

THE ABSTRACTS

SESSION I 1:30-2:45

Group A:

HB 227

Papers in Economics

Economic Development in China, the Dominican Republic, Nigeria and Morocco

Spencer Davis

Kathleen Greer Rossmann

An Overview of Dominican Development and Policy Recommendations for Increased Economic Growth

The Dominican Republic is a small island nation that has traditionally focused on the sugar industry. The focus of the Dominican Republic's economy has shifted to tourism and foreign investment within free trade zones. Despite the availability of valuable natural resources, the Dominican people have only achieved low levels of economic development. Some reasons for their lack of growth are a high level of income inequality, a poorly performing education system, and unsustainable tourism practices.

Chase Gore

Kathleen Greer Rossmann

Chinese Development: A Look at the Current Development Status and Policy Recommendations

China is an amazing growth story. The economic growth has been precipitated by the government's investment in human capital and the slow, methodical adoption of a market driven economy. However, China's growth has not occurred without serious development issues. The main development issues are population growth, the environment, income inequality, and poverty.

Art Richey

Kathleen Greer Rossmann

An Analysis of Economic Development in Nigeria and the Impact of an Ineffective Government

This paper focuses on Nigeria and its current policies that restrict economic and social progress. Government corruption, weak infrastructure, and poor education and health care are the main topics analyzed in this study. In addition to identifying problems, the paper proposes a set of reform policies.

Group B:

COLLEGE THEATRE – THEATRE ONE

Katie Scott

Ruth Henry

The Choreographic Process

During *The Choreographic Process I*, hopefully along with Hamilton Cleverdon, will discuss the creation of a piece I began in Dr. Mason's Interim, *The Fear to Create*. The piece is approximately ten minutes in length, is choreographed to original composition by Hamilton Cleverdon, and was inspired by a poem I wrote entitled *Saturday Morning*. The poem will be read at the beginning of the piece, and the piece (along with the poem) will be performed in the May 7th dance performance I am coordinating, *Free at Last*. During the honor's day presentation, I will discuss my personal creative process for choreographing the piece-- the initial inspiration to the outline of movement, to setting and cleaning the piece. If space and number of participants allows, I will also lead a choreographic exercise. If Hamilton is willing to join me in speaking about the piece, I would like him to discuss his creative process for composition and his reactions to seeing his piece in motion.

Leslie Brown

Alan Litsey

Lasciare Andare: Or How I Learned to Let Go in Italy

Lasciare Andare: Or How I Learned to Let Go in Italy chronicles my journey to the Accademia dell'Arte in Arezzo, Italy during the January 2008 Interim term. Through classes including Movement and the Alexander Technique, I effectively gleaned how to rid myself of the trappings of a self-conscious performer. This experience will be presented through a paper and demonstration of the Alexander Technique.

Alex Brouwer

Alan Litsey

A Cut from the One Act Play *Tuesdays and Sundays*

During this semester I directed the one act, *Tuesdays & Sundays*. I was able to have a great understanding of the responsibilities of each member of the production team, including stage manager, director, designer, actor, technical director, house manager, and technical support positions. I was able to use techniques to enhance understanding, empathy, and rapport with each member of the production team. The two actors will be doing a portion of the one act *Tuesdays & Sundays*

Sarah Schiesz

Alan Litsey

Theatre without Borders

I had the opportunity to go to Italy this Interim and study at the Accademia Dell'Arte. I worked on things in both theatre and music. In my presentation I will explain a little of what I have learned and show some of what I have learned by performing the song Meadowlark from "The Bakers Wife" by Stephen Schwartz. The concepts I will be trying to convey are things that I have worked on both in Italy and here at Birmingham-Southern.

Group C:

HB 225

Brian Perrin

Leo Pezzementi

Thermal Denaturation of Wild Type and Mutant Recombinant acetylcholinesterase from amphioxus: Effects of the Temperature of *in vitro* Expression and of Reversible Inhibitors

Previous studies have indicated that acetylcholinesterases with free cysteine residues that do not participate in disulfide bonds may be inactivated by sulfhydryl reagents such as 5,5'-dithiobis (2-nitrobenzoic acid) (DTNB) and *N-ethylmaleimide* (NEM). These free cysteines may also be involved in thermal denaturation of the enzyme by forming alternative disulfide bonds. Previous studies have indicated that site directed mutagenesis of free cysteines may improve the thermostability of the enzyme, and that the temperature at which the enzyme is expressed may be involved in thermostability. Thermal denaturation and melting point determinations of wild type and mutant enzymes resulted in biphasic denaturation curves that may reflect heterogeneity among samples, supporting the notion that free cysteines and incubation temperature affect thermostability. Reversible inhibitors protect the enzymes from thermal denaturation.

Brendan Burn

Bob Kress

Leo Pezzementi

The Effects of Site-directed Mutagenesis of *Ciona intestinalis* AChE T-subunit Ser20 Residue on Tetramerization and Association with PRiMA *In Vitro*

To determine the role of Ser20 in the T-peptide C-terminus of acetylcholinesterase (AChE) from *Ciona intestinalis* in the tetramerization of the enzyme and its association with the proline-rich membrane anchor (PRiMA) from the mouse, we used site directed mutagenesis to create the mutants S20A, S20D, S20P, and S20Y. We then used velocity sedimentation on sucrose gradients containing the non-ionic detergent Brij 97 to determine the molecular forms produced by COS-7 cells *in vitro* in the absence and presence of PRiMA. Wild type enzyme assembles into G₁ (monomer) and G₄ (tetramer) in the absence of PRiMA. In the presence of PRiMA, most of the enzyme is found in the G₄-PRiMA complex. The mutants alter the molecular forms produced and their relative proportions. In the absence of PRiMA, S20A produces mainly G₁ and G₄, with little G₂ (dimer) present. However, with co-expression of PRiMA, S20A assembles primarily into G₄, with some G₁ and G₄-PRiMA. The S20D mutant expressed without PRiMA forms mostly G₁ and G₂, with very little G₄. With PRiMA, S20D mostly forms G₁, and some G₄-PRiMA, but very little G₄. Without PRiMA, S20P assembles into G₂. When co-expressed with PRiMA, G₂ still predominates; however, some G₄-PRiMA is also present. S20Y in the absence of PRiMA forms mainly G₁, with G₂ and G₄ also visible, but co-expression with PRiMA produces G₄ and G₄-PRiMA primarily, with G₁ also forming. We discuss the implications of these findings for the association of the T-peptide C-termini in AChE tetramers and G₄-PRiMA complexes.

Greg Richards

Duane Pontius

Modeling of the Magnetic Field Perturbations of Saturn Due to the Moon Enceladus

The Cassini Plasma Spectrometer has shown that the Saturnian moon Enceladus has relatively dramatic perturbations of the magnetic field of Saturn in its neighborhood. Enceladus has a cloud of neutral water molecules surrounding it, and the ionization of these particles results in their pickup by Saturn's magnetosphere via the frozen-in law. Birkeland currents that communicate back to Saturn's ionosphere are responsible for this mass loading, and here we assume they are also mainly responsible for the magnetic

field perturbations about Enceladus found by the Cassini Plasma Spectrometer. We also assume a mass loading on the order of a few hundred kilograms per second. We model the Birkeland currents and hence the magnetic field perturbations by a Biot-Savart integral using a large, high-resolution grid centered about Enceladus and letting the current density decline as the distance from Enceladus increases. Using the Cassini trajectory in our purely mathematical model, we were able to show that the model agrees with the actual Cassini Plasma Spectrometer data.

