

Spring 2012 CSSME Undergraduate Research Conference

April 25, 2012

1. Change-blindness in an Everyday Interaction

Laruen Albro & Emily Lucero (PSY)

Change-blindness was evaluated through an experiment reflecting a real life scenario. Subjects at The University of Tampa were approached and asked for directions to a location across campus by an experimenter. While the subject was figuring out directions, a large piece of plywood came between them and the experimenter switched with a different person. After the switch was made, the subject would continue to give the experimenter directions as if nothing ever happened. Changes were made in gender and in race creating four groups of subjects. At the end of each experiment, the subject filled out a scale of 1-7 of how well they noticed the change. We hypothesized that changes in race and gender would be noticed, but changes of same race and gender would not be noticed. Our data shows that in any of the situations, the subjects noticed the switch regardless of which change had taken place.

2. Protest Art and the Responses of Authoritarian Governments

Kelsey Allagood (GWA)

The purpose of this paper is to determine the political significance of different forms of protest art. I will explore the art of shantytown women in Pinochet's Chile, the independent publishing houses founded by Vaclav Havel in Communist Czechoslovakia, and the art of Ai Weiwei in today's China. These artists all lived under authoritarian governments and produced art as a form of protest, but the results of their efforts were each different. My research question asks what forms of artistic provocation have a greater chance of being suppressed by authoritarian governments. One might think that more popular artists like Ai Weiwei will be the first to be repressed, but this paper argues the opposite: the more popular an artist is, the more outside pressure is put on the government to keep that artist free. In contrast, art like the arpilleras of shantytown women in Chile will be the first to be suppressed, because such acts of suppression will not be as publicized by poor, unknown artists.

3. Attitudes Toward Clergy Tax Breaks

Ariana Artura, Natalie Berezin, Brandon Geronimo, Stephanie Sabga, Sana Williams (SOC)

The principal objective of this paper is to determine the attitudes that people have towards clergy and the tax break that they are entitled to. The parsonage exemption allows ministers a reduction in taxes. Clergy members are able to buy or live in multiple homes tax-free, homes that are owned by the religious organization. This study analyzes the confidence people have in the clergy and in the people that are running organized religion in light of being made aware of the parsonage exemption. Results indicate that people are indifferent in their attitudes towards clergy receiving the tax breaks.

4. Demographics and Attitudes Towards Armed Conflict

Christopher Bakolas, Christopher Estilette, & Jonathan Foti (GWA)

By utilizing a data from a PEW Research study in June 2011 our team devised a simple research strategy in an attempt to determine to what extent individual level characteristics contribute towards an individual's perception of armed conflict. Ultimately we found that only two characteristics were of significance: income and education of an individual.

5. The use of Social Science by the Supreme Court: 1982-2012

Alex Barker, Jasmine Eggstein, Jonathan Marks, Stephanie McDonald, Christen Morgan, Megan Richardson, Stevie Ruzich, Shelby Santos, Kelsey Thomas, Ali Walker & Kaitlyn Widener (CRI)

This study was a qualitative analysis of the extrajudicial materials used by the United States Supreme Court in deciding constitutional questions regarding the Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Eighth Amendments. The study examined 120 Supreme Court cases over the past thirty years, looking in particular for the use of social science by the Court. The pattern of use was mixed across the judicial decisions, and there remain many instances where social science information could have informed the Court's decisions. The use of social science, history and other sources were examined, and the qualitative results are represented in the poster.

6. Country of Origin

Alexandra Barker, Nicole Brello, Shannon Mulvey & Jessica Neveu (PSY)

Consumers' perceptions were studied based on whether or not the product's country of origin would have an influence on product quality and purchase intention. Participants were surveyed after viewing an ad for a bottle of wine from either Italy or the United States on their perception of how flavorful the wine would taste, whether they believed the wine to be of high quality, and whether or not they would be likely to purchase the wine. We hypothesized that the Italian wine would be perceived as being more flavorful, higher quality, and have a higher purchase intention than the wine made in the U.S. The experimental results showed that both the Italian wine and the wine from the United States were perceived to be equal in their flavor and their purchase intention, although there was a difference in the perceived quality of the wines.

7. Fishbein Multi-Attribute Model

Samantha Basaran, Franziska Grob & Jaclyn Chanudet (PSY)

Overall consumer attitudes towards computer brands are examined using the Fishbein's Multi-attribute Model. Two surveys focusing on the attributes of MAC or HP were distributed to students at the University of Tampa. These surveys consist of importance ratings for each attribute and how well the brand of the computer matches that attribute. The answers from the survey resulted in an overall attitude of each participant towards their given computer brand. Attitudes towards Macs were greater than HP thus disproving the original hypothesis. The important attributes when purchasing a computer are fast processing speed followed by meet school needs and easy portability, disproving our second hypothesis. For attribute linkage there was no support that HP was associated with low cost but the attribute easy to use was linked with HP. There was no support found for Mac being associated with customizability but Mac was associated with good virus protection.

8. Athletics

Sonja Beckenstein, Emily Newman, Brianna Peipert, & Gabriella Gonzalez (EDU)

The purpose of this paper is to inform the audience of the University of Tampa's athletics program past and present. Athletics at the University of Tampa is important because it is what brings the community together; it also brings spirit to the students, local community and team members. University of Tampa has many team sports, intermural sports teams and sport facilities. University of Tampa has fourteen collegiate team sports part of the Sunshine State Conference. University of Tampa has earned twelve National Titles between the women and men's sports. The University of Tampa is prominent in Athletics in DII conferences. There have been many Hall of famers that have graduated from the University of Tampa to go onto professional sports teams such as Tino Martinez and Lou Piniella of the Yankees. We have placed pictures and background information on most sports offered at the school.

9. Ethnic Diversity and Conflict

Jessica Bernard (GWA)

This study proposes, among other things, that ethnic diversity has had a clear and consistent relationship with political intrastate conflicts throughout history. In this research I explore the relationship between ethnicity and conflict in hopes of validating and interpreting a direct correlation between these variables. I chose to conduct a large N study of 48 Sub-Saharan African countries in order to provide a sample that shares a geographical region as well other similar environmental conditions. I aim to validate my initial hypothesis that ethnic diversity has a direct impact or relationship with and in causing ethnic intrastate conflicts.

10. Plant Hall

Tiffani Bono, Sophie Glossinger, Shannon Cronan, & Alex Patnou (EDU)

We are doing a University of Tampa historical research project on the topic of Plant Hall. We will be discussing a variety of topics to do with Plant Hall including the biography of Henry Bradley Plant, the founder of the Plant Investment Company, because of his ideas he changed Tampa, Florida forever. Henry Plant expanded his business in the south which included trains and steamships. We talk about the Tampa Bay Hotel; the style of the building, the hotel amenities, famous people who stayed there, the Rathskeller, and the "hauntings" that have occurred in the building. The Tampa Bay Hotel and Plant Park played a major part in the Spanish-American war. Today the hotel is used for college classrooms, and so people can get a feel of what life was like back in the late 1800's, they can visit the Henry Bradley Plant Museum located in Plant Hall. All of these topics and more will show how Henry Bradley Plant and Plant Hall have shaped the University of Tampa to what it is today.

