2016

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, MATHEMATICS AND EDUCATION

11TH ANNUAL UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE

Criminology | Criminal Justice | Education | Government & World Affairs | History | Mathematics | Psychology | Sociology

THE UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA

Tuesday, April 27, 2016
Plant Hall, Fletcher Lounge
4:00—6:00 p.m.

This conference would not be possible without the dedicated mentors and instructors who have assisted the students with their projects. The faculty who have guided students in their projects this year include:

Mary Anderson, Ph.D.
Stephen Blessing, Ph.D.
Kathryn Branch, Ph.D.
Ryan Cragun, Ph.D.
Kimberly Cummings, Ph.D.
Kevin Fridy, Ph.D.
Cynthia Gangi, Ph.D.
Deletha Hardin, Ph.D.
Scott Husband, Ph.D.
Erin Koterba, Ph.D.
David Krahl, Ph.D.
Cindy Parsons, D.N.P.
Renee Patrick, Ph.D.
Jeffrey Skowronek, Ph.D.
Michael Stasio, Ph.D.
Jason Sumerau, Ph.D.
Monnie Wertz
Norma Winston, Ph.D.
Erica Yuen, Ph.D.

About the Conference

The University of Tampa Undergraduate Research Conference allows students to present original, empirical research within any area of the disciplines represented by the College of Social Science, Mathematics and Education. The first conference was in April 2006 and has been held annually since. At the third event held in April 2008, prizes for the best posters were awarded. The fifth event (April 2010) saw a wider representation of posters from across the college.

Example citation for the work presented here:
Einstein, A. & Blessing, S. B., (2016, April). *Investigations into the psychology of time perception*. Poster presented at the Spring 2014 CSSME Undergraduate Research Conference, Tampa, FL.

For more information about this conference and previous ones (including all past abstracts), please search on "CSSME research" at www.ut.edu

The University Of
TAMPA

PRESENTERS

Last Name	First Name	Poster #	Department	Page #
Aldape	Fatima	1	PSY	5
Aldape	Fatima	21	PSY	10
Arnachellum	Yashna	2	GWA	5
Arnachellum	Yashna	3	GWA	5
Ash	Philip	18	PSY	9
Ashby	Talia	39	SOC	14
Bamidele	Anuoluwapo Naomi	7	PSY 200	6
Barakat	Kathleen	4	PSY	5
Barakat	Kathleen	5	PSY	6
Barakat	Kathleen	18	PSY	9
Barroner	Ashley	6	GWA	6
Beahm	Rosemarie	8	SOC	6
Beckett	Jessie	9	PSY	7
Beidler	Rachel	10	PSY	7
Bien-Aime	Valeska	26	PSY	11
Bohr	Rachel	11	PSY	7
Brathwaite	Imani	12	PSY	7
Brathwaite	Imani	21	PSY	10
Brooks	Lindsey	13	PSY	8
Buening	Molly	28	GWA	12
Buttner	Leigh	14	PSY	8
Cancello	Elaina	15	PSY	8
Carella	Nina	16	CRM	8
Carothers	Adeline	17	PSY	9
Carr	Caroline	5	PSY	6
Carr	Caroline	13	PSY	8
Carr	Caroline	18	PSY	9
Clercent	Kisla	19	PSY	9
Coia	Kyle	20	GWA	10
Cole-Kweli	Pasama	19	PSY	9
Conroy	Kristen	55	PSY	18
Coppola	Dominique	21	PSY	10
Cordovano	Carly	22	PSY	10
Coursey	Kaiya	23	GWA	10
Curley	Samantha	24	PSY	11
Dane	Karrah	25	PSY	11
Davila	Andres	14	PSY	8
Delevescovo	Daniela	5	PSY	6
Dodgson	Tara	26	PSY	11
Dreiker	Benjamin	28	GWA	12

PRESENTERS

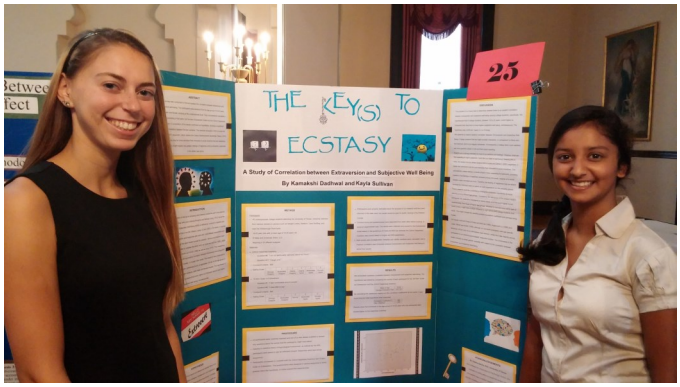
Last Name	First Name	Poster #	Department	Page #
Duarte	Andre	17	PSY	9
Duke	Kathleen	29	PSY 200	12
Dunlop	Cassidy	27	PSY	11
Eaton	Kaitlin	8	SOC	6
Effenberg	Ann-Kathrin	30	PSY 200	12
Elvidge	Brittany	5	PSY	6
Fabiano	Kristen	70	PSY	22
Fuentes	Edith	31	PSY 200	12
Gagner	Erinn	24	PSY	11
Gayle	Channelle Danielle F.	32	GWA	13
Greene	Virginia	5	PSY	6
Greene	Virginia	18	PSY	9
Hagglund	Ashley M.	33	GWA	13
Hammer	Martin	9	PSY	7
Hammer	Martin	34	PSY	13
Harrison	Forrest	5	PSY	6
Hernandez	Luisamaria	35	GWA	13
Hickey	Nina G.	36	GWA	14
Higgins	Chelsea	22	PSY	10
Hoffman	Audrey	37	PSY	14
Holvoet	Helen	15	PSY	8
Hudnutt	Margaret	38	PSY 200	14
Husbands	Dara	5	PSY	6
Jensen	Ashley	39	SOC	14
Johnson	Emily	16	CRM	8
Kapsiak	Kevin	40	PSY	15
Kautz	Samantha	26	PSY	11
Kelly	Nick	41	GWA	15
Killian	Luke	5	PSY	6
Kinuthia	Muthoni	26	PSY	11
Knight	Raeanna	10	PSY	7
Kocan	Cameron	42	PSY 200	15
Lafko	Justin Z.	43	GWA	15
Lewis	Jabria	13	PSY	8
Ligman	Kaitlyn	40	PSY	15
Ligman	Kaitlyn M.	44	PSY	16
Lynch	Elizabeth	27	PSY	11
Lynch	Elizabeth	45	PSY	16
MacLennan	Kristi	46	PSY 200	16
Mansour	Briana	18	PSY	9

