** All presentations will take place in the Bill Daniel Student Center on the 2nd floor**

**Monday, April 8, 2013 - 2:00 pm**

Fentress Room:

Nour Ammari  
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Nathan Elkins – Art

The Pythian Games and Delphi  
Of the four Panhellenic games, the Pythian games, held to honor Apollo, set itself apart through an intrinsic inclusion of arts and culture that were heavily embedded in the foundation of the competition. This paper serves to explore the origins, religious functions, and events of the Pythian games while placing secondary emphasis on the city of Delphi, and the Pythia; Delphi’s exalted oracle. It is important to note that without the existence of Delphi itself, or the establishment of the oracle, one of the greatest spectacles of the ancient world, the Pythian games, would never have come to fruition. As a major oracular center, Delphi played a compelling role in Greek history, welcoming the exaltation of the honored Apollo. Through competition in the Pythian games, Delphi re-established a sacred connection between gods and humans, bridging the mortal world and the divine. Apollo as a deity embodies a certain tension between glory and humility, uniquely reflecting human nature and making him an obvious god to be worshipped so lavishly by humans through competitions in his name. The implicit connection to the arts through the dedication of the games to Apollo made the Pythian festivities particular interesting in their content. Just below Apollo was the sacred Pythia, the oracle who gave her prophecies in the Temple of Apollo at Delphi, influencing political and social events in Greek history. In all, the Pythian games and the site at Delphi influenced Greek society in a very unique way by shaping both religious and political principles, becoming a spectacle in itself to this day. This paper also explores the ancient site of Delphi from a more archaeological perspective.

Laura McMillan  
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Heidi Hornik – Art
Francesco Salviati: Roman Mannerist in a Florentine World
This presentation will outline the evolution of Francesco Salviati's (1510-63) career as a first generation Mannerist who was influenced by the contemporary style of Rome but who also worked in Florence for most of his career. The lecture will analyze the Visitation and the Birth of St. John the Baptist, frescoes painted in 1538 and 1551, respectively, and located in San Giovanni Decollato. These paintings represent the transformation of Salviati's work from an activated, movemented Roman style to a more controlled, stable and unemotional Florentine style. Critiques from Florentine patrons and other artists caused Salviati to conform to the popular style, but this approach was incompatible with Salviati's training and skill set. Salviati's rivals, patterns of patronage, and inability to complete commissions will contribute to our understanding of his flawed character, and to why he never achieved the recognition as some of his contemporaries.

Ian Lemmon
 Faculty Mentor: Dr. Carol Macaulay-Jameson – Anthropology

Archeological Investigations at Salado College Archeological Ruins (41BL241), Salado, Texas
Salado College Archeological Ruins (41BL241), located in Salado, Texas, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is a Recorded Texas Historical Landmark. Early in 2012, the Robertson Colony-Salado College Foundation of Salado contacted the Texas Historical Commission (THC) requesting an archaeological survey of the site. The purpose of the survey was threefold: to identify outbuildings, such as wells, walls or privies, to determine if any of the deposits might contain intact archeological deposits and to define the prehistoric component recorded on the National Register nomination. The Foundation plans to develop the site, which would include a walking trail, interpretive signs and stabilization of the ruins. Fourteen Baylor students worked side-by-side THC archeologists two weekends last spring in this effort. A pedestrian survey and 26 shovel tests were conducted across the 7.5-acre property and three excavation units were placed over ground penetrating radar anomalies. This presentation will focus on the results of these investigations.

Astrid Loomans
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Carol Macaulay-Jameson – Anthropology
The tremulous and Tenacious History of Salado College, Salado, Texas

Tourists, who visit Salado, Texas and the ruins on College Hill, are unaware of the tremulous history of the site. Salado College, established in 1859 through the efforts of Elijah Sterling Clack Robertson (the son of the empresario of Robertson’s Colony) and the citizens of Salado, burned to the ground three times and was rebuilt twice. From the beginning, the school was unique in that it was not affiliated with a religious group and that it was always a co-educational institution. Over its 64-year period, the building on College Hill operated under three different names with three different missions: Salado College, Salado Public School and Thomas Arnold High School. This talk will present information gleaned from archival documents and historic accounts describing the tenacity of Salado’s citizens and their college on the hill.

Baines Room:

Emily Tichenor
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Lydia Grebenyova – English

Children’s Discourse in a Problem-Solving Setting: A Cross-Gender Comparison
Much research has been done on the differences between men and women’s language. However, research is lacking on children’s gendered language, especially in problem-solving contexts. This study presents data analyzing the language of English-acquiring children (mean age 4;2) while solving a puzzle. I analyze the transcriptions of the recordings, focusing on the ways children ask for help, their use of pronouns and discourse markers, and topic changes. The findings support boys and girls using language differently. Further, the findings have larger social implications on gender relations.

Grace Goble
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Lydia Grebenyova – English
**Acquisition of /-s/ Morpheme in English**
During the study, I presented children ages 3-5 with different options on how to form complex possessive structures and elicited children's preferences for the syntax of that construction in a form of a play using puppets and toys. Surprising, they appear to have a phase where they form these structures like they form plurals by attaching them to the noun instead of the noun phrase. By looking at how they chose to form them and how adults form the construction, we hoped to shed more light on not only the children’s understanding of the structure, but the adults’ as well.

**Ryan Smith**  
**Faculty Mentor: Dr. Lydia Grebenyova – English**

**The Structure of the Conjunction Phrase**
This paper will discuss an aspect of syntactic theory, particularly some of the problems with a common formulation of the conjunction phrase (ConjP), the so-called Spec-Head ConjP, in which the first conjunct is treated as a phrase in the specifier of a ConjP that can appear in the place of any phrase in an utterance. This paper will show 1) that the common formulation of Spec-Head ConjP is difficult, if not impossible, to reconcile with phrase structure rules, and 2) that Spec-Head ConjP cannot accurately describe coordinate structures in strongly head-final languages like Japanese. Finally, an argument will be made that an alternative structure, in which a ConjP containing the Conj head and an XP complement is treated as an adjunct within an XP, better accounts for empirical observations concerning coordination, in that it can model all of the structures that the old analysis could, and provides an elegant solution to all of the concerns noted above.

**Ada Zhang**  
**Faculty Mentor: Dr. Jay Losey – English**

**Intelligence Versus Passion**
My research paper explores the limits of the human intellect as depicted through Dostoevsky's character, the Underground Man. My paper focuses on the bridge between reality and the human psyche, and begs the question: can reason alone lead us to a prosperous life? Enlightenment theorists argue that only through reason can we become the very best
versions of ourselves, but Dostoevsky counters this argument by creating a character who is miserable despite his intelligence. A critical analysis of the Underground Man reveals a flaw in hyper-rationalism and begs a second question; if reason does not beget a happy life, then what is missing? My paper explains how Fyodor Dostoevsky creatively and intuitively answers this question.