11. The Influence of Bilingual Abilities on Dichotic Listening

Sade Brown & Trenell Driggs (PSY)

We used a standard dichotic listening test. Bilingual Creole participants and English only participants were asked to listen to a list of 20 English words while a passage in Creole was being said in another ear. In the first condition participants were asked to recall as many English words as possible. Participants were then asked to focus on English words with the letter “e” and recall these words. In the final condition participants were asked to think about which one of the words provided in the English ear could be of use on a deserted island. The results should indicate for the English speakers that as the level of processing increases there is higher and recollection for more of the English words. However, for the bilingual speakers we expect there should be a mixing of the Creole and English; harder to discern between the Creole and English words.

12. The Relationship of Condom Use and Anxiety Among College Students

Meeghan Byrne & Teagan Quillen (PSY)

The purpose of this study was to find the relationship between contraceptive use during sexual intercourse and anxiety levels in college students. Participants ($n=30$) completed a Personal Information Survey (PIS) and the Brief Fear of Negative Evaluation Scale-Revised (BFNE-R) near the end of the semester. Findings for the entire sample showed no significant correlations between contraceptive use and peer pressure and contraceptive use and personal anxiety levels among participants. No differences could be gathered from the gender of participants. To gather more significant results, a larger sample of participants will be needed to move forward with this study.

13. Comparison of parent and teacher ratings of executive functions in children diagnosed with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder and Pervasive Developmental Disorders

Stacie Call, Brittany Kieslor, & Jeffrey Skowronek (PSY)

Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Asperger’s Disorder, and Autism are among the most prevalent childhood disorders. Although the disorders share some similar behavioral and emotional symptoms, findings for executive function comparisons are inconsistent. As part of a larger project, 21 parents and teachers rated executive functions of children with these disorders. Findings suggest that parent ratings and differences between parent and teacher ratings are a function of the child’s disorder. In all significant comparisons, children with AS were rated differently from children ADHD and Autism, but there were no difference between ADHD and Autism. Although limited by a small sample, differences in ratings create concern for proposed DSM changes and accurate diagnosis, treatment, and education for children with these disorders.

14. Media Influence on Voter Turnout

Stu Canfield (GWA)

This research was determined to find the media’s affect on voter turnout. The data used was from a 2010 Pew Research survey. The study chose to focus on various factors that may influence voting decisions and the likelihood of an individual to vote. These factors include the gender of the individual, the age of the participant; the level of education and the party affiliation. Personal factors tend to hold more effect on the voter’s likelihood to vote than that of the media.

15. Female Leadership in International Relations

Kayleigh Cassidy (GWA)

Do countries with female leaders have better international relations? Are they less likely to involve their states in conflict or will they focus more on diplomacy? This study will be a descriptive analysis of female leaders from three different countries, the United Kingdom, Germany, and Argentina. I will conduct a comparative analysis of the three countries to determine if the increase in women leadership will lead to an increase in positive relations between states. I expect to conclude that gender is not a significant factor in international relations.

16. Public Opinion of Public Education

Kayleigh Cassidy (GWA)

This study was focused on public opinion regarding public education. There were 1502 respondents from a random dialing dataset provided by the Pew Research Center (June 2011). Specifically, I examined opinions about how much change was needed in the public education system currently, if any. I examined four individual characteristics

to determine who believes that the system is in need of the most reform. These include level of education, age, gender, and party identification. I found that when party identification was accounted for, then all other variables became significant. These results verified my hypotheses and were similar to the findings in the literature.

17. Comparing Racial Disparities across Prison Systems

Shannon Cassidy (GWA)

There are significant racial disparities in the United States prison systems with people of color being imprisoned at a much higher rate than Caucasian citizens. These disparities have been subject to scholarly debate for some time and causations of these disparities have been explained through various explanations from educational backgrounds of individuals, to socio-economic variances between whites and blacks in the United States. This project intends to investigate the inequalities found in penal systems by comparing them to similar systems in England and Wales, where there are also disparities found but are not as significant as found in the United States.

18. Refugee Influx and the Spread of Conflict: The Case of Rwandan Refugees in Tanzania and The Democratic Republic of Congo

Holly Cherlin (GWA)

Due to refugee movements, political conflict and violence often spreads from one country to the receiving country. This paper studies the conditions causing refugee related political violence and looks at the political stability in the destination country to determine if a war broke out within 5 years. The paper focuses on a 20 year period where over 10,000 refugees have fled into neighboring countries. In addition I will provide a comparison of crises involving the fleeing of Rwandan refugees into Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of Congo. I examine a number of factors potentially contributing to refugee-fueled violence including the correlations between socioeconomic factors and the political context of the country the refugees are fleeing from. I will then test and analyze certain factors to determine if these populations of refugees would potentially engage in political conflict or militarize.

19. Economic Growth of Nations: Mathematical and Empirical Analysis

Gezime Christian (MAT)

Using mathematical models for economic growth, we empirically study the convergence of different economies worldwide. All of the mathematical models for economic growth formalize all inputs and outputs in the economy through a production function $Y(t)$. Here, we concentrate on the production function of the Solow-Swan model and some of its properties. In addition, the steady state of the model is defined as a point with no growth of the capital-labor ratio. The hypothesis is that each economy converges towards its steady state and poorer economies grow at faster rates than richer economies. As a result, all economies should eventually converge towards a single state. To access the theoretical hypothesis we collected and analyzed data of the GDP of 66 countries across the world. Our findings conclude that absolute convergence of economies does not apply to a broad cross-section of countries, but conditional convergence is possible for homogeneous economies, such as the European union.

20. Social Anxiety and Body Image Disturbance in College

Jenny Cohrs & Chanelle Tylerbest (PSY)

Within the college environment, students experience both educational and societal pressures. We attempted to investigate the occurrence of body image issues among college students at the beginning compared to the end of college. The sample included $n=22$ males and $n=38$ females at the University of Tampa. The Brief Fear of Negative Evaluation scale (BFNE) along with an adaption of the Brown Assessment of Beliefs scale (BABS) was used in assessment. Our research indicated typical findings where gender was concerned; body image concerns were higher among women, when correlated with the BFNE scale. However results suggested that the more you feel negatively evaluated, the higher your body image disturbances will be.

21. What's in a Name?: An Exploration of 'Cult Member' as a Pejorative Term

Mackenzie Crowley, Taylor Merk, Brian Nathan, & Emily Williams (SOC)

In America today, religious belief is still influential in the shaping of personal and public life. The normativity of mainstream, acceptable religious behaviour is reinforced through the casting of religious groups which dissent from the religious mainstream as deviants. Two groups which stray from religious normativity, atheists and cult members, embody deviant statuses, and consequently, are recipients of prejudice. This paper seeks to understand the nature of prejudice towards these groups through the analysis of survey data of 276 students at a small, private college in the

Southeastern United States. In comparing the attitudes of students on a 10-point thermometer scale towards cult members and towards atheists, we find that individuals do not have favourable views towards either group, but that students' views towards cult members are significantly less favourable. We attribute this difference in prejudiced attitudes to the idea that "cult member" is a pejorative.

22. The Relationship Between Political Systems and Terrorism

Kyle Denny (GWA)

Terrorism affects everyone, albeit at different levels. This paper aims to figure out if the type of political system influences the prevalence of terrorism at all. Studying and analyzing case studies is the best way to answer this question. This paper did not address every political system nor a large number of countries. This paper only looked at a few that to either prove or disprove my hypothesis. The result is that my hypothesis was proven, the type of political system does in-fact influence the prevalence of terrorism. My results are fairly generalized in relation to the terrorism studies field.