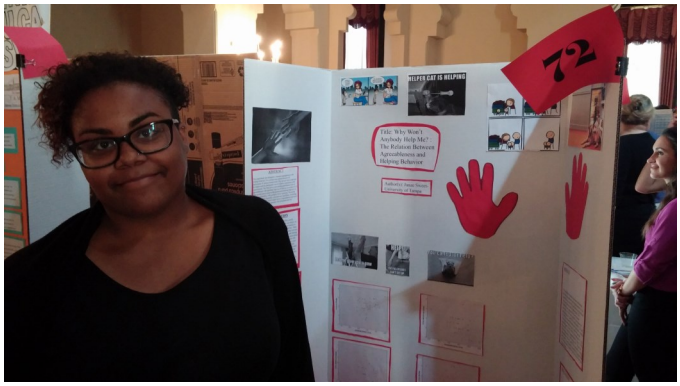
PRESENTERS

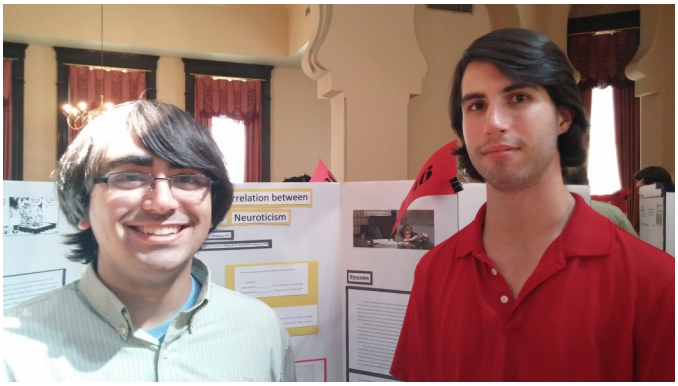
Last Name	First Name	Poster #	Department	Page #
Margolis	Emily	65	GWA	21
Marley	William	47	GWA	16
Martin	Alyssa	22	PSY	10
Martin	Mikinna	14	PSY	8
Martinez	Annelyn J.	48	SOC	17
Mazzella	Danielle	45	PSY	16
McCarthy	Brianna	25	PSY	11
McCarthy	Brianna	49	PSY	17
McMillan	Caeley E.	50	PSY 200	17
Minaya	Theodore	12	PSY	7
Mora	Grace	34	PSY	13
Morahan	Alyssa	51	PSY	17
Muyshondt	Cristina	52	GWA	18
Nemtala	Antonio	53	GWA	18
Nix	Glory	54	GWA	18
O'Malley	Robert	55	PSY	18
Ponti	Faith	34	PSY	13
Ponti	Faith	44	PSY	16
Pratt	Davaugnn	4	PSY	5
Quiñones	Lia	9	PSY	7
Quiñones	Lia	16	CRM	8
Quiros	Vivian	5	PSY	6
Quiros	Vivian	51	PSY	17
Radkay	Remy	56	GWA	19
Remillard	Laura	14	PSY	8
Rey	Alexandra	57	GWA	19
Reyes	Jewel	57	GWA	19
Roberts	Carmen	59	PSY	19
Roedder	Constantina	31	PSY 200	12
Roe-LePre	Jordanne	58	GWA	19
Safavi	Sahar	60	GWA	19
Sargeant	Sedrika	15	PSY	8
Senia	Olivia	16	CRM	8
Seraphin	Cathy	67	PSY	21
Sharma	Vijay	11	PSY	7
Shuman	Talia	22	PSY	10
Smith	Kasheema	61	GWA	20
Sunseri	Victoria	62	PSY	20
Tafuro	Vinny	63	PSY	20
Tashman	Jonathan Quincy	47	GWA	16

PRESENTERS

Last Name	First Name	Poster #	Department	Page #
Thorpe	Spencer	9	PSY	7
Tinsley	Brianna Princess	64	PSY 200	20
Trombley	Christa	65	GWA	21
Tully	Victoria K.	66	GWA	21
Van Kirk	Rachel	67	PSY	21
Veronesi	Tori	1	PSY	5
Veronesi	Victoria	5	PSY	6
Veronesi	Victoria	18	PSY	9
Villegas	Kimberly	68	PSY 200	21
Vittin	Arnaud	69	GWA	22
Walilko	Chelsey	70	PSY	22
Weiner	Karen	13	PSY	8
Weltch	Amelia	4	PSY	5
Williams	Daré	71	PSY	22
Williams	Drake	72	PSY	22
Wood	Anne	73	GWA	23
Yearwood	Angelina	74	PSY 200	23
Young	Kelly	21	PSY	10







ABSTRACTS

1. ***Education vs. Psychology: Influence on Memory***
   Fatima Aldape & Tori Veronesi (PSY)
   Past research has found that an individual's personal history and knowledge can influence their interpretations and memory. This study investigates whether a student's major has an impact on their short-term memory. Participants included University of Tampa students; a Psychology class and an Education class were compared in this study. Each group was exposed to the same list of words via a timed PowerPoint; which included psychology, education and neutral terms. The participants then completed a distractor activity and finally were asked to write down as many words as they could remember. It is expected that the students will remember more words related to their major. Psychology majors will remember more of the psychology terms and Education majors will remember more education terms from the list.

2. ***Immigration-Crime Nexus: Does an Increase in Immigration Lead to Higher Crime Rates?***
   Yashna Arnachellum (GWA)
   In the last 10 years, the debate surrounding the relationship between immigration and crime has been put under the spotlight, as the number of immigrants and refugees from unstable regions of the world have arrived in great numbers into countries of the West, especially European states. Since the topic in itself is very much relevant in our contemporary society, taking a look at whether or not an increase in immigrants has a direct, if not a causal relationship with an increase in crime is crucial in order to avoid misconceptions, which in turn may lead to ineffective policies addressing immigration and crime. For the purpose of this paper, a focus will be attributed to immigrants of refugee status from the Middle East entering European nations and will address the question of does increases in refugee intake actually result in increases in crime rates on an aggregate level?

3. ***Personality and Political Participation in Ghana***
   Yashna Arnachellum (GWA)
   In recent years, a new facet of looking at political participation has come to be. Indeed, while the explanations and hypotheses related to political participation have tended to focus on environmental influencers, the concept of considering biological factors' influence on political behaviors has gained much attention. Rather than viewing environmental influencers as of lesser importance than biological factors such as personality traits, most particularly what is known as the Big Five, and genetics when explaining political participation, the idea of combining the two has shown to deliver great insight. Research looking at the interaction between personality traits and political participation has been widely conducted in the US, however studies of this sort have remained rather limited in other parts of the world, most notably in countries of Africa. In an attempt to analyze the relationship shared between personality traits and political behavior abroad, my research question to what extent do personality traits impact political participation is tested in Ghana.

4. ***Predictors for Risky Sexual Behaviors Among College Students***
   Kathleen Barakat, Davaugnn Pratt, & Amelia Weltch (PSY)
   There are common misperceptions and beliefs about safe sexual behaviors and information amongst college students. Often times, peer groups are major factors that lead to these misperceptions about sexual knowledge. This study aims to investigate differences among science majors versus non-science majors in risky sexual behaviors and levels of sexual knowledge. Students enrolled in upper level sciences courses and social science courses (expected $N = 60$) will complete a brief demographic questionnaire, the Sexual Knowledge Scale, the Sexual Behavior Scale, and the Risky Sex Scale. We predict students who are science majors will have lower levels of sexual knowledge and score higher in sexual risk-taking behaviors. We also predict that social science majors will have higher levels of sexual knowledge and lower sexual risk-taking behaviors. Results from this study could have an impact on the quality of sexual education and enhance understanding of sexual risk-taking among college students.

5. ***Searching for Mental Health Information Online***

Kathleen Barakat, Virginia Greene, Caroline Carr, Daniela Delevescovo, Brittany Elvidge, Forrest Harrison, Dara Husbands, Luke Killian, Vivian Quiros, Victoria Veronesi, Cynthia Gangi, & Erica Yuen (PSY)

The Internet has become one of the most frequently used tools to search for information, including information regarding mental health issues. This study investigated how individuals utilize the Internet to search for mental health information. Participants (n = 49) were randomly assigned to one of two 20-minute online activities: to search online for information to help themselves (experimental condition) or to complete a series of questions using Google Maps (control condition). Participants were given a corresponding vignette describing anxiety issues that they themselves were experiencing. Upon completion of their assigned activity, participants completed a questionnaire assessing their experience, coping mechanisms they may endorse, and their perception about mental illness. An independent samples t-test indicated that participants who conducted an online search for mental health information were significantly more optimistic that an anxiety disorder can be effectively treated with therapy, $t(47) = 2.45$, $p = .018$.

6. ***The Effects of Body Image Portrayal by the Media on Women***

Ashley Barroner (GWA)

For this paper, I plan to explore the relationship between the "perfect" body type as portrayed in the media and its effect women in how they may wish to attain the portrayed body ideal. I want to explore different types of media such as magazines, TV/ movies, and social media. I would research the effects that the media can have on people when they try to adhere to the "perfect" bodies because they are dissatisfied with their appearance. This would include eating disorders and the pressure to be thin and the happiness levels of people who feel they have and have not achieved this ideal. It would also be interesting to explore different cultures as Western societies try adhere to a more thin ideal but other cultures may be more appreciative of bigger body types because their media presents such ideals.

7. ***Families Drive Us Wild?***

Anuoluwapo Naomi Bamidele (PSY 200)

The purpose of this study was to see whether or not there was a correlation between an individual's level of extroversion, and the structure of the family that the individual has. This study was designed to test whether or not things like being an only child correlates to things such as enjoying being alone, not making new friends easily, etc., or maybe having eight older siblings correlates to being comfortable in large groups of people, and starting conversations easily.