Beckham Room:

Josh Rose
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Adrienne Harris – Modern Foreign Languages

Enlightenment in Russia: Mikhail Vasilievich Lomonosov
This paper analyzes Lomonosov’s writings on education, asking how Lomonosov’s background shaped his views on education. It also asks how other historical Russian figures viewed his contributions to education.

Kayla Grumbles
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Adrienne Harris – Modern Foreign Languages

Eternally Young, Forever Remembered: A Glance at the Use of Zoia Kosmodemyanskaya’s Image in Post-Stalin Soviet Russia
In 1942, in the village of Petrishchevo, a young girl was brutally tortured and murdered for the sake of her country. After finally identifying her body, Zoia Kosmodemyanskaya was named a Hero of the Soviet Union and, for the remainder of the Soviet era, her image was placed before schoolchildren and Soviet citizens alike as a shining example of the cultural ideal. I will be examining the ways in which this was accomplished from the time after Stalin’s death in 1953 until the beginning of the end of the Soviet Union in 1987. This will be done mainly through examination of news articles and other media resources pertaining to Zoia that were produced during that time; a careful assessment of the various terminology used to refer to her should suffice as a basis for reconstructing her public image during that time.

Paul Schlabdraf
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Adrienne Harris – Modern Foreign Languages
Русская душа: Dostoevsky’s Portrayal of the Russian Soul in “The Brothers Karamazov”

Though Dostoevsky himself never used the phrase “Russian soul”, his works are largely responsible for establishing the concept. An important question that must be asked then is, “What exactly was Dostoevsky’s view of the Russian soul?” Dostoevsky offers us a glimpse of his version of the Russian soul in his final book, 'The Brothers Karamazov'. While it is difficult, if not impossible, for English readers to determine exactly what he meant (due to the complexity of his writing and translation issues), we are able to draw several important conclusions concerning Dostoevsky’s Russian soul through the key figures of his novel, the Karamazov brothers. Alexei, Dmitry, and Ivan each represent a different aspect of the collective Russian soul during the 19th century.

Dillon Camp
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Scott Spinks – Modern Foreign Languages

The Distrust of the Poor in El Conde Lucanor

In Exemplo XX of El Conde Lucanor, by Don Juan Manuel, Manuel displays a strong distrust of the poor. This presentation seeks to explore this theme of distrust of the lower class in medieval Spain by the nobility by investigating the literature of Alfonso X and Don Juan Manuel, two powerful figures and writers who lived in Spain during the 1200s and 1300s respectively. I hope to discover the reasons behind this distrust and its implications for life in medieval Spain. I also will discuss the class structure at the time and if this distrust was mutual and/or deserved.

White Room:

Karla Coleman
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Frieda Blackwell – Modern Foreign Languages

Historical Revisionism and Feminist Criticism in “El reportaje” by Carmen Riera

The short story by Carmen Riera entitled “El reportaje,” (1982) deal with historical revision of the 1940s in Spain. Through the use of two protagonists, Maria who rebels against the Franco regime’s patriarchal society and Stephani, a journalist, whom re-examines Maria’s story. Riera’s
short story breaks the pact of silence of the Transition (1975-1990). Stephani represents the modern woman of the democracy in 1980 who decides to investigate the life of Maria, a woman condemned in the 1940s for transgressing sexual and gender mores of the patriarchy. The short story's use of historical revision serves to give value to women, like Maria, who rebelled against the society which tried to control them while at the same time reevaluating the regime's revision of that history that repressed the truth.

Megan Hermann
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Frieda Blackwell – Modern Foreign Languages
Benito Feijoo y La Sistema de Educación en España
Father Benito Feijoo is one of the most well-known and prolific writers from the Spanish Enlightenment. With his writing, he wanted to teach the public and correct common fallacies about a wide variety of topics ranging from science and medicine to incorrect teachings about ghosts and other spiritual beings. He wrote much about the educational failings of Spain, especially in one of his greatest works, Cartas eruditas, a collection of essays written as letters to “Your Grace.” Though he most often wrote to explain a number of new scientific ideas, a few of his letters, including Carta 16 of volume 2 and Carta 6 of volume 5, focused specifically on education and the importance of learning these new sciences. In these letters, Feijoo spoke about the importance of the practical application of knowledge learned in school. In addition, he formulated responses to a number of his rivals who believed that the new scientific ideas being postulated throughout Europe were dangerous; believing instead, that gaining new knowledge and understanding was the way not only to better Spanish society, but could actually bring one’s soul closer to God. Finally, he offered some observations about the causes of the delays in scientific advancement in Spain and gave a number of recommendations to remediate the problems he observed. Feijoo was a unique thinker in his time because he focused on the use of knowledge rather than simply the gathering of new ideas, and he believed that improving education in the sciences was the best way to bring progress to Spanish society, improve the soul, and move closer to God.

Brittni Hancock
The Exploration of a Dreamlike State to Express Emotions in the Poetry of Gustavo Adolfo Bécquer

A dream - "a succession of images, thoughts, or emotions passing through the mind during sleep" ("Dream"). Every person has experienced the act of dreaming, whether it be the unconscious sensations one experiences while asleep or the blurred reality of day dreaming. Gustavo Adolfo Bécquer explores many different emotions and ideas in this alternate reality of a dream state. Specifically in his poem Rima III, Becquer uses opposing ideas of reason and imagination to develop emotions that occur in a fantasy (Fernández, 298). In his poem Rima LXXV, Bécquer uses the image of a freed soul in a natural environment to describe emotions and thoughts that occur in this alternate reality. Bécquer, although dealing with real human emotions, uses mystical expressions combined with metaphors from nature of intangible phenomena to recreate dreamlike states and out-of-body experiences exemplified in Rima III and Rima LXXV to broaden the reader's perceptions of reality.

Leandro Fernández de Moratín: A Cure for Decadence in Spanish Baroque Theater

Leandro Fernandez de Moratín wrote La comedia nueva around the year 1791, during the neoclassical period, an age in which intellectuals turned towards ancient Greek and Roman writers for inspiration. It was also the Age of Enlightenment which placed great emphasis on logic and reason along with their usefulness to society. Because of this emphasis, Moratín critiques the baroque style of theater as decadent and lacking in organization. Moratín’s play adheres to the classical unities of action, time, and place and in stark contrasts to the chaos presented in his character Don Eleuterio’s drama. While Moratín is careful to organize his drama in a concise way with an easy-to-follow plotline, Don Eleuterio’s drama is unorganized and has numerous side plots that blend together in a confusing way and which the public rejects so violently that spectators almost riot. It is this dramatic difference between baroque theater and neoclassical theater that Moratín aims to highlight in his drama La comedia.
nueva. Moratín critiques the decadence of Baroque theater and offers a potential way to establish the concept of nationalism through his presentation of his character Don Pedro, the juxtaposition of his own work with that of Don Eleuterio, and with his surprising conclusion.