Group D:

Paul E. Blom

HB 228

Jane Archer

The Cursed Temptation of Writing: Postmodern Aspects of Vargas Llosa's *The Storyteller*

Postmodern theory is suspicious of anything that is generally considered natural, universal, or inherent. It recognizes in one group's domination a systematic marginalization and silencing of the minority, the Other. Postmodern theory then tends toward an emphasis to give voice to the unheard voices. For this reason, postmodern theory is a significant lens through which to interpret the study of contemporary international fiction and any such work which falls into this category. One such work that reveals aspects of postmodern influence is Mario Vargas Llosa's 1989 novel, *The Storyteller*. Intertwining the voices of a modern Peruvian narrator and a storyteller from an ancient indigenous Peruvian tribe, the work contains aspects of metafiction as well as the lack of any stable central authority or any stable identity, making this novel a significant postmodern contribution to the literary canon.

David Miller

Jane Archer

War: What Is It Good for?

War is a universal concept that easily translates in any language as a source of mass destruction, death, and desperation for at least one of the parties involved. In the study of a nation's history, that region's wars are obviously one of the most integral aspects to the development of the country's identity. When engaging in a dialogue about this violence through the lens of contemporary international fiction, the focus shifts somewhat from the actual tragic events and acts of violence to the national response to and cultural attitude toward these experiences. A close textual analysis of prominent literature from the international locations of Africa, Latin America, and Asia, reveals a deeper understanding of the cultural opinion of war outside the United States. Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart* is used to shed light upon the perceptions of widespread violence in the native Ibo culture of Africa, while in Latin America, the textual examinations and comparisons of Gabriel Garcia Marquez's *One Hundred Years of Solitude* and Isabel Allende's *The House of the Spirits* prove especially informative on the subject of Latin American dissatisfaction with corrupt politics and military policies. Additionally, Masuji Ibuse's *Black Rain* articulates the Japanese population's frustration and displeasure with the actions of their overly aggressive military and government. Finally, the overarching themes visible in each of these novels contribute to a collective portrayal of war as a futile attempt at exerting control over other outside cultures.

Adrienne Baldwin

Jane Archer

Story Telling as a Means of Cultural and Personal Preservation

My presentation examines the importance of storytelling and its effect on the community. I explore *The Storyteller* by Mario Vargas Llosa and *The Hour of the Star* by Clarice Lespector. Both novels stress the importance of storytelling to cultural and personal survival. Without the stories of the Machiguengas, their culture would not survive. This survival is especially important considering the growing imperialism present in Peru and the possibility of the eradication of their community. Without these stories, and especially considering they did not have written word, their beliefs and practices would not go beyond the people in their community. Even if their community is not maintained, they will have a continued impact on Peru through their stories. In *The Hour of the Star* the narrator perceives writing and telling her stories as the only purpose to her life. Without fulfilling her purpose and destiny, her life would be nothing. The same idea is present in *The Storyteller*. The storyteller is a designated role in the community, and his only purpose is to preserve and continue to tell the stories of the Machiguengas. Saul, one of the main characters, after his father dies becomes a storyteller and feels that his life has been completed because he has taken on the role as storyteller. Stories preserve the sense of the community when the Machiguengas are so spread out among the land and communication is impossible. Storytelling preserves life for the narrator in *The Hour of the Star*. By giving life to characters, she is giving life to herself. Both novels express the vital role of storytelling as a means of cultural and personal preservation.

Glorious Bates

Jane Archer

Exploring William Faulkner

I will be exploring themes in three of Faulkner's works using three short papers. The works covered are *Light in August*, *The Sound and the Fury*, and the short story "Was" from *Go Down, Moses*.

Group E:

HB 101

PRESENTATIONS BY HONORS PROGRAM SCHOLARS

Whitney Brackin

Bill Nicholas

Llegando en el Corazon de Dixie: The Immigration Experience of Latinos in the Birmingham Metropolitan Area

Today there are more Latinos in the Birmingham Metropolitan Area (BMA) than ever before. For years, Latinos have moved across the boarder to live in states such as Texas, New Mexico, and California; however, immigration to southeastern states is a fairly new occurrence. Immigration to the BMA is of particular interest because the struggles local residents experienced in the past with race relations may predispose them to be hostile to Latino immigration. Through interviews with current members of the BMA's Latino immigrant community, I explored their relationship with other BMA residents. Presumably, the interactions of the Latino immigrant community with other members of the community would reveal any stereotypes or prejudice. Interviews revealed no signs of hostility from other members of the BMA; however, other evidence suggests that there is still some tension between the Latino immigrant population and residents of the BMA.

Lin Chen

Stephen Craft

Pamela Venz

The Chinese Face of Coca-Cola

Coca-Cola has made significant progress on integrating and selling its American products in China. The brand's increasing presence in China has been achieved through extensive networking and research on the company's behalf to augment their brand recognition and perceived quality. The company is currently a sponsor for a variety of local Chinese brands, organizations, and large events including the 2008 Summer Olympic Games. Since the Chinese drink on average about 10 cups of soft drink per year, compared to the 400 cups Americans drink in a year, Coca-Cola entices the Chinese consumers to buy and try their products by developing several exotic flavored drinks for the Chinese palate. In addition to sponsorships and newly developed drink products, the company works specifically on advertising strategies so that they produce ads that not only target a large mass of people but also make a specific connection with the Chinese people. Armed with an understanding of the cultural differences between America and China, Coca-Cola uses various fundamental design techniques, a combination of traditional Chinese elements, and Asian faces to promote its international logo. The brand's continued success is dependent on its ability to appeal to the Chinese consumer while avoiding or overcoming cultural differences.

Jordan Duchock

Heather Meggers-Wright

Alicia Weaver

The Morality of Female Sexuality in Modern Popular Culture: A Textual Analysis of *Sex and the City*

Television has helped shape our society's ideas about various topics. In the popular series *Sex and the City*, several non-traditional ideas about female sexuality are portrayed as more positive than negative ideas. Episodes in season one portray casual sex, monogamy (though not necessarily marriage), and sexual preference generally in a positive light. This project reviews literature on behavior and attitudes toward casual sex, monogamy, and sexual orientation in the United States and compares these attitudes toward their portrayal in the first season of *Sex and the City*.

Group F:

HB 202

Papers on Political Science and Sociology

Nico Arciniegas,

Alicia Weaver

Caroline Culver, Danielle Harbor

Natalie Davis

The Effect of News Media Perceptions on Attitudes toward the Portrayal of Women and Minority Candidates

In the United States, minority and women candidates have experienced difficulty in the political sphere. These candidates have experienced racism, sexism, and other prejudices in their efforts to participate in the election process. Why in a political system that prides itself on fairness do candidates of minority race and gender face such difficulty? We conducted a state wide survey of 503 registered voters in Alabama. Our preliminary results suggest that respondents who think the local media has excellent coverage are less likely to agree that women and minority candidates are treated unfairly by the media. Respondents who think the local media has fair or poor coverage are more likely to agree that women and minority candidates are treated unfairly by the media.

Shandria Bell, Roy Martin,
Samar Misra, Courtland Wood

Alicia Weaver
Natalie Davis

It's Not Your Place: Attitudes toward Women in Leadership

This study examines the relationship between socialization and attitudes toward women in leadership. Past research has shown that socialization, particularly within the family, impacts people's views later in life. We propose that negative perceptions toward women in leadership are directly correlated with a more traditional upbringing in which children are exposed to men in positions of authority outside of the home and women remain in the domestic sphere. We expect that those who had more childhood interaction with women in nontraditional roles will hold more liberal views on women in leadership. We analyze the views on women in leadership from our state wide survey completed by 503 respondents. Preliminary results indicate that those respondents whose mothers worked outside the home are more inclined to support women working full-time once a couple has a child

