As a culminating experience for the master’s degree program, the thesis attests to the highest level of the student’s academic, scholarly, and creative abilities. Each student works under the guidance of a faculty thesis chair and committee. The resulting thesis is viewed with pride as a reflection of the scholarly promise of the student and a commitment to excellence for the university. This fall 2011 semester, 38 students completed theses in areas as varied and original as the students themselves. What follows is a complete list of fall 2011 publications by college/school and some research highlights.

### JORDAN COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

**Animal Science**

**Abigail Hall**  
Effects of Dietary Egg Yolk Antibodies on Dairy Calves’ Health and Growth  
*(Chair: Jon Robison)*

**Randall Long**  
The Effects of Alternative Housing on Pork Carcass Quality and Yield Characteristics  
*(Chair: John Henson)*

**Food Science and Nutrition**

**Shelley Matson**  
Assessing the Effect of Body Mass Index on Body Size Dissatisfaction in Preadolescents in an Impoverished Community in Fresno, California  
*(Chair: Lisa Herzig)*

Shelley Matson assessed the body image perceptions of preadolescents living in a community where 70% of the individuals were living below the poverty line.
Art
Siriraj Bannavittayakit
Morality and Ethics in Architectural Design
(Chair: A. Sameh El Kharbawy)

Hazel Hofman
An Interpretation of Textile Wealth in the Eleventh-Century Armenian Miniature Family Portrait of King Gagik-Abas of Kars
(Chair: Keith Jordan)

English
Aaron Benson
Deconstructing the Self: Models of Disenchantment
(Chair: Lyn Johnson)

MFA
Megan Baptista
If You Set Your House on Fire
(Chair: Connie Hales)

Andrea Mele
The Ing Is the Thing: An Epigraphy
(Chair: John Hales)

Jocelyn Mettler
This Slow Fastening
(Chair: Connie Hales)

Brenda Rankin
Flinch: Narratives from the Gap Between Fight and Flight
(Chair: Steven Church)

Mass Communication and Journalism
Grant Bedrosian
The X-Men and Stereotypes of Dominant and Subordinate Groups
(Chair: Kelley McCoy)

Aaron Benson argues that by having a sense of place and immersing ourselves in nature we become more sensitive to the overall physical experience of being in nature, and to the sublime experience when Nature provides it.

“I only wanted to cast: to press and release, to snap my wrist and listen to the string whipping through the wind—”
from “Fishing Line,” J. Mettler
Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures

Guadalupe García
Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz y su refutación velada de la teoría platónica
(Chair: Gloria Medina-Sancho)

Yaqueline Lemus
El devenir del ser y la coexistencia del tiempo: Garro, Fuentes y Mastretta
(Chair: Saúl Jiménez-Sandoval)

Maribel López
Diálogo, fluidez y cambio ante la tradición de occidente y la forma Mexicana: Demasiado amor de Sara Sefchovich
(Chair: Saúl Jiménez-Sandoval)

Julio Mondragón
Interacción entre personajes y géneros dentro de la novela
El ingenioso hidalgo don Quijote de la Mancha
(Chair: Ted Bergman)

Yanet Parra
El juego y el sujeto femenino interpelado en Poniatowska: Lilus Kikus y Querido Diego te abraza Quiela
(Chair: Saúl Jiménez-Sandoval)

Civil Engineering

Paul Fridley
An Accuracy Assessment of the Bureau of Land Management’s Geographic Coordinate Database
(Chair: James Crossfield)

Mathew Graham
Seismic Performance of Slurry Walls
(Chair: Ming Xiao)

Kulwinder Sharma
Developing a New Land Tenure Approach for India
(Chair: James Crossfield)
Public Health

Ericka Peterson
Factors That Influence Maternal Figures’ Perceptions of Their Child’s Weight Status
(Chair: Vickie Krenz)

Melanie Ruvalcaba
Evaluating the Effectiveness of the Open Airways for Schools Program in Fresno Unified Schools
(Chair: Vickie Krenz)

Biology

Jodi Holeman
Insecticide Resistance and the Efficacy of Ground ULV Applications in Fresno County, CA
(Chair: Paul Crosbie)

Matthew Middleton
Locating the Geographical Origin of Lobesia botrana (Lepidoptera: Tortricidae): A Recent Invasive Pest to the Americas
(Chair: Paul Crosbie)

Seth Reid
Ecological and Social Drivers of Tree Species Diversity and Distribution in Urban Habitats of the Central Valley of California
(Chair: Madhusudan Katti)

Dylan Storey
Exploiting Sequence Variation in C. annuum for Integrative Mapping
(Chair: James Prince)

Chemistry

Samantha Gustafson
Oxygenation Studies of Bis(O-ethyl-L-cysteinato)nickel(ii)
(Chair: Melissa Golden)

Seth Reid seeks a better understanding of urban ecosystems and effective urban policy that will help sustain the urban population and its surrounding flora and fauna.
Computer Science

Jacob Lee
Situation Theory: A Survey
(Chair: Todd Wilson)

Forensic Science

Dominique Jacquemet
Individuality of Toolmark Impressions Using Firing Pins for a .45 Caliber Glock Pistol
(Chair: Eric Person)

Rebecca Stalker
Characterization of Oxazolidine Byproducts in Methamphetamine Laboratory Analysis
(Chair: Eric Person)

Geology

Nitin Vaid
Evolution of the Craters of the Moon Lavas and Neighboring Olivine Tholeiites of Snake River Plain: New Inferences from Whole Rock and Additional Trace Element Data
(Chair: Keith Putirka)

Physics

Jonathan Roveto
Challenging Entropic Gravity
(Chair: Gerardo Muñoz)

Steve Wilburn
Violation of the Equivalence Principle Via Quantum Effects
(Chair: Douglas Singleton)

Brent Wilson
Search for $W$ and $Z$ Bosons from First Atlas Data
(Chair: Yongsheng Gao)

Psychology

Brianah Winslow
The Treatment of Food Selectivity in Children with Autism: An Examination of Social Validity and Parental Adherence
(Chair: Marianne Jackson)
Psychology—Educational Specialist

Sylvia Rodriguez
Full-Day Versus Half-Day Kindergarten Students’ Early Literacy Skills
(Chair: Constance Jones)

History

Tony Carvalho
The Fresno Diocese Divided Over Chavez: Local Catholics Encounter a Foreign Church in the Delano Grape Strike
(Chair: Maritere Lopez)

Emily Wolfe
FDR and the Press
(Chair: Blain Roberts)