8. ***Evaluation of an Anti-Bullying Program***

Rosemarie Beahm & Kaitlin Eaton (SOC)

Kids On The Block is a national program designed to prevent and raise awareness of child abuse and bullying. We evaluated the effectiveness of the anti-bullying program for the fall semester of 2015 and the spring semester of 2016. This is a life-sized educational puppet show performed for fourth graders. Students who saw the show wrote letters saying what they had learned from the show. These letters were coded to determine whether the children learned about bullying issues from the show. This was determined by using the three main themes of the show as coding categories. The hypothesis was that at least eighty percent of the letters would contain content from the show, and this hypothesis was supported both semesters. With our poster, we will present these results and the importance of educating children about bullying and evaluating such educational programs.

9. ***How Color Affects Consumers Preferences and Perceptions of Soap***
Jessie Beckett, Martin Hammer, Lia Quiñones, Spencer Thorpe (PSY)
How people smell and feel after washing their bodies is a crucial part of how they choose body washing products. For example, stronger colored body washing soaps tend to be perceived as having a stronger smell (Zellner & Kautz, 1990), and the color blue is often associated with wealth, trust, and high quality (Madden, Hewett, & Roth, 2000). The perception of product colors can influence purchasing habits. The present study surveyed students at the University of Tampa to determine if perceptions of a bar of soap differed depending on its color (blue vs. brown). It was predicted that the blue bar of soap would score higher in quality, moisture, cleanliness and smell, while the brown soap had higher ratings in price and organic make.

10. ***Mood and memory: Happiness, sadness, and their effects on facial recall***
Rachel Beidler & Raeanna Knight (PSY)
The current study's focus was emotional state and its effects on episodic memory. There were 24 participants, 12 females, ages ranged between 18- and 22-years-old. Our hypothesis was that a positive or negative emotional state would have an effect on happy, sad, or neutral facial recall. Half of our participants were placed in a happy condition, and the other half in a sad condition. We showed them an initial slideshow of 30 faces, which contained an equal number of sad, happy, and neutral male and female faces. After a 7-minute distractor task they watched another slideshow of 70 faces, including the original 30, and were asked to perform a yes or no recognition task. Based on prior research we anticipate participants in the happy condition will recall happy faces more easily than sad or neutral, and sad participants recall sad faces more easily than happy or neutral.

11. ***Differences in Gender and Personality Traits for Intentions of Pleasure***
Rachel Bohr & Vijay Sharma (PSY)
This study explores how gender and personality traits relate to whether individuals prefer to give or receive oral sex in terms of intentions of pleasing themselves or their partner. Students in general education classes at the University of Tampa ($N = 50$) stated their gender and completed the Brief Negative Evaluation Scale (BNFE), the Narcissistic Personality Inventory, the Brief YSex? Scale, and the Body Image Satisfaction Scale. We hypothesized that 1) those who are higher in narcissism are more likely to seek pleasure for themselves and 2) those who have low body satisfaction and score high in BNFE are more likely to participate in sexual behavior to please their partner.

12. ***How Breakfast Consumption Affects Scores on Cognitive Achievement Tests***
Imani Brathwaite & Theodore Minaya (PSY)
Breakfast is often referred to as the most important meal of the day and important for proper functioning throughout the day, but does eating breakfast really benefit us cognitively? To test this, we will conduct a repeated measures test in which 12 participants, who will be gathered from a convenience sample of students at the University of Tampa, will complete a series of cognitive assessment tests. Participants will complete these tests over a two week period, one day during each week, and will have eaten breakfast on one test day and skipped it on the next test day. A previous experiment employing similar procedures using participants in elementary school found that lack of consumption of breakfast did not affect their cognitive performance (Kral, et. al.). We hope the results of our experiment will reflect a positive correlation between breakfast consumption and high assessment test scores.

13. The Effects of Country of Origin on Perceptions of Vehicle Quality

Lindsey Brooks, Caroline Carr, Jabria Lewis, Karen Weiner (PSY)

Research has shown that the country where a product was made affects people's perceptions of that product. For example, it seems that Germany as a country of origin has high ratings, especially in car manufacturing while Mexico has low ratings. This study aims to investigate college students' perceptions about cars manufactured in Britain versus cars manufactured in Japan. We hypothesized that cars manufactured in in Japan will be perceived as superior to cars manufactured in Britain in reliability, safety, quality of craftsmanship, vehicle economy, and stylishness. We also hypothesized that the participants will indicate stronger purchase intentions for Japanese manufactured cars over British manufactured cars. Participants in this study were given a short survey asking them to rate their opinions (in a Likert Scale format) on the factors listed above. Participants also filled out a brief survey that listed their demographic information.

14. Influence of Brand Names on Consumer Perception

Leigh Buttner, Andres Davila, Mikinna Martin, & Laura Remillard (PSY)

The current research investigates consumer's attitudes on brand names and how specific types of brand names affect consumer's perceptions of companies and services. 50 female participants, 18 years of age or older, were recruited by investigators and were exposed to one of two brand names. Participants were asked to evaluate one of the two generated brand names and answer questions regarding the fictitious salon on a six point scale. We were interested in understanding how brand names alone can evoke feelings and ultimately influence a consumer. We hypothesized the brand name "Panache" would conclude higher overall ratings in all salon characteristics due to its unique phoneme, versus "Value Cuts," which is less novel and is hypothesized to elicit less excitement as a brand.

15. Romantic Relationships, Success, and Happiness in Emerging Adults

Elaina Cancello, Helen Holvoet, & Sedrika Sargeant (PSY)

This study looked at links between happiness, success, and romantic relationships in emerging adults. Because relationships provide intimacy, emotional assistance, and stability (Barren et al., 2009), we predicted that happiness and success rates would be higher for emerging adults who were in relationships than for those who were not. One hundred University of Tampa students (31 males, 69 females) were given a questionnaire that examined perceptions of success and happiness. The questionnaire also measured specific dimensions of romantic relationships, including perceptions of trust, love, and passion. Our results did not support our overall hypothesis, as we did not find a global link between relationships and happiness. However, we did find that trust, love, and passion were positively associated with both happiness and success. Therefore, it appears that a complex link exists between specific aspects of romantic relationships, happiness, and success.

16. An Analysis of Legal and Extra-Legal Factors and Their Effects on the Imposition of Criminal Penalties in Hypothetical Criminal Episodes

Nina Carella, Olivia Senia, Emily Johnson, & Lia Quinones (CRM)

The purpose of this study is to determine the extent to which certain variables influence the decision -making process in the imposition of criminal sanctions. In other words, the research question is this – what specific factors influence people's judgments when arriving at decisions regarding the imposition of criminal penalties, and to what extent do those factors affect those decisions? The five factors include: the seriousness of the offense, the social status of the offender, the social status of the victim, the offender's prior record, and the offender's mental health status. These five variables are being included within a number of hypothetical criminal episodes, or incidents. In addition to the hypothetical criminal episodes, survey participants are asked to respond to a number of other questions, including their race, sex, age, marital status, and other demographics, to serve as "control" variables for the overall analysis. This research will influence policy implications for criminal justice systems regarding jury selection and jury decision making.

17. *Physical Health and Exercise Habits of College Students*

Adeline Carothers & Andre Duarte (PSY)

This study explores the health habits of students at The University of Tampa and compares them to other students across the nation. Specifically, students were surveyed using the American College Health Association's National College Health Assessment II about the amount of days they exercise per week, the type of exercise they engage in, and their Body Mass Index (BMI). Included in the presentation will be examples of programs and facilities offered at UT that students may utilize to stay healthy during their time in school. Also, other university programs will be compared to see how other schools give their students opportunities to practice healthy habits. Overall, the presentation will look at where UT has been, where we are now, and how we compare to other universities.

