

ANTHROPOLOGY SENIOR THESES 2000 thru 2006

2000

Brown, Rebecca L. "Food Consumerism as an Expression of Social Status."

--This study presents a comprehensive and realistic look at the symbolic function food serves for the social elite in the consumerist culture of America.

Burke, Farrah Ko'olau. "Shifting Boundaries of the Japanese Newcomer in the United States."

--Based on interviews with Japanese newcomers who have arrived in the US within the last 10 years, Farrah addresses how gender and identity have a connection to Japanese men and women's motivation for migrating and their experiences of living in the US.

Cattani, Katherine Corinne. "Experiences of the Low Income Population within the Workers' Compensation System."

--The primary issue of this study is what makes the system of workers' compensation so difficult for the population of the low income groups. Factors include anthropology and its connection to human rights, how law and society are interconnected, the effects of the presentation of data, and immigrants' different experiences.

DeLeuw, Kathleen. "Examining Environmental Education Among Elementary School Children." --This paper discusses the effectiveness of Environmental Education programs implemented into elementary schools of the Bay Area in order to determine whether or not children are becoming aware of the importance of environmental issues.

Drew, Gina. "Multiculturalism in the Greek Community: A Case Study at Santa Clara University."

--The purpose of this study is to determine what value multicultural fraternity members find in their organization by identifying the factors that compelled them to join. Also, Gina attempts to understand how outsiders such as traditional fraternity members, students of an ethnic minority, and faculty perceive multicultural fraternities.

Noller, Jessica. "Acculturation Aid for African Refugees in San Jose: A Multidisciplinary Study for the Effectiveness of Refugee Aid Groups."

--In this study, Jessica combines refugee studies, African cultural studies, aid opportunities, and observations and interviews at a resettlement service program to understand what it is like to be an African refugee coming to America.

Peritz, Jennifer. "Community Mobilization in the Context of Environmental Justice at Canton Village."

--This study investigates how a this community that is traditionally oppressed, underrepresented and lacking in political and economic control fights to protect itself from harm caused by environmental hazards.

Thompson, Elizabeth. "Balancing Internal and External Career Determinants in College Students' Occupational Choices."

--This study explores the relations between self-confidence, cultural expectations for success, personality, interests, parental influences and students' career choices.

Weyher, Anna Hope. "College Drinking Behaviors at a Small University."

--This study focuses on Anna's observations of drinking games and rituals and the overall environment of college parties.

Winter, Katharine Gerrit. "Hispanic Immigrants' Quest for Employment in the United States of

America.”

--This study focuses on the population of Latin American immigrants in the United States who come from the lower economic and social stratum in their prospective nations and who perceive a need for emigration based on their position in this stratum.

2001

Ampi, Anthony J. “The Role of Coach”

—This study attempts, through observation and interviewing, to understand the role of coach.

Brady, Rita-Marie A. “The Practice of Smoking on a University Campus: Perspectives on Social and Educational Influences”

—This study will study the smoking practice that are exercised globally and cross culturally and is studied across a wide range of disciplines making it fodder for anthropological study.

Brendan Lewis Devine. “An Analysis of the Historical Development and Perpetuation of a Sports Subculture: The Case of Rugby Union Football”

---In both industrial and developing societies throughout the world sports and games have become cultural universals.

Gonzales, Michael Stephen. “Learning at the Peralta Adobe”

—This study deals with the Experience Adobe Days program offers its student visitors the experience of what life was like in California during the early 1800's.

Kirby, Sarah Lena. “Women at War Female Battles with Food and Body Image”

—This research goal was to understand the extent to which college women were concerned with their diet and body image, and the impact this concern was having on their emotional and social well being.

Mallen, David “Conflict and Cooperation: Examining a unique culture of Santa Clara University Baseball.

----What makes one sports team more successful than another? One answer to this would be that the talent of the players varies dramatically. However, this is not the only reason. A team is an organization of players that come together and work as one.

Negherbon, Janeen Ku'ulei. “Take it to Conflict: An Evaluation of Peer Mediation Programs in Middle and Intermediate Schools.

—A study of Peer mediation within schools.

