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. These summer and fall 2014 semesters, 52 students completed master’s theses.

Animal Science

Laura Marjorie Barnes
Litter Size in Relation to Breeds of Swine and Months Farrowed at California State University, Fresno Swine Unit
(Chair: Randy Perry)

Joshua Dillon Hasty
Microbiological Safety of Veal: Validating a Hot Water Rinse Plus Lactic Acid Spray in Combination with Scalding for Hide-on Carcasses to Control Escherichia Coli (Stec)
(Chair: John Henson)

Mehrdad Shabbazi
An Evaluation of the Effect of Feeding Butyric Acid Supplement (Butipeal™) in Broiler Chickens
(Chair: Randy Perry)

Interdisciplinary Studies

Calliope Correia
The Development and Assessment of a Horticultural Curriculum for a Transition to Adulthood Program for Young Adults with Disabilities
(Chair: John Bushoven)

Calliope’s therapeutic horticulture curriculum focused on a means to improve life skills and encourage growth in academics in 14 students with developmental or intellectual disabilities.
**Plant Science**

**Nicholas Edward Clark**
Optimization of a Novel *In Planta* Culture Method of *'Candidatus Liberibacter Solanacearum'* and Discoveries of Endophyte Population Dynamics in Excised Tomato Leaves  
*(Chair: John T. Bushoven)*

**Grace Sau Cun**
Bioavailability of Selenium in ‘Jose’ Tall Wheatgrass (*Thinopyrum Ponticum* Var ‘Jose’) Hay as a Substitute for Sodium Selenite in the Diets of Dairy Cattle  
*(Chair: Sharon Benes)*

**Sonia Inez Rios**
Evaluation of San Joaquin Valley Palmer Amaranth (*Amaranthus Palmeri*) Populations for Glyphosate Resistance and Tolerance  
*(Chair: Anil Shrestha)*

**Viticulture and Enology**

**Matthew Revelette**
HPLC Determination of Red Wine Tannin Stickiness  
*(Chair: James Kennedy)*

Matthew developed a method to measure the thermodynamics of interaction between tannin and a hydrophobic surface.

**Creative Writing—Master of Fine Arts**

**Matthew Fullerton**
As if You Were Included  
*(Chair: Randa Jarrar)*

**Jeffery Newton Gleaves**
Tender is the Work: A Labor  
*(Chair: Steven Church)*

**Steven Sanchez**
Phantom Tongue  
*(Chair: Connie Hales)*

**Kyle James Keller**
Saint Somebody  
*(Chair: Randa Jarrar)*
English

**William Anderson**
The Significance of the Wounded Savior Model in the Works of J.R.R. Tolkien
*(Chair: Craig Bernthal)*

**Katie Jeweline Beberian**
“Who You are From Moment to Moment is a Story”: Constructing Bodies and Text Through Time in Orlando, “Howl,” and *Invisible Monsters* Remix
*(Chair: John Beynon)*

**Erin Fujinami Valdon**
Unspeakable Truths: James’s Use of the Fantastic in *The Turn of the Screw* to Write Women into Submission
*(Chair: Chris Henson)*

Linguistics

**Gregory Scott DeFehr**
Western Mono Stress
*(Chair: Chris Golston)*

**Christian Paulsen**
Structural Case and Agreement in Ancient Greek Copular Constructions
*(Chair: Brian Aghayani)*

**Jie Deng**
Interaction Effect Between Aspiration and Tones in Weihai Chinese
*(Chair: Sean Fulop)*

Communication Disorders and Deaf Studies

**Nicole Marie Lopez**
The Effectiveness of Attention Process Training for Veterans with Mild to Moderate Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
*(Chair: Frances Pomaville)*
Jennifer Owens
An Experimental Comparison of Distributed Practice Versus Massed Practice for the Treatment of Speech Sound Errors in Children
(Chair: Steven Skeleton)

Nursing

Lucy Michelle Farris
Postoperative Pain and Functional Mobility Following Total Joint Replacement Surgery
(Chair: F. Ndidi U. Griffin)

Public Health

Jose Arrezola
Breast Self-Examination Among Hispanic Females Attending California State University, Fresno
(Chair: Vicki Krenz)

Reatha Hattie Labell Conn
An Analysis of HIV Testing and Risk Behaviors among Students Attending Fresno State
(Chair: Vickie Krenz)

Rhonda Lynet Dick-Newell
Disseminated Coccidioidomycosis and Race-Ethnicity in Los Angeles County, California
(Chair: Vicki Krenz)

Jana Leigh Mowrer
Weight Perception, Dieting Practices, and Self-Reported Body Mass Index in a Multiethnic Sample of Central California Adolescents
(Chair: Vicki Krenz)
Biotechnology

Rakesh Krishna Kumar
Transformation of Dunaliella Primolecta Using Agrobacterium Tumefaciens
(Chair: Alejandro Calderón-Urrea)