18. *Facebook's Effects on Mood*

Caroline Carr, Virginia Greene, Kathleen Barakat, Victoria Veronesi, Philip Ash, Briana Mansour, Erin Koterba, Michael Stasio, Renee Patrick, Cynthia Gangi, & Erica Yuen (PSY)

Use of social media has increased significantly in the past few years. While the popularity this new form of communication has acquired is impressive, it brings into question the effects prolific utilization might have on psychological processes. This study examined the possible effects on mood that using these sites might cause, and if they were tied to specific or general functions of networking. Participants ($n = 312$) were randomly assigned to perform one of four activities: browse the internet (control condition), passively observe profiles on Facebook, communicate with others, or update their own profile. The results show that: Facebook use leads to lower positive mood compared to web browsing, the surveillance condition was the most detrimental to positive mood compared to browsing the Internet, perceived meaningfulness of activity differed between conditions, and Tukey's post-hoc tests found that all Facebook conditions had lower perceived meaningfulness levels than web browsing.

19. *Perfectionism and Perceived Risk of STD/STI Contraction*

Kisla Clercent & Pasama Cole-Kweli (PSY)

Perfectionism is a personality trait associated with concern for self-criticism, negative evaluation from others, and the need to have exceedingly high standards of performance. This study aims to investigate the relationship between perfectionism and risk perception of contracting an STI/STD among undergraduates (expected $N = 60$) at The University of Tampa. Participants enrolled in general social science courses were randomly assigned to one of two vignette conditions (Ambiguous or Explicit Sexual Behavior Scenario), completed a brief demographic background survey, Almost Perfect Scale-Revised (APS-R), Sexual Risk Survey, and a vignette-based survey. We hypothesized that young adults with high levels of perfectionism will be less likely to willingly engage in risky sexual behaviors. In addition, we hypothesized that young adults with low levels of perfectionism will be more likely to engage in risky behaviors.

20. *Age as a Measure of Cosmopolitanism*

Kyle K. Coia (GWA)

Cosmopolitanism is a concept that has evolved globally over the past 30 years. Cosmopolitanism is a global concept that is characterized as individuals classifying themselves in a group based on any shared number of characteristics. In the past, cosmopolitanism was measured in terms of culture, ethnicity, business, communication, community boundaries, marketing/advertising, technology, and consumerism. Consumerism appears to be the most studied measure over the past 30 years according to the literature that has been reviewed in this study. Historically, literature based on the concept of cosmopolitanism has shown that there really has not been a strong relationship between the measures listed above and cosmopolitanism. This unpublished study conducted by Coia in 2016 will attempt to establish age as a sufficient measure of cosmopolitanism. This cosmopolitanism study created by Kyle Coia is still being conducted through an online survey disbursed through social media to those between the ages of 18-33, and 50-65.

21. *The Influence of the Color of a Breakfast Bar Box on Perceptions of its Qualities*

Dominique Coppola, Imani Brathwaite, Fatima Aldape, Kelly Young (PSY)

With the importance of healthy eating on the rise, the present study examined the influence of the color of a breakfast bar box on the perceptions of its qualities. Participants were University of Tampa students and exposed to either a breakfast bar box with a green background or a brown background. After examining the box, participants rated on a 6-point Likert scale their perceptions of the bar's qualities of healthfulness, chocolaty flavor, composition of natural ingredients, and hunger satisfaction. It is expected that the students will perceive the green box as being more healthy and made of natural ingredients than the brown box. Contrastingly, it is expected that the brown box will be perceived as more likely to satisfy hunger and be chocolatier than the green box.

22. *Narcissism and Stimulant Usage among College Students*

Carly Cordovano, Chelsea Higgins, Alyssa Martin, & Talia Shuman (PSY)

Narcissism, a personality trait characterized by an inflated sense of self, has been evaluated in a multitude of contexts, including academic settings. Prior research indicates a positive trend associated with high levels of narcissism, academic dishonesty and exploitative attitudes. However, none of the latter research has explored the specific functions by which narcissistic individuals exercise academic dishonesty or their exploitative attitudes (Mowlaie et al., 2015). Specifically, very little empirical attention has been paid to whether individuals who have high levels of narcissism are more likely to misuse stimulants in an academic setting. In the present study, 56 college student participants (33 females) completed surveys on personality and stimulant usage. Results suggest individuals who had higher levels of narcissism spent less time studying and reported less guilt over using stimulants. Implications for academic settings will be discussed.

23. *Lifting The Cuban Embargo: Will It Positively Benefit the United States?*

Kaiya Coursey (GWA)

The continuous imposition of the Cuban Embargo has been a subject of national and international debate for over 5 decades. Since 1960, the United States has had an economic sanction on Cuba for foreign policy purposes. This study examines the role of economic sanctions on Cuba and how lifting them may positively affect the United States economy. Also, this study will evaluate the pre-Cuban sanctioned United States economy and the current impact of said sanction while discussing history of the Cuban Embargo and why it was put in place. Governmental and scholarly studies, sources, data and publications will be utilized to examine history and economic scenarios. Briefly, this study will examine the benefits, or lack thereof, of economic sanctions and how it relates to the United States embargo on Cuba.

24. *Attitudes Towards Masturbation and Effects on Sexual Behavior*

Samantha Curley & Erinn Gagner (PSY)

This study aims to explore attitudes towards masturbation and effects on sexual behavior. Masturbation is defined as self-stimulation of the genitals. We are interested in studying gender differences in attitudes toward masturbation, masturbation behavior, and sexual avoidance. Previous research has shown a clear difference in masturbation frequency between genders, but more research is needed on gender differences in attitudes and how these attitudes affect sexual behaviors. The current study examines how attitudes towards masturbation impact both frequency of masturbation and levels of sexual avoidance in males and females through a survey method (expected $N = 30$). We expect to find that negative attitudes towards masturbation will be related to a decreased frequency of masturbation in females, but not in men. Additionally, we hypothesize that negative attitudes towards masturbation would be related to an increase in sexual avoidance in both genders.

25. *The Effects of Anger on Memory*

Karrah Dane & Brianna McCarthy (PSY)

A previous experiment conducted by Hill, DelPriore, & Vaughan (2011) has shown that activating envy in participants increases attention to and memory for information about same-sex targets. In the present study, we will be conducting a similar procedure to this previous study, but instead exploring the effects of anger. We will have participants in the experimental group recall autobiographical memories in which they were angry and participants in the control group write about activities that they routinely perform throughout the day. All participants will then read a passage, perform a distraction task, and then finally complete a cued recall about information from the passage. Based off of previous research, we hypothesize that participants who were primed for anger will spend more time reading a passage and will have recalled a higher amount of information from the passage.

26. *Influence of Brand Names on Consumer Consumption*

Tara Dodgson, Samantha Kautz, Muthoni Kinuthia & Valeska Bien-Aime (PSY)

The current research investigated and further tested how brand names influence brand perceptions. Body wash was chosen as the product and Zetel and Koatal were the two brand names created. It is hypothesized that the brand name of the body wash using fricatives and front vowels will be perceived as feminine, gentler, unscented and more affordable. The name of the body wash using stops and back vowels will be perceived as masculine, harsher, more scented and more expensive. Perception was measured after participants were asked to indicate how strongly they agreed or disagreed with perceptions about the brand name of body wash that they heard.

27. *How Technology Impacts Grammar Acquisition*

Cassidy Dunlop & Elizabeth Lynch (PSY)

This study examines the role technology has on the ability to acquire grammar. Grammar is an innate part of human linguistics, yet it appears that people rely more and more on technology for correct grammar usage. Previous research in this area has only correlated technology to having an impact on grammar acquisition. Using two conditions (texting v. not texting) this study aims to determine if texting hinders grammar. Participants (expected $N = 30$) were randomly assigned to either the texting or non-texting condition and then given the Attitudes Towards Technology Survey followed by a grammar test. The data will be analyzed using t-tests and correlations. We predict that in general, grammar scores will be lower in the texting group, and that males will score lower than females. We also predict to see a negative correlation between scores on the Attitudes Towards Technology Scale and the grammar test scores.

