



2015 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE



Poster Presentations:

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

4:00—6:00 p.m.

Fletcher Lounge

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:

Stephen Blessing

Associate Professor, Psychology

Eric Odgaard

Associate Professor, Psychology

Kathryn Branch

Associate Professor, Criminology and Criminal Justice

Patty O'Grady

Associate Professor, Education

Ryan Cragun

Associate Professor, Sociology

Scott Paine

Associate Professor, Government and World Affairs

Kimberly Cummings

Chair, Associate Professor, Psychology

Denis Rey

Associate Professor, Government and World Affairs

Kevin Fridy

Associate Professor, Government and World Affairs

Jeffrey Skowronek

Associate Professor, Psychology

Cynthia Gangi

Assistant Professor, Psychology

Michael Stasio

Associate Professor, Psychology

Deletha Hardin

Associate Professor, Psychology

Jason Sumerau

Assistant Professor, Sociology

Scott Husband

Associate Professor, Psychology

Adrianne Wilson

Coordinator, Graduate & Undergraduate Internships, Education

Erin Koterba

Assistant Professor, Psychology

Norma Winston

Professor, Sociology

Sean Maddan

Associate Professor, Criminology and Criminal Justice

Erica Yuen

Assistant Professor, Psychology

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., (2014, 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.

PRESENTERS

Last Name	First Name	Poster #	Department	Page #
Amberg	Jennifer	1	PSY	6
Amberg	Jennifer	2	PSY	6
Amer	Mehak	3	PSY	6
Anderson	Erica	4	PSY	6
Ash	Philip	31	PSY	12
Ashby	Talia	5	SOC	6
Ashby	Talia	6	SOC	7
Auguste	Stacey	7	GWA	7
Barakat	Kathleen	16	PSY	9
Barakat	Kathleen	54	PSY	16
Baranowski	Rachel	8	GWA	7
Beidler	Rachel	9	PSY	7
Berish	Ian	10	PSY	7
Bince	Mackenzie	24	PSY	10
Bince	Mackenzie	73	PSY	20
Blendowski	Shannon	11	GWA	8
Bloom	Samantha	12	PSY	8
Bommarito	Marina	71	PSY	20
Botset	Tyler	3	PSY	6
Brady	Josie	13	GWA	8
Braganca	Nick	36	PSY 200	13
Calderon	Renzo	14	GWA	8
Callahan	Chandler	17	GWA	9
Callahan	Courtney	18	EDU	9
Camero	John	11	GWA	8
Camoratto	Julia	15	GWA	8
Campbell	Robert	43	PSY	14
Cannizzaro	Christopher	16	PSY	9
Cannizzaro	Christopher	22	PSY	10
Carlyle	Robert	19	GWA	9
Carr	Caroline	20	PSY	9
Clair	Rachel	21	PSY	10
Cole-Kweli	Pasama	20	PSY	9
Cole-Kweli	Pasama	22	PSY	10
Cunningham	Kalene	23	PSY	10
Dabah	Gabriella	24	PSY	10
Dadhwal	Kamakshi	25	PSY 200	10
DeLone	Victoria	26	GWA	11
Deschamps	Bryan	15	GWA	8
Eddy	Shantelle	6	SOC	7
Eddy	Shantelle	27	SOC	11

PRESENTERS

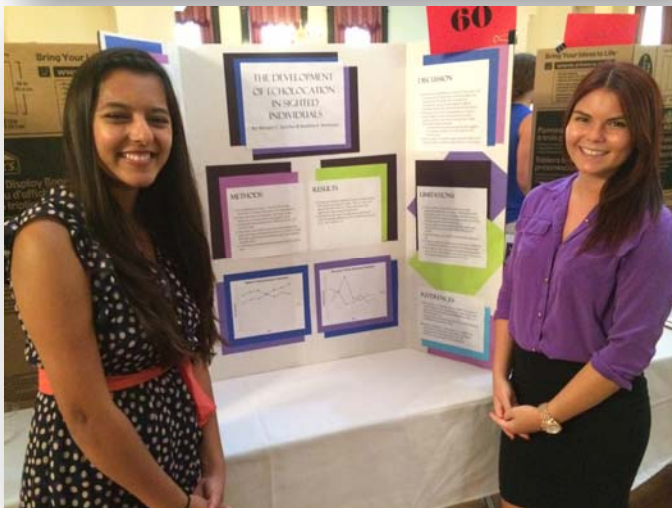
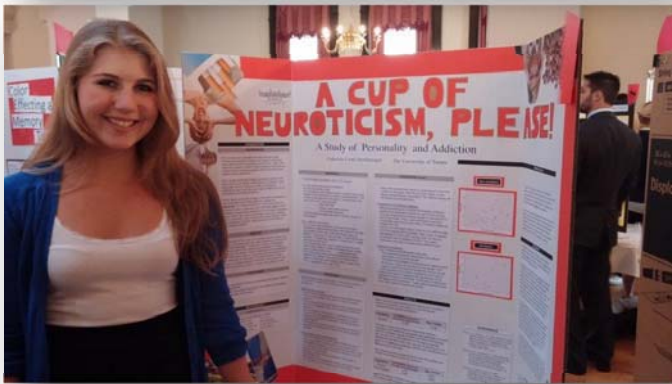
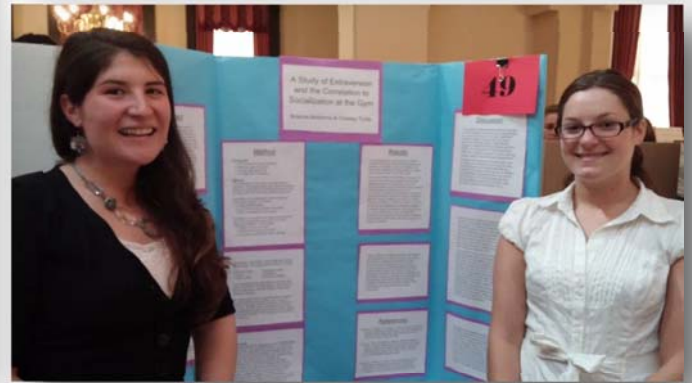
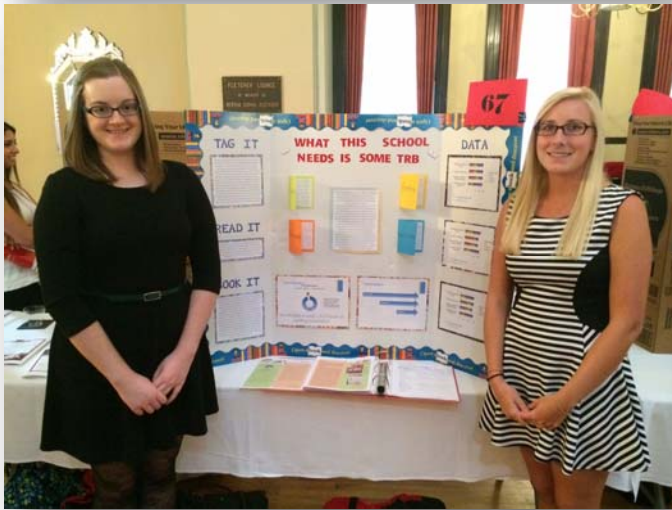
Last Name	First Name	Poster #	Department	Page #
Ellis	Kerrijo	2	PSY	6
Essrig	Marriska	70	PSY	19
Fimbel	Brian	28	EDU	11
Fitzgerald	Kelly	29	GWA	11
Flom	Tessa	65	PSY	18
Forte	Simone	30	PSY	11
Forte	Simone	31	PSY	12
Frautten	Brady	32	GWA	12
Gagne	Madeleine	20	PSY	9
Gilbert	Stephanie	33	GWA	12
Goldbach	Zakary	34	PSY	12
Gonzalez	Desmond	9	PSY	7
Gonzalez	Geidys	35	PSY	12
Gonzalez	Stefan	43	PSY	14
Greene	Virginia	54	PSY	16
Gregg	Zach	36	PSY 200	13
Guerard	Jessika	37	PSY	13
Guynn	Emily	12	PSY	8
Hamel	Mollie	11	GWA	8
Harrington	Rich	8	GWA	7
Havard	Victoria	52	PSY	16
Haydt	Eve	5	SOC	6
Haydt	Eve	6	SOC	7
Haydt	Eve	38	SOC	13
Hicks	Natalie	39	GWA	13
Higgins	Anna	40	PSY	13
Hobar	Erica	31	PSY	12
Hobar	Erica	55	PSY	16
Horvath	Anna	7	GWA	7
Horvath	Anna	41	GWA	14
Hughes	Ashley	42	GWA	14
Jackson	Taylor	43	PSY	14
Jovanov	Gordana	44	GWA	14
Kelly	Shauna	69	PSY	19
Klein	Katarina	35	PSY	12
Klink	Karsten	45	GWA	14
Knowles	Kevin	2	PSY	6
Konitsky	Theresa	46	GWA	15
Kramer	Justin	34	PSY	12
Kramer	Justin	47	PSY	15
Lamb	Jenna	70	PSY	19

