The Office of Undergraduate Research Presents

6th ANNUAL

Humanities, Arts, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Education & Business (HASBSEB) Conference 2019

Saturday, November 23, 2019
Galloway Business Building
Lamar University, Beaumont, Texas
Welcome Message from
The Interim Director of O.U.R.

Dear Students, Colleagues, and Guests,

We warmly welcome you to the 6th Annual Conference for research done in the fields of Humanities, Arts, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Education and Business (HASBSEB) and invite you to enjoy the largest non-STEM conference at Lamar University. This year we are offering a record number of 48 presentations (41 talks and 7 posters). We would like to congratulate each presenter for his or her research efforts, and for sharing with us their findings.

Today, our keynote speaker is Dr. Daniel Chand, Associate Professor of Political Science and Public Administration at Kent State University, in Ohio. His presence among us is a big honor. Dr. Chand is an accomplished Lamar alumnus, who is holding a bachelor degree in Communication from Lamar, with the specialization in Journalism.

Our special thanks go to President of Lamar University, Dr. Kenneth Evans, and to Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. James Marquart, for sponsoring our conference, including through offering student awards.

We acknowledge the Dean of the Reaud Honors College, Dr. Kevin Dodson, as well as the Director of the Center for History and Culture at Lamar University, Dr. Judith Linsley, for offering special awards to our best student presenters in both the oral and poster sessions.

I wish to all participants to enjoy the conference and fully benefit of its content!

With best wishes to everyone,

Dr. Cristian Bahrim, Interim Director

Dr. Monica Harn, Chair of HASBSEB 2019
Daniel Chand (“Danny”) is an associate professor of Political Science and Public Administration at Kent State University in Kent, Ohio. He teaches various courses on Quantitative Research Methods in Political Science, Policy Analysis, Public Administration, and Money in Politics.

Dr. Chand has two primary areas of research: 1) immigration policy and 2) nonprofit advocacy. His current research projects include a national survey on legal aid provided by immigrant-serving nonprofits and a field research examination on the effects of nonprofit legal aid provided to detained immigrants, funded by the Russell Sage Foundation. His published research examines topics such as the discretionary power exercised by Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents, decision-making by immigration judges, and independent spending in elections by nonprofit interest groups. He published in prestigious journals such as the American Review of Public Administration, Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory, Business and Politics, to list only a few.

Dr. Chand earned his bachelor’s degree in Communication, specializing in Journalism at Lamar University. He received his Ph.D. in Public Policy in the Policy Management specialization at the University of Arkansas and has a master’s in Political Science with an emphasis in Community Development from Illinois State University. Prior to earning his Ph.D degree, he spent several years working with nonprofits on both development and advocacy projects. His experiences ranged from state-level lobbying with nonprofit public interests law firms, to working for political action committees (PACs), to implementing program evaluations for charitable associations. From 2006 through 2008, he served as a Peace Corps volunteer in rural Zambia.

Recent Publications


6th ANNUAL HUMANITIES, ARTS, SOCIAL and BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES, EDUCATION & BUSINESS CONFERENCE

AGENDA

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2019

All events will take place in Galloway Business Building

REGISTRATION
Galloway Business Building Lobby

8:00 AM – 8:30 AM
Registration (Continental Breakfast will be served)

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM
POSTER SESSION – I
Galloway Business Building Hallway

WELCOME
Galloway Business Building Auditorium/ Landes Auditorium

9:00 AM – 9:15 AM
Opening Remarks
Dr. Cristian Bahrim, Interim Director of the Office of Undergraduate Research, Professor of Physics at Lamar University (online presence)
Dr. Monica Harn, Chair of the HASBSEB conference, also Diane H. Shaver Professor of Speech and Hearing Sciences, Department Chair
Dr. Kenneth Evans, President of Lamar University
Recognition of Dr. Kumer P. Das, Founding Director of O.U.R.

KEYNOTE Talk
Galloway Business Building Auditorium/ Landes Auditorium

9:15 AM – 9:20 AM
Introduction of Speaker
Dr. Kevin Dodson, Dean of the Reaud Honors College, Professor of Philosophy at Lamar University

9:20 AM – 9:55 AM
Keynote Talk – Dr. Daniel Chand, Associate Professor, Kent State University
### Session 1A - Oral Presentation, Landes Auditorium – Galloway 101

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<th>Presenter</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Mentor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Relationships of Work-related Musculoskeletal Disorders and Psychological Factors in Licensed Nurses.</td>
<td>William Perry</td>
<td>Nursing / JoAnne Gay Dishman School of Nursing</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Malignant Hyperthermia: Treatment and Preparedness.</td>
<td>DaShonda Shepard</td>
<td>Nursing / Lamar University</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Knowledge and Perceptions of Parents and School Administrators/Staff on Rehabilitative Resources Provided to Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing School-Aged Students and their Families.</td>
<td>Melissa Torres</td>
<td>Speech &amp; Hearing Sciences / Speech &amp; Hearing Sciences Department</td>
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### Session 1B - Oral Presentation, Galloway 123

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Mentor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Topics in Political Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Reducing Violent Crime in Beaumont, Texas.</td>
<td>Maissa Salibi</td>
<td>Political Science</td>
<td>Dr. Bianca Easterly / Department of Political Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Medical Experimentation through History: The Impact of Experiments on African Americans and its Legacy in Contemporary Medical Practices.</td>
<td>RaKaya Turner</td>
<td>Political Science</td>
<td>Dr. Terri Davis / Department of Political Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.</td>
<td>From Hope to Hell: A Review of the Assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and the Extent of the Oslo Accords</td>
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</table>
Ali Hamza / Major in Political Sciences / 
Mentor: Dr. Terri Davis / Department of Political Sciences /

10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m  
**Juveniles in Jail: The Use of Mental Health Therapy in Juvenile Detention Centers**

Madison Hamby and Alyssa Kelley / Majors in Psychology / 
Mentors: Dr. Vidisha Worley and Dr. Robert Worley / Department of Criminal Justice

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**Session 1C - Oral Presentation, Galloway 124**

10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.  
Topics in *Teacher Education and Student-Teacher Relationship*

Chair: **Dr. Dorothy Sisk**, Conn Chair Professor of Education, College of Education and Human Development

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10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.  
**Elementary Students Experiencing Genetic Engineering Education.**

**Anna Carter** / Majors in Biology / 
Mentor: Dr. Mamta Singh / Department of Teacher Education /

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10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.  
**Teaching Force on Bridge using Guided Discovery Approach to 5th Graders!**

**Brianna Thibodeaux** / Major in Teacher Education / 
Co-author: Sloane Albrecht 
Mentor: Dr. Mamta Singh / Department of Teacher Education /

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10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.  
**Tools to Identify Poor Vocal Use and Suggested Methods of Remediation for Intermediate Students and Their Teachers.**

**Hannah Meyer** / Major in Music / 
Mentor: Dr. Debra Greschner / Department of Music /

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10:45 AM – 11:00 AM  
**COFFEE BREAK**

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**Session 2A - Oral Presentation, Landes Auditorium – Galloway 101**

11:00 a.m. – 12:15 a.m.  
**Hispanic Literature in U.S.**

Chair: **Dr. Catalina Castillon**, Professor, Department of English & Modern Languages

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11:00 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.  
**Cultural Hybridity in Gloria Anzaldúa’s ‘Borderlands/La Frontera’: Protecting the Use of Chicano Language as a Mother Tongue**

**Iman Almufti** / Major in English & Modern Languages /
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<th>Major/Department</th>
<th>Mentor</th>
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<tr>
<td>11:10 a.m.</td>
<td>Feminism, Systemic Discrimination, and the Search for Identity in “Yo Misma Fui Mi Ruta” by Julia de Burgos</td>
<td>Emily Brown</td>
<td>Major in Chemical Engineering</td>
<td>Dr. Catalina Castillon / Department of English &amp; Modern Languages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:20 a.m.</td>
<td>Afro-Hispanic Literature: An Analysis of two poems by Tato Laviera</td>
<td>Osha Jones</td>
<td>Major in Speech &amp; Hearing Sciences</td>
<td>Dr. Catalina Castillon / Department of English &amp; Modern Languages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Feminism, Systemic Discrimination, and the Search for Identity in “Female Characters in Chicano Theatre: A Literary Analysis of Me Voy Pa Mexico by Jesus and Netty Rodriguez and Los Vendidos by Luis Valdez</td>
<td>Aurora Maldonado</td>
<td>Department of Social Work</td>
<td>Dr. Catalina Castillon / Department of English &amp; Modern Languages</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:40 a.m.</td>
<td>Depictions of Struggle: Comparing Popular Immigrant Corridos to John Fogherty’s “Lodi.”</td>
<td>Meikayla Mixon</td>
<td>Major in Deaf Studies &amp; Deaf Education</td>
<td>Dr. Catalina Castillon / Department of English &amp; Modern Languages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:50 a.m.</td>
<td>Oppression: A Rite of Passage for the Migrant in Chicano Literature.</td>
<td>Emily Trahan</td>
<td>Major in English &amp; Modern Languages</td>
<td>Dr. Catalina Castillon / Department of English &amp; Modern Languages</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Q &amp; A and Discussions.</td>
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**Session 2B - Oral Presentation, Galloway 123**

11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

**Topics in Environment and Public Health**

**Chair:** Dr. Margot Gage, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Social Work & Criminal Justice

11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

**Examining Air Quality in Beaumont Texas, Following Hurricane Harvey.**

Kwanita Adair / Major in Sociology / Mentor: Dr. Margot Gage / Assistant Professor / Department of Sociology, Social Work & Criminal Justice

11:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

**Marital Status and Health of U.S. Veterans.**

Alyssa Aguilar / Major in Sociology / Mentor: Dr. Margot Gage / Assistant Professor / Department of Sociology, Social Work & Criminal Justice
11:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.  
*The Impact of a One-to-One Technology Lending Program on STAAR Scores.*  
**Brooklyn Bingaman** / Major in Sociology /  
Mentor: Dr. Margot Gage / Assistant Professor / Department of Sociology, Social Work & Criminal Justice /

11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
*Distracted Cell-Phone Drivers and Vehicle Accidents.*  
**Daniel Boldt** / Major in Sociology /  
Mentor: Dr. Margot Gage / Assistant Professor / Department of Sociology, Social Work & Criminal Justice /

12:00 p.m. – 12:15 p.m.  
*Decrease in Teen Births.*  
**Celena Bush** / Major in Sociology /  
Mentor: Dr. Margot Gage / Assistant Professor / Department of Sociology, Social Work & Criminal Justice /

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**Session 2C - Oral Presentation, Galloway 124**

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 a.m.  
Topics in *Communication and Media*  
Chair: **Dr. Nicki Michalski**, Associate Professor, Department of Communication and Media

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11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.  
*Latinx Rhetoric and Hispanic-Serving Institutions.*  
**Jhocelyn Alvarado** / Major in Communications and Public Speaking /  
Mentor: Andre Favors / Department of Communications /

11:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
*Baseball and Other Things: The Evolution America's Past Time in Pop Culture.*  
**April Marble** / Major in Communications and Media /  
Mentor: Dr. O'Brien Stanley / Department of Communications /

11:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.  
*The Psychology of Donnie Darko.*  
**Kylee Moreland** / Major in Communication and Film Studies /  
Mentors: Dr. Andre Favors and Dr. O'Brien Stanley / Department of Communications /

11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
*Time to End Unequal Pay in Sports.*  
**Scott Sayre** / Major in Communications and Public Speaking /  
Mentor: Dr. Natalie T.J. Tindall / Department of Communications /

12:00 p.m. – 12:15 p.m.  
*Mental Health Services for First Responders in Jefferson and Orange Counties*  
**Himani Vithanage** / Major in Political Science /  
Mentor: Dr. Terri Davis / Department of Political Science /

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12:20 PM – 12:30 PM  
**Group Picture – in front of the Galloway bldg.**
1:30 p.m. – 1:40 p.m.  The Land of the Free: The Deported Veteran in Valdez’s Chicano Theatre.
Cesar Julian Delgado / Major in English & Modern Languages / Mentor: Dr. Catalina Castillon / Department of English & Modern Languages

1:40 p.m. – 1:50 p.m.  Accepting Death: The Uses of Grief Writing to Heal Unresolved Pain.
Sierra Kondos / Major in History / Mentor: Dr. Sara Hillin / Department of English & Modern Languages

1:50 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.  The Value of Women’s Traditional Role:
Fray Benito Jerónimo Feijoo’s Defensa de las Mujeres.
Rebekah Newell / Major in English & Spanish / Mentor: Dr. Jaime Retamales / Department of English & Modern Languages

2:00 p.m. – 2:10 p.m.  The Pattern of Symbolism in “The Masque of the Red Death”.
Erin Sims / Major in English & Modern Languages / Mentor: Dr. Lloyd Daigrepont / Department of English & Modern Languages

2:10 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.  Poetry – Mental illness and suicide: Please see them from our eyes.
Holly Westbrook / Major in Communication and Media / Mentor: Katherine Hoerth / Department of English & Modern Languages

2:20 a.m. – 2:35 p.m.  Q & A and Discussions.
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</thead>
</table>
| 1:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. | *A Study of Our Nation’s Political Preferences.*  
Lauren Dean / Major in Sociology /  
Mentor: Dr. Margot Gage / Assistant Professor / Department of Sociology,  
Social Work & Criminal Justice |                            |                |                                             |                                                                            |
| 1:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. | *Jefferson County Redistricting.*  
Drew Moulton / Major in Sociology /  
Mentor: Dr. Margot Gage / Assistant Professor / Department of Sociology,  
Social Work & Criminal Justice |                            |                |                                             |                                                                            |
| 2:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. | *Dilemma in the Definition: What is a Mass Shooting?*  
Stephanie Pileggi / Major in Sociology /  
Mentor: Dr. Margot Gage / Assistant Professor / Department of Sociology,  
Social Work & Criminal Justice |                            |                |                                             |                                                                            |
| 2:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. | *Difference in murder rates in neighboring Texas cities.*  
Chris Vann / Major in Sociology /  
Mentor: Dr. Margot Gage / Assistant Professor / Department of Sociology,  
Social Work & Criminal Justice |                            |                |                                             |                                                                            |
| 2:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. | *Is mental health more prevalent now?*  
Naukia Wilson / Major in Sociology /  
Mentor: Dr. Margot Gage / Assistant Professor / Department of Sociology,  
Social Work & Criminal Justice |                            |                |                                             |                                                                            |
| 1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. | *Palestine: How the British Left It.*  
Daniel Adams / Major in History /  
Mentor: Dr. Brendan Gills / Department of History / |                            |                |                                             |                                                                            |
1:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
Not-So-Secret U-Boats attack along the Gulf Coast.  
Tishia L Hubert / Major in History /  
Mentor: Dr. Brendan Gills / Department of History /

2:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.  
Vietnamese Immigration to the Gulf Coast: The Trials and Triumphs of Assimilation.  
Angela Hutson / Department of History /  
Mentor: Dr. Brendan Gills / Department of History /

2:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
Satanism in Louisiana and the Initiation of the “Mark of Cain” Bill.  
Sierra Kondos / Major in History /  
Mentor: Dr. Brendan Gills / Department of History /

2:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.  
Aris Martinez / Major in Physics and Civil Engineering /  
Cindy Rodriguez / Major in Civil Engineering /  
Mentor: Richard Gachot / Department of Art & Design /

2:45 PM – 3:00 PM  
Poster Session - III

3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.  
Guest Speaker - Landes Auditorium – Galloway 101  
Ms. Pamela Comer – Director of the McNair Program

3:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m  
Awards Ceremony - Landes Auditorium – Galloway 101  
Conclusions and Final Remarks  
Dr. Monica Harn, Chair of the HASBSEB conference.
Poster Sessions - *Galloway Building Hallway*

I (Time 8:30 AM - 9:00 AM) II (Time 1:00 PM - 1:30 PM) III (Time 2:45 PM - 3:00 PM)

**Poster Session Chair:** Dr. Gevorg Sargsyan, Assistant Professor, College of Business

**P1**  
**Burnout Among Young College Students**  
Muskaan Ali  
Psychology Major / Lamar University  
*Mentor:* Dr. Raymond Doe / Department of Psychology / Lamar University

**P2**  
**Preschool Teachers’ Perceptions and Knowledge of Speech-Language Pathology**  
Jennifer Caltzontzin  
Speech & Hearing Sciences Major / Lamar University  
*Mentor:* Dr. Lekeitha Morris / Department of Speech & Hearing Sciences / Lamar University

**P3**  
**Knowledge Regarding Health and Health Seeking Behavior among Primary School Going Children in Rural Bangladesh: A Cross-sectional Study**  
Shankari Mondal Dipti  
Public Health & Informatics Major / Jahangirnagar University  
*Mentor:* Shabnam Naher / Department of Public Health and Informatics / Jahangirnagar University

**P4**  
**Parents Beliefs and Behaviors about Shared Book Reading**  
Hope Fowler  
Major in Speech and Hearing Science / Lamar University  
*Mentor:* Dr. Lakeitha Morris / Speech and Hearing Science / Lamar University

**P5**  
**Virtual Reality as a Vestibular Rehabilitation tool for Athletes after Concussion**  
Sierra Hunnicutt  
Speech & Hearing Sciences Major / Lamar University  
*Mentor:* Dr. Lilian Felipe / Department of Speech & Hearing Sciences / Lamar University

**P6**  
**The Relationship Between Sleep Deprivation and Stress Levels in University Students**  
Arismel Urbina  
Psychology Major / Lamar University  
*Mentor:* Dr. Sherri Shoefstall / Department of Psychology / Lamar University

**P7**  
**Gender Preferences in Football**  
Abigail Zuniga  
Communications Major / Lamar University  
*Mentor:* Dr. Natalie T.J. Tindall / Department of Communications / Lamar University
1
Examining Air Quality in Beaumont Texas, Following Hurricane Harvey
Kwanita Adair
Major in Sociology / Lamar University

Mentor: Dr. Margot Gage, Department of Sociology, Social Work & Criminal Justice, Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

Southeast, Texas refineries expelled large quantities of air pollutants during Hurricane Harvey. Air pollutants are hazardous to the environment and health. Air monitors were shut down during Hurricane Harvey, meaning there is a lack of data to assess air pollution that was emitted during the emergency shutoff at the refineries. This study examines trends in Beaumont, Texas air quality during and in the subsequent months following Hurricane Harvey. In this study we examined Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TECQ) data on two active air monitors in Beaumont, Texas during the year 2017-2018. Information on emissions of sulfur dioxide, nitric oxide, nitrogen dioxide, oxides of nitrogen, ozone, benzene, and hydrogen sulfide were assessed using TECQ data. The number of hours and days no data reported by the air monitors were examined as well. It appears that yearly maximum values (MAX) for sulfur dioxide, nitric oxide, and oxides of nitrogen were higher in 2017, the Hurricane Harvey period (MAX = 53.7, 113.4, 134.0), respectively as compared to 2018 (MAX = 40.9, 103.9, 123.8; CAP = 98.4%, 97.9%, 97.4%). During the months following Hurricane Harvey (August-December 2017) data appears to show an increase in maximum values for majority of the monitored air pollutants. Hydrogen sulfide also seems to be on the higher end of the spectrum. This is observed before, during and after Harvey, with yearly averages of hydrogen sulfide above Environmental Protection Agency limits in 2017(0.68) and 2018 (0.53). Both air monitors had a number of missing days. The highest amounts of missing days in 2017 (213 missing days) for the monitor that measures hydrogen sulfide. Findings suggest that despite the substantial amount of missing data, Beaumont residents seem to be exposed to constant low-levels of air pollution. This is especially evident for those living closest to the refinery. It appears that air quality guidelines for air pollutant exposure are exceeded for hydrogen sulfide. Disaster preparations, air quality data and public health awareness in Beaumont, Texas needs improvement.

