

24th Annual UHCL
Student Conference for Research and Creative Arts

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Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Abdel Fliou UHCL Senior, Humanities		Power of Mythology	The Great Flood is the most meaningful novelette of the ancient mythology. This story and others in biblical mythology originated in Mesopotamia but quickly spread to a host of other cultures. How did that diffusion occur? This paper will discuss the myth of religion as a powerful propaganda tool utilized through a process of imposed rationalization, pedagogy and classification. I will use the Great Flood and the manner in which that story seeped into other tribal traditions and religions through diplomacy, war, trade, marriage, and other association as a case study. These mythical accounts have shaped our collective memory and assembled the prejudices that divided humans into races, sects, and ethnicities.	Oral Symposium	Dr. Beth Merfish UHCL	Paid
Ada Morales UHCL Graduate, Curriculum and Instruction		Insects That Are Affecting the Amazon Due to Human Disturbance	Leaf cutter ants (<i>Atta leavigata</i>) play an important role in the Amazon and are highly regarded in their ecosystem. Now that more roads are being built in Brazil to increase agriculture, leaf cutter ants are causing millions of dollars in crop losses. Researchers have found that 35 to 45 percent of leaf-cutter colonies are located within 15 miles of roads, which is significantly higher than being dispersed across a landscape at random (Viera-Neto et al, 2016). This is due to ants having an immediate food supply that is much needed for juvenile ants. Not only does this affect crops but leaf cutter ants are essential to nutrient cycling, just like termites who are also being impacted by humans.	Oral General	Dr. Cindy Howard UHCL	Paid

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Adam Flance UHCL Junior, Psychology		The Power of Interruptions	My study is an empirical research paper on naturally occurring conversation. The balance of power in a conversation can be seen by many factors. My study explores the hypothesis that the amount of interruptions in a conversation correlate with who has more power. Interruptions are not the only factor when it comes to power. My study also explores the roles that hierarchy and gender play when speaking. This study found that the popular hypothesis that men interrupt more than woman to be false. My experiment and previous studies have provided evidence in this matter. It was clear that during my study, the person who interrupted more held more power.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Patricia Droz UHCL	Paid
Aditya Agadish UHCL Graduate, Industrial/Organizational Psychology	Adrienne Tran, Andrew Navarrete	Commuting, Relationships, and GPA	This study will look at how commuting and relationships with parents, significant others, and professors correlate with perceived academic performance. By looking at previous literature, we suggest that the length and duration of commuting will negatively correlate with perceived academic performance, while positive relationships with parents, significant others, and professors will have a positive correlation with perceived academic performance. We will gather data through an online survey/questionnaire completed by university students.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Lisa Sublett UHCL	Paid

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Adrian Russell UHCL Graduate, Literature		The De-italicization of Rachilde's Monsieur Venus	Research on the work of Rachilde generally reflects that the inversion of fin-de-siecle tropes and gender roles in Monsieur Venus are not direct reversals, but complex subversions that have complicated implications. What Russell intends to argue is that these subversions in Monsieur Venus, in tandem with literary devices that serve to include the reader in the investigation of the implications of role reversals, complicate our understanding of gender to the point that the line between male and female become blurred, if not erased. Gender fluidity, then, as portrayed in Monsieur Venus, becomes a call for gender neutrality, a spectrum of behavior that is not assigned to either gender or sex exclusively, thus removing the need for the italicization of certain words and phrases within Monsieur Venus and, along with it, the irony of debating sex and gender roles altogether. The further implication, however, is whether the de-italicization of gendered language in the novel would provide solutions to the dilemmas regarding identity it exposes or whether this would simply amplify or complicate the dilemmas to the point that new dilemmas develop.	Oral General	Dr. Anne Marcoline UHCL	Paid
Adriana Marsiglia Rodriguez UHCL Graduate, Behavior Analysis MA		Teaching Children With Autism to Request for Information - "Where" Using PECS	The current study focuses on extending current literature on mands for information studies by assessing whether participants with verbal deficits using a Picture Exchange System (PECS) will mand for information "Where". The experiment will implement behavior chains using establishing operation (EO) chains in which an essential item needed to complete the chain is missing, and abolishing operation (AO) chains in which all items needed to complete the chain are present. It is hypothesized that the participant's will acquire mands for information during EO chains and not mand during AO chains, thus demonstrating stimulus control of the response under the correct MO.	Oral Symposium	Dr. Sarah Lechago UHCL	Paid

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Adriana Valdes UHCL Graduate, School Psychology	Presley Lane, Sharla Estep	Investigating Irritating Priming Effects on Helping Behaviors	Our research is aiming to identify negative priming effects that can influence helping behaviors. Primes have been shown to have a direct influence on helping behaviors. The literature examining priming effects and helping behaviors mainly focused on God-related or religious primes (Lin, Tong, Lee, Low & Gomes, 2016, Shariff & Norenzayan, 2007). Lin, et al., (2016) found that God-related primes increased prosocial behavior, increasing the likelihood of participants to engage in helping behaviors. Our research is utilizing virtual scenarios via StudyCrafter, developed by Northeastern Game Study at Northeastern University, to identify priming effects on helping behaviors. Literature concerning virtual scenarios and/or video games has demonstrated that video games and media can serve as primes that directly affect behavior (Velez & Ewoldsen, 2013, Greitemeyer, 2013, Zheng & Zhang, 2016, Pena & Chen, 2017). Zheng and Zhang (2016) found violent video games can serve as a prime for aggressive behavior and can decrease prosocial behavior. Our research is investigating whether irritating primes influence helping behaviors in virtual scenarios. Based on the literature, we hypothesize that irritating primes will have a negative effect on helping behaviors in virtual scenarios. Our research was inspired by the outpour of helping behaviors our community saw during and after Hurricane Harvey.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Steven Sutherland UHCL	Paid

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Alana Settles UHCL Graduate, Sociology		Analyzing Residential Flood Pattern Changes along Chocolate Bayou	With increasing flood damage every year, it is important to understand the factors that create and change a location's flood risk. Hurricane Harvey flooded many homes along Chocolate bayou, many of which had not been previously affected by flooding. This project investigates the relationship between storm runoff and flooding along Chocolate Bayou. Using a geographic information system, this project utilizes satellite imagery to asses how land use has changed over time, increasing the volume of water runoff being channeled into the bayou through storm drains; incorporating geospatial data of residential flooding patterns over the same span of time for a comparative analysis. The goal of this project is to deepen the understanding on how the natural and artificial components of an environment interrelate in regard to flooding and the damage it causes. This information is important for homeowners, insurance companies, and governmental agencies in charge of regulating and evaluating runoff management efficiency.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Jeff Lash UHCL	Paid
Alex Paul UHCL Graduate, Environmental Biology		The Impacts of Gold Mining in the Amazon Rainforest	Since the discovery of gold in the Amazon Rainforest, artisanal gold miners have flocked to the Western end of the Amazon in search of these riches. The gold production has had a haphazard effect on the local wildlife due to the deforestation caused by mining, the pollution stemming from mercury leaching into the waters and biotic life surrounding the water, and a negative and potentially deadly affect on the minority indigenous people that live there and are becoming ill with ailments caused or brought by the gold mining.	Oral General	Dr. Cindy Howard UHCL	Paid

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Alexandria Montgomery UHCL Graduate, Industrial- Organizational Psychology	Crystal Dawson, Maddison Salisbury	Training Transfer: The Role of Self-Efficacy and Collective Negative Attitudes	In this study we attempt to fill the gap in the literature by investigating the role of negative social influence and training transfer. To examine this interaction we used a convenience sample of 60 graduate students (male/female) from a southern university data collection day. The participants received a 20 minute online training presentation and then received a survey measuring our three variables (self-efficacy, negative social influence, training transfer). We randomly assigned participants to three groups: negative social influence, positive social influence, and a control group. We hypothesize that individuals with high self-efficacy will have higher training transfer rates in a negatively influenced social environment, and individuals with low self-efficacy will have lower training rates in a negatively influence social environment.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Lisa Sublett UHCL	Paid
Alyssa Gracia UHCL Junior, Behavioral Sciences		Machismo in Conversation	The purpose of this study is to obtain a better understanding of machismo. Although to many people this is either a new or vague term, the behavior has been displayed for years. According to research, there are multiple ways this behavior can be observed in society. It can be hypothesized that men are more likely to display machismo in social settings to establish their dominance. For this experiment, a researcher, with the consent of the heterosexual couple used a cellular device and recording app to record a conversation between the three of them. When the conversation was analyzed, the researcher noticed a different type of behavior displayed by the only male participant. After further looking, the researcher concluded that the male was displaying a more assertive type of behavior. The information collected in the study can give other researchers another view as to how machismo is displayed in society.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Patricia Welsh - Droz UHCL	Paid

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Anthony Grichuk UHCL Junior, Biology	Sharlet Vincent, Sam Cepeda, Michael LaMontagne	Dispersion and Binding Ability of Fungal Microorganisms Dispersed by Hurricane Harvey on a Diverse Selection of Contaminated Paper	Hurricane Harvey took place between August 17 to September 3, 2017 and due to its wide spread destruction and long duration over land before dissipating, its effect on the environment and population is still being felt months after the hurricane. Additionally, due to its long duration over land, the area's ecosystems have changed spreading many new strains and old strains of fungi to new locations. To evaluate the level of fungal contamination of paper documents, we collected a variety of journals soaked by flood water, post Hurricane Harvey, as well as journals that stayed dry in from the same dwelling. A small piece of paper from these journals was used as inoculum for fungal isolation in potato dextrose agar, which selects for fungi. Fungal strains were identified by sequencing the internal spacing region following amplification with ITS1/ITS4 primers. In addition, we also attempted to identify fungal isolates by MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry. Sixteen fungal isolates were identified to the species level and one possible new strain never sequenced, which had no match in the database. MALDI-TOF analysis did not yield detectable peaks, which may reflect the fungi were not effectively extracted. Species found in this project are well known human opportunist pathogens, known as black mold, which is considered a deadly contaminant of buildings and houses. This suggests that documents soaked with floodwater support the growth of fungal pathogens and represent a public health hazard	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Martha Ariza UHCL	Paid

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Anuradha R. K. K. M. Kulatunga UHCL Graduate, Chemistry	Salma Alhasim, Arcadius Krivoshein	Comprehensive profiling of bioactive indole alkaloids in <i>Picralima nitida</i> seeds using high-resolution LC-MS	The analysis of bioactive natural products is of crucial importance in pharmacognosy, medicinal chemistry, and clinical analysis. Liquid chromatography coupled to mass spectrometry (LC-MS) is an emerging tool for analyzing such bioactive molecules. The West African tree <i>Picralima nitida</i> , which is commonly called <i>Akuamma</i> , has wide use in traditional medicine due to its analgesic and antimalarial activities. Some of the bioactive constituents of <i>P. nitida</i> were isolated and identified before, but many remain to be investigated. For the first time, we applied high resolution / accurate mass LC-MS to <i>P. nitida</i> extracts. In a single 18-min ultrahigh performance liquid chromatographic (UHPLC) run, we were able to separate and identify most of the indole alkaloids in these samples. All the indole alkaloids produced protonated molecular ion peaks in mass spectra. The identified alkaloid structures were further verified with isotopic peak intensities. The alkaloid extraction efficiency of four different solvents were also determined. This work is expected to help in future synthetic and preparative efforts aimed at developing these alkaloids as drugs for the treatment of malaria and pain.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Arcadius Krivoshein UHCL	Paid

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Aracely Chinn UHCL Senior, Psychology	Stefanie Garcia, Robert Harper, Christine Walther	Perceptions of Peers' Alcohol Use and Alcohol Use among Nontraditional College Students	Perceptions of peers' drinking habits have been shown to influence an individual's own alcohol use, particularly for those with difficulty resisting peer influences (Lau-Barraco & Linden, 2014; Litt, Stock, & Gibbons, 2015; Sanders, Stogner & Miller, 2013; Villarosa et al. 2015). The present study examines associations between perceptions of alcohol use among close friends and typical college students and individual alcohol use among a nontraditional college student sample. Participants were undergraduate students at a suburban, commuter university. Participants in the study completed a self-report survey with four questions assessing the participants' alcohol use and their perceptions of these same drinking behaviors among typical college students and three close friends. Pearson correlations indicated that participants' drinking and perceived drinking among close friends were significantly, and positively, associated for all four drinking behaviors, but perceived typical student drinking was significantly associated with few participant drinking behaviors. After controlling for age and gender in regression analyses including all measures of perceived peer drinking, only close friends' frequency of drinking was associated with participants' drinking behaviors. These results indicate that highlighting campus drinking norms, a common approach to curbing campus alcohol use, may not be effective on nontraditional campuses.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Christine Walther UHCL	Paid

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Ariana Sierra UHCL Junior, Psychology		Cultural and Familial Expectations and Values vs. Personal Values and Happiness: Latina and Feminist Perspectives"	A round table speaking about our "values" class and the section of the class regarding family values and relationships that we addressed in our papers. The professor will give a short synopsis of the texts and basically our presentation will be what we wrote in our papers about how we all identify with, relate to, or basically what we learned from the texts that applied to your own personal experience. We will speak about the sections of the books that were relevant to us. Additionally we would like to keep the overall conversation regarding the experiences we wrote about in your papers as to conflicts between your personal views/values and those of your culture or family. We will go around the table and hear what each person has to say and then discuss questions or comments with our peers.	Oral Roundtable	Prof. Mary Margaret Lobb UHCL	Paid
Ashton Bowlen UHCL Graduate, Psychology		The Effects of Age and School Status on the Stroop Task	The Stroop Task (Stroop, 1935) investigates people's ability to differentially attend to different stimuli. The current investigation compared scores on the Stroop Task when considering participants age and school status (full-time vs. part-time). There were no differences in scoring on the Stroop Task when considering age. With school status there was a difference in scoring amongst those who were part time students compared to the full time students. More research should be done investigating the differences in differential attention between students with different student statuses. There were limitations to this study in terms of sample size, testing effects, and convenience sampling. Future research should include more participants, a better testing environment, and a more diverse sample.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Angela Kelling UHCL	Paid
Ashton Hunter UHCL Graduate, Physics		Quantum Tunneling in water	Quantum tunneling is a phenomenon that occurs at the subatomic level when a particle travels through a barrier in which it could not overcome classically. This effect is due to the wave-particle duality of subatomic particles. In this brief presentation I will discuss how quantum tunneling has been recently observed in small water molecules.	Oral General	Dr. Samina Masood UHCL	Paid

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Austin Green UHCL Graduate, Literature		You Can Change the Past: The Unreliability of Narration in La Dame aux Camélias by Alexandre Dumas fils and Carmen by Prosper Merimee	Austin A. Green, in his article, "You Can Change the Past: The Unreliability of Narration in La Dame aux Camélias by Alexandre Dumas fils and Carmen by Prosper Merimee" (2017), argues that the narrators in both Carmen and La Dame aux Camélias are not reliable, and are using their position of power as the story tellers to create a new narrative, absolving them of any potential wrongdoing. Green backs this claim with evidence from both novels showing the narrators acting unreliable, as well as other academic research that support his claim that these narrators may be hiding the truth. Green's purpose is to point out that the story being told may not appear to be the truth that the novel initially presents, in order to question the reality of the story that is being presented, and to confront the ramifications of the narrator being the one who gets to tell the final version of the story.	Oral General	Dr. Anne Marcoline UHCL	Paid

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Betul Dogan Anadolu University Freshman, Sociology	Shezin Bharucha, Gurpreet Singh	Social behavior and discourse as resources for maximizing customer loyalty	Customer loyalty is “a deeply held commitment to rebuy or repatronize a preferred product/service consistently in the future, thereby causing repetitive same-brand or same brand-set purchasing, despite situational influences and marketing efforts having the potential to cause switching behavior” (Oliver, 1999, p. 34). With a focus on attitudinal dimensions, Ansari and Riasi (2016) highlight the role of customer satisfaction and perceived value for customer loyalty at startup insurance companies. Likewise, mutual disclosure has the potential to promote the relationship between the salesperson and the customer and to rule out the psychological insecurity (Yu & Tseng, 2016). Our study lists patterns in social behavior and discourse related to customer loyalty through our observation at an insurance agency maintained by Assicurazioni Generali in Isparta, Turkey. We show that empathy, trust, relationship quality and mutual disclosure are important factors for maximizing customer satisfaction. Emotion has interpersonal effects in employee-customer relationship (Wang, 2017). Companies can maximize the quality of service thereby the customer loyalty by intrinsically motivating employees (Woo, 2017). Databases of customer information with creative approaches enable the real-time analysis of the customer needs (Winer, 2001). In sum, insurance companies need to remember that marketing, advocacy and promotion are connected with the moral education in developing citizenship (Stone, 2002).	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Prof. Yuksel Kocadoru Anadolu University	Paid

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Borbala Juhasz UHCL Graduate, Cross Cultural Studies		Human Rights & Health in the United States	<p>“Health is a fundamental human right indispensable for the exercise of other human rights” begins the document of the Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights of the United Nations. This roundtable discussion will explore a variety of aspects of health and human rights in the United States. The roundtable will explore a series of interrelated questions: What human rights violations exist in the U.S. regarding health and well-being? How can a human rights framework deepen understandings of health social justice? How do human rights organizations, mostly non-governmental organizations, carry out the “work” of human rights in the U.S.? Each student will present a brief overview of a specific aspect of health and rights. Topics include immigrant worker health, family separation and trauma, and teaching and human rights activism, among others. The audience will be invited to ask questions and join the discussion.</p>	Oral Roundtable	Dr. Christine Kovic UHCL	Paid
Brad Cannon UHCL Senior, Humanities		Advertising Sleeping Aids	<p>I will be looking into how companies that sell sleeping medications (Lunesta, Ambien, Restoril, etc.) use commercial advertisements to better promote their product to the masses. I will be showing the different persuasion methods and techniques employed by these commercials to better propagate their product.</p>	Oral Symposium	Dr. Beth Merfish UHCL	Paid

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Brandon Swaringim UHCL Graduate, M.A. General Psych		Virtual Reality in Distance Learning	In The Magic School Bus, Ms. Frizzle would take her students on breathtaking adventures into completely immersive learning environments. In this sci-fi setting, students were put in the most ideal learning conditions. But what if this science-fiction were real life? This immersive learning environment could be possible thanks to the rise of virtual reality technology. However, there are still questions that need to be answered in regard to the practicality of utilizing VR environments for enhanced learning. Using a survey, we explored comfort levels of, as well as opinions and biases towards using virtual reality to enhance the learning experience. The data gathered from this questionnaire will give us greater insight into the possibility of VR being the catalyst for a more immersive distance learning in the future.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Nick Kelling UHCL	Paid

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Brenda Ray Okoye UHCL Graduate, Environmental Science		Simulation of the Effects of Landfill Covers on Greenhouse Gases Emission using Hydrus1D	Greenhouse gas emission has been a topic of concern in the US and across the world of late with emissions from fossil fuel combustion, agricultural activities and waste management being the top producers of greenhouse gases (GHG). A significant portion of municipal solid wastes are being disposed in landfills. Municipal solid waste (MSW) landfills have previously been controlled by landfill covers, but the effectiveness of these covers have been questioned due to the increasing amount of GHG still found in the atmosphere. Certain difficulties are faced when dealing with landfill covers. These difficulties are due to the fact that the complexity, geologic parameters and climatic conditions of landfills that may affect emission to the atmosphere have not yet been properly quantified. Unfortunately, controlling water contamination from surface runoff and underground leaching of landfills have been the main focus, but little attention has been paid to the continuous toxic gases from hazardous waste landfill sites into the atmosphere. The key objective of this proposed study is to use Hydrus1D software to give a numerical analysis of different layers in a landfill cover on greenhouse gases emissions. Hence, giving a better understanding on how to adapt different techniques to different landfill covers.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Dongmin Sun UHCL	Paid

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Brianne Thoen UHCL Graduate, Humanities		Misogyny & Art: Fin-de-Siècle France	<p>France at the end of the 20th century was a time of political, social, and economic upheaval. This period, known as the fin-de-siècle, was marked by a widespread belief that society was plagued by decay, degeneration, and decadence. Part of this supposed degeneration was seen as a consequence of women's agitation for equality and the rise of the 'New Woman'. Much of that anxiety would seem to manifest as misogynistic depictions of women in the visual arts and literature. Women, especially rebellious women, were easy scapegoats for all society's ills. Through close readings of art produced during this relatively short period of time, combined with an exploration of the social, cultural, and political climate, the aim of this project is to explore why such a cohesive view of women emerged.</p>	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Beth Merfish UHCL	Paid
Brittany Brown UHCL Graduate, Environmental Science		Polymer Properties Predictive of Chemical Permeation Performance for Disposable Nitrile Gloves	<p>Industrial hygienists use chemical permeation data in the selection of chemical protective clothing to protect workers. During the permeation process, individual molecules of a sorbed substance cross from one side of a permeated material to another by diffusing through its molecular structure. Chemical permeation is measured by observing two values: breakthrough time (BT) and the steady-state permeation rate (SSPR). BT indicates how soon after contact a chemical permeates from the outside of a material to the inside. SSPR is the rate at which a chemical then travels through a material once BT has occurred. This research looks at determining how polymer properties aid in the prediction of chemical permeation performance in disposable nitrile gloves. The properties considered in this study are: thickness, area density, oily plasticizer content, modulus 50-100%, and both relative acrylonitrile content (as CN) and relative carboxylation (-COOH) via Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR). The objective is to identify if the properties are able to assist in the prediction of the chemical permeation performance of a nitrile glove, where significant variation among products exists.</p>	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Robert Phalen UHCL	Paid

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Brittany Hiett UHCL Graduate, Psychology		Culturally relevant education is modeled by George I. Sanchez Charter School	George Sanchez Charter School is a Latinx serving school in Southeast Houston, Texas, whose mission is to empower and provide necessary resources to its students and the greater community that it serves. Established in 1973 by the Association for the Advancement of Mexican Americans (AAMA), the school served over 800 students, grades six through twelve grade, during the 2015-2016 academic school year. Most of the students at George Sanchez are considered “at risk” for reasons such as poverty, low academic performance, behavioral or substance abuse issues, and being English language learners. For many, the school is considered a “last chance” for them to graduate and receive their high school diploma. The school is unique in how it provides a number of “wraparound services,” such as tutoring, ELL instruction, childcare for teen parents, and many others. These services function to meet some of the students’ basic needs, buffer some of the adversities they regularly experience, and help them to succeed in their academics.	Oral Symposium	Dr. Desdamona Rios UHCL	Paid

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Brittany Hiett UHCL Graduate, Psychology		George I. Sanchez Charter School as a model for culturally relevant education	This introductory presentation will provide an overview of George Sanchez Charter School, a Latinx serving school in Southeast Houston, Texas, whose mission is to empower and provide necessary resources to its students and the greater community that it serves. Established in 1973 by the Association for the Advancement of Mexican Americans (AAMA), the school served over 800 students, grades six through twelve grade, during the 2015-2016 academic school year. Most of the students at George Sanchez are considered "at-risk" for reasons such as poverty, low academic performance, behavioral or substance abuse issues, and being English language learners. For many, the school is considered a "last chance" for them to graduate and receive their high school diploma. The school is unique in how it provides a number of "wraparound services" such as tutoring, ELL instruction, childcare for teen parents, and many others. These services function to meet some of the students' basic needs, buffer some of the adversities they regularly experience, and help them to succeed in their academics.	Oral Symposium	Dr. Desdamona Rios UHCL	Paid