28. *Political Knowledge and Personality*

Benjamin Dreiker & Molly Buening (GWA)

Using data collected from Ghana, we will be testing for the effects of personality on a village resident's political knowledge. We hypothesize that an individual that exhibits high levels of openness to experience and high levels of extraversion will yield the exposure of political information, more so, than an individual with low levels of the trait. People who exhibit high level of openness to experience paired with the low levels of conscientiousness will have a high level of political knowledge compared to individuals who have low levels of openness and high level of conscientiousness. We also hypothesize that the personality trait of agreeableness will yield insignificant data. In this project we will be focusing on whether or not an individuals political knowledge is affect by their personality.

29. *Correlations of Anxiety and Mental Health*

Kathleen Duke (PSY 200)

This study examined whether the correlation between anxiety and attitude toward mental illness would differ depending on whether or not a person has lived with someone suffering from a mental illness. The Interaction Anxious Scale was used to measure anxiety. The Community Attitudes toward Mentally Ill Scale was used to measure the attitudes toward the mentally ill. A demographic question asked if the participant ever lived with someone suffering from a mental illness. There was a correlation between anxiousness and mental illness attitudes. People who have lived with someone with a mental illness were more likely to be anxious, whereas people who have not, had a more positive attitude toward mental illness and were less anxious. Confirming the hypothesis--there is a correlation between anxiety and attitudes toward mental illness, and this correlation differed depending on whether or not a person has lived with someone suffering from a mental illness.

30. *Does Anxiety Correlate With Nail Biting?*

Ann-Kathrin Effenberg (PSY 200)

The goal of this study is to find the correlation between neuroticism, a factor of the Big 5 Personality Assessment, and nail biting. The participants were individuals on the campus of The University of Tampa. These participants volunteered to fill out two separate questionnaires that measured two different variables. The first questionnaire measured how high an individual scored on an anxiety assessment. The second questionnaire asked about gender, age, and then asked the individuals to provide information on how often they catch themselves biting their nails along with the amount of damage they observe. The results showed that the relationship between nail biting and anxiety was not very strong, but the relationship between nail damage and anxiety was strong.

31. *Does neuroticism positively correlate with nicotine consumption?*

Edith Fuentes & Constantina L. Roedder (PSY 200)

The purpose of our research was to link neuroticism and nicotine consumption. Our study did this by using two questionnaires, one to assess the personality variable of neuroticism and the other to assess nicotine consumption through methods of cigarettes, chewing tobacco and electronic cigarette devices. All participants chosen were using one of the above nicotine consumption methods at the time surveyed. Thirteen males and 13 females were surveyed to study the relationship between neuroticism and nicotine consumption. All in all, none of the results proved to be statistically significant. If further research were to be conducted a larger sample size we believe these results would prove to be more statistically significant.

32. Social, Cultural, and Governmental Effects on Women in Muslim Predominant Countries

Channelle Danielle F. Gayle (GWA)

Present day, many western societies are interested in Middle Eastern policies due to the extreme and what some deem as violent nature of politics that have been observed throughout history. Westernized societies may be particularly concerned with the treatment of women who inhabit those countries due to the harsh restrictions that have been imposed on them. The effects of the Islamic religion will be explored concerning societal and governmental policies of individual Middle Eastern countries particularly pertaining to women's rights on a global scale.

33. Identifying Patterns in the U.S. Foreign Assistance

Ashley M. Hagglund (GWA)

The United States is a global leader in efforts to foster development in underdeveloped countries, and their importance to the developing world makes studying their allocation of foreign aid vital for making any prediction for future development. This study seeks to identify a pattern in the allocation of aid along several potential characteristics: race, religion, trade relations with the U.S., the relative need, democratic status, geographic location, and the degree of conflict in the recipient countries. This pattern could point to flaws in the U.S. foreign aid allocation decision-making process, that may be stunting growth and depriving aid to indigent countries that may have been overlooked for not adhering to the habitual pattern established over time. After identifying these characteristic patterns, we examine the aid implementation relative to the aforementioned characteristics. This study concludes by making suggestions for future studies in the literature of foreign aid allocation.

34. Friday Night #FOMO: How Snapchat Use and the Fear of Missing Out are Affecting the Well-Being of Emerging Adults

Martin Hammer, Grace Mora, & Faith Ponti (PSY)

Emerging adults' use of social media has increased greatly in recent years. However, use of these social media sites and applications has been linked to a decrease in self-esteem (Vogel et al., 2014) and an increase in both envy (Tandoc et al., 2014) and Fear of Missing Out, or "FOMO" (Fox & Moreland, 2014). The current study sought to explore these variables in relation to the social media application Snapchat. 65 college students (45 female) were surveyed about the extent to which they used Snapchat, as well as their self-esteem, envy, and FOMO levels. Findings indicate that FOMO correlates positively with envy and negatively with self-esteem. Interestingly, increased levels of FOMO are not related to how often a user views others' Snapchat updates (called 'stories'), but rather whose stories the user chooses to view. Results will be discussed in terms of social comparison theory.

35. Personality and the approval of Non-Governmental Organizations.

Luisamaria Hernandez (GWA)

To what extent does personality affect approval of NGO's? In recent years there has been a push for government control of Non-Governmental Organizations in African countries such as Ghana. Although these organizations have helped the people of countries at different points, there are discrepancies between the legitimacy and economic support that NGO's provide African countries that have long looked for support from these organizations. In recent years there has been a decrease in the amount of research that is available on the topic of approval of NGO's. This research uses data collected in Ghana in 2014. The research question examines to what extent the Big Five Personality Traits affect approval of NGO's in Ghana. The data shows that openness to experience, conscientiousness, agreeableness, and emotional stability are significant predictors of approval. The findings confirm the literature to some extent, making it possible for future research to be conducted in the field.

36. Global poverty

Nina G. Hickey (GWA)

There are more than 3 billion people in the world who live on less than $2.50 a day. 1.3 billion of these people live in extreme poverty by surviving on less than $1.25 a day. A third of those suffering in poverty are CHILDREN. According to UNICEF, 22,000 children die each day due to poverty. That's 803,000 children each year. In the modern age of technological progression and sociological advances, why is global impoverishment still so prevalent? After examining aspects of health, education, economics, natural resources and civil war does it become apparent why there are so many innocent people suffering? By understanding the causes, it is a step in the right direction to start solving these widespread issues. Government corruption was the strongest variable consistently impacting human development. Moving forward after this research project, what will you, a global member of society do to end government corruption and poverty?

37. Examination of Peer Utilization in Collegiate Sexual Assault Education Programs

Audrey Hoffman and Monnie Wertz (PSY)

This exploratory study examines the ways peers are being utilized in collegiate sexual assault education programs in the US. Sexual assault is a serious issue on college campuses and various proactive and reactive programs are currently being enacted in compliance with new federal regulations. We are interested in examining specifically how peers, currently enrolled collegiate students, are being used in these educational efforts. A brief interview guide has been created and emailed to over 20 schools who have been identified to have new, broad educational programs through activity of listservs and internet searches. It is predicted that peers will be utilized more often in proactive, educational programming versus reactive programs which provide direct services to victims.

38. Neuroticism and Sleep

Margaret Hudnutt (PSY 200)

The study linked personality with sleep. Specifically, neuroticism linked with the amount/quality of sleep a person gets. Previous research has found links between sleep problems and neurotic personalities. The hypothesis was the more neurotic a person's personality is, the less the person sleeps and the poorer quality of the person's sleep. Thirty college students attending The University of Tampa were randomly selected and asked to complete a survey about their personality and their sleep. One part of the survey was specifically asking about the facets of neuroticism (depression, immoderation and vulnerability) and the other was asking about the quality of the participant's sleep and the amount of sleep he/she gets. All the responses were kept anonymous and all participants were 18 or over. There were correlations between all of the facets of neuroticism and the quality/amount of sleep.

39. Evaluation of a Child Abuse Prevention Program

Ashley Jensen & Talia Ashby (SOC)

Kids OnThe Block is a national program designed to prevent and raise awareness of child abuse and bullying. Talia Ashby and Ashley Jensen evaluated the effectiveness of the child abuse prevention program for the fall semester, 2015. This is a life-sized puppet show performed for third-graders. Students who saw the show wrote letters saying what they had learned from it. These letters were coded to determine whether the children learned from the puppet show. This was determined by using the three main themes from the show as coding categories. The hypothesis was that at least eighty percent of letters would contain content from the show. Ninety percent of the letters mentioned at least one of the three themes. Thus, the findings supported the hypothesis.