Monday, April 8, 2013 - 3:30 pm:

Fentress Room:

True Price and Frank Peña  
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Young-Rae Cho – Computer Science  
Survey: Enhancing Protein Complex Prediction in PPI Networks with GO Similarity Weighting

Predicting protein complexes from protein-protein interaction (PPI) networks has been the focus of many computational approaches over the last decade. These methods tend to vary in performance based on the structure of the network and the parameters provided to the algorithm. Here, we evaluate the merits of enhancing PPI networks with semantic similarity edge weights using Gene Ontology (GO) and its annotation data. We compare the cluster features and predictive efficacy of six well-known unweighted protein complex detection methods (Clique Percolation, MCODE, DPCLus, IPCA, Graph Entropy, and CoAch) against updated weighted implementations. We conclude that incorporating semantic similarity edge weighting in PPI network analysis unequivocally increases the performance of these methods.

Scott Uhlrich  
Faculty Mentor: Dr. William Anderson – Mechanical Engineering

Large-eddy Simulation of Turbulent Flow Over a Field of Crescentic Sand Dunes: Insights for Aeolian Processes

The White Sands National Monument is a field of aeolian gypsum sand dunes in southern New Mexico. The field lies in a valley (the Tularosa Basin) surrounded by dramatic mountainous terrain, which means the dunes are subjected to a variety of atmospheric conditions. Thus, aeolian processes at the site – sediment erosion, transport, and deposition by
turbulent winds – result in a transient, complex dune field morphology. In this work, large-eddy simulation has been used to model atmospheric boundary layer flow over crescentic barchan dunes from White Sands. The dunes are resolved with the immersed boundary method, thereby replicating the dynamics of atmospheric turbulence as it responds to the dunes. A 2.5 square kilometer section of the dune field is selected as the focus area for this investigation, and results are presented for the three common prevailing wind directions reported at the site. Aerodynamic shearing stress distributions on the dunes, velocity statistics within the dune canopy, and Reynolds turbulent shearing stresses are reported from each wind direction. Results show that maximum aerodynamic drag typically occurs midway up the “windward” side of the dunes. Furthermore, budgets of kinetic energy fluxes suggest turbulence is the primary mechanism through which aerodynamic power is delivered to the dune field and then utilized to facilitate dune migration through aeolian processes.

**Ryan Warnick**  
*Faculty Mentor: Dr. David Kahle – Statistical Science*

**Interactive Modules as Tools for Illustrating Statistical Concepts**  
One of the difficulties encountered in statistics education is how to properly illustrate statistical concepts to students and non-statistician colleagues. Displaying concepts using traditional static methods such as a chalkboard can often be unwieldy and unintuitive, and because of this communication suffers. In this presentation we discuss a number of computer-based tutorial modules designed to better explain statistical ideas, and the interactivity afforded by these applets makes them effective instruction and visualization tools. In addition, the ease with which these modules can be made allows these ideas to be extended to other problems encountered when communicating statistical concepts. Some of the topics implemented in our modules include hypothesis testing, kernel density estimation, and regression.

*Baines Room:*

**Brett Hager**  
*Faculty Mentor: Ms. Carrolle Kamperman – English*
Apocalyptic Vision in American Postmodern Film and Literature

Postmodern society has made unfathomable progress in the areas of science and technology. Humans are now starting to realize how much power they actually hold with recent advancements, particularly in the developments in weaponry and medicine. This power can be used for the betterment of mankind or can lead to its ultimate destruction. Whereas in the past, societies believed that the end of days would come in a religious context, contemporary film and literature takes a different, more secular approach which often does not offer the audience the hope of salvation or redemption after this catastrophic event. These secular presentations of how the world as we know it will end and what comes next for the survivors (if any) generally seem to fall into three categories: nuclear, biological, and natural or cosmic. This paper explores each of these types of fictional apocalypse and what sort of commentary each makes regarding the influences of society, government, and the individual in retarding or quickening the seemingly inevitable end of civilization, and humanity with it.

David Welch
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Ralph Wood – Great Texts

The Christian Re-interpretation of Anglo-Saxon Heroic Virtue in the Lord of the Rings

One of the greatnesses of J. R. R. Tolkien’s masterpiece, The Lord of the Rings, is the way in which it captures the heroic spirit of Germanic legend. The world of the Germanic hero was a hard world in which the very elements seemed to conspire against men; such a world gave birth to legends of capricious and dangerous gods. This sort of cosmology is bound up with a particular brand of virtue that, while at times commendable, lent itself to pride and to bloodshed. When Christianity made its way among the Anglo-Saxons and, later, into Northern Europe, the monastic missionaries realized that the Germanic ideals of heroism warranted considerable correction, and among them arose homilists and poets whose work makes up almost all that survives of Old English poetry today. Tolkien, well-versed in both pagan and post-Christian lore, was steeped in this tradition, and wove both Germanic heroic virtue and its Christian re-interpretation into his great epic. In this paper, I shall seek to
elucidate this theme in Tolkien’s work, first explaining Germanic heroic virtue by way of the literature through which it has come down to us, then discussing the way in which the Christian poets of Anglo-Saxon England engaged with this tradition, taking as examples a few great works of the period, and turning finally to the Lord of the Rings itself to draw out the presence of these themes in the characters of The Lord of the Rings.

Maxcey Kite
Faculty Mentor: Dr. D. Thomas Hanks – English

Once Upon a Lack of Time
As readers, we often find ourselves in a state of timelessness as we become absorbed in a good, solid fairytale. Such timelessness is often reflected in the actual adventures of the characters we read about. When the Pevensie children explore Narnia, time apparently stops, or very much slows down, in the children’s own world. However, this is not a universal law of fairytales. For example, the Darling children cruelly cause their parents misery as they follow Peter Pan into Neverland because time does not stop in their world. The difference in time, or lack there of, between Secondary and Primary Worlds in fairytales is a generally unexplored region of children’s literature, but I believe it is a topic of central importance.

In my paper I argue that, in fairytales in which the characters travel from one world to another, the markedly altered passage of time in the Secondary World is a crucial factor in the ability of the characters to both engage in and remain in that world. I begin by analyzing other scholarly research on the passage of time in fairytales before examining three works that demonstrate the necessity for timelessness for full engagement in the Secondary World: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe, Peter Pan, and Where the Wild Things Are.

Margaret Patterson
Faculty Mentor: Dr. D. Thomas Hanks – English

Animal Instincts: C.S. Lewis’s Depiction of the Noble Creature in The Chronicles of Narnia
Throughout C.S. Lewis’s famous series The Chronicles of Narnia, animals play a very important role in the kingdom of Narnia. From the very first moment one is introduced to this magical land, talking animals take the reader by surprise and demonstrate outstanding morals, selflessness, courage, and pure love. Specifically focusing on The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe, The Voyage of the Dawn Treader, and The Last Battle, I want to show that Lewis successfully places “human” characteristics on the animals of Narnia, making an example of what we should strive to be, while also making the argument that animals are just as capable of nobility as humans are.