PRESENTERS

Last Name	First Name	Poster #	Department	Page #
Lavallee	Katherine	48	PSY 200	15
Leggieri	Tori	49	PSY 200	15
Lemrow	Greg	50	GWA	15
Levine	Hannah	51	PSY	
Levine	Hannah	57	PSY	17
Lewin	Paige	52	PSY	16
Lloyd	William	53	GWA	16
Lopes	Humberto	62	PSY	18
MacIntosh	Scott	13	GWA	8
Mamus	Taras	7	GWA	7
Mansour	Briana	31	PSY	12
Mansour	Briana	54	PSY	16
Mayard-Paul	Nicholas	33	GWA	12
McClellan	Amy	55	PSY	16
McNab	Kamille	55	PSY	16
McNab	Kamille	56	PSY	17
McNally	Erin	31	PSY	12
McNally	Erin	51	PSY	16
McNally	Erin	57	PSY	17
Mita	Elena	1	PSY	6
Mita	Elena	2	PSY	6
Monteforte	Joe	58	GWA	17
Morley	Katharine	6	SOC	7
Mueller	Caroline	59	PSY	17
Nowicki	Kylie	23	PSY	10
Parquette	Amy	35	PSY	12
Paterson	Abby	60	PSY	17
Paterson	Abby	61	PSY	18
Pierce	Kate	10	PSY	7
Port	Rob	69	PSY	19
Pratt	Shellece	6	SOC	7
Ptak	Chelsey	62	PSY	18
Puricelli	Samantha	40	PSY	13
Quinones	Lia	63	CRM	18
Rineer	Chris	8	GWA	7
Roach	Cori	8	GWA	7
Roach	Cori	64	GWA	18
Rodriguez	Dorany	65	PSY	18
Rogers	Corie	70	PSY	19
Ropel	Diana	4	PSY	6
Roseberry	Ciara	66	GWA	19

PRESENTERS

Last Name	First Name	Poster #	Department	Page #
Roth	Natasha	67	PSY	19
Rougier	Jessica	56	PSY	17
Sams	David	67	PSY	19
Sanchez	Morgan	68	PSY	19
Schjang	Gilissa	69	PSY	19
Schluth	Brendan	9	PSY	7
Schondelmeier	Morgan	15	GWA	8
Sekhon	Priya	70	PSY	19
Sharma	Suyansh	56	PSY	17
Sharma	Vijay	3	PSY	6
Sharma	Vijay	47	PSY	15
Shoenberger	Kelly	71	PSY	20
Strecker	Jayne	61	PSY	18
Strecker	Jayne	71	PSY	10
Sullivan	Kayla	25	PSY 200	10
Svirbely	Joseph	13	GWA	8
Svirbely	Joseph	33	GWA	12
Sweet	Janae	72	PSY 200	20
Sylvester	Shaquittia	43	PSY	14
Thorpe	Spencer	59	PSY	17
Thorpe	Spencer	73	PSY	20
Towne	Justine	69	PSY	19
Trainor	Samantha	21	PSY	10
Truitt	Kathryn	12	PSY	8
Truitt	Kathryn	35	PSY	12
Tucker	Brielle	74	CRM	20
Ward	Kaley	33	GWA	12
Weltch	Amelia	56	PSY	17
White	Maria	7	GWA	7
White	Maria C.	75	GWA	20
Williams	Chardene	30	PSY	11
Williams	Drake	55	PSY	16
Williams	Drake C.	76	PSY	21
Wolf	Jonathan	11	GWA	8
Woods	Stephanie	6	SOC	7
Woods	Stephanie	27	SOC	11
Yukniewicz	Briana	16	PSY	9
Zuniga	Jose	3	PSY	6



ABSTRACTS

1. ***Dichotic Listening: Attention and Gender Differences***

Jennifer Amberg & Elena Mita (PSY)

The goal of this study is to examine the cocktail effect with regards to gender. Participants were gathered from the University of Tampa community, 8 males and 8 females and all right-handed. Each were asked to listen to two audio recordings of male and female voices playing simultaneously in different ears, but to only focus on the right ear. In the two trial design, one gender was presented to the target ear while in the second trial the other gender was presented. Participants were given a list of words and asked to mark a tally every time they heard one of the words in the recording. Our hypotheses are that the opposite gender will be heard better when presented in the non-target ear resulting in interference, and that men in general will hear better from the right ear.

2. ***Perceptions of Brand Names***

Jennifer Amberg, Kerrijo Ellis, Kevin Knowles, Elena Mita (PSY)

The goal of this study was to examine the perception of product characteristics based on two fictional brand names for granola bars: True Organix and Koko Bar. A total of 56 participants from the University of Tampa community were surveyed. Each survey asked participants to rate their perceptions of taste, nutritional value, price, amount of processed ingredients and which gender would be most likely to purchase the brand using ratings on a Likert scale. We hypothesized that the Koko Bar would be perceived as having more processed ingredients and more sweet than True Organix. However, we hypothesized that True Organix, compared to Koko Bar, would be perceived as having more nutritional value, a higher price, and more likely to be consumed by women.

3. ***Effects of Brand Names on Perception of Products***

Mehak Amer, Tyler Botset, Vijay Sharma, Jose Zuniga (PSY)

The purpose of the current study was to study if a brand name alone can create a perception of a product. Conducted using a convenient sample of 50 students, participants were asked to answer five questions regarding their perceptions of one of two brand names of watches (Amoro and Bezex). These brand names were created based upon previous research examining word associations and perceptions. We hypothesized that participants would more strongly agree that Amoro is a watch that is more expensive, more stylish, and made of better quality material than Bezex. Conversely, we hypothesized that participants would more strongly agree that Bezex is a more practical and more durable watch than Amoro.

4. ***We're Off to See the Wizard! Using Narrative to Enhance a Museum Visit***

Erica Anderson, Diana Ropel, Jeffrey Skowronek, & Stephen Blessing (PSY)

We investigated how embedding activities within a narrative enhances learning and memory at a children's museum. We created an application for the Apple iPad that families could use as they toured the museum. The story played out across multiple exhibit areas. The application also tested the child with adaptive quizzes after each exhibit area, and provided explanations to the parents about the underlying cognitive principles of the activities. We found that content that provided an over-arching narrative to the museum experience resulted in children learning and remembering more information during the visit and they demonstrated retention of that material two weeks later. Families were also more engaged in the experience, as seen by their time spent in the museum and their attitudes towards the application. We are currently investigating how to build upon this finding in a new exhibit area that is based on the Wizard of Oz, one that many children will have an existing narrative.

5. ***Evaluation of a Child Abuse Prevention Program***

Talia Ashby and Eve Haydt (SOC)

Kids On The Block is a national program designed to prevent and raise awareness of child abuse and bullying. Talia Ashby and Eve Haydt evaluated the effectiveness of the abuse prevention program for the Fall semester, 2014. 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. The 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 80% of letters would contain content from the show. Eighty-eight percent of the letters mentioned at least one of the three themes. Thus, the findings supported the hypothesis.

6. ***Intersecting Prejudices: Religious Opinions on Identity***

Talia Ashby, Shantelle Eddy, Eve Haydt, Katharine Morley, Shellece Pratt, and Stephanie Woods (SOC)

In this study we examine intersecting identities, such as race, gender, and sexuality, and how religiosity affects how people view them. Although multiple studies have been done on single identities, such as transgender individuals, ours fills in the gap in research of how multiple identities in one individual are treated. This is particularly interesting as more minorities are being brought to light and fighting for social and legal rights.

