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 semester, 62 students completed theses in areas as varied and original as the students themselves. What follows is a complete list of Spring 2004 theses by college/school and some research highlights.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

**Food and Nutritional Sciences**
Nicolas Olivier Cantacuzene (read ABSTRACT)
Efficacy of Gaseous and Aqueous Ozone in Treating Oak Used in Winemaking for *Brettanomyces*
Erin S. Dormedy (Chair)

**Family and Consumer Sciences**
Careyn Patricia Armitage (read ABSTRACT)
Evaluation of Performance Characteristics of Hemp Fabrics When Home-Dyed with Fiber Reactive Dyes
Carolyn Jackson (Chair)

**Viticulture and Enology**
Jeffrey Brown Farthing (read ABSTRACT)
Saccharomyces cerevisiae Strains’ Fermentation of High Density Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon
Roy J. Thornton (Chair)

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

**Art**
Yumi Kinoshita (read ABSTRACT)
Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio: The Italian Baroque Painter
Gina Strumwasser (Chair) ▼

Yumi Kinoshita set out to prove that Caravaggio’s revolutionary approach to painting is one of the most important contributions to the history of art.
English Department graduate students produced over one-third of the theses in Spring 2004, publishing one novel; seventeen collections of short stories, poetry, and prose; three literary analyses; and two studies in the field of composition.

**English**
Darren Earl Atwood (read ABSTRACT)
Military Kids
*Linnea Alexander (Chair)*

Stephen Barile (read ABSTRACT)
East Tulare Street (ēst töô-lâr’e strēt) Poems
*Connie Hales (Chair)*

Phyllis Jane Hicks Brown (read ABSTRACT)
Narratives of Enslaved People: Lifting the Veil, Resisting the Peculiar Institution
*Lillian Faderman (Chair)*

Kenneth Robert Chacon (read ABSTRACT)
Slave to Sin
*Connie Hales (Chair)*

Jo Ann Collins (read ABSTRACT)
My Time in Hicks’s Time
*Cheng Lok Chua (Chair)*

Deborah Druley (read ABSTRACT)
The Subversive Nature of the Maternal in Victorian Children’s Literature
*Ruth Y. Jenkins (Chair)*

Monte Francis (read ABSTRACT)
Live Shots
*Connie Hales (Chair)*

Kathryn Teresa Franzell (read ABSTRACT)
Encounters with Southwest Mother Archetypes: Rebirthing Balance Between Modernity and the Natural World
*Kathleen Godfrey (Chair)*

Thomas Ryan Frost (read ABSTRACT)
Sea of Dreams
*Steve Yarbrough (Chair)*

Kevin Arthur Hooge (read ABSTRACT)
Language Arts Teacher Preparation and the Relevancy of Composition Studies in English Undergraduate Programs
*Anthony Michel (Chair)*

Christopher Scott Houston
En Passant: Stories (read ABSTRACT)
*Connie Hales (Chair)*

Donavan Thomas Ingram
The Bones in Our Words (read ABSTRACT)
*Connie Hales (Chair)*

**DIVISION OF GRADUATE STUDIES**
**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO**
Kelly Grace LaSalle (read ABSTRACT)  
Framed in Green  
John Hales (Chair)

Gerald Lawrence (read ABSTRACT)  
Haroldville  
Lillian Faderman (Chair)

Elliott Lane McDow (read ABSTRACT)  
The Nature of Nature  
Connie Hales (Chair)

Tanya Nichols (read ABSTRACT)  
We Remember Snow and Other Stories  
Steve Yarbrough (Chair)

Joy Tanya Olmstead (read ABSTRACT)  
Finding Joy  
Lillian Faderman (Chair)

Laura Beth Strauss Pando (read ABSTRACT)  
A Dialogue with Critical Thinking: Creating a Theoretically Based Definition to Affect Change in the Composition Classroom  
Anthony Michel (Chair)

Joseph Vincent Sabado (read ABSTRACT)  
Waiting  
Connie Hales (Chair)

Gary Shanks (read ABSTRACT)  
Freedom At Any Cost  
Steve Yarbrough (Chair)

Patrick Anthony Tackett  
Merriment (read ABSTRACT)  
Liza Wieland (Chair)

Jeffery Alan Tannen (read ABSTRACT)  
Not in My Father’s House  
Steve Yarbrough (Chair)

Sarah Tebeau (read ABSTRACT)  
The California Horses  
Steve Yarbrough (Chair)

In her thesis, Laura Beth Strauss Pando provides a definition and theoretical grounding for the concept of critical thinking for the purpose of affecting change in the composition classroom.

The Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing at Fresno State

In How Much Earth: The Fresno Poets (Heyday Books, 2001) [. . . ] poet and retired professor Peter Everwine describes Fresno’s writing community as “based on mutual respect, genuine friendship, and abiding faith in the power of art to give solace when everything else fails us.” Most Fresno writers share this impression, whether they are Fresno natives, transplants to the area, or simply passing through as students. “We’ve always felt there was an unusual amount of creative force in the valley,” says Steve Yarbrough. “Great writers and poets just seem to surface here.” Liza Wieland agrees: “The valley grows writers like it grows grapes, cotton, and almonds and everything else,” she says, “which is to say, effortlessly and better than almost anywhere in America.”
**Mass Communication and Journalism**

Manoella Alves (read ABSTRACT)
Bridging the Digital Divide: Perceptions of Technology Education Among Elementary School Teachers — in Fresno, California
Paul Adams (Chair)

Daniel John Edwards (read ABSTRACT)
Ten Steps for Producing a Quality Community College Newspaper
Paul Adams (Chair)

Laura Florez (read ABSTRACT)
A Content Analysis of Hispanic News Sources in The Fresno Bee
Paul Adams (Chair)

Jeremy Martin (read ABSTRACT)
No Cheering for the Press Box: The Ethical Stereotype of Sports Journalists in Film
Paul Adams (Chair)

**CRAIG SCHOOL OF BUSINESS**

Laurie Kay Taylor-Hamm (read ABSTRACT)
Contingency Planning: Identifying Reasons Small Business Decision-Makers Fail to Plan
Julie Olson-Buchanan (Chair)

**COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Kinesiology**

Valerie Nicole Jones Harvey (read ABSTRACT)
Is Sports Massage a Better Alternative to Static Stretching in Pre-Competition Warm-up?
Felicia Greer (Chair)

Crystal Johnson (read ABSTRACT)
Sources of Stress for NCAA Division-One Female Athletes
Jenelle N. Gilbert (Chair)

Benjamin Pugh (read ABSTRACT)
Electromyographic Comparison of Abdominal Exercises on a Stable and Unstable Surface
Michael Coles (Chair)

Sarah Michelle Meyer (read ABSTRACT)
Assessment of Physical Education Programs in Elementary Schools —
Thomas Minnear (Chair)

**DIVISION OF GRADUATE STUDIES**

**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO**

Since it began in 1991, the Computers for Schools Foundation has placed more than 80,000 computers in schools in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. In many districts, the Computers for Schools program is the only source of computer equipment.
Betsy Joy Shivers (read ABSTRACT)
The Relationship Between Air Quality and Injury Among the 2002-2003 Fresno State Men’s and Women’s Division-One Soccer Teams
Tim Anderson (Chair)

Nursing
Ginger Kay Peterson-Mitchell (read ABSTRACT)
Symptomatology and Self-Care Practices Related to Quality of Life in Persons with HIV/AIDS
Kenn Kirksey (Chair)

Public Health
Maria Elena Avila-Toledo (read ABSTRACT)
A Pilot Study of the Educational Value of the Diabetes Education Program to the Spanish-Speaking Participants at the Fresno County, California Sequoia Community Health Foundation
Helda Pinzon-Perez (Chair)

Marci Lee (read ABSTRACT)
A Comparison of Selected Preventative Health Services for Coronary Heart Disease and Diabetes of African and Caucasian American Members of a Managed Care Organization in California
Helda Pinzon-Perez (Chair)

Neng Moua (read ABSTRACT)
Satisfaction Levels Among Hmong Clients Using the Services of Shamans in Fresno County, California
Helda Pinzon-Perez (Chair)

Melissa Rene Schulte (read ABSTRACT)
A Two-Year Analysis of Childhood Recreational and Sports-Related Injuries in Fresno County, California
Sherman Sowby (Chair)

Social Work Education
Verónica García Gaona (read ABSTRACT)
Latina Youth and Gangs: A Rural Perspective
Betty García (Chair)

