

# thesis review 2006

As a culminating experience for the master's degree program, the thesis attests to the highest level of the student's academic, scholarly, and creative abilities. Each student works under the guidance of a faculty thesis chair and committee. The resulting thesis is viewed with pride as a reflection of the scholarly promise of the student and a commitment to excellence for the university. This summer and fall 2006, 56 students completed theses in areas as varied and original as the students themselves. What follows is a complete list of Summer/Fall 2006 theses by college/school and some research highlights.

## COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

### *Animal Sciences and Agricultural Education*

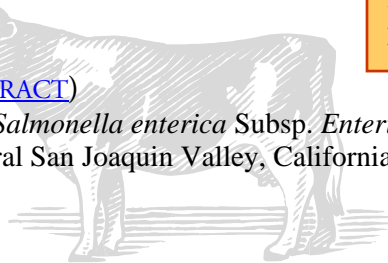
**Tasha Manfredi-Garlick** (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Comparison of Two Screening Methods for Interferon-Gamma Assay for the Diagnosis of Bovine Tuberculosis  
(Chair: Randy Perry)

Tasha Manfredi-Garlick found that using an interferon-gamma assay screening method to detect bovine tuberculosis in an infected herd is beneficial to the producer, industry, and state.

**Elizabeth Thornburg** (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Antibiotic Resistance Patterns of *Salmonella enterica* Subsp. *Enterica* serovar Dublin from Pre-Weaned Dairy Calves in the Central San Joaquin Valley, California  
(Chair: Scott Williamson)



### *Food Science and Nutrition*

**Ann Lentell** (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Determining the Level of Enforcement by Environmental Health Jurisdictions of the Food Safety Certification Law in California  
(Chair: Dennis Ferris)

**Chandy Lockman** (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Clinical Nutrition Managers' Perceptions of the Importance of Customer Service, Service Skills, and Practice Implementation  
(Chair: Sandra Witte)

Lisa Shanoian surveyed 258 student members of the American Dietetic Association to determine their attitudes toward self-monitored weight loss programs, pharmacotherapy, popular/fad diets, commercial weight loss programs and surgical procedures.

**Lisa Shanoian** (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Attitudes of Dietetic Students Toward Weight Management Strategies  
(Chair: Sandra Witte)

## *Industrial Technology*

**Ferdinand Pura** (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Analysis of Commonly Occurring Problems for Local Area Networks at California State University, Fresno

(Chair: Matthew Yen)

Ferdinand Pura found the most commonly occurring problems in California State University, Fresno's local area networks (LAN) that run Windows operating systems (OS) and determined why those problems occur.

## *Plant Science*

**Tatjana Sikuljak** (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Seasonal Population Dynamics and Incidence of *Xylella fastidiosa* in Potential Insect Vectors of Almond Leaf Scorch Disease

(Chair: Andrew Lawson)



## *Viticulture and Enology*

**Eiji Akaboshi** (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Real-Time Monitoring of *Hanseniaspora* and *Metschnikowia* Using Fluorescently Labeled Antibodies and Flow Cytometry

(Chair: Roy Thornton)

Oren Kaye developed a sensory evaluation technique to assess the flavor profile of Syrah wine grapes grown under different pruning and irrigation treatments

**Oren Kaye** (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Determination of Grape and Wine Sensory Attributes Resulting from Different Pruning and Irrigation Practices on the Syrah (*Vitis vinifera* cv.) Cultivar

(Chair: Robert Wample)

## COLLEGE OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

### *Communication*

**Vanessa Ruiz** (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Social Capital and Teacher Immediacy: Factors Influencing the Academic Motivation for Students Considered Academically at Risk

(Chair: Robert Powell)

Vanessa Ruiz tested five hypotheses relating to teacher and parent immediacy and their influence on the success of at-risk students.

### *English*

**Daniel Caeton** (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Ones, Zeros, and Everything in Between

(Chair: Anthony Michel)

**Navdeep Dhillon** (read [ABSTRACT](#))

The Dickhead and Other Short Stories by Navdeep Singh Dhillon

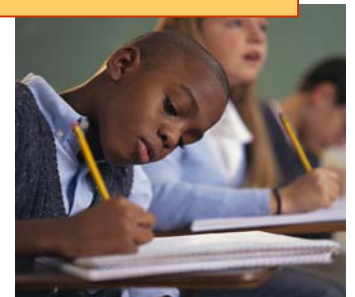
(Chair: Steve Yarbrough)

**Guiseppe Getto** (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Designing Cultural Rhetoric(s): Research at the Intersections of Culturally Situated Persuasion and Social Change

(Chair: Richard Hansen)

Guiseppe Getto based his research on his experiences as an activist in an academic student employees' union.



**Logan Perkes** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Making the Bed: Essays and Poems  
(Chair: John Hales)

Logan Perkes examines life through the lens of a young woman with physical disabilities.