7. ***Career Optimism: How does your race, gender, and socioeconomic status affect your future?***

Stacey Auguste, Anna Horvath, Taras Mamus, and Maria White (GWA)

According to a survey conducted by Accenture in 2014, only eleven percent of college graduates had already secured a job upon graduation. Whereas, eighty-four percent of graduates were confident they would find employment in their chosen field. It is possible to consider that there are several social factors that influence these outcomes, specifically how college graduates, their race, gender, and socioeconomic status affect their level of optimism towards realistic career prospects. In order to gain a better understanding of optimism, it is important to consider how social factors influence levels of optimism. Approaches included a systematic review, along with one hundred survey-based inquiries, which results yielded that optimism has a real impact on the ultimate success or failure in your career.

8. ***Diversifying Sororities: A Study of diversity, representation and organizational interactions between University of Tampa sorority councils***

Rachel Baranowski, Rich Harrington, Chris Rineer, and Cori Roach (GWA)

Campus involvement for undergraduates plays an important role in shaping the success of the student. Scholars such as Mary J. Fischer suggest there is a correlation between student satisfaction (GPA, gratification, graduation rates) and campus involvement. However, Fischer acknowledges that students will be less likely to become involved if they feel that they cannot assimilate because of their identity. This research intends to utilize Fischer's theory by investigating how the collective identities of women in sorority councils play a role in the organization's efforts to diversify their group. To accomplish this, we have surveyed sorority women at the University of Tampa who are members of the National Pan-Hellenic Council, Multicultural Greek Council, and College Panhellenic Association. By understanding diversity in sororities, we can better promote acceptance and student involvement for the women of UT.

9. ***Qualities of friendship among emerging adults in the ego identities of moratorium and diffusion***

Rachel Beidler, Desmond Gonzalez, and Brendan Schluth (PSY)

Adolescents have been shown to be more diffused and also have poorer friendships than emerging adults (Berman et al., 2006). However, there are no studies that examine this relationship between emerging adults at the beginning and end of college. In the present study, 54 participants took the Ego Identity Process Questionnaire (EIPQ; Balistreri, et al., 1995) and the Inventory of Parent and Peer Attachment (IPPA; Gullone et al., 2005). The greatest difference lay between those in diffusion or moratorium (N = 24) and their communication; those in moratorium scored significantly higher regardless of their age or academic year. This implies that people who are exploring their identities might be more open and willing to communicate people than those who are not. There was also a significant positive correlation between trust and communication, indicating that more trusting individuals are more open. Future studies on college students could reveal more about these findings.

10. ***Music and Memory: How Does Music Affect Short-Term Memory?***

Ian Berish & Kate Pierce (PSY)

Past research suggests that when trying to commit something to memory having less distraction is better. This is the idea tested in this experiment. Rather than long-term memory we tested the effect of irrelevant distracters on short-term memory. Participants played a game of concentration under three different conditions. In this first condition the participant listened to no music, in the second they listened to the same music in both ears, and in the third they listened to one song in one ear and a different song in the other ear. We expect to find that having any form of distracter will increase the amount of time and number of tries it takes a participant to finish the game. Also, we expect to see an increase in time and tries in condition three compared to condition two, meaning that having two different distractors will cause more disruption in short-term memory than just one distracter.

11. ***Do We Know Each Other? Exploring respondent's ability to identify the nation of origin of people from pictures***

Shannon Blendowski, John Camero, Mollie Hamel, and Jonathan Wolf (GWA)

There are a number of ways humans divide themselves. Characteristics such as race, gender, sex, sexual orientation, and countless other components of personal identity can form the basis of political contest. This research focuses on the assumptions of race and identification relating to the different subgroups of race and nationality in four Asian, African, and Middle Eastern countries. Its purpose is to determine whether these assumptions about race and identification differ from region to region. It will further identify if individuals who are from a region are better able to identify the nationality of others from their own region than those from other regions. The study compared international students at the University of Tampa to American students, and identify whether international students are more perceptive regarding national origin than American students are.

12. ***The Relationship Between Facebook Jealousy and Relationship Status***

Samantha Bloom, Kathryn Truitt, and Emily Guynn (PSY)

This study aims to examine how levels of jealousy stemming from Facebook usage may differ depending on one's romantic relationship status. In the present study, participants (expected N = 60) were directed to SurveyMonkey.com and asked to complete a demographic form on which they indicated their relationship status as single; in a casual relationship; or in a committed, monogamous relationship. Participants were then asked to take the Facebook Jealousy survey, which measures jealousy from specific acts on Facebook. Researchers hypothesized that participants in a casual relationship will be more jealous

13. ***Religious Conservatism and Attitudes Toward Abortion***

Josie Brady, Scott MacIntosh, Joseph Svrbely (GWA)

Every election cycle U.S. citizens are bombarded with differences in opinions about a woman's right to an abortion. It seems as if elected officials focus more on these social issues than on other important issues such as the economy or the job market. Since this has become such an important political discussion in the United States, we seek to answer the question, To what extent does one's religious conservatism influence one's attitudes toward abortion? Using variables from the General Social Survey 2008 that measure religious denomination and level of fundamentalism, we created a multiplicative index that effectively measures religious conservatism. Using this variable, we measured the relationship between level of religious conservatism and attitudes toward abortion for conditions we consider to be non-extreme and thus more controversial. Through our analyses we expect to find a strong and positive relationship, with the more religiously conservative an individual is, the more likely he or she

14. ***How Does Policing Prevent or Reduce Gang Violence?***

Renzo Calderon (GWA)

By focusing on the research of gang prevention and policing methods I will analyze the prevention steps that governments take in order to reduce or prevent the amount of gang violence that affects the sovereignty of the country. Gang violence has grown significantly in certain regions in the world, therefore, it is essential that we determine what the best possible ways to prevent gang violence are and how to best implement these policing programs effectively. Research data showing decreased gang violence when governments implement rehabilitation programs and improve police-citizen relations illustrate a possible solution to this issue.

15. ***A Discussion of the Fluid Definitions of Ethnicity, Heritage, and Nationality***

Julia Camoratto, Bryan Deschamps, and Morgan Schondelmeier (GWA)

Though the exact definition of ethnicity is contested, its implications can be experienced in everyday life. It has been said that ethnicity has four basic conceptions; as a primordial phenomenon, an epiphenomenon, an institutional phenomenon, or a subjective phenomenon. We hypothesize that those born and raised in the US relate ethnicity directly to race, as a primordial phenomenon and those born and raised outside the US relate ethnicity to heritage or nationality, as an epiphenomenon. To test these hypotheses, we surveyed members of the UT community to gauge their personal identifications of ethnicity, heritage, and nationality, as well as how strong they identify with each. We see that there is a strong correlation between ethnicity and race amongst American respondents and a less strong correlation amongst non-American respondents. By identifying the contrasting answers of international students and Americans, we hope to understand how the definition of ethnicity is context dependent.

16. ***Does the Country of Origin Affect the Consumers View of a Product?***

Christopher Cannizzaro, Briana Yukniewicz, Kathleen Barakat (PSY)

This research focuses on understanding the effects of product country of origin on consumers. We surveyed participants by presenting them with one of two advertisements for a digital camera. The advertisements only had one difference, the country in which the product was made (either China or America). After participants reviewed the advertisement they answered a questionnaire along with a few demographic questions. We hypothesized that consumers would perceive the product to be made of an overall lesser quality from China versus America in these five aspects; being aesthetically pleasing, the quality of the gripping material, the quality of the overall material, its durability, and the likelihood that consumers will purchase the camera.

17. ***Conflict as Consequence of International Migration: Determining the Frequency of Domestic vs. International conflict***
Chandler Callahan (GWA)

Although the relationship between conflict and migration has been noted and analyzed, typically, migration has been seen as a by-product of conflict, and not as a causal factor. Diverging from this idea, this study attempts to develop a theory regarding the relationship between international migration and conflict, while considering migration as a catalyst for conflict, and determine which type of conflict is more frequently occurring, or likely to occur, internal conflict within the host country being migrated to, or between the two nations. I hypothesize that due to the direct, immediate, and physical repercussions of international migration, host countries are more likely, or frequently, dealing with internal conflict, rather than international conflict is erupting between the two interacting nations. A similar case approach is used to comparatively analyze three cases of international migration in order to effectively test this theory.