Angela Matthews, Rebecca Cooper,
Nick Pitts, Dana Bryant

Alicia Weaver
Natalie Davis

A Threat or Benefit? Alabamians' Perceptions of Hispanic Immigrants

With the recent increase in the Hispanic population in the United States, there has been heightened interest in examining the effects of contact with Hispanics on American attitudes toward them. Recent studies have suggested that behavioral contact and neighborhood context are the driving influences of many Americans' perceptions of Hispanic immigrants. We have analyzed these two forms of contact and their relationship with Alabamians' views on how Hispanics affect crime rates and job security. In addition, we have also evaluated how behavioral contact and neighborhood context influence Alabamians' attitudes toward meeting the needs of Hispanics through government assistance programs. Our first hypothesis is that people with greater personal contact with Hispanics will feel less threatened by them, in terms of crime and job security. Our second hypothesis is that people with greater personal contact will be more likely to support policies and organizations that attempt to assist Hispanic immigrants in various ways. Preliminary results indicate that the strongest relationship is between personal contact and whether Hispanic children should be taught in Spanish until they learn English. The poorest relationship is between neighborhood context and the perception that Hispanics contribute to higher crime rates

Danielle Hessong, Gary Crosby,
Sara Sciara, Dare Smith

Alicia Weaver
Natalie Davis

A Wary and Lackluster Society? Explaining the Decline in Civic Engagement

The importance of trust in government has long been emphasized as an essential element in a successful democracy. Political trust encourages citizens to cooperate and take more active roles in the community. Increasingly, there are fundamental difficulties in generating trust and cooperation among citizens in order to promote a civil society. We propose that higher levels of trust in government increase involvement in civic activities. We analyze the responses from a sample of registered Alabama voters interviewed by telephone, an online survey and a focus group. Based on preliminary findings, trust has an impact on the level of civic engagement. Those who have a higher level of trust in government institutions and elected officials are more likely to participate in civic activities. Moreover, those who are civically engaged are more likely to keep participating when they feel like it will lead to concrete, tangible results.

Group G:
Benjamin Lewellyn
Peter Starr

HB 329

V. Markham Lester

Panthers on the Gridiron: An Experience in Primary Source Research

In the fall of 2007, the College published *Panthers on the Gridiron: Football at Birmingham-Southern*. The history of BSC football is rich but unfamiliar after sixty-eight years' absence on the Hilltop. The authors, students Benjamin Lewellyn and Peter Starr, will share stories from the work and discuss the pains and pleasures of working almost solely from primary documents in their research

Aaron Edwards

Victoria Ott

The Maddest Idea in the World: America's Revolutionary Navy

When historians discuss the American Revolution, they tend to place a great deal of emphasis on the land campaigns. While these events were doubtlessly important, we tend to forget the importance of sea power in eighteenth-century America. In an attempt to disrupt the actions of the British Navy, the Continental Congress decided in 1775 to create the Continental Navy. Historians have often treated this enterprise as an outright failure worthy of little historical attention. This project, however, argues that in light of its original aims, the Continental Navy made a considerable material and symbolic contribution to the war effort.

Erin Montgomery

Randall Law

The Caprices of Progress: Examining Karl Marx as a Root of the Social Darwinist Movement

At first glance, most people regard Karl Marx as defined by his influence on the rise of Communism in the twentieth century. Upon further inspection, however, it becomes clear that Marx's shadow cast much farther than the communist world. Marx was a prolific author whose work informed many areas of scholarship, including the Social Darwinist movement, specifically the works of Count Arthur de Gobineau and Houston Stewart Chamberlain. Most generally, this movement was shaped by Marx in its methodology; Gobineau and Chamberlain viewed themselves as social scientists, a discipline made available by Marx. Additionally, both were influenced by Marx's materialism, by his conception of historical progress, and by his criticism of many others of his day. Finally, the Social Darwinist movement was impacted by the rise of socialist and communist theory, which was in part a product of Marx. In studying an intellectual movement, often the focus is on the effects, as is certainly the case with Social Darwinism; however, it can be equally as informative to understand the contributions to that theory and offers the reminder of the continuity of history despite its many twists.

Molly Savage

Victoria Ott

Splintering the Solid South: Alabama Women and their Fight for the Equal Rights Amendment

This paper examines the fight for and failure of the proposed Equal Rights Amendment in Alabama in an attempt to analyze the strength and subsistence of the state's pro-ERA movement in order to determine the reasons for its failure to procure the ratification of the ERA. The primary documents consulted largely include personal and governmental correspondences, newspaper and magazine articles, pro-ERA organizational papers, pro-ERA publications, an interview, and reports published by the Alabama Women's Commission. Additionally, a number of secondary sources were also referenced in order to contextualize the primary documents, evaluate the complexity of the social and political climate of Alabama in the 1970s, and summarize the history of the ERA from its origination in 1923. Of these secondary sources, I lean heavily on Jane Sherron De Hart's and Donald G. Mathews' *Sex, Gender, and the Politics of the ERA: A State and a Nation*, which as the first full-length text in which the ERA is studied from within the context of the southeastern United States and in particular, North Carolina, serves as a primary model from which to begin studying the pro- and anti-ERA movements in Alabama.

By and large historians have ignored the existence of a strong pro-ERA movement in many of the Southern states often regarding them as insignificant to the larger, national pro-ERA movement primarily because of their failure to procure support from their state legislatures. However, there is much to be gained from the study of these Southern pro-ERA movements. Within Alabama pro-ERA organizations such as the League of Women Voters, the Alabama Federation of Business and Professional Women, and the National Organization for Women promoted the amendment by organizing rallies, appearing on local radio talk shows, and holding informational meetings. They made speeches, sat on discussion panels, sold bracelets,

invited pro-ERA speakers to open local functions, and wrote hundreds of personal letters to state legislators and the governor. However, despite these efforts the ERA received only six votes for ratification in 1973 and only eight votes in 1978 in the Alabama Senate. The primary reasons for the failure of the pro-ERAers to obtain Senatorial support include the movement's inability to productively refute the propaganda of the anti-ERA campaign, the multi-issue composition of the primary pro-ERA organizations, and the fact-based, non-emotional approach of the movement.

Group H:

HB 128

Nick Alexandre, Claire Burgess, Jeremy Burgess,
Lindsay Carter, Carleson Dozier, Hallie Dyer,
Vanessa Lee, Meg Lundberg, Riz Malik,
Kevin Pearsall, Clark Weber, Elizabeth Wilson.

Dave Ullrich

"Mere Air, These Words, but Delicious to Hear": EH 302 Poetry Workshop Reading

Students will read from a collection of the poems written this semester. Probable areas of investigation include family kitchen poem, carnival poem, political poem, lament (with water), poems focusing on related areas of creativity, such as ballet, photography, piano, and the fixed form poem, including the sestina and the villanelle.

Group I:

HB 328

Emily Godsey

Guy Dalto
Alicia Weaver

Mourning Behavior: African American Funeral Services

Why do individuals mourn the way that they do in response to the loss of a loved one? I propose that through socialization, individuals are taught "feeling rules." These rules govern the way that individuals mourn by setting forth norms held by the group. Culture, tradition, and socioeconomic class can be thought to dictate the development of "feeling rules." I have used qualitative research methods to analyze mourning behavior at African American funeral services. Both participant observation and interviews were the primary means of data collection. Several factors have been found to impact mourning behavior as it is displayed during these services.

Daniel Balinda, Terrence Ingram,
Michael Johnston, Kacey Swindell

Edward S. LaMonte

Perception vs. Reality: The African Continent

This is a panel of students who have lived in Egypt, Ethiopia and South Africa or who are natives of Rwanda and former Zaire. They will share issues that influence people's perceptions of the continent and talk about the impact of colonialism, race, modernization, diversity and censorship.

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE PLAZA FROM 2:45 TO 4:30

SESSION II 2:50-4:05

Group A:

HB 227

Meredith Price

Stephen Craft

Alabama Rivers Alliance Public Relations Audit

This presentation involves the current public relations status for the Alabama Rivers Alliance. The findings are derived from a public relations audit conducted in January 2008. The Alabama Rivers Alliance is a non-profit organization located in Birmingham, but is dedicated to protecting and restoring state rivers through a variety of strategies. The presentation includes four key elements: Alabama Rivers Alliance history, programs, publics or audiences, and SWOT analysis. The SWOT analysis will focus on the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats of the ARA.

