mentioned above, is America’s love affair with gourmet coffee, and the second with organic food. By melding these two formerly separate cultural enthusiasms it is proposed that there exists a large clientele served by the synergistic effects created by this union.

**Alexandra Ricco**  
*How Management is Linked to Coaching*  
*Abstract*: My research focuses on how management is linked to coaching and its benefits for companies. The majority of my findings are useful ways to execute coaching as well as the benefits that managers are having with their team employees. Finding the information for my research was a difficult task because this is a newer technique for businesses. Most of the books written do not correlate management with coaching; however, recently, there have been publishers who have produced short books about coaching and team development. I conducted interviews with a management consultant, a certified empowerment coach, and a few employees to further understand the opinions of those working in the business world. I wanted to know how the employees felt about their jobs and what they think would make a difference in their attitude in the workplace. This research is important because too many companies are losing employees due to lack of motivation and poor management. I hope I can educate those who would like one day to own a company or be a manager in a company.
Abstract: At first glance, one might mistakenly think Watchmen is just a really long “comic book.” Even the label of “graphic novel” is deceiving, as if one might infer that it is only a collection of pictures with a little bit of text. However, Watchmen is a highly complex and nuanced work that explores themes of identity, morality, and the nature of heroism. The novel features multiple narrators and viewpoints, and requires the reader to interpret ambiguous illustrations and text, make connections among them, and apply these patterns in order to answer the questions embedded in the multiple levels of text.

Richard Price
The Compelling Pain: An Examination of Mark Twain’s The Mysterious Stranger and Guiding Readers Through its Pitfalls.

Abstract: Mark Twain’s The Mysterious Stranger manipulates readers into interpreting the text in the way that the character 44, who is Satan, wants the reader to accept: Satan is an angel on earth for the betterment of his fellow characters, the readers, and even more broadly of the entire human race. This interpretation is a lie. When reading The Mysterious Stranger, one becomes part of the story and is manipulated and, along with the other characters, changed by Satan. While many stories captivate and draw in a reader temporarily, Satan’s manipulation so extensive it corrupts the basic morals that the reader formerly stood upon, exchanging good for evil, which are relative. What is good according to God is bad to Satan and vice versa. The reader becomes a follower not of God, but of Satan. Readers can regain control and revert to their former values once they realize they have been conned.

Sara Van Ness
The Mask of Heroism: An Analysis of Alan Moore and Dave Gibbons’s Watchmen

Abstract: The Value of Bilingualism Displayed through Two-Way Immersion

Aimee Babbin
Crusading Against Cancer: The Search for the Cure

Abstract: Every year, millions of people are diagnosed with and suffer from a form of cancer, one of the most feared and deadly diseases. Normal somatic cells, the cells that compose the human body, undergo a regular life span in which they replicate and divide many times before naturally dying. Cancer cells, however, continuously divide and never die; thus allowing the number of abnormal cells to grow exponentially. This uncontrolled growth causes cancer and can manifest itself in any area of the body. Currently, the most common cancer treatments are chemotherapy and radiation, treatments that often damage more than just cancerous cells. Present research into a cancer cure focuses on killing cells on a molecular level to stop their unregulated growth without affecting normal, healthy somatic cells. This thesis focuses on these molecular methods and their potential as cancer cures.

Monica Fodor
The Value of Bilingualism Displayed through Two-Way Immersion

Abstract: The Value of Bilingualism Displayed through Two-Way Immersion” presents the debate on English-Only and Bilingual pedagogies for teaching English to English Language Learners (ELLs). A discussion of the diverse needs of ELLs is followed by an explanation of each side of the debate on instructional approaches. Various models of bilingual education are presented with a specific focus on the Two-Way Immersion model. This is a unique model of bilingual education in that it allows both native and non-native speakers of English to acquire bilingualism. By presenting research on the success of Two-Way Immersion programs, the thesis argues that bilingual education is a stronger and more effective approach to teaching ELLs the English language.

Alexandra Bartlom
Visual Identity Exploration: The Relationship Between The “I” And “Me” In Identity Formation

Abstract: I conducted qualitative research for the purposes of a documentary. Student interviews were video recorded and analyzed. I presented the data provided by these interviews in the documentary, and also transcribed it into a written narrative. In addition to my perspective, the documentary presents the views of expert speakers including those of faculty members and administrators. The process explores the relationships between race, class, and gender and their roles in defining identity and secondly, how these factors play a key role in career choice.
Laura Buckley
Interracial Dating
Abstract: Research on the topic of interracial dating among college-aged students is lacking as well as research that goes beyond black-white pairings. The research that has been done focuses on either interracial marriages or interracial dating amongst adolescents. The college-aged population should be studied separately since dating tends to become more serious and oriented towards the long term during this period. This study focuses specifically on how contact between outgroups (in this case, how contact between members of different races) results in a greater or lesser likelihood of dating as well as how one’s anxiety amongst outgroup members relates to their likelihood of dating. It is predicted that more contact with outgroup members will result in a greater likelihood of dating a person of that particular race and that the lower one’s anxiety is amongst outgroup members, the greater the likelihood of dating a person of that particular race.