2
Palestine: How the British Left it
Daniel Adams
Major in History / Lamar University

Mentor: Dr. Brendan Gillis / Department of History / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

In the 1940’s the sun was already setting on the British Empire, and during the second-world-war they had promised self-rule to a few of the Dominions they controlled in exchange for troops and support during the war. When it ended the Dominions such as Ireland, India, and Palestine were ready for self-rule and expected that the promise that their people had fought and died for, would be honored by the British. However, how the
British tried to set these Dominions up for self-rule would leave these dominions, or in this study, Palestine, would leave a bloody trail for decades to come. I plan to look at British governments papers, such as command papers, special reports, newspapers, parliamentary minutes, and other documents to show how they went from trying to be fair to both Jews and Arabs in Palestine to over time capitulating to the Arabs so they could maintain the peace for as long as they, the British, were in charge and by doing this they set the groundwork for many future conflicts. I believe that by reading the command papers and the debates from both houses of parliament, and especially the special reports that were sent after the riots, should have shown the British that because of how they ruled (command papers) before leaving the should have known that the Palestine area would most likely always be in embroiled in one conflict or another.

3
Marital Status and Health of U.S. Veterans
Alyssa Aguilar
Sociology / Lamar University

Mentor: Dr. Margot Gage, Department of Sociology, Social Work & Criminal Justice, Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

Veteran marriages are often connected with issues including Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and divorce. While in active duty, service men and women are often discouraged from marriage in the general assumption that the marriage will end in divorce. The veteran population is very often overlooked in research and little is understood about this special population. The 2010 National Survey of Veterans (NSV) data were evaluated to analyze marital status and health by means of self-reported general health status of U.S. veterans. The role of education was examined as well. Descriptive analysis show that 73% percent of married veterans report having ‘good’ health or better than those who are not married. Also, married veterans obtain about 65% of higher degrees than any other marital status. This study shows the married veteran report having ‘good’ health. This observation shows that further research to more fully understand the U.S. veteran population is needed.

4
Burnout Among Young College Students
Muskaan Ali
Major in Psychology / Lamar University

Mentor: Dr. Raymond Doe / Department of Psychology / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Poster

Burnout is a complex construct that describes the state of mental exhaustion and stress that an individual may experience. The syndrome causes various mental health concerns and affects regular everyday routines and can potentially lead to negative life experiences. A total of 84 students participated in this study to investigate the predictors of burnout among college students. The predictor variables were hours of sleep, assistantship status, number of credit hours, number of clubs and organizations, age, gender, being a STEM or non-STEM student, being a graduate or undergraduate student, working status, and self-reported burnout. A multiple linear regression was conducted, and the model explained 23.1 % of the variance; however, the model was not significant. Self-reported burnout was the only significant predictor of this study. Furthermore, the average total burnout score was moderately low; however, the number of clubs positively correlated with burnout. In contrast the predictor, sleep, had a weak negative relationship to burnout.
Language, culture, and identity are indelibly tied together. Culture is representative of a group’s belief systems, values, customs, and histories, all of which influence an individual sense of self. Language is the medium through which culture and individual experience are expressed, making language and identity inseparable. Gloria Anzaldua’s *Borderlands/La Frontera* is an exploration of the many facets of its author’s identity, including the close ties between her sense of self and her use of language. Chicano language blends English and Spanish, but also has its own unique grammar, vocabulary, and syntax. Most importantly, it is the mother tongue of many U.S.-born Latinx people, which is the chief reason why Anzaldua believes Chicano Spanish should be recognized as its own language and not just a dialect. The United States has historically practiced a culture of silencing Latinx languages either through the outright command of silence or through stigmatization of the language. This creates adversity for speakers of both Chicano Spanish and Standard Spanish, but speakers of Chicano Spanish suffer an even more diminished sense of linguistic identity because they cannot fully identify with standard English or standard Spanish, and they are told their language is invalid by both groups of people who speak the “standard” languages. In *Borderlands/La Frontera*, Anzaldua argues for protecting the use of Chicano language as a mother tongue and analyzes how cultural hybridity relates to the collective Chicano experience.

**6**

**Latinx Rhetoric and Hispanic-Serving Institutions**

Jhocelyn Alvarado

Major in Communications / Lamar University

Mentor: Andre Favors / Department of Communications / Lamar University

Form of Presentation: Talk

This study will explore Latinx rhetoric and how it is being analyzed today. Specifically, we will utilize decolonization as a lens to discover why Latinx scholars are choosing to withdraw from Western Modernity and the falsely embedded practices that stem from colonization. We will also talk about how colleges like Lamar State College Port Arthur who have received recognition as a Hispanic-Serving Institution are accommodating the large Latinx/Hispanic population. Lamar University currently has a Hispanic/Latinx Population of 18.5% and is striving to become an HSI, by looking at schools like Marquette University we can see what approaches are being used to reach this goal. We look into how Latinx/Hispanic theorists are finding how pedagogical and theoretical implications are needed to adjust the current trends in academia.

**7**

**The Impact of a One-to-One Technology Lending Program on STAAR Scores**

Brooklyn Bingaman

Major in Sociology / Lamar University

Mentor: Dr. Margot Gage / Department of Sociology, Social Work & Criminal Justice / Lamar University

Form of Presentation: Talk
The students of Kountze ISD in Kountze, TX recently experienced an increase in technology use in their day to
day school activities due to a one-to-one technology lending program. This study explores a higher level of
technology use and STAAR scores before the program took effect and after. The Kountze ISD 2016-2017 State
Campus Report Card and the 2017-2018 Federal Report Card for Kountze ISD were examined for approximately
320 high school students. STAAR scores from the 2016-17 year and the 2017-18 year were
compar ed. Preliminary results show a combination of increases and decreases for Reading, Mathematics, and
Science STAAR scores from the 2016-17 year to the 2017-18 year across three categories of scores. This
suggests no major changes as of yet in STAAR scores. Even though the one-to-one initiative does not seem to
have a major impact on STAAR scores, it should be noted that the program has only been in effect for a short
time. It should be compared again in the future to allow the program to reach its full potential. It is also possible
that the STAAR test is not a sufficient measurement to gauge technological knowledge advancement in students.

8
Distracted Cell-Phone Drivers & Vehicle Accidents
Daniel Boldt
Major in Sociology / Lamar University

Mentor: Margot Gage / Department of Sociology, Social Work & Criminal Justice / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

One of the most pressing problems on the highways and streets from around the country and local counties are
the threats of distracted drivers and the results of possible vehicle accidents. We will use data from the AAA
Foundation, National Highway Traffic Administration, Texas A & M Transportation Institute, and local counties
of East Texas (Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, Liberty and Orange) and examine the rates of distracted driving with
cell phone use. Factors such as age, gender, and geographic locations will be used to analyze vehicle
accidents. Given its smaller population size, Liberty County had the most fatal distracted driver crashes from
2016-2018. The numbers of fatal distracted driver crashes in Liberty County are as follows: 4 (2016),
4 (2017) and 5 (2018). Jefferson County still ranks as first in serious crashes. The numbers of serious crashes
in Jefferson County are as follows: 13 (2016), 13 (2017) and 6 (2018). As for non-injuries distracted drivers,
Orange County ranks high. The number of non-injury drivers in Orange County are as follows: 438 (2016),
398 (2017) and 464 (2018). Liberty County has a lower population size as Jefferson County, yet Liberty County
has the most fatal accidents as compared to Jefferson County. National sample surveys also reveal that drivers
(aged 25-34) are more prone to cell phone use while driving. Male drivers more than female drivers. Given the
findings of local distracted drivers and cell phone use, along with National Sample Surveys, research of
distracted drivers and the number of vehicle accidents center around cell phone use.

9
Feminism, Systemic Discrimination, and the Search for Identity in
“Yo Misma Fui Mi Ruta” by Julia de Burgos
Emily Brown
Major in Chemical Engineering / Lamar University

Mentor: Dr. Catalina Castillon, Department of English and Modern Languages, Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

Gender politics, systemic discrimination, and a search for identity are aspects commonly found throughout
Hispanic Literature in the U.S. and are linked to each author’s individual and cultural experiences. Julia de
Burgos was a renowned Afro-Caribbean poet who lived during the early twentieth century and emigrated from
Puerto Rico to New York City. During her life, Burgos was metaphorically demonized by her culture for her inability to fit in to patriarchal expectations and was quite literally criminalized by the FBI for allegedly supporting radical Puerto Rican Nationalism, which she repeatedly denied. In her poem “Yo Misma Fui Mi Ruta (I Was My Own Route)”, Burgos provides a unique perspective on feminism in relation to the immigrant/exile search for identity and unifies different aspects of discrimination that LatinX individuals experience in the U.S. This literary analysis examines the impact of feminism, the search for identity, and the continual systemic discrimination and oppression that Burgos faced throughout her life in “Yo Misma Fui Mi Ruta.”