23. The Effects of Sexual Activity on Body Image among College Students

Carina Dominguez & Kathy Guvercin (PSY)

Previous research suggests that women who engage in sexual activity tend to be dissatisfied with their bodies. The present study was designed to further examine the relationship between body image and sexual activity. One hundred thirty seven college students (75 female) responded to a questionnaire regarding their sexual experience and their own perspective of their body type versus their ideal body. Results indicated that females who were sexually active or who had a greater overall number of sexual partners compared their bodies more frequently to others than did those with less sexual experience. This pattern was not upheld for men. This suggests that comparisons to others and sexual experience uniquely contribute to women's perceptions of their bodies.

24. Music's Effect on Memory Recall

Lauren Eavarone & Blakeslee Snyder (PSY)

This study examined whether background music affects word recall. Group one participated in two trials: silence with related words and music with related words. Group two also participated in two trials: silence with unrelated words and music with unrelated words. The lists of words were presented on a timed PowerPoint and the music was played from the computer as needed. Immediately after each trial the participants were given a piece of paper and asked to recall as many words from the list as possible. We hypothesized that the participants would recall the most words in the trial with related words and no music and that they would recall the least amount of words in the trial with unrelated words and music. The experiment yielded a significant effect between related words and unrelated words; participants recalled more words when the word lists were related. However, contrary to our hypothesis, there was no significant effect of the music on word recall.

25. What's Color Got to Do With It: Changing Starbucks' Logo

Joy Edry, Flavia Merschmann & MariaAnna Serricchio (PSY)

This study was designed to examine the congruency hypothesis and investigate whether changing the logo color of a popular brand, Starbucks, would influence consumers' feelings towards it. Since Starbucks is recognized for its green and white logo we hypothesized that if Starbucks' logo would be changed to blue or red, the blue colored logo would be rated by consumers as more congruent with the Starbucks' image. We also hypothesized that the blue logo would be more consistent with Starbucks' current product quality, that it would increase product purchasing, and that participants would like it better than the red. Our results did not support the congruence hypothesis and the participants did not concur that the blue color would be more congruent with Starbucks' current green logo. Participants negated both colors, blue and red, which indicate that perhaps they are attached to Starbucks' current logo to the extent that they do not welcome any changes.

26. Influence of Brand Name on Product Perception

Giovanna Evangelista, Alexandra LaValle, Ashley Hushka & Vanessa Costanzo (PSY)

The present study examines how brand names, *Benzoxide* and *Neutruclear*, influence perceptions of face wash. The impression of the product quality, what the product is made out of, if a doctor would recommend it, and the product price were all evaluated by undergraduates participants. Face wash evaluation was based solely on brand name. We predicted that *Neutruclear* would be viewed as high quality with strong purchase intentions and made with more

natural ingredients than *Benzoxide*. We also predicted that *Benzoxide* would generally be perceived as a more medical face wash. Our final prediction was that males would be more likely to purchase *Benzoxide* than *Neutraceutical* and that females would be more likely to purchase *Neutraceutical* than *Benzoxide*. The concluding data revealed that the only supported hypothesis was the perception that *Neutraceutical* is made with natural ingredients.

27. How Relatable Scenarios Affect Decision Making in a Prisoner-Dilemma Like Game

Arielle Farese & Jessica Yarab (PSY)

General psychology students played 1 of 2 versions of the Prisoner's Dilemma game for 5 trials. One was a classic version of the Prisoner's Dilemma involving a burglary, while the second was a more modern version entailing a campus setting where students get in trouble with the university conduct board. Trial 1 was testing whether the different versions of the Prisoner's Dilemma would influence cooperation among the participants. As both participants would choose whether to speak or remain silent without their partners knowledge. Trials 2-5 were focused on reciprocation between the partners based on their previous choices. Although no significant difference was found between the two versions on the first trial, there was a significant difference looking across all 5 trials for both versions.

28. Nuclear Proliferation Creates Global and Regional Instability

Brett Fusaro (GWA)

Nuclear proliferation has created political stress, political conflict and debate for all of the nations in the international community. For this research paper, global and regional instability was looked at. Today the stress and debate over nuclear proliferation is at an all-time high. In the last two decades, three nations have been at the forefront of nuclear proliferation, Iraq, Iran and North Korea. In this paper, research was conducted to see the affect that these three nations and their nuclear weapons programs has had on regional and global stability. Research shows how the global community views these three nationals and how these three nations are viewed amongst their neighbors in their particular region. By analyzing the current instability and the history of the surrounding region and the rest of the global community, we can conclude that the instability created by these three nations on their particular region and the global community will equate to that of future scenarios.

29. Questioning the Dominant American Ideology: Responses to Persuasive Israeli and Palestinian Propaganda

Catherine Gambel (GWA)

This paper examines the persuasive influence of emotional imagery paired with a clear political message; it explores the likelihood of attitude change toward a controversial subject—in this case, Israeli/Palestinian relations—in response to exposure to one of two biased advertisements, both of which contains powerful or emotive imagery either in support of or against Israel and its policies. Shifts in attitude are explored through pre- and post- image survey questions designed to gauge students' responses to the propaganda and the intensity of their attitudes. In this particular study, it is relevant to explore the role of the dominant ideology, as polls have shown that public support in the U.S. was at an all-time high in 2008?

30. Greek Life

Melissa Gautier, Jennifer Kimmel, Cherie McGregor, & Shoshanna Nolan (EDU)

Greek life has been involved in universities as far back as the 1800's. In the mid to late nineteenth century, students began forming their own groups to debate and discuss current events and literature. Students wanted to learn about a greater variety of topics other than what was offered in the classroom, they wished to explore other academic venues in more depth, and desired to express themselves freely. Hence began the first organized, modern day debating and literary societies. The very first fraternity, Phi Beta Kappa was founded in 1776, and was kept a secret. In 1831 they disclosed their secrets and bylaws. When many fraternities were founded, initiation rites and ceremonies were often borrowed or modified from any combination of the following items in history: Philosophy and Literature from Ancient Greeks and Romans; Jewish and Christian Scriptures; Chivalric traditions; military codes of honor, precepts and forms of Freemasonry; Enlightenment Science and Philosophy and Romanticism.

31. Social Anxiety, Self-Esteem, and Personality Type

Kaitlin Geraigiri & Karla Lopez (PSY)

This study explored the relationship between fear of negative evaluation, self-esteem and personality type in undergraduate students ($n=50$). Participants completed the Brief Fear of Negative Evaluation Scale (BFNE), the Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale (RSE), and the Big Five Inventory-10 (BFI-10) during an introductory class. Findings for the whole sample showed that there was no significant relationship between self-esteem scores and social anxiety scores. There were significant relationships between self-esteem scores and personality types. No significant relationships were found between gender and self-esteem or social anxiety. Post-hoc studies found that, while social anxiety and self-esteem scores predict neuroticism, there is no interaction between the two.