Susan Chesley Fant

Byron Chew

Entrepreneurship continues to grow as a field of interest amongst many undergraduate and graduate students. The blending of business education with liberal arts curriculum may lead to the development of more entrepreneurs. "Go to school to become an entrepreneur," may be one of the least heard phrases, but

in the case of a liberal arts college it may be a phrase of ingenuity, creativity, and proactive ability that surrounds liberal arts campuses. This presentation looks at entrepreneurship as a whole concept and subject that can be easily transferred into a liberal arts curriculum as well as entrepreneurs themselves and the greatest challenges and successes in their business lives and how it can relate to the liberal arts.

An Enterprising Education: Liberal Arts and Entrepreneurship

Jenna Webb

Alicia Weaver

Beyond Books: The Use of Public Libraries by Birmingham's Urban Homeless Population

This research evaluates services offered to the homeless by the Birmingham Public Library and examines how the homeless population in Birmingham actually uses the public library system. Interviews were conducted with local library employees, local homeless patrons, and community members from organizations that serve the Birmingham homeless population. After gathering opinions from the various viewpoints and reviewing current practices here and in other urban areas, policy changes and programs that may be beneficial to this socially vulnerable population in Birmingham are proposed the public library's potential role is explored.

Emily Godsey

Vincent Gawronski

Lisa Owens

Alicia Weaver

Transgender Inclusion in Southern LGBT Organizations

How should transgender rights be addressed in an area of the country where the gay rights movement has faced marked opposition? Should Southern LGBT Organizations include transgender rights as part of their agenda? This paper explores the pros and cons of transgender inclusion for the Southern LGBT Organization. We also assess the current situation of transgender rights inclusion. Research was conducted by attending a local LGBT conference and an intensive literature review. Data was gathered through a survey. We then measured perception of transgender inclusion as part of the gay rights movement and advantages/disadvantages of inclusion. Transgender rights are not always included in the spectrum of the gay rights movement in the South. Attitudes toward transgender issues often differ from the more widely held views related to gay rights. These results confirm that transgender rights are still considered and treated as a fringe issue in the South.

Liza Pugliese

Heather Meggers-Wright

'Real' Bodies: Body Esteem and Exposure to Reality Television

This experiment examined the effects of variations of reality television on body esteem in college age women. Past research has consistently shown that women who are exposed to idealized thin bodies in the media have an immediate post-exposure decrease in body esteem; however, past research has used print exposure (magazines or a picture) or scripted television shows or movies. Within the past decade there has been an emergence of reality television shows that include women of various body sizes. No research has studied the potential effect of exposure to non-thin bodied women on female body esteem. In the current study, we hypothesized that women exposed to a reality television show that emphasizes the thin body ideal (America's Next Top Model) would report lower body esteem at post-testing in comparison to women exposed to a reality television show that does not emphasize the thin body ideal (Trading Spaces). We also hypothesized that there would be no difference in body esteem between the Trading Spaces condition and a no-body control condition (Meerkat Manor). The results and implications of this study will be discussed.

Group B:

HB 225

Hunter Renfro

Duane Pontius

Magnetic Braking

The goal of this project was to increase automobile efficiency by developing a braking system that relies on electromagnetic interactions rather than traditional friction braking. I began my research by studying both traditional friction brake design, as well as brakes that rely on the interactions between electricity and magnetism. I set out to design a brake similar in structure to the modern disk brake, but that also is able to recycle some of the energy lost in braking by turning it into an electric current. After thorough research of induction dynamos and generators, I was able to design a brake that accomplished what I set out to achieve. However, there were some limitations that had to be addressed, which were primarily due to eddy currents. I studied eddy currents and ways to quantify them in order to gain a more thorough understanding of what limitations that they would place on my design.

David Posey

Richard Turner

Computer Simulation of Ecosystem Models

The complexity of ecosystems has often required biologists to turn to computers to create and run simulations of the system. It is difficult to create accurate models of complex ecosystems and to implement these models for computer simulation. Several computer scientists have proposed different approaches to the implementation of complex ecosystem models. The chief variations in these approaches are the differing uses of data structures. All implementations of ecosystem models rely on complex algorithms to define the relationships over time between the different entities represented by these data structures. As ecosystem models have become increasingly complex, the requirements for computing power needed to model them have increased. Many ecosystem models are poorly implemented, creating a drain on computing resources and reducing their portability. This presentation explores the power of ecosystem modeling and the methods used to implement these models in computer simulation.

Mark Andrew Scogin, Jr.

Richard Turner

Web 2.0 and the science behind Social Networking

“Web 2.0” is a widely used expression for describing the future of the World Wide Web, ranging from a new type of global operating system to an interconnected social networking bubble. With the ever-growing popularity of web-based social networking applications, it is easy to forget the science behind these intriguing systems. As this generation of college graduates matures, some technology experts believe the next wave of web-based applications will be one of the most important aspects of our society. This presentation focuses on the technical aspects of social networking in regards to the system, database and graphical-interface design, keeping in mind what makes these systems so appealing to our society.

David Pease

Marietta Cameron,
Lewis Patterson, Richard Turner**General Purpose Graphics Processing Units**

As computing advances in fields such as Astrophysics, Architecture, and Aeronautics, the need for realistic, computer-generated simulations for research requires increased computational power. Physicists use three-dimensional simulations to perform tests on viscous fluids within a zero gravity environment. Architects use similar techniques to stress test the design of a new bridge. Such simulations allow testing to include data for traffic and weather effects, yet the bridge itself never needs to be actually constructed. These types of simulations are computationally and graphically intensive and require processing vast amounts of physical and graphical data. The hardware of an average computer is not sufficient to simulate these systems. One potential solution to this problem is to use a General-Purpose Graphics Processing Unit (GPGPU), derived from hardware normally used solely for graphics work. Graphical data is mathematically intensive, and GPGPUs are able process large numbers quickly and efficiently, giving the GPGPU an advantage in processing power and speed, while decreasing the amount of time required when processing large sets of numbers. This presentation is an examination of the GPGPU, its implementation, and its use in simulation.

Group C:

HB 128

Recitation Performance of Literature in its Original Language**Literature in French:**

Renée Norrell

Kayse Eckelman, Jackson Jones, Joanna Maya,
Marian Bradshaw, Alyssa Briggs, Rosalie Meador,
Chelsea Tanous, Susanna Miller, Grace Balinda

Literature in German:

Judy Cox

Wilson Brummel, Hannah Ellington, Caitlin Glass,
Pascal Ritter, Brad Robinson, Jennifer Scheurich,
Andrew Stein

Literature in Spanish I:

Jessica Ramos de Harthun

Ronald McBeth, Mitchell Dean, Stephen Hess,
Dickson Buchanan, Nick Olson, Claire Davis,

Ben Perry, Meghan Knaus, Ashely McCoy,
Lexi Sack, Katie Sack, Anen Lawrence, and Kenton Myers

Literature in Spanish II:

Russ Norris, Julie Paul, Haley Mills,
Kenimer Highsmith, Tom Swain
Carter Crutchfield, Chase Seaver
Louie Dell'Italia, Stephen Hess

Barbara Domcekova

Studies in Spanish Language and Culture

Ashley Michelle McCoy

Jessica Ramos de Harthun

Learning Spanish Language and Culture while Serving the Community via Proyecto Hermandad

During this presentation I will describe my experiences within my last Interim project, named *Proyecto Hermandad* (SN 60). I will discuss the opportunities *Proyecto Hermandad* offered me to utilize my language skills far beyond the classroom experience while helping the Spanish community in the Birmingham area. I will talk about the class, SN-60, and how I applied the things I learned in the classroom to community service projects. I will use a DVD to briefly give some background about the company for which I did community service, Kaleidoscope Productions, Incorporated, Latino (KPI Latino) and describe things I have done for and with this company. I will talk about how my community service grew into a paid internship and what that could mean for me in a few more years. I will also discuss how working for KPI Latino gives me the opportunity to apply concepts I am learning in my classes at BSC and how it builds community relationships for the future.