10
Decrease in Teen Births
Celena Bush
Major in Sociology / Lamar University

Mentor: Dr. Margot Gage / Department of Sociology, Social Work & Criminal Justice / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

Background: Sexual awareness and choice in terms of sexual freedom and preferences have increased over the past few decades. Despite these changing cultural and social circumstances, teen birth rates have fallen to an all-time low in the US in recent years. Methods: This study uses data to examine the national teen birth rate. We then went a step further to investigate the situation in Jefferson County (Beaumont) Texas. Findings: The national teen birth rate stands currently at 18.8 from as high as 61.1 in 1991. In Texas, the teen birth rate is 27.6 and has decreased since 2014 when it was 37.4. Jefferson county in 1992 had a rate of 72.60 which was much higher than the national average and quite high nationwide. This means that the figure has gone down by 48% in 25 years. Conclusion: Increased awareness of risky sexual behavior, the progression of women empowerment and young girls, along with fact that the financial strain of having a child at a young age affects a person’s ability to grow from one social class to another. Further looking into Jefferson county, where teen birth rates were relatively high, the trends in the numbers throughout the years show a decrease. Oddly enough, abortions can be ruled out of the equation because the last abortion clinic in Beaumont, called “Whole Beaumont Women’s Center” shut down in 2016 after legislative changes and loss of funding for Planned Parenthood. This suggests that the decrease in teen births is due to another cause such as the use of contraceptive methods becoming more accessible.

11
Preschool Teachers’ Perceptions and Knowledge of Speech-Language Pathology
Jennifer Caltzontzin
Major in Speech & Hearing Sciences / Lamar University

Mentor: Dr. Lekeitha Morris / Department of Speech & Hearing Sciences / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Poster

Preschool teachers are integral in helping speech-language pathologists (SLPs) identify children who may require intervention services for speech and language. Therefore, it is imperative that preschool teachers understand the role of SLPs and typical speech and language development. Thus, the current study examined pre-school teachers’ knowledge and perceptions of speech-language pathology. Additionally, the work examined the effectiveness of a training program to teach preschool teachers more about the role of SLPs and the speech and language milestones of preschool children. Participants were 38 preschool teachers from public and private childcare centers. Results revealed that the training was effective in expanding the
preschool teachers’ knowledge and perceptions of SLPs. After the training teachers also had more knowledge of speech and language milestones of preschool children. Clinical implications will be discussed.

12

Elementary Students Experiencing Genetic Engineering Education

Anna Carter
Major in Biology / Lamar University

Mentor: Dr. Mamta Singh / Department of Teacher Education / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

Participants for the study were elementary students attending a local summer program at one of the schools in southeast Texas. Guided inquiry and hands-on activities in cooperation with 5 E Instructional Model with two-days lesson plan were used for this study. The purpose of the study was to introduce a basic understanding of the advancement in contemporary genetic engineering education. Findings suggested that 75% of student participants understood the content well enough to describe future advancements for genetic work not previously discussed while others struggled to understand the concepts in general. A future study with a week long unit plan on genetic engineering education rather than two-days lesson plan is recommended with pre-during-post assessments along with embedded formative and summative assessments to fully assess students’ knowing and understanding of genetic engineering education.

13

A Study of Our Nation’s Political Preferences

Lauren Dean
Major in Sociology / Lamar University

Mentor: Dr. Margot Gage / Department of Sociology, Social Work & Criminal Justice / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

America has extreme political dichotomies between liberal and conservative views. Everyone seems to believe their way is the right way and no other options should exist. This study examines voting tendencies of men and women and their political views across the U.S. Data from the General Social Survey were examined. Responses of 64,815 men and women were examined that assessed how they voted in the 2016 Presidential Election and whether they considered themselves liberal or conservative. Local Jefferson County voter results were also explored. Findings showed that men voted for the conservative candidate Donald Trump in higher numbers (n=322) as compared to Donald Trump (n=267). Men that identified having political views anywhere between extreme – slightly liberal totaled 6,890 people. Whereas the number of conservative respondents equaled to n=9,501. Moderate views for men was 9,210. Women’s political views for extremely – slightly liberal totaled 8,062 and their conservative counterparts equaled 9,560. Moderate views for women was at 12,197. Voting results from Jefferson County voting precincts showed very close results with republican and democratic views. Straight Party votes were in favor of the democrats at 57.22% while the President and Vice President votes favored the Trump/Pence campaign with 48.92% of the votes. It appears that men tend to lean towards conservative political views and were more likely to voting for Donald Trump as compared to women. However, for women the opposite is observed, with more women chose voting for Hillary Clinton in the 2016 Presidential Election. Local voting results show almost even distribution of democratic and republican views.
The study and analysis of Hispanic literature in the U.S. has spawned literary categorizations such as Native or Exiled. In many cases, it is apparent which category applies to certain literary works. For example, the Native literature has characteristics that deal with civil rights and social injustice. Whereas, the literature of the Exile (in the U.S. or any other country) is usually written by individuals who have been banished from their motherland due to political reasons and write to denounce and to foster change. As of recently, one certain demographic of Hispanics in the United States may fit in both categorizations. This is none other than the Deported Veteran. No longer living in their country, Deported Veterans are Hispanics from the United States often represented in the Native literature. Thus, although politically they are Exiles, in Hispanic literature in the U.S. their stories are told in the Native literature. For example, in Luis Valdez’s play titled Soldado razo, the soldier [soldado] is a prominent figure that is used to critique the treatment of Hispanic U.S. servicemen by American society. This literary analysis of Valdez’s work will use a series of interviews of deported veterans to provide a more insightful reading of the play. Furthermore, the research will introduce the views and oral narratives (from the Exile) of the Deported Veterans to better comprehend certain aspects of Hispanic literature in the U.S.

Knowledge Regarding Health and Health Seeking Behaviour Among Primary School Going Children in Rural Bangladesh: A Cross-sectional Study

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Mentor: Shabnam Naher, Department of Public Health & Informatics, Jahangirnagar University
Form of Presentation: Poster

Introduction to basic health knowledge from primary school level helps to develop a healthy nation. Training students on hygiene practices & healthy behaviour leads to attain this goal. In Bangladesh, a significant number of children are enrolled in government primary schools. Government has a monitoring cell to assess the health status of students. However, no significant data is available regarding perceiving health and health seeking behaviour. The study tried to figure out primary school going student’s healthy & unhealthy practices and health seeking behaviour based on their knowledge level. Additionally, the study aimed to bridge the knowledge gaps, recommend immediate action plans, and improve monitoring of healthy practices & behaviour. It was a community based descriptive cross-sectional study. Primary data were gathered through face-to-face semi-structured interview of primary school students in rural areas of Bangladesh. It is expected to find out the effect of cognition factor on health & health seeking behavior including personal hygiene, WASH, nutrition. Finding the role of teachers, health care provider and parents will be a major concern of this study. Childhood health condition have a consequence on children's education and social performance. Problems found in this study can be managed with simple, cheap and safe interventions at the school level. Considering limitations, future research should contemplate the effectiveness of these interventions to improve quality of health care.
16
Parents Beliefs and Behaviors about Shared Book Reading
Hope Fowler
Major in Speech and Hearing Science / Lamar University
Mentor: Dr. Lakeitha Morris/ Speech and Hearing Science / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Poster

Human belief systems are important because they heavily shape our behaviors. The aim of this research was to better understand the relationship between parents’ beliefs about the most effective ways to share books with their children and their behaviors as they read with their children. Three caregivers completed questionnaires and were recorded during a parent/child book reading session. Results revealed that there is a relationship between beliefs and behaviors and parent report of behaviors and actual observed behaviors are not always consistent. Clinical implications of this work will be further discussed during the poster presentation.

17
Juveniles in Jail: The Use of Mental Health Therapy in Juvenile Detention Centers
Madison Hamby and Alyssa Kelley
Majors in Psychology / Lamar University
Mentors: Dr. Vidisha Worley and Dr. Robert Worley / Department of Criminal Justice / Lamar University

A statistically significant portion of the juveniles incarcerated in juvenile detention centers suffer from at least one mental or behavioral health disorder. Officials in juvenile detention centers rely on mental health therapy when attempting to rehabilitate these individuals. If rehabilitation is successful, the tendency towards deviant behavior is decreased. However, multiple external factors, such as the juvenile’s social environment and family structure, play a significant role in the effectiveness of the mental health care they received. This literature review examines the impact of these factors, while emphasizing the importance of further research of mental health care for juvenile offenders.

18
From Hope to Hell: A Review of the Assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and the Extent of the Oslo Accords
Ali Hamza
Major in Political Sciences / Lamar University
Mentor: Dr. Terri Davis / Department of Political Sciences / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

In this paper, I look at the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and how his assassination affected the peace process on a local (Israel and Palestine), regional (Jordan and Egypt), and global level (Russia, United States of America, France, Germany, and Britain). I analyze Prime Minister Rabin’s proposals and statements and their effects on the peace process and compare them to the actions of Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.
19
Not-So-Secret U-Boats attack along the Gulf Coast
Tishia L Hubert
Major in History / Lamar University
Mentor: Dr. Brendan Gillis / Department of History / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

During World War II from 1942 thru 1943 twenty-four German U-boats patrolled the Gulf of Mexico sinking hundreds of tons of shipping. The allied forces were dependent on the petroleum products that sailed from ports like Orange, Port Arthur, and Houston. Americans were very much aware that there was a possible threat to our shores and began to take precautions to protect themselves. Air raids were done, and beaches were closed, but the newspapers used their platform to keep the public calm. The Norlindo was sunk on May 4, 1942 near the Dry Tortugas Island by U-507 and then on May 11, 1942, U-507 sailed into the Gulf of Mexico and sank the Alcoa Puritan just 50 miles from the mouth of the Mississippi river. These attacks made those who lived along the Gulf Coast to really begin to understand the danger they were in. More ships were sunk near the mouth of the Mississippi and more U-boats were seen. Using primary sources in the form of Newspaper articles from the time period along with first-hand accounts from the U-Boat Admiral Karl Donitz along with some of his Captains and secondary sources from a renowned German Naval Historian’s writings along with a German maintained website of all the U-Boats that sailed and their outcomes to establish a historiography. These sources conveyed what the local Gulf Coast communities went through for approximately fifteen months during World War II and how they responded in kind to that ultimate task.