32. The Effects of Music on Memory

Jessica Gonsalves & Jenna DiCola (PSY)

The present study investigates whether listening to a song, either related or unrelated to a word list, would have an effect on a participant's ability to recall words. Participants were undergraduates from a private urban college in a southern state. Participants were divided into three groups and listened to one of two songs (one was related to a word list and the other was unrelated to the same word list). One of the groups listened to the unrelated song; the other two groups listened to the related song (one group was made aware of the link and the other was not). Results indicated a significant difference between the groups; specifically, there was a mean difference between the group that listened to the unrelated song and the group that listened to the related song (unaware of the link).

33. BMI and Body Perception among Male College Students

Geidys Gonzales & Rodrina Henriques (PSY)

Body image among males has not been thoroughly studied, though the limited literature indicates that men tend to have a more favorable body image than women. The present study aimed to address this gap in the literature and assess male college students' body image and associations with body mass index (BMI). Sixty-two male college students completed questionnaires to assess body image. Variables of interest included a measure of height and weight, from which body mass index (BMI) was calculated, the total number of liked and disliked parts of the body, and a general measure of body satisfaction. Results indicated that, regardless of their BMI, men tended to be satisfied with their bodies. However, obese or overweight participants reported fewer liked body parts than those who were normal weight or underweight. Findings will be discussed in terms of how BMI affects male body perception.

34. A Comparative Analysis: The Effect of a Country's Economic State on the Inflow and Outflow of Human Trafficking

Catherin Gregory (GWA)

In the past there has been a vast array of research completed on the topic of human trafficking. This research ranges from defining exactly what human trafficking is to finding the major causes of human trafficking. The point of this research is to uncover new territory and determine the relationship between a country's economic state and its effect on the flow of human trafficking into and out of that country. In order to do so a country's GDP per capita will be determined and then compared to the inflow and outflow of human trafficking of that country. I believe to hypotheses will be uncovered. First, as the GDP per capita increases so does the inflow of human trafficking. Second, as the GDP per capita decreases the outflow of human trafficking also decreases.

35. Economic Inequality: Post Soviet Union Collapse

Kristin Gruzlewski (GWA)

This paper makes a case for the economic inequality that exists in post-soviet union countries. Three possible causes are privatization of state owned industries and land, downsizing the size of the government, and poverty levels. All three of these causes have been seen as probable reasons for economic inequality. The paper tests these theories to the data collected in Post Soviet Union countries, to decide on the best case to explain their present state.

36. Perceptions of Body Image in College Students

Emily Guynn & Kate Maier (PSY)

Several studies indicate that men and women perceive their bodies differently, with women being more susceptible to negative body image than males. In the present study, 137 college students (75 women) were given questionnaires assessing body image and associated factors. Variables of interest included the total number of liked and disliked parts of the body and overall body satisfaction. Results indicated that females and males liked the same amount of

body parts, but females dislike more parts of their bodies than males. Further, the more body parts that females disliked, the less satisfied they were with their bodies. This study suggests that disliked, not liked, parts of the body are associated with overall negative body image in females.

37. Stroop Effect

Ashley Hahn & Katie Koren (PSY)

Our experiment looked at the Stroop Effect and a Hybrid Effect to see if more stimuli would increase the reaction time of a cognitive task. The Stroop Effect is a measurement of a person's sustained attention and their reaction times, occurring when the visual perception of a colored word is hindered by the semantic perception of the word itself. Our experiment is comprised of 3 trials that include 4 lists consisting of 10 words. Each trial contains the control, the original Stroop experiment, and our new hybrid experiments. We first hypothesized that the more stimuli interfering with the cognitive task the longer it should take to finish the task. Our results provided evidence for our hypothesis, with the original Stroop Effect and our first Hybrid Effect showing the highest reaction times when compared to the control group and our second Hybrid Effect.

38. Social Policy and Domestic Terrorism

Ashley Hawley (GWA)

Much research has been done on understanding the root cause of terrorism. It is vital to comprehend the cause in order to stop terrorism. There have been many different theories on why terrorism happens, however, this paper will specifically focus on the relationship between social policy and economic conditions with domestic terrorism. I will examine the economic and social policies three different countries in Europe: France, Greece and Macedonia. I expect to find a correlation between poor economic and social conditions and domestic terrorism.

39. Perfectionistic Self-Presentation and Body Image Concerns

Gabriella Haynes, Sade Brown, Lysie Belanger & Mike Stasio (PSY)

This study investigated the relationship between socially oriented perfectionism and body image concerns among undergraduates. General Psychology students ($n=76$) completed a measure of perfectionistic self-presentation, read a story focused on either body image or a neutral theme, and then finally completed tests of body image concerns and thoughts related to perfectionism. We hypothesized students with higher scores on the Nondisplay of Imperfection factor who read the body image focus story would subsequently have more body image concerns and perfectionistic thoughts than would controls. Results will be discussed in terms of cognitive network theory.

40. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and the Military: America's Problem?

Edwin Hoffmann (GWA)

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder is a growing problem in the United States military that has been brought to America's attention in the last decade due to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. While many of our allies have sent troops to support the United States in these wars, fewer troops from these countries are diagnosed or treated with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. By comparing the PTSD diagnosis percentages of the militaries of three nations including the United States, Canada, and Great Britain, I intended to find that the United States military was reporting higher rates of PTSD among its ranks. Through my research, I found that while the United States military does report higher percentages of troops with PTSD, other factors like shorter deployments, coping practices, and days off for rest and relaxation play a role in lowering the PTSD percentages of the Canadian and British military.

Ultimately, I was able to identify ways in which the United States military could lower PTSD levels by analyzing the practices of the Canadian and British militaries.

41. Narratives from siblings of children with Autism and related disorders

Lise-Marie Homer, Brittany Kieslor, Amy Roberts, & Jeffrey Skowronek (PSY)

Siblings of children with special needs are presented with a unique sibling environment. They may be at risk for developing emotional problems, but may also show an increase in prosocial behavior and tolerances for differences. Most research, however, obtains this information from questionnaires completed by parents, not children. In the current project, siblings of children with Autism and related disorders provided narratives about their role within the family and community for a community art project. These narratives suggested females focus on themselves or the family more than expected, but males focus on the sibling more. While there was a majority positive emotional tone to the narratives, there was an interaction between the focus and the emotional tone of the narrative.

42. The Key to Peace is Through Mutual Recognition

Zachary Iacovino (GWA)

The question this paper sets out to answer is the following: does a sub-national group's level of political recognition affects that group's willingness to resort to hard power sooner than soft power? The simple answer is yes, it does. In order to answer this question, three cases were analyzed—the case of Northern Ireland, the case of Palestine, and the case of South Africa. These three cases are inherently different, but are similar in one crucial way: they all involve sub-national groups which attempt to increase their overall political recognition. The main difference is that depending on how much political recognition each of these groups has, their propensity for violence changes. The research shows that the less political recognition a sub-national group has, the more willing they are to resort to violence.

43. Developing Nations and Women's Empowerment Within Legal Systems

Colleen Itani (GWA)

This research paper focuses on women's empowerment in the developing world and if the implementation of laws that emphasize the empowerment of women has a positive impact within these nations. This large N study looks at Sub-Saharan Africa, using a most similar system, uses the African Union Protocol on Rights of Women, illegalization of FGM (Female genital mutilation), and the percentage of women in parliament as the independent variables. The Human Development Index (HDI) statistics and World Bank statistics on Fertility Rate, Literacy Rate, are the dependent variables. Through the use of SPSS I will look to see if there is a statistically significant difference based on the AU Protocol, illegalization of FGM, and percentage of women in parliament, further exploring if legislation passed does improve women's equality.