Beckham Room:

Kaitlin Burt
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Jan Evans – Modern Foreign Languages

The Absence of Faith
Antonio Machado and Miguel de Unamuno defined a new generation in a time of turmoil. The Spanish Restoration was plagued by a façade of stability. The Spanish-American war stripped Spain of its world power and the aftereffects inflamed a battle of ideals between the conservatives and liberals. The conservatives tried to reconcile traditional Spanish values with limited Europeanization. In contrast the liberals fought for a renovation of reforms. The conflicting philosophies gave rise to the Generation of ’98. An initial leader of the movement, Miguel Unamuno sided with the conservatives calling for a remembrance of Spain's religious mission. His traditional Catholic upbringing supported the church while his colleague, Antonio Machado, was reared in an environment more conducive to a secular approach. Both authors relied on their works as an outlet to reconcile their experiences with faith and philosophy. Miguel de Unamuno’s “San Manuel Bueno, mártir” and Antonio Machado’s works, “Proverbios y cantares: XXIX” and “El retrato” illustrate a struggle with faith. Both Unamuno and the poetic voice of Machado identify with Unamuno’s character Don Manuel, a moral man without belief in God. However, Unamuno is trapped and tormented by his doubts while a lack of faith liberates the poetic voice in Machado’s poems. While we can understand the authors’ approaches to faith through knowing about their personal
past, their texts speak loudly and clearly that these two authors of the Generation of ’98 reacted differently to the defining questions of their time.

Kristin Smart  
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Jan Evans – Modern Foreign Languages

The Defiance of Gender Roles for Women in Spanish and Latin American Literature  
In the 20th century and even still today, there are common stereotypes which enforce the idea that women should spend all of their time in the home or that their only purpose in life is to be a wife or a mother. Thankfully, however, there are many people who want to and do break these stereotypes. Because of these strict roles that society imposes upon women, a popular theme in 20th century Latin American and Spanish literature became the theme of feminism. Two of the most famous authors in the 20th century that defied these stereotypes through their literature were Elena Poniatowska and Federico García Lorca. In Poniatowska's story, "El recado", and in Lorca's play, "Yerma", the authors seem to be making a comment on what they believe to be women's place in society as well as their purpose in life. In both of these stories, the main characters are women who follow the stereotypes that society has set out, but rather than these women appearing admirable and brave, they appear irrational, foolish, and absurd. As this essay is going to make clear, however, the authors purposefully wrote their stories with this irony to show the absurdity of these stereotypes for women and to persuade their readers that they should be rejected or defied.

Ria Halder  
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Linda McManness – Modern Foreign Languages

What Role Does Multilingualism Play in a Child’s Cognitive Development?  
The aim of this paper is to assess the relationship between multilingual children and their cognitive development, especially compared to that of monolinguals. By analyzing specific components of cognitive development, such as, attention, learning, reasoning, and memory, conclusions can be
drawn about whether or not being multilingual presents any advantage to mental development in children.

Jake Abell
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Holly Collins – Modern Foreign Languages

From Trauma to Drama: Finding a Local Space in Rwandan Representations of Genocide through Theater
This project investigates theatrical representations of the Hutu-Tutsi Genocide of 1994. We specifically focus on the play 'Rwanda 94', a multimedia theatrical performance written and performed by native Rwandan artists in collaboration with European francophone artists. This little-studied play represents an authentically Rwandan artistic response to the events of the genocide. In contrast to other European and even pan-African attempts to represent the genocide such as the "Ecrire par devoir de mémoire" project, "Rwanda 94" was written and performed with strong Rwandan representation. We argue that "Rwanda 94" demonstrates a message of ongoing struggle to define, understand and integrate the traumatic events of the genocide in contrast to the forced and premature topoi of reconciliation and healing imposed by foreign artists.

Tuesday, April 9, 2013 – 2:00 pm:

Fentress Room:

Emily Edmondson
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Rosalie Beck - Religion

Enculturation and Christian Missions: A Case-Study of the Apparauion of the Virgin of Guadalupe to St. Juan Diego at Tepeyac
A persistent issue of Christian missionary activity has been the proper enculturation of Christian practices to new people groups. What is permissible; what is not? What constitutes adaptable cultural practices?
Juan Diego's claim to have visioned the Virgin Mary at Tepeyac provided a unique instance of enculturation which began instead with the people group being evangelized and provided a means for the expression of Christian doctrine within that people group's cultural context without the importation of memetic religion icons from culture of the missionaries, for example, a European Marian apparition. This situation is explored historically and sociologically, focusing on the legitimacy of the account and analyzing historical sources of the apparition.

Andrew Phillips
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Rosalie Beck - Religion

Missionary Kids: The Impact of the “Third Culture” When Assimilating into Post-Missionary Life
In the late 1950s Ruth Hill Useem coined the term "third-culture kid" as a descriptor for children struggling to adapt to a culture different from their parents. In this struggle a new "third culture" develops in order for the child to reconcile both cultures together. Children of missionaries from Western cultures often face the same challenge, finding it hard to assimilate back into Western culture upon returning from the mission field. This challenge creates an interesting question, which is whether or not the children of missionaries should be raised in a Western home while on the mission field, or in the home of the culture where the parents are missionaries? This question becomes even more complex when the missionaries are forced to address the issue about their calling, and determine whether the calling to missions is universal to the family or specific to the parents. To understand these problems researchers must study the experiences of missionary kids and conduct research on the affect of the "third culture" on missionary kids in order to develop meaningful solutions.

Sarah Caldwell, Rachel Calhoun, Josh Flores, Chris Gerac and Gabrielle Leonard
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Dennis Horton – Religion

The Effects of Short-Term Mission Trips on Host Partners and Their Communities
Some studies and anecdotal evidence suggest that a number of short-term international mission trips (that is, trips of three months or less) may not be of significant benefit to the host partners and their communities. Because U.S. Christians invest a significant amount of time and money to make these mission trips possible, team leaders and members need to ensure that they are investing their resources wisely. While the mission team participants may reap benefits in the areas of vocational discernment and lower levels of ethnocentrism and materialism, U.S. Christians need to be cautious about investing over a billion dollars a year (primarily in travel expenses) and countless hours into short-term missions if the host partners and communities are not also benefiting significantly from these short-term exchanges. This presentation provides some of the key insights shared by more than 100 long-term missions personnel. The findings include recommendations about what types of trips are most beneficial as well as best practices for building healthy relationships with host partners that will in turn result in long-term benefit to their ministries and the host communities.

**Baines Room:**

**Ariane Flores**  
**Faculty Mentor: Dr. Michael-John DePalma – English**  

**Reasserting Affirmative Action in Admissions at the Collegiate Level**  
Affirmative action in regards to the admissions process at the collegiate level demands a closer look at our contemporary society and calls into question our advancement towards civil rights issues. The post-racial status that President Obama spoke about during his campaign for presidency has refocused the affirmative action arguments. The famous Fisher vs. University of Texas case has made it to the Supreme Court for evaluation when Ms. Fisher was denied admittance based on her race.