18. ***Teacher Leadership in Secondary Schools***

Courtney Callahan (EDU)

The concept of teacher leadership has increasingly become embedded within the language of education. Extensive research and literature suggests that teacher leaders are critical in reforming schools. This emerging notion has begun to change the face of teacher leadership in schools. According to Pamela Angelle and Corey DeHart (2008), teacher leaders are instrumental in maintaining focus on student learning, using facilitation and presentation skills, engaging others, developing and maintaining relationships, and working with a sense of integrity. These qualities help define the role of teacher leaders. The purpose of this study was to explore benefits and challenges of teacher leadership in public secondary schools. Common key dimensions of teacher leadership were examined in order to identify the roles, responsibilities, and levels of influence amongst teacher leaders. The implications of this research will inform school leaders about the importance of teacher empowerment as a mechanism for school improvement, growth, and success.

19. ***Can Transparency Affect Government Structure?***

Robert Carlyle (GWA)

This research paper looks at whether or not an increase in transparency can change a government's structure. It will be taking research from several different researchers within China, The Netherlands, and India. It is apparent that countries in the East, rather than the West, have less desire for an increase in transparency and could potentially change their government structure, as an increase in transparency would be received in a rather negative way. This remains significant because it illustrates that cultural factors come into play a significant amount when looking at how transparency could affect a government's structure.

20. ***Impulsive Pigeons: Lesions of the Nucleus Accumbens Impact Cognitive Flexibility in a Reversal Learning Task.***

Caroline Carr, Madeleine Gagne, Pasama Cole-Kweli, & Scott Husband (PSY)

The nucleus accumbens (NAc) is a brain structure playing a critical role in goal-directed behaviors via dopamine circuits, especially in tasks requiring cognitive flexibility (e.g., dysfunction here is implicated in cognitive deficits in schizophrenics on the Wisconsin Card-Sorting Task). A comparative approach to looking at NAc function in birds can reveal the basic functions of this system and insights into brain evolution. The current study analyzed the impact of NAc lesions on a visually-mediated reversal learning task. One group of pigeons received NAc lesions, while another received sham surgery. Lesioned subjects performed significantly worse on the first 2 of 10 reversal sessions; in addition, their errors indicated cognitive rigidity (i.e., perseverative responding on the prior rewarded stimulus). These results provide new insights regarding the evolutionary origin of NAc and can offer a comparative model using birds for research in disorders characterized by NAc dysfunction (e.g., ADHD, OCD, schizophrenia).

21. ***Does Music Make You Stroopid?***

Rachel Clair & Samantha Trainor (PSY)

The current study is an extension of the Stroop experiment developed by J.R. Stroop. There were a total of 14 participants who completed the study. The current study consisted of three separate conditions in which all participants partook. For each condition the participants were given a list of words on a computer screen and asked to report the color of the font of the presented words as quickly as possible. The first condition had no music, the second condition had rap music, and the third condition had classical music with no words. Speeds of recognition for each word in each condition were recorded. It is expected that both rap music and classical music will complete the Stroop task with slower speeds of recognition. The added music may function as a distractor and further extend ones divided attention thus increasing reaction times.

22. ***An Investigation of the Relationship Between BPM and Cognitive Performance***

Pasama Cole-Kweli & Chris Cannizzaro (PSY)

Music has been known to have influences on people's lives and performances in certain areas. The focus of this study is to investigate how different beats per minute (BPM) can affect cognitive performance. Participants listened to four different conditions of music, one being a control with no music and the other three varying in BPM while simultaneously playing a cognitive brain game. The participant was required to find a symbol shown to them on a grid filled with many symbols. The order of songs played was counterbalanced across participants. Heart rate was measured to see if there is any correlation between physiological factors and the BPM of the songs played. We predicted that the performance of the participants would increase when the song with the higher BPM is playing.

23. ***Jealously Among Students in Committed vs. Non-Committed Relationships***

Kalene Cunningham and Kylie Nowicki (PSY)

This study explored relationships between sexual jealousy in committed and non-committed relationships among undergraduates at The University of Tampa. Students enrolled in general education social science courses (N = 60) completed a brief demographic background survey, The Mate Retention Inventory (MRI-MSR), The Revised Socio-Sexuality Scale (SOI-R), and Sternberg's Triangle Love Scale (TLS). We hypothesized that men and women with high scores in the socio-sexuality index will report lower jealousy scores and fewer mate retention strategies than students scoring low on the SOI-R. In addition, we hypothesized that men in Friends with Benefits Relationships will report more sexual jealousy than women and more frequent mate retention behaviors. Similarly, it was predicted that women in committed relationships will be more jealous than men and show more frequent mate retention behaviors.

24. ***Sexual Intelligence and Perceptions of Peers' Health Behaviors***

Gabriella Dabah and Mackenzie Bince (PSY)

Sexual intelligence is described as a set of beliefs and behaviors related to positive sexuality, such as seeking knowledge, knowing oneself, and demonstrating good interpersonal skills (Crooks & Baur, 2013). This study will investigate the relationship between sexual intelligence and the perceptions of peers' health behaviors among undergraduates (expected N = 50) at the University of Tampa. Students enrolled in general education courses will complete a demographic questionnaire, fill out a sexual intelligence scale, and complete a judgment task. We hypothesize that there will be a positive correlation between sexual intelligence and accuracy of judging their peers' sexual behaviors (e.g., condom use frequency).

25. ***The Key(s) to Ecstasy***

Kamakshi Dadhwal & Kayla Sullivan (PSY 200)

This survey was conducted to find and analyze the correlation between extraversion and subjective well-being. The participants were extracted from the age group of 18-22 years, both male and female, studying at the undergraduate level. They volunteered to complete a survey consisting of two parts: the Ten-Item Extraversion Scale and the Oxford Happiness Inventory. A compilation of the results confirmed our hypothesis, showing a significant positive correlation between the two variables. The outcome proposes a link to Lucas and Diener's (2001) argument, which stems from Gray's Reinforcement Sensitivity Theory that extraverts may be more sensitive than introverts to social situations that are rewarding. This sensitivity might explain the greater feelings of happiness among extraverts, especially in the tested age group.

26. ***How Does the Interaction between Gender Roles in Religion and Politics Contribute to Gender Inequality?***

Victoria DeLone (GWA)

This paper will explore the interaction between politics and religion. More specifically, the focus of this research will be the impact this relationship has on gender inequality. By using the most dissimilar method, I will be researching political and religious relationships across areas by using three separate case studies. I theorize that the more religion and politics influence and impact each other, the wider the gender gap. In other words, the less secular, more religious a political system, the more likely it is for gender inequality to persist. The significance of this research cannot be understated, as gender equality leads to better economic, health, and educational benefits.

27. ***Evaluation of a Bullying Prevention Program***

Shantelle Eddy and Stephanie Woods (SOC)

The Kids on the Block, Bullies & School Safety Program was evaluated for the Fall semester, 2014, by Shantelle Eddy and Stephanie Woods. A 25% systematic random sample was taken from the (63) participating Hillsborough County elementary schools. The letters written by students after seeing the show were coded according to themes to determine what the students had learned from the show. The hypothesis that 80% of the student responses will show knowledge of one or more themes from the Bullies and School Safety program was supported.

28. ***Performance as a Result of Time Constraint and Self-Reported Anxiety***

Brian Fimbel (EDU)

The purpose of the study is investigate the effects of a timed testing environment versus a non-timed testing environment relative to students who identify as math anxious or not. The population is pre-service teachers at The University of Tampa enrolled in undergraduate courses. The study instrument consists of 15 questions randomly sampled from the Florida Teacher Certification exam (FTCE) General Knowledge (GK) Testware 2nd edition delivered in electronic format via Blackboard.

29. ***Indigenous Tattooing Practices: Marks of Culture***

Kelly Fitzgerald (GWA)

How are indigenous tattooing practices maintained in modern society, if at all? How does cultural significance influence the incidence of indigenous tattoos, and what do these tattoos mean to modern practitioners? These are the questions I examined in the course of my research. To attempt to answer these questions, I considered indigenous tattooing practices in three different cultural contexts. I hope to explain why some practices are maintained or how they change. This research will offer an insight into modern cultural values among indigenous groups in different regions.