44. Solving Partial Differential Equations Using Separation of Variables

Kevin Jenkins & Netra Khanal (MAT)

Partial differential equations are used to model many physical phenomena. In this study, the method of separation of variables is explored to solve three well-known linear partial differential equations, namely, Heat equation, Wave equation, and Laplace equation. Also studied is the Fourier series of a function using Maple to show how fast the series converges to the given function.

45. Human Trafficking is a Security Concern that Originates in Developing Countries to spread to Developed Countries

Michelle Kerr (GWA)

Human trafficking and in particular sexual slavery is a growing security concern in the international system. This research project will explore the various subject materials surrounding human trafficking, with most of the concentration focusing on the origins of where the human trafficking cycle starts at. Does human trafficking originate in developing countries to then spread to developed countries? Where does this problem originate? The paper will be placing a particular focus on the source countries and the factors that lead them to being susceptible to the trafficking of mostly women and girls for the purposes of exploitation. A range of social, economic and political reasons will be utilized.

46. U.S. Foreign Policy and the 1960 Agadir Earthquake in the files of the U.S. State Department

Ashley Khawam & Shannon Davidson (HIS)

The 1960 earthquake that devastated Morocco led to shaky relationships between international governments. The US was under extreme pressure to provide relief for displaced Moroccan citizens, aid for rebuilding, and to prevent Moroccans from turning to the USSR, lest communism spread further. Did the US handle the pressure well from the Moroccan government, as well as the French government? How were relationships strained? What tactics did the US employ to prevent their fragile plan from falling apart, and how did they manage to pull it off? What were the French reactions? This project will explore these questions and show carefully and well thought out the U.S. strategy was, and how several international governments reacted to that strategy, by analyzing declassified documents from the U.S. government archives concerning the quake.

47. How Males Determine their Mates is it based on Attraction or Personality?

Brittany Kieslor & Courtney Tauscher (PSY)

Undergraduate males are presented with profiles of predetermined females, five having more feminine features and five having more masculine features. Society has made male minds more superficial leading them to choose more feminine features in a mate and caring less about personality. Feminine features have been shown throughout evolution to attract more male attention. In the current project 10 undergrad males were asked to rate the female faces and recall facts about the corresponding females hobbies. The hypothesis was proven to be true when determining the first thing that attracts a male to a female; it is based on looks not on personality. However, when looking at the facts recalled it was proven insignificant regarding the number of facts recalled when dealing with more masculine or feminine faces.

48. Correlations Between Participants and Three Closest Friends in Religiosity; are There Variations by Religious Affiliation?

Amos Leger, Emily McLellan, Janelle Sanchez, & Morgan Parker (SOC)

This study aims to discover whether there is a correlation between religious affiliation and ones three closest friendships. This is based upon the idea that people who maintain close friendships usually share the same beliefs. We are attempting to test this idea with religious affiliation. Members often recruit people from their immediate circles, namely, their friends, peers, coworkers, etc, to attend their various church services. People often feel more comfortable around those who share the same values and validate their beliefs about the world, a phenomenon called homophily. Our data indicates that a statistically significant proportion of people claim that their friends are part of the same religion.

49. The Effect of Performance Demand Stories on Perfectionism Thoughts

Bebe Lennon & Thomas Vacca (PSY)

Research has shown that perfectionism and social anxiety may be related since both involve a fear of failure. It was hypothesized that socially prescribed perfectionism would be related to social anxiety. It was also hypothesized that perfectionism thoughts would be increased by reading a high demand story where the reader takes the role of a character playing a difficult piano piece. Correlation analysis showed that one factor in the Perfectionistic Self-Presentation Scale—Nondisplay of Imperfection—was positively related to scores on the Social Phobia scale, while Nondisclosure of Imperfection was not. A regression analysis showed there was no relation found between the type of story read by participants and levels of perfectionistic thoughts.

50. A Preliminary Investigation of Implicit Motivation in President Obama's State of the Union Addresses

Thomas J. Vacca (PSY)

This study investigates the implicit motivation of U.S. president Barack Obama. Implicit motive theory identifies three primary motives: power, achievement and affiliation (Winter, 2005). These motives are typically coded in running textual documents such as speeches. I predicted that that President Obama's 2009, 2010 and 2011 state of the union addresses would demonstrate a higher need for achievement than power or affiliation, based on the analysis of these motives in past presidents (Winter, 2003). The results indicated that President Obama did not show as high a need for achievement as power. The need for affiliation was insignificant across the three states of the union speeches. The implications of these preliminary findings are discussed.

51. Does Disobedience to the Geneva Convention Pose for a More Winnable War?

Ryan Love (GWA)

Throughout history wars have been fought and rules have been developed for all nations at war to abide by. The Geneva Convention are the rules that most wars have been fought under. The following paper examines three nations; Japan, Russia, and the United States and their war crimes against the Geneva Convention to see if by actually not following the Geneva Convention if they were to win the war. My findings suggest that the disobedience may not be as big as a factor before I set out on this research.

52. Advertisement Messages: Comparative and Non-Comparative

Rachel Lubin, Leah Paddock & Casey Cavanagh (PSY)

The current study compared one-sided comparative advertisements and one-sided non comparative advertisements. Comparative advertisement is a strategy that compares two specific brands and compares them on the dimension of a specific attribute while non-comparative advertisement simply focuses on the attribute of one specifically named brand. Each has their own advantages. While comparative advertising messages can be effective because they can eliminate other brands by pointing out their deficiencies, they can also lead to counterargumentation and/or information overload for the consumer. Participants viewed either one-sided comparative advertisements or one-sided non-comparative advertisements for mascara and were asked to indicate how strongly they agreed or disagreed, with statements assessing: source believability, attitude towards advertisements, and purchase intentions. It was hypothesized that the one sided comparative advertisement will evoke lower source believability, a less favorable attitude toward the advertisement, and will generate an increase in purchase intentions than a one sided non-comparative advertisement.

53. What Makes a Social Brain? Activity in Avian Brain During Sexual Behavior

Travis Maraj, Cayleigh Stickler, & Scott Husband (PSY)

Important aspects of brain evolution in a species may be driven by its degree of social behavior. Both mammals and birds demonstrate complex perceptual and behavioral processes during sex, affiliation, and aggression. A number of brain nuclei have been proposed to be important for social behavior in vertebrates (O'Connell & Hoffmann, 2011). We investigated activity levels of six areas of the avian brain (e.g., hypothalamus, nucleus accumbens) by measuring a protein known as "ZENK." We hypothesized that levels of brain activity in these areas would be increased during sexual courtship compared to control areas. We found that male pigeons exposed to a live female versus an empty cage had significantly higher levels of ZENK protein in several brain areas measured, with relative activity patterns roughly similar to that seen in mammals.

54. Correlation Analysis of University of Tampa Students' Attitudes Toward Atheist and "Cult" Religious Groups

Jessica Marshall, Lauren Eckman, Cara Sceppaquercia, Jordan Stackhouse, & Pariss Yorker (SOC)

People with similar interests, morals, and goals in life tend to group together forming relationships with those around them. The focus of the paper is to analyze students' feelings toward atheists and members of cults. Since there has been almost no research comparing atheists and members of cults, a statistical analysis will be conducted to test the correlation between the two groups and how the University of Tampa student body feels about them. The statistical analysis will use the data gathered in the UT 2009 Chapel Data Survey. The data will be analyzed by comparing descriptives, paired sample t-tests, and ANOVA. We find there are significant differences in attitudes toward the two groups and explain why.

