

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

DISTINGUISH *yourself*

2009 Annual Liberal Arts
HONORS
COLLOQUIUM

4/8/09 **PMU** ANNIVERSARY DRAWING ROOM **12-5 PM**

POSTER SESSION

12:00 - 1:30

Mark A. Johnson

HIST 354H: Women in America 1600-1870

America's Aristocrats: The Jefferson Family and the Role of Southern Women in the Public Sphere

Devon Katheder

A&D 205: Design III

New York, New York

Zhiyan Ma

HONR 199I: The City

The City Under a Panoptic Lens

Emily Ponder

ENGL 241H: Survey of British Literature II

From the Undeserving Poor to Middle Class Morality: The Fabian Conflation of Class and Morals in Shaw's Pygmalion

**Meredith Rees &
Shea Hack**

HONR 299U: The 2008 Presidential Election

Are Losers Funny or Is It the Funny Who Lose?: Jokes on The Daily Show and The Colbert Report

Pirita See

PSY 498H: Independent Research Study in Social Psychology

Thoughtful and Nonthoughtful Use of Attitudes in Decision Making

Kristen Singleton

SOC 573: The Human Side of Medicine

Issues and Opinions of Sexual Reorientation Therapy for Homosexuality

Megan Smith

PSY 498H: Senior Research - Honors

The Testing Effect with Short-Answer, Multiple-Choice, and Hybrid Formats

Mary Sweeney

PSY 405H: Honors Research Seminar II

Reflexivity in Pigeons Using Successive Matching

SPOKEN PRESENTATIONS

1:45 - 5:00

- 1:45 Emily Ponder** **CLCS 335H:** Classical Mythology
Defining Truth: The Modern Mythologization of Science
- 2:00 Taylor Hurt** **HONR 199A:** Scientific Methods
Inherent Compliance Problems Existing in the 30-ft Rule
- 2:15 Lauren McLaughlin** **HONR 199S:** Aids: Biomedical, Social & Ethical Issues
The ABC's of Aids
- 2:30 Robin Johnsen** **ENGL 373H:** Science Fiction and Fantasy
Reconciling the Other: Posthumanism in Jos Whedon's Firefly and Serenity
- 2:45 Clare Ford** **ENGL 407:** Introduction to Poetry Writing
Useful Ambiguities
- 3:00 Morgan Devlin** **ANTH 504:** Problems in World Pre-History
Different Views of and in Bioarchaeological Research
- 3:15 BREAK** Refreshments
- 3:30 Elizabeth Hamilton** **HIST 343H:** Traditional Japan
Religion is Part of Life, but Poetry is for Love: Women's Literature in Heian Japan (794-1185)
- 3:45 Mark A. Johnson** **HIST 467H:** Emergence of Modern America: The Gilded Age
For Millions Bound in Iron Chains: Reunification, Emancipation, & the Persistence of the Union Cause in Civil War Memory
- 4:00 Emily Dawes** **HIST 492H:** Modern Iraq
Archaeology in Iraq under the British Mandate: 1920-1932
- 4:15 Karie Gregory** **SOC 341H:** Culture and Personality
Devil of Jonestown: The Charismatic Leadership of Jim Jones
- 4:30 Jaclyn Tabor** **SOC 498H:** Senior Honors Project
Going Green, Making the Green: Big Business & the U.S. Environmental Movement

POSTER SESSION

Mark A. Johnson, senior majoring in History Honors
HIST 354H: Women in America 1600-1870
Assistant Professor Caroline Janney

America's Aristocrats:

The Jefferson Family and the Role of Southern Women in the Public Sphere

In the aftermath of the American Civil War, the national government, the various states, and many veterans' organizations raised money to fund monuments and memorials at battlefields across the country. The numerous dedication speeches for monuments at Antietam National Battlefield from the 1880s to the 1920s emphasized subjects of reunification and emancipation, suggesting that Union veterans remembered the most divisive conflict in United States history from their own perspective and considered both of these themes as fundamental aspects of their fighting cause. Reconciliation, while present, often distinguished the noble Union principles from the treasonous Confederate cause.