Pham, Linh Nguyen “Two Cups in One: Culture Clash Among the Vietnamese Second Generation”.

—This paper focuses on the hardships that Vietnamese children of immigrants face while growing up in America and how they assimilate into American culture.

Rodriguez, Vanessa “The Auction Ritual”.

—The auction bears an aura of affluence and sophistication unlike any other event in our society. Every aspect of the event, from its language, social mores, and even value system, are fraught with the consideration of a higher social status.

Skinner, Sarah “A look at the equestrian Sub-culture of Dressage”

—This paper will take an in depth look at the sub-culture of the Dressage rider.

Vollert, Eileen Elizabeth “Exploring High-Risk Sexual Behavior and Sexually Transmitted Diseases Among College Students”

----A study of sexual behavior within a college environment.

Wall, Dorothy. "Women and Political Leadership"

----Women are emerging as active participants in every facet of society, yet women today are still heavily under represented in political office. A study of the Student Senate at SCU functioned as a kind of microcosm of the large society.

Watt, Kathleen S. "Tattoos: Windows Through the Skin"

----A study of the social and cultural significance of tattooing among college-affiliated individuals.

2002

Anderson, Eleanor V. "The Changing Faces of Disaster Relief."

--This study examines disasters and disaster relief in terms of changes that have taken place over the years and needed changes in this field.

Clemente, Aide. "Significance and Effectiveness of Increased Testing in American Society."

-- This study examines whether or not increased student testing is really helping California students.

Goicoechea, Megan Rose. "Basque Americans: Retaining Ethnic Identity and Community."

--This study looks at how the Basque culture has been maintained in the Western United States over the years and what changes have developed.

Gleeson, Shannon. "Organizational Culture in a Faith-Based Non-Profit Human Service Organization."

--This is a case study of a local human service organization and the ways it creates and maintains its corporate identity.

McEvoy, Steven John. "Fans or Friends: A Look at the Socializing Effects of College Sports at Santa Clara University."

--This study examines how the fans of the SCU men's varsity basketball team interact and how sporting events create a social nexus for students.

Osland, Katrina Marit. "The Role of College Radio in the Cultural Diffusion of Reggae."

--This study looks at radio's, ability to spread culture and the exchange of cultural information by mass communication in our globalized world.

Salem, Mercedes. "Examination of Second Generation Iranian Americans on Dating, Mate Selection and Marriage."

--This study looks at Iranian-Americans in their 20s and 30s living in Northern California and their ideas on dating and marriage.

Walker, Melissa M. L. "Conflict Resolution Within a Peer Run Organization."

--This study examines *The Santa Clara* newspaper in determining the relationships, conflict and methods of conflict resolution within a peer run organization.

2003

Dallal, Liane. “Diabetes as a Human Experience: A Glimpse at Families and Support Systems.”
– Attempts to understand the natures of the interconnectedness of all aspects of diabetes, biologically, psychologically and socially.

Romley, Mary Catherine. “The Effects of Peer Mediation Programs on San Francisco Bay Area High Schools.”
– Study examines peer mediation programs in high school and their effects on resolving conflicts.

Chet, LumOr. “The Identity Formation of Female Cambodian American Teenagers.”
– Examines differences in ideas and priorities between teenage Cambodians who lived within a big Cambodian community and the Cambodians who grew up in predominately white, small communities.

Kinoshita, Kerri A. “Balancing the Nine-To-Five with the Nine-To-Two: A Closer Look at Corporate Career Professionals Involved in the Goth/Industrial Clubbing Scene in the Greater San Francisco Bay Area.”
– Examines the Goth/Industrial clubbing scene discussing culture, sub-culture, counter-culture and deviance.

Fanta, Nina Radovic. “The Adaptation of Latin American Students to US Colleges.”
– Research on the adaptation of Latin American students to U.S. college campuses focusing on the aspect of immigration.

Yuan, Kimberly Anne. “China Dolls, Dragon Ladies, Plus Some: Asian American Females and Physical Otherness.”
– Explores Asian American females’ thoughts, feelings, perceptions, and experiences as related to conceptions of physical appearance and ideas about beauty.

