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The Whitney Young student moderators:
- Somto Adi
- Rachel Clowers
- Ashleigh Combs
- Gentell Esters
- Rebekah Lee
- Kelsey McCormick
- Kevin Osborne
- Brandon Preece
- Morgan Rhule
- Louis Ross
- Benjamin Shuck
- Matt Skaggs
- Jabreia Taylor
- Traci Thomas
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Kentucky State University
Hosts

February 27 - 28, 2015
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Kentucky Honors Roundtable
2015 Spring Conference
Kentucky State University
Roundtable at a Glance

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27
5:00-6:00  Registration in the Hill Student Center Lobby (Fourth Floor)
6:00-7:30  Dinner in the Hill Student Center Ballroom (Fourth Floor)
7:30-9:00  Tour of Thomas D. Clark Center for Kentucky History & Old State Capitol on West Broadway, Downtown Frankfort

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Breakfast at your hotel
8:00-9:00  Late Registration in Carver Hall
9:00-9:50  Session A in Carver Hall
10:00-10:50  Session B in Carver Hall
11:00-11:50  Lunch in the Hill Student Center Cafeteria
11:40-12:40  Poster Sessions in Jackson Hall
12:30-1:20  Session C in Carver Hall
1:30-2:20  Session D in Carver Hall
2:30-2:45  Faculty Meeting in Carver Hall, Room 116
& Student Meeting in Carver Hall Auditorium, Room 115
2:45-3:00  Plenary in Carver Hall Auditorium, Room 115
Danyal Bhutto (S), UofL: “Welcome to The Future”

The future may seem uncertain but through the increase in innovations in technology, some things are clear. Scientists around the world are on the verge of major breakthroughs in medicine and technology that have the potential to change the world. Through the eyes of a physicist, the audience will learn about new ideas such as augmented reality, brain chips, and teleportation. The world is changing through the use of technology at an ever increasing rate. In this presentation, we look at history, physics, and welcome ourselves to The Future.

D.5 Carver Hall, Rm. 115 (Auditorium)

Tyson Barnett (S), Logan Fendley (S), Emily Vinson (S), EKU: “The XXX Factor: A Study of the Societal Effects of Modern Pornography and Sexual Exploitation”

Panel Discussion: This panel is a look into the very destructive world that is now plaguing the population starting around the age of eleven. The porn industry has been growing for years and is now dragging some young girls into a frightening adulthood. Unfortunately, many people are unaware of the detrimental effects the porn industry has had on the issue of sexual exploitation and human trafficking, the nuclear family, and gender roles. This study is a way to address a topic that very few people acknowledge and expose the harm it is bringing to each and every person involved.

2:30-2:45 FACULTY MEETING
Carver Hall, Room 116

2:30-2:45 STUDENT MEETING
Carver Hall Auditorium, Room 115

2:45-3:00 PLENARY SESSION
Carver Hall Auditorium, Room 115

PRESENTATIONS (Saturday, February 28)

Please note: Sessions were arranged, first, to encourage presenters from different universities to meet and exchange ideas; then, where possible, by topic.

9:00-9:50 SESSION A

A.1 Carver Hall, Rm. 107

Frank Bencomo (S), UofL: “Ship of Stars: Theoretical Propulsion for Future Interstellar Voyages”

In my presentation I will discuss the myriad of issues humanity will face with the prospect of voyages to other solar systems and beyond. I will demonstrate the complexities of such a mission and the limitations the physical world would impose on such a venture. The focus will be on how cutting edge technologies and theoretical propulsion will allow us to overcome these difficulties and continue the exploration of the Universe. Various examples of such systems include ION propulsion, warp drives, and generational ships with emphasis on how these systems operate and when we can expect them by.
Laura Boden (S), MuSU: “Crowdfunding: A Viable Equity Generator to Bring Investors and Entrepreneurs Together?”