Devon Katheder, sophomore majoring in Visual Communication Design
A&D 205: Design III
Instructor Mungjoo Kim

New York, New York

New York, New York is a playful rendering of a commonly known city. Using the words from the popular song sharing the same title, the piece combines image, color and typography into an aesthetically pleasing piece. The piece is laid out like a picture book, with each page relating to the other three pages while still maintaining its independently interesting design. This book's theme is the lights of the city, which is illustrated through a combination of easily recognizable images and type. Each page contains a different set of lyrics, but also continues the soft, golden glow of the lights of the city. The end of the book is the absence of lights to reinforce the pages before.

Zhiyan Ma, sophomore majoring in Economics & Political Science
HONR 199I: The City
Associate Professor Emily Allen

The City Under a Panoptic Lens

The city sings a melody of diverse forms and expressions. The multifarious aggregates of people that make up the city, if left alone, necessarily will conflict. The city, then, is the question of how this diverse population with differing motives and clashing backgrounds learns to not only coexist, but to thrive. The juxtaposition of masses of people with the proliferation of secondary relationships creates a strong demand for order in the city. The Panopticon, as theorized by Michel Foucault, and its figurative application to non-physical panopticons are effective ways to cultivate and perpetuate power and control. The belief and fear of an omnipresent, omniscient guard yields an efficient disciplinary means. This becomes embodied in derived sources of power in the city, as well as the omnipresent crowd that litter the city's streets. Applying this theory to the real life locations of Chicago, IL, West Lafayette, IN, and Carmel, IN, it becomes clear that while Chicago demonstrates the characteristics of a real city, such characteristics of the city with regards to the panoptic effect are different, if not absent, in the cases of West Lafayette and Carmel. By their homogenous nature, the need for an answer to the question of the city vanishes. Therefore, because Chicago utilizes the panoptic effect to answer the question of the city, and West Lafayette and Carmel do not, the former is a city and the latter two should not be classified as such.

POSTER SESSION

Emily Ponder, senior majoring in English Literature & Classical Studies
ENGL 241H: Survey of British Literature II
Associate Professor Geraldine Friedman

From the Undeserving Poor to Middle Class Morality: The Fabian Conflation of Class and Morals in Shaw's *Pygmalion*

This paper looks at George Bernard Shaw's popular play *Pygmalion* in light of the author's socialist politics. Shaw was a prominent member of the Fabian Society, a group of intellectual middle class socialists who believed social revolution would have to come from the enlightened middle class and not from the proletariat working class. *Pygmalion's* characters and their interactions represent social reality according to Fabian thinking: an intelligent but morally corrupt poor man (Doolittle), a typical poor woman deluded by the impositions of middle class morality (Eliza), and an intellectual middle-class hero (Henry Higgins). Shaw's brilliance is that he does not force an overt socialist message in this play, but rather depicts his fictional representation of reality as inevitably operating by the Fabian maxim that a person's morality is inextricably dependent upon two factors: his socio-economic and his intelligence. Throughout *Pygmalion* Shaw is subversively suggesting a socialist (and specifically Fabian) understanding of morality.

Meredith Rees, senior majoring in Political Science
Shea Hack, senior majoring in Political Science
HONR 299U: The 2008 Presidential Election
Associate Professor Rosalee Clawson

Are Losers Funny or Is It the Funny Who Lose?: Jokes on *The Daily Show* and *The Colbert Report*

Our research focused on political humor during the 2008 presidential campaign. We specifically studied jokes told about the Democratic and Republican presidential candidates on Comedy Central's *The Daily Show* and *The Colbert Report*. Using shows aired during the two weeks prior to the 2008 election, we examined the distribution of jokes as well as their content. We analyzed whether these comedy news programs presented a biased distribution of jokes toward either candidate. Our research found that the Republican candidate, John McCain was much more likely to be the target of political jokes on both shows than his rival, Barack Obama. We also found that jokes were more likely to be about the candidate's characteristics and their relative standing in the polls rather than about issues or policy positions.