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Brittany Zey UHCL Graduate, Behavior Analysis MA		Teaching Peer Engagement with Reciprocal Activities	<p>The play skills of children with autism are largely characterized by repetitive behavior and lack social quality. Interventions to address play skills have included a wide range of strategies or packages (e.g., picture activity schedules, naturalistic teaching, social stories, video modeling, etc.). However, many of these interventions rely heavily on prompting from adults or another stimulus which may lead to prompt dependency. Further, studies evaluating the use of activity schedules have concurrently taught how to use a schedule and play activities, and have not reported whether or not participants already knew how to engage with the activities (Akers et al., 2016; Betz et al., 2008; Brodhead et al., 2014). It is unclear if a schedule would have been necessary to increase engagement if participants were taught how to engage with activities prior to introducing a schedule. In the current study, results for one dyad thus far suggests that activity training prior to schedule introduction was enough to increase peer engagement between two children with autism. Dyad responding generalized from joint engagement training with an adult experimenter to peer engagement and maintained during a 1-month follow-up probe. The responding of one dyad demonstrates no need for an activity schedule if activity engagement is trained first.</p>	Oral General	Dr. Dorothea Lerman UHCL	Paid
Burgundy Anderson UHCL Senior, English Literature		At The Peak: A Study of Double Consciousness in James Baldwin's Go Tell It on the Mountain	<p>James Baldwin is one of the most studied activists in America's confrontation of race issues. As he witnessed America's difficulty in overcoming the racial divide, Baldwin began to speak out about the racial division and why addressing racism head-on matters. Through his speeches and his writings, Baldwin attempted to bring awareness of race-based issues to the attention of white America. In Go Tell It on the Mountain, Baldwin pushed the boundaries of the conversation on race and why it mattered. The poverty of the Grimes family, the second sight of John in the presence of white people, and the struggle to define Black Masculinity based on what manly presence in the household was present highlight the difficulties of simply existing as a black person in America.</p>	Oral Symposium	Dr. Joanna Eleftheriou UHCL	Paid

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<p>Cara Garcia UHCL Graduate, Environmental Chemistry</p>		<p>Land use change in the Swan Lake ecosystem; 1969-2017</p>	<p>From 1941 until 1991 the Tex Tin Corporation operated a tin smelting plant, in its 50 years of operations it activities included tin ore processing, acid recovery, heavy metal recover, and land filling with radioactive materials. In 1998 the site was officially declared an EPA superfund site due to operations and waste disposal practices that contaminated soil, sediment, and groundwater with hazardous chemicals. The EPA determined that remedial actions were needed for the Swan Lake salt marsh and remediation continued until 2007 when the restoration plan was determined complete. This project is to evaluate the effectiveness of the remediation plan put into place. I will be taking samples of <i>Batis maritima</i> and the surrounding sediment to be tested for Tin (Sn) toxicity in order to determine if levels have decreased from past studies. All off the data collected, as well as the use of satellite and areal images, will be mapped, displayed, and analyzed using Geographical Information Systems (GIS). Two questions arise during my study; how much has the natural environment changed, and have the superfund remediation efforts of the area been successful.</p>	<p>Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm</p>	<p>Dr. Jeff Lash UHCL</p>	<p>Paid</p>

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Carrie Hatfield UHCL Graduate, Humanities- Film and History		"Simultaneous Factors in Oppression" -Lee Daniels' Precious (2009) and the Legacy of the Combahee River Collective Statement	The Combahee River Collective Statement (1977) is a document outlining the political beliefs of the Combahee River Collective, a Black, feminist, lesbian organization active from 1974-1980. It is one of the first examples of awareness of the "intersection of oppressions." Released in 2009, Daniels' film, Precious tells the story of Claireece "Precious" Jones, a sixteen-year-old in 1987 Harlem. "Precious" herself, is a study in intersectionality or "interlocking oppressions." She is Black, female, impoverished, illiterate, mentally, physically and sexually abused, pregnant with her second child, and as she eventually finds out, HIV positive. Precious faces many of the oppressions mentioned in the Combahee Statement, as well as one that the authors did not imagine ten years before the film's release. The authors could not have anticipated Precious' HIV positive status, nor the societal stigma and oppressions that would go with it. Daniels' version of Precious is relatively true to Sapphire's telling. Daniels techniques are immersive and draw in viewers to experience Precious' oppression firsthand. Precious has been both acclaimed and criticized for its content. Daniels' film has been alternately spoken of as a triumphant feminist tale of redemption, and not militant and therefore not feminist enough. I will argue that Precious maintains a direct dialogue with the Combahee River Collective Statement and other important Black feminist works.	Oral General	Dr. Shreerekha Subramanian UHCL	Paid

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Casey McCarthy UHCL Graduate, Exercise and Health Sciences		Human Rights & Health in the United States	<p>“Health is a fundamental human right indispensable for the exercise of other human rights” begins the document of the Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights of the United Nations. This roundtable discussion will explore a variety of aspects of health and human rights in the United States. The roundtable will explore a series of interrelated questions: What human rights violations exist in the U.S. regarding health and well-being? How can a human rights framework deepen understandings of health social justice? How do human rights organizations, mostly non-governmental organizations, carry out the “work” of human rights in the U.S.? Each student will present a brief overview of a specific aspect of health and rights. Topics include immigrant worker health, family separation and trauma, and teaching and human rights activism, among others. The audience will be invited to ask questions and join the discussion.</p>	Oral Roundtable	Dr. Christine Kovic UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Cassandra Waggett UHCL Graduate, Literature		Cracking the Frame: Female Subjectivity in the French récit	The confessional récit is a subgenre of nineteenth-century French novels that exhibit a certain narrative structure. A key component of this structure is the embedding of a story within another story; the outer story is called a frame narrative, and, in this outer frame, the female character rarely speaks. Building on Naomi Segal's groundbreaking conclusions about the structure of the male-authored récit and her analysis of how this structure affects the subjectivity of the female character, I propose an expanded definition of the récit grounded in patterns of the transferring of hysteria, or the inability to speak or control the narrative, between the female character and the male protagonist. I will illustrate these patterns both in the male-authored <i>La Dame aux camélias</i> by Alexander Dumas, fils, which complies with Segal's definition of the récit, and in the female-authored text <i>Indiana</i> by George Sand, which does not satisfy Segal's requirements. I argue that, in both texts, the frame story works to objectify and silence the female character, but, through her ability to inflict hysteria on the male protagonist and take control of the narrative, the female character cracks the frame and asserts her subjectivity. This shared pattern warrants either a reconsideration of the definition of the récit or the creation of a new subgenre for the female-authored récit.	Oral Symposium	Dr. Anne Marcoline UHCL	Paid
Chandler Barton UHCL Graduate, Humanities		Chitra Divakaruni and the Reinterpretation of the Mahabharata	This paper analyzes reinterpretations of the epic Mahabharata via Chitra Divakaruni's novelization of the text, <i>The Palace of Illusions</i> . The focus includes post-colonial theoretical implications of reinterpreting the epic and how Divakaruni's novel invites a profound reconsideration not only of the story, but also of the role of Draupadi as a central, driving character of the narrative who is actively engaged with nationalist, orientalist, feminist, and subaltern themes.	Oral General	Dr. Shreerekha Subramanian UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Chandler Barton UHCL Graduate, Humanities		The Franco-Ottoman Alliance as a Historical Model for West-East Cooperation	This paper briefly examines the relationship between the Ottoman Empire and France during the early modern era against the backdrop of the orientalist dichotomy of the “Christian West vs. Muslim East.” Using the Franco-Ottoman alliance as a specific example, this research seeks to demonstrate that such a dichotomy is historically untenable given the Ottoman Empire’s cooperation with France and integral participation in the concert of Europe. Other areas surveyed in context include the Habsburg-Ottoman rivalry, religion as political rhetoric, military conflict and cooperation, and orientalist propaganda.	Oral General	Dr. Cengiz Sisman UHCL	Paid
Chandler Barton UHCL Graduate, Humanities		Typographical Preferences as a Subject of Art History	This paper will present a brief history of typographic fonts and examine the use of serif and sans-serif type styles as an issue of art history and graphic design, paying particular attention to preferences given to certain typefaces over others in different media formats. Numerous scientific studies have been devoted to comparing the readability of typefaces and styles as a possible reason why such preferences exist. However, the studies tend to show that there is a negligible difference in the readability and legibility between serif and sans-serif type. Despite this, there remains a definitive preference for certain styles and fonts over others in different media formats, such as serif type in print works and sans-serif for digital works. This project therefore attempts to approach the issue from the perspective of art history and graphic design to explain why such preferences continue to pervade in print and digital media despite no reliable evidence to suggest an advantage to either type.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Beth Merfish UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Chandler Barton UHCL Graduate, Humanities		Human Rights & Health in the United States	Health is a fundamental human right indispensable for the exercise of other human rights” begins the document of the Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights of the United Nations. This roundtable discussion will explore a variety of aspects of health and human rights in the United States. The roundtable will explore a series of interrelated questions: What human rights violations exist in the U.S. regarding health and well-being? How can a human rights framework deepen understandings of health social justice? How do human rights organizations, mostly non-governmental organizations, carry out the “work” of human rights in the U.S.? Each student will present a brief overview of a specific aspect of health and rights. Topics include immigrant worker health, family separation and trauma, and teaching and human rights activism, among others. The audience will be invited to ask questions and join the discussion.	Oral Roundtable	Dr. Christine Kovic UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Chandni Jaisinghani UHCL Graduate, Biotechnology	Kayla Kumar-Misir, Ty Mosley	Characterization of fungal species in water-damaged households after Hurricane Harvey	Fungi are ubiquitous and represent a serious threat to public health in indoor environments. Fungi are able to grow on almost all natural and synthetic materials, particularly when these synthetic materials become wet facilitating fungal colonization of inorganic materials, which in turn become adequate substrates to support fungal growth. In this study, air-borne fungal communities were examined from a water-damaged household located in Houston, TX and from an unaffected building after Hurricane Harvey in August 2017. We collected passive air samples from the unaffected building and wet-swabs from top and lower floors in the affected household within 5-days of the flooded event. Microscopic characterization of fungal isolates placed all fungal isolates within the phylum Ascomycota and consequently molecular characterization was carried out by randomly selecting 21 isolates. Molecular identification was performed using the internal transcribed spacer rRNA gene sequencing. Furthermore, fungal isolates were subjected to fermentation to produce crude extracts that were tested for enzymatic and antimicrobial activity by disc and agar well diffusion methods. The fungal isolates were identified to the species level. Our results concurred with similar studies that have reported species of <i>Penicillium</i> and <i>Aspergillus</i> are the most common fungal species. In addition, our results indicate that these species are able of producing enzymes and metabolites with antimicrobial activity.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Martha Ariza UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Christie Stiehl UHCL Graduate, Behavior Analysis		College students with autism spectrum disorder: Assessing and teaching conversation skills	<p>Many individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) currently attend college, and increasing numbers of students with ASD are expected to enroll in the upcoming years. Within this population, social behavior is often a primary deficit and may result in limitations to students' personal, academic, and vocational success. As of now, limited investigation of assessment and intervention for social deficits in postsecondary students with ASD has resulted in a paucity of evidenced-based support for this population. In this study, we extended an assessment of conversation skills initially administered to a child and two adolescents with ASD (Hood, Luczynski, & Mitteer, 2017) to college students with ASD and provided intervention based on the three most significant deficits identified. Intervention consisted of Behavioral Skills Training (BST) with additional in-situ training if the skill did not initially generalize to novel conversation partners and settings. Additional treatment components were introduced as needed. Results for two participants thus far suggest that extending the modified assessment to postsecondary students may be appropriate as an initial evaluation of weak conversation skills. Results also provide empirical support for beginning with BST as an initial treatment package to improve conversations skills with this population. Considerations for selecting socially valid skills, promoting generalization, and introducing additional treatment components are discussed.</p>	Oral Symposium	Dr. Dorothea Lerman UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Christopher Beard UHCL Graduate, Psychology		Disney Princesses as Agents of Social Change	<p>Research has shown that mass media has become a powerful socialization agent. The depiction of stereotypical gender roles are reproduced ad nauseum in television, films, and other forms of media. Disney Princess movies (and the associated product lines) have become a multi-billion dollar industry, and young girls (approximately 3-8 years of age) view these films multiple times. The role of Disney Princess movies in depicting stereotypical gender traits that can be internalized by young girls is of particular interest. Extending previous research, the current content analysis examines the manner in which Disney Princesses have evolved into portraying fewer stereotypical gender behaviors. Four films were selected: Cinderella and The Little Mermaid (which have been previously studied), and Frozen and Moana (which have not been examined.). Each film was coded for what was determined to be the five most easily identifiable gender behaviors. In accordance with previous research, the cumulative depiction of stereotypical female traits showed an overall decrease; however, the number of occurrences of each of the selected traits did not follow this general pattern. The significance of Disney Princess movies in exhibiting stereotypical gender traits is discussed in relation to social learning theory. Possible explanations for the inconsistent depictions (that is, why some traits increased and others decreased), as well as possible future research directions, are also discussed.</p>	Oral Symposium	Dr. Amanda Johnston UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Christopher Montez UHCL Graduate, Humanities		Unacceptable Brilliance: A Contemporary Critique of The Thankful Poor by Henry Ossawa Tanner	The Thankful Poor is an 1894 oil painting created by Henry Ossawa Tanner, a renowned realist artist. His art became transcontinental and has been understood as providing a positive visual narrative and cultural depiction of the life and times of newly emancipated African Americans. The market value of this legendary piece of art lends it further credibility. However, throughout the last one hundred and twenty years his art has served the interest of everyone, except those within the African American community. In my contemporary critique the subtle implications, notions and harmful perceptual influences of this painting will become clear. The stance I take questions its content: does this masterpiece actually depict the restoration of dignity to a previously enslaved people? If not, who benefits from the perpetuation of this brilliantly constructed myth.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Beth Merfish UHCL	Paid
Cindy Rios UHCL Senior, Psychology		Exploring academic outcomes of academic and non-academic focused after school programs	Research has reported that extracurricular activities, specifically after school programs, are academically beneficial for students. However, results vary based on type and number of activities. There is little research on after school programs that are specific in their objectives, such as academic outcomes or hobbies. This presentation will present data on after school activities offered at George Sanchez Charter School and will divide these programs into two separate categories: Academic and Non-Academic. Outcomes related to participation in these programs will be presented for all students who participate in them, including 1) GPA of students involved only in Academic after school activities, 2) GPA of students involved only in Non-Academic after school activities, and 3) GPA of students involved in both Academic and Non-Academic after school activities. Arguably, programs that offer students constructive activities are beneficial for fostering prosocial behaviors (e.g. community building, teamwork), but academically focused programs are especially important as a stepping stone toward post-secondary education goals and long-term economic stability.	Oral Symposium	Dr. Desdamona Rios UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Clark Omo UHCL Senior, Literature		Poetic Knowledge: Analyzing Rhetoric in Sidney and Marlowe	There exists a contrast in the skeptical approaches to the value of knowledge in both Sir Philip Sydney's "Astrophil and Stella" and Christopher Marlowe's "Hero and Leander". The presentation will begin by discussing and outlining how each poet utilizes the themes and language of their poetry regarding feelings toward knowledge. The paper shall then transition into examining attitudes toward skepticism in the Renaissance, and then identify the skeptical aspects found in "Astrophil and Stella" and "Hero and Leander". "Astrophil and Stella" treats knowledge with such critical status that it leaves the speaker in the poem, Astrophil, tormented. In contrast, the characters in Marlowe's poem, "Hero and Leander", approach knowledge with a humorous and playful tone, such as when Hero and Leander react when they first encounter one another. Each poet, by the inclusion of rhetorical devices, utilizes their poetry as a means to persuade, thus affirming the purpose of poetry as a method to gain knowledge. Therefore, the different approaches toward poetry held by each other represent two distinct perspectives held in regard toward the art of poetry itself. One approaches poetry as an outlet through which to express the pain and insatiable yearning for that which is unattainable, and the other sees poetry as a tool with which to highlight knowledge's deceptive nature.	Oral General	Dr. Michael Clody UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Clark Omo UHCL Senior, Literature		The Purpose of the Fantasy Genre	For UHCL's 2018 student research conference I propose to present a 15-minute paper on the appeal and purpose of fantasy literature, based on an essay developed from genre studies in LITR 4370 Tragedy. My presentation will begin by defining fantasy's premises as magic and the impossible in contrast with science fiction's dependence on possible technological or natural innovations. The mysteries of magic contribute to fantasy's appeal by influencing this genre's subjects, forms, and audiences by implementing themes and devices characteristic of Classical storytelling such as omnipotent beings and all-controlling powers. The fantasy genre thus revisits ideas of the impossible and the unknown that in Classical storytelling took the forms of gods and unseen powers and their relation to humanity. Magic, therefore, is not merely a gimmick but an essential component of a critical strain of literature that finds expression today in the fantasy genre with its revisiting of the past to find meaning, rather than the future.	Oral General	Dr. Craig White UHCL	Paid
Collins Hatley UHCL Graduate, Digital Media Studies		In Distress	This piece was created as part of my 3D modeling and Animation coursework. It was created over two semesters using a combination of Autodesk Maya and various Adobe Creative Cloud programs. The premise was inspired by an episode of Doctor Who, in which a space ship's automated maintenance droids malfunction and harvest the crew in order to make repairs to the ship, and predators that use mimicry and deception to attract prey. In my original concept, I imagined the ship itself as a sentient creature attracting prey, but ultimately decided it would make more sense to have a parasitic creature take residence in the ship. I attempted to instill a sense of unease in the viewer by using eerie music and tones in combination with dark tones and flashing lights. This project was my first venture 3D modeling and animation, and taught me a lot about the process that goes into making even a short video like this one. I had a lot of fun making it, and am now planning on pursuing a career in the field of 3D animation.	Oral Symposium	Prof. Anne Henry UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Courtney Klaus UHCL Graduate, M.S. Environmental Biology		Galveston County Wetland Loss: From 1995 to 2016	From 1995 to 2016, the population in Galveston County grow from over 237 thousand to 329 thousand people and only continues to expand. As a result of population increase, urban growth skyrocketed and expanded the county's economy. However, this economic success was paid by sacrificing the local wetlands. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defined wetlands as an area where water covers the soil, or is present either at or near the surface of the soil from various periods to all-year long. These invaluable habitats perform numerous benefits including protecting and improving water quality, and providing erosion control, wildlife habitats and rainwater storage capacity. Without those benefits, the welfare for people and wildlife will decline drastically. However, protecting wetlands doesn't mean halting urban growth. Local wetlands can be maintained while urban growth expands if policy makers carefully plan out current and future developments. For this project, I'll demonstrate a method for locating wetland loss and existing wetlands within the Galveston County using the National Wetland Inventory (NWI) map for 1995, the Texas Natural Resources Information System's 2016 National Agriculture Imagery Program 1m NC data and ArcGIS Pro. Using this method, I predict I'll find a decline in wetlands within Galveston County due to urban growth. Unfortunately, this project isn't completed yet and the results will be posted at the conference.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Jeff Lash UHCL	Paid
Craig Brooks UHCL Graduate, Physics		Hydrodynamic Equilibrium and Structures of Compact Objects	Tidal disruption events (TDEs) occur when a star can no longer maintain hydrodynamic equilibrium and it begins to accrete onto compact supermassive objects. During this process, matter ejection takes place out of the object. As the constituent particles	Oral Symposium	Dr. Samina Masood UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Crystal Morris UHCL Junior, Fitness and human performance		The meaning of interruptions	Interruptions tend to be different according to the gender of the person, and the environment of the conversation. When gathering research for my hypothesis, I found that many social scientists had formed similar theories with ideals that better explain why gender affects interruptions during a social conversation. Some major theories from my research include, women will interrupt to show support to the speaker because socially it is more acceptable for women to be polite and men will interrupt the speaker to establish dominance. My hypothesis is that interruptions in social conversations can reflect how gender is displayed in society. The study is a recorded conversation between a group of friends which consist of two men and two women. The data provided displayed evidence of interruptions being used to reinforce gender norms. The meaning of interruptions in social conversations reflect how gender is displayed in society, and this provides a degree of sexism that goes uncorrected.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Patricia Droz UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Daniela Vazquez Klisans UHCL Graduate, Psychology		Stakeholders' opinions about the use of autonomous robots in U.S. classrooms	The evolution of robots and artificial intelligence has spiked rapidly in the last decade, and autonomous robots are now being utilized in a diverse array of domains, including education. Previous research about people's perceptions of robots have identified human and robot's personalities and the robot's role as mediators of acceptance. Few studies, however, have been conducted to examine individuals' opinions about utilizing autonomous robots in the classroom, and even less have included and inquired into the given personality of these robots. Also, it is noteworthy that those studies that did address personality within human-robot interactions enclosed their discussions within the introversion-extroversion dimension. Even further, it has been found that culture plays a prominent role in people's perceptions of robots, and most studies have been conducted in Asian and European countries. Therefore, the survey presented here explores the opinions of parents, educators and students living in the U.S. about autonomous robots in schools, their potential roles, social capabilities and personality traits.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Nicholas Kelling UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
David Hickman UHCL Senior, Humanities		Red Scares and Black Lists	As Red Scare swept the United States, government ethics panels were set up in order to root out and arrest Communist sympathizers in Hollywood. Distribution codes were put in place to ensure that all material produced was "American" enough, and that any possible pro-Nazi or pro-Russian productions were squelched. This created a black market for foreign films of certain persuasions and led to hundreds of leading members of the Hollywood creative scene being constantly watched, often interrogated, occasionally arrested, and, rarer still, exiled from the industry entirely. Past comments made in jest and acquaintances met a single time could derail careers or get you thrown in jail. The specter of the Red Scare allowed men to sell out their peers to gain security of their own, and every word written by screenwriters was meticulously dissected and reviewed, with the aim of ascertaining whether or not they were "working for the other side". This creative constriction eventually led to the U.S. falling behind the European film scene following WW2, when the New Wave Cinema came about. The eventual repeal of the House Un-American Activities Committee and tearing up of the Blacklist marked an end to Hollywood's darkest period, where free speech was detrimental to the top dollar.	Oral General	Dr. Beth Merfish UHCL	Paid
David Ortega UHCL Graduate, Physics		How Quantum Coherence relates with Quantum Entanglement	Coherences plays a major role in quantum mechanical properties such as entanglement and is not very well understood. A description of these two properties and how they relate will be given.	Oral Symposium	Dr. Samina Masood UHCL	Paid