30. ***Jealousy and Attractiveness Level of a Potential Romantic Rival***

Simone Forte and Chardene Williams (PSY)

Sexual and emotional jealousies are negative emotions experienced by some romantic partners. This study asks whether an individual becomes more jealous when an attractive person (vs. a less attractive one) threatens his or her romantic relationship. A survey and vignettes were constructed containing situations that show pictures of potential rivals. (Photos were independently rated for level of attractiveness.) Students, ages 18+, were interviewed at the University of Tampa. Previous research has shown that women may be more upset by emotional jealousy while men are more bothered by sexual jealousy. This study hypothesizes that the level of attractiveness of a potential rival will be important to jealousy for both sexes.

31. ***Group Videoconferencing and Virtual Exposure Intervention for Public Speaking Anxiety***

Simone Forte, Philip Ash, Briana Mansour, Erica Hobar, Erin McNally, Erica Yuen (PSY)

The purpose of our research was to evaluate the effectiveness of videoconferencing and virtual exposure exercises in reducing public speaking anxiety. During public speaking activities, many people find it difficult to perform due to high levels of anxious and stressful emotions. Acceptance-based cognitive behavioral techniques were taught during a six-week workshop series to determine if group videoconferencing in conjunction with at-home virtual exposure exercises were effective in reducing participants' public speaking anxiety. Results showed a significant decrease in participants' public speaking anxiety from the pre-treatment to 3-month follow-up timepoints. These findings suggest that participants became more flexible in their ability to cope with their anxious thoughts and feelings.

32. ***How does foreign aid (through development and humanitarian assistance) affect the societal reintegration and infrastructure reconstruction process of a country suffering the aftermath of ethnic conflict?***

Brady Frautten (GWA)

Ethnic tension and conflict has a footprint in nearly every society, and in every nation-state - that is what distinguishes itself from other types of war or conflict. If we look at it as a geo-political crisis, it is clear that it knows no boundaries. The struggles, hardships, and fighting that may be faced in third world countries, like Rwanda, can also be displayed in more well-off societies. The severity of, and the reason for are the distinguishing factors between nation-states, in ethnic conflicts. In addition to further discussing ethnicity and expounding on the many areas I believe fit into ethnicity, I aim the focus of my paper to the societal reintegration and infrastructure reconstruction process of a state. This is the point after which it has suffered such a tragedy, and devastating blow to its well-being, through these ethnic conflicts.

33. ***Cosmopolitanism, Nationality and the Effect of Global Issues***

Stephanie Gilbert, Nicholas Mayard-Paul, Joseph Svrbely, and Kaley Ward (GWA)

The connection to your home country can be considered as your nationality, but when someone has lived in a different country for so long do they begin to lose their sense of nationality? Nationality is a justified connection to the place you were born and the ideal place to look at this is through the lens of students at the University of Tampa, both International students and American students. This paper tests whether a person's place of birth has an effect on their cosmopolitanism and this can be seen through their stance on the importance of specific international events in comparison to domestic (United States) events. We also hypothesize that international citizens are more likely to be aware of global issues, while American students would be more aware of domestic issues, or lack sympathy for international issues. (International Students are more cosmopolitan/ Domestic students are more nationalistic)

34. ***Gender Differences in Perceived Stress and Jealousy***

Zakary Goldbach and Justin Kramer (PSY)

This study aims to explore the effects of a stressful environment on jealousy behaviors in both genders. Jealousy is defined as a negative emotional experience related to perceived partner faithfulness. We are interested in studying gender differences in how high stress might influence jealousy behaviors. Past research suggests that women experience more emotional jealousy in a relationship, whereas men experience more sexual jealousy. These two types of jealousy are measured in this study by manipulating perceived stress of the college-aged participants (expected N = 40) through a brief reading and then scoring a self-reported jealousy scale. It is predicted that each gender will experience more jealousy after reading the story related to high environmental stress.

35. ***Commitment Levels Among Emerging Adults in Romantic Relationships***

Geidys Gonzalez, Kathryn Truitt, Amy Parquette, and Katarina Klein (PSY)

When it comes to romantic relationships among emerging adults, conflicting research exists. Shulman and Connolly (2013) have found that as emerging adults age, they transition into more committed romantic relationships. However, other findings suggest that emerging adults are delaying adult commitments, such as dedicated relationships (Shulman et al., 2013). We expected that upperclassmen and females would have higher commitment levels regarding romantic relationships. In the present study, 50 participants in monogamous romantic relationships (31 females, 19 males) between the ages of 18-24 completed the Revised Commitment Inventory (Owen et al., 2011). Their commitment levels with their romantic partners were evaluated based on seven subscales of commitment. A comparison was made between upper and lower classmen in college. Correlations were found to exist among some subscales of commitment. Findings will further be discussed in terms of available research throughout the presentation.

36. ***A Personality Study: Correlation between Procrastination and Neuroticism***

Zach Gregg & Nick Braganca (PSY 200)

Our study was to determine whether there was a correlation between the extent to which a student procrastinates and the neuroticism aspect of their personality, from the Big Five. We attempted to establish this relationship by surveying college students from the University of Tampa using a 20-item neuroticism questionnaire and part of the Procrastination Assessment Scale for Students. The relationship established by our results was determined not to be statistically significant due to high variance in a small sample size (N=40).

37. ***Educational impact on extending the academic calendar for children with special needs***

Jessika Guerard and Jeffrey Skowronek (PSY)

The current study examined whether or not children with special needs have benefited from an initiative at Pepin Academy where the academic school year was started one month earlier than standard in the county. Past research on extending the typical school year has provided inconclusive support for this initiative. To assess the affect of the earlier academic school year, NWEA standardized test scores in four subjects for students in elementary, middle, and high school were analyzed. Initial results only partially support the hypothesis that the students' scores would be higher due to the extra month. A significant effect was observed, however, for the scores obtained in Fall 2013 compared to the scores for Fall 2014, suggesting there is some change between the two academic years requiring further examination. Additionally, while boys had significantly more behavioral referrals, there was no evidence for any change in behavioral referrals across the academic terms.

38. ***Making Sense of Intimacy***

Eve Haydt (SOC)

This is a qualitative study which examines how college women in relationships define intimacy. In-depth interviews were conducted with 14 women in intimate romantic relationships. A strong pattern emerged depicting a dichotomy between how participants defined intimacy and their association of it with sex. Although their initial reaction to intimacy was sexual, they actually regarded intimacy as emotional.

39. ***How Do Environmental Campaigns Impact Water and Air Pollution?***

Natalie Hicks (GWA)

This research will examine the effectiveness of environmental organization campaigns through economic, political, and cultural factors. The goal of this essay is to evaluate how environmental groups lobby governmental policies, acquire funds, and influence society in order to decrease air and water pollution within the groups' respective countries. International NGOs will also be taken into consideration as a key player and partner to domestic organizations. This research ultimately attempts to explain that environmental campaigns have positive leverage on air and water pollution control and public health on democratic, wealthy, and culturally diverse countries more than politically and economically unstable countries.

40. ***Does Perfectionism and Social Feedback Influence Body Image Concerns and Decisions about a Cosmetic Surgery Candidate?***

Anna Higgins, Samantha Puricelli, and Mike Stasio (PSY)

This replication study examined the influence of perfectionism and social feedback about a hypothetical cosmetic surgery candidate on body image concerns and approval / disapproval of the surgery procedure. Social feedback was manipulated via a case report of an alleged college student seeking elective cosmetic surgery to alter the appearance of her nose. Participants (N = 110; 64 females and 46 males) read either a case with negative social evaluation or a case with no social information (control). It was predicted that participants who are high in perfectionism and who read the negative social evaluation case will have higher scores on a test of body image concerns and recommend cosmetic surgery for the candidate more frequently than students with lower perfectionism scores.