**Emily Tallman** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Invitation to Elsewhere  
(Chair: Connie Hales)

**Kelly Van Horn** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Receipt for the Nonreturnable Day  
(Chair: Timothy Skeen)

**Elizabeth Warren** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Asking for It  
(Chair: John Hales)



### *Mass Communication and Journalism*

**Sandro da Silva** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
The History of the Brazilian Advertising Industry: Internal and External Factors  
(Chair: Roberta Asahina)

**Dipa Joisher** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
A Content Analysis of U.S. Newspaper Coverage of Outsourcing of High-Tech Jobs to India in the Early 21st Century  
(Chair: Tamyra Pierce)

**Sam Srauy** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Sensation Seeking and Internet Motives: Why and Where We Explore on the Electronic Frontier  
(Chair: Tamyra Pierce)



**Antonina Trachuk** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Newspaper Framing of a Hospital: The Impact of Hospital Public Relations  
(Chair: Michael McCluskey)

**Nicole Yavasile** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Television the Easy Way: Digital Video Recorders and Television Use  
(Chair: Michael McCluskey)

### *Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures*

**Ana Gómez** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Un espacio propio: Tradición e identidad femenina en la escritura de Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz y Rosario Castellanos  
(Chair: Saul Jimenez-Sandoval)

**Lilia Rubio Coss y León** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Neurosis y sexualidad en Bodas de sangre y La casa de Bernarda Alba  
(Chair: Saul Jimenez-Sandoval)



**María Rubio Coss y León** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
El substrato indígena y español en Al filo del agua  
(Chair: Saul Jimenez-Sandoval)

**Teresita Rubio Coss y Leon** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Las fuerzas que obstruyen el progreso en Doña Perfecta  
(Chair: Debbie Avila)

**Karla Suárez** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
El papel de la mujer en la literatura de Benito Perez Galdós, Miguel de Unamuno y Carmen de Burgos  
(Chair: Debbie Avila)



## COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

### *Electrical and Computer Engineering*

**Yogita Karkhanis** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Effect of System Nonlinearities on Sliding Mode Control Design for Buck Converters  
(Chair: Nagy Bengiamin)

## COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### *Communicative Sciences and Deaf Studies*

**Jamie Jensen** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Effects of a Visual Schedule on the Behavior of Children with Autism During Transition Times in a Preschool Setting  
(Chair: Steven Skelton)

### *Health Science*

**Carolina Aguilera** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Readability Assessment of Written Diabetes Education Materials  
(Chair: Miguel Perez)

Carolina Aguilera found that written diabetes education materials are generally above the reading levels of the audience they're intended to reach.

**Maria Bustamante** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
A Qualitative Study of Curanderismo Healing in Fresno County, California  
(Chair: Helda Pinzon-Perez)

**Elizabeth Evans** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
A Pilot Study Assessing Levels of Awareness Regarding Infant Mortality Among African American Women in West Fresno, California  
(Chair: Helda Pinzon-Perez)



Elizabeth Evans found that while 80% of her respondents had heard of the term *infant mortality*, only about half of them were aware that it is a problem in the African American community.

**Eric Sandhusen** (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Content and Effectiveness of Coding Training in Family Medicine Residency Programs  
(Chair: *Sandi Donohue*)

**Salvador Sandoval** (read [ABSTRACT](#))

The Effects of Migration on Farm Worker Risk for Developing HIV/AIDS  
(Chair: *Sandi Donohue*)

**Lorena Vallejo** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Asthma Triggers in the Elderly Population  
(Chair: *Vickie Krenz*)

Lorena Vallejo analyzed asthma triggers in the elderly in an effort to better understand a disease that currently affects 15 million Americans.

**Robin Wood** (read [ABSTRACT](#))

An Evaluation of Kaiser Permanente's Single-Session, 4-Hour Smoking Cessation Workshops  
(Chair: *Vickie Krenz*)

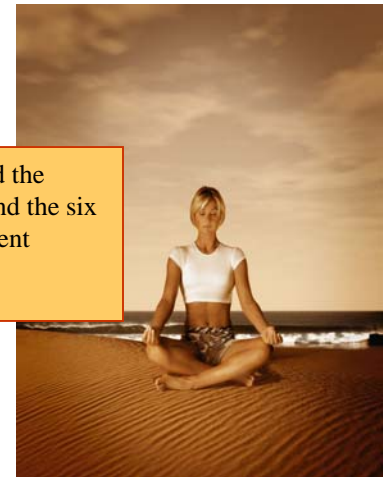
### *Kinesiology*

**Christina Roybal** (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Motives for Corporations to Enter Sponsorship Agreements with NCAA Division I-A Athletic Programs  
(Chair: *Ken Aldrich*)

**Mary-tyler Wahl** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Spirituality and Sport Commitment  
(Chair: *Jenelle Gilbert*)

Mary-tyler Wahl's study examined the relationship between spirituality and the six components of the sport commitment model (SCM).



### *Nursing*

**Julie Fagan** (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Ethical Changes in the Nursing Student  
(Chair: *Keitha Mountcastle*)

**Elizabeth Samoylenko** (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Comparison of Health Beliefs Among African American, Caucasian, Hispanic, and Hmong Hemodialysis Patients Who Skip or Shorten Dialysis Treatments  
(Chair: *Sylvia Miller*)

Elizabeth Samoylenko's thesis provides information to the renal healthcare provider regarding the influence of client health beliefs, illness perceptions on patient choices, and subsequent outcomes of quality renal replacement therapy.