Crowdfunding is the reliance upon a large group of people (the “crowd”) for financing of a project, which introduces new risks and benefits for investors, but with minimal federal regulations. The Securities and Exchange Commission is currently working on regulations to protect investors without significantly limiting opportunities for small businesses. This paper examines the impact of current and proposed regulations on financial return crowdfunding. The major concern is regulations will be too strict and small businesses and investors will be discouraged or disallowed to participate in crowdfunding platforms. I also answer key crowdfunding questions for investors and entrepreneurs.

D.3 Carver Hall, Rm. 117

Darin Lewis (S), MuSU: “The Puromycin-Sensitive Aminopeptidase Ortholog of Caenohabditis elegans is an Indirect Inhibitor of Proteins with Tau-like Repeats”

Tau protein has been identified as a contributor to the pathological development of a variety of dementia-related disorders, termed tauopathies, including Alzheimer’s disease. The aberrant accumulation and aggregation of Tau lead to neurologic degeneration, but the mechanisms remain unclear. PTL-1 is the Caenohabditis elegans tau ortholog, and one of its key regulators is PAM-1, an ortholog of the puromycin-sensitive aminopeptidase that has been shown to contribute to tau regulation in humans. The results of a series of chemosensation assays suggest that PAM-1 is an indirect negative regulator of PTL 1, and that PAM-1 inhibits neurodegeneration caused by PTL-1 overexpression or absence.

Hannah Wilson (S), WKU: “An Evaluation of Selective Attention Measures”

Selective attention is a two-pronged process involving the simultaneous focusing of attention on things deemed important and inhibition of attention from things deemed unimportant. Many tests do not measure both aspects of selective attention, however, and therefore should be considered to be measures with low construct validity. Furthermore, there being many concepts within cognitive psychology holding only small, yet extremely important distinctions, measurement of any single concept can be very difficult. Several measures were not designed specifically for measuring selective attention, raising further concerns. I critically evaluate existing measures of selective attention and offer possible improvements.

D.4 Carver Hall, Rm. 116

Rebecca Waddle (S), KSU: “Saving Art: Why the Monuments Men Were Necessary During World War II”

The Monuments Men were a group of men tasked with the protection and recovery of monuments and artistic pieces in Europe during World War II. But why during World War II? There was no such activity in World War I. This senior thesis examines the changing relation of armed forces to their targets, the advancements in technology, and the demonic obsession of Adolph Hitler with art as the major factors behind the existence of this effort. The thesis also explores whether there are similar groups, arguing in favor of preserving the cultural heritage in the face of contemporary warfare.

Ben Wallace (S), NKU: “Kill Dr. Lucky”

My project is an adaptation of the 1997 board game, Kill Dr. Lucky. An explanation of the creation process will be the primary focus, with a brief foray into the theory of good board game design to round out the presentation.

Natalie Gilliam (S), WKU: “Best Practices of Organizational Communication in Group Travel Planning”

To succeed in the travel industry, professionals must continuously seek new ways to improve their service. In group travel, clients expect their tour director to exceed all expectations. As I prepare to lead a tour group of high school students to Walt Disney World, I will put my knowledge of organizational communication best practices to use in planning for any changes that may arise and handling any obstacles throughout the tour. Success will be measured through the thoughts of the clients after the trip and future recommendations will be provided as a way to keep improving service standards.

Ian Ries (S), KSU: “Prophecy Through the Ages: Future Predictions or Self-Knowledge?”

Prophecy, in some way, has been a part of human culture for thousands of years, but what exactly is it? Is prophecy a fixed look into the future, a guarantee of what is to come, or is it knowledge about oneself that will affect one’s decisions or beliefs that will then, in turn, determine the future? Prophecy is an extremely complex idea that takes many forms and deserves a thorough examination.

A.2 Carver Hall, Rm. 114

Grace McCullough (S), WKU: “The Influence of Emotional Intelligence on Leader Emergence and Leadership Styles”

The aim of the current study is to determine the relationship between emotional intelligence and leader emergence and transformational, transactional, and passive-avoidant leadership styles. Prior research has indicated that emotional intelligence is positively correlated with leader effectiveness. However, the relationship between emotional intelligence and additional aspects of leadership and leadership styles has not been thoroughly investigated. The current study hypothesizes that emotional intelligence will be positively correlated with leader emergence, transformational and transactional leadership styles, and negatively correlated with a passive-avoidant leadership style.