Pirita See, senior majoring in Psychology, Sociology & Anthropology
PSY 498H: Independent Research Study in Social Psychology
Professor Duane Wegener

Thoughtful and Nonthoughtful Use of Attitudes in Decision Making

Expanding on research on the affect heuristic and multiple roles of persuasion (Petty & Wegener, 1998), this study investigates the premise that attitudes are used in both thoughtful and nonthoughtful ways in decision making. After attitude and distraction manipulations, participants made a preference choice and listed accompanying thoughts. The researchers expected that thoughts are more likely to mediate between attitudes and choices when distraction is low rather than high. This study provides potential evidence for attitudes biasing processing of choice-relevant information when ability to process is high, but attitudes serving as a choice heuristic when ability to process is low.

POSTER SESSION

Kristen Singleton, senior majoring in Sociology
SOC 573: The Human Side of Medicine
Professor James Anderson

Issues and Opinions of Sexual Reorientation Therapy for Homosexuality

While several health organizations, such as the American Psychological Association and American Academy of Pediatrics, have put forth statements of official disapproval of “reparative therapy” for homosexuality, the idea that homosexuality is a biological or mental health disease in need of therapeutic repair is still present. With a review of the relevant literature on the subject, focusing on Dr. Robert L. Spitzer’s 2001 study of respondents who claimed that reparative therapy had been effective, a brief survey was conducted to assess attitudes toward GLB (gay, lesbian, and bisexual) persons and opinions on the effectiveness of “re-orientation” therapy. While faith tradition/religiosity, knowing someone who is GLB, and political party did affect specific answers, the overall trend was to believe that homosexuality was biological or a mix with social factors, that reparative therapy should not be performed, and that it was harmful.

Megan Smith, senior majoring in Psychology Honors
PSY 498H: Senior Research – Honors
Assistant Professor Jeffrey Karpicke

The Testing Effect with Short-Answer, Multiple-Choice, and Hybrid Formats

Testing is not just a way to assess what one has learned but also a powerful way to improve one's memory (Roediger & Karpicke, 2006). Recall (short-answer) tests often produce greater testing effects than multiple-choice tests (Kang, McDermott, & Roediger, 2007), but short-answer tests may be more difficult to score in educational settings. Park (2005) attempted to solve this problem with a computerized testing system that combined recall and multiple-choice test formats. We examined the effectiveness of this procedure. We had students read prose passages and take an initial computerized test in one of four test conditions. One group took an initial recall test and a second group took a multiple-choice test. A third condition was a hybrid test condition that combined recall and multiple-choice testing: Subjects attempted recall in short-answer format and immediately after attempting recall, the multiple-choice lures appeared and subjects selected an alternative. The fourth test condition was also a hybrid condition, but for each question the recall and multiple-choice question formats were spaced apart during the test. We assessed long-term retention on a final short-answer test 1 week after the initial learning session.

Mary Sweeney, senior majoring in Psychology
PSY 405H: Honors Research Seminar II
Associate Professor Ximena Arriaga

Reflexivity in Pigeons Using Successive Matching

This study explores the ability of animals without language (i.e. pigeons) to form equivalence relations. Specifically we examine reflexivity --one facet of equivalence relations. Pigeons were trained on three sets of successive matching discrimination prior to reflexivity testing. Six were trained in conditions that should elicit reflexivity, and six pigeons' training should show "anti-reflexivity".

SPOKEN PRESENTATIONS

1:45 Emily Ponder, senior majoring in English Literature & Classical Studies
CLCS 335H: Classical Mythology
Associate Professor Keith Dickson

Defining Truth: The Modern Mythologization of Science

This paper explores the mythic power science holds in our society and its monopoly on “truth.” Mythic, in this case, does not mean false, but rather a multiform (there is no final version), homeostatic (conforming to what the audience expects), monolingual (always appears as one version), and verisimilar (accepted as true) shared cultural understanding. There are two opposing but connected understandings of science in our society: the science of scientists, and the science of laypeople. Both are mythic, but in different ways. Layperson’s science invests science’s jargon, data, and “facts” with truth, while scientist’s science does quite the opposite and encourages a constant skepticism in everything except the scientific method, the only acceptable instrument for judging truth. Analyzing the role these two understandings of science play in our culture can provide insight into our mythological understanding of “truth” and “science.”