In order to provide an in-depth analysis into the Fisher vs. UT case and explain why affirmative action is still necessary as a factor in college admissions, affirmative action is defined and explained as it pertains to the collegiate admissions process.
Before critics of affirmative action are addressed, an explanation of why the absence of race in the admissions process would necessitate the creation of a critical mass is discussed. Aspects of the Supreme Court case are introduced with specific quotes from the various Justices. The notion that a university can dictate critical mass has gone unrecognized, as there has not been a set statistical number to define critical mass.

The dissenters of affirmative action are researchers Richard H. Sander and Stuart Taylor, Jr. who published the highly controversial book, Mismatch. This book illustrates how affirmative action hurts students and the reason why universities refuse to admit this to the public. A close analysis of the critic’s claims is presented followed by support for the continuance of affirmative action.

Alekza Latte & Melissa Peguero  
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Mia Moody-Ramirez – Journalism, Public Relations & New Media

Chris Brown & Rihanna Image Repair Case Study  
Broadening the application of Benoit’s image repair theory, this case study looks at the image repair tactics of Chris Brown and Rihanna following the domestic abuse reports that made national headlines. It offers a new perspective to IRT literature by analyzing how the celebrities presented themselves through their Twitter and Instagram accounts. It also looks at the perpetuation of self-imposed stereotypes and how audiences responded on each media platform. Demonstrating the dual nature of social media, on one hand, Brown and Rihanna used their social media to explain and minimize their actions. Conversely, viewers used the same platform to discuss these tactics, stereotypes and to interact with the two singers. Findings indicate social media provide a viable platform for celebrities to repair a tarnished image while at the same time allowing audiences to express their viewpoints in an interactive environment.
**Madeline Lloyd**  
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Mia Moody- Ramirez – Journalism, Public Relations & New Media

**2013 Presidential Primary Study on Negativity in Twitter and Blogs**

Negative political campaigning and policy-centered voting, to a lesser extent, have become more prevalent in recent years, especially with the advent of the Web and the subsequent increase in media sources such as blogs and online news releases. Because voters use the Internet more than ever, it is important to study the types of content candidates disseminate on their websites and the degree of negativity included in online content. Using competitive candidate position and policy prioritization frameworks, this study investigates negative campaigning and issue preferences as reflected through Twitter and various blogs posted to the Internet sites of candidates and tracking polls leading up to the 2011-2012 presidential primaries. Despite the magnitude of studies on attack campaigning, little research exists on negativity in ________. This topic is particularly important leading up to the 2012 elections. Scholars may use such information to assess previous mistakes and build upon anecdotal evidence.

**Jenny Philen**  
Faculty Mentor: Ms. Carol Perry

**Tell Your Story with an Online Magazine**

Students in Oso PR Agency serve a wide variety of clients to help them communicate effectively. This semester, students are creating online magazines for three clients.

At Baylor, The Center for International Education needed a way to present their programs to parents of current students in 83 countries-now, a click away.

OSO students are working with Medical Humanities to create awareness of their programs for current and future students and the entire Baylor Nation.
The Journalism, PR & New Media department also needs to effectively present their programs to Baylor and the world.

Students conceptualize, interview, write, edit, design and upload their finished magazines, always with close communication and support from their clients.

Students' summary skills enable them to think globally and strategically, incorporating knowledge from their previous courses while "service learning". Please see http://www.baylor.edu/cie/index.php?id=92622 and http://www.baylor.edu/journalism/ for current magazines.

Beckham Room:

Taylor Dodson
Faculty Mentor: Ms. Janet Norden – Modern Foreign Languages

Exploring the Relationship Between Death and Macario
Macario’s relationship with Death may puzzle the first-time viewer, who may not understand the bond between them. 1) The viewer must separate the ideas of “death” and “dead.” While “dead” is the clinical disposition of an organism – defined, cold, and constructed – “death” is a concept that denotes an event, or a pass-through state that is still incomprehensible to the scientific mind. Because Macario perceives death as personified, “Death,” we (the audience) accept this as reality. 2) To properly follow Macario’s journey, we must first consider his cultural background. Indigenous cultures view the life cycle as natural. Hence Macario’s familiarity with death, and his immediate friendship with Death personified. We must consider the role psychological health plays in Macario’s decision making. Hunger is not entirely a physical process; it takes its toll mentally as nutrients are deprived and motivation shifts. Poverty leaves Macario without proper psychosocial development. With the combination of these elements, Macario’s emotions and logic falter under the struggle to go through his daily routine. His will to live is found only with the discovery of self-dignity. When basic needs are finally met, Macario experiences an elevated economic position and even a positive social standing. He arrives at the brink of self-worth, now possessing the will to live – recognizing his
fate, and running from the inescapable. This paper explores the psychology of how and why Macario takes this specific path– from the beginning familiarity with Death to the fear and fight to avoid it.

**Sophie Farah**  
**Faculty Mentor: Ms. Janet Norden – Modern Foreign Languages**

**The Fringe Relationships of Medicine and Religion in the Film Macario**  
Set in colonial Mexico, the film Macario graphically depicts the compound fringe relationships of medicine and religion. Macario, a poor Chiapas woodcutter, struggles to survive. The lines separating the supernatural, medicine, and religion become ambiguous as multiple scenes reflecting the traditional Day of the Dead emotionally impact Macario, who digs deeper into his own psyche and faces internal religious conflicts. In this study we explore various fringe zones involving medicine and religion, noting such zones as a) the fringe zone between medicine and religion, b) the zone of medicine of the indigenous poor versus that of the wealthy Spanish colonist, and c) the zone of Indian syncretic beliefs versus the dominator’s Catholicism. Although religiously influenced by Catholicism, many Indians still believed in multiple gods and fate. Indian healer/curandero beliefs vied with Spanish medical treatments, but neither could counter the devastating diseases brought by the conquerors. Indian medicine valued earth’s resources; therefore curanderos used plants and herbs to treat illnesses, whereas the doctors arriving from Spain followed other practices. Some Spanish respected Indian healing, some condemned it as witchcraft, considering it as ‘not logical;’ they considered themselves the gente de razón. Indigenous belief valued health as part of the universal equilibrium, and illness affected the community in general. This study shows how this work, Macario, testifies to fringes, rather than borders, as the reality defining man, nature, and the supernatural.

**Molly Francis**  
**Faculty Mentor: Ms. Janet Norden – Modern Foreign Languages**

**Pervasive Injustices in Socio-Economic Exchanges in the Mexican Film Macario**
The film Macario testifies to the social and economic strife of the underappreciated Chiapas Indians, who have suffered a long history of social injustices which have translated into the business realm. The Indian population serves as the workforce of Central America, unprotected from the exploitation and indignities of the middle and upper classes. By viewing the film, studying the history and business ethics of Mexico, I have come to understand the greed that infects the ruling classes and poisons their relationship with the Indians. The upper classes, represented by characters like Eulalia, don Ramiro, and the Viceroy, continue to reaffirm these socioeconomic barriers by the assumption of their own superiority over Indians like Macario. Although the dominator forces the Indians to live on the edge of starvation, the indigenous people support the economy. They absorb the cost of the upper classes’ extravagant lifestyle and receive their abuse. Once Death gives Macario the life-giving potion, Macario gains a social and economic advantage which triggers a shift in his attitude. He recognizes attempts to cheat him while remaining true to his own moral code of conduct. Macario cannot accept the underhanded business schemes which characterize don Ramiro because they directly and unabashedly abuse the community. Wherever a wealthier character interacts with an Indian in the work Macario, the Indian suffers: financially and otherwise. We explore this work witnessing the abuses, admiring the successes, and learning about the strength of ethics in the lowest class.