Group D:

HB 101

PRESENTATIONS BY HONORS PROGRAM SCHOLARS

Kate Lamar

Victoria Ott

The Power of Advertising: Ads in Women's Magazines from 1945-1965

In the highly conservative era following World War II, popular culture promoted the idea that since the war was over all of the women who took jobs to help the war effort should go back home and do the "woman's work" of raising the children and cleaning the house. However, the advertisements found in women's magazines from the period demonstrated and contributed to a shift in American economy that reshaped women's power in the home, and served as an impetus for women's expansion in the workforce, which was counter to the prevalent ideology. This will be demonstrated by analysis of ten different advertisements from *Ladies' Home Journal* magazine.

Cedric Rudolph

Guy Dalto

Blacks Performing in Blackface and Whiteface

This is a social study using the theatre and literary arts. While the sociology scholar Arthur Knight believes Blacks in the early musical stage shows of the twentieth century learned to manipulate blackface performance in order to nullify its usual derogatory sting, my paper argues that whiteface does not conform to Knight's theories about the subversion that occurred in blackface. Though both blackface and whiteface are forms of social critique, Blacks in whiteface rely more on parody than they do on the double-meaning and coding they need for blackface.

Group E:

HB 228

Eileen Dyer

Lawrence Brasher

Effectiveness and Vitality of "Medical Missions": A Call for an Introspective Analysis by the Modern Church

Medical missions are viewed by many in the Christian church as a vital way of extending the Gospel to all nations. This is partially based on Scripture including the passage in Matthew 25:37 when the righteous ask Jesus, "Lord when did we see you hungry and feed or thirsty and give you something to drink...?" Jesus responded in verse 40 "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me" (NIV). Medical missions have been performed as an organized part of the church for less than 200 years, but have had world-wide impact due to advances in technology, science, and medicine. However, we must ask, how effective are the structures of medical missions today both evangelically and medically? Is

the church really impacting the communities it reaches out to through medical missions? This paper is an attempt to explore the issue at hand through analysis of why we “do” medical missions, history of medical missions, and its positive and negative effects. Additionally, personal observations from a recent short-term medical trip to the Dominican Republic are presented. Medical missions are essential to the role of the church today, but self-analysis and self-criticism of the structures is necessary if the church is to make medical missions the best evangelistic tool it can be. The results of this analysis specifically include the appeal for greater efficiency, cultural education, and preventative medicine programs

Scott Grantland

Lawrence Brasher

Shifts in Christianity: An Examination of Christianity in the Global South

This paper seeks to examine current worldwide trends within the Christian faith. Christianity, long viewed in a Western context, and long centered in the West, is beginning to shift southward. The continents of Africa, Asia, and South America are currently engaged in a period in which the pace and frequency of revivals and conversions will soon make these continents the center of Christianity. While there are exceptions, the form of Christianity which is being practiced in these countries is markedly different than what has become accepted as mainstream Christianity in the West. An emphasis on Biblical inerrancy and supernaturalism are accepted aspects of much of the faith as practiced in the Global South. However, despite these marks of evangelicalism, a study of Global South Christianity reveals that it is much more complex than this one descriptor. While one would expect the emphasis on inerrancy and supernaturalism to lead to an all-encompassing conservative form of Christianity, many of these countries are on the forefront in regards to the rights of women and ecological issues. Further, many of these countries find themselves identifying with Palestine rather than Israel in regards to the controversies surrounding those countries—ideologies which would be considered as non-evangelical in the Global North. After studying these characteristics, it becomes apparent that barring a major event, this more spiritual form of Christianity will become normative for the majority of the world’s Christians. As a result, those Christians in the Global North should take the time to learn about the events in the Global South, thereby increasing the chance for dialogue and partnership in the future.

Robert Steven Reneau

Lawrence Brasher

The Importance of Mysticism in Faith

“The Importance of Mysticism in Faith” delves into the three paradigms of faith as presented by von Hugel and extended by Tamberello known as: Institutionalism, Intellectualism, and Mysticism. It looks at the importance of balance not only among these three paradigms, but in these three paradigms themselves. The project then focuses on the popular misunderstandings of mysticism, and attempts to show the benefits of a mystical life to faith through spiritual discipline by examining an experience early this year at the Abbey of Gethsemani..

Matt Jones

Lawrence Brasher

God's Omniscient Foreknowledge vs. the Freedom of the Human Will

Group F:

HB 325

LEADERSHIP STUDIES PRESENTATIONS

Emmy Corey

Amy Cottrill

Jeanne Jackson

Expanding the Circle: Women in Sub-Saharan Africa Confront HIV/AIDS

Sub-Saharan Africa has been the region most affected by HIV/AIDS. The disease has claimed lives and affected communities throughout the continent, provoking conversation from all corners of world on how to deal with the disease. The Circle of Concerned Women Theologians has provided leadership in both academic institutions and their local communities on how to articulate and interpret their faith in light of HIV/AIDS, then begin to confront a disease that stands at the center of larger issues of inequality. Through community workshops and academic presentations, these women have given a voice to those who suffer from HIV/AIDS.

Stephanie Lenning

Victoria Ott

Jeanne Jackson

Leading Edge Institute: Improving Women's Leadership in Alabama

Leading Edge Institute is a leadership development program that brings collegiate women together to inspire them to make a difference in Alabama. Leading Edge works to equip these women with “the tools that they need to achieve great things in their lives and to help change the lives of others.” The presentation will argue that the Leading Edge Institute has positively impacted women’s leadership in Alabama by raising awareness of issues affecting women, teaching young women effective approaches for social change, and creating a network of young women united in improving the quality of life in Alabama.

Rachel Stinson

Jeanne Jackson

Gail Smith

Leading 'Little Women' Locally: Louisa May Alcott and the 19th Century Women's Rights Movement

In this presentation, I will address Louisa May Alcott's role as an activist in the late 19th century suffrage movement, as she particularly paralleled Richard Couto's definition of a "citizen leader." I will highlight her actions on behalf of this movement through her written word, as it was published in such magazines as The Women's Journal, and through the power of her presence in the local, Concord, MA, community. Couto's "citizen leadership" will assume a fresh definition through the lens of Louisa May Alcott's behind-the-scenes contribution to the suffrage movement as a literary celebrity.

Group G:

HB 329

Katie Sack

Lester Seigel

Religious Imagery in Political Campaign Songs

A presidential election year makes an examination of presidential campaign songs compelling. This presentation focuses specifically on these songs' frequent use of Biblical imagery, and the historical change from explicit to implicit Biblical allusions. This change is due to a rise of non-religious spirituality in response to the religious far-right's appropriation of Biblical language for political purposes. The allusions discussed in this paper were established through the analysis of political song lyrics and Biblical themes. The connections were drawn from a study done on people of moderate to liberal political persuasions and their reported movement away from organized religion. The conclusions show that while Biblical allusions are now only used explicitly by the far right in politics, moderate and liberal candidates still speak to the same desires, but with implicit allusions. This leads to a hypothesis that people of moderate to liberal political persuasions have moved away from organized religion while still holding onto a belief in God, so they still respond to implicit Biblical allusions.

Anna Williams

Michael L. McInturff

The Melancholy Dame: Marginalized Female Melancholia in Shakespeare's Ophelia.

Ashley Pittman

Jane Archer

The Social Psychology of the Dying Culture: an Analysis of the Short and Long Term Effects of Colonization in the African Cultures Found in *Things Fall Apart* and *Kehinde*

Ellen T. Miller

Jane Archer

A History of Images in Journalism in America

The project will explore the evolution of visual communication in journalism and how it is now adapting to fit into the digital age. It will also focus on the importance of the images and graphics in journalism, answering questions about whether people are more likely to read a publication if it features striking layouts and how the internet is changing the way information is received.