Heather Stewart (S), UofL: “Dissolving Dualism in Medicine: Reuniting the Body and Mind Through Patient Narrative”

This presentation looks at the ways in which the tradition of mind-body dualism has manifested in health care, and the ways in which the art of practicing medicine has suffered as a result. Further, the presentation examines the ways in which the emerging field of the Medical Humanities might help to bridge the divide between mind and body in health care, and the benefits of seeing patients as “unified persons.”

Marisa Yerace (S), NKU: “Hannibal Lecter, Cannibalism, and Melancholia”

My research essay analyzed a problematic moment from the book Hannibal by Thomas Harris. The moment takes place in the form of a dinner party during which Dr. Lecter feeds an FBI superior’s brains to Special Agent Clarice Starling. Applying theories from thinkers like Sigmund Freud and Melanie Klein, along with research of literary analysis and anthropological implications, I formed comprehensive theories for the cause of Lecter’s cannibalism and narcissism, his reasons for including Starling, and why Starling was one of the most important characters in the book series altogether, concluding with a statement about the human experience of grief.

A.3 Carver Hall, Rm. 117

Alyxandria Chaivre (S), KSU: “Who Rules the World? Girls!”

Even in ancient literature, women have been vital to the plot. This is true even when they are not the main character but occupy only a supporting role. This presentation takes into consideration the Odyssey by Homer, Antigone by Sophocles, and Genesis.
Andrea Bachman (S), NKU: “The Heroine with a Thousand Faces”

My project gives credit to three very important characters in three of the most epic tales ever recorded. These characters, although secondary characters, held power throughout their stories and proved themselves worthy of acclaim. Woman deserve to be the hero sometimes, and in this essay, I will explain exactly where this hidden power comes from and why it is so important to modern literature and societal expectations of women. Following my essay, is a story written for a female hero in a female perspective. This story shines light on a perspective that has been lost for thousands of years.

Diana Lalata (S), UofL: “Raising Miss President or Hazing Miss President: A Study of Women in Politics in the United States”

In the era of what Hillary Clinton calls, the “Full Participation Age,” it is still difficult to elect and fully promote the idea of accurate representation for men and women in politics. Women currently hold less than 20% of the 535 seats in the 114th U.S. Congress, and on a global scale, women similarly make up 20% of the world’s parliaments and constitute about 17% of cabinet positions. This study will further discuss the cultural and legal obstacles that discourage women from political participation, and examine the 2016 campaign “Ready for Hillary” in light of these issues.

A.4 Carver Hall, Rm. 116

Ashley Craigmyle (S), KSU: “An Epic Love Story”

In many ways, Homer’s Odyssey is an epic love story that follows the hero Odysseus on his quest to return to his kingdom and to his flawless wife, Penelope. This essay explores the voyage of Odysseus as it molds him from a flawed hero into a humble man deserving of Penelope’s love.

Jenna Webster (S), NKU: “The Long Distance Phone Call—A Screenplay and Storyboard”

For my project I created a thriller based screenplay and storyboard based off of the techniques I studied in my cinematography class. I fell in love with storyboarding and screenplays during the class when we had an activity that integrated these elements. I decided to have my screenplay be a thriller because the genre provides an interesting interchange between cinematography and acting, which provided plenty of room for analysis. My storyline is also based on a classic urban myth, but with a few creative twists.

A.5 Carver Hall, Rm. 115 (Auditorium)

Berry Franklin Craig IV (S), MuSU: “One Raspberry: Transcending Circumstance Through a Search for Meaning”

A realization during my visit to Dachau began the work of my senior thesis. The question of transcendence was foremost on my mind when I walked on the hallowed ground where so many lost their lives during the horror of wartime. While I mourned for those who died, I wondered what spark was ignited within those who had the strength to continue. Through an extensive study of the memoir and resulting psychological theory of Viktor Frankl in his work Man’s Search for Meaning, combined with Gerda Klein’s All But My Life, I concluded that the common thread linking their experiences was the discovery of a will to live.