2:00 Taylor Hurt, junior majoring in Psychology
HONR 199A: Scientific Methods
Associate Professor Mickey A. Latour

Inherent Compliance Problems Existing in the 30-ft Rule

The purpose of this study was to aid policy administrators in future decision making as it relates to the 30-ft rule in Purdue University’s non-smoking policy. Concerns that the 30-ft rule is neither abided by nor beneficial were considered. The study used a 3-tiered analysis to identify evidence for these concerns and argue potential causes for these concerns. A questionnaire distributed to Purdue students has given an indication of the population’s disposition toward the 30-ft rule. At university building entranceways, cigarette butt distribution numbers were collected, giving some insight into the behavior of smokers in 30-ft zones. The data collected indicates that Purdue students do not have negative opinions of the 30-ft rule but do have logically dissonant views about it, which may indicate inherent compliance problems. The data also indicates that there are a significant proportion of smokers at Purdue not abiding by the 30-ft rule based on cigarette butt distributions. This is the first study to look at concerns of the 30-ft rule and the discussions and findings present a beginning roadmap for future policy administration at Purdue. The findings and discussions are potentially generalizable across all outdoor smoking policy administration as well.

2:15 Lauren McLaughlin, sophomore majoring in Speech, Language, & Hearing Science
HONR 199S: Aids: Biomedical, Social & Ethical Issues
Visiting Scholar Ralph Meyer

The ABC's of Aids

The President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) was a program established by former President George W. Bush. *The ABC’s of AIDS* covers all aspects of the government’s participation in the AIDS epidemic, ranging from a brief history of their involvement in the 1980’s to the new 2008 PEPFAR bill. The paper mainly centers on whether PEPFAR’s primary focus of sustaining AIDS, by Abstaining, Being faithful, and using Condoms (ABC), truly works. Each acronym is discussed in depth by looking at its positive and negative aspects. While PEPFAR’s ABC program was a main focus in the paper, everything and everything on AIDS and the United States government is discussed. The country of Uganda, needle distribution, and financial aspects of the PEPFAR bill are just a few topics discussed in the paper.

SPOKEN PRESENTATIONS

2:30 Robin Johnsen, senior majoring in Creative Writing & Professional Writing
ENGL 373H: Science Fiction and Fantasy
Associate Professor Dino Felluga

Reconciling the Other: Posthumanism in Jos Whedon's *Firefly* and *Serenity*

One of the most important literary tropes in history is the concept of the Other. The Other is a representation of humankind's anxieties and primal fears. In literature, this archetype is used to explore the risks involved in examining these anxieties and fears too closely – and at the same time, the necessity of doing so. In the current postmodern era, however, the way in which humans understand and confront their anxieties has changed dramatically: so too must the portrayal of the Other. In his revolutionary science-fiction series *Firefly* (and its counterpart movie *Serenity*), Joss Whedon explores the meaning of the Other for the postmodern audience by removing the distance between the Other and the human that is present in all previous works: the result is the creation of the Other of the postmodern era – the posthuman.

2:45 Clare Ford, junior majoring in Women's Studies & Creative Writing
ENGL 407: Introduction to Poetry Writing
Professor Donald Platt

Useful Ambiguities

Is it too cliché to say that my work is about finding the mythic in the mundane? My subject matter ranges from fruit found in garbage bins to portraits of protesters facing firsthand the limits of free speech. Where is the poetry a reflection, and where does it become its own performance? Can I write an angry rant but still call it art? Why is one piece of garbage so seductive? How do I record the movements in a conversation, as they shift from intimacy to frustration, giggles to nostalgia? These questions, and these poems, dwell on the spaces between familiarity and unfamiliarity. The result, I hope, is a thoughtful collection of sometimes surprising moments, told through a series of images, observations, and expressions.

3:00 Morgan Devlin, senior majoring in Anthropology
ANTH 504: Problems in World Pre-History
Assistant Professor Ian Lindsay

Different Views of and in Bioarchaeological Research

Bioarchaeology is viewed by different people or groups in different ways. Since human remains are being analyzed, the treatment of those remains is important. When people can claim affinity (familial or cultural), this treatment is of great importance and needs to be within a prescribed framework. Additionally, the bioarchaeologists have different viewpoints on how remains should be handled. This research is focused on some of the different views of and within bioarchaeological research.