41. ***How does Globalization Escalate Conflict in Nations?***

Anna Horvath (GWA)

The process of globalization leads to citizens forming new perceptions on how their nation should function, politically, socially, even economically, and may begin to demand change from their government. This demand for change in the political setting arrives at the central theme of this paper, which will attempt to identify whether or not globalization leads to political ferment and if so, how. Often globalization is viewed as a positive influence in the world without taking into consideration the negative effects it can have on societies. The aim of this paper is to discuss why globalization can have adverse effects on a nation and how this can escalate into conflict. The rapid spread of social change that accompanies globalization is often times not without violence as groups struggle to make changes in their society; leading to the hypothesis that globalization does in fact lead to an intensification of conflict.

42. ***Politics, Prostitution and Developing Regions: The Factors of Human Sex Trafficking***

Ashley Hughes (GWA)

In this paper I will be discussing the politics and issues that are involved in the human sex trafficking of developed nations. Looking both the supply and demand of the sex trade, I will look at the policies and laws that are enacted or lack of specific nations. Choosing this area of focus, I am hoping to see that countries are making strides to decrease the flow of human traffickers. I will be using the "most similar system" to conduct my study as I have numerous control variables that will remain the same throughout this paper.

43. ***The Interaction of Social Media Usage on Emotional Distress and Self-esteem in Emerging Adults***

Taylor Jackson, Robert Campbell, Stefan Gonzalez, and Shaquitta Sylvester (PSY)

Prior research on social media has shown that high social network usage is connected to low self-esteem due to communication overload (Wenhong & Lee, 2013). However, there has not been extensive research on the emotional effects of social media specifically on emerging adults. In this study, 78 students from a medium sized liberal arts university were given a questionnaire examining demographics, intensity of network usage and emotional distress as well as self-esteem. Results showed no significance between time spent and number of friends on social media and emotional distress and self-esteem. However, the results also suggest a possible trend between self-esteem and which social media site is used. These findings might warrant a more in-depth examination of various social media sites. Findings will be discussed in terms of social comparison theory.

44. ***The European Union: Do the Costs Outweigh the Benefits?***

Gordana Jovanov (GWA)

Countries join the European Union in order to enhance economic benefits from access to common markets. I will compare the economic stability of France, a founding member, Switzerland, a non-member and Serbia, a candidate country. I am comparing how the political ideology has affected economic stability and whether the costs and sacrifices of membership outweigh the financial benefits. The analysis is based on comparisons of governing structure, GDP and unemployment figures.

45. ***The Alleviation of Child Labor Practices***

Karsten Klink (GWA)

The issue of child labor has transitioned from a regional and domestic matter to one of international debate and global proportions. Viewed upon with contempt, due to the distortion it creates in the labor market, and the safeguarding of our children. Trade sanctions, which are the primary tool to fight child labor, may inadvertently drive households to choose worse alternatives than labor for their children. Child labor is a symptom deriving from problems such as poverty, inadequate education systems, ethnic conflicts, labor market dysfunctions, and weak government institutions which are issues that will not be eliminated by imposing trade sanctions.

46. ***What Terrorist Tactics Elicit the Strongest Counter-Terrorism Responses?***

Theresa Konitsky (GWA)

Terrorist groups are running rampant in the world and the tactics they employ elicit strong responses of fear from the population. To deal with terrorism, states have to decide what their counter-terrorism responses will be and if they will be effective enough to eliminate the threat. In this paper, Egypt, Iraq, and Lebanon will be examined to see which tactics created the largest outcry and how each government responded. It is important to determine if there are alternative methods of responding to terrorism, such as improved educational systems, rather than relying solely on military action.

47. ***Talking with an ACE: Perceptions and Comparison of Artificial Conversational Entities***

Justin Kramer & Vijay Sharma (PSY)

The purpose of this research is to identify the strengths and weaknesses of programs created to interact with humans via text-based chat boxes. These programs, also called Artificial Conversational Entities (ACEs) or more commonly known as chatbots, have been compared since at least 1990 in the first Loebner Prize competition and have been steadily improving since. However, some of the first and simplest ACEs continue to pass for human conversations while some of the newer ones can be identified nearly immediately. The goal is to identify the main contributing factors of what makes an interaction with an ACE authentic versus clearly automated. Both ACEs in this study (ELIZA and Mitsuku) have potential for extremely human-like conversation, but their “personalities” greatly differ. By recording conversations of college students (N = 20) and analyzing their feedback on each conversation, there will be more information available for directing improvements to these programs.

48. ***Religious or Spiritual? Your Personality May Indicate How You Worship***

Katherine Lavalley (PSY 200)

A study surveyed 39 University of Tampa students, practicing 13 different religions, to find out if personality and religiosity were related. Previous studies state that Openness to Experience tends to have a negative correlation with Religiosity and a positive correlation with Spirituality. The hypothesis for this research stated that higher scores in Openness to Experience would be associated with lower scores in Religiosity but higher scores in Spirituality. Each participant filled out two questionnaires—one evaluated the personality trait of Openness to Experience and the second assessed the degree of Religiosity and Spirituality. Results matched the hypothesis and reinforced what past studies found. A significant negative correlation existed between Openness to Experience and Religiosity as well as a significant positive correlation between Openness and Spirituality. These results can be used with more specific variables to study different religions and personalities in the future.

49. ***Drinking Habits and Neuroticism***

Tori Leggieri (PSY 200)

This study was conducted to determine if there is a correlation between people’s levels of three facets of neuroticism and their drinking habits. Out of 29 participants, 14 were male and 15 female. All of the participants were over the age of 21, with the majority having a graduating year of 2015 or 2016. The study examined participant’s levels of neuroticism using the facets of depression, immoderation, and vulnerability. The drinking questionnaire examined how frequently the participant drank and for what purposes they consumed alcohol. In summary, the results show that neuroticism and drinking habits are not significantly correlated. There are aspects of drinking that are related with the facets of neuroticism, but only in a small subset of the participants.

50. ***To What Extent Does the Separation of Power Help or Hinder Efficiency in Foreign Policy and War?***

Greg Lemrow (GWA)

The purpose of this research paper is to examine the effects of the separation of powers as defined in the US Constitution. Specifically, I would like to examine how the checks and balances between the two branches affects the use of war powers and matters of foreign policy. I plan to do this through an examination of the 110th, 111th, and 113th Congresses to look at how cooperation or combativeness between the two branches affects the process. My intent is to determine which leads to more positive and efficient results, to gain an understanding of how each branch’s actions affect those of another, as well as the overall war effort.

51. ***How Information Affects the Stigma of Mental Illness***

Hannah Levine, Erin McNally, Cynthia Gangi, and Erica Yuen (PSY)

Mental illness is highly stigmatized within society. The current research examined whether the informational model (i.e., explanation) of an illness impacts mental illness stigma and its adverse consequences. In our study, participants (N = 201) were provided with a description about depression that varied in terms of its causal (biological vs. psychosocial) and treatability (included vs. omitted) information. The results indicate that a biological explanation, regardless of the presence or absence of treatability information, can reduce stereotypes about mental illness, lower stigma regarding seeking psychological help, and increase willingness to seek professional help compared to a psychosocial one.

52. ***Communication Style, Relationship Proximity, and Sexual Jealousy***

Paige Lewin and Victoria Havard (PSY)

This study in progress is to investigate relationships among communication style, relationship proximity, and sexual jealousy. Past research specifies that communication style can greatly impact overall relationship satisfaction. In our study, UT students (expected N = 100) completed a Sexual Jealousy Scale and The Communication Style Survey. It is hypothesized that participants who are male and in long distant relationships will use more consistent and visual communication styles with their partners. We also hypothesized that the rate of visual communication will be higher compared to texting and phone calls. Lastly we hypothesize that students in long distance relationships will score higher on the sexual jealousy scale.

53. ***Regime Change: Necessities for a Successful Change***

William Lloyd (GWA)

With Regime change becoming more common and coming from a variety of different sources including foreign imposed, military coups and domestic revolts, a examination of indicators for the success of regime change becomes more important. Using case studies, an examination of recent regime changes will present indicators of whether a new regime will succeed in consolidating its hold on a country or if it will fail and collapse. Sources that examine the new governments of the Arab spring and Dissolution of the Soviet Union will be used to examine a hypothesis using indicators of regime success and seeing if the lack of such indicators indicates a higher chance of state failure. The case studies used are Belarus, Iraq and Tunisia. Indicators examined are institutional structure, distribution of public or private goods and the legitimacy of the leadership, through elections, ideology, performance or religion.