1:30-2:20 SESSION D

D.1 Carver Hall, Rm. 107

Haley Garrison (S), WKU: “A Critical Analysis of Volunteer Tourism and the Implications for Developing Communities”

Through extensive literature review and analysis, evaluations of current organizations offering volunteer tourism opportunities, and interviews with WKU Study Abroad participants who have experienced such programs, I argue that volunteer tourism may severely limit the communities they intend to help. Instead of approaching international community development from a touristic and paternalistic standpoint, reflecting tones of neocolonialism, this sector must begin to shift focus from customer satisfaction toward education and the creation of sustainable solutions. Therefore, I propose more effective methods of engaging youth in community development and international education through, e.g., transformative learning and increased involvement of the host community.

Sarah Reynolds (S), MuSU: “Fast Food in Spain: How Speedy Convenience is Battling Relaxed, Traditional Meals”

Spanish culture is limiting the success of fast food restaurants in Spain, while at the same time the presence of fast food options is becoming part of an increasingly convenient way of life.

Lauren Holloway (S), Jade Robinson (S), Kaithlyn Todd (S), EKU: “Diversity in the Lowcountry of South Carolina: A Sidewalk U Experience”

In this presentation, we will discuss how “Sidewalk U: Lowcountry, South Carolina” as an Honors diversity course enhanced the students’ educational experience.

D.2 Carver Hall, Rm. 114

Katie Scott (S), EKU: “The Rising Global Threat: Economic Instability”

The world is constantly evolving and becoming more globalized, which unfortunately leads to an increase in the type and frequency of security threats. One of the most underrated yet rising concerns in this area is that of economic threat. This panel will explore the different aspects of economic threats and assess their current place in a globalized world. This will be assessed through the review of current economic sanctions and policies that are in place to help a global economy prosper, if not then at least to remain sustainable.

Shelley Owens (S), WKU: “Nurturing the Growth of a Wedding Photography Company”

This project describes a business and upkeep plan for Shelley Owens Photography. This walkthrough outlines a yearly budget, legal contract setup, marketing and advertising strategies, employee insurance, and social media and website usage.
Panel Discussion: The Honors Classroom is not the same animal as the traditional classroom. With Honors
Simon Mikulcik (S), Mandie Peterman (S), EKU: “Redefining the Classroom: Immersion Courses Teach
C.5   Carver Hall, Rm. 115 (auditorium)
Heaven’s Disco Dances will be a collection of poetry about finding identity through the imagination and
Savannah Osbourn (S), WKU: “Heaven’s Disco Dances: A Collection of Poetry”
the observation of stars can be viewed in a myriad of ways in order for meaning to be derived from them. This
Mackenzie Manley (S), NKU: “Stars and Perspectives”
project was designed to specifically set out to encounter the night sky as well as to focus on two different
perspectives in which to observe them: philosophical and theological. The two texts used were The Adulterous
Woman, an existentialism work by Albert Camus, and scripture from the Bible. These readings were meant to
bring focus to my encounters with the stars. The literary and personal experiences were used to then create two
paintings to express these ideas.

Savannah Osbourn (S), WKU: “Heaven’s Disco Dances: A Collection of Poetry”
Heaven’s Disco Dances will be a collection of poetry about finding identity through the imagination and
displacing oneself from reality in order to better understand it. This theme counters the misconception in
academia that fantasy is nothing more than mindless escapism. Just as dreams lend themselves to
psychoanalysis, so can fairytale create a visual representation of the subconscious.