Biology

Kristin Herring
Comparative Analyses of Gemcitabine Resistant Human Pancreatic Cells in Response to Sonic Hedgehog Small Molecular Inhibitors
(Chair: Jason A. Bush)

Daniel Jeffcoach
Monitoring Anthropogenic Contaminants and Their Effects on Wildlife in Sequoia National Park
(Chair: Steve Blumenshine)

Prasong Mekdara
Effects of an ALS Associated Neurotoxin, BMAA, on the Locomotory Behavior of Fruit Flies
(Chair: Ulrike K. Muller)

Cameron Pospisil
Exploring the Functional/Structural Relationship in DGCZ
(Chair: Hwan Youn)

Yesenia Guadalupe Thompson
Polymorphism Analyses of Specific Xenobiotic-Metabolizing Genes in Hispanic Farmworkers from the San Joaquin Valley, California with Hormone-Dependent Cancer
(Chair: Jason Allan Bush)

Derek Vargas
Thiol-Dependent Detoxification of Aldehydes and Nitrosative Stress in Mycobacterium Smegmatis
(Chair: Mamta Rawat)

Yesenia’s thesis determines the association between polymorphisms in carcinogen metabolizing genes combined with exposure to pesticides and the risk of cancer in the Hispanic population of the San Joaquin Valley of California.
Angelina Viviana S. Velázquez
Effects of Octopamine on the Locomotion of BMAA Treated and Untreated *Drosophila Melanogaster*
*(Chair: David D. Lent)*

**Chemisty**

Korey Michael Reid
Characterization of the Conformational Ensembles of Model FG-Nup Peptides by NMR and Molecular Dynamics
*(Chair: Viswanathan Krishnan)*

Nithya Subrahmanyam
Synthetic Studies of Zampanolide and Curcumin Analogues
*(Chair: Qiao-Hong Chen)*

Salvador Cesar Vazquez
Substituent Effects on Double Bond Character: NMR Studies of Steric and Electronic Effects in Deet Analogs as a Model System
*(Chair: Santanu Maitra)*

**Geology**

Rebecca Teruko Asami
The Stanislaus Group and Relief Peak Formation of The Carson-Iceberg Wilderness Area, California: Keys to Understanding Central Sierra Miocene Volcanism
*(Chair: Keith Putirka)*

Christopher M. Bowie
Characterization of Discontinuity Surfaces and Microfacies in a Storm Dominated Shallow Eperic Sea, Devonian Cedar Valley Group, Iowa
*(Chair: Mara Brady)*

Dennis Eck
Entering the Devil’s Gate Ophiolite, Northern Sierra Nevada: Not an Ophiolite or Metamorphic Sole?
*(Chair: John Wakabayashi)*
Kiersti Rae Ford
Cosmogenic Beryllium-10 Nuclide Exposure Age Dating of the Til Till Rock Avalanche in Yosemite National Park
(Chair: Christopher J. Pluhar)

Melissa Ashley Scruggs
Enclave Formation, Magma Mixing, and Eruption Triggering: A Case Study of the Chaos Crags, Lassen Volcanic Center, California
(Chair: Keith Putirka)

Danny Hernandez Tovar
Felidae from Irvingtonian Deposits at Fairmead Landfill and Irvington in California
(Chair: Robert G. Dundas)

Physics

Jonathon James Thompson
Black Holes in Nonlinear Electrodynamics
(Chair: Gerardo Munoz)

Psychology

Leslie Ann Flaming
Altering the Attractiveness Bias with Delay Conditioning
(Chair: Jean Ritter)

Tiffany Sharmayne Nicole Gonzales
Types of Interaction on Children’s Physical Activity
(Chair: Marianne Jackson)

Nicole Ann Nirva
Examining the Motivational Effects of Verbal Stimuli on Temporal Discounting in Individuals With Traumatic and Acquired Brain Injury
(Chair: Marianne Jackson)

Erin Elizabeth Paulsen
The Role of Fluency in the Acquisition of Diegetic Relations and Theory of Mind
(Chair: Marianne Jackson)
Hannah Copeland Prados
When Enough is Enough: Effects of Contingent Stereotypy on Subsequent Free Operant Rates
(Chair: Marianne Jackson)

Adam M. Schellenberg
An Investigation of Observational Learning as a Method of Conditioning Previously Neutral Stimuli as Effective Consequences
(Chair: Marianne Jackson)

Adam’s thesis systematically replicated and extended previous research on the use of observational learning procedures to condition neutral stimuli as effective consequences for 3 preschool children with autism spectrum disorder.

Katie Marie Turner
The Use of Positive Statements in Improving Relationship Satisfaction in Couples
(Chair: Marianne Jackson)

Alay Anxa Vue
Training in and Knowledge of Response to Intervention: Comparison of Pre-Service and In-Service Teachers
(Marilyn Wilson)

KREMEN SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Special Education

David Nazaroff
Implementation of Co-Teaching Models in the Classroom
(Chair: Colleen Torgerson)