20
Virtual Reality as a Vestibular Rehabilitation tool for Athletes after Concussion
Sierra Hunnicutt
Major in Speech & Hearing Sciences / Lamar University
co-author: Dr. Ashley Dockens
Mentor: Lilian Felipe, Department of Speech & Hearing Sciences / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Poster

The vestibular system is a reference in balance control by acting as a gravity sensor, controlling dynamic posture. Vestibular dysfunctions can present different manifestations, such as reduced stability, vertigo, and falls, among others. The use of virtual reality has been incorporated in treatment of vestibular rehabilitation, based on mechanisms related to neuronal plasticity of the central nervous system. Of the few studies that have been conducted on this topic, patients showed improvement in motor coordination, postural balance, and reduced dizziness. Virtual reality may be relevant in the treatment of vestibular dysfunction, and it is essential to investigate how virtual reality is applicable in the vestibular rehabilitation process. This literature review was written to investigate how virtual reality is being applied in the vestibular rehabilitation process in improving balance of athletes who have suffered from concussions. Articles were selected by searching through six databases: Cochrane Collection, Consumer Health Complete, Oxford Journals, PubMed, Science Direct, and SportsDiscus. Information gathered from the selected articles shows that virtual reality can be a functional and useful tool in vestibular rehabilitation.
This paper will explore the immigration of Vietnamese nationals into the United States following the Vietnam War. It will attempt to explain how there became such a large population on the Gulf Coast of Texas, and how they were able to create their own way of life in a sometimes-hostile environment. Using news articles for the Gulf Coast area from the dates following the Vietnam War, and books written in this time period about the migration, an attempt will be made to show the challenges that Vietnamese people dealt with. The reactions of the community in which Vietnamese people were trying to make new homes will also be discussed. The ideals of discrimination and also acceptance of the Gulf Coast community played a major role in the way the Vietnamese culture is even to this day. Also, using secondary sources this paper will investigate the assimilation and cultural changes that Vietnamese immigrants had to deal with when they realized that they were not emigrants, but immigrants to this country. The Gulf Coast area is a diverse population with many different people. Vietnamese culture and immigration seem to be forgotten or lost in the mix. Secondary sources for Vietnamese immigration are hard to come by so this paper will investigate secondary sources about immigration from other Asian communities to look at Vietnamese immigration in comparison with the immigration of other people from like countries. There is not a clear historiography of study into the progression of Vietnamese immigration and assimilation into the United States which shows that this is a study that is long past due.

Many Afro-Hispanic authors write about voicing their people’s concerns. Through the works of Tato Laviera, we are able to understand the many struggles that are faced by his people. Being criticized for being of African descent, Hispanic, and a writer, Laviera uses these experiences and turns them into literature. He aims to help individuals be more informed on how to conquer certain situations they face in life, positive or negative. This research will analyze the poems “Harlem Elder Odes” and “My Graduation Speech” by the famous Afro-Hispanic poet, Tato Laviera. It will review Tatos’ critiques, imagery, other known writer’s commentary, and more. The importance of Laviera’s poetry and its major contributions to American literature, and the effect Afro-Hispanic Literature has on the United States, will be examined and analyzed throughout the poems.

The importance of Laviera’s poetry and its major contributions to American literature, and the effect Afro-Hispanic Literature has on the United States, will be examined and analyzed throughout the poems.
When writing is a part of the healing process for grief, there is no point in hiding the morbid and mournful truths. This is very much the case when writing about grief for the individual, the personal journeys toward acceptance and sharing customized coping strategies with others. Phase one of my journey towards accepting the deaths of three important people in my life began when my therapist suggested a grief journal, to write out the things that I was saying over and over again, to say the things that I was most afraid to say, and the things that I wish I could have told the deceased. A few years later, phase two occurred when I was hired by Hearst Publishing to write a series of journal articles on suicide and the loss of loved ones and how I managed to continue my everyday routine as a single other, writer and student. It was then that I realized the horrible truth; that grief settles on top of the skin and when the thought of the deceased person is conjured, the pain seeps in and infects all over again. Phase three is this research paper. Through diligent investigation on the topic of writing through pain, I found that I am not alone. In fact, fiction writer Anne Rice, and rock singer Stevie Nicks have used writing as a tool to express their pain of losing someone they loved in their respective fields. This paper will go over the different tactics that Anne Rice used in her 1976 debut novel, “Interview with the Vampire,” when she created Claudia to immortalize her late daughter, Michele Rice. And also discuss Stevie Nicks lyrics to her song, “Sara,” coping with the pain of aborting her baby in 1979. Anne Rice, Stevie Nicks and I have used writing to cope with grief, loss and acceptance in hopes to educate readers about the positive effects that the uses of getting the pain out on paper can heal.

24

Satanism in Louisiana and the Initiation of the “Mark of Cain” Bill

Sierra Kondos
Major in History / Lamar University

Mentor: Dr. Brendan Gillis / Department of History / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

In 1989, “The Advocate,” a newspaper that published in Baton Rouge, LA, published that a house panel endorsed a bill that would outlaw ritualistic acts that include human and animal torture or other deviant behavior. Without mentioning Satanism or religion to avoid a potential constitutional challenge, Representative Ralph Miller chairman of the House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice, and eight other committee members discuss and pass House Bill 928 and make it a criminal offense to commit ritualistic acts such as mutilations, dismemberment, torture of a human being as a part of a ceremony, rite, initiation, observance, performance or practice. The bill also forbids “ritualistic sexual abuse of children” or persons who are mentally disabled and forbids “ritualistic psychological abuse” of the handicapped or children as part of a ceremony or ritual. The issue was brought up by Republican James David Cain, and the bill was thus nicknamed, the “Mark of Cain” bill. Cain's particular concern was the practice in Satanism among the juveniles in the state and those coming from the surrounding states. The bill makes it a crime to also mutilate, dismember, torture, abuse, or sacrifice animals or the ingestion of human or animal blood or waste. The committee added provisions to allow the death penalty in cases where a human is slain as a sacrifice in some rituals. In my research, I will produce the historical background of the Satanic attacks, define what Satanism and moral panic are, and the impact it had in Louisiana in the 1980's that forced the hand of the government to create a bill to protect the people from horrific crimes. Documents used are newspapers, government documents and minutes from May 25, 1989, provided by the State Senate of Louisiana.
25

Female Characters in Chicano Theatre: A Literary Analysis of *Me Voy Pa Mexico* by Jesus and Netty Rodriguez and *Los Vendidos* by Luis Valdez

Aurora Maldonado
Major in Social Work / Lamar University

**Mentor:** Dr. Catalina Castillon, Department of English & Modern Languages

**Form of Presentation:** Talk

The 1960s Chicano movement sought to advance the rights of all Chicanos. However, it seemed to keep the rights of women as an afterthought. Not only was the advancement of Chicana’s rights not a priority, but popular Chicano literature reflected how women were oppressed by their own culture through assigned gender roles. If a Chicana broke away from these roles, she was classified and portrayed as a sort of traitor (agringada) who had lost her Chicano values. A comparative literary analysis will be conducted of a one-act play written by Jesus and Netty Rodriguez before the Chicano movement and one by Luis Valdez during the 60s. The literary analysis will explore how the portrayal of women in Chicano theatre, regardless of the presence of a civil rights mentality, confined them to an image based on a patriarchal stance predating the Chicano movement’s existence.

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26

Baseball and Other Things: The Evolution America’s Past Time in Pop Culture

April Marble
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**Mentor:** Dr. O'Brien Stanley / Department of Communications / Lamar University

**Form of Presentation:** Talk

Baseball - or what baseball represents - has been a key component of our American identity. For all intents and purposes, baseball is American mythology. However, much of that mythology has faded or changed over time. With lockouts, strikes, and various drug related scandals, our view of these athletes that are supposed to represent what it means to be American drastically changed from heroic to horrifically flawed. This shift can also be traced in baseball films. Prior to the 1990s, a renaissance of the baseball film occurred with films such as *The Natural, Major League, Bull Durham,* and several others because during this period baseball was a celebration of everything revered about the sport. After the 1990s, the overall tone and setting showed how as a society, the approach to baseball in pop culture changed. The purpose of this paper is to provide history, cultural tie ins, and perspective on how the 1990 Major League Baseball Lockout and 1994-95 Major League Baseball Strike, as well as a series of other scandals within the league, affected the monomyth of baseball. The goal of this study is to understand baseball’s past, present, and future through the examination of the historical contexts of these films and what they mean moving forward ultimately raising the question: what is the future of baseball and will baseball ever be what it once was?

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27

1945-1975 African-American History in Beaumont; Experiences of an African American Beaumonter during Segregation

Aris Martinez and Cindy Rodriguez
 Majors in Civil Engineering and Physics / Lamar University

**Mentor:** Richard Gachot / Department of Art & Design / Lamar University

**Form of Presentation:** Talk
African Americans in Beaumont and across the United States faced systemic discrimination and segregation during the post-World War II economic expansion and suburbanization. The paper discusses the national events surrounding African Americans’ civil rights struggle and transitions to the corresponding legal battles against segregation in Beaumont. The purpose of the research was to describe the African American experience and history in Beaumont from 1945 to 1975. The record of African American history in Beaumont was curated from books describing the conditions in Beaumont’s communities and important events in the city’s history as well as almanacs and documents containing numerical data about Beaumont. For this project, our group recorded the firsthand account of an African American Beaumonter’s experience of life during segregation. A couple of her recollections are included in the final paper. Our group notes that Beaumont experiences social and economic changes during the 1940 to 70s due to legal victories against segregation, the rise of suburbs, and the development of new highways. Wealthier Beaumonters, enabled by highways, had the means to move away from the downtown, leaving the downtown to decay. The paper concludes that the economic disparities of Beaumont continue into the present, as Beaumont is still highly segregated along lines of race and income.