55. Social Comparison as a Predictor of Body Satisfaction among College Students

Molly McQuillen & Lauren Takemoto (PSY)

According to social comparison theory, we compare ourselves to others to define and understand who we are. Further, it has been suggested that engagement in social comparison may have a positive effect on the self, though a debate exists. The present study was conducted to further investigate the relationship between social comparison and body satisfaction. One hundred thirty seven college students (75 female) completed a questionnaire assessing several dimensions, including body satisfaction, frequency of social comparison, and discrepancies in the rating scales of actual versus idealized bodies. Results indicated that as females engaged in more frequent comparisons to others the less satisfied they were with their bodies. This pattern was not upheld for males. Findings will be discussed in terms of social comparison theory, its relationship to self-image, and how this relationship may differ between the genders.

56. Arms Trade & Political Perspective: The Importance of Political Ideals and Foreign Arms Trade in the 21st century

Christopher Fauntleroy (GWA)

From the different ideologies of conservative libertarian to modern liberalism, my research paper looks to explore the significance political ideology plays in transforming arms trade towards developing nations. Focusing on the regimes of developed nations giving military aid to developing nations, my paper looks to find the history of political ideologies of different regimes and their policy towards arms trade. Analyzing three separate developed

nations towards one developing nation, spanning over a 40 year period, my project looks to find various trends between arms trade and different political ideals. Through my research, my project looks to find several correlations between certain political ideals, and the expansion of arms trade. More specifically I believe regimes with liberal agendas will take part in arms trade more so than regimes with substantial conservative agendas. Overall, my project incorporates extensive data research that opens the approach on why nations over time change their foreign policy approach on arms trade.

57. Affirmative Action: The conflict between race, religion and gender on the social constructs of racial equality.

Ben Mitchell & Christopher Fauntleroy (GWA)

In our research we examine the extent to which individual characteristics such as race, religion, income, and gender influence opinions regarding affirmative action. With the growing economic divide between those who are wealthy and poor, we look to find what drives affirmative action support. The literature suggests that women, those with lower incomes, and those with strong ties to their religious affiliation, will be more likely to support affirmative action policies. However, we hypothesize that race will have the most substantial influence on support of affirmative action policies. Overall, this paper looks to analyze one of the most complex and important policies with respect to American race relations in the last 40 years.

58. How Does Resource Scarcity Affect Conflict Between Nations?

Melissa Montoya (GWA)

How does resource scarcity affect conflict between nations? I begin answering this question by differentiating between two types of conflicts. First, I define Direct International Conflict as issues created by resource scarcity between nations. Then I define Indirect International Conflict as the social and economic effects that scarcity has over the country. Using comparative case analysis, I expect to find that as scarcity increases, conflict will also increase; however, when a country has high diplomatic standards we should expect conflict to be solved under a less tense scenario. The importance of this research is that it defines the limit that has to be surpassed for war to be the only answer to a resource scarcity conflict, an important issue since this is one of the biggest concerns regarding future conflict.

59. Economic Sanctions and Vital Resources

Charles Morrison (GWA)

There has been extensive research conducted to establish the effectiveness of economic sanctions against traditional states, and many have concluded that economic sanctions are largely ineffective. My research seeks to investigate further the conditions that explain the effectiveness of economic sanctions. Does the effectiveness of economic sanctions vary from one state to another if the receiving state has a substantial amount of control vital resources? My research uses three case studies that test my hypothesis, which is the more control a state has over vital resources the less likely the state will be affected by economic sanctions.

60. Social Networking and Public Opinion

Charles Morrison, Bianca Borges, & Charlotte Whedon (GWA)

Our research centers on the relationship between social media and politically relevant variables such as party identification and ideology. Our theory states that social networking should influence these such that those who are active in social networking sites are more likely to identify as liberals and Democrats. We focused on how often respondents used social networking sites and whether or not the internet makes it possible for the respondents to be more active in social groups with similar interests. In addition we examine individual level characteristics and find that there is a significant relationship between use of social networking and ideology, age, gender, education, church involvement and work group associations.

61. General History

Kailee Moshinsky, Emily Barnett, & Amy Najarian (EDU)

A group of leading citizens from Tampa agreed that a university needed to be established. While looking for a location to create the university on October 5th 1931 Tampa Junior College held its first classes at Hillsborough high school. After some major reconstruction on Plant Hall on September 18th 1933 the University of Tampa started its first school year with 350 students and Tampa Junior College ceased to exist. The first president of the University

was Frederic Spaulding. Prior to starting Tampa Junior College he was the principal of Hillsborough High School. In 2007, The University of Tampa re-organized into four separate colleges: the college of natural and health sciences, the college of math, education and social sciences, the college of business, and the college of arts. 40.8% of the classes at The University of Tampa have less than 20 students. The University of Tampa has had many notable people graduate.

62. The Influence of Situations on Three Attributes of Alcohol Consumption

Gino Nachev, Lacey Benjamin, Lise-Marie Homer & Becky Vyzas (PSY)

Situational segmentation can be defined as an advertising tactic of targeting a particular group of individuals. It is significant in influencing consumer behavior because it examines which attributes consumers find important in certain situations. In this current study, a survey was done on undergraduate students who were of legal drinking age. We examined the importance of certain alcohol characteristics (content, taste, low cost) in two usage situations (Going out with Friends, Family get together). We hypothesized that the alcohol content and price would be more important in a party situation with friends and that the taste would be more important in a situation involving family. Our hypothesis was partially supported. Alcohol content and cost of alcohol was more important in a party situation than family get together but there was no difference between the two situations for the importance of taste.

63. Income and Education: Effects on Support for Democracy and Human Rights Abroad

Thierry Peters (GWA)

In this paper, I examine whether the differing levels of education and income of the US populace affect support for the spread of democratic ideals abroad and the support for human rights worldwide. I focus attention on those with higher levels of education and income, and correlations are found between that segment of the population and heightened support for democracy and awareness of political occurrences abroad. I find convincing evidence that there is a direct correlation between income, education and levels of support for democratic ideals and human rights abroad using data obtained from the Pew Research Center. I also delve into the effect that income and education have on pushing politicians to form public policy around these ideals. The study is an examination of what directly encourages people to promote the furthering of human rights and freedom worldwide, and what can be done to heighten these levels of support.

64. Emotional Response to Color

Pamela Plyler & Megan Ventetuolo (PSY)

This research study involving 10 UT students intends to examine the emotional responses elicited by different displays of colors. It is our prediction that light colors will be associated more with positive emotions while dark colors are associated with negative emotions. Another hypothesis is that different presentations of the same colors will not significantly change the response. The intended outcome of this experiment is to help support that the emotional response elicited by color is strong enough to withstand the addition of other changes in visual stimuli. The results of this study show differences in emotional response level to ink blot presentation of colors compared to solid color presentations. Analyses of sex differences and comparisons between warm and cool colors were also made with mixed results.