54. ***The Effect of Facebook on Mood***

Briana Mansour, Kathleen Barakat, Virginia Greene, Erica Yuen, Michael Stasio, Erin Koterba, Renee Patrick (PSY)

Among college students, the Internet provides mediums where information can be exchanged. Some studies show that increased interaction with Facebook has a negative correlation with one's mood. Our research study examined how activities on social networking sites affect cognition and emotion, specifically interactions on Facebook. One hundred and forty-one University of Tampa students were randomly assigned to one of the following computer activities: browse the Internet, browse and view others' Facebook pages, actively communicate with others on Facebook, or stay solely on their own personal Facebook profile page. Participants then completed the Positive and Negative Affect Scale (PANAS). Analyses showed no significant effect with the data collected thus far, however results approached significance.

55. ***The Effects of Color on Perception of Product Scent***

Amy McClellan, Drake Williams, Erica Hobar, Kamille McNab (PSY)

Previous research shows that the appearance of a product can influence consumer's expectations and thus affect their perception of the product. We expanded on this concept by investigating how color impacts the perception of perfume by manipulating the color of the perfume container. We hypothesized that a scent in a pink bottle will be perceived as lighter, sweeter, and be liked more by females than males. Conversely, we hypothesized that perfume in a brown bottle will be perceived as heavier, and liked more by males than females. In order to test our hypotheses, we sampled 60 undergraduate students from The University of Tampa. Participants were asked to smell the same scent shown in one of two different-colored bottles and asked to rate the scent on a number of qualities using a Likert scale. Here, we report our findings of this study and discuss its implications on the effects of product appearance on consumer expectations.

56. ***The Differences in Sociosexual Outlooks Throughout College Years***

Kamille McNab, Jessica Rougier, Suyansh Sharma, Amelia Weltch (PSY)

Sociosexuality is the engagement in non-committed sexual relationships and is assessed through individuals' behaviors, attitudes, and desires. These factors change through emerging adulthood years (Penke & Asendorpf, 2008), but we have yet to find studies examining the evolution of sociosexual outlooks of college students throughout their four years. We hypothesized that upperclassmen, juniors and seniors, would have more committed attitudes towards sexual encounters than underclassmen, freshmen and sophomores. In the present study, 50 participants (32 female) completed the revised Sociosexual Orientation Inventory (SOI-R; Penke & Asendorpf, 2008) along with the Brief Sexual Attitudes Scale (Hendrick et al., 2006). There were no significant results pertaining to participant's year in college, but analyses showed differences in behaviors and desires between genders. Attitudes did not differ by gender suggesting students had similar outlooks towards sociosexuality, but males tended to engage in the behaviors while females did not.

57. ***The Effect of Birth Order on Academic Success***

Erin McNally, Hannah Levine, Erica Yuen (PSY)

This study examines the relationship between birth order and college GPA, high school GPA, SAT scores, anxiety level, and self-esteem. We hypothesized that the eldest child would have higher college and high school GPAs, higher SAT scores, lower anxiety levels, and higher self-esteem compared to middle, youngest, and only children. The sample consisted of 127 students from General Psychology and Gateways classes who took a demographic survey, academic performance survey, the Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale, and the Beck Anxiety Inventory. After completing a one-way ANOVA for each of the dependent variables, the results showed that there was a statistically significant relationship between birth order and college GPA. However, the analyses for high school GPA, SAT scores, anxiety level, and self-esteem yielded statistically insignificant relationships.

58. ***Unequal Perception: Examining Perceived Inequality in the United States***

Joe Monteforte (GWA)

Economic Inequality and perceptions of inequality are two separate entities. While economic inequality may be affecting people, their ability to perceive this inequality is shaped by the world around them and they are left with their individual perceptions. Over the course of the last 30 years the United States has had varying levels of inequality according to the GINI index. The objective of this paper is to determine if changes in inequality correlate to changes in the public's perception of inequality and if not what other factors may be coming into play. In order to determine this, different cases made up of an individual year are examined in comparison to the U.S. GINI in combination with a longitudinal analysis examining social factors.

59. ***Sexual Scripts, Perfectionism, and Motivations for Pretending Orgasm***

Caroline Mueller and Spencer Thorpe (PSY)

This study examines the roles of perfectionism and sexual scripts in the behavior of pretending orgasm. Studies have suggested common scripts or sequences for sexual behavior, and this study will examine the scripts for pretending orgasm for men and women. In this study, (expected N = 40), participants are randomly assigned to one of two story conditions, which will vary the script that partners typically expect during sexual behavior. The dependent scores will be questions related to the likelihood of pretending orgasm. We hypothesize that participants with high perfectionism scores will be more likely to follow the sexual script, even if that includes pretending orgasm.

60. ***Looking on the Bright Side: Memory Retrieval and Affectively Forecasting Bias in Happy Individuals***

Abby Paterson & Cynthia Gangi (PSY)

When we forecast about our emotional reactions to future events, past instances are taken into consideration. The current research assessed whether or not happy people show different patterns of memory retrieval and affective forecasting than unhappy people. In our study, participants were asked to recall past memories of positive and negative events and predict what degree of affect they would experience if those events were to happen now. Overall, happier people tended to make more positive predictions about their future reactions even though they recalled the same types of memories. Also, of those who scored high in happiness, the ones who were randomly assigned to recall three past instances (compared to one instance) made much more positive forecasts. Therefore, happiness seems to be linked with a positive affective forecasting bias as well as a cumulative effect of past memories.

61. ***Can You Spot the Difference? Gender Differences in Change Blindness***

Abby Paterson & Jayne Strecker (PSY)

The inability to detect large visual changes due to a visual disruption has been studied both through static and dynamic experiments. Simons et al. is the leader in this research and has proven change blindness is experienced more often than not. Differences between genders, however, have not been focused on. The current study addresses the gender differences. Using GoCognitive Change Blindness assessments, the average amount of time taken to detect visual change was recorded and analyzed to determine if there are significant gender differences in attention. It was assumed that there would be a significant difference, however, no significant difference was found between males and females. Future research can look at a larger sample and recording the number of incorrect guesses.

62. ***Perfectionism and Performance on Two Problem-Solving Tasks***

Chelsey Ptak, Humberto Lopes, Erica Yuen, and Mike Stasio (PSY)

This is a study in progress to investigate the relationship between perfectionism and problem solving performance on two cognitive tasks. Students in various introductory courses (an N = 60 is anticipated) complete the Perfectionistic Self Presentation Scale (PSPS) and the Almost Perfect Scale Revised (APS-R). They then complete two computerized versions of tests designed to measure aspects of neuropsychological function: The Wisconsin Card Sorting Test (WCST) and the Tower of Hanoi (TOH) task. We hypothesize that students who score high in perfectionism will show greater numbers of perseveration errors on the WCST and will take more time to complete the TOH task.

63. ***The Influence of Economic Conditions on Crime in the U.S.***

Lia Quinones (CRM)

Until the last decade, the prevailing wisdom has been that the economy has a profound impact on the incidence of crime. With the recent economic downturn accompanied by a continued decrease in crime rates, the assumption that poor economic conditions are associated with dramatic increases in crime has become dubious. This research examined macro level indicators of economy and crime, at the federal and state levels, to explore the relationship between economy and crime in the United States. Results suggest a more complex relationship between economic indicators and crime. Policy implications are discussed.

64. ***Overconsumption: A Potential Driving Factor of International Conflict***

Cori Roach (GWA)

After the Cold War era, a new threat to national security became apparent: the degrading environment. Scholars such as Thomas Homer-Dixon introduced the idea that environmental issues, especially natural resource degradation, are factors that contribute to both domestic and international conflict. These issues, however, cannot necessarily be branded as a primary cause of a conflict. My research intends to lessen the value other major contributors of conflict by controlling for development (HDI) to determine if overconsumption can, in fact, be considered a primary factor leading to inter-state conflict. Through the case study analysis of China, Brazil and Russia, this paper suggests that overconsumption and inter-state conflict are interconnected and will become increasingly problematic if the behavior of states' resource exhaustion continues.