C.5 Carver Hall, Rm. 115 (Auditorium)
Simon Mikulcik (S), Mandie Peterman (S), EKU: “Redefining the Classroom: Immersion Courses Teach Cultural Diversity”
Panel Discussion: The Honors Classroom is not the same animal as the traditional classroom. With Honors
classes, students are expected to look deeper into content. Likewise, the classroom setting is not limited to four
walls. Each year, the Eastern Kentucky University Honors Program immerses a group of 15 to 20 students in a
cultural region of the US. One group of students traveled to the various ethnic communities in Chicago, IL, while
another group traveled to the Lowcountry of South Carolina. Representatives from both experiences will analyze
the effectiveness and practicality of immersion courses in Honors.

Jean Branttie (S), Reid Goins (S), Travis Lafollette (S), Anneke Vermeulen (S), KSU: “The Challenges of
Individual Existence: An Existential Analysis of Works of Literature”
Panel Discussion: The existentialist philosophers Soren Kierkegaard and Friedrich Nietzsche focus on the
authenticity of individual existence. The implications of this analysis in the extremes of the human condition can
be vividly portrayed in cases of radical scientific inquiry, artistic life, creative technological control, and solitude.
The panel explores these themes in considering four great works of literature: René Descartes, Discourse on
Method, James Joyce, A Portrait of the Artist as A Young Man, Mary Shelly, Frankenstein, and Henry David
Thoreau, Walden.

10:00-10:50 SESSION B

B.1 Carver Hall, Rm. 107
Alicia Gilbert (S), Amber Holbrook (S), EKU: “Crossing Borders: The Effects of Illegal Migrant Workers
on the American and Global Economies”
Illegal immigration is a highly debated topic and has received a lot of criticism from the American people. Many
citizens are angry about the benefits that the immigrants receive such as health care and free education. Despite
the technicalities, illegal immigration is essential to the American and global economy. Without the illegal
immigrants, specifically the migrant workers, prices for the products that the migrants produce will increase
exponentially. This presentation will display the pros and cons of illegal migrant workers in regards to the
American and global economies.

Alaina Goodlett (S), Ksu: “Justice in Injustice”
Justice and injustice tend to be viewed as two completely different sides that constantly clash, but this essay
explores the idea of whether or not justice can be used to further injustice. It takes the form through book I of
Plato’s Republic and considers examples such as Creon from Sophocles’ Antigone and Medea from Euripides’
Medea.

Jamitra Fulledge (S), UofL: “Black Votes Matter: Why Disenfranchisement Laws Should be Illegal”
This presentation focuses on the different types of disenfranchisement laws, specifically in Kentucky and Maine,
two states on opposite ends of the spectrum. The presentation presents the history of disenfranchisement laws
and how they relate to current society in regard to male African American citizens. The educational history, zero-
tolerance policies, and the school-to-prison pipeline is discussed. I compare how the differences in the types of
disenfranchisement laws relate to the recidivism rates in the two states. Lastly, there are different ways to go
about fixing the issue of disenfranchisement laws.

B.2 Carver Hall, Rm. 114
Cailin Wile (S), Maggie Pollitt (S), MoSU: “Cosmetics and Their Effects on the Perception of Women”
From the ancient Japanese use of crushed safflowers as a dye for the lips to the Egyptians’ usage of henna to
color hair, standards of beauty have been met by artificial means for ages. Today, many women in America feel
pressured to use cosmetics on a daily basis in order to appear “presentable.” This can have negative effects both
on the woman’s perception of herself, and how others perceive her. Through a survey and through personal
interviews, we gained a new insight into just how perceptions of women are changed based on whether or not
they are wearing facial cosmetics.
The book Why Women Have Sex by Cindy M. Meston and David M. Buss illustrates the complex combinations of motivations that influence a woman’s decision to have sex. The results of the study indicate that there are 237 separate reasons why women have sex. Meston and Buss distinguish that women engage in intercourse for a variety of reasons, some are innate but others are also environmentally and socially influenced. Biological/nature catalysts including ovulation cycles affect mating preferences of women and social/nurture determinants of whether the father has the resources to provide for potential offspring.