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Dawn Oladapo UHCL Graduate, Cross Cultural		Human Rights & Health in the United States	"Health is a fundamental human right indispensable for the exercise of other human rights" begins the document of the Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights of the United Nations. This roundtable discussion will explore a variety of aspects of health and human rights in the United States. The roundtable will explore a series of interrelated questions: What human rights violations exist in the U.S. regarding health and well-being? How can a human rights framework deepen understandings of health social justice? How do human rights organizations, mostly non-governmental organizations, carry out the "work" of human rights in the U.S.? Each student will present a brief overview of a specific aspect of health and rights. Topics include immigrant worker health, family separation and trauma, and teaching and human rights activism, among others. The audience will be invited to ask questions and join the discussion.	Oral Roundtable	Dr. Christine Kovic UHCL	Paid
Dayanna Herrera UHCL Junior, Psychology B.S.		Why do men curse? : Perceived masculine attributes	Masculinity plays a huge role in language and expression in male gendered individuals. However, not all male individuals express themselves the same. Society holds a standard that males should reveal strength; therefore, they must have courageous approaches and display power. Authority is the overall image that emerges from male individuals that unveil assertiveness in their language and expression. An interactional sociolinguistic discourse analysis performed over a conversation setting between two same-sexed individual coworkers who practiced the same job duty. As a result, it was noted that the "Rookie" individual acquired the vulgar language to position himself as a bold and manly individual. This approach can often be used to intimidate others and eliminate the exposure of vulnerability when it comes to uncertainty.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Patricia Droz UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Debbie Torres UHCL Graduate, Clinical Psychology	Karina Turner, Zachary Speer, Christine Walther	Acceptability of behavioral parent training skills: Examination of family values on intent to implement skills	Behavioral Parent Training (BPT) is an evidenced-based, manualized treatment plan for children with pervasive behavioral problems (Barkley, 2013). While a strong body of research supports BPT for children with behavioral concerns such as ADHD and conduct problems, enhanced dissemination of these programs is needed to bridge the gap between research and practice (McHugh & Barlow, 2010). The current study aimed to highlight the feasibility and acceptability of distributing BPT skills through single "workshop" sessions rather than strictly through therapeutic means. A BPT workshop was developed for and administered to parents within different sites in the Houston-area. In the workshop, parents were taught various techniques for managing common behavior problems. Participants were administered an in-workshop pre- and post-questionnaire (created by the authors) and were later emailed a follow-up questionnaire to determine the feasibility, fit, and intention of using the BPT skills in their households. It was hypothesized that there may be differences among ethnic groups in how skills resonate with their family values and intent to use the skills following the workshop. Second, it was hypothesized that those families with a clinical diagnosis may report greater usability of skills and intent to use skills compared to families of children without a diagnosis. Data collection is ongoing and preliminary results will be presented.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Sara Elkins UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Debbie Torres UHCL Graduate, Clinical Psychology	Cristina Ovalle	Feeling Busy? Determining Emotional States of Graduate Level Students During Midterms	This study examined whether time-availability, in terms of school status and occupation, affected the negative emotional states of participants. The emotional states of the participants were measured using the shortened version of the Depression Anxiety Stress Scale (DASS-21) self-report measurement tool (Henry & Crawford, 2005). Participants were graduate students in a research methods and statistics course at the UHCL. The age range of the participants was from 21 to 30 years old. The participants were asked to complete the DASS-21 after their Fall 2017 course midterm. As predicted, participants who reported less time-availability due to school status and occupation scored higher on certain components of the DASS-21 than those who did not.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Angela Kelling UHCL	Paid
Deena Branch UHCL Graduate, Sociology		Female Breadwinning and the Division of Tasks in the Home	When individuals hear the term breadwinning, they often will associate the title with males who are the primary financial support system within their families. This is a term that is not often thought of when looking at female members of a family due to the long history of women making less than men in the workforce. However, this trend has started to shift in recent years as women have made greater strides in the labor market, like moving from part-time work to more full-time positions and even out earning their husbands/partners in terms of income. Due to this shift, this project will examine the beliefs that university students have about how masculine or feminine certain tasks are in the home, like cooking or cleaning, and certain professions in society, like doctors or nurses. Also, this project will look at whether individuals believe that children fair better in life if their mother or father stay at home rather than work or if it is better for children if both parents work outside of the home on paid labor. Lastly, university students will rank how masculine or feminine they believe the term breadwinner is.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Amy Lucas UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Desiree Dawson UHCL Graduate, Behavior Analysis		Persistence of Responding in a Token Economy with Paired and Unpaired Backup Reinforcers	Token economies are commonly used in applied settings, yet there is surprisingly little research that demonstrates the phenomena behind the mechanisms that make token economies successful. Previous research has mixed results on the components that impact the success of token economies as well as the durability of responding in token economies over time. The current study assessed the persistence of responding in a token economy across two settings where tokens were paired with backup reinforcers in one setting, and unpaired in the other. Participants were two typically developing 3 and 4-year-old children. Thus far, one participant demonstrated faster acquisition when tokens were not paired with backup reinforcers on one target set. Targets were acquired at an equal rate in the second target set. At the 1-week follow-up responding was consistently higher in the setting with unpaired tokens but showed no difference in the rate of responding across settings at the 4-week follow-up. These results provide further insight into the applied use of tokens as well as information about the underlying mechanisms of token economies.	Oral Symposium	Dr. Dorothea Lerman UHCL	Paid
Dennis McIntosh UHCL Graduate, Humanities		Classis Mimbres Painted Clay Pottery	In my term paper I will be discussing the Mimbres Indians. There are some very interesting findings about the people and their place in history. As they were known for painted clay pottery with intricate geometric forms incorporated into the artwork. We also observe the variety of animal species that have been implemented into the Mimbres societal bounds. I will discuss how the clay pottery was developed and the vastness of the Mimbres in there 12th century occupation of the southwestern United States.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Beth Merfish UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Diana Alvarado UHCL Senior, Behavioral Sciences		Cultural and familial values vs. Personal values	When I dated someone outside of my race, it was extremely difficult for my parents to adapt. However, the fact that he wasn't only a man of color but also Hispanic and had Caucasian step-father, it seemed to bring them a level of comfort, which I felt was wrong. Although it was also hard for me, I found learning about other culture's fascinating. At family gatherings we were often overly observed. Eventually, my family overcame it but it was easy to recognize that these perspectives are challenging to unlearn. In social gatherings, we felt as an outcast because we were different than the usual couple. For example, if we were in a social setting where it was mostly Hispanic people around, I would be stared at in an unpleasant manner. In my opinion, the Hispanic culture instills racism and sexism attitudes at a very young age. Culture definitely influences our personal values and impacts our personal growth. Discrimination will stand in the way of everyone's true happiness if we are only allowed to stay within specific boundaries. The only way to dismantle this is to break stereotypes and defeat social constructs.	Oral Roundtable	Prof. Mary Margaret Lobb UHCL	Paid
Dinesh Kandikonda UHCL Graduate, Engineering Management		Locating Disaster Relief Facility Centers in the city of Houston	We study the problem of locating the disaster relief facility locations in the city of Houston which is prone to flood risk hurricanes. These facility locations can act as relief centers and also helps to execute post-disaster response operations. We develop mathematical models for both Tactical plan (pre-disaster) and Operational plan(post-disaster), to decide on the facility locations with the objective of minimizing the distance between the locations and facilities with lowest flood risk rate, and to know the quantities of demand that each potential facility satisfies when one facility can serve more than one location respectively. Results derived from this study will help to locate disaster relief facility locations in the city of Houston with lowest flood risk and minimized distances between locations and facilities.	Oral General	Dr. Ki Young Jeong UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Donielle Garcia UHCL Graduate, Clinical Psychology	Alexandra Gamboa, Paloma Canel	And How Does That Make You Feel?: Self-Esteem Among Psychology Students	Self-esteem is known to fluctuate across the lifetime throughout different life stages. This study examined the relationship between self-esteem and the variables of age, non-academic work hours, and study discipline in graduate psychology students (n=18) using the Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale (RSES). Data analysis consisted of independent samples t-tests to determine the relationship between age, non-academic work hours, and psychology discipline. It was predicted that self-esteem scores would be higher amongst older participants, among participants working less hours, and among those in a clinical psychology program. The analysis demonstrated that for the present sample there were no differences in self-esteem scores between younger and older participants ($t(16) = 1.218, p = 0.241$). Additionally, no significant differences were found in self-esteem scores based off of non-academic work hours ($t(16) = 1.422, p = 0.174$). Finally, there was no significant differences in self-esteem between the clinical and general psychology students ($t(13) = -1.306, p = 0.216$). These results suggest that there is no effect of age, non-academic hours of work, and study discipline on self-esteem ratings.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Angela Kelling UHCL	Paid
Ecklin Crenshaw UHCL Graduate, Physics		Thermodynamics of Relativistic Plasma	We investigate the properties of a relativistic electron-ion plasma at extremely high temperature and density. We compute the plasma parameters such as Debye length, and Debye shielding as a function of temperature and density. We also studied the relativistic ions and electrons individually in a hot and dense medium under similar conditions. We witnessed how the plasma parameters change for the individually relativistic ion and electron plasmas in the presence of external energy.	Oral General	Dr. Samina Masood UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Edward Wike UHCL Senior, Humanities		Omnipotent Personification: Aryan Supremacy	<p>Hitler's belief and extreme push for a pure and perfect Aryan race of unmistakable features (blonde hair, blue eyes, and white skin) is well known. Aryans were thought of as a superior race in Hitler's mind, an idea that would prove to be one of the most deadly. Hitler had a goal to successfully achieve the birth of Aryan supremacy that was popular throughout Germany during the rise of the National Socialist Party and World War II. However, this extreme notion of separation between inferior and the superior was far from realistic. For this essay, I will analyze the pontification Hitler used in his published work Mein Kampf, certain references about the Aryan mythos and in public speeches to propagate the idea of the Aryan race and give hope to Germans about a possibility that at the time had a high desirability.</p> <p>In spite of delusional claims and exaggerated dogma, a goal to achieve the purity and dominants was incredibly popular throughout Germany during World War II and the rise of the National Socialist Party (Nazi's). Vast amounts of rally speeches; campaigns and secret meetings were held in hopes of reaching a dream.</p> <p>During World War II, an atrocity of inconceivable human scope was difficult to fathom. Stemming from an epiphany Hitler had one day back in prison when he was a young adult, thus, I dig into the reasons behind the Aryan race being understood as perfect; Hitler's methods and his beliefs that gave wings to such an extreme idea.</p>	Oral Symposium	Dr. Beth Merfish UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Ember Taylor UHCL Senior, Psychology		Acculturative Stress and Academic Performance	Acculturative stress is the psychological impact of the adaption to a new culture. It is well documented that immigrants and/or the children of immigrants experience numerous forms of acculturative stress such as racism and xenophobia, with multiple studies reporting a relationship between acculturative stress and poor mental health. For the Houston area, the large population of Latin American immigrants and their children are especially salient. Research shows that Latinx adolescents report more prevalent and severe depression rates than other U.S. race/ethnic groups, and are more likely than their White non-Latinx peers to experience long-term mental health stressors. Predictably, acculturative stress is related to poor mental health, which in turn predicts lowered academic performance. This presentation will examine the relationship between country of origin for students and their parents/guardians and home language on academic outcomes. The presentation will conclude with discussion about the need for support services for students and their families who experience high levels of racism and xenophobia.	Oral Symposium	Dr. Desdamona Rios UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Emily White UHCL Senior, Graphic Communications		Hot Air Balloon	This animation will be based on my poem, "Hot Air Balloon". It is a brief glimpse into a hot air balloon ride in the morning. The personification of the nature surrounding the hot air balloon evokes a sense of movement. These descriptions will guide the utilization of ripples in the water, a moving flame in the hot air balloon, and grass that waves in the wind. The color scheme will be consistent with the colors in nature, but the saturation will be slightly enhanced. The grass is a healthy green, a natural blue sky with clouds, and water that reflects the surrounding landscape. My poem was written intentionally from an omniscient perspective to mimic the feeling of seeing everything below when one is in a hot air balloon. There should be a serene feeling from the viewer. The video will begin from the ground level, leading through the trees and traveling through various elements of the landscape, ultimately focusing on the hot air balloon itself. It will then show the balloon gently floating over the land. It will conclude by shifting the focus past the balloon and briefly onto the hazy mountain peaks.	Oral Symposium	Prof. Anne Henry UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Ernest North UHCL Senior, Molecular/Cellular Biology	Russell Minton	Comparison of gut microbiomes between native and invasive viviparids (Gastropoda, Viviparidae)	Invasive species can be defined as those organisms introduced in areas where they did not evolve. Because of that, they are capable of adapting to biotic and abiotic conditions that can be very different from those found in their native range. In general, successful invaders possess high fecundity, fast growth rate, short generation time, and high genetic variability, traits usually associated with r-selected species. While the ecological and natural history impacts of invasive species are well documented, the role of microbiomes in these interactions has remained relatively unknown. Research has shown that alien species can alter microbiomes significantly in marine and terrestrial systems. We used two species of freshwater viviparid snail, one native (<i>Campeloma decisum</i>) and one invasive (<i>Cipangopaludina japonica</i>), and analyzed their gut microbiomes using next-generation sequencing of the 16S rDNA gene. We present comparisons of bacterial diversity at varying taxonomic levels and identify diagnostic taxa for each snail species. We also propose potential physiological differences between species' microbiomes that may give the invasive species an advantage in non-native habitats.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Russell Minton UHCL	Paid
Frank Chapa UHCL Graduate, Clinical Psychology		Observations of on- task study while attending mandatory tutoring	Community colleges (CC) have assumed a progressively active role in student engagement since data revealed a connection between student success rates and a CC's engagement efforts (McClenney, 2007). It behooves colleges financially and politically to provide students with resources that will improve students' chances of graduating and doing so in a timely manner (Bean, 1990). One way CCs have helped students develop study habits is by implementing classroom policies like mandated tutoring for first-year students (Butler, 1999). Colleges scrutinize policies and data as they consider the generalizeability of data and how it will apply to the their student population. I plan to observe students in a public study area who attend mandatory tutoring sessions to observe study time on task. These observations may be helpful for colleges with similar student populations who are considering implementing similar tutoring policies..	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Nicholas Kelling UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Gautami Tenneti UHCL Graduate, MHA/MBA	Hasan Fathima Mohamed, Aditi Chaugule, Rama Devi Maddi, Jasminder Singh	Effective Price Bundling: Causes and Consequences	Price Bundling is an effective strategy where companies sell a set of goods or services for a lower price than they would charge if they were sold separately. Bundle pricing allows companies to increase their profit while giving customers a discount (Merritt, 2018). Customers are more inclined to purchase when products or services that they desire are bundled together at a bargain (Bier, 2012). The purpose of our research is to investigate the causes and outcomes of effective price bundling strategies.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. L. JEAN WALKER UHCL	Unpaid
Grace Itiowe UHCL Graduate, Healthcare and Business Administration		Healthcare Infrastructure; Nigerian Challenges	As an integral part of healthcare delivery, it is imperative that medical infrastructure is updated frequently not just to keep up with the trends but to achieve improved healthcare delivery. Infrastructure encompasses a wide range of items - tangible such as medical equipment/supplies and intangible such as Electronic Medical Records (EMR) Each day, new forms of infrastructure are released into the market at high prices. The purchase of a new equipment translates to increased expenses for the facility and they naturally would want to recoup within the shortest time possible. Unfortunately, most hospitals in Nigeria cannot boast of modern infrastructure, more concerning are the teaching hospital however the few relatively big hospitals which have current technology are really expensive and not assessable to the average Nigerian. Also, due to the complexities of new infrastructure, a lot of training is needed to effectively use them, hence the multiple resources required to get staff up to date on the use of the new acquisition makes many centers just remain at status quo, which in itself is also a challenge. In this paper, a concise insight into the state of infrastructure in Nigerian teaching hospitals, the challenges and implications will be discussed. Key words: Healthcare, Infrastructure, Nigeria, Teaching Hospitals	Oral General	Dr. Ashish Chandra UHCL	Unpaid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Grant McNeley UHCL Graduate, Behavior Analysis		Establishing Differential Antecedent Control with Mands for Items and Mands for Help	<p>The purpose of this study was to evaluate the use of interrupted behavior chains to teach children with autism spectrum disorder the mands “I want” and “Help me” concurrently to establish appropriate antecedent control. Trials were alternated between conditions in which “I want” and “Help me” were appropriate across multiple behavior chains with multiple exemplars within each behavior chain. To control for the relevant establishing operation (EO) during training, trials in which the abolishing operation (AO) was present for the mand “I want” and “Help me” were implemented. To program for generalization further, behavior chains that were not part of the intervention were used to test for generalization after training was complete.</p> <p>Key words: mands, establishing operation, abolishing operation, behavior chains, autism</p>	Oral Symposium	Dr. Dorothea Lerman UHCL	Paid
Helen Marie Cossey Daniel UHCL Senior, Behavioral Sciences		Conversational content as a co-construct of marital satisfaction within couples	<p>Many have agreed the busy-ness of daily life takes a toll in married persons. The numerous snippets of ordinary conversation couples share may seem insignificant but they are key to firming the foundations of relationships according to many researchers. By analyzing audio recorded conversational content of married couples, it was found that politeness levels had an impact upon the co-construct of marital satisfaction as predicted. Further study may help in finding ways of of keeping politeness in the forefront as a habit.</p>	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Patricia Droz UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Holly Mein UHCL Graduate, Physics		The Magnetic Moment of Neutrinos in Hot Dense Media	The magnetic moment is a measure of the interaction between massive particles and the magnetic field. It is a measurable quantity. All charged particles have an intrinsic magnetic moment, whereas the neutral particles are known to have a magnetic moment as a perturbative effect. There is still some missing information about the magnetic moment of neutrinos, especially when the effective mass is modified due to its interaction. Therefore, the magnetic moment needs to be calculated for neutrinos. I will discuss and evaluate the magnetic moment of neutrinos at $T=0$ as well as the effect of finite temperature and density (FTD) of the medium on the magnetic moment in different models. Some of the applications of the temperature and density dependence on magnetic moment will also be discussed.	Oral Symposium	Dr. Samina Masood UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
<p>Homie Rowe UHCL Graduate, MA in Digital Media Studies</p>		<p>Motion Graphic Animations and Titles</p>	<p>The Heil garbage truck animation had the criteria of making a six second short using Adobe Illustrator and Adobe After Effects to create a vehicle animation. The assets were created in Adobe Illustrator with a stylized look of a cartoon. Animation was achieved by utilizing different layering methods and key-framing. Audio, music and my voice were edited to create the best impact. The motivation was to showcase something other than the usual fair of car or pickup trucks for the project and do it with a sense of humor. The Memory Lane animation is an animation about the last outing I spent with my whole family in Colorado, before moving to Texas. The technical focus was on creating the illusion of three dimensional parallaxed movement using created two dimensional assets. The animation used music and text to tell the story. Key to the process was timing the elements to match the music and not feel rushed. Although I do feel the audience may need to watch it again to capture the feelings i tried to convey.</p> <p>The Movie Title Sequence animation was based off the novela "Darkness Under the Sun" by Dean Koontz. It is the opening created for a fictional movie based on the book. The animation utilized Lightwave 3D software and used modeled textured assets, created by myself. Particle elements were created in Adobe After Effects and edited in Premiere with music added. The 3D story elements for each scene, revealed with an animated camera, are a prelude to the fictional movie.</p>	<p>Oral Symposium</p>	<p>Prof. Anne Henry UHCL</p>	<p>Paid</p>

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
<p>Itzel Carbajal UHCL Graduate, MS. Early Childhood focus on Young Children with Disabilities</p>		<p>Parent Preparedness and Support of Infants with Special Needs</p>	<p>Parents of infants with special needs can be emotionally, physically, and mentally exhausted. Having an infant with special needs requires a lot of parenting support and emotional support. According to Casses and Paquette (2016) parents experience multiple stressors including not knowing enough about their parenting strategies, and being prepared for having an infant with special needs (Casses & Paquette,2016, p. 124). When a parent leaves the hospital with their baby, they may feel like they don't have enough information provided to them on the special needs of their child. For example, in a study done in 2000 by students at the University of Glasgow, students found that "lack of information elevated concern, with the parents fearing what the future would hold. Some parents described feeling abandoned when they were discharged from hospital"(Kerr & McIntosh, 2000, p. 314). The purpose of this research was to gain insights on how parents can be better prepared and the types of support they feel are needed most when having an infant with special needs.</p>	<p>Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm</p>	<p>Dr. Elizabeth Beavers UHCL</p>	<p>Paid</p>
<p>Ivanna Tolley UHCL Senior, Humanities</p>		<p>Feminism and Propaganda: Women Against Women's Rights</p>	<p>Women who oppose women's rights, feminism, and suffrage have been an enigma for centuries. From campaigning against their right to vote to very vocally criticizing women who march for women's rights, women like Mary Augusta Ward and Tomi Lahren have been outspoken leaders against the rights of their own gender. In this essay, I will examine scholarship from both feminist and anti-feminist scholars to understand how feminist terms are framed and delivered in these paradoxical ways. The lens of propaganda and persuasion will enable a deeper understanding of the manner in which one can utilize language and propaganda to effectively convince others to advocate against themselves. This topic is important because women who argue against women's rights and feminism are one of the biggest obstacles to women's rights movements.</p>	<p>Oral Symposium</p>	<p>Dr. Beth Merfish UHCL</p>	<p>Paid</p>

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Jacquelynn Rodriguez UHCL Senior, Psychology		Finding Our Own Way/ What it's like to be free	The topic of my first paper deals with societal and familial values and how the characters in the readings "Lystaria", "The Chosen", and "Houston we have a problema" went against their familial to find their own happiness. I also talk about my own experiences. The topic of my second paper deals with characters that experienced pain and suffering, but found meaning in the pain and suffering. The books "The Chosen", "Taking the leap", "Man's Search for meaning", and "Resilience" are cited in my paper. I also talk about my own experience.	Oral Roundtable	Prof. Mary Margaret Lobb UHCL	Paid
Jacy Warren UHCL Graduate, School Psychology	Crystle Riles, Joseph Hicks, Madelyn Meier	What's in a Name: The Effects of Identifiable Ethnic Surnames in Housing Decisions	The purpose of the study is to determine if individuals show covert biases when choosing a home to purchase. We will achieve this by presenting the participants with tablets connected to a Google form after they have completed an informed consent form. Each form will show a map with 2-4 houses for sale and 6-8 potential neighbors homes. Amenities will be included on the maps. Also included will be potential neighbors last name, number and ages of children, number of pets. The participant will be given __ seconds to choose which home is most desirable for him or her. The participant will do this for 20 maps and the data will be compiled through Google forms. Upon completion of the study, the participant will be debriefed and released from the study.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Mr. Steven Sutherland UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
<p>Jade Garcia UHCL Graduate, Psychology</p>		<p>The Impact of Income on Perception of Traits</p>	<p>The idea that one can control the outcomes in one's life through personal attributes and behavior is a commonly held belief (Lerner, 1980). Current research has shown these beliefs to be engaged in a variety of situations ranging from victim blaming in the case of rape (Murray, Spadafore, & Macintosh, 2010) to helping behavior in a medical context (DePalma, Madey, Tillman, & Wheelre, 2010). Expanding the current research on views of personal attributes and traits influencing individual success and status, this study aims to correlate an individual's income with traits they are perceived to possess. Students from the UHCL, and who are enrolled in a graduate statistics course in the psychology department completed this survey for course credit. Participants followed a link to online survey platform Qualtrics and answered questions regarding traits seen as relevant to status (intelligence) and not relevant (attractive). Questions were randomized to avoid order affects.</p>	<p>Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm</p>	<p>Dr. Nicholas Kelling UHCL</p>	<p>Paid</p>