Carlos Silva
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Karol Hardin – Modern Foreign Languages

Healthcare for Spanish-speaking Patients: A Modest Proposal for a Local Solution
Language barriers in a medical setting pose obstacles for patients who want a successful relationship with their physician. Studies have shown that a good doctor-patient relationship can lead to better healthcare and health outcomes. Having a limited proficiency in English, therefore, hinders these patients' ability to receive the best healthcare possible. This nationwide problem affects us locally more than we think. People of Hispanic or Latino origin make up 38.1% of the population in Texas, and 34.4% of Texans speak a language other than English at home. It is imperative for physicians to bridge this gap in language and cultural
differences in order to provide their non-English speaking patients with proper medical care. This paper proposes various programs for integration into Baylor’s curriculum in order to better prepare pre-medical and nursing students to care for Spanish-speaking patients in their future careers. Besides expanding the skillset of these students, the ultimate goal of these programs is to postulate a local solution to a nationwide problem in the hopes of providing Spanish-speaking patients with the best medical care possible.

White Room:

Daniel Lynch
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Larry Lehr – Environmental Science

Turning Baylor University Dining Hall Food Waste into Topsoil
This research is focused on generating topsoil from non-oil food waste from the campus dining halls and manure from local stables. The goal is develop a system that generates high quality; nutrient-rich top soil in manner while effectively uses both waste streams. To determine the most effective method for producing topsoil we will manipulate variables like composition, density, moisture, oxygen and temperature to determine what combinations of these variables produce the most nutrient rich soil. To determine which of these variable combinations produces the most nutrient rich topsoil we are going to compare PH, nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium to commercially available topsoil.

Jacob Reed
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Larry Lehr – Environmental Science

A secondary goal is to present the data in a concise and effective manner that would allow for recommendations to be made to landowners or watershed boards that address the problem of cattle grazing on water
abatement structures, as to which method is most effective at controlling damaged structures.

Richa Manglorkar and Jing Wu  
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Myeongwoo Lee - Biology

The Role of Integrin in Neuronal Migration

Cell migration is based on individual cells interacting with the extracellular matrix (ECM) accumulated on a pathway. In order for a migrating cell to recognize its correct path and final destination, the cell needs assistance from interactions with molecules such as matrix proteins and guidance cues on the external environment of the cells. One family of molecules that guides a migrating cell is integrins, which are transmembrane receptors that mediate cell interaction with ECM. In this study, we undertook a molecular approach to investigate the role of integrins in neuronal migration using transgenic C. elegans mutants with a pat-3 integrin defect. The βpat-3 (sp) and βpat-3 (TTAA) lines showed pathfinding and organizational defects in many neurons such as ALM, CAN, and the lateral posterior ganglion. Next we employed RNAi approaches to remove matrix and pathfinding molecules from ECM in order to determine which extracellular cues were influencing neuronal migration. The UNC-6/netrin gene was eliminated which caused severe misplacement of many neurons, especially in the posterior section of the worm. The UNC-129/TGF-β RNAi revealed neuron migrational defects as well. Lastly, UNC-52/perlecan RNAi not only contained disorganized neurons but also behavioral characteristics indicative of muscle paralysis. Taken together, this data demonstrates that β integrin plays important roles in the organization of neurons in the nematode. This research is ongoing and will continue with the elimination of more genes through RNAi.

Tuesday, April 9, 2013 – 3:30 pm:

Fentress Room:

Kirsten Semmes  
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Hope Johnston - English

The Two Arthurs
A study of T.H. White’s The Once and Future King alongside Malory’s legendary Morte Darthur presents striking differences in the character of Arthur. White transforms Malory’s Warrior with noble heritage into a pacifist and a scholar who makes his own path into legend. Both Authors present King Arthur as the pinnacle of nobility, but they have varying ideas on what makes a king noble. As a writer of the World War II era, White’s ideas of nobility are inevitably a product of the war and the philosophies of his day. Malory’s writing too reflects the events of the War of the Roses and the culture of his time. Although White believed he was retelling Malory’s story of Arthur in the way Malory meant it to be told, I believe White’s Arthur represents an entirely different philosophy on nobility.

Amy Freeman  
**Faculty Mentor: Dr. David Jeffrey - Honors**

**The Life of the Servus Dei**  
In my presentation, I will examine the role of ordinary work in medieval spirituality and its relationship to prayer, focusing on St. Benedict’s monastic rule and the Middle English writings of Walter Hilton and Our Daily Work. First, in the vein of the Hebrew term avodah, these authors view prayer, manual labor, and deeds of mercy all as work which can be offered to God in service. Second, manual labor and deeds of mercy serve as remedies for the vice of acedia as well as enkindle the virtue of charity. Third, these authors understand prayer to overflow into the works of ordinary life.

Laura McMillion  
**Faculty Mentor: Dr. David Jeffrey – Honors**

**The Philological and Theological Principles of Jerome as a Translator**  
With his Latin Vulgate translation of the Bible, Jerome significantly impacted theological and philological approaches to the translation of Scripture. This presentation traces the objections to and arguments for his work and legacy both at the time of translation and a millennium later during the Reformation. His original and innovative work met with resistance originally from such preeminent scholars and theologians as Augustine. Translation in light of Jerome continued to be a matter of
contention throughout the Middle Ages as the place of the Vulgate within the Church solidified. Jerome translated in such a way as to enable all possible valid interpretations of Scripture, and his commentaries demonstrate the careful philological consideration with which he approached every phrase of Scripture. As the tradition of interpretation developed in the centuries following this acclaimed translator, these philological principles came to require reconsideration. Theologically, Jerome addressed the question of inspiration in the work of translation. He argued against the high position of the Septuagint in his time in opposition to those who believed that its translators were inspired in a manner similar to the original authors of Scripture. Interestingly, the same tradition of inspiration established itself around Jerome and his work during the Middle Ages. In light of Jerome’s legacy, this presentation considers in what degree an inspired text remains inspired after the process of translation, and how translators have traditionally approached their work with a text that they believe to be inspired.