40. Sexual Plasticity Levels Experienced Amongst Differing Genders and Socioeconomic Statuses

Kevin Kapsiak & Kaitlyn Ligman (PSY)

This study aims to explore the effects of socioeconomic status on sexual fluidity in male and female genders. High sexual plasticity will be defined in this study through the Baumesiter theory as experiencing greater sexual attitudes, desires, and behaviors than people with low plasticity. We are interested specifically in the different levels of sexual plasticity experienced in middle class individuals and specifically the female gender as compared to other socioeconomic statuses and genders. Past research suggests that females in general report the highest levels of sexual plasticity. Sexual plasticity will be measured in college-aged students (N = 50) in this study with the Sexy Seven Sexual Orientation Scale and the SIS/SES Questionnaire-Short Form with higher scores and agreeability levels on the measures indicating a higher sexual plasticity. It is predicted that middle class females will have the highest amount of sexual plasticity in this study.

41. Exploring the Causes of Overfishing: A Study of International Fisheries in East Asia and Oceania

Nick Kelly (GWA)

Overfishing is a phenomenon that is linked to a wide variety of research fields such as ecology, economics, and sociology. In order to better understand the phenomenon, I set out to identify its cause. Because overfishing is linked to multiple fields of study, I hypothesized that there are multiple causes, which possibly also span over multiple areas of study. I found that, for fisheries in East Asia and Oceania, many existing proposed causes of overfishing actually have no identifiable correlation with the phenomenon. However, in the cases selected, a region's wealth could be used to predict that regions likeliness to engage in overfishing.

42. Fame and Facebook? A Study of Correlation between Extraversion and Social Media Popularity

Cameron Kocan (PSY 200)

Although the original stated purpose of social media has been to be able to stay connected with friends that you may not see daily, there has always been the underlying unstated competition for fame. This study examines the relationship between extraversion and social media popularity. Data was collected from students at The University of Tampa. As supported by the data in this study, there are statistically significant positive correlations (.58-.70) between the two variables which leads to the acceptance of the alternative hypothesis that more socially interactive people tend to be more popular on social media but that does not necessarily mean that those with fewer likes cannot be as social. Gender and medium of social media (in this case, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter) seem to have an influence as Twitter had the greatest correlation and p-value.

43. The measure of negative foreign perceptions of U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East and North Africa

Justin Z. Lafko (GWA)

U.S. Foreign Policy requires global attention. Decisions made in conjunction with U.S. national interests affect more than the United States; they affect the worldwide community. Specifically, U.S. foreign policy on the Middle East and North Africa has had a wide variety of interpretations. In this essay, negative interpretations will provide the independent variable while the dependent variables will be the most accurate reasoning why these negative perceptions are existing, such as Palestinian/Israeli tensions/creation of Israel, support of potentially conflicting revolutionary movements/governments, and airstrikes (mainly from UAS/UAV technology).

44. *"Get out of My Selfie!" Exploring Links between Narcissism, Gender, and Self-Photography*

Kaitlyn M. Ligman, Faith Ponti, & Erin A. Koterba (PSY)

"Selfies," or photos taken of oneself, have been linked to several aspects of narcissism (Weiser, 2015), particularly among men (Sorokowski et al., 2015). This relationship appears to hold regardless of the presence or absence of others in the photograph. The present study aimed to unpack links between gender, narcissism, and selfie-taking behavior. Two hundred seventy-seven college students (219 females) completed a demographic survey and the Narcissistic Personality Inventory (NPI-13; Gentile et al., 2013). Participants were also asked to report the number of selfies they had taken in the past week that included only themselves and how many that included other individuals. Next, participants responded to an open-ended question about their reasons for posting selfies to social media. Results indicate that specific aspects of narcissism and gender are tied to selfie–taking behaviors. Therefore, our data suggest that the relationship between narcissistic tendencies, gender, and selfie-taking behaviors is complex.

45. *The Social Pressures of the Hook-Up Culture*

Elizabeth Lynch & Danielle Mazzella (PSY)

The study's purpose is to evaluate the relationships between perceived social norms and the Hook-Up culture. Students, who were 18 years or older, enrolled in General Psychology courses (expected $N = 50$) were given one of three story conditions. They then completed a brief background information survey, Sexual Hookup Behavior Scale, Attitudes Toward Casual Sex and Sex without Commitment Indices, and one commitment question. We predict overall those who read the condition which states that this is the Hook-Up Culture, will have higher scores on the two scales than the two other story conditions. We also expect to those in the "this is not the Hook-Up Culture" condition will overall have much lower ratings on the two scales. The final expected result is males will have a higher age at which they feel it is appropriate to be in a fully committed relationship than females will.

46. *Does Being Adventurous Keep You Health?*

Kristi MacLennan (PSY 200)

I hypothesized that being more adventurous is related to a person being less likely to get sick and having better health. Participants involved in this study were college students generally found eating, practicing at dance rehearsals, or in Austin Hall. I studied the relationship between adventurousness, general health recently, and general health over four weeks. After evaluating the data, my hypothesis was confirmed that people who are more adventurous will experience fewer symptoms over time than those who are less adventurous. However, recent health is not related to adventurousness, meaning that no matter how adventurous a person is, he/she can be affected by other factors that make a person ill like germs, stress, or allergies. These results could help by intervening in elementary schools to make children more adventurous so they will remain more adventurous over time and experience fewer unpleasant symptoms over time.

47. *Personality and Political Disagreement*

William Marley and Jonathan Quincy Tashman (GWA)

The concept of political disagreement is influenced by a variety of factors that each contribute to the overall political identity of an individual. This identity leads to conflict and differing opinions, and comes from equally learned and biological ideologies. The purpose of this review is to analyze the effect personality has on political disagreement; to what extent, who disagrees the most, and which of the Big Five personality traits have the greatest and least influence over political disagreement.

48. Logic, Traumas, and Faith: Does Reasoning Cause People to Become Less Religious?

Annelyn J. Martinez (SOC)

The purpose of this study is to test the idea that logic and reason weaken religiosity. Just over 400 individuals participated in this study. Participants were assigned to one of three condition: a control condition, a logic and reason condition, and an emotion condition. Participants' religiosity was measured before and after exposure to the experimental conditions. I hypothesized that participants would experience a slight reduction in self-reported religiosity after watching the logic and reason video, but would experience a larger reduction in self-reported religiosity after watching the emotion-inducing video, while remaining the same for the control condition. I found that self-reported religiosity was unchanged for participants in the control condition, declined slightly in the logic and reason condition, and declined slightly more in the emotion-inducing condition.

49. Social Networks and Behavioral Intentions to Help a Peer in Distress

Brianna McCarthy (PSY)

This is a study in progress examining the relationship between social networks and helping behaviors. Undergraduate students (an expected $N = 60$) will complete the Social Network Functions Scale (SNFS), the Lubben Social Network Strength Scale-Revised (LSNSS-R), and the Social Network Strength Scale (SNSS). Participants will then read one of two possible narratives either describing a student peer in distress with their social network affected or describing a student peer in distress without their social network affected. Afterwards, participants will be asked to rate the severity of the student's problem and how much they agree or disagree with items relating to behavioral intentions to help the peer. We hypothesize participants who score high in social support and social network density themselves will rate the severity of the problem as higher and will have more behavioral intentions to help a peer in distress when the peers social network is affected.

50. The Relationship between Neuroticism and Optimism.

Caeley E. McMillan (PSY 200)

The primary purpose of this study was to test if there was a correlation between the Big Five personality trait of Neuroticism and optimism. A group of 30 students, all students at The University of Tampa, were given two questionnaires. The first questionnaire measured neuroticism, and the second questionnaire measured optimism. Once the data was collected, statistical tests were run to analyze the relationship between the two traits. Alpha values of .733 and .778 were reported which indicated that the scales have high reliability. A Pearson correlation coefficient of -.594 indicated a statistically significant negative correlation, $p < .01$. These values support the hypothesis of, "If individuals optimism is high, then they will score lower in the Neuroticism category of the Big 5 test."