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Jalia Henry UHCL Graduate, Marriage and Family Therapy	Jennifer Gustafson, Katerina Vengoechea	Working with Polyamorous couples	While there are several arrangements and relationship structures within polyamory, according to Klesse (2011), polyamory is defined as “simultaneous consensual romantic relationships with multiple partners” and “[conceptualized by those involved in] their relationships as ‘ethical nonmonogamy’ because all partners involved are aware that they are in a nonmonogamous relationship and agree to its terms.” Polyamory is often characterized by longevity and feelings of romance and/or love as opposed to strictly sexual relationships. Research suggests that relationship satisfaction within polyamorous arrangements is consistent when compared to monogamous couples. While the polyamorous population is increasing, Graham noted that 'a third of therapists thought people in open relationships had some type of personality disorder or neurotic tendency and that almost 20% would try to unduly influence a return to a monogamous lifestyle.’ Future assessments are needed surrounding relational stability, sexual identity, support systems, stigma, transparency, and jealousy. Clinical implications including determining who should be involved in therapy sessions, additional education/training needs for clinicians, and issues surrounding over or misdiagnosis will be discussed. Based off of this finding, the need for mental health clinicians to be adequately trained in working with and offering culturally-sensitive care to this population, is vital.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Matthew Brown UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
JaLissa Iles UHCL Graduate, Industrial/Organizational Psychology	Zahra Hamadah, Angela Dodd, Karen Henriquez	Bossy: The Perception of Assertiveness in Gendered-Leadership Roles based on Age and Gender	In previous years, ample studies have been conducted to analyze the relationship between personality and leadership roles, however, very little research has been conducted on how gender and age can affect perceptions of leadership as well as the varying degrees of leadership styles based on a leader's personality (i.e. level of assertiveness). The overall purpose of this study is to identify whether, or not, there is a significant difference in the way subordinates perceive gendered-leadership roles based on age and gender. Each individual (subordinate) participating in the study is randomly assigned to receive one of the four surveys to complete through an online Qualtrics survey link. The surveys contain a brief narrative of either a female or male leader with varying degrees of assertiveness in his or her leadership style. Furthermore, surveys 1 and 2 depict a male or female leader displaying high levels of assertiveness in their respective leadership style, whereas surveys 3 and 4 depict the same male or female displaying low levels of assertiveness in their respective leadership styles. The anticipated major findings or trends likely to be found as a result of the analysis of this study is that both, female and male subordinates (across all age groups), will perceive the female leader with high levels of assertive leadership styles more negatively than the male leaders with high and low levels of assertive leadership styles.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Lisa Sublett UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
JaSara Scates UHCL Senior, Social Work		Femmed up, still not woman enough: The sociolinguistics of transgender identity acceptance	Critical discourse analysis (Fairclough, 1995) has long-considered the concepts of roles and positioning (Davies & Harre, 1990; Goffman, 1986), power and solidarity (Tannen, 1996), and performativity and performance (Butler, 1999). When applied, these theoretical approaches permit the holistic view of self-enactment, be it from identity-rejection to acceptance. Transgender individuals, in "doing gender" defy the "fundamental belief" (Eckert & McConnell-Ginet, 2013, p. 1) of a dichotomous system of sex and gender. Such behaviors, performed and presented as gender, warrant a deeper D/ Discourse analysis (Gee, 2005) to further our understanding of transgender identity creation, expression, and self-acceptance. Therefore, data gathered from a 02:08:03 naturally occurring conversation between two transgender (non-binary) individuals is critically analyzed using the above-mentioned framework. Results suggest that dialogue permits an individual to grow from role to subject position on a spectrum of identity denial to assertion. The study extends our understanding of how public service professionals (e.g., social workers, educators, politicians) may best communicate from an empathic "third place" (Oldenburg, 1989) to help individuals who struggle with internalized oppression. The study further suggests that cultural competence (NASW, 2018) requires an understanding of communication style and the impact of cross-cultural dialogue.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Patricia Droz UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
JaSara Scates UHCL Senior, Social Work	Teemer Inge, Tannia Leal, Linda Medel, Adam Ellsworth	Resilience and Dual Identity Distress: The intersection of race and gender identity	A gap in the literature reveals the necessity in analyzing the relationship between intersectionality and resilience among racial/ethnic and gender minorities (CIS females and transgender individuals). Despite literature demonstrating distress related to morbidity in other LBGTQIA populations, transgender individuals' inclusion in the Minority Stress Model recently occurred, with new research finding 46% presenting at high levels of distress (Bariola et al., 2015). Craig et al. (2017) suggests a protection may exist when identifying as an individual with dual identity. Based on previous literature, it is hypothesized that individuals with higher resilience will report less dual identity distress. The Dual Identity Distress Scale measures the impact of dual identity on affect and discrimination (L'Pree, n.d.). The Brief Resilience Scale will assess the participant's ability to recover from a stressful event (Smith et al., 2008). Scores on self-reported levels of dual identity distress and resilience will be correlated. Data will be analyzed with multiple regression to take into account the effect of specific self-identification on the expected relationships.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Prof. Amy N. Gorniak UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
<p>Jason Siders UHCL Senior, BA in Fine Arts/ Graphic Design</p>		<p>Proj 1 - Motion Graphics - Where's Waldo Proj 2 - Animation - Cowpokes vs Off-World Foreigners</p>	<p>Proj 1 - Where's Waldo -When assigned to create a title sequence for a book, I immediately thought of the famous book Where's Waldo. To make it more entertaining, I made it a detective crime thriller - on the hunt for the notorious Waldo who has the uncanny ability to disappear in a crowd. I used rapid zoom and move action to raise the suspense level. Other characters from the book are mentioned in the opening scenes. Images of the crowds were blurred to give the illusion of a camera video. Music was the driver for many of the effects to create suspense and a sense of frantic. In the end, the scan square focuses on Waldo, who is found, but not caught. Proj 2 - Cowpokes vs Off-world Foreigners. This animation is based off the Jon Favreau movie Cowboys vs Aliens. While it appears serious, it has a twist. The concept scene shows the aliens arrive on Earth, attack the town, and steal people and gold. In the animation, the addition of Mac n' Cheese thievery is the comedic twist, but it can have another meaning where gold and mac 'n cheese are both yellow, liked, but one is more valuable. Which one is that? The video focuses on a wild-west town, peaceful with old Western buildings and rolling tumbleweeds. The flying saucers arrive and focus a blue beam of light to steal the Mac 'n cheese. The scene ends with the cameras panning back to reveal the barrel of a .44 Magnum and the side of a cowboy's leg, showing that these cowpokes are ready to fight for what is theirs.</p>	<p>Oral General</p>	<p>Prof. Anne Henry UHCL</p>	<p>Paid</p>

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Javeria Ashraf UHCL Graduate, Psychology	Gabrielle Gloston, Paige Patterson, Ashley White, Kandy Trejo	Women's perception of female placement in male-dominated professions	Historically, the disparity of labor along gender lines has been deeply rooted in societal views on gender roles and ability. Gender stereotypes set up biases for implicit discrimination around the world and in the workplace. Workplace gender disparity is the result of subtle internalization of widespread stereotypes leading to implicit biases. Therefore, gender stereotypes not only negatively impact a woman's job placement, but also undermine her confidence in her ability to perform in that job. As a result, many young women are more likely to choose career options that are consistent with their gender identity as a female. This paper examines how women perceive themselves within the context of traditionally male-dominated professions. After completing an informed consent form and brief paper demographics questionnaire, participants completed a computer-based Implicit Association Test. All data was collected from student participants in a University setting. In order to interpret the relationship between the participants' gender and latency times in identifying female professionals to careers, a one-way ANOVA was run on SPSS version 25. Women were less likely to associate female professionals in male-dominated career positions. Implicit bias influenced women's perception of female job placement in male-dominated professions.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Steven Sutherland UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Jazmin Orozco UHCL Senior, Psychology		Adolescent Parents and At-Risk Students	Texas ranks 3rd in the nation for the highest rate in teen pregnancy and 4th for highest teen births, with the Latinx population having among the highest rates of both (The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, 2016). Teenage parents experience hardships related to educational outcomes and financial stability, with teen mothers in particular being less likely to graduate from high school than their peers who are not mothers, and more than half live below the poverty line (Ng & Kaye, 2012). Only slightly better, 61% of teen fathers complete high school by the age of 26 (Mollborn, 2010), and most still live in poverty (Kiselica & Kiselica, 2014). This presentation will include a sample of 33 teen parents from George Sanchez Charter School with close examination of how teen parents struggle with balancing academic achievement and parenting. Some areas to be examined include gender of parent, academic achievement, truancy rates, and services received. Of particular interest is identifying variables that facilitate academic success. The charter school is unique from the traditional model of education in that they offer wraparound services to pregnant teens such as in-home tutoring, counseling, and drop-out prevention. Understanding these critical variables can help inform students, educators, and policy makers to construct culturally and contextually relevant models of education so that all students can thrive.	Oral Symposium	Dr. Desdamona Rios UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Jennifer Reece UHCL Graduate, Behavior Analysis		The Effects of Textual and Verbal Prompts on the Self-Evaluation and Clinical Performance of Graduate Level Therapists during Caregiver Training Sessions	Over the past few decades, there has been sharp increase in the number of individuals obtaining Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) credentials in the United States. This drastic increase in BCBA certifications can be largely attributed to the dissemination of applied behavior analysis (ABA) services to various geographic areas, the passage of state licensing or autism reform laws that influence professional practice of ABA, and the increase of major academic master's-level training practicum sites. Along with the increase in BCBA's, there are also increasing requirements for behavior analytic professionals to complete caregiver training sessions with client's families. This present study evaluates the effects of verbal and textual prompts to teach graduate level therapist to self-evaluate their own clinical performance during caregiver training sessions.	Oral Symposium	Dr. Sarah Lechago UHCL	Paid
Jessica Dawson UHCL Junior, Geography		An Analysis of the 2018 Flu Epidemic	Public health surveillance conducted by local epidemiology professionals such as Harris County Public Health and the Houston Health Department often publish weekly reports during the months commonly referred to as "flu season". The data for these reports come from various surveying agents: participating health care providers, Emergency Room reports from local hospitals, ISD surveillance reports, online participation surveys, and reports from local health clinic laboratories. Flu season during the 2017-2018 peak months were particularly high this year, reaching epidemic figures. This project shows the progression of Influenza-Like Illnesses (ILI) throughout Houston from October 2017 to March 2018, and how geographic statistics can be used to analyze and predict the spread of diseases such as the flu.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Jeff Lash UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Jessica Dorton UHCL Junior, Fitness and Human Performance		Listening Beyond the Words	This study is based on how males and females use their tone of voice to achieve dominance in a conversation. The study took place at a local restaurant where the two couples went to meet for dinner. Females used their tone of voice to animate their conversations, more so when speaking to other females. In contrast, they tended to reduce the volume and tone of their speaking and turn to more affirmative comments when a male is speaking to them. When the female is the main speaker the male begins to jump in to dominate her in a steady tone but instead of submitting to him she raises her voice even more. Based on exerts and research it is evident that males and females use their tone of voice differently to achieve dominance in a conversation.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Pratricia Droz UHCL	Unpaid
Jessica Prunet Garland UHCL Junior, Social Work		"Values" class round table discussion/symposium (Professor Lobb)	I myself have challenged the norms and prospects of my culture as a Puerto Rican woman. In the late 90's most of my female cousins were all married with children and were done bearing children by their 23rd birthday. However, I did not have my first child until I was 26, and a few of my family members considered me a lesbian because I didn't have children sooner, which was expected of me. I also chose not to marry my daughter's father because of the infidelity and this was seen in a negative light and affected me greatly. However, over time I met my husband and realized that sometimes individuals must disregard culture and expectations to find their own fulfillment.As progenies we want to please our parents and family. However as time go by we find ourselves along a course that strikes a compromise between the ideals we were brought up with and the futures in which we envision ourselves.	Oral Symposium	Prof. Mary Margaret Lobb UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Johanna Escalante UHCL Graduate, Clinical Psychology		Snapchat and Depression: Is there a link between them?	Depression is highly frequent in the United States. Various articles have suggested that social media users may experience decreased depression while others have said that the frequent use of social media is associated with reduction of real-life community, life satisfaction, and well being. It has been shown that social media use is significantly associated with increased depression. The social media sites looked at were Facebook, Twitter, Google+, YouTube, LinkedIn, Instagram, Pinterest, Tumblr, Vine, Snapchat, and Reddit. Also, Instagram and Snapchat have been considered to be the most negative platforms due to bullying factors and image-based medias. The limitations for these studies have included sampling individuals from the ages of 14 to 32 years old, focusing on multiple social media sites at once, and using multiple-choice answers when asking for their usage of social media. Due to their not being a study that specifically focuses on Snapchat and mental health, this study will look to see if there is an association between the usage of Snapchat and depression. The study will include individuals ranging from all ages and free-response questions will be asked in the usage of Snapchat portion on the questionnaire.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Nicholas Kelling UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
<p>Johanna Jacob UHCL Graduate, Computer Science</p>		<p>Towards a holistic inter-disciplinary approach in Cybersecurity education</p>	<p>The growing demand for cybersecurity has been one of the striking phenomena of the 21st century. Business and government sectors have begun to focus on comprehensive cyber security solutions. In the United States, significant collaboration has been initiated between education, research and industry for proposing a standard framework for cybersecurity workforce development. The National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education (NICE) proposed the National Cybersecurity Workforce Framework (NCWF). It is a focused resource that categorizes and describes cybersecurity work. NICE serves as a foundation in establishing common taxonomy and lexicon for several key groups like cybersecurity staff, workers and students considering a career in the field. The NCWF throws a multi-faceted approach to cyber security education, that covers a range of disciplines from foundational knowledge in computing and communication, to principles and policies that govern the internet. However, the disciplines that are inter-disciplinary revolve around technical knowledge and skills concerning the operations of cyber systems. Outside those technical domains, cyber security as an academic discipline has been left to organically evolve and its inter-disciplinary rationale is less significant. This thesis will facilitate extensive research in collaborative inter – disciplinary studies and as a result evaluate and identify key areas for adoption into relevant cybersecurity course/s.</p>	<p>Oral General</p>	<p>Dr. Andrew Yang UHCL</p>	<p>Paid</p>

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
John Cruzan UHCL Graduate, Psychology	Tanya Perez, Marissa Nelson, Amber Gross-Velez	Factors Affecting Problem-Solving Performance	<p>There have been many studies that examine the link between self-esteem and performance. Although Baumeister, Campbell, Krueger, & Vohls (2003) failed to find that self-esteem directly affects academic performance, Ferris, Lian, Brown, Pang, & Keeping (2010) found that self-esteem directly affects work performance. To our knowledge, no clear consensus has been formed about how self-esteem affects performance. In this study, we are examining the effects of self-esteem on problem solving skills. In particular, we hypothesized that high self esteem will lead to higher problem solving skills. We examined 40 UHCL psychology students of varying ages, ethnicities, and socioeconomic status. Participants completed two, timed, problem-solving tests. With the use of deception, participants were briefed on whether they did lower or higher than the mean participant on the first test before being instructed to complete the second one. Participants were immediately debriefed following the second problem-solving test. The analysis of the data shows that participants who were told they did well on the first test averaged a higher score on the second test than the participants who were told they did poorly. These findings support the hypothesis and show that self-esteem and problem-solving are linked. The results of this study serve to further clarify the relationship between self-esteem and problem solving skills.</p>	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Steven Sutherland UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
John Plail UHCL Senior, Geography	Aaron Meledan	East Texas Stratigraphic Analysis	<p>Over geologic time mean sea level has risen, and receded, while shallow marine sediments have generally followed a similar path. Interested in the shoreline patterns of this transgression and regression cycle, we surveyed a 50-million-year-old hill of ancient coastal strata in east Texas.</p> <p>We used a range of geological tools to identify and record measurements of the characteristics of the sedimentary depositional environment. Observing a series of exposed layers in the hill from the survey, a stratigraphic column was made to analyze the depositional sequence.</p> <p>A fence diagram was made by combing the seven other columns to make stratigraphic correlations. A regressing and transgressing shoreline can be inferred through evidence in the fence diagram. The combination of clay, sandstone, and coal are the most common sediment beds found throughout.</p> <p>Transgression occurs as sea levels rise, pushing back the shoreline inland. When sea level drops, the shoreline retreats seaward, which is known as regression. By recognizing the alternating pattern of mudstone to coal and coal to mudstone, one can infer that the area was mainly swamp land. Until the final transgressive stage where the sandstone can be found, implying that the shoreline moved inland.</p>	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Daniel Imrecke UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
<p>Jolie Suire UHCL Graduate, MS Early Childhood with focus on Young Children with Disabilities</p>		<p>Increasing family engagement involving students with disabilities</p>	<p>There is a significant amount of evidence that shows the impact of family engagement in a child's education. A study from the University of Utah, showed that an increase in family engagement leads to a decrease in possible behavior issues, and an overall increase in grades (Thatcher, 2012). When children see that there is positive communication between schools and parents, they are more likely to take more responsibility for their learning, attend school more often, have better social skills and are more likely to graduate and go on to a post graduate education.</p> <p>There has been some research that addresses SES as a variable impacting family engagement (Al-Malka, 2014). Much of the research shows that there is less participation by lower SES families in their child's school (Smith, 2006). Research also suggests that it is not a lack of caring or interest that prevents the participation of parents in this category, but instead other barriers such as work, childcare, transportation, and methods of communication. Research further suggests that most school activities are geared around parents with a mid-level SES. Schools need to find a way to effectively include all parents so that family engagement for all can be increased (Smith, 2006). Since research shows the significance of family engagement in schools is important, this research sought to identify relevant barriers to participation by exploring parent perceptions.</p> <p>☐</p>	<p>Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm</p>	<p>Dr. Elizabeth Beavers UHCL</p>	<p>Paid</p>