Kimberly Green
Sociocultural Influences on Body Image: Why Do We Cross the Line?
Abstract: This study examines typicality, pressure, & social pressure in relation to disordered behaviors associated with achieving the ideal masculine or feminine body. A sample of 120 (77 females, 43 males) college students completed gender typicality and felt pressure scales and a scale measuring acceptance of social stereotypes. Male and female participants completed separate measures to assess disordered behaviors and feelings about the self related to body image. Typicality was negatively correlated with EDI scores and positively correlated with PSDQ scores. Felt pressure was very weakly correlated with EDI and PSDQ scores. SATAQ scores were positively/strongly correlated with EDI scores and negatively/weakly correlated with PSDQ scores. Significant interactions between typicality and felt pressure resulted for both EDI and PSDQ scores.

Bethany Mattson
Positive Outcomes of Romantic Jealousy: The Role of Mate Value
Abstract: The current research is a two part study investigating positive reactions to a romantic partner’s jealousy. In the first study, a sample of 38 (9 males, 29 females) undergraduate students completed an open-ended questionnaire regarding how a partner’s jealousy could be positive for the self and the relationship. Participants reported a partner’s jealousy suggests caring and protectiveness particularly when the partner is physically attractive and has a good overall personality. Study two extends Study 1 with, 74 participants (16 males, 59 females) who responded to a hypothetical relationship that manipulated a romantic partner’s mate value (high/low) and type of jealousy (reactive/possessive). Participants’ responses pertained to amount of intimacy, satisfaction, commitment, and relational self-esteem they would experience as a result of the scenario presented.

Chelsie Winston
Does Absence Make the Heart Grow Fonder?
Abstract: This study looked at the positive and negative effects of living close to one’s partner (proximal) and further from one’s partner (long distance). The study examined the aspects of satisfaction, inclusion of the other in the self, relationship autonomy, and idealism in proximal and long distance romantic relationships. The participants involved in the study were over the age of 18 and were from a small private university. They were asked to complete a questionnaire which included questions related to their romantic relationship. It was hypothesized that long distance romantic relationships will have a lower level of inclusion of the other in the self, less relationship satisfaction, less conflict, and greater relationship autonomy compared to proximal romantic relationships.

Laura Buckley
Interracial Dating
Abstract: Research on the topic of interracial dating among college-aged students is lacking as well as research that goes beyond black-white pairings. The research that has been done focuses on either interracial marriages or interracial dating amongst adolescents. The college-aged population should be studied separately since dating tends to become more serious and oriented towards the long term during this period. This study focuses specifically on how contact between outgroups (in this case, how contact between members of different races) results in a greater or lesser likelihood of dating as well as how one’s anxiety amongst outgroup members relates to their likelihood of dating. It is predicted that more contact with outgroup members will result in a greater likelihood of dating a person of that particular race and that the lower one’s anxiety is amongst outgroup members, the greater the likelihood of dating a person of that particular race.

Kimberly Green
Sociocultural Influences on Body Image: Why Do We Cross the Line?
Abstract: This study examines typicality, pressure, & social pressure in relation to disordered behaviors associated with achieving the ideal masculine or feminine body. A sample of 120 (77 females, 43 males) college students completed gender typicality and felt pressure scales and a scale measuring acceptance of social stereotypes. Male and female participants completed separate measures to assess disordered behaviors and feelings about the self related to body image. Typicality was negatively correlated with EDI scores and positively correlated with PSDQ scores. Felt pressure was very weakly correlated with EDI and PSDQ scores. SATAQ scores were positively/strongly correlated with EDI scores and negatively/weakly correlated with PSDQ scores. Significant interactions between typicality and felt pressure resulted for both EDI and PSDQ scores.

Bethany Mattson
Positive Outcomes of Romantic Jealousy: The Role of Mate Value
Abstract: The current research is a two part study investigating positive reactions to a romantic partner’s jealousy. In the first study, a sample of 38 (9 males, 29 females) undergraduate students completed an open-ended questionnaire regarding how a partner’s jealousy could be positive for the self and the relationship. Participants reported a partner’s jealousy suggests caring and protectiveness particularly when the partner is physically attractive and has a good overall personality. Study two extends Study 1 with, 74 participants (16 males, 59 females) who responded to a hypothetical relationship that manipulated a romantic partner’s mate value (high/low) and type of jealousy (reactive/possessive). Participants’ responses pertained to amount of intimacy, satisfaction, commitment, and relational self-esteem they would experience as a result of the scenario presented.

Chelsie Winston
Does Absence Make the Heart Grow Fonder?
Abstract: This study looked at the positive and negative effects of living close to one’s partner (proximal) and further from one’s partner (long distance). The study examined the aspects of satisfaction, inclusion of the other in the self, relationship autonomy, and idealism in proximal and long distance romantic relationships. The participants involved in the study were over the age of 18 and were from a small private university. They were asked to complete a questionnaire which included questions related to their romantic relationship. It was hypothesized that long distance romantic relationships will have a lower level of inclusion of the other in the self, less relationship satisfaction, less conflict, and greater relationship autonomy compared to proximal romantic relationships.