51. How Rehearsal and Distraction Affect Working Memory

Alyssa Morahan & Vivian Quiros (PSY)

This research focuses on how rehearsal type and distraction (visual v. auditory) affect working memory. Participants were randomly assigned to one of two conditions: written or verbal rehearsal. Other conditions included: studying while a muted video plays, studying while classical music plays, and studying with no distraction. These were counterbalanced with each participant to prevent any order effect. In each condition participants were given one of three 20-item word lists to study. Each study condition was two minutes followed immediately by a one-minute recall period. We hope to see the effects of visual and auditory distractions on recall as well as the effectiveness of verbal versus written rehearsal on encoding. We hypothesize that participants will perform worst in the verbal condition and auditory distraction. We also expect an interaction effect where participants will recall fewer words when in the verbal condition when studying with the auditory distraction.

52. *Education and Economic Development*

Cristina Muyshondt (GWA)

Third world countries have been trying for years to achieve the level of development as other countries around them. Many believe that education alone can boost both their social and economic development. However, these countries face many more hardships than just their inability to achieve a higher level of development. Most of the times, these countries suffer from political and social instability, they suffer from poverty, and many more hardships. So many are under the impression that education will empower the population and therefore it will introduce them as productive workers to the workforce, but what is missing is the bigger picture. Many steps need to be taken before education can be of high quality and accessible to all. There are also many actors involved in the process. Here we argue that education alone is not enough to push economic development forward in underdeveloped countries.

53. *Landlocked Reality*

Antonio Nemtala (GWA)

There are many factors that are involved in a country's economic development. These factors are always central when dealing with the one question that every country consistently asks itself: how can we improve? In order to learn this, each country must first come to understand their reality and situation at the time being. What is impeding economic growth? Once that is figured out, that is when things can start progressing. The factor being investigated in this article is that of being landlocked. Presently there are 44 landlocked countries in the world, most of which are in a state of development – the few exceptions being located in mostly Europe. Through analysis it is evident that thesimilar socio-economic state of these countries is not a mere coincidence. Even though every country has its own individual factors at play, research shows that the lack of access to the sea has hurt these countries profusely and will continue to do so.

54. *Determinants of Death Penalty Prohibitions*

Glory Nix (GWA)

This research paper examines the reasoning behind a country abolishing the death penalty. I will observe historical background through literature review in order to find potential independent variables that end the continuation of capital punishment. Furthermore, these variables will then be tested on a handful of countries that have abolished the death penalty for all crimes within the last 10 years. Finally, I will analyze the data in order to form a conclusion that answers the question: What factor(s) (IV) contribute to a countries abolition or retention of the death penalty (DV)?

55. *The Impact of Gain and Loss-Framed Messages on Decision Making*

Robert O'Malley & Kristen Conroy (PSY)

This research looks at the influence of gain-frame or loss-frame techniques on one's decision making. Prior research has shown that certain gain-frame and loss-frame techniques can indeed influence one's decision making in regards to peer pressure, addiction, and several other aspects of life. This study will take a look at whether these suggested techniques influence decision making in regards to a consumer product. The product introduced is a smart watch. Participants in this study will receive information about the watch through either a gain-frame technique or a loss-frame technique. After receiving the information, participants are asked how likely they are to purchase the product based on the information presented. We predict that the participants in the gain-frame condition will be more likely to purchase the smart watch than those in the loss-frame condition.

56. The Building of a Rape Culture

Remy Radkay (GWA)

My poster will be detailing the factors that cause rape to be a prevalent part of societies all over the world.

57. Personality and Approval of National Elites

Jewel Reyes & Alexandra Rey (GWA)

In this paper, we will examine the effects of personality on political approval of facets of the Ghanaian national government. Specifically, we will analyze how extraversion, agreeableness, emotional stability, conscientiousness, and openness to experience influence Ghanaians approval of their President and Parliament. Data collected in this study are derived from the survey results of (# of respondents) residing in (town), (town), and (town) in Ghana. By using the portions of the survey that regard president and parliament approval, we can evaluate the relationships between each personality and term approval. Of the Big Five personality traits, individuals who exhibited high levels of Openness to Experience and Agreeableness were more likely to approve of their Member of Parliament then those who did not. Those who have high levels of Emotional stability, Extraversion and Consciousness are less likely to approve of Parliament. The only variable significant in regards to presidential approval is Conscientiousness and for individuals with high levels of Conscientiousness they have high approval ratings.

58. Transnational Adoption: What are the factors that determine the number of children adopted by U.S. citizens?

Jordanne Roe-LePre (GWA)

The U.S. receives thousands of orphans each year from all around the world. However, some countries are bigger suppliers than others. This paper will set out to examine the varying political, cultural, and socioeconomic factors that determine the high or low number of incoming adoptions.

59. Assessing the affect of STEAM-oriented events on children's knowledge and interest in STEAM

Carmen Roberts & Jeffrey Skowronek (PSY)

Over the last decade there has been an increased interest in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) related fields. To help increase the creativity across these interdisciplinary efforts, Art has taken a prominent role in what is now considered STEAM. As part of a larger Hillsborough County School District initiative, the current project examined 5th to 12th grade students' knowledge, connections, and interest in STEAM related fields. The results showed a significant increase from pre-workshop to post-workshop attitudes and knowledge across multiple aspects of STEAM related awareness, including the relationships between STEAM fields, STEAM and the "real world", and career interests. Findings suggests that such workshops may potentially be effective in not just promoting awareness, but also creating a knowledge base that students can use during their schooling. Future directions and limitations will also be reviewed.

60. Cultural Effects of International Film Distribution

Sahar Safavi (GWA)

Film production is an industry which tends to develop in geographical "clusters," with the films produced in a certain location predominantly representing the majority culture of the location in which they are made. As films are being watched at increasingly distant places from where they were made, it is worth seeking to understand what effects the films are having on their viewers. Individuals and communities may be adopting the cultural conventions represented in the entertainment they are consuming. My research will answer the question "Does the growth of international film distribution result in erasure of local cultures?"

61. Tourism; Environmental Sustainability

Kasheema Smith (GWA)

Ecotourism is responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment. It also sustains the well-being of local people of a region presently and for future generations to come. In 2002 the awareness of environmentally sustainability had increased. That lead to more tourist destinations becoming more eco-friendly in order to attract more tourist. Overall, if tourist destinations increase their arrival rates, it forces them to develop more. More development increases a regions ecological footprint which leads to them being less sustainable.

62. "Mind What Matters: You" –A Healthy Campus Mental Health Initiative

Victoria Sunseri & Dr. Cindy Parsons (PSY)

According to National College Health Data for 2013 and 2014, significant anxiety, feelings of being overwhelmed, and depressive symptoms affect nearly half/more than half of the students surveyed at The University of Tampa. These rates are consistent with nationwide trends and point to the need for student awareness and access to counseling services. In order to encourage students to take preventative measures, and to seek help when needed for these issues, the current project served to create and implement a Mental Health initiative to increase student's awareness of Mental Wellness resources on campus. A pamphlet was designed to compile all of the student organizations and services provided by The University of Tampa in order to help mitigate the barriers to getting help by: reducing the stigma around mental illness and eliminating the lack of knowledge of resource availability. The effectiveness of the counseling awareness portion of this initiative, will be measured as part of the new-patient triage in order to identify where the student found the information they needed to get help.

63. On the Evolution of Consciousness by Means of Technical Development

Vinny Tafuro & Scott Husband, Ph.D. (PSY)

Around 4-7 million years ago, humans, bonobos, and chimpanzees evolved from a common ancestor presumably possessing some rudimentary cognitive structures for conscious self-awareness and agency (CSA-A). Conventional wisdom holds that human CSA-A arose quite suddenly, when human innovation "exploded" and allowed rapid innovation in tool creation and ways of living (e.g., from small villages to metropolitan cities). We are exploring the influence of technological development itself as a means of "ratcheting up" the CSA-A of *Homo sapiens*. We humans now store and retrieve larger and larger amounts of increasingly complex information. We have extended the "shelf life" (storage) of such information and devised ever more channels to share this information to the globe. We hypothesize that the modern human experience of CSA-A appeared gradually as a result of a feedback loop created by our use of technology, as opposed to evolving prior to our development of such technology.