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Jorge Jaimes UHCL Graduate, Chemistry		Series of Novel Aryl Acetamides: Orally Bioavailable Lead Compounds for the Treatment of Medically Refractory Epilepsy.	Despite many advances in antiepileptic drug (AED) development, medically refractory (drug-resistant) epilepsy and undesirable side effects of AEDs remain as the two major challenges in the treatment of epilepsy. New leads must be explored in order to address these challenges. There is extensive evidence that alpha-substituted acetamides and lactams are effective in traditional animal models of epilepsy. Limited clinical data confirm their efficacy in treating both motor and absence epileptic seizures. Studies established that 2-phenylbutyramide is an orally bioavailable compound that shows remarkably broad activity in rodent models of medically refractory (drug-resistant) epilepsy as well as good protective index. We report here synthesis of several novel analogs of 2-phenylbutyramide.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Prof. Anton Dubrovskiy UHCL	Paid
Joyce Varghese UHCL Graduate, Industrial/Organizational Psychology	Dan George, Justin Joy, Gordon Yao	Equity Theory: An Analysis of Salary and Perceived Job Fairness	This study examines differences in perceived fairness of job descriptions when altering levels of salary. Jobs were differentiated categorically as low and high paying (fast food cook, and General and Operational Manager) as defined by O*NET- the Occupational Information Network. Salary parameters were set at half, average, and double, as defined by O*NET. Through the use of surveys and analysis, this study will model and define the statistical relationship between these two variables.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Lisa Sublett UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Justin Nolasco UHCL Junior, Humanities		The Spread Of Christianity (Catholicism) In The Philippines.	<p>The Spread of Christianity (Catholicism) In the Philippines</p> <p>This paper will examine the spread of (Catholicism) in colonial Philippines. The first Catholic mass was said on Easter Sunday in the year 1521 on the Philippine Island. Early Spanish missionaries faced a lot of difficulties in converting the colony. The first factor was that there were not enough missionaries on the island making it difficult reaching everyone. The second factor was that the travel to the Philippines from Europe was in itself a rigorous task. The last factor was that the clergy often fell ill on the way, and the climate difference was unbearable once the clergy arrived. However, despite these difficulties the mission of conversion was largely successful. In this essay, I will analyze the methods of conversion used during the colonial period in the Philippines. The lens of propaganda and persuasion allows me to reach a much deeper comprehension of strategies used by the missionaries and their varied successes and setbacks. A method to some of the difficulties was that in 1521 Ferdinand Magellan arrived in the Philippines and he brought the faith to the people of the Philippines.</p>	Oral General	Dr. Beth Merfish UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Kaan Dogan UHCL Graduate, General Psychology		Desired Characteristics for Video-Game Characters Determined Between Genders across Character Roles: A Study on the Application of Gender Stereotypes in Character Design	This project is a survey study meant to evaluate differences in preferred characteristics for video-game characters between male and female participants. This study is based on the notion that male players prefer socially-desired masculine characteristics such as courage or independence for their player-character than females. The study also takes a look at these differing perceptions across three narrative roles in a typical video-game story: the protagonist/player character, the villain, and the supporting role. Not only does the study attempt to evaluate if masculine characteristics are more desirable for the hero role, but also evaluate if the same can be said for the villain role. Because the side character acts as a supportive companion to the player character, and therefore the player indirectly, the study attempts to find if socially-desired feminine characteristics such as compassion or empathy are preferred more than masculine traits across male and female perceptions. Using one-tailed independent t-tests, the study looks into how character design can be used to appeal to male and female players depending on socially-desired characteristics, as well as determine if the choice of immersing as the protagonist impacts the character design process.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Nicholas Kelling UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Kara Ayers UHCL Junior, Psychology	Jessica Futral Meagan Posten	Dark Triad Personality Traits and Infidelity	<p>The dark triad personality traits include narcissism, Machiavellianism, and psychopathy. Researchers have studied the dark triad personality traits and the role they play in career (Jonasen et al., 2014), choosing an academic major (Vedel & Tomsen, 2017), and romantic relationships, including inter-partner violence (Carton & Egan, 2017), and infidelity and revenge (Brewer, Hunt, James, & Abell, 2015). Brewer et al., (2015) found women who possess these traits were more likely to engage in infidelity. This study replicates these findings in a community sample (N=150). Through social media solicitation, participants completed the Dirty Dozen measuring the dark triad (Jonasen & Webster, 2010) and questions about attitudes towards infidelity via Qualtrics. A moderate positive correlation was found between self-reported infidelity and Machiavellianism ($r=.32$), psychopathy ($r=.24$), and narcissism ($r=.27$) as measured by the Dirty Dozen questionnaire. This research in finding a positive moderate correlation between narcissism and infidelity has extended the findings of previous research by McNulty and Widman (2014) who found a correlation between infidelity and sexual narcissism ($r=.30$). The wording of included items may have limited the ability of previous research to find a correlation between narcissism and infidelity that explains the discrepancy between previous findings and the current study.</p>	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Ms. Amy Gorniak UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Karen Trevino UHCL Junior, Healthcare Administration B.S.	Xochitl Flores	Hospice Care: How they Help to Prepare for the Inevitable?	Hospice Care is designed to give supportive care to people in the final phase of life. It focus on providing comfort and quality of life, in particular with pain management. Unfortunate family members need to cope with the realistic possibility of losing their love one. Hospice provides medical services and counseling services not only for the patient but also their families too. They help the patient's loved ones by providing suggestions on how to manage various situations and how to take care of the patient. Some techniques used in hospice are: counseling, respite services, and bereavement services. This presentation will provide insights on the process of taking care of the patient while under hospice care and a perspective point of view from the family side in how to cope with the inevitable loss of the person.	Oral General	Dr. Ashish Chandra UHCL	Unpaid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Kasra Ghodsi UHCL Junior, Computer Science		A Python-Based Password Strength Tester	<p>In a world of growing technological complexity, informational security is more crucial than it has ever been. One of the simplest and yet often overlooked aspects of cybersecurity is the use of strong passwords. Thus, I have created a simple password strength tester using the Python programming language. This program prompts the user to input a password, which is then evaluated by four criteria: length, number of distinct character types (uppercase letters, lowercase letters, digits, and symbols), presence of repeated elements, and presence of commonly used words. Depending on how well the password performs against each criteria, a number of points are deducted from a starting total of 100. The final password strength score is then displayed to the user, along with a score report which indicates how many points were deducted for each scoring criteria and what changes the user should make in order to improve the strength of his/her password. Through the use of this program, users not only receive direct feedback on the security of their current passwords, but also learn basic password hygiene in order to improve the quality of passwords that they create in the future. This was proposed as my term project as part of the requirements of my Computer Science I course during my first semester at UHCL. With the encouragement of my professor, I am submitting this project to be considered for oral presentation at the 24th Annual UHCL Student Conference for Research and Creative Arts.</p>	Oral General	Dr. Sadegh Davari UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Kassi Pool UHCL Junior, Psychology		Excuse Me! What Did They Just Say?: Gender Roles in Commination	This study will focus on the gender roles which society deems acceptable, where those societal views initiate, and how those gender roles come across in argumentative communication between a husband and wife. Conversational data was collected and analyzed in naturally occurring conversation for statements which place males in a more dominating position than females, and for comparative speech which would make the male seem greater such as: bigger, smaller, dramatic, and little. This study found that the male participant used gendered speech to make himself appear bigger, while using "smaller" language in a derogatory way. In addition, the study yielded a projecting of certain stereotypes from the male participant onto the female participant. These findings prove that men conform to these pre-conceived gender norms which are taught from childhood, to appear more dominant in argumentative conversation.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Patricia Droz UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Katherine Penuela UHCL Freshman, Marriage and Family Therapy	Bahareh Mahdavi	A Closer Look At Transgender Community and Relationships	The struggle and emerging issues of the transgender in our society continues to be a topic that is gaining in understanding and research as well as societal implications and effective clinical and therapeutic support. This poster examines the research, challenges, and main issues for transgender couples. It was not so long ago that clinicians discouraged romantic relationships and encouraged a breakup if an individual was going through a gender expression change, gender transition, or sex reassignment surgery. Now, we understand that many transgender couples are engaging in romantic relationships during many different kinds of transitions in life along with those above including marriage, parenting, and romantic relationships. Further these couples are very diverse in their vulnerability, support networks, resilience, and quality of relationships. Using several measures including the Social Connectedness Scale and The Internalized Transphobia Scale, this poster will evaluate research that sheds light for clinicians about transgender couples. We will review the relationship satisfaction, the kind of acceptance and social support these couples receive within the transgender community. Also, explore how discrimination, resilience, depression, and financial hardships impact these couples. Further, we will discuss the clinical implications for marriage and family therapists as they work with and support transgender couples.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Matthew Brown UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Kayla Greene UHCL Junior, Psychology		Women's Speech: Beyond Politeness and Powerlessness	This paper examines assumptions about women's speech, namely that is necessarily polite or "ladylike." Proponents of the dominance approach to language and gender reduce women's speech to ineffectual muttering, without considering that women have the ability to choose their words for themselves, despite socialization. That women can be polite is certainly true, but claims that women are the more polite gender are either outdated, or an oversimplification about the nature of women and their language use. Using a transcribed, two-minute segment of mixed-sex conversation, I will demonstrate that women's speech is more complex and dynamic than it is assumed to be.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Patricia Droz UHCL	Paid
Kayla Marie Lozano UHCL Junior, Social Work		"Feminist Theory: An Invitation to Dinner"	This essay is based on an undergraduate's personal introduction into Feminism. The Women and Gender Studies 4372 course, "Seminars in Women's Studies" (UHCL, 2017), was a first for me. My essay, "Feminist Theory: An Invitation to Dinner" (Lozano, 2017), was an homage to the Feminist ideology of "having a seat at the table." All of the characters were compiled from a semester of assigned readings, movies, and guest speakers. I credit my professor, a true Feminist, Dr. Shreerekha Subramanian for this memorable experience and invitation.	Oral General	Dr. Shreerekha Subramanian UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Kelleyanne Kelley UHCL Graduate, Sociology		Societal Pressure and Makeup Usage	The position of women in society has advanced considerably over the last half century. In this modern era, many expectations placed on women's appearances are seen as relics of the past. Companies have taken advantage of the popularity of feminist ideology and now use it as a way to advertise their products. Makeup is portrayed as a tool of female empowerment. However, research has shown that there are various forces acting upon women that may make the use of makeup more of a requirement than a choice. There is a question of how much empowerment women can receive from engaging in an activity that they still feel pressure to participate in. This project will explore the relationship between societal pressure and makeup usage among female UHCL students. The author will explore this relationship through the use of survey data.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Amy Lucas UHCL	Paid
Kelly Meier UHCL Graduate, Sociology		Characteristics of Individuals and Attitudes Toward Volunteering	This study will assess college student's attitudes toward volunteering because I would like to determine if certain characteristics of particular groups determine different, if any, volunteer motivations. There is much research done on the motivations of volunteers in society, but more research is needed to determine if demographic characteristics or ideological differences can determine the type of volunteer work a person does, or if certain groups of people who volunteer have similar or different motivations.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Amy Lucas UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Kelsey Campbell UHCL Graduate, Behavior Analysis		Latency as Dependent Measure during Functional Analyses of Problem Behavior in an Outpatient Setting	Previous procedures demonstrating the utility of the Latency functional analysis (FA) are extended to the outpatient setting and evaluated for correspondence with the Standard FA. Outcomes are evaluated for individuals with problem behavior (e.g., aggression, self-injury, and property destruction). Further, treatment including functional communication training (FCT) is evaluated to determine whether latency corresponds with rate. Implications include mitigating instances of severe problem behavior and efficiency during assessment. Results indicate correspondence between both assessments for four out of six participants to date (i.e., 67% correspondence). For one participant, the Latency FA yielded a false positive for one function and for the other participant the Standard FA identified a function not captured by the Latency FA. Treatment outcomes for three participants indicate that lower latencies to aggression correspond with higher rates of aggression.	Oral General	Dr. Jennifer Fritz UHCL	Paid
Kelsey Flores UHCL Junior, Literature		Sin and Sex: The Secret Ingredients of Escape in Go Tell It on the Mountain	<p>Go Tell It on the Mountain discusses the inner conflicts of, and concerning faith, desire, and identity among select members of the Protestant Grimes family. Throughout the novel, readers are exposed to the sins and sometimes the thought processes of many of the characters who are in the dark about the actions of each other. They always seem to be at odds with themselves and/or their faith, and the only way any of them feel any sense of pleasure or happiness is through sin--more often than not sexual sin, whether it be directly tied to intercourse or through thoughts of and acts of subtle intimacy as possible precursors to intercourse--Baldwin highlights with his use of sentence variation and contrasting diction.</p> <p>Through a series of comparisons of situations of or lacking desire within the text, I have attempted to shed some light on Baldwin's ambiguous playbook of sin and identity.</p>	Oral General	Dr. Joanna Eleftheriou UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Kelsie Cavazos UHCL Senior, Literature Arts		Female Self and Flesh	Margaret Atwood's dystopian narrative, <i>The Handmaid's Tale</i> , produces an intricate interaction between the female mind and body in correlation to the oppressive society of Gilead. This paper examines Atwood's use of disembodiment within the text, which invokes the reader to acknowledge Offred's journey to female liberation and the means in which she clings to her identity in doing so. Through an examination of the separation of the self from the flesh Offred's ability to undermine patriarchal restrictions of the female body through manipulation and subversion are revealed. By analyzing the layers of body imagery and rhetoric within the text, in comparison to Offred's memory; a powerful juxtaposition calls the reader to deeply question the implications of the connection or disconnection of female mind and body.	Oral General	Dr. Joanna Eleftheriou UHCL	Paid
Kendall Baker UHCL Sophomore, Humanities		The Parallel Separation of Positions and Powers Between Atwood's Women and Greek Goddesses	This paper examines the similarities between the women of Atwood's novel <i>The Handmaid's Tale</i> and Greek goddesses in regards to their diminished authority by the distribution of their positions, such as Handmaids and Marthas, and powers, such as fertility and sexual love. This paper argues that <i>The Handmaid's Tale</i> contains a societal parallel to ancient Greek goddesses through the religion based patriarchal government by the separation of the female's special gifts into individual roles. This is presented through the woman's ability to nurture, their fertility, and domestic skills as a way to exploit these ideologies and confine women. This is significant because while this novel has been compared to other regimes, such as Hitler's Germany and Stalin's Russia to examine the governments oppression of the society, not much has been said about how the women compare to women of other cultures. This paper is intended to reveal how the texts reinforces patriarchal norms by confining women into roles that represent only one of their abilities. It is significant because it shows the exploitation of women through a government's manipulation of religion goes beyond the Christian religion and is the result of patriarchal dominance in both religion and government.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Joanna Eleftheriou UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Kenia Velasquez UHCL Graduate, Health Service Psychology Psy.D.	Savannah Gosnell, Ramiro Salas, Steven Bistricky, Stephanie Segovia, Gabriela Romero, Tyler Duke	Psychological Inflexibility and Altered Frontal to Basal Ganglia Resting State Functional Brain Connectivity in Posttraumatic Stress Disorder	Posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), can develop after exposure to a traumatic or stressful event (Bremner, 2007). It includes intrusive, recurrent, and distressing memories of the traumatic event, and avoidance of stimuli which closely relate to the traumatic experience (Bremner, 2006; American Psychiatric Association, 2013). These symptoms of PTSD are said to be associated with changes in brain structure and function (Bremner, 2007). Functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) studies have shown that individuals with psychiatric disorders have different brain functionality compared to healthy controls (Pannekoek et al., 2015). PTSD fMRI research describes functional abnormalities in emotion-generation regions, such as the amygdala and insula, and in emotion-regulation regions, including the anterior cingulate cortex (ACC) and medial prefrontal cortex (mPFC) (Koenigs and Grafman, 2009). Other areas implicated in PTSD include Brodmann area 25 (BA25), which has been implicated in the neural circuitry of trauma and stress (Bremner, 2006). Individuals with PTSD are affected by rumination, thought suppression, and experiential avoidance, which are symptoms that may also become a maintaining factor for PTSD (Seligowski, Rogers, and Orcutt, 2016). The aim of the current study is to improve on previous fMRI resting state functional connectivity (RSFC) research, which often only compared individuals with PTSD to healthy controls.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Steven Bistricky UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Kevin Do UHCL Graduate, Physics		Towards a Mechanism of Action of a Weak Magnetic Field on Bacteria	The effects of weak magnetic fields (WMFs) on bacteria have attracted considerable attention in the field of magnetobiology. Recent studies have shown that exposure to WMFs alter bacterial behavior at the cellular and molecular scales. In this study, we investigate the long-term effects of static and oscillatory magnetic fields on Escherichia coli. Bacterial cultures were suspended in nutrient broth and grown in their respective magnetic field configurations. The optical density (absorbance) as a function of time and wavelength of field-exposed samples were compared to control cultures. Standard curves were used to obtain values of the molar extinction coefficient. Our results indicate an increase in population growth rates due to a weak static field. Possible mechanisms of biological effects due to WMFs are discussed.	Oral Symposium	Dr. Samina Masood UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Kevin Johnson UHCL Graduate, Cross Cultural Studies		Feminism in Vietnamese Community	<p>Abstract</p> <p>This study investigated gender issues for Vietnamese American women. Primary sources in the form photos and secondary source information from scholarly journal articles, newspaper articles and books were reviewed for content related gender role conceptions in Viet Nam and in the diaspora. Women of color feminism highlights Intersectionality in which overlapping categories regarding race, class, gender, and migration status affect experiences and identity. Migration following the Viet Nam war in 1975 resulted in a large Vietnamese American population in the Houston Metropolitan Area. Vietnamese, English, and Spanish are three languages used at voting booths in the area. A study of the gendered aspect of experiences in Viet Nam as well as analysis of the gendered aspects of migration experienced by Vietnamese emigrants fosters greater awareness of the diversity in women of color feminism. The anti-Viet Nam war activism, the civil rights movement and the second wave feminist movement shaped much social-political dialogue in the U.S in the 1960s and 1970s. Images representing Vietnamese females ranged from being vulnerable women or girls to being women fighters. This study analyzed representations of Vietnamese and Vietnamese American women in the past and presents. Domestic violence, cultural identity, language barriers, and assimilation were found to be key issues connecting Vietnamese gender roles and feminism and to Women of Color feminism.</p>	Oral General	Dr. Deepa Reddy UHCL	Paid
Khadijah Jaradah UHCL Graduate, Physics		Theoretical Study Of Electron Impact-Ionization Of Molecules	This theoretical study explains the progress of treatment of electron impact ionization (e,2e) of atoms and molecules. To calculate the fully differential cross section (FDCS) for (e,2e) in different angles of final state of electron and energies there are different theoretical models are used. In addition, the interference effect of observed for tow molecules are studied	Oral Symposium	Dr. Samina Masood UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
<p>Krista Kamp UHCL Senior, Communication</p>		<p>Motion Graphic Animations: "Lyft," "Glowing Screens," "Memory Lane-Careers," and "The End of Mr. Y"</p>	<p>"Lyft"- My original concept was to design an ad for some type of driving service like Lyft or Uber. One of the main benefits of transportation services is that they can help keep people from driving under the influence. I chose to parody this by creating a shady bar area where a Lyft vehicle could pick up an anthropomorphic beer can.</p> <p>"Glowing Screens"- George Watsky's "Tiny Glowing Screens, Part 2" is an existential exploration into modern society and how individuals fit into the scheme of humanity. I wanted to make use of the fast pace and passionate delivery of the song with minimalist text that unfolds and transitions in a physical space.</p> <p>"Memory Lane-Careers"- I chose to bring to life the story of the different careers that I have wanted throughout my life. Since most of the careers I included were childhood dreams, I created a happy and carefree atmosphere using a storybook aesthetic, while symbolizing my continuous progress as a designer by branching into digital painting.</p> <p>"The End of Mr. Y"- Based on the book The End of Mr. Y by Scarlett Thomas, my opening sequence calls to a classic science fiction aesthetic inspired by Stranger Things. The story explores concepts through an alternate dimension called the Troposphere, which travelers enter by staring at a black dot on a paper. I wanted to mimic this important process without giving away too much of the actual plot, so I used a simple, retro style that emphasizes the text.</p>	<p>Oral Symposium</p>	<p>Prof. Anne Henry UHCL</p>	<p>Paid</p>

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Kristin O'Brien UHCL Graduate, Clinical Psychology M.A.	Staci Schield, Jessica Balderas, Gabriela Romero, Stephanie Segovia, Steven Bistricky	Attention Bias Variability and Implications for Depression Vulnerability	Zvielli et al. (2015) proposed that attention manifests in dynamic, phasic peaks over time rather than as a static phenomenon. They developed trial-level bias scoring (TLBS) to better assess attention processes and found that formerly depressed (i.e., at-risk) individuals demonstrated greater variability in attention bias (ABV) rather than valence-specific bias (e.g., toward sad stimuli; Zvielli et al., 2016). In the present study, participants grouped as formerly depressed (FDG; n = 67) or never depressed (NDG; n = 97) completed the BDI-II and a modified dot-probe task, which yielded reaction times for attention allocated toward facial stimuli. TLBS analyses produced scores to represent estimations of attention bias in time. We hypothesized that depression history (i.e., group) would significantly predict ABV and specifically that the FDG would demonstrate greater ABV than the NDG. Current dysphoria (BDI-II) was assessed as a control variable to facilitate examination specifically of the effect of only group on ABV. Gender was also assessed due to confounding emotional information processing differences in gender found in prior research (e.g., Hall et al., 2003). Group did not significantly predict ABV ($F(1,160)=.017, p=.90$), but gender independently and significantly predicted ABV ($R^2=.04, F(1,162)=6.77, p=.01$). Results indicated potential gender-based differences in emotional information processing, which may illuminate gender-based cognitive risk factors for depression.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Steven Bistricky UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Kristy Davison UHCL Sophomore, Psychology		Distance, acculturative stress, and extracurricular programs: Examining the multiple obstacles faced by at-risk Latinx high school students in Houston	This symposium will provide an overview of a school designed to meet the needs of economically disadvantaged, at-risk, Latinx adolescents in Houston, including transportation to/from school, support services, and after school programs. Talk 1 will provide an overview of the history and mission of George Sanchez Charter School. Talk 2 will discuss why students who attend George Sanchez School. Talk 2 will discuss why students who attend George Sanchez have transferred from schools across Houston, with many traveling over an hour to attend the "last chance" charter school. Mapping of locations with corresponding travel times will be presented along with existing research on academic outcomes for students who travel for the opportunity to attend schools who support their needs. Talk 3 examines acculturative stress and academic performance, and the need for supportive services for immigrant students and parents who experience high levels of discrimination. To conclude our panel, Talk 4 will examine the benefits of after school programs, with attention to academic outcomes related to academic versus non-academic focused programs.	Oral Symposium	Dr. Desdamona Rios UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Kyle Dawson UHCL Graduate, Behavior Analysis		Competing Stimulus in Treatment of Problem Behavior Maintained by Social-Negative Reinforcement	<p>Treatment of escape-maintained problem behavior has largely focused on providing the functional reinforcer of a break contingent on appropriate alternative behavior (e.g., DRA), for the absence of the target behavior (i.e., DRO), or noncontingently (i.e., NCR). Recent research suggests the use of arbitrary reinforcement can also be effective in decreasing problem behavior maintained by escape from demands. The current study examined the use of a competing stimulus in reducing problem behavior maintained by social-negative reinforcement in the form of escape from demands and on increasing compliance with demands without the use of extinction. First, an FA was conducted to identify the participants engaged in problem behavior, at least in part, to escape from demands. Next, a competing stimulus assessment was conducted in the context of demands to identify stimuli that competed with escape. Finally, the competing stimulus was provided noncontingently and continuously during work instruction, while problem behavior still resulted in the functional reinforcer of a break from demands. Results of the study will be discussed.</p>	Oral Symposium	Dr. Jennifer Fritz UHCL	Paid
Lacy Kozak UHCL Sophomore, Psychology		Being Your Own Person	<p>The conflict between what we want, who our family thinks we should be, and what our culture and society thinks is right can be confusing. It leaves many people uncertain of the right decision and exasperated trying to make everyone else happy to avoid confrontation. It's no wonder we struggle with knowing who we are and doing the right thing. Here's the fix for that...</p>	Oral Roundtable	Prof. Mary Margaret Lobb UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Landon Smerek UHCL Graduate, General Psychology	Ashton Bowlen	The effects of age and school status on the stroop task	<p>Abstract</p> <p>The Stroop Task (Stroop, 1935) investigates people's ability to differentially attend to different stimuli. The current investigation compared scores on the Stroop Task when considering participants age and school status (full-time vs. part-time). There were no differences in scoring on the Stroop Task when considering age. With school status there was a difference in scoring amongst those who were part time students compared to the full time students. More research should be done investigating the differences in differential attention between students with different student statuses. There were limitations to this study in terms of sample size, testing effects, and convenience sampling. Future research should include more participants, a better testing environment, and a more diverse sample.</p>	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Angela Kelling UHCL	Paid
Laura Sarmiento UHCL Graduate, Psychology		Motivation and Exercise: Improving Participation for University Students	<p>Exercise is an important behavior that, for much of human existence, was a matter of necessity for survival. Today, most people don't get the exercise they need to maintain health, or at least not to the level that is recommended. Since, in modern times, it is not always necessary to exercise to sustain your basic physical needs like food, different drivers are needed. Multiple theories have been used to assess individual's motivations to exercise. This study will investigate one of these theories, the Self Determination Theory, which focuses on the innate psychological needs of competence, autonomy, and relatedness. These needs intrinsically motivate behavior. Previous research has found that intrinsic motivation is a stronger indicator for adherence to exercise programs than extrinsic motivation. It is important to study these needs to gain a better understanding of the underlying mechanisms of motivation for exercise, to better promote exercise, and to engage more students in healthy behaviors. This study establishes a more complete look at the effects of motivation on exercise by asking pointed questions based on the lessons learned from previous research.</p>	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Nicholas Kelling UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Lawrence Rhoads UHCL Graduate, Physics		Topological Applications in Quantum Physics	A brief overview of topological concepts is discussed, then a discussion of the application of topology in quantum physics is reviewed. A brief history of the influence Topology has had on Physics is considered. Classical examples are discussed, then used as an analogy to understand quantum illustrations. The future of Topological applications is discussed, specifically with topological quantum computation.	Oral Symposium	Dr. Samina Masood UHCL	Paid
Leah Smith UHCL Graduate, Behavior Analysis		Simple-Conditional and Conditional Picture Exchange Communication Training During Treatment of Problem Behavior	When incorporating the picture exchange communication system (PECS) into functional communication training (FCT), several teaching approaches might be used in addition to extinction. To quickly reduce problem behavior, the practitioner might teach a generalized mand (i.e., "toys") before teaching a response with higher response effort, such as specific mands within an extended picture-exchange system. This study determined if prior exposure to generalized mand training during FCT as a treatment for problem behavior maintained by social-positive reinforcement (access to tangible items) resulted in reemergence of problem behavior during best-practice discrimination training of three specific mands (e.g., car, truck, and bike). If problem behavior reemerged, the secondary purpose of this study was to compare the efficiency of simple-conditional and conditional-only discrimination training methods. The two training methods were compared within a multielement design. For one participant to date, generalized mand training resulted in the reduction of problem behavior and increase in independent mands. The results of specific mand training using conditional-only methods are ongoing.	Oral Symposium	Dr. Jennifer Fritz UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Lisa Forger UHCL Graduate, Psychology		Examining Attitudes Regarding Healthcare and Health Disparities Across Racial Groups	Medical researchers are constantly attempting to discover new ways to provide the best care possible for their patients. However, studying attitudes towards healthcare and health disparities is imperative in ensuring that individuals receive fair, equal treatment in the medical realm. The present study aims to examine outlooks on healthcare and health disparities across multiple racial groups and determine how these attitudes differ or remain the same. The participants of this study were students enrolled in classes at The University of Houston – Clear Lake in the spring of 2017. Data was collected via online survey. Data was then analyzed regarding racial groups and attitudes towards healthcare and health disparities. Participants were asked a total of sixteen questions. Correlational tests were then performed to determine the relationship between the variables.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Nicholas Kelling UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Luetta Walker UHCL Junior, Psychology		Guardianship configuration as a predictor of academic outcomes	<p>Researchers posit that familism, a belief in the importance of family in the Latinx culture, positively influences student outcomes and is associated with increased school attachment and fewer depressive symptoms (Stein, Gonzalez, & Cupito, 2015). Kuhlberg, Peña, & Zayas (2010) report familism safeguards adolescents' emotional and behavioral health and is associated with lower levels of parent-adolescent conflict (Gonzalez, & Cupito, 2015). Studies also find that students who do not identify with or value their families are considered at-risk for maladjustment (Yen, et al. 2017). Considering the large percentage of students at George Sanchez Charter School who are immigrants or whose parents are immigrants, it is likely that many live with one, both, or neither biological parents. This presentation will examine the relationship of a student's primary caregiver(s) and school performance, specifically GPA and truancy. The following configurations of caregivers will be examined: 1) both parents, 2) mother only, 3) father only, 4) other family members, and 5) non-family members in relation to GPA and truancy Results will be discussed in the context of the importance of a perceived positive familial support in relation to ability to concentrate at school, effective study habits, confidence, peer relations, stress, and coping skills.</p>	Oral Symposium	Dr. Desdamaona Rios UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Luis Hernandez UHCL Junior, Healthcare Administration		The Impact of Hurrican Katrina on Healthcare facilities in cities providing refugee	Hurricane Katrina overwhelmed the United States' Emergency response system in 2005. The Center of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) failed to account the magnitude of this natural disaster, which led to a delayed delivery of health information to the public. Refugee centers were set across Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, and Texas to anticipate evacuees from the gulf coast. An estimated 1.5 million people over the age of 16 evacuated into these states (Groen & Polivka 2008). We will be discussing how two Health Care systems in Texas, Houston and Tarrant County, dealt with an overcrowding amount of low economic refugees who were enrolled in government health plans and had recently become uninsured. Tarrant County, family physicians and administrators of the JPS Health Network developed an emergency plan that would allow care to 1,664 individuals. The JSP established a centralized receiving center that would direct evacuees with health care needs to primary clinics, and prevent the overcrowding of its Emergency Department (Edwards 2007). In Houston the count of refugees was approximately 27,100. A survey conducted by the Kaiser foundation and the Harvard School of Public Medicine found that 2 out of 10 evacuees had private health insurance, 54 % were uninsured, and 33% had an income less than \$10,000 in 2004 (Brodie 2006). The CMS developed a waiver that provided 5 months of Medicare and SCHIP coverage to qualifying refugees, and their "home" states would incur the costs.	Oral General	Dr. Ashish Chandra UHCL	Unpaid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Luis Zepeda UHCL Senior, Psychology		At-Risk Youth, Social Services, and Academic Achievement	<p>The interplay between at-risk youth, receiving social services, and academic achievement is an interesting dynamic to consider. Research has shown the negative consequences of at-risk factors on adolescents' academic achievement, as well as the positive relationship between social services and academics. For example, multiple studies have shown that when a student's basic needs are met (e.g. good nutrition, safe home environment), they report lower levels of stress and higher academic performance. However, not all young people in the United States have their basic needs met. Social services offered by schools can positively influence academic achievement, and the continued support of social services may benefit a youth's overall well-being and buffer against the outcomes of being at-risk. At-risk factors included in this presentation will include low academic performance, low socioeconomic status, and engagement in high-risk behaviors. Social services to be examined include food and/or medical assistance programs, and academic achievement will be measured by grade point averages (GPA). Results from the George Sanchez Charter School population will be grounded in their context, including discussion of the hardships and obstacles they encounter on a daily basis.</p>	Oral Symposium	Dr. Desdamaona Rios UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Lydia Newcomb UHCL Graduate, Cross-Cultural and Global Studies		Human Rights & Health in the United States	Health is a fundamental human right indispensable for the exercise of other human rights” begins the document of the Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights of the United Nations. This roundtable discussion will explore a variety of aspects of health and human rights in the United States. The roundtable will explore a series of interrelated questions: What human rights violations exist in the U.S. regarding health and well-being? How can a human rights framework deepen understandings of health social justice? How do human rights organizations, mostly non-governmental organizations, carry out the “work” of human rights in the U.S.? Each student will present a brief overview of a specific aspect of health and rights. Topics include immigrant worker health, family separation and trauma, and teaching and human rights activism, among others. The audience will be invited to ask questions and join the discussion.	Oral Roundtable	Dr. Christine Kovic UHCL	Paid
Madison Stults UHCL Senior, Environmental Science	Maria Barron Gonzalez, Jorge Jaimes, Arcadius Krivoshein	Profiling of Perfumes Using GC-MS and Mass Spectral Library Search	Due to their complexity, many perfumes available commercially may present analytical challenges. Gas chromatography-mass spectrometry is a powerful analytical tool that allows separation and identification of various organic compounds. While some studies have explored the application of GC-MS in the analysis of perfumes, few are comprehensive analyses of a broad range of perfumes. This work is important in order to establish a method for quality control analysis of manufactured perfumes. In this study, we used GC-MS and library search to resolve and identify the main components of 14 different perfumes. Despite the complexity of the perfumes studied, we established that most of the perfumes contain several key ingredients such as linalool, lialyl acetate, methyl dihydrojasmonate, limonene, alpha-isomehtyl ionone, beta-myrcene, tridecanyl acetate, 3-(4-tert-butylphenyl)-isobutyraldehyde. Our results confirm that GC-MS is especially useful in the analysis of perfumes composed of natural and synthetic ingredients.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Arcadius Krivoshein UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Maheen Rizvi UHCL Graduate, Clinical Psychology	Sarah Parrish, Kaitlyn Zajack	Willingness to Forgive	This study focuses on graduate students' willingness to forgive certain scenarios according to DeShea's (2003) Willingness to Forgive scale. We examine the likelihood of forgiveness in relation to age and religiosity as factors that could impact forgiveness. Results indicate no significant effects of any of these factors on willingness to forgive. Further research should investigate other variables related to a wider range of age groups, and specific religions in relation to forgiveness.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Angela Kelling UHCL	Paid
Maria Ornelas UHCL Graduate, Humanities		Witchcraft vs Christian Order	The purpose of this research looks at witches during the 18th century in visual arts from Spain. The works of art depict the stereotypes that represented witches and served as a tactic utilized by Christian Order to further its agenda. The focus of the paper is to examine the economic, modernization, and social changes that influenced the persecution of witches. This research draws upon analysis works of art and historical accounts that reflect the social and religious concerns of Christian Spain.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Beth Merfish UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Mark Stapelfeldt UHCL Senior, Humanities		Less Thought, More Hope: Suicide Prevention in "A Tale For the Time Being"	With the global suicide rate on the rise, especially for young teens, the need for preventative measures have become more worthwhile now more than ever. The stressful environments of school and the internet pose a serious threat to the mental health of teenagers without the means to combat their growing hopelessness. In Ruth Ozeki's novel A Tale for the Time Being, the story of a teenage girl named Naoko Yasutani, more commonly known as "Nao," mirrors that of the rising stress levels of suicidal teens, and showcases how the teachings of Buddhism prevent suicide. Despair and hope are commonly seen as opposites when referring to expectations, and can also be interpreted as a numerical scale from zero to one, where zero is the default state of despair when a person is void of expectations. If black is the absence of color, and the number zero is the lack of quantity, then despair is the absence of expectations. I contend that Nao's story represents the crucial balance of hope and despair that keeps a person from either committing suicide or attempting to kill themselves. This research will further the discussion of alternative countermeasures to suicide, such as religious practices.	Oral General	Dr. Joanna Eleftheriou UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
<p>Martin Gonzalez UHCL Graduate, Sociology</p>		<p>Higher Education and Prejudice: The Relationship Between Educational Identity and Attitudes Toward Undocumented Immigrants</p>	<p>Within the current sociopolitical climate, popular media and significant political figures such as Donald Trump have increasingly publicized issues surrounding the undocumented community. As a result, anti-undocumented ideologies and policies have placed undocumented immigrants in an incredibly vulnerable position, especially for those seeking a higher education. Within higher education institutions, resources, student-led organizations, and discussions revolving around undocumented issues have largely been scarce, irregular, and infrequent; thus, the way students attending a higher education institution perceive undocumented immigrants has remained unclear. The current study aims to reveal what student attitudes toward undocumented immigrants look like, as well as show how these attitudes may differ based on a student's educational identity using survey data collected during the 2018 Spring Semester. In uncovering what aspects of educational identity may influence a student's perception of undocumented immigrants, this study will interpret both anti-undocumented attitudes and pro-undocumented attitudes, as well as discuss their implications for the university at large. In a time where DACA and similar policies protecting undocumented immigrants have been placed in limbo and the knowledge of who to trust with their documentation status unclear, research focusing on the perceptions of undocumented immigrants is crucial in facilitating advocacy for this neglected community.</p>	<p>Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm</p>	<p>Dr. Amy Lucas UHCL</p>	<p>Paid</p>