Mayes, Tori. “The Experience of Non-Catholics Attending a Catholic University.”
– Research attempts to understand how religious pluralism can exist in an institution so identified by Catholicism.

Williams, Nathan Luke. “Traditional Catholicism: Movement Towards a Conservative Faith.”
– Research looks at why people joined a traditional Catholic congregation.

Freeburg, James. “Transition, Identity, and Influence: A Study of the Life Stories of Sudanese Refugees in America.”
– Documents some of the experiences of the Lost Boys a few years after their arrival in the United States.

Naumes, Rebecca Lee. “Hi-Tech Hi-Touch: The Contemporary Experiences of Nurses in a Bay Area Hospital.”
– Research depicts the nursing profession as it is today by demonstrating the challenges nurses face in the execution of holistic care when confronted with staffing shortages, new technologies, and globalization.

Campbell, Angela. “The Us Versus Them Ideology: Women and Families Breaking the Barriers of Homeless Stereotypes.”
– Research focuses on two emergency homeless shelters for women and children in the San Jose area examining themes that homeless women and children have to deal with.

Young, Bonnie Nadyne. “A Time to Age: Positive Insight into Aging in the U.S.”
– Research explores the realities of aging in the United States, in terms of assessing the validity of the negative mainstream stereotypes and comparing the experiences of immigrants to native born Americans.

Monge, Alana Pauline. "The Anthropology of Environmentalism: A University Perspective."

– Research focuses on the anthropology of environmentalism, specifically looking at Santa Clara as a case study of university environmentalism. Also looks at whether the proliferation of the environmental movement at a national level since the 1970s was happening at a university level as well.

Mason, David R. "Behaviors of Cohesion and Discord Amongst Off-Campus College Students."

– Paper presents a number of changes and challenges to students while they adapt to a new environment and new people they must share their living space with on top of an often strenuous academic schedule. The first experience outside the familial living arrangement is often one inclusive of peers.

Zamudio, Raul S. "Circuit Culture: Rituals of Resistance and Transformation."

--Research focused on various aspect of the circuit party and the way in which certain actions and performances that have been observed at these events have come to resemble a ritual process.

2004

Bettles, Alison. "The Future of the F-word: College Aged Women's Perceptions of Feminism."

-Paper explores college aged women's goals and challenges, as well as their self-identifications with feminist issues in comparison to their upbringing.

Culp, Jennifer M. "An Anthropological Examination of Success in Synchronized Swimming."

-Research examines a decorated synchronized swimming team and how teammates, coaches, parents, community members and a tradition of winning each contribute to the team's success.

Douglas, Jacqueline Diane. "Living Your Job: An Ethnographic Study of the Resident Director."

-Research focuses on the roles of Resident Directors on a college campus and how their professional and personal lives play out in a situation where there are no defining borders.

Fanta, Jelena Radovic. "Voices from the Shadows of the Ivory Tower: Work Experiences of Bon Appetit and Facilities Employees."

-Paper seeks to uncover the impact of the global economy on Bon Appetit and Facilities Employees and explore the relationship dynamics that Bon Appetit and Facilities Employees experience between students, managers, and coworkers.

Harrison, Kathryn. "The Exercise Craze: A Study of the Differences and Similarities between Males and Females Regarding Exercise within the Fitness Center."

-Research compares the reasons that motivate college aged men and women to exercise and the degree to which the media influences these reasons.

Islas, Yessica. "A Case Study on the Interpreters at the East San Jose Community Law Center."

-Paper focuses on the roles and challenges of interpreters and their impact on the legal and medical systems.

Jocewicz, Kenneth D. Jr. "Millions of People Experience It, Yet No One Can Stop Its Growth."

-Research identifies the stress factors and subsequent stress levels that Emergency Room nurses experience and further explores how these stress levels are dealt with by hospital administrators.

Kaster, Jeffrey Gary. "Contemporary Senior Life."

-Study examines the current conditions of elderly care centers, including facilities and staff interactions, as the usage of these centers increases.

Levine, Sarah Marie. "Learning to Serve: An Ethnographic Study of Servers in Restaurant Sub-Culture."
-Paper explains the role of a restaurant server as well as everything one would need to know and learn in order to become a server. The culture within the restaurant, including relationships between coworkers, is also discussed.