Theresa Ann Leveque (read ABSTRACT)
Affecting Behavior Change in a Multidisciplinary Approach to School-Based Health Education Training, Ages 8-12
Debra Harris (Chair)

Jennifer Elise Patten (read ABSTRACT)
Student and Community Characteristics’ Relationship to Nutrition and Physical Activity Knowledge
Debra Harris (Chair)

About 16 million Americans have diabetes, but only about 10 million have been diagnosed. Approximately 798,000 new cases of diabetes are diagnosed annually in the United States. The number of persons diagnosed with diabetes has increased sixfold, from 1.6 million in 1958 to 10 million in 1997. Diabetes is the nation’s seventh leading killer and contributed to about 187,800 deaths in 1995.
(Source: Centers for Disease Control)

DIVISION OF GRADUATE STUDIES
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
Anton Symkovych (read ABSTRACT)
Phenomenon of Professional Deformation of Juvenile Correctional Officers in Fresno County, California
Donna Hardina (Chair)

KREMEN SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Literacy and Early Education
Maiyoua Vang (read ABSTRACT)
The Effect of Sustained Silent Reading on the Reading Vocabulary of Second Grade English Learners
Adrienne Herrell (Chair)

Counseling, Special Education, and Rehabilitation
Adrian Beltran (read ABSTRACT) ►
Predicting Academic Achievement of Rural Hispanic High School Students: Psychosocial Characteristics, External Environmental Factors, Student Perceptions of School Factors, and Student Perceptions of School Personnel Factors.
Susan M. Tracz (Chair)

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

Biology
Jan Lynette Hendrixson (read ABSTRACT)
Distribution of Tardigrade Species at the McKenzie Table Mountain Preserve with a Description of Two New Species of Echiniscus
Paul R. Crosbie (Chair)

Leigh Shirley Schmidt (read ABSTRACT)
Genotypic Characterization of Rhizobia Nodulating Adjacent Plants of Lupinus Bicolor and Lotus Purshianus ►
Ethelynda E. Harding (Chair)

Jennifer Marie Turner
Characterization and Identification of Rhizobium Infecting California Native Clover (read ABSTRACT)
Ethelynda E. Harding (Chair)

Chemistry
Shinichi Sumiyoshi (read ABSTRACT)
Molecules in Single Microdroplets
Kin C. Ng (Chair)

Psychology
Brooke Boone (read ABSTRACT)
A Reading Intervention for First Grade Students At-Risk for Reading Failure
Marilyn Wilson (Chair)
Arianne Gross (read ABSTRACT)
The Reliability and Validity Assessment of the Anger Attacks Questionnaire  
Christine B. Edmondson (Chair)

Marcia Lynn Miller (read ABSTRACT)
The Effects of Informational and Controlling Rewards on Altruism  
Karen Carey (Chair)

Geology
Shay William Overton (read ABSTRACT)
Engineering Geology, Fluvial Geomorphology, and Geology of La Honda Creek in San Mateo County, California  
Roland Brady (Chair)

Linda Gomez Young (read ABSTRACT)
Mill Creek Waterway Restoration Project, City of Visalia, Tulare County, California  
Roland Brady (Chair)

Criminology
Chandra Diane Mullins (read ABSTRACT)
The Relationship Between Fear of Crime and Perceived Credibility of Broadcast News  
Eric Hickey (Chair)

History
Julia Kay Aydelotte (read ABSTRACT)
One Family, One Faith, One Purpose: The Impact of the Beechers on the Abolition of Slavery  
Malik Simba (Chair)

Jared William Carter (read ABSTRACT)
Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill as Participant/Historian: A Transitional Figure in Modern Historiography who Bridged the Gap Between Writing History from the Perspective of a Participant and a Historian  
David Hudson (Chair)

Victoria Malko (read ABSTRACT)
War in Chechnya: Responses in Russia and the United States  
Michelle DenBeste (Chair)

David Edward Zwart (read ABSTRACT)
Formed by Faith: The Dutch Immigrant Community in Kings County, California: 1890-1940  
Jill Fields (Chair)

Victoria Malko’s thesis was the winner of the 2003-04 Outstanding Thesis Award. To read more about Victoria and her thesis, click here.