65. ***How Noise Affects Memory***

Dorany Rodriguez & Tessa Flom (PSY)

In the current experiment we examined the effects a noisy and non-noisy environment on verbal and visual memory. The participants were randomly assigned to four conditions: a noisy environment, non-noisy environment, a words list, and a pictures list. In this experiment we defined noise as the everyday noise that occurs in the background and non-noisy as a quiet room. They were given 15 seconds to read through each list in each environment. Once they were done they were instructed to recall as many words and images they could remember on each designated recall sheet. Each participant was tested in the noisy and non-noisy environment, giving this experiment a repeated measure design. Participants will recall more words and images in the non-noisy environment than in the noisy environment. We also predict that participants will recall more images than words in each environment due to visual memory being easier to recall.

66. ***Affect an International Event has on a Country's Image***

Ciara Roseberry (GWA)

The use the international events are a weapon of soft power for many countries to improve their image among the international system. I will look at three different countries, one of which has held many different events, one not as many, and one with none, to see if these events really matter with their international image. I expect to find that if the countries take the necessary precautions to ensure they are stable beforehand and if they need it, hosting could be extremely beneficial. This could show a different kind of way for a country to grow among other nations.

67. ***Correlation of Imagination with Entertainment Preferences***

Natasha Roth & David Sams (PSY 200)

Watching movies directly stimulates the imagination (Lefebvre, 1999). It is reasonable to assume that a person with a highly developed imagination would actively watch many different types of films, as often as possible. Thirty-five college students between the ages of 17 and 22 completed a survey measuring their imagination and their interest in different film genres. Each student's imagination score was compared with three variables—the number of times they watched movies on average, the number of movies they watched in the last month, and the number of genres they reported as viewing frequently. For two of the three variables, average number of movies watched and number of genres frequently viewed, there was a significant positive correlation with imagination. Therefore, according to this study, a person with a highly developed imagination is more likely to enjoy a wide range of films more frequently.

68. ***Effect of weight on perception of job applications***

Morgan Sanchez (PSY)

The current study investigated how the physical sensation of weight affected the perception of job applications. It was hypothesized that when viewing two resumes, one with a heavier folder and one with a lighter folder, the candidate with the heavier folder would be selected. This hypothesis was tested using a within subjects design, by having participants read the job position, then review a resume and answer a brief survey including a seven-point Likert scale of how qualified the candidate was for the job. The participant then reviewed a second resume of equivalent competency and completed the same survey. After evaluating both resumes the participant was then asked whom they would hire to fill the position. The results are expected to show that the candidate given with the heavier folder will be ranked on the Likert scale as being better qualified and also be selected more frequently as the ideal candidate to hire.

69. ***Effects of Color on Coffee Taste Perceptions***

Gilissa Schjang, Justine Towne, Rob Port, and Shauna Kelly (PSY)

Color has been found to affect perceptions of taste in previous research. In the current study, we examined how the color of a coffee cup (red vs. white) influences perceptions of the taste of coffee. Approximately fifty participants were recruited; half consumed coffee out of a red cup and the other half consumed the same coffee out of a white cup. After consumption, both groups were given a survey about their perceptions of the coffee. We hypothesized that participants would perceive the coffee as more sweet, tasty, and of better quality when consumed out of a red cup rather than a white cup. Furthermore, we expected that participants would perceive coffee as having a more intense flavor and a richer aroma when consumed out of a white, compared to red, cup.

70. ***Use of Stimulants Among College Students***

Priya Sekhon, Marriska Essrig, Corie Rogers, & Jenna Lamb (PSY)

Some research suggests that the use of stimulants is tied to higher GPA among emerging adults (Swanson, Wigal, & Volkow, 2011). The purpose of the present study was to investigate stimulant use among emerging adults at the University of Tampa and whether use varied as a function of GPA and activities. One hundred students completed questionnaires assessing their experiences with stimulant use, including its accessibility on campus, the extent of their stimulant use, and details about their friends' stimulant use. These results were compared against a demographics survey that included age, GPA, and Greek involvement. Although there were no significant results when comparing any of the demographics to stimulant use, there was a correlation that showed as the stimulant use of an individual's peers increased, they were more likely to perceive stimulant use as safe. Therefore, perceptions of usage appear to be tied to perceptions of stimulant safety.

71. ***Depression and Suicide in College: Risk Factors, Screening, and Assessment of Student and Faculty Knowledge***
Kelly Shoenberger, Jayne Strecker, Marina Bommarito, & Mike Stasio (PSY)

The current study attempts to identify an effective method for assessing suicide risk among the college student population. Past research has highlighted risk factors associated with increased levels of suicide ideation and behaviors such as perfectionism, perceived hopelessness, depression, academic problems, alcohol abuse, and body investment. Existing research has also discussed different measures that incorporate these risk factors into the screening process of students who are at risk for suicide. After completing an in-depth review of existing literature, this study has generated a short set of questions that will be administered in one-on-one interviews to both University of Tampa students and faculty members in order to explore their perceived sense of responsibility as well as levels of knowledge in regards to the issue of suicide. After analyzing the results of these interviews, the study hopes to move forward in developing a brief preventive screening measure that can effectively identify students at risk for suicide.

72. ***Why Won't Anybody Help Me?: The Relation between Agreeableness and Helping Behavior***
Janae Sweet (PSY 200)

This study was designed to measure agreeableness and helping behavior. Two surveys were administered to 40 participants of various backgrounds. The first survey assessed the participants' level of agreeableness. The second survey assessed the participants' helping behavior, in everyday situations. The results were shown to be significant. According to the results, people with a higher level of agreeableness are more likely to help others and strangers out of kindness and not selfishness.

73. ***So You Think You Can Psych***
Spencer Thorpe & Mackenzie Bince (PSY)

Misconceptions, or naïve beliefs, have been a research topic in the field of psychology. But in theory, one who is educated on a subject should be able to look past common misconceptions. Such is the basis of our current study. Psychology majors and non-psychology majors will be analyzed. Demographics will be recorded, to indicate each participant's degree of educational experience within the field of psychology, as well as basic information. Then participants will take the Psychological Critical Thinking Exam, which analyzes critical thinking of psychological topics. It is hypothesized that psychology students will be able to correctly respond to scenarios related to the field of psychology, while non-psychology majors will respond in a misconceived manner.

74. ***An examination of University of Tampa's sexual misconduct policies and procedures***
Brielle Tucker (CRI)

The purpose of the research project is to analyze the University of Tampa's policies on sexual misconduct in reference to policies of similar private universities to assess its efficiency and effectiveness. In recent years there has been an influx of reported sexual misconduct cases on college campuses. The University of Tampa's Office of Student Conduct and Orientation sought to redefine their current policies and ensure that cases of sexual misconduct are treated with the most effective, and resourceful care.

75. ***Female Foreign Leaders and Use of Hard and Soft Power***
Maria C. White (GWA)

In a predominantly male international environment, female leaders are increasingly making a place for themselves in an area where, throughout history, they have largely been absent. Women offer different opinions, methods, and images to the world of politics that are increasingly impacting millions of citizens around the globe. When international conflict strikes, female leaders are called to respond and are looked at oftentimes more critically than their male counterparts because of their differences in practice. As women begin to enter the international political arena in increased numbers, residual sexism can make itself known and comments are made about whether or not female leaders are less effective at leading nations simply because of their softer nature. Do female foreign leaders implement hard or soft power differently during times of conflict than their male counterparts?

76. *The Integrity of Null Hypothesis Significance Testing*

Drake C. Williams (PSY)

Previous research (e.g. Ioannidis, 2005; Cumming, 2013), has called into question the integrity of published research findings. Due to many factors, such as investigator biases, financial and career incentives, as well as smaller, more niched subfields, Ioannidis (2005) claimed that it can be proven that most claimed research findings are false. Furthermore, Cumming (2013) suggested that null-hypothesis significance testing (NHST) is fatally flawed and should not be readily trusted. We investigated these ideas by performing a meta-analysis of four psychology journals, examining whether or not the published findings have been confirmed, or refuted, by other existing literature. Contrary to Ioannidis' and Cumming's claims, we found that the vast majority of published findings have been confirmed. Additionally, we find that NHST can be effective and trustworthy when used correctly. Here, we present our findings and discuss the potential implications for future research.



The University Of

T A M P A

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, MATHEMATICS AND EDUCATION

<https://www.ut.edu/socialsciencesmathematicsandeducation/>