Group H:

HB 202

**Papers on Political Science and Sociology I
American Policy and Politics: A Panel Presentation**

Leigh Anne Erwin

Natalie Davis,
Vincent Gawronski, Edward S. LaMonte

What about Me? - The Politics of Textbooks in Public Education

In the fight for better public education, the conflicts inherent in deciding what to teach through the process of textbook selection are rarely examined. Should little girls repair bicycle tires, while little boys chase butterflies? Is it appropriate that New Deal social programs be removed from the timeline of American

history. How should we handle protests against reading *The Wizard of Oz* because the Lion, Tin Man, and Scarecrow fail to ask God for His strength and the power to change. What “criminality” is found in *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*? How do communities handle the rift between science and religion when it comes to the teaching of evolution? The process of textbook selection—where religion and politics often intersect—is the focus of this research. The paper investigates the nature of conflict over textbook adoption and argues that this conflict will only intensify as the American population continues to grow in diversity.

Stacie Vitello

Natalie Davis

This Is Why We Can't Have Nice Things: The Failure of Tax Reform in Alabama

By passing Governor Bob Riley's Amendment 1 referendum on Sept. 9, 2003, Alabama voters had an opportunity to reform the state's antiquated tax system and provide desperately-needed funding to public schools. However, despite being subjected to a regressive tax system and a state education department that continually ranks as one of the five worst in the nation, Alabama voters overwhelmingly rejected the tax reform plan. Surprisingly, voters who would have benefited most from the plan contributed the most to its defeat. This paradox was found to be due primarily to widespread political alienation in the state, which leads to strong feelings of political distrust and, ultimately, contributes to a constant pattern of voting against reform legislation.

Samantha Masdon,

Edward S. LaMonte

Battle of Ideas: U.S. Think Tanks in the 21st Century

Think tanks are a powerful force in American politics, yet are relatively unknown outside of elite circles. They benefit U.S. public policy by informing the media, elected officials, academics and other elites on a variety of potential policy solutions. Their presence aids in the pluralization of American politics through policy competition and adds to the policy process by contributing informed scholarship to policy debates. Three think tanks are the focus of this research: the Brookings Institution, the Cato Institute, and the Heritage Foundation. Each is chosen for its contrasting political views and varied approaches to influencing public policy. This research will answer each of the following questions in an attempt to convey the influential power think tanks wield in American policymaking and to assess their role as informants to elites: What are think tanks? Do they influence public policy? If so, how? Finally, should they wield such influence? The purpose of this paper is to analyze the role think tanks play in the American public policy process.

Amy Roark

Natalie Davis
Vincent Gawronski

Purple States: Is There A Middle Ground Between the Blue and the Red?

The debate over America's culture war has been raging since the birth of the Moral Majority in the late 1970's. "Blue" states and "Red" states have been part of the American political lexicon ever since. This research examines recent National Election Study data to determine whether the divide between red and blue actually exists.

Group I:

HB 328

Papers in Archeology I

Keller Johnson
John McCarty

Scott Dorman

The Mesoamerican Ballgame

The Maya Exploration Interim traveled to southern Mexico and northern Guatemala to study the classical period (250-900 AD) of Mayan civilization. During the Classical Period, many Mesoamericans played a sport known today as the Mesoamerican ball game. The Mesoamerican ball game was a sport with ritual associations played for over 3000 years by the pre-Columbian peoples of Central America. The Mayan's were skilled craftsmen who often aligned buildings according to astronomical events. Students on the Maya Exploration Interim visited ruin sites and found that each ruin site visited had a ball court unique in size, construction, and location within the ruin. The goal of our study was to determine if the ball courts were aligned to match astronomical events; and/or whether or not there was a particular construction plan for each ball court that was followed by all Mesoamerican peoples at their respective site. Our results indicated that some sites produced similar alignments, but these alignments seemed at random. Each ball court was built to the particular tastes of the Mesoamerican group that constructed it.

David Park,
Jordan Whetstone

Jeannette Runquist

Turkey Creek Nature Preserve: An Investigation into Human History

The Turkey Creek Nature Preserve is a 466-acre area owned by Alabama Forever Wild and protected by Forever Wild, START (Society to Advance the Resources at Turkey Creek), and the Freshwater Land Trust. It is a tributary to Locust Fork and contains waterfalls, a large bison trail, and remnants of human habitation. This area was used for transportation and nomadic inhabitation by Native Americans and for military purposes during the Civil War. Since the 1870s, the area has served as a nature resort for Alabama's elite. Turkey Creek is the only known habitat for the Rush and Vermilion Darters, two endangered species. The HON/BI 208 class investigated six areas of human habitation concentrated specifically near the falls. Due to the continued use of this area as a resort area and local dump site, these early habitation sites are in danger of destruction. One house foundation, the foundation of a possible outbuilding associated with a second 19th century house were uncovered, as was the partial foundation for a mill. A natural spring was also identified. The site of main excavation is located adjacent to a contemporary nature trail and is reported to contain the possible remains of a forge. Investigation in that area may provide further evidence of previous inhabitants of Turkey Creek.

Mallory Burns;
Laura Fore; Matt Malory

Jeannette Runquist

Exploration of a Natural Spring at Turkey Creek Preserve

Alabama contains archaeological evidence of both Native American and Civil War occupation. A natural spring with a pH of 5 was found located near an old house foundation at the preserve. A survey followed to measure the dimensions of the spring including the length of the rocks surrounding the spring as well as the depth of the water within the spring. The dimensions of the spring are the following: 78.74 cm x 58.4 cm x 73.7 cm x 64 cm. The depth of the water in the spring was measured at 57 cm. Through cleaning the spring and inspecting the area, it was determined that the rocks surrounding the spring were hand worked. A stream flows slowly from the northern carved rock and travels for several meters. The stream is able to flow because a U-shaped break has been worked into the northern carved rock. The U-shaped cut is 26 cm long from the top of the rock to the narrowest point located near the bed of the stream. The width of the cut ranges from 28.5 cm to 5 cm. There have been no significant finds in the area through surface collection.

Sarah Juliana, Louis Dell'Italia, Apryl Davis,
Noopur Vakharia, Tyler Brown, Marcie Howington

Jeannette Runquist

Excavation of the Foundation of a Late 19th Century House

About 24 meters from a natural spring was identified the remains of the foundation of a late 19th century home. Historical records refer to the presence of a house in the area, but no archaeological remains had been identified prior to this excavation. The foundation is located on a fairly level plot of land in a wooded area. The bottom of the down-hill side is set 75 cm below the level foundation and inclines up to the height of the level ground as if to be the support of the foundation. The up-hill wall consists of large boulders, perhaps the location of the fireplace. The boundaries of the remaining two walls are less-well defined. Measurements of what we believe to be boundaries of the foundation are 7.45 meters (left side); 7.8 meters (right side); 6.5 meters (up-hill side); and 8.3 meters (down hill side). After the boundaries of the house were identified, leaf litter, tree roots, and small plants were removed and the cleaned area troweled. The troweled surface consists of small rocks relatively tightly packed. Their placement suggests a deliberately constructed surface perhaps built to support the floor of the house. A fairly large flat worked stone overturned near the center of the northwest side might have served as a front step.

SESSION III 4:10-5:30

Group A:
Dedric A. Cowser

HB 228
Lawrence Brasher

The Power of the Pulpit: An Exploration of the Theology of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Many people remember Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. as a social activist who changed America. But King's beginnings were as a preacher, and he preached with power throughout his life. In light of this, it is all the more remarkable that few have focused on his pulpit power, which reflected his religious commitments and shape the civil rights movement that he led. In this presentation I will explore the central theological themes in King's sermons and writings

Emmy Corey

Amy Cottrill

"Lead on With Light": Womanist Theology in Gloria Naylor's *Mama Day*

Womanist Theology is an interdisciplinary way of looking at God in the world through the lens of gender, race and class. Womanism, a term coined by Alice Walker, has been a means of understanding and interpreting biblical texts in light of the subjugation that women of color experience in their spiritual and daily lives. Gloria Naylor's novel *Mama Day* gives readers a way to look at the "white male canon" and create a new narrative that is relevant to the lives of women of color. This presentation will explore Biblical and Theological themes in *Mama Day* and how Naylor has carved her own space in theological studies that is in critical dialogue with the socially and traditionally privileged canon.