28

Tools to Identify Poor Vocal Use and Suggested Methods of Remediation for Intermediate Students and Their Teachers
Hannah Meyer
Major in Music / Lamar University
Mentor: Dr. Debra Greschner / Department of Music / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

The purpose of this study was to explore and predict the effects of force on an object. TEKS: §112.16. Science, Grade 5 (6) Force, motion, and energy. The student knows that energy occurs in many forms and can be observed in cycles, patterns, and systems. The student is expected to: (D) design a simple experimental investigation that tests the effect of force on an object. Even though the study anticipated to use Plicker app to measure the effectiveness of the lesson it was not possible due to time limitation. Therefore, the students’ journals were used for the evaluative assessment. The journals used during the lessons had questions to track the lesson, keep students on task, and assess through embedded formative assessment. The most common misconception noticed from the journal questions was that some students believed that since their bridge did not fall, the force was not acting on the bridge.

29

Depictions of Struggle: Comparing Popular Immigrant Corridos to John Fogherty’s “Lodi.”
Meikayla Mixon
Major in Deaf Studies & Deaf Education / Lamar University
Mentor: Dr. Catalina Castillon, Department of English & Modern Languages / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

A corrido is a folkloric song prevalent in the Mexican and Mexican-American cultures. Corridos depict historical and legendary/epic events, or personal experiences, with important life lessons. Among the different categories, those labeled as Immigrant Corridos describe the trials of being working class as an immigrant in America. These corridos relate to the history and experiences of Mexican-American immigrants, and some of the same fundamental hardships can be seen in songs written by Anglo musicians. However, the poetic lyrics of these corridos address other layers of concern for their listeners, such as discrimination and deportation. Through research of various corridos and other musical themes, this analysis aims to compare “The
Dishwasher”, “The Deportee” (both corridos by anonymous authors), and “Lodi” by John Fogherty and sung by Creedence Clearwater. All three songs are full of poetry that expresses similar emotions after chasing a dream that was not achieved. Each poem ended with the return, or hopeful return of the singer/narrator. Despite having less, each narrator explained that home was worth more than any dream. “Lodi”, a poem/song written from a culturally white point of view, did not consider the same implications that were explored in “The Dishwasher” and “The Deportee”, both written from the immigrant perspective.

30

The Psychology of Donnie Darko
Kylee Moreland
Major in Film and Media / Lamar University

Mentors: Dr. Andre Favors and Dr. O'Brien Stanley / Department of Communications / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

Donnie Darko (2001), film debut for director Richard Kelly, is an extraordinarily confusing, wonderfully enthralling and psychologically charged work of art. The story follows Donnie, a troubled high school teen dealing with more than anyone would believe. But is it the whole world that’s at stake in the film, or just Donnie’s? This question has been up for debate amongst the film’s cult fanbase since its release. It is established early in the film that Donnie is suffering from mental illness when his sister, in the opening of the film, asks “You wanna tell Mom and Dad why you stopped taking your medication?” (Donnie Darko [2001]) He is vaguely diagnosed by his counselor, Dr. Thurman, with paranoid schizophrenia, a subtype of the broader mental illness schizophrenia. However, the film’s ambiguous nature leaves room for interpretation. But considering the symptoms Donnie exhibits throughout the duration of the feature, including hallucinations/delusions and what are known as “negative symptoms” of schizophrenia, there is room for debate as to whether the film is a document of Donnie’s mental decline with the illness or just a delightfully confusing sci-fi. For the purpose of this academic paper, I will analyze the film and discuss its main character’s mental state throughout the story, noting the schizophrenic attributes of his demeanor as well as the symptoms he exhibits.

31

Jefferson County Redistricting
Drew Moulton
Major in Sociology / Lamar University

Mentor: Dr. Margot Gage / Department of Sociology, Social Work & Criminal Justice / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

Jefferson county has two legislative districts. This study will investigate the redistricting of legislative district 21 and legislative district 22 from the year 2000 to the current one, which was drawn in 2010. Methods: House.texas.gov data were analyzed in the years 2000 and 2010. Analyzing the legislative voting districts by demographics and election results. The population living within district 21 and 22 combined is 334,110 people with districts 21 and 22 combined, with poverty level varied median household income between the districts to race. Results show that the legislative districts Jefferson county contain minority voters mainly in one district. Where in District 22 the Black and Hispanic population outnumber the White population and in District 21 it is the opposite. In the year 2000 district 21 did not wrap around district 22 as it does today. It did not include the southern part of Port Arthur nor Orange. In the year 2000 both Districts 21 and 22 where represented by Democrats until 2010 when Allen Ritter of District 21 switched parties to better represent his district that was redrawn. Now District 22 is surrounded on its Western, Southern, and Eastern boarders by District 21. The district lines are drawn in positions that keeps voters who have similar racial and economic
backgrounds in the same voting district. This factor highlights that a more well-rounded voting system in Texas is needed.

32
The Value of Women’s Traditional Role: Fray Benito Jerónimo Feijoo’s Defensa de las Mujeres
Rebekah Newell
Major in English and Spanish / Lamar University
Mentor: Dr. Jaime Retamales, Department of English & Modern Languages, Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

Spain’s period of decadence that began with the death of Carlos II in 1700 brought about the combination of tradition and modernization. One such scholar who sought knowledge and reason while maintaining his religion is Fray Benito Jerónimo Feijoo, a Spanish professor, author, and monk who wrote Defensa de las Mujeres to make a case for women in spite of the underestimation they faced. By examining the religious and political examples in Feijoo’s work, it is clear that women have proven themselves to be capable in positions often associated with men. However, it is uncertain that even today, women want to be in these socially-powerful roles over occupying their traditional role as the heart of the home. Furthermore, the occupations that women now largely hold, such as teachers, nurses, and secretaries, are positions of service and care for others, which suits their caring nature. Women rarely hold positions of CEO’s, doctors, or lawyers without also neglecting or completely declining their roles as wives and mothers. However, it is because of their natural qualities, not their intelligence, that women find themselves content to fulfill their role at home without needing the status associated with the roles of men. It is important to value the role of women in the home just as society values the prestigious roles in the workforce that men hold. Male and female were created for unique purposes; therefore, both roles must be fulfilled in order to have maximized success in the family as well as in society.

33
Relationships of Work-related Musculoskeletal Disorders and Psychological Factors in Licensed Nurses
William Perry
Major in Nursing / Lamar University
Mentor: Cynthia Pipkins, JoAnne Gay Dishman School of Nursing, Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

Research estimates nurses have one of the highest rates of work-related musculoskeletal disorders [WMSD] (OSHA, 2013). Once a WMSD occurs, the healthcare provider should evaluate the physical and psychological affects (Vlaeyen & Linton, 2000; Pipkins, 2015). The physical impact of WMSDs has been well researched; however, the psychological effects are understudied. The purpose of this study was to describe the characteristics and demographics of nurses with and without WMSDs. The study statistically defined the relationships among psychological factors of pain, personality traits, and coping strategies. Methods: This replication study utilized a descriptive cross-sectional design with a convenience sample of (n = 78) licensed nurses completing an online survey distributed to 2 nursing organizations. Data collected included demographics, WMSD History, Numeric Pain Rating Scale, Coping Strategies Questionnaire-24, Fear Avoidance Belief Questionnaire, Eysenck Personality Questionnaire- Brief Version, and Centers for Epidemiological Studies Depression Scale. Nurses with WMSDs (n = 40) and without WMSDs (n = 38) were evenly distributed within the groups. No significant differences were observed in each demographic variable for nurses with and without WMSDs. There were no significant differences between personality traits and
depression scores for the nurses with and without a WMSD. Catastrophizing showed a positive relationship to all psychological factors, except reinterpreting and the personality factor of extraversion. Nurses with WMSDs showed positive correlations between pain severity and catastrophizing. Overall, the strongest correlation was between neuroticism and depression. From this study, it was determined that there are several correlations between pain, personality traits, and coping strategies. Currently, the data extrapolated from this study may offer information for the development of interventions for the rehabilitation of nurses with WMSDs.

34
Dilemma in the Definition: What is a Mass Shooting?
Stephanie Pileggi
Major in Sociology / Lamar University

Mentor: Dr. Margot Gage, Department of Sociology, Social Work & Criminal Justice, Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

Mass shootings are a common cause of fear and concern in America today that sparks major debate on gun control. This study examines applied definitions of “mass shootings,” “active shooter incidents,” and “mass murders” according to different government agencies as well as how these definitions affect how and which agencies report on the incidents. Data were collected from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Gun Violence Archive (GVA) for mass shooting incidents from 2014-2018 on geographical location, number of deaths and injuries, event location type, sex of shooter(s), age of shooter(s), and the outcome of the shooter. Preliminary results indicate that the difference in agency definitions alter the number of mass shootings that are reported. From 2014-2018, the FBI reported 117 mass shootings, while the GVA reported 1,669. Additionally, 56 of the 117 mass shootings the FBI reported on did not meet the GVA’s definition of “four or more shot or killed, not including the shooter,” leaving 1,613 incidents unaccounted for by the FBI. How a mass shooting is defined greatly affects how gun violence statistics are depicted and influences the public’s opinion on how likely an event will occur. A standardized definition is needed among reporting agencies to ensure consistency and true representation of the data.