Lyndsay McReynolds
Faculty Mentor: Dr. David Jeffrey – Honors

The Tree of Life in Modern Literature and Art
The Christian tradition is permeated with rich symbols and icons that we may easily look over today. The symbol of the Tree of Life as a representation of Christ still appears in modern literature and art, but in more obscure ways. As a symbol that carries meaning for many different religions and cultures, the Tree of Life is a shining example of a mythology that bears the highest intrinsic truth and points directly to God. Works by Tolkien and Terrence Malick are included in this analyzation of a timeless tree that bears fruits of enlightenment for all mankind.

Baines Room:

Haley Breaux, Amber Jonesm, Emily Maddock and Laura Trent
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Shelby Garner and Dr. Maryann Faucher

The Use of Photovoice to Identify Challenges and Supports Experienced by Family Caregivers of the Older Adult
The purpose of this participatory action qualitative research study was to determine the challenges and supports experienced by family caregivers of the older adult using photovoice research methodology. Advocates of older adult care encourage the use of family members as caregivers to increase quality of life and decrease healthcare costs (Eliopolous, 2010). It is important to understand the issues faced by family caregivers for the development of policies to advocate for their support.

Participants in a photovoice study use photographs and reflective narratives to illustrate their experiences and record their thoughts about them (Wang and Burris, 1997). The acronym VOICE, in photovoice, stands for “Voicing Our Individual and Collective Experience” (University of Massachusetts, 2013, para. 3).

In this study, five caregivers of the older adult were recruited as participants. Each participant was given a disposable camera and asked to take pictures of things that represented the challenges and supports they experienced while caregiving. Participants chose the photographs that best portrayed their experiences during the selection phase. Next, they contextualized their experiences by writing reflections of their photos. Participants then met in an audio recorded, researcher facilitated, group session to discuss the photos and reflections. The last step of the photovoice process involved “codifying” in which participants analyzed the photographs and narratives to identify themes and issues that emerged. Ten themes related to challenges and supports were identified. The study will culminate in an art exhibit on April 23, 2013, which will disseminate the results to community policymakers and other stakeholders.

**Austin Tiffany**
**Faculty Mentor: Dr. John White – Religion/Truett Seminary**

**Christian Outreach and the 2012 Olympics in London**
The International Olympic Committee (IOC) states that “Sport unites the principles that the Olympic Movement holds dear: education, sustainability,
non-discrimination, universality, humanism and solidarity. These are the principles that drive far-reaching social change.” Since this is their principled vision, then, what is the import of this ethos, more specifically, on a local level where the Olympics are hosted? Furthermore, what is the significance of this vision as it relates to the Christian Church? This is an important research question with numerous practical implications for those doing sports ministry in and through local congregations.

To pursue this line of inquiry, Austin Tiffany assisted Dr. John White’s research by partnering with the Contextual Theology Centre (London, England) during the summer of 2012. Together, they participated in “community organizing” in The Highway Tower Hamlets borough, a divided segment of white citizens and Bengali Muslims. This community received local jobs from the Olympics, and it was our goal to study the community impact of the Olympics and to help build bridges for dialogue in the community on issues of common concern as they relate to the Olympics (e.g., healthcare, transportation, security, etc.). This focus entailed that Austin interview and meet daily with other Christians and non-Christians about such matters of common concern. We engaged numerous citizens in conversations and house meetings to see how churches can provide practical services to people in need. The impact of this research identifies the social impact that the Olympics has on communities and appropriate responses from the Christian church.

Emily Johnson
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Andrew Meyer

The Great Brazos Relay: Unleashing an Athlete’s Spiritual and Emotional Energies
Participants of competitive endurance athletic events can experience a full spectrum of emotions. Some have argued that the athlete can encounter a greater emotional experience, an emotional release, through physical activity also known as catharsis (Scheff, 1979; Csikszentmihalyi, 1990; Nesti, 2007; Watson, 2007). The concept of catharsis is a key element in the examination of this specific emotional experience because “within a sporting context a more spiritual notion of catharsis can be detected in the lives of athletes” (Nesti, 166). This proposed presentation will discuss data collected to ascertain whether participants describe cathartic experiences
during the 2012 Great Brazos Relay. This relay is a 120 mile endurance running race in which athletes run for 18 hours through central Texas. The seven-member teams take turns running through the night, with each individual running about twenty miles. Thirty-one participants completed the online survey, and eight participants sat for open-ended interviews, in which they were asked about their emotional experience during the race. The researchers were interested in how this race might provide empirical evidence of cathartic experiences during endurance events, what we have termed active catharsis. The data was analyzed using themes found in the literature regarding spiritual cathartic experiences. Results indicate that participating in an endurance event provides feelings of contentment, accomplishment, and overall life mentality change, indicating an active catharsis. This presentation will focus on the spiritual and emotional experiences participants had while completing the Great Brazos Relay.

Beckham Room:

Jordan Rux
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Robert Kruschwitz – Philosophy

**Nietzsche and Anarchism: Preventing the Nihilistic Results of a Contradictory State**

Nietzsche evinces a clear contempt for the modern state and its legal institutions. For example, he undermines justifications for punishment by claiming its application is arbitrary. However, despite his disdain for the state, he unambiguously denounces the anarchists of his day as agents of ressentiment. When reconciled, these two apparently contradictory opinions about political anarchism point to Nietzsche’s true dispute with modernity: it produces degenerative ways of thinking that result in nihilism. In this paper, I begin by introducing some of the elements in Nietzsche’s writing that appear to be anarchistic. Following this introduction to the seemingly anarchistic pieces of Nietzsche’s writing, I will explore Nietzsche’s opinion of classical anarchism, showing that he believes it to be either foolish or an expression of ressentiment, depending on the motives that undergird the anarchist’s desire. Additionally, I will reconcile the seeming tension Nietzsche has between his disdain for the state and classical anarchists. In the subsequent section, I will show that Nietzsche believes that the death of the state will necessarily occur as a result of the
contradictory values the modern state espouses. Finally, I will argue that Nietzsche’s truly anarchistic elements stem from his revaluation of the self, which serves to undermine the basis of the modern state: the rational, free-will possessing ego. Finally, I will show that Nietzsche saw a revaluation of the self as necessary following the dissolution of the state in order to avoid the nihilism that would result from a collapse of the traditional goals for mankind.

Will Burnson
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Ivy Hamerly – Political Science

Palestinian Statehood
Palestinian statehood is a hotly contested issue, and a very important facet of this possibility is the likely outcome of this proposed statehood, if it were granted. In this paper, I examine the factors that could indicate that statehood granted to Palestinians could create problems. Because of the geographical, economical, demographic, and political characteristics of the would-be state of Palestine, I argue that civil war is a very likely outcome of independence. Political power struggles, incontiguous territory, and displaced persons makes the chance of civil war much greater, and I use the findings of other studies to argue the thesis that civil war is the most likely outcome of a Palestinian state.

Brian Kim
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Ivy Hamerly – Political Science

Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty: Iran and North Korea
In this paper, I discuss countries that have ratified and signed the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, as well as countries that have withdrawn from the treaty. I lay out the reasons South Korea, South Africa, and Brazil have given up their nuclear weapons and evaluate the adaptations that must be made to these past methods in order for their future success in relation to Iran and North Korea.