B.3 Carver Hall, Rm. 117

Bryant Powell (S), MuSU: “Gained in Translation: Literary Analysis and Translation Theory in Modern Disney Films”

Although much work has been done to determine how to keep a translation faithful to the original work, one doesn’t often see a translation analyzed as a work in its own right. One often hears talk of things being “lost in translation,” and how the author’s original intent can’t be accurately transported from one language to another, but there is also a sense of things being “gained in translation,” where a translator’s word choice shows aspects of a character’s personality that are not reflected in the original work. It is these nuances of translation that I seek to explore here.

Sarah Kunkler (S), NKU: “Grew-Tube: The Growth of YouTube”

Through my research and in looking at conventions and transformative works, I have found that since its start, YouTube and its fandom have grown in terms of traffic, technical quality, and fans. This growth is important to acknowledge and understand because it is predicted that YouTube may overtake television one day as an entertainment source, so we need to be able to make projections for the future. Using the idea of this growth, I created a transformative work in the form of a fake movie trailer to illustrate YouTube and its fandom’s growth.

Raven Watkins (S), KSU: “Harry Potter on the Page and on the Screen”

Studying abroad is an interesting adventure in itself, but studying a subject that fascinates you makes the experience even more worthwhile. Harry Potter has become popular, not only in England, but also in the United States. The culture described in the books is very different from that in America, from transportation methods to money to places mentioned. The London experience allowed not only for a way to enter the world of witchcraft and wizardry, but also invited a chance to witness the way of life in one of the most popular cities in the world.

B.4 Carver Hall, Rm. 116

Luke King (S), MuSU: “An Examination of Constitutional Courts”

The following research examines the constitutional courts of three democracies: the Supreme Court of the United States of America, the High Court of Australia, and the Supreme Court of Japan. The research illustrates that the court of each of the three democracies has been designed uniquely to fit the needs and culture of the society. Differences are explored by addressing two major areas: (1) representativeness and (2) frequency and strength of judicial review or judicial restraint. Findings suggest the overall authority and influence of the court is determined by limitations imposed or powers granted by the constitution of the respective democracy.

Natalie Hayden (S), WKU: “Mythological Influences on Southern American Authors”

Many authors of the Southern Renaissance (1920s and 1930s) used mythological references in their works of fiction. While mythology has frequently influenced fiction, the sudden spike is cause for attention, especially during a time of literary reinvention as this. We find mythology in works by Eudora Welty, Flannery O’Connor, William Faulkner, and Tennessee Williams, among others. The reasons for their use of mythology vary, but many are because of the authors’ childhood readings as well as their education. This paper explores more deeply the reasons behind mythological influence during this time as well as its impact on the works themselves.

Jamie Staengel (S), MuSU: “Story of My “Self””

In the Odyssey and Don Quixote, the protagonists have souls with a “warrior” ethos that are relentless in the pursuit to remain in the process of becoming rather than being. This paper considers Odysseus and Don Quixote and their inextricable tie by examining each man’s relationship between his “self” and the stories about him. I argue that the contingent nature of stories about one’s “self” propels the protagonists to exert control over stories defining them. Through journeys they discover a “self,” a definitive identity never attained. Both create stories challenging the definition each man’s “self” immortalized through previous, stagnant stories.

C.2 Carver Hall, Rm. 114

Meghan McGuirk (S), WKU: “Eugenics in North Carolina”

From 1929 to 1974, over 7,600 men, women, and children were sterilized by the Eugenics Board of North Carolina, a department of the state government of North Carolina. The North Carolina legislature enacted legislation that allowed for the forced sterilization of persons considered “feeble-minded” or a threat to the public good of society. Research was conducted through a historical analysis of state records, propaganda, personal archives, and local newspapers. The program was conducted with little criticism by the public and targeted citizens included mental patients, low socioeconomic citizens, and racial minorities.

Cornelia D. Lewis (S), EKU: “Tiny Houses: Big Home Benefits”

Investigation to determine if Tiny House occupants’ living conditions and habits in a small space contribute to the reduction of the overall carbon footprint; total amount of greenhouse gases produced directly or indirectly from support human activities, usually expressed in equivalent tons of carbon dioxide. By measuring the use of electricity, gas, and water usage over 1 year in a tiny house will show a significant benefit of living small. Additional carbon reductions are from the utilization of less building supplies along with fewer consumer possessions.