3:15 BREAK

Refreshments

SPOKEN PRESENTATIONS

3:30 Elizabeth Hamilton, senior majoring in Japanese
HIST 343H: Traditional Japan
Associate Professor Sally Hastings

**Religion is Part of Life, but Poetry is for Love:
Women's Literature in Heian Japan (794-1185)**

This paper focuses on five works of Japanese women's literature from the Heian Period (794-1185). By analyzing and comparing themes from these sources, I aim to find what discrepancies there were between public and private works and what this implies about women in Heian society.

3:45 Mark A. Johnson, senior majoring in History Honors
HIST 467H: Emergence of Modern America: The Gilded Age
Assistant Professor Caroline Janney

“For Millions Bound in Iron Chains:”

Reunification, Emancipation, & the Persistence of the Union Cause in Civil War Memory

In the aftermath of the American Civil War, the national government, the various states, and many veterans' organizations raised money to fund monuments and memorials at battlefields across the country. The numerous dedication speeches for monuments at Antietam National Battlefield from the 1880s to the 1920s emphasized subjects of reunification and emancipation, suggesting that Union veterans remembered the most divisive conflict in United States history from their own perspective and considered both of these themes as fundamental aspects of their fighting cause. Reconciliation, while present, often distinguished the noble Union principles from the treasonous Confederate cause.

4:00 Emily Dawes, senior majoring in History Honors
HIST 492H: Modern Iraq
Assistant Professor Stacy Holden

Archaeology in Iraq under the British Mandate: 1920-1932

The modern state of Iraq contains some of the most important archaeological sites in the world, including ancient Babylon, Ur, Ctesiphon and Nineveh. These sites represent the beginnings of civilization, where the first great empires emerged. During the British Mandate from 1920 to 1932, archaeological sites and ancient monuments became major tourist attractions for Westerners traveling around the area. They immediately set up governing agencies to oversee archaeological sites and set up museums in Baghdad and London. The British government manipulated archaeological work to give appeal to an unpopular occupation and unite the diverse population of Iraq into one nation. Archaeology has been loosely incorporated into the history of the British Mandate in Iraq. Yet, the importance of archaeology as a tool for propaganda and capturing the attention of the British public has often been overlooked. This essay will argue that Archaeology played an important role in the effort to control and unite the Iraqi people.

SPOKEN PRESENTATIONS

4:15 Karie Gregory, senior majoring in Psychology & Law and Society Honors
SOC 341H: Culture and Personality
Associate Professor Andrew Buckser

Devil of Jonestown: The Charismatic Leadership of Jim Jones

912. This is the number of those who perished under Jim Jones as the cult known as the Peoples Temple. Although this number is nowhere near as catastrophic the number of people killed by Adolf Hitler or Josef Stalin, it is known as one of the largest mass suicides in history, and was the greatest single loss of American civilian life in a non-natural disaster until September 11, 2001. Jim Jones is strongly connected with Hitler and Stalin, along with many others, not only in deaths, but all were known as strong, charismatic leaders. Jones established Jonestown, a community where he was thought of as God, and where his Peoples Temple lived in isolation and greatly feared the outside world. But what brought this group together, and what ultimately led to their deaths? Charismatic leaders and their followers have always been a mystery to those who have studied them. Jim Jones and his followers tragically ended their cultic run in 1978, but it was their stereotypical group cohesion and the psychological dynamics of both the leader and the group that characterized them as one of the most destructive cults in history.

4:30 Jaclyn Tabor, senior majoring in Sociology & Women's Studies
SOC 498H: Senior Honors Project
Associate Professor Rachel Einwohner

Going Green, Making the Green: Big Business & the U.S. Environmental Movement

Recent years have seen a surge in corporate interest in "going green". This paper explores the green framing processes of the Environmental Protection Agency's Top Five Retail Partners (2008): Whole Foods, Kohl's, Starbucks, Staples, and Office Depot. Evaluating these companies' printed material against literature on framing and social movements, as well as a new frame entitled "Corporate Environmental Ethics", I show how sociological framing processes are utilized by companies in order to make them appear more environmentally-conscious.

Emily Allen and the Honors Program staff would like to thank you for attending the College of Liberal Arts Honors Colloquium and supporting Purdue's young scholars.

Please contact us for more information about the Honors Program experience.

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