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
<p>Matt Cole UHCL Sophomore, Geography</p>		<p>Mapping Flood Waters in the City of Friendswood</p>	<p>No one could have predicted the devastating effect Hurricane Harvey would have on the Texas gulf coast. In the Friendswood area alone, homes along Clear Creek, once thought to be safely situated and elevated, took in an upwards of 60 inches of water. As climate science prognosticates extreme and unpredictable weather patterns, it is incumbent upon city planners and residents living along Clear Creek to take action so they minimize the effects of future powerful storms. In search for a possible solution, this research examines the following question: How much will it cost to demolish the homes along Clear Creek that were most affected by the flood waters? How much will the buyout be to move those specific homes from the flood affected area, to the better location? How many of the most affected houses do we need to move to create a park in that area? How much data is needed to be gathered from the homes along Clear Creek to be bought out? This question will help city planners and people living along the creek to explore one possible avenue that would reduce the human impact of extreme high flood waters. To help with our research, we will derive data from many sources, including geographical and landscape data from the city of Friendswood, historical flood maps, elevation records, and area home values. From this research, we hope to offer a way for the Friendswood community to minimize the human impact and reduce the damage done to residential, public and commercial property.</p>	<p>Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm</p>	<p>Dr. Jeff Lash UHCL</p>	<p>Paid</p>

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Matthew Napoli San Jacinto Sophomore, Fine Arts		Social Flow: Painting Modern Relationships	Artist Statement: My work concerns the fluidity of relationships. I primarily seek to draw attention to the unusual ways that we are shaped and re-shaped by our relationships (both successful and failed). While my primary focus is on romantic and sexual experience, I don't exclusively evaluate relationships of that sort-- although I always approach my work surface with my "love life" affecting my decision making. Therefore, I do figurative works wherein I subject my figures to absurd folding, stretching, and removal, reflecting the absurdity of modern communication and courtship, which is frequently app-based and streamlined to foster misunderstanding and mutual dehumanization. By circumventing cutting edge communications technology, we communicate more effectively.	Oral General	Prof. Martin Wnuk San Jacinto College South Campus	Paid
Matthew Rodriguez UHCL Graduate, Industrial and Organizational Psychology	Jennifer Jackson, Jesse Hudson	Does Your Teacher Stress You Out?: A statistical Analysis of Instructor Methodology and Student Stress.	This study was conducted to measure perceived student stress when compared to various instructor methodologies. Using a modified version of the Multi-factor Leadership Questionnaire(MLQ) and the Perceived Stress Scale(PSS), the relationship between coaching, authoritative and laissez-faire styles of teaching and the reported levels of stress by students was observed and compared.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Lisa Sublett UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Melissa Arvizu UHCL Senior, Humanities - Pre Law		The Anchor Baby and the Media ☐	Despite the United States' roots in immigration, much of our modern media reflects an anti-immigration sentiment that encourages racial division. The term "anchor baby" has been used as a shift in focus of "the enemy." The term "anchor baby" is used for a child of an undocumented mother who chooses to give birth in a country that has birthright citizenship in order to secure that for her child. In negative media, the anchor baby is portrayed as a sort of golden ticket for the undocumented mother to receive government assistance through her child and for the child to receive a free public education on the taxpayers' dime. The term, loosely-defined, has become the center of a great deal of negative media and political attention around immigration, particularly as it is overwhelmingly applied to children of Latin American descent. In this paper, I will examine the expanding use of the term "anchor baby" and its connotations to contribute to a greater understanding of the racial messaging often implied by its use. It is important to have proper research performed on not only the origin of the "anchor baby" term, but the way it has been fed to and perceived by the public.	Oral General	Dr. Beth Merfish UHCL	Paid
Michael Grimes UHCL Graduate, Biotechnology		What Caused the 2016 Localized Die-off of the East Flower Garden Banks, A bacterial community analysis	In late July of 2016 recreational divers aboard the vessel R/V Fling encountered an unusual event. What was expected to be a normal day of diving in the clear waters around the East Flower Garden bank, was quickly changed by hazy green waters, white bacterial mats covering the corals and sponges, and numerous invertebrates lying dead on the sea floor. Utilizing Illumina next generation sequencing, we looked at the various microbial communities associated with affected and unaffected samples from both the East Flower Garden Bank and the West Flower Garden Bank. We focused on analyzing two species of marine sponge A. Clathrodes and X. Muta. Through the process of DNA extraction, quantification, and sequencing we have found differences between the communities of affected and unaffected samples, in both species of sponges.	Oral General	Dr. Lory Santiago UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Michael Pickett UHCL Graduate, Human Factors	Karina Turner	Self-Esteem Implicit Association Test and Academic Confidence	Self-esteem influences different aspects of our lives (Baumeister, Campbell, Krueger, & Vohs, 2003). The main research questions involved seeing if there was any relationship between student's levels of self-esteem and other aspects of their academic lives. Eighteen students at the UHCL were asked to participate in a survey after taking their midterm exam for their statistics course. This survey included a questionnaire about various aspects of their academic lives, the Implicit Association Test (IAT), and the Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale. No statistically significant differences between implicit self-esteem and perceived level of preparedness for a midterm exam or time the student had spent studying for the exam was found. There was also no statistically significant difference between the major the student was enrolled in and their scores of implicit self-esteem.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Angela Kelling UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Michelle Spinelli UHCL Senior, Psychology	Dr. Sara Elkins	Parent Behavioral Training: Tracking the Employability of Skills Learned in a Single Session Format	Behavioral parent training (BPT) is a program that teaches parents of children with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) strategies to manage their child's environment by rewarding desired behavior and utilizing more concise sets of instructions to help children remain on task (Fabiano et al., 2009; Jones et al., 2013; Pfiffner & Haack, 2014). BPT has an extensive base of evidence demonstrating efficacy in managing ADHD symptoms, and it is currently the most widely used behavior form of treatment for this condition (Chacko et al., 2016; Fabiano et al., 2009; Gerdes et al., 2012). However, parent engagement has proven to be challenging. Parents and families with the desire to attend BPT ultimately find themselves unable to commit to 12-15 weekly training sessions that each last 2-2.5 hours. Utilizing a single three-hour BPT seminar, we aim to study parent engagement, parental employment of skills set taught in the seminar, and family dynamics that increase the sustainability of employed skills. We will study these factors using a series of surveys designed to capture feedback on the skills learned in a single BPT session. These families will complete surveys before and after the seminar, as well as an emailed survey completed 2-weeks and 8-weeks post-seminar. Results regarding the efficacy of BPT with co-parent implementation of BPT tools and the effects to sibling-parent/sibling-ADHD sibling relationships after implementation of BPT will be presented.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Christine Walther UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Michelle Spinelli UHCL Senior, Psychology	Stephanie Segovia, London Lawrence, Wilton Marshall, Kristina Vinson	Product Framing and Consumer Choice	When making decisions, people tend to avoid risks if presented with a positive frame (e.g., gain) but seek risks if presented with a negative frame (e.g., loss) (Tversky, & Kahneman, 1986). These cognitive biases, referred to as framing effects, occur when individuals react to a rationale presented to them via, attribute, goal, or risky-choice framing effects (Levin et al., 2012). The media has long been sensitive to this phenomenon, often using framing effects to influence the way in which individuals think, choose, and act. To further explore this effect, we designed a study to test attribute framing effects with brand loyalty. We hypothesized that brand loyalty could be influenced by positive framing towards a generic brand and negative framing against a name brand. Participants were presented with framed questions intended to dispute brand product's claims of superior ingredients on the packaging. We found that participants who were asked negatively framed questions to bias them towards purchasing a generic product while looking at the packaging were swayed to purchase generic products (M=2.77, SE=0.103), more so than those who did not view the packaging (M=3.24, SE=0.120). This difference, -0.475, was significant $t(20)=-3.004$, $p=0.007$. These findings suggest that positive and negative framing of key attributes can disrupt loyalty via consumer cognitive bias of attribute framing effects.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Georgina Moreno UHCL	Paid
Miriam Salazar UHCL Senior, Geography		Confessions of a Proper Mexican Daughter	I am a Mexican daughter. This is one of the main titles I carry with me every day of my life. As a Mexican daughter, there are certain expectations am obligated to meet. One of those expectations is the acceptance of my role within my family. However, hidden within the electronic universe, away from the eyes of tradition, lays my testimony. Hidden away are my confessions, my struggles against the myths defined by Sam Keen that have been passed down from past daughters within my family. I have ventured out of my family's version of Plato's cave and have become the cartographer of what M. Scott Peck describes as my own Map of Life.	Oral Roundtable	Prof. Mary Margaret Lobb UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Miriam Salazar UHCL Senior, Geography		Neumann Library Resource Locator	<p>Do you have trouble finding books in the library? Every college student at some point in their academic career will be required to conduct a research project that will almost always require a minimum of one source from a book. Increasingly libraries are using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to help students locate the necessary resources to conduct research. The UHCL Alfred R. Neumann Library is a case in point. The purpose of this project is to demonstrate the feasibility of creating and implementing a GIS-based library resource locator.</p> <p>The project begins with the creation of a digital basemap detailing library infrastructure. This base map will interact with the library catalog system, which will allow library patrons to efficiently locate resources such as textbooks, media, or study rooms. Patrons will access the system through a cloud based web mapping application.</p>	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Jeff Lash UHCL	Paid
Mohamed AbdelGilil UHCL Sophomore, Biology	Isaiah Darling, Joshua Chamber	Essential Oils Effects on Bacterial Growth	<p>Essential oils (EOs) are plant derived products that have been used for aromatic and medicinal benefits since biblical times. Recently essential oils have been used in commercial products including: food flavorings, preservatives, and insecticides. Recently, the private consumption and scientific study of EOs has increased. Individuals and families utilize EOs as a preventative agent and treatment for an assortment of personal and medical ailments. Consumers of EOs utilize these products through three different avenues: aromatic diffusion, topical application, and orally ingesting [1]. EOs in cattle seed have demonstrated antimicrobial properties that reduce methane production [2]. EOs could feasibly be an antibiotic alternative for bacteria species resistant to all antibiotics [3].</p> <p>In this study we evaluated the EOs derived from <i>Melaleuca alternifolia</i> (Tea Tree) and <i>Eugenia caryophyllata</i> (Clove) to the response of <i>Escherichia coli</i> and <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>.</p>	Oral General	Dr. Michael LaMontagne UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Monica Adams UHCL Graduate, Behavioral Science		Gender Differences and Perceptions of Sexual Harassment Among University Students	<p>Defining sexual harassment has been a common goal for many researchers. When examining college student's perceptions of what constitutes as sexual harassment, researchers found that gender differences helped explain why women rated situations as being more sexually harassing than men (LaRocca & Kromrey, 1999). Not only did men rate sexual harassment incidents more leniently than women, but there were also gender differences regarding the gender of the perpetrator of sexual harassment (LaRocca & Kromrey, 1999). University student's perceptions of sexual harassment are particularly interesting. University students are suggested to have a different, more accepting code of conduct regarding sexual behaviors due to their young age and single marital status (Baker, Terpstra, & Cutler, 2001). Extending this research, the current study utilizes a survey to examine graduate students at UHCL and gender differences in their perceptions of what constitutes as sexual harassment. The current study also examines gender differences in perceptions of sexual harassment based on the gender of the perpetrator. It is predicted that male students will rate scenarios as being less sexually harassing than female students. It is also predicted that male and female students will rate female perpetrators as less harassing than male perpetrators.</p>	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Nicholas Kelling UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
<p>Monica Orellana UHCL Graduate, Behavioral Science</p>		<p>Human Rights & Health in the United States</p>	<p>“Health is a fundamental human right indispensable for the exercise of other human rights” begins the document of the Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights of the United Nations. This roundtable discussion will explore a variety of aspects of health and human rights in the United States. The roundtable will explore a series of interrelated questions: What human rights violations exist in the U.S. regarding health and well-being? How can a human rights framework deepen understandings of health social justice? How do human rights organizations, mostly non-governmental organizations, carry out the “work” of human rights in the U.S.? Each student will present a brief overview of a specific aspect of health and rights. Topics include immigrant worker health, family separation and trauma, and teaching and human rights activism, among others. The audience will be invited to ask questions and join the discussion.</p>	<p>Oral Roundtable</p>	<p>Dr. Christine Kovic UHCL</p>	<p>Paid</p>
<p>Montserrat Fabian UHCL Junior, Fitness and Human Performance</p>		<p>Submissiveness and Dominance in Gendered Language.</p>	<p>The purpose of this study is to gain a deeper understanding of power dynamics in heterosexual relationships. Although there is not much research done in this area, there are plenty of studies that examine gender roles and they usually find that women tend to be submissive and men tend to be dominant. In accordance to previous research, it can be hypothesized that there are power imbalances in heterosexual relationships and that men tend to have the upper hand. A single researcher conducted and analyzed an experiment. For the experiment, a conversation between a heterosexual couple was recorded with the consent of the participants. The data collected then was transcribed and analyzed. It was found that when looking at changes of footing and interruptions, both genders used them differently. The amount of interruptions made by each gender was also accounted for. It was found that men are more likely to interrupt women three times more often than women will interrupt men The information collected in this study could greatly benefit other fields of study such as power and relationship dynamics.</p>	<p>Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm</p>	<p>Dr. Patricia Droz UHCL</p>	<p>Paid</p>

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Morgan Campbell UHCL Graduate, Behavior Analysis		The Relative Effects of Individual Versus Group Interventions for Increasing Physical Activity in Adults	The CDC (2008) recommends that adults engage in a minimum of 150 min of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity (MVPA) per week, done at least 10 min at a time in order to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Previous research has shown that treatment packages consisting of some combination of self-monitoring, goal setting, and performance feedback are effective in increasing physical activity with adults (Donaldson & Normand, 2009; Normand, 2008; Wack, Crosland, & Miltenberger, 2014). Additional research has compared the effects of group interventions to individual (home-based) interventions (Dunn, Marcus, Kampert, Garcia, Kohl III, & Blair, 1999; King, Haskell Taylor, Kraemer, & DeBusk, 1991; Perri, Martin, Leermakers, Sears, & Notelovitz, 1997). The current study assessed the relative effects, participant preference, and short-term maintenance of an individual intervention package and a group intervention package on increasing weekly MVPA in typically developing adults. The results thus far indicate that the individual treatment package is effective in increasing MVPA, is more preferred over the group intervention package, and results in short-term maintenance of weekly MVPA.	Oral General	Dr. Dorothea Lerman UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Mycah Pollard UHCL Junior, Communications		Suspending a President	Social media has grown to an incredulous degree. There seems to be new innovations each year and the trends do not seem to be slowing down. Having the constant ability to talk to many people from many places around the world has given people an entirely new dimension to express themselves that was not conceivable just decades ago. However, there can be proper and improper use of any invention or application of a concept. One very popular social media app, Twitter, has been used to spread both positive and negative messages at an alarming speed. The election of Donald Trump as the 45th president of the United States has brought about unique circumstances. Rarely has a president used social media to the degree that President Trump has been and is currently doing. Many of these tweets directly result in actions or reactions from not only civilians and military members of the United States, but also leaders from other nations. Many of these reactions fall into the negative spectrum, such as the allegations of being wiretapped, alluding to possible tapes concerning conversations with James Comey, and accusing news outlets of being "fake news." These remarks have lead to protests outside of Trump Towers, disapproving responses on social media, and condemnation from other world leaders. This brings an intersting question to the fold: should Twitter suspend Donald Trump's personal account while he maintains the position of presidency and only leave his POTUS account active?	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Brent Kice UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
<p>Nancy Resendez UHCL Senior, Bachelor's of Fine Arts: Concentration in Graphic Design</p>		<p>Motion Graphics: Memory Lane - Jobs</p>	<p>This animation was part of a project in my Motion Graphic and coming up with idea was not very easy. At first I wanted the animation to be about how my art work had change from where I started to know. That idea was not working in my favor so I decided that I should do the project based on the various jobs I had in the past. I had already had some images done in Adobe Illustrator when I was learning how to use this program. The background and the clouds where done in a new program began using called Clip Studio Paint. I used the program called Adobe After Effects to bring this idea to life. I had previously used Adobe Premiere Pro to do these kind of animations in a previous class, Video Production, so timing the animation was not foreign to me. I would have liked to know to do many of the walking animation to give this a better flow. I will one day go back to this animation to add more jobs and even change the animation depending how much I grow after graduating.</p>	<p>Oral Symposium</p>	<p>Prof. Anne Henry UHCL</p>	<p>Paid</p>
<p>Natalie Burt UHCL Graduate, General Psychology</p>		<p>Sexual Differences in Preferred Context for Speaking</p>	<p>Recent findings, show that there are sexual differences in preferred context for speaking. This could have adverse effects on the equal representation of women in the work force and governmental decisions. Onnela and colleagues, conclude that women prefer to speak aloud in smaller groups than men, and, that women prefer to be in close proximity to those whom they are speaking to. Mendelberg, Karpowitz, & Shaker, (2012) found that the percentage of women in legislative deliberations is much higher than the percentage of the time women speak aloud during these debates. The aim of the current study is to compare the scores of both genders, within a sample of college students, on a self-reported questionnaire to find proof of the recent research on the subject. A sample of male and female college students completed a self-reported questionnaire with three levels; 1. Gender; 2. Preferred context for speaking; and 3. Preferred proximity of others whom they are speaking to. The results were statistically measured via correlation coefficient with the intention of validating these claims.</p>	<p>Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm</p>	<p>Dr. Nicholas Kelling UHCL</p>	<p>Paid</p>