Jared McNeil (S), UofL: “Using Minecraft as an Educational Tool”

Minecraft is a hit game with millions of players and a large following in the age range also currently attending educational institutions. While the game offers aspects conventionally left out of the classroom (think the traditional video-game ‘blowing up your enemies’ motif) it also can lend itself to be used as a tool to teach science, the arts, engineering, math and philosophy from a young age. (STEAMP?) Presentation will outline the relationship between in-game devices and content within these areas.
Welcome to our event.

**11:40-12:40 POSTER SESSIONS (continued)**

Paige Fetters (S), Jade Robinson (S), EKU: “Colonel Camp: Building Tomorrow’s Honors Leaders Today”

This presentation will showcase the positive influence of a unique four-day, three-night program, called Colonel Camp, offered only at Eastern Kentucky University, for incoming freshmen prior to classes beginning each fall. The selected group of students participate in leadership activities and team-building with fellow incoming freshmen. A substantial amount of Honors students participate in this program each year so they can get to know their future peers in a personal setting. After Honors students experience Colonel Camp, they have overcome the initial anxieties of starting college and have found a sense of belonging within their Honors community and on campus.

Shayna Clark (S), EKU: “Discrepancies in Subway’s Nutritional Information”

Subway often advertises itself as a healthy alternative to fast food. While this statement is usually true, the accuracy of the nutritional information given on Subway’s online calculator is questionable. The amounts of each ingredient used by any unique employee can cause the nutritional information to vary from sandwich to sandwich. The purpose of my research would be to explore the discrepancies between the nutritional information I calculate during my trials and the values given on Subway’s website.

Zoe Becerra (S), MoSU: “Measuring the Influence of Visual and Tactile Stimuli on Level of Attention”

This study was designed to assess the influence of visual and/or tactile stimuli on people’s level of attention while performing a vigilance task, the Mackworth Clock test. Twenty-eight participants completed two sixty-minute non-consecutive sessions in which they watched a ball move from tick mark to tick mark on a round-faced analogue clock. There were three different levels of the independent variable – a preparatory signal-one of which was introduced on each trial: a visual warning sign, a vibratory signal, or both. We found that the combination of both the visual and tactile stimuli resulted in the best performance.

**12:30-1:20 SESSION C**

C.1 Carver Hall, Rm. 107

Alyson Whitted (S), KSU: “Did Curiosity End Oedipus Rex?”

This essay discusses the play Oedipus Rex, by Sophocles. By considering his motives and his actions throughout the play, it attempts to determine whether or not it was Oedipus’s own fault that his story ended the way that it did.

Paige Brewer (S), UofL: “Kazakh Language Revival, Nation Building, and National Identity in Kazakhstan”

Since gaining independence in 1991, Kazakhstan has engaged in various nation-building processes including revival of the Kazakh language, which significantly receded during the two hundred years of Russian domination. The Kazakh SSR was the most russified of the Soviet republics, and in the 1989 census, most Kazakhs identified Kazakh as their mother tongue but many could not speak it proficiently. I will analyze President Nazarbayev’s language policy since 1991 and its manifestations in politics, education, and mass media. The policy both fulfills and challenges his national priorities: to create a new homeland for Kazakhs without alienating the multiethnic, primarily Russian-speaking population.


Is the possibility of a western style democratic state in communist China realistic or not based on recent events? I will be analyzing why a future democratic state in China may be possible. I will analyze this through the comparison and contrast of the current government system with reforms and policies done recently due to the economic boom and power change in government. I expect that it will be possible but not realized due to the power still held by the current government.

B.5 Carver Hall, Rm. 115 (Auditorium)

Grace Francomb (S), NKU: “Then Sings My Soul”

The project is made of two parts: a collection of oral histories from six people (three college students and three adults) describing music’s influence on their spiritual lives, and an article sent to NKU’s Honors Herald discussing my interviews.