Mah, Diana. "Retention of Ethnic Identity and Cultural Heritage: A Study of Chinese Saturday Schools and Chinese Enrichment Schools in the Bay Area."

-Paper explores why Chinese-American parents place their children in Chinese Saturday Schools and Chinese Enrichment Schools and the effects that these schools have on reinforcing the Chinese heritage on the children's cultural identities.

Manzano, Adriana Beatrice. "A Look into the Swimming Subculture."

-Documents and analyzes the culture of a South San Jose swim club including, coaches, rituals, parents and swimmers, and finds similarities between American culture and swimming culture.

Rodriguez, Mark Eutiquio. "Pawnshop Culture."

-Focuses on breaking the stereotypes and revealing the truth about who utilizes pawn shops and why.

Templeton, James Brian. "Healing the Wounds of Crime: A Study of the Santa Clara County Juvenile Crime Prevention Act Program."

-Analyzes the workings of Restorative Justice Program and proves that the program has many positive effects of criminals, victims and communities.

Westby, Lindsay Elizabeth. "Kids Helping Kids: An Ethnographic Study of Peer Mediators in San Francisco Bay Area Middle and High Schools."

-Research explores how many Santa Clara elementary schools' peer mediation programs are run, especially how the mediators are chosen, and their respective success levels.

2005

Allen, Jason Oliver Smity. "What's Love Got to Do, Got to Do With It...Seriously, Because I'm Talking About Humor Here: A Study of the Lives of Comedians and the Effects of Associated Marginalization on their Understanding and Utilization of Humor as a Tool for Survival."

-Looks at the theoretical understandings of the relationship between peoples identified as comedians and the uses of humor to combat life hindrances.

Allen, Lorna. "I'm Living a Part of My Dream: Career Gratification and the Obstacles Facing the American Registered Nurse."

-Analyzes the domain of the register nurse and to better understand the career fulfillment based on the current shortage of registered nurses.

Alvarado, Daniel Robert. "Collegiate Ultimate Frisbee: the un-sport and the effect of encouraging sportsmanship in an unregulated game."

-Focuses on the impact frisbee has on the behavior of college aged athletic participants.

Breuleux, Kyle Porter. "Finding Success in Failure: A Study in the Development of Team Cohesion in Intercollegiate Club Lacrosse."

-Studies the affect of performance in the sport based on the relationship between the players and well as the coaches.

Dolores, Christina Maria. "The Role of a Probation Officer."

-Research looks at how the life of a probation officer affects his/her job and the legal system as a result.

Friend, Sarah Elizabeth. “An Ethnographic Study on a Battered Women’s Shelter: Why People are Promoting Women’s Rights.”

-Explores the motivation behind volunteers at battered women’s shelters.

Fox, Abigail Tovah. “A Whole is Great than the Sum of its Parts: The Outreach Strategies and Methods of Chabad.”

-Looks at the social structures of different religious sects that have been established in the Bay Area.

Fussell, Nicholas Alexander. “What it Means to be an Information Technology Service Technician.”

-Researches the role and purpose of the Technology Service Technician, who they are, what they do, and what niche they fill within American culture.

Greenwalt, Kelly Linden. “Popular Car Culture: The Dynamics of Social Exchange and Gender Attitudes in an All-Male Subculture.”

-This exploration is concerned with the automobile club’s unusual fascination with cars, exchange practices, and gender perceptions.

Gutierrez, Arcelia. “5-6-7-8 Get up an Dance! The social relationship established and its impact on Motivation and Performance.”

-Explores the motivation levels of different groups and age ranges in the performance arena.

Hicks, Meaghan Clair. “A Man’s World? An Ethnographic Study of Cocktail Waitresses and how they Manipulate and Resist their Gender Constructed Occupation.”

-Looks at why it is that this gender driven occupation is supported and accepted by society as well as the women who fill the cocktail waitress role.

Hurley, Erin. “Sorority Life: Bonding, Boys, and Beer.”

-Focuses on the causes of social cohesion in Sorority houses as well as the factors that leads this cohesion to disintegrate.