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Natalie Villante UHCL Graduate, Applied Behavior Analysis		Teaching Adults with Developmental Disabilities to Problem Solve Using a Flowchart within a Simulated Vocational Setting	Employers report that many individuals with disabilities have difficulty completing their work and lack independence. This limits those individuals from acquiring and/or maintaining employment. The purpose of this study was to assess the use of flowcharts as a form of self-instruction to increase problem solving skills in individuals with developmental disabilities within a simulated vocational setting. Participants included a 22-year-old man diagnosed with a traumatic brain injury (TBI) and a 20-year-old man diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). We used behavioral skills training (BST) to teach both participants how to use a flowchart within the context of one problem exemplar (i.e., task completion). Generalization of flow chart use was then probed across untrained problem exemplars. Results for the first participant showed an immediate increase in problem solving skills from baseline levels. Generalization of flowchart use occurred for both participants across one untrained problem exemplar (i.e., supervisor unavailable). This study provides further information on a potential intervention for increasing independence on the job.	Oral Symposium	Dr. Dorothea Lerman UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Nate Fowles UHCL Graduate, Humanities M.A.		"The Power of the Poster": Nazi Propaganda and the Hitler Youth Movement	<p>In Germany during the 1930s the Hitler Youth movement used propaganda art as way to send political messages to adolescents. In order to keep the Nazi party alive Hitler aimed propaganda towards the youth as a means of developing the future of his "perfect race." These German students swore allegiance to Hitler while pledging to serve the nation as soldiers in the armed forces. In 1933 the Hitler Youth had 50,000 adolescents from the ages 10 to 17, and then in 1936 this number jumped to 5.4 million. Clearly indoctrination into the Nazi party was taking place, and this paper will explain why Nazi propaganda was a successful tool for doing so. The Nazi poster illustrator Ludwig Hohlwein used monumental stances, interlocking lines and tonal contrast to target the German youth with his poster "The German Student Fights for the Fuhrer and the People." With an architecture background and a very successful career in advertising, Hohlwein was considered one of the best illustrators during this time period. Early in his career Hohlwein's unique style of poster advertised automobiles, tea and cigarettes; later, during the rise of the Nazi party, he carried over these graphic design techniques regarding composition, subject and color into political propaganda posters. It is clear that Nazi propaganda art made by Ludwig Hohlwein was used as a powerful political weapon to help enlist youth, sending a clear message to young Germans about becoming part of the Nazi regime.</p>	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Beth Merfish UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Nhu Tran UHCL Junior, Communication		Golden Mean and Pathos in the United Flight 3411 Incident	This research explains what and how United Airlines CEO Oscar Munoz should have communicated differently to resolve a major crisis in April 2017. A middle-aged man, whose was identified as David Dao, was forcibly removed from United Airlines flight 3411, which turned out to be overbooked. After the incident went viral on social media, Munoz did not send his apology to Dao in his first public statement. The public considered Munoz cold and indifferent; thus, Munoz faced criticism for his response. To better resolve the problem and communicate with the public, Munoz should have applied Aristotle's Golden Mean and pathos by sincerely apologizing to Dao and releasing a detailed plan of how United Airlines would prevent similar cases in the future. Keywords: Golden Mean, pathos, Oscar Munoz, David Dao	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Brent Kice UHCL	Paid
Nikunj Patel UHCL Graduate, Software Engineering	Tirth Shah	Data Science Using Agile Methodology	The data science process is agile, where the requirements evolve continuously and are resolved through collaboration among various stakeholders. This paper discusses how the agile methodology can be used in the data science process. The data science can be described as a process of extracting rules from data in various forms either structured or unstructured. The agile software development describes an approach to software development where requirements and solutions evolve through collaborative work of various teams in an organization. In this paper, we have described how agile methodologies can be used for data science process to deliver predictive analytics data to an organization. Here, we provide a general description of the data science process that can be implemented by using a variety of agile methodologies. Therefore, this paper will provide developers the information about how they can execute a data science project in a systematic, version control and collaborative way within an agile environment.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Soma Datta UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Paloma McClain UHCL Senior, Graphic Design		Friendly Neighbor	Looking through the eyes of a dog, the viewer hitches on a roller-coaster ride that is the dog's series of emotions throughout the animation. Based off a poem, the dog is tired of eating the same old dog food every day. Not long after, the dog hears a whistle from the next door neighbor who, out of view, places a bone for him between the fence. The viewer experiences a sudden transition from a sad and whiny dog to one who is boisterous and ecstatic about his new treat.	Oral Symposium	Prof. Anne Henry UHCL	Paid
Passion Trenkelbach UHCL Graduate, Art History		The Monster in Medusa	Society, in particular, society during the late 1500's and early 1600's, has taken ancient Greek Myth and has adapted these characters to fit into the constructs of their times. For example, Medusa, a well-known mythological figure, has become, instead of protective and feared, a woman filled with anguish at the loss of her life and someone to now be pitied. This is especially noticeable when looking at the dark imagery that came out of the Renaissance era, particularly when looking at the Mannerist to the Baroque period. The problem with changing these figures from myth is that it takes one facet of her personality, pushes the rest to the side, and then changes the perception of these figures for later scholars. Many questions arise when we look at the 17th century painting of Medusa by Caravaggio. Why is she painted with such anguish in her face, and are we meant to pity her? How does Mannerist and Baroque representations of Medusa differ from ancient art? What happened during this time period that Medusa goes from the ancient representation of a wide eyed monstrous face with an outstretched tongue to this very naturalistic form, clearly depicting anguish and pain. To address this issue I will be examining Caravaggio's Head of Medusa and explore the influences that were relevant to him during this time, including the role of his patron and the role of the church in his life.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Beth Merfish UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Patricia Maldonado UHCL Graduate, Cross-Cultural Studies		Human Rights & Health in the United States	<p>“Health is a fundamental human right indispensable for the exercise of other human rights” begins the document of the Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights of the United Nations. This roundtable discussion will explore a variety of aspects of health and human rights in the United States. The roundtable will explore a series of interrelated questions: What human rights violations exist in the U.S. regarding health and well-being? How can a human rights framework deepen understandings of health social justice? How do human rights organizations, mostly non-governmental organizations, carry out the “work” of human rights in the U.S.? Each student will present a brief overview of a specific aspect of health and rights. Topics include immigrant worker health, family separation and trauma, and teaching and human rights activism, among others. The audience will be invited to ask questions and join the discussion.</p>	Oral Roundtable	Dr. Christine Kovic UHCL	Paid
Rachel Jackson UHCL Graduate, Behavior Analysis		The Effects of Treatment Integrity Errors on Skill Acquisition During Discrete-Trial Instruction	<p>Discrete-trial instruction (DTI) is often used to teach skills to children with autism, though very little research has been conducted on the effectiveness of this method when implemented with errors that are commonly seen in practice. Therefore, this study evaluated the effects of three treatment integrity errors (low integrity instructions, low integrity prompts, and low integrity reinforcement) on skill acquisition for children with an autism spectrum disorder during DTI. Results thus far suggest that the effects of treatment integrity errors are idiosyncratic across participants. Future research should address other commonly seen treatment integrity errors that are not under investigation in the current study.</p>	Oral Symposium	Dr. Sarah Lechago UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Raquel Lara UHCL Graduate, Marriage and Family Therapy, MA	Morgan Brown, Rachel Liao, Jenny Nguyen	Impact of Internet Addiction on Familial Relationships	It has become apparent that the prevalence of internet usage in adolescents and emerging adults has increased due to societal demands and the growth of technological applications. Increased internet usage may lead to internet addiction amongst these populations potentially leading to negative individual relational outcomes. Research has shown that the increase of internet use has raised concerns that some adolescents or emerging adults may be using the internet so extensively that it interferes with face-to-face interactions or other aspects of daily living (Brown & Blinka, 2012). Concerning assessment and the family system, some studies have shown that family factors and temperament play a role in moderating the association between lack of control and internet addiction; the higher the emotional involvement of the family the lower the potential for internet addiction, the lower the emotional involvement of the family the higher the potential for internet addiction (Pace et al., 2014). Previous research focuses more on the individual aspects of regarding internet addiction versus assessments that address internet addiction on a family as a whole. Clinical Implications regarding how to involve families in the process of assessment and treatment will be discussed.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Matthew Brown UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Rebeka Hazelet UHCL Graduate, MS Early Childhood with focus on Young Children with Disabilities		Perceptions of Yoga as Therapy for Children with Disabilities	<p>For thousands of years, yoga has been found to be beneficial for people in many aspects of their lives. But for those who have a disability, it can be used as a supplemental therapy for their disability. The Journal of Clinical and Diagnostic Research reported that children with ASD has reported improved sensory integration, improved motor movements and an increase in attention span. They have also reported that the breathing practices taught in yoga help psychologically with concentration and memory. In Frontiers in Psychiatry, the research has found evidence of that yoga practiced by children benefits children in concentration, stress alleviation, self-awareness, consciousness, self-regulation, behavioral and emotional maturity. They also found that yoga can relieve stress particularly in a school setting. The concern that the Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis was that children with disabilities are at risk for exclusion from physical activities due to skill deficits. The study comments that behavioral interventions implemented at home with parents, particularly yoga, can have an impact on health and community integration with developmental delays. The aim for this research is to understand: What are parents of young children with disabilities perceptions of yoga as a supplemental therapy?</p>	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Elizabeth Beavers UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Robert Harper UHCL Senior, Psychology		Gender Differences in Alcoholism and Recovery	<p data-bbox="1096 86 1669 151">Gender Differences in Alcoholism and Recovery Abstract</p> <p data-bbox="1096 164 1903 959">This presentation will review the current literature to describe how alcoholism and related treatment options differ for women compared to men. Research and treatment of alcoholism has typically been a male dominated area, but current research shows that women are drinking at an increasing rate, approaching an equal rate of use to men, with a recidivism rate twice that of male counterparts (Greenfield et al., 2010). However, women continue to have fewer options when it comes to recovery than men. This study shows how sexism plays a role in recovery, and how, if women's needs were addressed, they would likely experience more benefits from treatment. Although several theoretical approaches apply to this issue, my approach focuses on hostile/benevolent sexism, particularly how it creates inequality between groups, which makes it harder for women to recover. Based on interviews with several women in recovery, I found evidence that supported my hypothesis that sexism in recovery creates an atmosphere of inequality, which has serious implications for women with alcoholism. These results help to identify the challenges women who suffer from alcoholism face in recovery and could ultimately help to develop strategies that specifically address the needs of women in recovery.</p>	Oral Symposium	Dr. Amanda Johnston UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Sai Kumar Reddy Sheru UHCL Graduate, Software Engineering [SWEN]	Veneela Nagabandi	Text Detection and Extraction from Natural Images	<p>The text detection and extraction from the natural images is a serious problem in Computer Vision. This project performs MSER [Maximally Static Extreme Region] technique, by which the stable text region from the natural image is detected. The resultant image obtained by the MSER [Maximally Stable Extreme Region] technique, may also contain non-text regions, which will be filtered either by using geometric properties along with the thresholds or by using stroke width transformation. All the individual text characters in the natural image will be merged together to form a meaningful word by finding neighboring text regions and bounding box around text regions. Once the bounding box regions are obtained from the natural images we will overlap them such that the text regions of the same word will form a chain of overlapping bounding boxes. Finally, after detecting the individual text regions, the text within the bounding box can be extracted by using OCR [Optical Character Recognition].</p> <p>Keywords: MSER [Maximally Static Extreme Region], OCR [Optical Character Recognition], Natural images, Bounding box, Thresholds, Stroke width transformation.</p>	Oral General	Dr. Soma Datta UHCL	Paid
Salma Alhashim UHCL Graduate, Chemistry	Anton Dubrovskiy	Efficient Routes to Oxazolines through Activation of Aromatic Amides	<p>Oxazoline heterocycles are active components in a broad range of pharmaceutical products. A challenging task remains in finding a reliable and efficient method to synthesize these compounds through inexpensive and environmentally friendly reagents. In this study, we aim to produce oxazolines through coupling of N,N-dichloroamides and alkenes. Advantage of our method is in its use of trichloroisocyanuric acid (TCCA), an inexpensive bleaching agent and bactericide, which we used for chlorinating starting amides. Conditions for the chlorination as well as alkene coupling were optimized. Oxidation conditions for oxazoline to oxazole were studied as well. Future work will focus on developing a one-pot procedure for the synthesis of oxazolines.</p>	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Prof. Anton Dubrovskiy UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Salma Elkaraksi UHCL Graduate, Clinical Psychology		Authenticity, Subjective well-being and Minfulness	<p>The aim of this project is to investigate the relationship between authenticity, mindfulness and subjective well-being. The interest in understanding authenticity is growing. It is believed that the lack of authenticity is related to psychopathology and distress. With the lack of authenticity, people engage in forced, unnatural behavior leaving them feeling unfulfilled and devalued according to research. In this project, the relationship between being authentic and being happy or subjective well-being will be investigated. Some of the qualities that are essential for being authentic is having coherent integration of self-knowledge and self-related processes, and to function in a an autonomous manner with low level of ego-involvement. This suggests the relationship between being mindful and being authentic. Mindfulness is an experiential process that involves the extent to which one pays attention to the present moment, and is highly aware of immediate internal and external stimuli in a non-judgmental and unbiased manner. This relationship will be investigated by assessing for both authenticity and mindfulness. Participants are 30 graduate students in UHCL. Participants will be assessed using the Authenticity Inventory (AI-3), and for measuring mindfulness, participants will be assessed using the Mindful Attention Awareness Scale (MASS). Subjective well-being will be assessed by a survey of 12-items.</p>	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Nicholas Kelling UHCL	Paid
Sarah Dodd UHCL Senior, Geography		Rebuilding The City of Friendswood	<p>Hurricane Harvey devastated the city of Friendswood. Around three thousand homes were damaged due to the flooding. It is important to look at the damage assessment and to see how the city is getting back on track after six months. I have interviewed several city employees and homeowners to understand more about the rebuilding process. Several questions that will be answered are, Has the community began to rebuild? If not, what is slowing down this process? How much have they spent on repairs so far? Surveying the community is one method I will use to bring more knowledge to my project. I will present the results of the study and recommendations for action.</p>	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Jeff Lash UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Sarah Dudley UHCL Graduate, MS Early Childhood with focus on Young Children with Disabilities		Social Skills Implementation in the Classroom	According to professional literature, many research-based strategies and social-skills instruction toolkits are available for teachers to use in the classroom. However, very little information has been provided that addresses factors that may play a role in teachers' abilities in implementing those social skill strategies in the classroom with fidelity. Research by Morrier, Hess, and Heflin (2011) discuss how teachers are typically trained in the implementation of strategies through workshops and in-service trainings but does not solely discuss strategies for social skills. Dobbins, Higgins, Pierce, Tandy, and Ticany (2010) mention that teachers in resource and self-contained settings received the same amount of social skills training and they emphasize that the training that the teachers did receive was very limited. This indicates that teachers would not be able to implement the skills taught with fidelity as Dobbins et. al (2010) point out that teachers are not adequately prepared to teach social skills. Overall, the literature does not provide enough information as to whether teachers implement social skills strategies with fidelity. The purpose of this study was to identify factors that impact a teacher's confidence in implementing social skills instruction with fidelity as well as identifying what social skill strategies teachers are more confident in using.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Elizabeth Beavers UHCL	Paid
Sarah Russell UHCL Freshman, Psychology		Identity and Philosophy: The Path to Our Dream Self	I will offer my analysis of our formation of identity and philosophy, coupled with the analyses of well-read authors such as Dr. Viktor Frankl and Eric Greutens, in order to guide myself and others on our journey toward taking control of our lives and sense of self. We will tackle such topics as depression, religion, tradition, sexuality, gender conformity, and shame.	Oral Roundtable	Prof. Mary Margaret Lobb UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Sarah Smith UHCL Senior, Graphic Design		Fuel Your Adventure / Memory Lane- Japanese Memories	<p>Fuel Your Adventure: "Fuel Your Adventure" is a six second animation featuring a jeep traveling through the jungle. I was inspired by nature to create this piece. I wanted to represent the many things that I love about nature. I created different types of trees and plants that would be seen in a jungle setting. I created falling leaves to add to the nature aesthetic. Sound was an important part of this piece. I used cricket and frog sounds to create the illusion of animals in the scene. I also added rain sounds to match the scene. I used the title "Fuel Your Adventure," because I wanted the viewer to feel that they were fully immersed in nature and ready for any adventure.</p> <p>Memory Lane-Japanese Memories: "Memory Lane-Japanese Memories" is an animation featuring parallax scrolling. This piece is based on my memories of attending the Houston Japanese Festival with my family. The scenes that are represented in this animation are based on performances by many talented singers, dancers, and martial artists, as well as the Japanese gardens at Herman Park. I created many structures that were inspired by Japan. I used these structures to enhance the scenes. Cherry blossoms were used throughout the piece to represent the gardens. I created backgrounds and artwork in Adobe Illustrator and then layered them in Adobe After Effects to create the parallax scrolling effect.</p>	Oral Symposium	Prof. Anne Henry UHCL	Paid

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Sarah Zahrani UHCL Graduate, Psychology		Heterosexism in the Media	<p style="text-align: center;">Abstract</p> <p>Attitudes towards lesbian and gay males were examined in response to biased media representations in the context of a visual imagery experiment. The focus of this experiment was to show a possible correlation between viewing media depictions of lesbian and gay males in both negative and positive aspects and the corresponding opinions expressed thereafter. The intent of my research is to identify possible foundations or manifestations of negative stereotypes and beliefs geared towards the lesbian and gay community members. These findings could possibly be part of the ongoing effort to end prejudice and promote equality within our society.</p>	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Nicholas Kelling UHCL	Paid
Shantrice Holloway UHCL Graduate, Environmental Chemistry		Spatial and Temporal Water Quality Analysis of the Lower Sabine River Watershed Using Multivariate Statistical Methods	The purpose of this paper is to demonstrate how multivariate statistical analysis can assess the appropriateness of parameters and sampling frequencies using existing water quality monitoring data for the Sabine River Authority (SRA). The data spans from 1998 through 2017 and includes 11 parameters collected monthly at 37 stations. Principal Component Analyses of parameters will aid in determining which parameters are most significant and responsible for the largest variance within the data set. Cluster Analysis will assist in recognizing which sampling stations contribute the most to overall water quality. The results will lead to a better/more cost-effective way to monitor water quality with recommendations for future program management. The project budget is not expected to exceed \$200 and will wrap-up in April 2018.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Carl Zhang UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Shivangi Dave UHCL Graduate, Biotechnology		PCR-RFLP Analysis of Human Mitochondrial DNA Variant at HVI Region as Potential Genetic Marker for Mitochondrial Disorders	Mitochondrial DNA is maternally inherited. Mutations in D-loop region of the mitochondrial region can serve as a potential genetic marker for various known mutations based on the polymorphisms. The hypervariable region (HVI) region has high mutation rate due to which several genetic diseases like type 2 diabetes are associated. Therefore, this study was conducted to evaluate genetic variations of human mtDNA in the HVI region. PCR Restriction fragment length polymorphism (RFLP) within the mtDNA HVI region was performed in blood and buccal samples from individuals with different lineages. Preliminary results of PCR-RFLP profiles indicate the presence of polymorphic sites with potential as informative markers and showed significant differences among the individuals evaluated. The polymorphisms are currently being investigated by nucleotide sequencing to further elucidate the utility of these polymorphic variations to detect the predisposition to type 2 diabetes. The results of this study may contribute to the collection of human mtDNA database of genetic variants causing various mitochondrial disorders which can be used in early diagnosis in medicine. Keywords: RFLP, genetic marker, HaeIII, mitochondrial DNA	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Martha Ariza UHCL	Paid
Siva Kiran Reddy Telluri UHCL Graduate, Software Engineering		Managing Signals through Laser rays	Traffic is one major constraint which every country is facing. Despite the heavy traffic, at times we need to wait at traffic signals for 2-3 minutes even if there are no vehicles at another end. So, with the help of laser rays which will be placed at the signals we can monitor the traffic accordingly. These rays help us to verify the count of the vehicles, if there are no vehicles on one side it remains red and on the other side if the traffic frequency is high it will continue to give the green signal. If the frequency is high on all the sides it will manage all the sides in order. So with the help of this we can at least reduce the unnecessary wait time at the signals.	Oral General	Dr. Soma Datta UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Sohee Son UHCL Graduate, MS Early Childhood with focus on Young Children with Disabilities		Leveraging Quality Music Experiences in the Early Childhood Classroom	Music is important for young children's growth and development (Lisa Huisman Koops, 2017). Young children who experienced music interactions early were shown to reveal amazing results in the children's development as well as meeting various individualized special needs (Lili M. Levinowitz, 1999). Research supports that teachers plays a major role in facilitating quality music interactions with children. According to the MENC position statement, music is an integral component to all early childhood programs (MENC,2011). It serves the expressive, emotional, intellectual, social, and creative needs of children. Given the research implications, this research sought to investigate teachers who work in early childhood settings and explore how they use music in their classroom through the use of a survey. Furthermore, this research evaluated which forms of musical experiences teachers perceive to be effective in impacting children.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Elizabeth Beavers UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Staci Schield UHCL Graduate, Health Service Psychology	Laurel Casillas, Thu Nguyen, Monica Martinez, Christine Walther	The Influence of Family Size on the Implementation of Behavioral Parent Training Skills	Behavioral Parent Training (BPT) is an efficacious treatment for disruptive behaviors including CD and ADHD. Positive outcome of BPT is dependent on the consistent implementation of skills between sessions and following treatment. Environmental stress (e.g., high levels of crowding) has been identified as one of many predictors of poor adherence. Stressful home environments may contribute to inconsistent discipline, less positive interactions with child, and less parental involvement; thus, maintaining the child's problematic behaviors. However, there is limited research on the impact of family size on the implementation of BPT skills. This study aims to determine the effects of family size on skill implementation after participating in a brief BPT workshop. Parents (n = 17) completed a five-minute questionnaire prior to and following the workshop. We hypothesized that as family size increases, the number of skills that parents are willing to implement decreases (H1), frequency of implementation decreases (H2), and parents' willingness to implement skills decreases (H3). Contrary to our hypotheses, the number of people currently living in the home does not significantly predict the number of skills parents are willing to implement (B = .08, p = .85) and has a weak correlation with the number of skills parents are willing to implement (r = .06, p = .43). Results suggest that parents' willingness to implement is not influenced by the number of people in their home.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Sara Elkins UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Stefanie Garcia UHCL Senior, Psychology		Gender in the Performing Arts: Status and Leadership	Interest in the performing arts may vary with each individual, but early involvement and career paths, such as going from a performer to a director, or advancing out of performer status entirely, appear to be gendered. Research regarding differences in gender in music, theatre, and dance has shown similarities to gender differences in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) and healthcare careers, where certain traits are expected and valued (Cognard-Black, 2004; Stout, Grunberg, & Ito, 2016). For this project, data was collected from professional companies across the United States in three performing arts disciplines: music, theatre, and dance. Membership totals from performing arts unions were also gathered. Two theories of gender, social construction and expectation states theory, were used to explain the results of the data. These theories describe the social and environmental influences that impact how the male and female genders are perceived (Lorber, 1994; Ridgeway & Bourg, 2004). Therefore, they may help us better understand gender differences in leadership roles or advancement in the performing arts. Perceptions of the performing arts in general are also considered. The purpose of this project is to see what ideas, if any, from previous research are supported. This project can help show how set beliefs on gender affect those in arts careers. Limitations, implications, and future directions for research are also identified.	Oral Symposium	Dr. Amanda Johnston UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Stefanie Garcia UHCL Senior, Psychology		Stepping Stones to Our Values (Cultural and familial values vs. personal happiness)	The most important influences on one's life start from his or her immediate environment. We trust that those influences will guide us to successful futures. With families, it is expected that past generations know what is best because they were all here before us. Sometimes when traditions are so closely tied to a culture or society, there can be no room for change. Family, cultural, or societal values can be well-intended, but it is important that individuality is acknowledged. The pressure to be always tied to values as set by your environment can be difficult and straying away can lead to conflicted feelings of remaining loyal while branching out. The idea of following personal values over family, cultural, or societal values, thus creating conflict, is a theme found in Chaim Potok's <i>The Chosen</i> , Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's <i>Dear Ijeawele</i> , or <i>A Feminist Manifesto in Fifteen Suggestions</i> , and Gwendolyn Zepeda's <i>Houston, we have a problema</i> . The characters in the stories knew that there was more to themselves and to life than what they were familiar with. For anyone who has expectations placed on them by others, they may naturally seek out something different. By being introduced to past values, then being allowed exploration, the values that people do hold will be more sincere and honest. Books and essay to be discussed in the round table.	Oral Roundtable	Prof. Mary Margaret Lobb UHCL	Paid
Stephanie Conejos UHCL Graduate, I/O Psychology	Mayra Garza, Angela Moore, Kiana Pointer	Perceived Leadership in the Workforce: The Effects of Stereotype Threat and Stereotype Boost on Millennials in Leadership Roles	The study was conducted to clarify how millennials are perceived in leadership roles. Participants were preconditioned through an article representing stereotype threat or stereotype boost and given a survey to measure their perception of a millennial in a leadership role. The control group was not given an article. Participants were randomly assigned to the three conditions. Once participants completed the survey, data was collected and analyzed.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Lisa Sublett UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Stephanie Hardy UHCL Senior, Anthropology		The Influence on Young Girls by Adults to Follow Gender Roles And Develop a Hyper-Polite Speech	This study will observe how young children are taught to follow their gender role. More specifically, how a young girl of five is taught to “act like a lady”, and take on a more polite method of play. The conversation analyzed is between two adult women about a situation involving the child, and how they react to her playing outside of her gender role. Throughout the conversation studied many different examples of hyper-politeness, and influences on nurturing behavior are witnessed. The concept of hyper-politeness is the ability by which women receive social power. The women are therefore teaching the child how to achieve that polite image through her gender roles and how she plays nice. In the study, it is observed how gender roles are perpetuated by parents or caregivers, and how gender can influence how and what a child plays with. Also, it shows how the idea of being polite is taught to the child.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Patricia Droz UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Stephanie Noto UHCL Graduate, Marriage and Family Therapy	Sara Patterson , Beatrice Perales , Olufolake Ike	Clinical Implications of Female Genital Mutilation in the United States	Female Genital Mutilation or Circumcision (FGM/C), the practice of partial or complete alteration of the female genitalia for non-medical purposes, exists internationally and has been utilized in primarily African and some Asian countries. FGM/C procedures are categorized into four types, each denoting the method and altered area of female genitalia. Research has found the main incentives purporting FGM/C as cultural tradition, religious practice, marriageability of women, and male control or sexual enjoyment over the female gender. Described as the “most pervasive and persistent form of gender inequality” present today, FGM/C has now become relevant through migrant populations in westernized countries (Jungari, 2015). The purpose of this review was to examine extant research regarding the associated mental and physical health risks associated with FMG/C, as well as implications for clinical treatment and assessment of individuals and families affected by FGM/C. Research of FGM/C in westernized countries, although limited due to novelty, highlighted many health risks, both physical and psychological, for affected women. Research results also suggest a heavy impact on the families of FGM/C particularly through marital satisfaction of spouses and feelings of anxiety for female children. Thus, this poster will provide clinically sensitive perspectives and assessments for United States clinicians to treat both individuals and families affected by FGM/C.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Matthew Brown UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
<p>Tamara Palacio UHCL Graduate, MS Early Childhood focus on Young Children with Disabilities</p>		<p>What do families know about developmentally appropriate practices in early childhood education?</p>	<p>Developmentally appropriate practice (or DAP) is a way of teaching that meets young children where they are. Teachers must get to know them well and encourage them to reach goals that are both challenging and achievable. Knowing what is typical at each age and state of early development is important. This knowledge is based on research and helps us decide which experiences are best for children's learning and development. Teachers must make an effort to get to know children's families and learn about their values that shape their family life. This background information provides meaningful and relevant learning experiences for each child and family.</p> <p>Research tells us that young children in developmentally appropriate programs seem confident in their own cognitive skills. Children described their cognitive competence more positively when they attended child-initiated rather than academically oriented programs (Mantzicopoulos, Neuharth-Pritchett, & Morelock, 1994; Stipek et al., 1995). In addition, in two other studies on language development in child-initiated and academically focused programs, the developmentally appropriate, or child-initiated, programs were associated with better language outcomes. The purpose of this project was to collect and analyze data about the views parents have pertaining to developmentally appropriate practices.</p>	<p>Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm</p>	<p>Dr. Elizabeth Beavers UHCL</p>	<p>Paid</p>