Jonathon Byrd (S), MoSU: “Three Fingerstyle Guitar Pieces”

Performance of original solo fingerstyle guitar pieces in a contemporary style, making use of many percussive, harmonic, and tapping techniques to create polyphonic lines (similar to players like Erik Mongrain, Andy McKee, Antoine Dufour, etc.). The songs are:

1. “Southern Light” (Influenced by traditional folk fingerstyle guitar and popular music)
2. “The Vigilante” (Influenced by flamenco harmonies and techniques, and rock music)
3. “The Abyss” (A darker more artsy piece with a linear, non-repeating structure that plays with more adventurous rhythms and harmonies)

**11:00-11:50 LUNCH**

Hill Student Center Cafeteria (Ground Level)
Kentucky. Brown v. Board decision and its resulting mandated integration as it pertained to the city of Lexington, an accepting attitude, recent research has revealed a large amount of contempt that actually led the city to depict the city as embracing toward African-American students. However, despite the claims of Lexington's Convoluted Response to Brown v. Board (1954) currently make public records available online and offers suggestions for the types of records to obtain.

Genna Petrey (S), MoSU: “The Correlation between Annual Ring Widths of Tsuga Canadensis and Climatic Trends”

Dendrochronology and dendroclimatology allow us to use patterns in dating and standardized width of tree rings to find associations between these annual rings and climatic variables. All samples were gathered in Spaws Creek in Menifee and Morgan counties from Tsuga canadensis trees. Our goals were to determine the correlation between annual ring widths of Tsuga canadensis and climatic trends, and to discover the effect of tree crown position on the significance level of these relationships. Tree samples were analyzed to determine annual ring width relationships to three significant aspects of climate, specifically precipitation, temperature, and PDSI (Palmer Drought Severity Index).

Hannah Gardner (S), UofL: “Aging and Neuropsychology”

Many different areas of cognition decline in late life. A significant amount of research has examined the relationship between different types of daily activity and cognitive ability, and also the relationship between mood and cognition in later life. The purpose of this study is to explore the relationship between participation in and enjoyment of pleasant activities and their link to cognition in later life: a topic with little published research. To test my hypothesis, I am using a battery consisting of tests that assess different cognitive domains that have been shown to decline with age and levels of social involvement.

Jacob Blair (S), EKU: “Creating Transparency: The State of “Watchdog” Sites on Campus Newspaper Websites”

How do college newspapers hold public universities accountable? This research looks at how newspapers currently make public records available online and offers suggestions for the types of records to obtain.

Claire Kelley (S), Morgan Wood (S), EKU: “Enriching Our Education: Taking Learning to a “Live Classroom””

We reflect on our own experiences with a “live classroom” in the South Carolina Lowcountry, with an emphasis on why courses such as this should be an integral part in all programs.

Myra Beth Bundy (F), Thomas Reece (S), EKU: ““The Hardest Place to Be”—Psychology Student Reactions to Visiting a Concentration Camp”

Students on a study abroad trip to Austria visited Dachau Concentration Camp. Two different assignments assessed the student experience: a narrative journal and a photo with a caption. The results of these assignments were so rich, touching, and interesting that we catalogued and summarized the main concepts that our students created. We hope sharing their thoughts will provide other instructors with the inspiration to do place-as-text learning activities in another country, state, or city, or just in their university neighborhood. Themes produced by these two approaches and the implications for their use in instruction will be shown and discussed.

Nathaniel Schattner (S), EKU: “Ascension of the Armies: The Impact of Ballooning during the Civil War”

While much is discussed about the naval and land fronts of the Union and Confederate armies during the American Civil War, little is mentioned about the growth of aviation, specifically ballooning. My research analyzes the nascent emergence of aerial reconnaissance during the Civil War by exploring efforts by both sides to develop a balloon corps. In it, I examine the advantages and challenges of such a strategic development and how it spurred other innovations during the Civil War, including those which laid the foundations for the technology we have today.