65. The Right to Die: Different Effects

James Price-Chandler (GWA)

My research centered around studying the right to die and seeing who is more likely to support the right to die. I use a data set from the Pew Research Center. I used several dependent variables to examine who is more likely to support the right to die, these include Race, income, party identification. I also looked at whether or not a person had a living will, and whether or not a person, has their medical treatment plans written down. The results indicated that Republicans are more than likely to support the right to die than Democrats; also whites are more than likely to support the right to die than non whites.

66. Religion and Political Party Affiliation

Alexia Rama & Ilias Savakis (GWA)

In this paper, we analyze the relationship between religion and political party affiliation. We examine survey responses provided by the 2008 Pew Research Center Survey regarding religion and public life in order to evaluate the extent to which religion plays a role in political party affiliation. This paper also examines the role that factors

such as age, gender, education, and level of religiosity play in this relationship, as well as the impact that social issues have on this relationship. We believe that the strength of an individual's particular attitude towards religion has an effect on political party affiliation. Religion and political party affiliation are closely tied together in regards to issues such as church endorsement of political candidates, presidential approval, and social issues such as the legality of abortion. We found that Republicans tend to be more favorable of religion's involvement in politics than are Democrats.

67. Attitudes towards Immigration

Stella Maris Rodriguez (GWA)

This paper examines the attitudes that people in the United States have toward immigration policy. Specifically, it examines the extent to which people's attitudes vary in their assessment of how president Obama is handling the situation of immigration. I look at individual level characteristics such as age, gender, education, party identification, race and ethnicity. Using data obtained from the Pew Research Center, I find that attitudes towards Obama's immigration policy depends greatly on the age, gender, race, ethnicity, education, and party identification of the individual. Overall, I find that a large portion of the population does agree with how Obama is handling the issue of immigration.

68. The Relationship Between Fear of Negative Evaluation and Classroom Participation and Effects on GPA

Sarah Sandall & James McLane (PSY)

The purpose of this study was to attempt to find a relationship between one's fear of negative evaluation, gender traits (masculinity, femininity), classroom participation and grade-point average. We hypothesized that there would be a positive correlation between the independent variable of fear of negative evaluation, and the two dependent variables: classroom participation and GPA. We also predicted that higher scores of femininity would correlate with fear of negative evaluation. By administering multiple Likert-type scale surveys such as the B-FNE (Brief Fear of Negative Evaluation), the CPQ (Classroom Participation Questionnaire), and the PAQ (Personal Attributes Questionnaire) we found that the one significant finding was a negative correlation between the CPQ and the B-FNE.

69. Perfectionism and Memory in Honors Students

Sarah Sandall, Jaclyn Chanudet & Tessa Wimberley (PSY)

The current study examined the relationship between perfectionism, mood, and memory in honors students. Honors students at the University of Tampa were given either a neutral or perfectionistic narrative along with the Almost Perfect Scale-Revised (APS-R) and the Positive and Negative Affect Schedule (PANAS). They were then asked to identify words that they remembered in the story from a word bank containing neutral, negative, and perfectionistic words that were in the narrative along with words that were not. As hypothesized, both discrepancy and narrative type were related to the number of perfectionistic and negative words recognized and discrepancy was significantly associated with negative affect. On the other hand, only story type was related to the number of neutral words recognized.

70. Assessing the Effectiveness and Necessity of the Proactive Response to Terrorism

Nick Sauvan (GWA)

In my research I pose the following question: "In combating terrorism, does a proactive response and increased defense budget spending provide more safety and security from the threat of transnational terrorism?" I use a comparative case studies analysis using the American response, the French response, and the Spanish response to terrorism in the post-9/11 international system to investigate whether or not the proactive response is an effective means to curb terrorism by comparing defense spending on terrorism versus the number of attacks and attempted attacks. I consider both the pros and cons of the approach and discuss the importance and effectiveness it has. The research tests two hypotheses: A proactive response reduces the number of potential terrorist attacks, and the potential for terrorist attacks on a nation and In states that utilize proactive responses and other approaches, the proactive response is more effective in reducing the number of terrorist attacks against the nation.

71. Housing and Buildings on Campus

Kristen Scaglione, Hallie Prokaski, Brooke Gaines, & Pam Knight (EDU)

The purpose of this research is to present information to students, or the general public, about all twelve dorms available at the University of Tampa and to give information on selected buildings that are on campus presently as of 2012. In the research paper, each dorm presently on campus and future dorms is described and important information about each is given. The paper also talks about a selected amount of buildings on campus including: Sykes college of business, Sykes Chapel, Cass building, MacDonald-Kelce Library, Bob Martinez Athletics Center, McNiff fitness center, Dickey Health and Wellness Center, ROTC building, and the University of Tampa Swimming Complex. These are the buildings that are used frequently by the school for academic and athletic purposes.

72. Afghanistan: A "Narco-State" Funding Terrorism

Kelly Smith (GWA)

Is Afghanistan, a Narco-state funding terrorism? This paper will explore the effects of the illicit production of opium on terrorism in Afghanistan. Narcotic production has undermined the idea of a unified state of Afghanistan as it generates revenue which increases the power of guerrilla and terrorist groups. For example Al Qaeda, and the Taliban fund their terrorist's movements, in part, by the illegal production of opium. Illicit trade enables officials to recruit, pay, provide arms, equipment and corrupt politicians and grow wealthier in the process. This paper will test the hypothesis that opium production results in elevated rates of terrorism. Three case countries in total will be observed to test this hypothesis: Afghanistan(Al Qaeda), Colombia(FARC) and Tajikistan (the Islamic movement of Uzbekistan and Al Qaeda) to support the hypothesis that in many cases illegal drug production provides financial support for terrorists groups.

73. South American development and the IMF

Suzanne Sweeney (GWA)

The purpose of this research is to view the issue of international dependency and ask if it has resulted in low levels of development in South America between 1980 and 2011. The study will examine dependency specifically through loans from the International Monetary Fund and use data from the World Bank and the United Nations' Human Development Index to measure development. The results will show if development has been positively or negatively impacted by use of IMF loans, and why the region has had slightly slower development than other regions worldwide. In addition the results will show why South American nations are favoring regional rather than international integration and what result this has had on development.

74. Analysis of President Obama's Job Approval

Phil Unvericht (GWA)

It has been well established in the literature that a president's approval can be impacted by a multitude of factors, particularly party identification, political ideology, religion, and race. The current president has a unique background and experience as the nation's first African American, so how does his approval compare to the literature established previously? Data from the National Election Study survey done in January 2012 is used to reinforce that President Obama's approval ratings are not a significant departure from the past, and much of his approval comes from groups that the literature suggests would be favorable to his administration, such as liberals, Democrats, and African Americans.

75. Democracy and Autocracy: A Study into the Formation and Dynamics of Alliances

Philip Unvericht (GWA)

Since the dawn of time, governments have stood as the protectors of civilization. However, despite the overall rational motive of maintaining power over its people, the method varies from state to state, but can be clumped into two ideologically different categories: democracies and autocracies. Conflicts spanning millennia of history have pitted democracies against autocracies in a fight for supremacy, but, in a few isolated examples of history, democracies and autocracies have found themselves allied together for a greater purpose. However, the question remains as to what that purpose is. By examining several historic cases of such alliances, including one in the present day, the author hopes to explore the nature of these unlikely allies. Why do these alliances come into being? What are the natures of these alliances? And, finally, are these alliances ultimately doomed to failure?