35
Reducing Violent Crime in Beaumont, Texas
Maissa Salibi
Major in Political Science / Lamar University

Mentor: Dr. Bianca Easterly / Department of Political Science / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

Crime is caused by a number of contributing factors such as a lack of education, poverty, drugs, gangs, and an inattentive police force. While enhancing the school districts and education systems in a city is an essential long-term goal in decreasing crime rates, improving a city’s police force might be the most efficient and quickest way to reduce crime. The first step in solving a problem such as violent crime rate is to have city officials acknowledge the fact that it is an issue that needs to be addressed. Denying that the problem exists and not giving it the attention it deserves only makes matters worse. In this paper, I shall focus specifically on violent crime, which is defined by the Federal Bureau of Investigation Uniform Crime Report program (FBIUCR) as four offenses: murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. I will compare the violent crime rates of Beaumont, Texas to New York City, Los Angeles, and Round Rock, provide the solutions that these three cities implemented to reduce violent crime, and how Beaumont could do the same.
Time to End Unequal Pay in Sports
Scott Sayre
Major in Communications / Lamar University

Mentor: Dr. Natalie T.J. Tindall / Department of Communications / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

The purpose of this paper is to highlight the difference in pay between men and women in sports. The two sports that were analyzed were tennis and soccer. These two sports have led the way in the debate on equal pay for equal play. In both sports, the numbers show that women are actually bringing in more views, ratings, and money than men in tennis and soccer. Tennis has shown that women’s final matches drawn in more views than the men’s final. They are also willing to play as many sets as the men, but they do not have the power to decide how many sets they play. In soccer, the United States Women’s soccer team is the most notable case in the fight for inequality. They have been fighting for years to be compensated properly for the work that they put into their craft and the outcome from their work. With the failure of the men’s team, the women continue to fight for their equality despite having cases dismissed over the issue. This inequality in sports goes deeper than just equal pay. Women in other areas of the world are fighting just for basic rights when it comes to sports, but these inequalities all depend on what happens with the issues in tennis and soccer.

Malignant Hyperthermia: Treatment and Preparedness
DaShonda Shepard
Major in Nursing / Lamar University

Mentor: Dr. Gina Hale, JoAnne Gay Dishman School of Nursing, Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

It is essential that surgical nurses be knowledgeable about and prepared for various complications that may arise during a surgical procedure. Malignant Hyperthermia (MH) is one of those complications. MH is a pharmacogenetic disorder of skeletal muscle that occurs in response to certain potent, volatile anesthetic gases such has halothane and desflurane and the muscle relaxant, succinylcholine (Rosenburg, Pollock, Schiemann, Bulger, & Stowell, 2015). Due to the lethal effects that Malignant Hyperthermia has on the body, it is important that healthcare practitioners pinpoint key manifestations of the disorder to increase survival rates. The purpose of this exploratory research study was to evaluate the preparedness of facilities and nurses who work within or around the operating room before, during or after a surgical procedure. The researcher developed a demographic form and a fifteen-item questionnaire, the Malignant Hyperthermia Preparedness Questionnaire, to determine the preparedness of nurses and the facility in which the nurse worked. Forty-four (N=44) subjects met the criteria and completed the questionnaire, which included participants from 17 states across the U.S. Altogether, the average facility preparedness score was 60.98%; the average nurse preparedness score was 63.72%. Such data allowed the researcher's hypothesis, there will be a knowledge deficiency in preparedness to treat a case of MH in both ASCs and acute care facilities, to be accepted. The data also showed that there was not a significant difference in the knowledge of MH between nurses with varying degrees. The results of the study indicate the need for more frequent, thorough assessments and education on Malignant Hyperthermia to ensure the risk for fatalities due to an MH crisis is decreased.
The Pattern of Symbolism in “The Masque of the Red Death”

Erin Sims
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Mentor: Dr. Lloyd Daigrepont / Department of English & Modern Languages / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

Scholars and critics have widely debated the meaning of Edgar Allan Poe’s “The Masque of the Red Death.” The short story describes a deadly disease spreading through the dominion of Prince Prospero, who has invited the wealthy to take refuge and enjoy revelry in his bizarre abbey. Poe’s description of Prince Prospero’s abbey emphasizes the colors of each room. Several theories have been formulated to decipher the meaning of these colors. This paper focuses on the theory that the colors symbolize the progression of life through death to analyze Prince Prospero’s character and actions. This paper also analyzes Poe’s use of the story’s unorthodox narrator, and its function in reference to the color symbolism, to further criticize the life and actions of Prince Prospero. The sources for this paper include publications in scholarly journals and magazines.

Teaching Force on Bridge using Guided Discovery Approach to 5th Graders!

Brianna Thibodeaux
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co-author: Sloane Albrecht

Mentor: Dr. Mamta Singh / Department of Teacher Education / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

The purpose of this study was to explore and predict the effects of force on an object. TEKS: §112.16. Science, Grade 5 (6) Force, motion, and energy. The student knows that energy occurs in many forms and can be observed in cycles, patterns, and systems. The student is expected to: (D) design a simple experimental investigation that tests the effect of force on an object. Even though the study anticipated to use Plicker app to measure the effectiveness of the lesson it was not possible due to time limitation. Therefore, the students’ journals were used for the evaluative assessment. The journals used during the lessons had questions to track the lesson, keep students on task, and assess through embedded formative assessment. The most common misconception noticed from the journal questions was that some students believed that since their bridge did not fall, the force was not acting on the bridge.

Knowledge and Perceptions of Parents and School Administrators/Staff on Rehabilitative Resources Provided to Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing School-Aged Students and their Families

Melissa Torres
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Co-Authors: Dr. Heather Reading

Mentor: Dr. Ashley Dockens / Department of Speech & Hearing Sciences / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

Hearing loss affects approximately 12,000 children born in the United States every year. Hearing loss significantly impacts many factors of child development. Without support, hearing loss has detrimental effects
on language, academic, social, emotional, and cognitive development. With 92% of deaf/hard-of-hearing (HoH) children born to hearing parents, there is something to be said about the support parents receive joining the Deaf community — however, it is not uncommon for these individuals to report a lack of educational support and accessibility. Unsupported, deaf/HoH persons exhibit deficiencies in educational endeavors and cognitive development, deterring societal advancement. Using a survey approach, this research investigated family and school administration/staff knowledge and satisfaction regarding resources, efficiency, and adequacy of resources to meet needs of families of deaf/HoH school-age students. Generally, findings suggest room for improvement and growth in the training and knowledge surrounding hearing rehabilitation in school systems. Outcomes will be used to assist in bridging the disconnect between support-providers and parents of deaf/HoH children.

Note: This research was completed initially as two separate projects for the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) and the McNair Scholars Program. Due to interrelated findings, these topics are presented in combination.

41
Oppression: A Rite of Passage for the Migrant in Chicano Literature
Emily Trahan
Major in Speech & Hearing and Spanish / Lamar University

Mentor: Dr. Catalina Castillon / Department of English & Modern Languages / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

Tomas Rivera’s novel “Y no se tragó la tierra” is Native Chicano Literature and is characterized by an author who has a strong sense of place in the U.S, expresses cultural change, and uses identity crisis, race-class-gender, and community themes. This bildungsroman novel tells of a migrant, working-class family and follows the main character’s journey from adolescence to self-identification. Isabel Gonzalez is also a Native Chicano author who, in her Essay: “Stepchildren of a Nation” uses Native themes similarly. Through Rivera’s anecdotes and Gonzalez’s Essay, readers may come to define that migratory life is rich in racial oppression in the 1990’s and 1980’s, and that working conditions, healthcare, and minority status make life difficult for the Latinx population. This presentation analyzes oppressions found in Rivera’s novel and compares them with the essay by Isabel Gonzalez: “Stepchildren of a Nation”. While “Y no se tragó la tierra” by Tomas Rivera is fiction and “Stepchildren of a Nation” by Isabel Gonzales is nonfiction, both demonstrate hardships like labor exploitation, housing conditions, and inadequate health measures for migrant Mexican Americans. An inside look at the chapter anecdotes supported by Gonzalez’s nonfiction essay can demonstrate the degree to which the migrant population is viewed as an exploited minority in the time of the novel, and how the Latinx population is represented as what Michael Reed in his article “Structural Motif in the Stories of Tomas Rivera” calls “an inaccurate racial Paradigm” in recent times.

42
Medical Experimentation through History:
The Impact of Experiments on African Americans and its Legacy in Contemporary Medical Practices
RaKaya Turner
Major in Political Science / Lamar University

Mentor: Dr. Terri Davis / Department of Political Science / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk
Historians have begun to research medical experiments performed since colonial times on African Americans in order to introduce new procedures and practices to the benefit of white patients (Washington, 2017). Two such historically significant experiments – the Tuskegee syphilis experiment and the J. Marion Sims experiments – have received considerable attention and constitute the case studies of my analysis. Specifically, I trace the impact these experiments have had on modern medical ethics and procedures. I conclude with a statement about how contemporary issues of medical ethics such as informed consent by patients and a 1980 Supreme Court ruling that living things are subject to patents (Diamond v. Chakrabarty, 1980) were informed by the lasting legacy of experimentation on African Americans.


The Relationship Between Sleep Deprivation and Stress Levels in University Students
Arismel Urbina
Major in Psychology / Lamar University

Mentor: Dr. Sherri Shoefstall / Department of Psychology / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Poster

The present study used a correlational research design to determine the relationship between sleep deprivation (SD) and stress levels. A total of 13 male and 40 female university students, ages 18-64, participated voluntarily (N=53). Participants filled out a 7-day sleep log and took the abbreviated Profile of Mood States (POMS) to measure their fatigue levels before completing the task. Participants were randomly assigned to take the Stroop Color and Word Test (SCWT), or the Mental Arithmetic Task (MAT). Participants rated their stress levels before and after the assigned task. The multiple regression analysis produced a main effect for the type of condition, b=1.42, p=.02. Participants who completed the MAT reported higher levels of stress (2.84) than those who completed the SCWT (1.42). A significant main effect for pre-task fatigue was also found, b=0.28, p=.006. Participants who felt fatigued before completing either task reported higher levels of stress (3.65) than participants who were less fatigued (0.44). Both of these main effects were suitable by a task x fatigue interaction, b=-0.16, p=.02. Fatigue did not affect the stress levels of participants who completed the MAT. The stress level of high fatigued participants (1.92) was similar to the stress level of low fatigued participants (2.25) after completing the MAT. In the SCWT group, high fatigued participants reported more stress (2.50) than the less fatigued participants (1.07). These results suggest that SD decreases the threshold for the perception of stress, but it does not increase the amount of negative distress after completing high-stress tasks.