Mary Page Wilson

Amy Cottrill

The Redemption of Faith and Art: Theological Revelation in the Art of Vincent Van Gogh

A theological work is not necessarily the creation of a socially established "theologian," nor is it so because its creator sought to convey a theological message. For a work to be theological, it must simply inform the thought of or faith in God in a way that yields a new understanding. However, it seems the study of theology has privileged the written and spoken word, which privileges a certain perception of reality and theological thought. This limits the possibilities and depth of theological understanding. In this study, I focus on the medium of visual art as theological work, suggesting that Vincent Van Gogh is a theologian, and that his art should be read as theological works that can contribute to our understanding of late 19th century Christian theology. I argue that his works do not simply *represent* the contemporary theological ideas of his culture and era, but that they are in and of themselves theological works, through which Van Gogh *adds* to the theological conversation by disclosing ways of contemplating God in his visual understandings of eternity, humanity, life in community, and the teachings of the Gospels.

Group B:

HB 325

Lisa Owens

Edward S. LaMonte

Reproductive Healthcare as a Fundamental Human Right: Realizing the Potential of Alabama Women

A new study shows that one in four teenage women in the United States has some variety of sexually transmitted infection (STI), with the state of Alabama presenting numbers that are more like one in three. Alabama is one state that leads the nation in the number of new STIs recorded every year. In addition, the teenage birth rate remains high despite millions of state and federal aid being directed towards abstinence only education. In fact, a new study funded by congresses shows that abstinence only education is not only ineffective, but those who have taken part in the programs have sex in equal percentages as those who receive comprehensive sex education (sex education that includes information on abstinence, STI's, and birth control methods). In addition, children educated with an abstinence-only curriculum are less likely to use protection when engaging in sexual activity (Mathematica). The Human Rights doctrines clearly indicate that women deserve the right to information that helps them to protect themselves. The reproductive rights of the women in Alabama have been historically neglected, but with the proper legal insurances the high rates of unwanted pregnancy and STIs will be reduced.

Kathleen Smith.

Edward S. LaMonte

Women Leaders in Pakistan

In the discipline of leadership, culture serves as the colorful and intricate backdrop to any discussion. In the culture of Pakistan, it seems unlikely that a woman could ever be a leader. The practices that many of the country's laws condone terrorize the daily lives of the women. However, the efforts of two women have challenged this accepted inequality. Benazir Bhutto, the first woman to head a modern Muslim state, proved that, without sacrificing their Muslim womanhood or shaming themselves, women could take part in the political world, a world thought to belong to men. Mukhtar Mai, after being gang raped by men of a neighboring tribe, refused to be silent and claimed the role of citizen leader. These two women have struggled against the currents of legal discrimination, learned to navigate through their threatening culture, and emerged as strong, independent leaders.

Group C:

HB 328

Papers in Archeology II

Kelly Gronemeyer,
Haley Mills, Sydney Hawk

Jeannette Runquist

Excavation of an Outbuilding at Turkey Creek Preserve

Historical records of the Turkey Creek Preserve identify the presence of a late 19th and early 20th century home located on a rock outcropping. Associated with the house were several outbuildings. No remains of the house have been identified but a small privet covered mound may indicate the location of one of the outbuildings. The initial surface collection of the mound identified a stone slab measuring approximately 2.25m X 1.25m, which we believe is the foundation of some structure. Excavation of the mound has been made difficult by the presence of a large fire ant nest which proved difficult to destroy and the thick covering of privet bushes. Several artifacts recovered in the surface collecting support the theory that there was once a building on the site. Some of the items were modern, such as shingles, several types of nails, and a few different screws. The nails and screws were concentrated in the grassy area adjacent to the mound. In close proximity to the nails and screws was found a blue plastic bag containing 100 pieces of terracotta pottery, a baseball glove, several metal cans. More directly associated with the mound were old bricks and granite type blocks which may represent the remains of a chimney fall. These bricks were found on top of the foundation, in clusters proceeding down the hill, and a few granite blocks were found in the grassy area. Both the bricks and granite blocks have red and green paint on one side. Also recovered on the mound and slope were several pieces of pottery - the most significant of which was three small pieces of blue English pottery. Throughout the grassy area, we have also found 5 pieces of tan and brown crockery and 7 pieces of white pottery clusters, several pieces of blue-green glass that broke cubically, and several pieces of scrap metal.

Kristen Kerr,
Kaleigh Hussey-Tomich, Natalie Bonner

Jeannette Runquist

Exploration of an Old Mill Site at Turkey Creek, Alabama

A previously published cultural resource survey identified the possible location of the remains of an old mill upslope from Turkey Creek Falls located in the Turkey Creek Preserve. The site located on a steep slope, is heavily overgrown with vegetation including poison ivy and has been to severe erosion that has in some areas revealed bedrock. The area was surveyed and an *in situ* worked stone was identified. Using this information the preliminary borders for the old mill were mapped out and measured relative to a large tree near the creek. The measurements are as follows: 12.98 m from the tree to an arbitrary rock and then 12.67 m from this rock to the possible northwestern foundation edge, 15.72 m from the northwestern foundation edge to the possible southwestern foundation edge, 8.10 m from the southwestern foundation edge to the possible southeastern foundation edge, and 14.80 m from the southwestern foundation edge back to the tree. Within the area presumed to be the foundation of the old mill have been identified several *in situ* worked stone slabs of various sizes. Among the artifacts recovered are 22 metal fragments believed to be remains of the old mill, whole and fragmented glass bottles, a small mammalian bone, and a metal can. The heavy vegetation and the presence of poison ivy resulted in the early termination of the excavation.

Miles Philpp,
Whitney Williams, Anne Marston

Jeannette Runquist

Excavation of a Modern Rubbish Pile at Turkey Creek, Alabama

The excavation of the modern rubbish heap initially began as a search for a house foundation. After identifying two suspicious humps of dirt in the ground, clearing of the surface litter revealed remnant of building material consisting of brick fragments and roofing material. The site was determined to be 2.22 meters from the Eagle Scout Trailhead sign and one meter from the uphill side of the trail. Dimensions of the site are 3.06 meter (south side); 6.07 meters (north side); 5.94 meters (east side); and 6.01 meters (west side). It is important to note that the site sits on a steep grade, which makes it difficult to determine which objects are *in situ* and which have simply washed or rolled down the hill. Primary artifacts recovered consist of contemporary trash that has found its way to the site because of the proximity of the site to the road (7.37 meters away). In addition we have found many of what appear to be old bottles, cans and roofing material. The most interesting find was a spiked dog collar associated with a dog skeleton. Continued removal of the topsoil has uncovered old Pepsi, Coca-Cola and Clorox glass bottles. Three bottles without brand names might prove to be older. Plans are to bring a glass expert in to identify the origin of the unidentified glass bottles

Group D:

HB 202

Papers on Political Science and Sociology II
International and Comparative Politics: A Panel Presentation and a Paper

Ryan Kral

Natalie Davis

A Continued Rift or Rapprochement? Foreign Policy Attitudes and the Future of the Transatlantic Alliance

Since the end of the Cold War, interests once shared by the United States and Western Europe have diverged. This paper examines differences in American and European opinion regarding foreign policy issues and assesses the future of the transatlantic alliance.

Missy Golson

Vincent Gawronski

Damned If We Do and Damned If We Don't: U.S. Foreign Policy and Humanitarian Intervention

This research examines United States foreign policy and international, humanitarian intervention. Since the end of the Cold War, humanitarian crises, such as genocide, civil war, mass starvation, and ethnic cleansing, have plagued parts of the world and warranted international attention. As the world's sole superpower, the United States has chosen to intervene in some of these crises while remaining relatively silent in others. A cross-case study of five humanitarian crises, which occurred in Iraq, Somalia, Rwanda, Kosovo, and Darfur, was conducted assessing how United States responded to each. This paper critiques the reasoning behind the actions taken by the United States along with what factors shaped the respective policies. The research concludes with a comparison of the factors that caused American intervention in the past and offers criteria for justifying American intervention in the future.