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Tayler Liescheski UHCL Senior, Fitness and human performance		The Language of Mothers and Men	In this poster speech patterns were examined in reference to gender identification and role play of individuals outside their common gender stereotypes. The question posed is whether gay men's speech patterns reflect that of feminine speech or masculine speech. It is questioned how gay men have the ability to take on roles outside of their gender prescription to attain new roles such as "mothering" when interacting with children. Parenting studies were researched to give insight in to this phenomenon. Examined in this study is two men of differing ages who are unrelated but act as a family unit during a conversation taking place at a restaurant. It was found that the older man portrayed qualities that are stereotypically feminine in his discourse with the young boy. The acknowledgement of these findings elicit interest in what this means for the role of father and how this may have potential to transform how we view parenting roles as binary.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Patricia Droz UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Taylor Conable UHCL Graduate, Marriage and Family Therapy	Areli Barajas, Lindsay Long, Austin Wilcox	Infidelity Risk Factors for Military Couples	Several decades of research has highlighted important factors that contribute to patterns of infidelity among couples. These have included parental instances of infidelity, levels of intimacy, previous instances of infidelity, attachment patterns, favorable attitudes towards infidelity, and mental health of partners. A number of assessment protocols, such as The Infidelity Scale and Extradynamic Intention Measure, have been developed to address these risk areas. These assessments, while valuable, are very broad and many do not address infidelity risk factors specific to certain couple populations. Military couples, for instance, experience unique risk factors that other couples might not, such as: deployment communication, deployment conditions, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, continuous re-stationing around the world, early marriage age, and distress in the relationship prior to deployment. This lack of attention to military specific risk factors within assessments leaves psychologists without proper assessment protocols and unprepared to meet the unique needs of military couples. Our poster presentation uses the current literature in the field to evaluate existing assessments focused on infidelity. With this information, we will focus on military specific risk factors that have not yet been addressed by research and assessments. Our presentation will address the clinical implications of such a gap within the knowledge base and showcase the need for future research.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Matthew Brown UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Taylor Custer UHCL Graduate, Applied Behavior Analysis		The Effectiveness of Telehealth on Sleep Disruptive Behaviors in Children with Autism	<p>Many children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) engage in various topographies of sleep disruptive behavior (SDB). Sleep problems have been linked to other problems for the individual, including increased stereotypy, decrease in social skills, and other behavioral problems. Previous studies have evaluated various behavioral interventions including positive bedtime routines, bedtime passes, faded bedtime, and extinction. SDBs are difficult to treat because they occur at night when therapists are not available to provide assistance. Telehealth technology can allow a therapist to provide immediate feedback and coaching to caregivers during an entire intervention as well as allow the therapist an opportunity to take data on treatment integrity. In this study, an individualized, function-based treatment package was developed from the results of the Sleep Assessment and Treatment Tool (SATT) (Jin, Hanley, & Beaulieu, 2013) for each participant. Caregivers were trained to implement the treatment package via telehealth using a constant prompt delay.</p>	Oral Symposium	Dr. Dorothea Lerman UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Tiffany McKinney UHCL Junior, Psychology		"Like" in the Art of Conversation	<p>The discourse marker "like" is often used in conversations as grammatical syntax; however, the present study suggests that "like" has an additional role: it is a discourse marker that serves as a placeholder, allowing the speaker time to gather thoughts and move forward in the conversation. To examine this discursive phenomenon more closely, I gathered two minutes of naturally occurring talk between a teenage girl (Sadie) and her mother (Christina). I then conducted an interactional sociolinguistic analysis to determine if and when "like" is being utilized as a placeholder. The results show that "like" acted as a placeholder three times out of the fourteen times spoken. The other eleven times like presented as a quotative, approximation, introduction, expression, or for correction. The findings of this research support that "like" serves as a placeholder, as well as hold other functions that give meaning to speech as useful dialect that impacts conversations.</p> <p>Keywords: Discourse analysis, Like, discourse markers</p>	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Patricia Droz UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Timothy P. Morrow UHCL Senior, English Literature		Between the Pages: Analyzing Ideological Apparats' in Comic Book Advertisements	<p data-bbox="1088 86 1204 110">Abstract</p> <p data-bbox="1088 118 1911 808">This essay explores the subtle indoctrination of western society's ideology and the relationship it has with comic book ads. These advertisements act as an ideological apparatus as demonstrated in the graphic novel Bitch Planet. While the essay has an element of close reading analysis, it is paired with research citing multiple sources pertaining to the patriarchy's ideological apparatus and its application in relation to the graphic novel's satirical advertisements. Between a close analysis of the text as well as its citations, there is an exploration of the harmful, yet subtle indoctrination of the patriarchy through advertising. Accompanied by textual representation, this essay exposes detrimental ideologies of gender performance, fat shaming, and medicalization of the female body. This essay concludes that DeConnick's Bitch Planet uses satire to express the correlation of comic book advertising and the subtle ideological indoctrination apparatus. The author's deduction gives readers an aspect of everyday indoctrination that is overlooked, yet is present early on in an individual's life through comic books.</p>	Oral General	Dr. Shreerekha Subramanian UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Timothy P. Morrow UHCL Senior, English Literature		The Lucky Chance and Behn's Invocation for Involvement in the Commodity Market	This essay explores The Lucky Chance's thematic element of marriage and women's anatomy being used as a form of commodification in the 17th century. This paper also analyzes Aphra Behn's surprising message advocating not for the deliverance of women through the destruction of the marriage commodification system, but their liberation by allowing them more autonomy and participation in the system itself. There is little research conducted over The Lucky Chance, causing much of the analysis to rely on close readings of the text. One theme in the play is the male anxiety of being cuckolded, thereby losing value on their "property." By following the theme there is a clear sequence of moments in the play that exposes how the commodification of women is clearly economic in the 17th century working hand in hand with misogyny. Another aspect that this essay explores is Lady Fulbank's exclusion in the secret commodification of her body through non-consensual cuckolding, which when discovered, causes her to reject her male companions. The essay's analysis of the thematic properties in The Lucky Chance of commodification, cuckolding, and Lady Fulbank's reaction to being excluded in the gambling away of her autonomy, illustrates Aphra Behn's message advocating women's active participation in the commodification culture of the 17th century.	Oral General	Dr. David Day UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Valarie Cumberland UHCL Senior, Geography		Mapping Fire Hydrants in the City of Dayton, Texas	Infrastructure for a city is complex. The City of Dayton has been operating as a small town, doing things the old school way, using paper and forms to keep track of city infrastructure. With its ever growing population and comprehensive plan to add more homes and businesses, this antiquated process is time consuming and tedious. A geographic information system, GIS, is a modern efficient way to manage all aspects of a city's infrastructure. The City of Dayton currently has no such system. This project demonstrates the feasibility of implementing a GIS system in the City of Dayton. Starting with fire hydrants, I will collect field data to create a database. Using ArcGIS Pro I will populate the GIS infrastructure map. This data will encompass the location of all fire hydrants within the city limits. In the name of public safety, this data will be available through an interactive online map. The City of Dayton and the Dayton Volunteer Fire Department would benefit from a copy of my project. The end result is to let city officials know what advancements are available to them and that additional mapping can be created for the EMS and police departments as well as city planning and street maintenance.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Prof. Jeff Lash UHCL	Paid
Vanessa Lara UHCL Senior, Psychology	Sarah McKay	Stress and Attention Management (SAM)	This project will present methods and results from a on-going pilot test. This project aims to discover how the participation in SAM can lead to improvements in high school students' perceived stress and mental well-being, executive functioning, and academic and social performance. Before the initiation of this study, proper ethical steps were taken, such as getting permission from UHCL, Pasadena Independent School District, parental consents, and student assents. The participants for this study are high school students in an early college program. Participants are currently attending a weekly 30-minute SAM session practicing breathing, yoga, meditation, and relaxation techniques. Participants are required to take an online pre- and post- questionnaire. The results from these questionnaires are self-reported and will be used to analyze our results at the conclusion of this study.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Julia Strait UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Varshithanand Kotipalli UHCL Graduate, Computer Software Engineering	Shreepani Shukla, Tanushree Sharma	Blockchain Technology - Beyond Cryptocurrency	A blockchain is a scattered database that keeps up a constantly developing rundown of records called blocks secured from altering and revision. The blockchain is a secured protocol empowering shared trades on a disseminated arrange in a secure, open and non-repudiable way. The computerized world has created efficiencies, new imaginative products, and close client connections internationally by the powerful utilization of mobile, IoT (Internet of Things), online networking, and cloud computing to produce models for better choices. The blockchain is as of late presented and upsetting the computerized world conveying another viewpoint to security, strength, and effectiveness of frameworks. The blockchain is considerably more than simply being for Bitcoin. Modern development progressively relies upon confided in organizations; yet expanding control, cybercrime and misrepresentation are hindering extension. To address these difficulties, Blockchain will empower more agile value chains, quicker product developments, compact client connections, and a quicker alliance of IoT and cloud innovation. Also, Blockchain furnishes a lower cost of exchange with a trusted contract observed without interruption from third parties who may not include direct sense. This poster presentation is a push to break the ground for showing and exhibiting the utilization of Blockchain innovation in numerous modern applications.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Soma Datta UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Veneela Nagabandi UHCL Graduate, Software Engineering		Designing to Learn Tangible Programming	<p>This Project describes a unique technique for designing, implementing and teaching tangible programming language for middle and late elementary school students. It emphasizes the use of inexpensive and durable wooden blocks with no embedded power supplies. These blocks are shaped alike the cubical wooden blocks which contains basic syntax, functions, statistical graphics, packages and many more. Students integrate these wooden blocks to create a computer program in offline settings such as on desks or on a floor and use a portable scanning camera which is connected to the laptop or desktop to capture the pictures. The captured images are imported into R console and image processing such as thresholding, shrinking, growing, cropping of the images is performed using various Image processing packages available in R software such as EImage, Magick, Imager and other similar packages. The text is extracted from the processed images using Optical Character Recognition (OCR) which is available in "tesseract" package in R. The common string operations on the extracted text are performed by using "stringr" package in R programming language. Finally, evaluation of the extracted text is performed using the "eval" function in R programming language. This helps novice programmers to learn and understand the syntax while overcoming the problems faced due to limited resources such as desktops or teachers and difficulties associated with learning programming.</p>	Oral General	Dr. Soma Datta UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Victoria Cassell UHCL Senior, Psychology		Alcohol and Anxiety Interaction	<p>Previous research has suggested that college students with anxiety, specifically social anxiety, have increased vulnerability to developing an alcohol use disorder based upon their alcohol expectancies (Armeli et al., 2014; Butler et al., 2016; Baborik et al., 2016; Fein, 2015). However, anxiety exists in forms beyond social anxiety, including generalized anxiety disorder and specific phobias, and these types of anxiety may relate to alcohol expectancies and drinking behaviors in ways different than social anxiety (Boschen et al., 2013; Dows et al., 2013; Öst, 1990; Terluin, 2010). The purpose of this project is to assess whether there are differences in alcohol expectancies and behaviors among students with social anxiety versus students without anxiety, with generalized anxiety, with agoraphobia, and with emetophobia.</p> <p>Participants will be UHCL Psychology students. Data will be collected via an online survey including general demographics and questions about participant alcohol use, perceptions of peer alcohol use and alcohol expectancies, and measures of different forms of anxiety. We anticipate finding differences among college student alcohol expectancies and drinking behaviors depending on the form of anxiety. We particularly anticipate finding altered alcohol behavior patterns and ideations among students with emetophobia- a fear of vomit- due to the fact that excess drinking is correlated with phobia-related consequences.</p>	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Christine Walther UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Victoria Cassell UHCL Senior, Psychology		Scream Queens - Stereotypes and Benevolent Sexism in Horror Movies	Research on slasher films suggests that benevolent sexism, gender stereotypes, and the sexual objectification of women are highly prevalent within the films and negatively impact viewers (Welsh, 2010). Expanding upon this research by including a broader horror genre, 10 highly popular horror movies were coded to measure the prevalence of benevolent sexism, gender stereotypes, and sexual objectification in direct comparison to survival and victimization rates. The 10 movies were chosen by using search terms such as "top 10 horror movies of all time", comparing the listed movies from five popular websites, and choosing movies that were listed on at least four of the five websites. The movies (and each female character within those movies) were then coded for survival, victimization, benevolent sexism, gender stereotypes, and sexual objectification. The data was inputted into SPSS both as individual measures and aggregate measures and analyzed for correlations. Significant results included positive correlations between benevolent sexism measures and survival rates, masculinity measures and survival rates, and masculinity and victimization rates. The results suggest that popular horror movies promote the idea of benevolent sexism by depicting traditional women as more likely to survive. In addition, the results suggest that masculine traits are valued overall in that they lead to survival, but frowned upon when present in women in that they lead to higher rates of victimization.	Oral Symposium	Dr. Amanda Johnston UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Victoria Cassell UHCL Senior, Psychology	Ember Taylor, Luis Zepeda, Christine Walther	Social Anxiety and Alcohol Expectancies among Nontraditional College Students	<p>College students who have a high level of anxiety are more likely to engage in drinking activities and have also been found to have higher levels of some positive and negative alcohol expectancies compared to those with low levels of anxiety (Armeli et al., 2014; Butler et al., 2016, Bahorik et al. 2016; Gilles, Turk, & Fresco, 2006; Jones et al., 2001; Martino et al., 2006). The purpose of this study was to assess associations between anxiety and alcohol expectancies in a nontraditional college student population. Participants were undergraduate students at a suburban, commuter university. Participants in the study completed a self-report survey assessing alcohol expectancies, social anxiety, and demographics. Pearson correlations indicated that social anxiety was significantly, and positively, associated with some domains of alcohol expectancies. These results indicate that nontraditional college students with higher levels of anxiety may possess both positive and negative alcohol expectancies that differ from their peers with low levels of anxiety. These differences in expectancies, particularly those most related to anxiety, may influence students' drinking vulnerability. Interventions addressing alcohol expectancies may need to be adapted for use with students who have higher levels of anxiety.</p>	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Christine Walther UHCL	Paid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Vineeta Dharmaraj UHCL Senior, Legal Studies	Marissa Bonuz, Jasmine Vera, Vineeta Dharmaraj, Nicolas Rutledge, Jasminder Singh, Tri Nguyen	Mock Trial: The State of Texas v. Jordan Young	<p>The Legal Studies Association is proud to hold their annual mock trial event in the Bayou court room (BB 1324). The Legal Studies students will orchestrate the full trial for this case, using what they have learned in legal classes such as : Criminal Law, Legal Research, Tort Law, American Trial by Jury, and Legal Writing.</p> <p>The case presented this year will be the State of Texas v. Jordan Young, which showcases the true horrors of texting and driving. As of September 1st 2017, texting and driving is now illegal in the state of Texas, and this trial will focus on the grave consequences of engaging in this activity.</p> <p>Special Thanks to the Galveston County Criminal District Attorney's Office Presiding Judge: Kerry L. Neves, 10th Judicial District Court Bailiff: Hank Hughes, Patrol Officer, City of Nassau Bay, TX Court Reporters: Alvin Community College</p>	Oral Symposium	Win Weber, J.D, UHCL UHCL Legal Studies Association	Unpaid
Vineeta Dharmaraj UHCL Senior, Legal Studies	Jasmine Vera	The Effect of Texting and Driving Laws on Motor Vehicle Fatalities	<p>Many states have passed laws banning texting and driving, to reduce the number of deaths and injuries due to distracted driving. Some state laws ban all use of handheld devices while other state laws specifically prohibit texting, but just how effective are these laws? This presentation examines the effectiveness of government regulation on texting while driving.</p> <p>Materials credited to: Texas Municipal Courts Education Center (TMEC)</p>	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Prof. Winifred Weber UHCL	Unpaid

Author	CoAuthor(s)	Project Title	Project Description	Presentation	Faculty Sponsor	Status
Vrunda Rana UHCL Graduate, Software Engineering	Naushin Sunderji	Virtual Stock Market	<p>The Virtual Stock Market is a project on stock market which provides investment on stock market with virtual money and real time stock price. It will provide features like group betting, leader board viewing, following other investor, investor profit lose statement and can add your shares to the wish list.</p> <p>Virtual Stock market is stock trading game where investor is able to invest virtual money on stock. Stock prices are live and virtual money, so there is no risk potential like losing money. Investor can simply create account and invest without paying any part of money. Investor will also able to see other investor profile through which they can learn from their strategies about stock investment.</p> <p>In current you don't have knowledge about the share market (shares) and you buy some shares no idea how the market works then you lost your money. You have all knowledge about share market, which time good for buy, sell shares. In actual system you don't know how system shares price goes high, down. Our system give you some virtual money given to you so you see the how the actual share market works. In our system you can buy or sell shares like the game.</p>	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Soma Datta UHCL	Paid
Wayne Swisher UHCL Graduate, Humanities (Applied Graphic Design)		Using Gaming Industry Type Player Feedback as a Stimulus on Graphic Design Signage	<p>User-generated feedback is arguably the most efficient tool to evaluate a specific product or service. Even though it is widely used to evaluate and subsequently improve video game design, it is not commonly used for graphic design applications. The aim of this paper is to demonstrate how user-generated feedback can be utilized to improve existing graphic design applications. Specifically, three types of feedback collection vehicles were selected for use in graphic design: personal observation, evaluation polls, and existing video game design feedback. To demonstrate the advantage of using user-generated feedback, information collected through the feedback collection vehicles was interpreted and applied to improve the way-finding signage system at Michael E. DeBaKey VA Medical Center.</p>	Poster Wed, Apr 18 4:00 - 5:30 pm	Dr. Beth Merfish UHCL	Paid

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Yuliana Barajas Barragan UHCL Graduate, Human Factors	Spencer Jefferies, Raquel Garcia, Katharine Crooks	Virtual Environments: Eliciting Emotions	Virtual reality (VR) systems can provide a more immersive video gaming experience than traditional gaming systems. This potential increase in immersion leads to an augmented sense of presence within the virtual world, which may enhance the system's potential for affecting the user's emotional state. This ongoing study is examining how an increase in immersion influences the self-reported negative affect of subjects. Twenty participants will play a survival horror game using two different monitoring systems: a PC monitor and the Oculus Rift. While playing the game, the participant's heart rate variability and galvanic skin response will be measured. After each condition, the participants will complete the Positive and Negative Affect Schedule (PANAS) and the iGroup Presence Questionnaire. It is predicted that: (a) self-reported negative affect will be higher in the VR condition, (b) self-reported presence will be higher within the VR condition, (c) HRV will be reduced in the VR condition, and (d) GSR data will indicate higher emotional arousal within the VR condition.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Steven Sutherland UHCL	Paid
Zyra Vidal UHCL Graduate, General Psychology		Personality and Mobile Applications	Mobile applications have made impact in our daily lives. it will be interesting to see if there is a relationship between the genre of mobile applications being used to the user's personality. Data are collected through surveys given to students.	Poster Wed, Apr 18 3:00 - 4:30 pm	Dr. Nicholas Kelling UHCL	Paid

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	Yasmine Silva, Mary Castagna, Jessica Clackley, April Henderson, Dawn Oladapo, Lydia Newcombe, Dr. Maria Curtis , Ms. Ruth Ann Skaff	The Skaff Family Arab-American Archive: Community, Connection and Identity for Arab-American Families in the U.S. established through Orthodox Christian Church Initiatives	As a member of the UHCL-based Skaff Family Arab-American Archive team, I have concentrated my efforts on sorting the thorough, multi-decade materials of Father Thomas Skaff, a priest, pastor and essential pillar of the Arab American Community. Through the collections of bulletins and inter-church correspondence collected by Father Skaff, a dynamic image emerges of the involvement of the Orthodox Christian Church in establishing both identity and connection among Arab American immigrants. This presentation will outline the types of materials held in the collection, as well as discuss possible directions for using this information to establish a clearer picture of Arab-American contributions and presence in the latter half of the 20th century, particularly in the Greater Houston Area.	Oral Roundtable	Dr. Maria Curtis UHCL	
	Ivanna Tolley, Carolyn Toombs, Kristin Hartley, Alana Settles, Audrey Ewer, Lydia Newcombe, Yasmine Silva, April Henderson, Mackenzie Medlenka	UHCL Study Abroad to the Sultanate of Oman	UHCL has continued to build a special relationship with the country of Oman, having represented this fascinating country several times in the Model Arab League, as well sending two student groups abroad to experience the country for 12 days programs. This year's student group will present research on their experiences on a variety of topics which include 1) Oman's unique form of government and its leader Sultan Qaboos 2) Women, education, and social mobility, 3) Comparative economics of various Arab Gulf states 4) Oman's architectural and artistic styles, 5) Omani marriage customs, 5) Omani tourism and archeology, 6) Oman's Approach to Psychology and Mental Illness Treatments and Therapies	Oral Roundtable	Dr. Maria Curtis UHCL	
Savannah "Rose" Moffitt UHCL Sophomore, Biology		Flashlights	A Humanities Paper about the shackles of modern life and society, those that are inflicted upon us and those we inflict upon ourselves. A rough examination of what we believe, why we believe it, and those whose influences create or are influenced by those beliefs. This examination incorporates many works by many different authors, all aiming to discover a single common truth: the flashlight that will lead them into the light.	Oral Roundtable	Prof. Mary Margaret Lobb UHCL	Paid


















































































































































































































