### *Social Work Education*

**Kariisa Carrasco** (read [ABSTRACT](#))

Beauty Messages Revealed: An Exploratory Study on a Body Image Curriculum  
(Chair: *Virginia Rondero Hernandez*)



Kariisa Carrasco conducted a "body image intervention" with three high school females. She used a curriculum designed to praise teens for positive behaviors that promote a healthy body and body image and not judge them on their failure to comply with stereotypes of what the ideal body should look like.

## COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

### *Biology*

**Richard Moss** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Crop Type and Water Depth as Determinants of Waterbird  
Food Production in Post-Harvest Flooded Agricultural Fields  
(Chair: *Brian Tsukimura*)



Richard Moss's study aims to improve local habitat conditions for waterbirds and other wildlife in the Tulare Lake Basin.

**Joshua Williamson** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Identification of Quantitative Trait Loci and Candidate  
Genes for Bruising, Bleeding, and Flesh Color in Peach Fruit  
(Chair: *Jim Prince*)

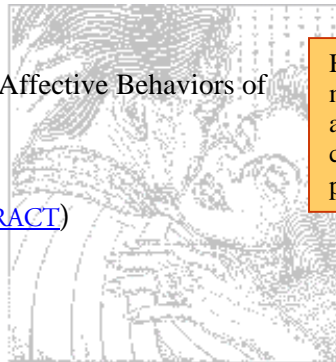


### *Psychology*

**Joshua Avera** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Religious Identity Formation and Openness to Experience  
(Chair: *Constance Jones*)

**Christopher Baudino** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Evocation of Strategic Dominance in Small Groups  
(Chair: *Michael Botwin*)

**Hayley Heitzig** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Effects of Parent Play Training on Affective Behaviors of  
Children with Autism  
(Chair: *Jennifer Austin*)



Hayley Heitzig's study evaluated methods for increasing social and affective interactions between children with autism and their parents.

**Lindsay Kachadurian** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Relationships and Emotion  
(Chair: *Christine Edmondson*)

**Janice Traje** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Differences in DIBELS and CSTs Scores for Students Receiving Social Skills Training  
(Chair: *Karen Carey*)

**Sierra White** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Cross-Cultural Differences in Unrealistic Optimism  
(Chair: *Paul Price*)

## COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

### *Criminology*

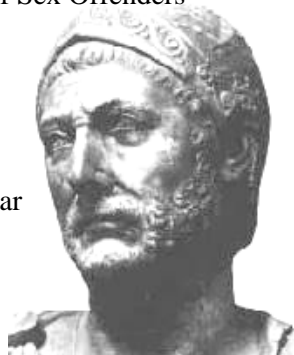
**Jason Crow** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
The Creation and Validation of a Measure of Self-Perceived  
Criminality  
(Chair: *Eric Hickey*)

Jason Crow's thesis sought to create and validate a measure that could detect the way people think about crime.

**Anna Sepulveda** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Megan's Law and the Spatial Patterns of Sex Offenders  
(Chair: Eric Hickey)

### *History*

**Annamarie Vallis** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
*Mos Maiorum* and the Second Punic War  
(Chair: Mark Arvanigian)



Anna Sepulveda's thesis challenges the California Department of Justice to implement a number of recommendations in order to enhance the effectiveness of both the *Megan's Law* website and future *Megan's Law* legislation.

## CRAIG SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

**Gustavo Cavalcanti** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Barriers to Implementation of Information and Communication Technologies Among Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises--  
The Digital Divide Through the Business Lens  
(Chair: Tomasz Wielicki)

**Timur Tasbulatov** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
The Euro as an International Currency: Current Prospects and Evidence from the Anchor Currency Choice Distribution  
(Chair: Manuchehr Shahrokhi)

**Lijie Zhu** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Characteristics and Pricing Model of Targeted Income Strategic Total Return Securities (TISTRs)  
(Chair: K.C. Chen)

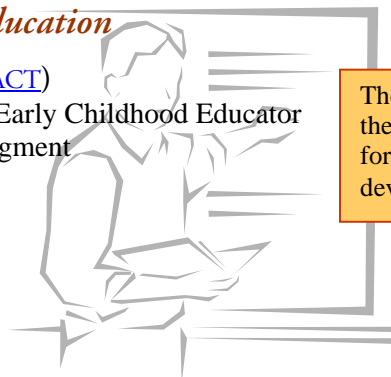
One purpose of Timur Tasbulatov's thesis was to investigate the euro's current status and prospects as an international currency and particularly its potential to unseat the dollar.



## KREMEN SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

### *Literacy and Early Education*

**Sumer Avila** (read [ABSTRACT](#))  
Effects of Intervention on Early Childhood Educator Ethical Sensitivity and Judgment  
(Chair: Pamela Lane-Garon)



The results of Sumer Avila's thesis strongly reinforce the need for ethics curriculum in the development of educators.