76. Cash and Blood High Cost of War in the Post-World War II Era

Brandon Urich (GWA)

The subject of my poster has to do with whether or not the causes of high cost wars experienced a shift in the post-World War II with the collapse of European empires and the rise of hundreds of newly independent states. The cases in question were selected on the basis of the dependent variable of exacting high costs on the nation or nations involved in the struggle. How the dependent variable of high costs was determined is based on three factors high death toll relative to estimated total population, monetary costs, and loss of territory or influence of the state after the war. While in many cases especially pre-World War II it is difficult to get exact monetary figures of cost of conflict it can be shown whether or not the state went bankrupt after the war. The dependent variable is operationalized by six independent variables previously proposed by scholars.

77. Family Upbringing and Fear of Negative Evaluation
Des Vega & Danielle Greer (PSY)

This cross-sectional study examined the relationship between family upbringing and fear of negative evaluation. A sample ($n=45$) of undergraduate students completed a Fear of Negative Evaluation Scale, supplementary negative evaluation questions, and a family history questionnaire. Scores were analyzed using an independent-samples t-test. Results did not show any significant difference in fear of negative evaluation between students brought up in a single-parent home versus both parents being present. Results also failed to show a significant association between fear of negative evaluation and the gender of the absent parent.

78. How Does Control Over Vital Natural Minerals Affect a Country's Security?
Alyssa Warmington (GWA)

For this research project, three of the leading producers of oil were looked at to see how their control over vital natural resources affects their security as a country. Also, when comparing these three countries, their control over oil was looked at to see if it had an effect over other countries' security. By analyzing the amount of oil the country has, the country's financial standings, and the type of political system that each of these three oil controlling countries have, it can be predicted what kind of effect if any this will have on security. Through this research it will be shown that control over vital natural resources has an effect on both the controlling country and the countries that want the resources security.

79. The Effect of Appearance when Applying for a Job
Emily Anderson (PSY 200)

The hypothesis of the current experiment was if an overweight candidate and an average-sized candidate are competing for a job, then the average-sized candidate would be more frequently hired. To evaluate this hypothesis participants received two types of resumes, one of an average-sized candidate and one of an overweight candidate. The participants were asked to read the applications and determine whom they would hire for the job as a help desk worker. After the data was collected, means were calculated and the results were graphed. The summary information appears to show that the hypothesis was not supported in that more participants recommended hiring the overweight candidate. The conclusion was that more participants chose the overweight candidate because he was more qualified and because obesity is common in the United States so his weight went unnoticed.

80. Relating Study Habits to Self-Reported GPA
Mary Calabrese (PSY 200)

The hypothesis of the current experiment was that if University of Tampa students engage in their study habits in places that are optimal for success (for example a quiet environment with little distraction), then their self-reported GPA will be higher. To evaluate this hypothesis a survey was conducted that asked for information about where students studied, the noise level of the environment, their GPA, and the credits accumulated. After the data was collected, means were calculated and the results were graphed. The summary information appears to show that there was a slight correlation between the noise level and GPA. The results also demonstrated that most people studied in their dorm room or the library. The conclusion was that perhaps there is a slight possibility that the location and noise level does affect GPA.

81. Is there a Relationship between Extracurricular Activities and GPAs?
Ashley LaPierre (PSY 200)

The hypothesis of the current experiment was that the more extracurricular activities one student does, the lower the grade point average of that student. Also, it is thought that honors student will be able to maintain a higher grade

point average with more extracurricular activities than a regular student. To evaluate these hypotheses a survey was conducted that asked for information about whether they were an honors or regular student, their academic class year, their grade point average, and the amount of activities and how many hours they engaged in activities. The results showed that there was a slight correlation between the amounts of extracurricular activities and grade point average. Supporting the hypothesis, the more activities one student did, the lower the grade point average.

82. Is there a Correlation between Effort put into One's Appearance and Success in College ?

Lois Mendez (PSY 200)

The hypothesis of the current experiment was that students who spend more time or effort than others on a daily basis in dressing for the day would have higher GPAs than those students who do not put a lot of time and effort into their daily appearance. To evaluate this hypothesis a survey was conducted that asked for information about the amount of time a person takes in the morning grooming oneself and getting ready as well as for their GPA to determine their academic performance. The summary information appeared to show that there is a positive correlation between the amount of time and effort that people put into their daily appearance and their performance in school, GPA. The conclusion was that people who spend more time getting ready grew up in an environment with routine and discipline in which they were taught to complete their tasks, such as doing homework.

83. Too Close for Comfort

Olivia Mitchell (PSY 200)

The hypothesis of the current experiment was that the closer a stranger is to someone the more uncomfortable the participant will feel. To evaluate this hypothesis a participant observation study was conducted that involved sitting next to a person at either 2 feet away or 6 inches, and then observing his or her responses. After the data was collected, means were calculated and the results were graphed. The summary information appears to show that more people moved when the stranger was closer to them. The conclusion was that people are uncomfortable when strangers are in close proximity to them.

84. Effects of Lifestyle Choices on GPA

Anisha Russell (PSY 200)

The hypothesis for the current experiment was that college students that make the best, that is, the healthiest lifestyle choices have higher G.P.A's. The norms of healthy choices are that they eat 3 or more meals a day, sleep for at least 6 hours and exercise on a daily or weekly basis. To evaluate this hypothesis a survey was conducted that asked for information about sleeping, eating and exercise patterns. After the data was collected, the surveys were divided on the basis of these choices, and average G.P.A's of the groups were calculated. On review of the information, it appears that students who sleep for an average of 5 hours, eat 2 meals a day, and exercise had the highest average of G.P.A's. This did not match up with the hypothesis and the conclusion is that other factors such as difficulty of classes or number of hours spent studying.

85. Do Study Techniques Correlate with GPA?

Alex Zanetti (PSY 200)

The hypothesis of the current experiment was that more effort and work a student applies to his or her study techniques inside and outside the classroom positively impacts his or her grade point average. To evaluate this hypothesis a survey was conducted that asked for information about study techniques inside and outside the classroom and the students grade point average. After the data was collected, means were calculated and the results were graphed. The summary information appears to show that the more effort and time a student puts into his or her work the better grades he or she gets. The conclusion was that students with higher grade point average tend to spend more time and effort outside the classroom. A higher percentage also writes his or her notes for a better understanding.

86. Fear of Negative Evaluation, Social Anxiety, and Communication Style

Dawn Miller & Travis Olugbodi (PSY)

In this experiment, the goal was to define the relationship between electronic communication levels and styles of college students (n=38) and scores on the Social Phobia and Fear of Negative Evaluation (FNE) scales. Our hypothesis was that people who choose electronic communication to communicate important or personal topics, will score high on the Fear of Negative Evaluation and/or Social Phobia scales. Participants completed these surveys and

a questionnaire on communication styles and preferences all in one sitting. The study showed that there was little to no relationship between the levels on the scales and communication styles and preferences, thus not supporting our hypothesis.

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., (2012, April). *Investigations into the psychology of time perception*. Poster presented at the Spring 2012 CSSME Undergraduate Research Conference, Tampa, FL.

For more information about this conference and previous ones (including all past abstracts), please go to:

http://utweb.ut.edu/sblessing/cssme_research_conference.html