64. Extraversion vs. Self-Esteem

Brianna Tinsley (PSY 200)

This research was conducted to determine if extraversion has a direct correlation to self-esteem. Participants were found on the campus of The University of Tampa. Data was collected from 30 participants, 21 females and 9 males, all over the age of 18. Participants were found in Vaughn lobby, various classrooms, Vaughn courtyard, and Plant Hall between the hours of 12 o'clock and 8 o'clock. They were given two surveys: one to test extraversion and another for self-esteem. Using a Pearson correlation coefficient, a positive correlation was shown between extraversion and self-esteem. This confirmed my hypothesis that the more extraverted a person is the higher the person's self-esteem.

65. *Personality and Approval of Local Elites*

Christa Trombley & Emily Margolis (GWA)

Despite the increasing growing research on political psychology, little has been done to research the influence of personality on political behavior outside of the US context, more specifically the approval of governmental institutions. The overall image that emerges from the literature is that biological as well as environmental factors must be studied to accurately measure a person's political behavior. This particular study depicts three Ghanaian villages respondents' personalities and approval of Judges, Police, Chief, and District Assemblymen, from a survey that was conducted by Dr. Anderson and Dr. Fridy. An analysis of the data showed emotional stability to be influential in determining a respondent's approval of all four local officials tested. Conscientiousness and extraversion showed significance in approval of some local officials, but not all four. This study is part of the increasingly growing research on rural Africans' personalities and their opinions on government.

66. *Women Empowerment thru Women Film Nudity*

Victoria K. Tully (GWA)

Women body exposure in films may have a strong relation to women empowerment in different societies in the world. By examining four to five awards winning films from the major filmmaker countries in different regions of the world, a representation of the women's body in that area of the world is determined. To relate it with women empowerment examining the Gender Inequality Index ranks each country to represent the relation between the two factors. By comparing present-day films with past award winning films in one country in the world allows for an understanding of the relation between the factors instead of the factors being merely a correlation. Through assessing the different key components I am able to establish the connection between women nudity in films with empowerment of women in different countries around the world.

67. *Perfectionism, Rumination, and Non-Suicidal Self-Injury*

Rachel Van Kirk & Cathy Seraphin (PSY)

This study aimed to explore the relationships between perfectionism, rumination, and non-suicidal self-injury (NSSI) among undergraduates at The University of Tampa. Students enrolled in introductory social science courses (N = 130) completed a brief demographic background survey including questions on history of NSSI, the Cognitive Emotion Regulation Questionnaire, the Positive and Negative Affect Scale, and the Perfectionistic Cognitions Inventory. Participants were exposed to a video of a college student describing either a negative experience or a neutral list of facts. We hypothesized that participants who view the negative manipulation and are high in perfectionism would have decreased mood and have increased perfectionistic cognitions. Additionally, we hypothesized that participants with a history of NSSI would have a more dramatic decrease in mood and increase in perfectionistic cognitions.

68. *Are Extroverts More Career Ambitious Than Introverts?*

Kimberly Villegas (PSY 200)

This study investigated the correlation between extraversion and ambition, based on research that suggested proactive personalities are motivated to succeed and extroverted people have personality components that produces proactivity. I administered a 37 question survey that measured both ambition and extraversion and then computed the correlation coefficient of the data. According to the results of the data, the correlation between extraversion and ambition was weak and positive, but ultimately ended up being statistically non-significant. The study was likely inconclusive because there were too many external factors that affected ambition.

69. Comparing the economic dependability and progress of ECOWAS and ECCAS Nations following the devaluation of the CFA in 1994.

Arnaud Vittin (GWA)

This research paper touches on the African colonies who adopted the CFA Franc currency (Independent Variable). The French claimed it would benefit West and Central Africa to become a monetary zone (multiple nations in the same geographical area which use the same currency). The literature discusses how certain African nations had to embrace the changing economies in the region affected by the 1994 CFA devaluation, plus with the implementation of the Euro in the early 2000s. Imports/Exports, Inflation, Unemployment, GDP per capita and political stability represent the dependent variables in the experiment. Finally, I will be collecting data from a 20 year range (1993-2013) from the 27 ECOWAS and ECCAS members in Western and Central Africa.

70. The Effects of Parenting Styles on Undergraduate Student's Sexual Intelligence and Risky Sexual Behavior

Chelsey Walilko & Kristen Fabiano (PSY)

This study aims to determine how different parenting styles: authoritarian, authoritative, permissive-indulgent, and permissive-uninvolved, affect a college student's willingness to engage in risky sexual behaviors as well as their overall sexual intelligence. Students who are enrolled in general social science courses at the University of Tampa (N = 30) will complete different scales such as the Parental Authority Questionnaire, Sexual Risk Survey, and The Sexual Intelligence scale, as well as read a narrative and answer questions based on it to assess level of sexual intelligence. Our main hypotheses are that a) an authoritarian parenting style will correlate with high sexual intelligence, but also with high risky sexual behavior, and b) an authoritative parenting style would correlate with low risky sexual behavior and also high sexual intelligence.

71. Gender Differences in Distress Levels of Infidelity – Do Perceptions of Gender Roles Mediate This Relationship?

Daré Williams (PSY)

Infidelity, the act or state of being unfaithful to a spouse or romantic partner, was the focus of this study. There have been two distinct forms of infidelity identified: emotional infidelity and sexual infidelity. Gender differences in distress experienced by infidelity has led to suggestions that men experience higher levels of jealousy when faced with sexual infidelity, whereas women experience higher levels of jealousy when their partner is emotionally promiscuous. The focus of this study was to see if any of these gender differences could be accounted for by environmental factors, particularly an individual's subjective acceptance of perceived gender roles. It was hypothesized that men who evaluated themselves as more feminine or androgynous would show higher levels of emotional jealousy and lower levels of sexual jealousy more than other men who rated themselves as more masculine.

72. The Effects of Stimulants on Temporal Perception

Drake Williams (PSY)

We are performing a quasi-experimental design to investigate how our perception of time is affected by stimulants (e.g. methylphenidate or caffeine). Subjects will be asked to disclose any stimulant use and then will make a number of temporal judgments based on a simple manual sorting task. We hypothesize that the consumption of stimulants will be associated with changes in the participant's perception of time compared to a control sample who had not recently consumed stimulants within the last eight hours. Further, this presence of stimulants will be correlated with an acceleration of temporal production, resulting in a shorter prospective and retrospective time estimate, as well as larger differences between actual time and estimate time when compared to the control condition. Positive results would support a theoretical daily cycle in which our perception of time can quicken or slow down based on our current state and environment.

73. Animal Agriculture, Climate Change, and Governmental Policy: How to Decrease Greenhouse Gas Emissions Through Effective Environmental Policies

Anne Wood (GWA)

The growth of animal agriculture, specifically in the developing world, has increased substantially throughout the last half century. This has led to large environmental issues, specifically regarding methane emissions, waste disposal methods, and land usage. The focus of this paper is on the development of effective national and international policies to help regulate these sustainability issues. This will also include a look into international environmental organizations, and their influence on these policies in the deemed 'problem' countries around the world. The goal is to look into the slow and often times unproductive governmental process of enforcing environmental legislations, while also taking into account the economic and developmental growth benefits that the animal

74. A Study of Trust Levels and Hometown Populations

Angelina Yearwood (PSY 200)

Hometown population size is correlated with trust levels in individuals; specifically, increased population size correlates with lower trust levels. In this study 30 participants of The University of Tampa's Vaughn Center were given two questionnaires, one on trust, the other on their hometown, and anonymously filled them out. Upon analyzing the data I received from the questionnaires, the results supported the hypothesis that increased hometown population size correlated with lower trust levels. From the results of this study, it can be concluded that more populated areas have a generally less trusting people living within them, especially when compared to lesser populated areas. This study can also be more specific aspects of trust, such as social or political, instead of the overall trust levels measured here.

The University Of

TAMPA