Koons, Vanessa Louise. “What will the Neighbors Think? An in depth exploration of the experiences of interracial couples and biracial people.”

- Research looks at the social support for and resistance against interracial relationships and how this reaction causes the couples to interact.

Lando, David. “South Bay Flea Market Vendors: Uncovering the Strategies of Success.”

-Uncovers the affect of flea markets on the United States economy.

Richards, Kelly Imes. “That Feminist S*@#!: The Role of Education in the Transformation of Feminine Identity.”

-Examines how women change their identities in response to or as a driving force of society changes that have occurred over the last few decades.

Riggins, Shuryn Marie. “Tiers with Peers: Hierarchy and Reacculturation Amongst a Collaborative Peer Learning Situation at a Small University Museum.”

-A deeper look at peer interaction and the social dynamics within a group.

Rosas, Carmen Marie. “My Soul is Broken...and I walk On: The perspectives and Strategies of Homeless Women.”

-Paper looks at women living on the margin of homelessness and poverty to better understand their perspectives and strategies.

Thee, Lisa Gloia. "Exploring Gender in the Preschool Classroom: A Study of Teachers and Head Start."

-Examines how children learn to behave in their specific gender role as a response to the beliefs and practices of preschool teachers.

Vu, Lien. "Don't Ask, Don't Tell...? A Shifting 'Police' Toward Being Gay and Lesbian and Vietnamese."

-Explores the struggles, triumphs, perspective, and coping strategies as both an ethnic and sexual minority group.

Weisner, Michael. "Going Along for the Ride: EMT-Patient Interaction and Group Cohesion in a Collegiate EMS Program."

-Research focuses on the effects of interaction between EMTs and students, as well as how the program defines its own roles and identities through group interaction.

2006

Carlson, Richard E. "Jesuit Culture: An Anthropological Exploration of Sub-Cultural Identity among Jesuit Priests within the University Setting."

-Discusses the integrative forces of the Jesuit community within the California university system by looking at how the blending of academics and close affiliation with a college environment contributes to lifestyle.

Fox, Nicole. "Hula in the Bay Area: The Relationship Between Ethnicity and Identity."

-Explores the relationship between ethnicity and identity, in relation to changing cultural boundaries brought on by globalization through the cultural heritage of hula.

Jacquez, Veronica Perez. "High School Dropouts: An Ethnographic Study on Latinos in Adult Education."

-Deals with the different factors that effect Latino high school students' decision to dropout and what motivates them to return to adult educational programs.

Johnson, Emily Krista. "Gender in Bay Area Historical/Cultural Museums."

-Research focuses on how gender has been addressed through exhibition portrayals designed by museum curatorial staff. Questions why these standards have been set and how these views are reinforced by community, education, upfront conversation, etc.

Kennedy, Amy. "Gang Intervention and Prevention Programs: Finding a Way Out."

-Focuses on gang intervention/prevention programs and their ability to work efficiently when the cultural constructs of gangs are understood.

Menefee, Elizabeth Margaret. "Cultural Constructions of Food in a Collegiate Context."

-Discusses the primary factors influencing food choice among females which contains elements of college and American cultures which dictate what should/not be eaten.

Miller, Lesley. "Let's Get It On: An Exploratory Study of College Culture, Casual Sex, and the Emergence of a New Way of Dating."

-Explores the domain of culture and sexuality in the college setting by understanding the practice of casual sexual behavior replacement of the formal dating system of past generations.

Tanner, Kirsten. "The Gender Identity Paradox: Women Rugby Players."

-Looks at the gender conflicts that result from women's entrance into the field of Rugby in an attempt to explore the world behind the subcultures and understand the traditional gender roles.

Terry, Rachel. "What Am I? An In-Depth Study Into the Confusion and Experiences of Multiracial College Students Self-Identifying Themselves."

-Research focuses on how multiracial students come to terms with their identification in the college setting and whether they choose to identify with one ethnicity or multiple.

Trevelyan-Hall, Kate. "Twenty Years to Life: The Silent Debt Families of the Incarcerated Are Paying to Society."

-This study addresses the social, economical, and emotional effects of incarceration on the family of the offender in an attempt to understand what services are needed by this growing population.