I begin by providing an historical background of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the Non-Proliferation Treaty, and I provide a description of the agreement. Then, I discuss three states that previously
researched nuclear weapons and discuss reasons these states gave up their research in developing a nuclear bomb.

Furthermore, I cite the different international sanctions placed on Iran and North Korea and decipher their reasoning for maintaining their nuclear research. I compare the three states (South Korea, South Africa, and Brazil) with Iran and North Korea. I describe their resistance to the restrictions issued by the U.N. and their continued efforts toward the development of a nuclear bomb.

Lastly, I provide potential solutions to this difficult task, and I provide reasons for the unique approach I would take to accomplish the end goal: a nuclear-free Iran and North Korea.

Lyzette Garza
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Joseph Brown & Dr. Mia Moody-Ramirez – Political Science

New Media, Old Messages: Negativity in the Presidential Primaries
Because voters use the Internet more than ever, it is important to study the types of content candidates disseminate on their websites and the degree of negativity included in online content. Using competitive candidate position and policy prioritization frameworks, this study investigates negative campaigning and issue preferences as reflected in news releases posted to the Internet sites of candidates and tracking polls leading up to the 2011-2012 presidential primaries. Findings indicate that underdog candidates were more likely than frontrunners to engage in issue-oriented negative campaigning. Conversely, frontrunners were less likely to employ such tactics. However, position in race did not make a significant difference in whether candidates attacked opponents’ personal character. The study also revealed that the policy priorities of candidates closely paralleled that of their respective party voters, but less so for republicans than democrats. Despite the magnitude of studies on attack campaigning, little research exists on negativity in on-line news releases. This topic is particularly important leading up to the 2012 elections. Scholars may use such information to assess previous mistakes and build upon anecdotal evidence.
Aundrea Payne  
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Joseph Brown & Dr. Mia Moody-Ramirez – Political Science

New Media, Old Messages: Negativity in the Presidential Primaries
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White Room:

Kate Lee  
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Paul Larson – Modern Foreign Languages

Pardo Bazán and Restructuring Feminism in Spain's 19th Century
For this paper I will explore the concept of feminism and femininity in two short stories by Pardo Bazán, “Cuento primitivo” and “El indulto”. I would like to analyze these stories through the literary optic of her literary naturalism, social criticism, and through other common themes Pardo Bazán uses to expose the unequal distribution of power between men and women by discussing spousal abuse, socially accepted gender roles, and machismo. I will explore at least three universal truth statements
The Question of Female Agency in Lope de Vega’s “Castigo sin venganza”

Félix Arturo Lope de Vega y Carpio (1562-1635) was an influential Spanish playwright and poet, well known for his play Fuenteovejuna. Lope de Vega also wrote the play El castigo sin venganza, or Justice Without Revenge, in 1631, during a time in which women lacked basic human rights and respect. Based on a historical event that occurred in 1425 in Italy, Lope de Vega uses this work to warn his audience of the dangers of depriving women of their public voice in society. He makes his argument for female agency through the disastrous consequences that follow the characterization of Casandra as an impotent, defenseless possession; her role as slave and trophy wife to her husband, the Duke of Ferrara; and the demonstration of the unjust system and the disparate standards that the women and the men of this time had to meet. With no other choice but to resist this dehumanization and rebel against the societal restrictions imposed upon her, Casandra accepts the love and respect from Federico, the illegitimate son of the Duke, leading to their tragic deaths. The injustice of the tragedy impresses upon the reader how important female agency is in society, especially internationally as women in many cultures still lack a public voice but continue to fight for their rights.

Racial Discrimination in José Martí’s "La muñeca negra"

Jose Marti wrote "La muñeca negra" in 1889 in the children's magazine, "La edad de oro" in response to the racial and political discrimination he experienced while visiting New York City. This short story revolves the birthday a young girl whose prize possession is a small black doll. He family tries to dissuade her from playing with the doll by offering her a new "white" doll with blond hair and blue eyes. The story is politically committed that denounces social inequality which is promoted by the white
capitalist society of the United States which is slowing but surely invading Cuba, displacing local customs and tradition. This paper will examine the dialogic position of the black doll as a metaphor for the racial and political discrimination that Martí denounces as the political subjugation of the poor and the minorities as it is portrayed by the symbolic white doll.

Nicholette Wilkerson  
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Paul Larson – Modern Foreign Languages

Petrarch and Quevedo: Reinventing Lovesickness
Envisioned by Petrarch in the fourteenth century, the convention of courtly love has been a prominent theme in literature of all dialects and cultures for over seven hundred years. Petrarch’s perception of this courtly love was one in which a man, usually of nobility or high class standing, fell in a desperate “disease” of love with a woman who, without fail, unceremoniously “killed” the man by refusing to reciprocate his love for her. While Petrarch’s vision of courtly love has historical roots, the Spanish poet Francisco Quevedo offered a new rendition on the courtly love convention in his poem entitled “Peligros de hablar y de callar y lenguaje en el silencio.” Rather than focusing on the “sickness” of love which the man endures in this convention, Quevedo instead chose to magnify the experience the man as a “cult of suffering.” The poet rejects any description of this courtly love affair that makes claims towards its bittersweet nature and replaces it with his belief that the man of the love affair experiences a heartache so debilitating that he rarely recovers. Though Petrarch paved the way for the courtly love tradition, Quevedo effectively assumes construction of the genre in “Peligros de hablar y de callar y lenguaje en el silencio.”

Vanessa Wyns  
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Paul Larson – Modern Foreign Languages

Dysfunctionality and Trauma in Rosa Montero’s Novel Instrucciones para salvar el mundo
The novel Instrucciones para salvar el mundo written by contemporary Spanish author Rosa Montero narrates the lives of four characters as they navigate through personal grievances and trials, cope with the growing isolation caused by technology and modernity, and struggle to overcome
dark pasts which still hang heavy over their present lives. Though it is rarely mentioned in the novel itself, the aftermath of the Franco dictatorship on the Spanish populace is a pervasive theme: its glaring absence emphasizes it all the more. It is not the violence nor the political tug-of-war which Montero portrays, but the very individualized paths of the search for recovery. One character, the doctor Daniel, seems especially conflicted. The title of the novel is hopeful, as though within its pages Montero would offer some method by which to overcome dark pasts, dysfunctionality, and trauma, however Daniel’s story ends without a feeling of resolution. The novel is titled ambiguously because Montero explores many levels of dysfunctionality. Are her instructions directed to Daniel’s parents, whose troubled and loveless relationship Daniel references? Are they directed to Spain, whose Francoist government taught people that the state thinks and acts for them? Or are they to Daniel, to take the initiative to change his unhappy life? The answer is all of these, though Montero seems to empathize with Daniel’s situation. Montero’s message is one of prevention rather than recovery: that is to say, she portrays some problems as having lasting, irresolvable effects on people that can affect their abilities to function in the present and forever plague their lives.