Difference in murder rates in neighboring Texas cities
Chris Vann
Major in Sociology / Lamar University

Mentor: Dr. Margot Gage / Department of Sociology, Social Work & Criminal Justice / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

Houston is notoriously known as having one of the highest murder rates amongst U.S. cities. But within the last couple of decades per-capita murder rate in Beaumont and Port Arthur has increased. This study will compare murder rates within these cities and provide some characteristics that might be driving the increase in murder
A Center for Disease Control report from 2017 shows Texas with 1653 total homicides and a murder rate of 5.8 per capita. The FBI Uniform Crime Reports were used to analyze the most recently available crime data from 2016. Using a descriptive analysis crime rates in Beaumont, Port Arthur and Houston, Texas were examined. We investigated violent crimes, including murders, rapes, robbery assault, property crimes, burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft and arson. Socioeconomic data on the city level were examined as well. A macro trends report shows Houston’s murder rate has decreased per capita over the last three years, Port Arthur's murder rates has increased over the last two years and Beaumont increased in 2017 and decreased in 2018. Preliminary results show a decreasing murder rate for Houston but an increase in murder rate in Port Arthur. In Beaumont an increase and decrease over the last two years. Although the murder rate in Houston is decreasing every year, the murder rate in South Eastern Texan cities such as Port Arthur increasing, and Beaumont has decreased over the last year.

45
Mental Health Services for First Responders in Jefferson and Orange Counties
Himani Vithanage
Major in Political Science / Lamar University

Mentor: Dr. Terri Davis / Department of Political Science / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

This study explores the availability and accessibility of mental health care to first responders in Southeast Texas. Specifically, it seeks to examine the perceptions first responders have about the availability and quality of mental health care currently afforded them; determine the public and private mental health care options available and accessible to first responders; and present a summary of findings that will illuminate the current state of mental health care options available to first responders and offer suggestions for addressing future needs. First responders witness traumatic scenes including murder, suicides, child abuse, and domestic violence. Repeated or even one-time exposure to violent crime scenes is emotionally, physically, and psychologically overwhelming and frequently results in depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, and intense anxiety. Quality mental health services for first responders is therefore both a humanitarian obligation of assistance to public servants and a requirement for ensuring continued quality first response.

46
Poetry – Mental illness and suicide: Please see them from our eyes
Holly Westbrook
Major in Communication and Media / Lamar University

Mentor: Katherine Hoerth / Department of English and Modern Languages / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

The mentally ill: bipolar, anxiety, suicidal, schizophrenia, homicidal, personality disorders, depression, cutters, PTSD, paranoia – what do these words evoke in people who have none of these invisible illnesses? Fear? Panic? Anger? Shunning? The worst word is Stigma. I am bipolar. I have a personality disorder. I have PTSD. I have anxiety. And, I at times have suicidal thoughts and I self-harm. I know stigma, hate, fear, and shunning. I wish to present to you five poems about suicide and scenarios leading to suicidal thoughts; from a new mother who lost one of her newborn twins, teen bullying leading a young girl questioning her gender to seek death, PTSD from a hurricane evacuation, a recent personal inpatient visit experience from my own POV, and how it feels to be mentally ill when there is negative feedback of a heinous crime in the news about a person allegedly being mentally ill while committing said crime. I hope to shine a spotlight from not the outside
person’s prospective on suicide and mental health prevention, but from “our” point of view, us who go through this daily. Poetry is an open door that allows me an emotional outlet for the pain.

47
Is mental health more prevalent now?
Naukia Wilson
Major in Sociology / Lamar University

Mentor: Dr. Margot Gage / Department of Sociology, Social Work & Criminal Justice / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Talk

Mental Illness is very common and something that people tend to overlook. Suicide rates are also increasing. It is estimated that 1 in 5 adults experience mental health illness. This study examines mental health illness in America. Data from the 2017 National Survey on Drug use and health were used to investigate substance abuse and mental health services administration. Mental illness rates have increased over the last decade. Studies from 2014 show that every year about 42.5 million American adults suffer from mental illness. In 2017 the most reported cases of mental illness in adults. In 2017 the most reported cases of mental illness in adults were 46.6 million. In 2017, there were an estimated 11.2 million adults in the US that had mental health problems. Yet only 66.7% of the adults received mental health treatment. Rising mental health rates is a major concern in the US. If more people are educated and awareness of the signs of mental illness increase, perhaps more people will seek treatment when needed.

48
Gender Preferences in Football
Abigail Zuniga
Major in Communications / Lamar University

Mentor: Dr. Natalie T.J. Tindall / Department of Communications / Lamar University
Form of Presentation: Poster

In football, women are typically not involved, whether that be on or off the field as staff or as fans. Marketers believe that women are not fans of the sport and market football as a “man’s sport.” Women’s involvement on the staff is scarce and when they are involved, not many male players are comfortable with them. When women are finally involved on the field, they are sexualized and seen as objects rather than players, and female players often receive less than fair pay. This study combines several journal articles that emphasize on the lack of reach, the discomfort male players feel, and the bigotry and pornographic overtones that women are faced with in football. This paper explores gender preferences in football and the discrimination that comes with the sport on and off the field. Exploring these topics can help further gender equality in sports, as well as assist marketing agencies with a farther reach to potential fans.
OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH ANNOUNCES

THE 2019 O.U.R. GRANT RECIPIENTS IN HASBSEB
(HUMANITIES, ARTS, SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES, EDUCATION, AND BUSINESS) FIELDS:

1. **Mutmainah Adeyemi** | Major in Social Work | Mentor: Dr. Ginger Gummelt
   Project in Social Work – Title: "A Comparison of First Generation Students’ Expectations and Academic Performance in College to Second Generation Student Performance"

2. **Muskaan Ali** | Major in Psychology | Mentors: Dr. Raymond Doe and Dr. Elizabeth Aronson
   Project in Psychology – Title: "Does mindfulness awareness improve college students' task performance?"

3. **Devin Elizondo** | Major in Hospitality Administration | Mentor: Dr. Eunjin Kwon
   Project in Family & Consumer Science – Title: "Fans become Foodies: K-Pop fans' Intention to Try Korean Food"

4. **Colby Fore** | Major in Music | Mentor: Richard Condit
   Project in Music – Title: "An Undergraduate Perspective on Jazz Education and Performance: Musical and Personal Development"

5. **Ashtyn Jones** | Major in Speech & Hearing Sciences | Mentor: Dr. Jamie H. Azios
   Project in Speech & Hearing Science – Title: "Feasibility, usability, and acceptability of an Internet-based partner training program for significant others of people with aphasia"

6. **Marc Lerma** | Major in Finance and Economics | Mentor: Dr. Gevorg Sargsyan
   Project in Economics & Finance – Title: "Effect of Statutory and Regulatory Protection in Investment Decision in Australia, Canada, Pakistan, China and the United Kingdom."

7. **David Martinez** | Major in Sociology, Social Work, & Criminal Justice | Mentor: Dr. Terry Mena
   Project in Social Work – Title: "How First-Generation Latino Students Perceive a Higher Education"

8. **Lauren Ocnaschek** | Major in Health and Kinesiology | Mentor: Dr. S. Jordan & A. Moore
   Project in Health & Kinesiology – Title: "Cardiovascular Exercise and Academic Performance at the Undergraduate Level"

9. **Anna Sigur** | Major in Speech and Hearing Sciences | Dr. Jamie H. Azios
   Project in Speech & Hearing Science – Title: "Understanding design features of aphasia-friendly written material: What matters most to people with aphasia?"

10. **Kaitlyn Tecum** | Major in Speech and Hearing Sciences | Mentor: Dr. Nandhu Radhakrishnan
    Project in Speech & Hearing Science – Title: "Efficacy of Nasal Resistance Technique"

**Congratulations to All**
GET INVOLVED in Undergraduate Research!
It is FUN!  It is INSPIRING!
It is GREAT EXPERIENCE!

Upcoming events & more!

7th Annual Undergraduate Research & Creative Activity Exposition (EXPO) will be in April 2020. EXPO is designed to celebrate and showcase students’ involvement in scholarly research and creative activity produced campus-wide. The EXPO event supports the LU educational mission, providing opportunities for all LU undergraduate students to exchange ideas in a professional setting. The symposium will be comprised of oral and poster presentations.

The Abstract Submission Deadline is April 1, 2020
Registration Deadline is April 10, 2020

Join our student organization LURA (Lamar University Undergraduate Research Association)

LURA was founded in fall 2019 to fulfill the need for a community by and for undergraduate students to discuss, collaborate, and learn how effectively one can conduct research. The consistent quality and volume of research conducted by undergraduate students at Lamar University has made it clear that there is a need for an organization to act as a vital resource for building young researchers. Thus, LURA provides an academic forum that connects all level students from freshmen to seniors with their professors and mentors, and facilitates communication between Lamar undergraduates and their peers around the nation.

LURA is a platform for offering panel discussions about

- Research opportunities inside and outside Lamar,
- Better ways to deliver undergraduate research results in poster and oral presentations,
- Ways to perform peer mentoring,
- Organizing workshops on various topics, including how to successfully apply to graduate schools.

LURA is the premier student organization at Lamar University for any undergraduate student interested in doing research. The Office of Undergraduate Research provides strong support and offers logistics to this student organization.

Please contact URALamar@gmail.com or visit the Office of Undergraduate Research at Lamar in Chemistry 115A or https://www.lamar.edu/undergraduate-research/index.html.