Morgan Stephens

Natalie Davis
Vincent Gawronski

So Nice, We Did It Twice: How Decision-Making Groups Affected Operation Iraqi Freedom and the Vietnam War

This paper addresses the similarity in the decision-making processes used by the United States to commit troops to ground wars in North Vietnam and Iraq. The paper asks the question whether "groupthink" is an adequate theory for explaining erred judgments made by both the Johnson and Bush administrations.

Matthew Tucker

Natalie Davis
Vincent Gawronski

The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: The Status of Democracy in Eastern Europe

Since the fall of Communism in 1991, over twenty countries have embarked on the transition to democracy and a market-oriented economy. In the past seventeen years, clear success stories have emerged from Eastern Europe; however, some countries are clearly still struggling with the transition to democracy. Why is it that countries in the same region, with nearly the same political conditions, developed so differently in the aftermath of Soviet rule? This paper seeks to point out the key differences among a few of the success stories and a few of the struggling democracies of Eastern Europe. The research question is: "What are the significant areas of development where some countries have succeeded and others have failed?" Based on the findings, what do the struggling countries need to do in order to join the successful group?

Courtney Bascom.

Natalie Davis

Women Get Stuff Done: Why are More Women not Represented in Our Government Today?

Women have had the right to vote since 1920, yet women continue to be poorly represented in Congress. The year of the woman was 1992, when numerous women campaigned for Congressional election. Fewer women campaign for Congressional office today than did in 1992. Why are women not running as often? What are the roadblocks, stereotypes, and impediments which are preventing women from campaigning and society from voting for women? Women's Political Action Committees, PAC's, were created to help recruit, train, campaign, and raise money for female candidates. The research question is, "Are Women's PAC's really making a difference in getting women elected to Congress?"

Group E:

HB 227

Nick Alexandre, Jeremy Burgess,
Eric Hamilton, Kevin Pearsall, and Jeff Tullis

Peter Donahue

The Highway Less Traveled: An American Road Trip

The concept of the “American road trip” is certainly not new. Indeed, for the majority of the 20th century, and still today, these pseudo-pilgrimages have been popular among both young and old Americans. What could give one a better sense of freedom than unrestricted life on the open road? These ideals were and are still emblazoned by writers such as Steinbeck and Kerouac. So we designed a project that would let us examine a large part of America through the eyes of these forerunners. The five of us took a trip around most of the western United States, totaling over 6500 miles after reading the “essentials” of the non-fiction American road trip genre: Kerouac’s *On The Road*, William Least Heat-Moon’s *Blue Highways*, Bill Bryson’s *The Lost Continent*, and John Steinbeck’s *Travels With Charley*. Along the way, we each kept journals, took pictures, and documented the journey with videotape. We have each organized our experiences by writing 20-page accounts of our experience from varying perspectives (focuses include the big-city perspective, the small-town perspective, life in an RV, etc.). Furthermore, we hope to draw some parallels and inconsistencies between the varying time periods and experiences realized by our forerunners.

Group F:

Benjamin Lewellyn

HB 329

V. Markham Lester

“First In and First Out:” Harold Macmillan and the Suez Crisis

Britain’s failed policy during the 1956 Suez Canal Crisis was driven by the ideas and actions of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Harold Macmillan. Macmillan advised military intervention to reclaim the Canal and unseat Nasser, all the while misinterpreting the American position toward such an adventure. Heavily influenced by this fictive American support, Macmillan pushed the Cabinet to war and failed to guarantee the national economy against speculative and oil importation pressure aimed at the pound

Sara Mulholland

V. Markham Lester

Forgotten Fights and Factions of the 1916 Irish Easter Rising

During Easter Week of 1916 a handful of Irish nationalists, led by Patrick Pearse, staged a rebellion in Dublin that lasted for seven days, which came to be known as the Easter Rising. This small group of men occupied Dublin in protest of British rule in Ireland and the stalling of Home Rule due to World War I. The British government eventually executed sixteen of the main leaders and inadvertently unleashed a firestorm of Irish hatred, creating martyrs out of the rebels. Despite the fact that this rebellion was quite small, there is a large body of historical work that addresses the topic. In my paper I examine how history has discussed this rebellion, examining two main theses, as well as presenting two instances that I think should be given more attention in future histories of the Rising. The more popular thesis is a romantic view of the rebels, arguing that these men began their task knowing they would be executed but hoped their deaths would stimulate a rebirth of Irish nationalism. This “Martyr Mythology” ignores a large part of the history of the rebellion; the second thesis argues that the leaders of the Rising had some military aims, as well as points out that not all rebels were convinced upon physical force and favored more diplomatic means. Lastly, I contend that both the inclusion of John Redmond to the rebels and the fall from grace of Bulmer Hobson were significant events in the history of the Easter Rising that deserve more attention.

Shannon K. Stevens

Matthew Levey

Confucianism in *Tokushi Yoron*

Arai Hakuseki is most renowned for his historical work *Tokushi Yoron* (Lessons From History). This history of Japanese government is often labeled as rational, secular, or pragmatic chiefly because it conforms to Western expectations and standards of scholarly analysis, research, and writing. *Tokushi Yoron* was “rational” insofar as the author conducted meticulous research, arranged and presented an exhaustive overview of Japanese political history and, perhaps mostly importantly, provided his own commentary on the causes and effects of political changes. However, these components of the “historian’s craft” stemmed from his Confucian training and intellectual outlook and the “rational” elements of his historical practice must be seen in terms of his Confucianism. Arai sought to apply Confucian principles to historical analysis and by nature of this methodology his work produced a remarkably rational argument by modern Western standards and in comparison to Shinto-based histories. However, his approach did not produce an immediate impact on the intellectual community. In fact, Arai’s Confucianism clashed with the increasingly influential Shinto-oriented Mito School and National Learning movement. It was not until after 1945 that the Japanese began to look at their history as Arai Hakuseki had done 230 years earlier at least insofar in moving past Shinto-based preconceptions.

Miles Philipp

William E. Nicholas

Sail on, Oh Ship of State: Winston Churchill and Franklin D. Roosevelt's Early Relationship

The special relationship that developed between Winston Churchill and Roosevelt was one that has been thoroughly studied by historians. Most of the scholarly analysis focuses on their romanticized public and personal friendship through the years of U.S. involvement in World War II. This piece, however, delves into the beginning of their relationship and how it was born out of strategic political positioning as well as mutual personal admiration. The relationship that the two leaders developed was one that lent itself to warm personal sentiments, but out of necessity these sentiments did not usually trump national obligations. The interplay between the two men before World War II defined the diplomatic relationship between the U.S. and Britain leading up to Pearl Harbor and the declaration of war by Congress. Many important decisions were made and agreements met that would forge the two countries and their leaders together to mount a war that covered almost the entire globe.

Group G:

HB 128

Andrew Burkhardt, Sarah Carper, Hamilton Cleverdon,
 Josh Crowe, Sara Dupre, Morgan Eads, Zach Guyse,
 Chris Johnson, Brit La Palm, Gannon Love,
 Alex Masterson, Emma Palmer, John Ruder,
 Simone Schicker, Lance Spencer, Becky Terry

Duane Pontius

Constructing Musical Instruments: Theory and Practice

As part of the honors course "Science, Physics, Music", students researched various traditional musical instruments, include bagpipes, zithers, and the erhu. In this session, groups of students will present the results of their academic research into the background of one instrument they chose to construct, and they will describe the practical matters of trying to construct a working model. With luck, they might get some music out of their efforts.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS WITH PRESENTERS**From 2:45-3:30 in Harbert Lobby****None This Year**