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 summer and fall 2007, 40 students completed theses in areas as varied and original as the students themselves. What follows is a complete list of Summer/Fall 2007 theses by college/school and some research highlights.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

Industrial Technology

Michael Jim Kurnosoff, Jr. (read ABSTRACT)
Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness in Technology Curriculum
(Chair: Matthew Yen)

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Communication

Leslie Collins Hester (read ABSTRACT)
Rebellious Revelry: The Rhetorical Functions of Anna Howard Shaw’s Humor
(Chair: Diane M. Blair)

English

Craig Warren Armstrong (read ABSTRACT)
Towards a Postmodern Divinity: The Role of Language in Contemporary Theology
(Chair: Lyn Johnson)

Darren Klassen (read ABSTRACT)
Selfhood Versus Duty: Familial Relationships in Chang-rae Lee’s Native Speaker, A Gesture Life, and Aloft
(Chair: Cheng Lok Chua)

www.csufresno.edu/gradstudies/thesis
Sharon Manning (read ABSTRACT)
Character as Transcendental Signified: Creating/Collapsing Meaning in William Faulkner’s The Sound and the Fury
(Chair: Rick Hansen)

Sasha Pimentel (read ABSTRACT M.F.A.)
Insides My Mother Swallowed: Poems
(Chair: Connie Hales)

Toby Roberts (read ABSTRACT)
Expanding Rhetoric: Examining the Impact of the Post WWII Era and the Vietnam War on Postmodern Theory
(Chair: Rick Hansen)

Lejla Tricic (read ABSTRACT M.F.A.)
Dispatches from the Bosnian Valley of the Kings or How Bosnians Created a Fictionalized National History
(Chair: John Hales)

Carol Vitali (read ABSTRACT M.F.A.)
Four Tales
(Chair: Steve Yarbrough)

Mass Communication and Journalism

Kirstie Elizabeth Hettinga (read ABSTRACT)
Resistance or Acceptance: Convergence in the Newsroom
(Chair: Tamyra Pierce)

Kayla Marie Price (read ABSTRACT)
Central San Joaquin Valley, California Business Web Sites and Their Adherence to Usability Guidelines
(Chair: Tamyra Pierce)

Marisa Christine Waddell (read ABSTRACT)
The Diffusion, Uses, and Gratifications of Satellite and HD Radio
(Chair: Tamyra Pierce)

Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures

María Jiménez (read ABSTRACT)
Vuelve otra vez la trece: El amor y la ruptura de la máscara en Piedra de sol
(Chair: Saúl Jiménez-Sandoval)

In the fall of 2007, the editors of the Dos Passos Review nominated “Planting Tomatoes for the First Time,” a poem from Sasha Pimentel’s thesis, for a prestigious Pushcart prize.

Lejla Tricic’s powerful narrative tells the story of war-torn Bosnia and how a recent archaeological discovery could either help restore national identity or become a sign of “collective madness.”

Kirstie Hettinga examines how traditional print journalists and newsrooms in California’s Central Valley are evolving along with emerging, modern technologies.

Maria Jiménez examines the work of Mexican poet and 1990 Nobel Prize winner Octavio Paz.
Communicative Sciences and Deaf Studies

Danielle Resciniti (read ABSTRACT)
Generalization Across Settings and Phonemes Using Concurrent Treatment for Phonological Disorders
(Chair: Steven Skelton)

Health Science

Diana Michele Cormier (read ABSTRACT)
Impact of HIPAA on Local Research for Survival Rates of Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest Victims Who Receive Defibrillation from Lay Public Responders in Fresno County, California
(Chair: Gerald W. Davoli)

Karina Lomeli (read ABSTRACT)
Utilizing Community Health Outreach Workers to Improve Diabetes Outcomes in Fresno, California
(Chair: Gerald W. Davoli)

Yolanda Suzette Randles (read ABSTRACT)
Evaluation of a Health Tool to Increase the Consumption of Fruits and Vegetables Within the African American Community of West Fresno, California
(Chair: Helda Pinzon-Perez)

Eiji Yamashita
Primary Sources of Health Information Among Low-Income Pregnant Women
(Chair: Miguel A. Perez)

Kinesiology

Chad Arthur Cabrera (read ABSTRACT)
Three Different Intense Concentric Exercise Bouts Fail to Evoke Postactivation Potentiation
(Chair: Robert Pettitt)

Stephen Garrett Dinkel (read ABSTRACT)
The Influence of Creatine and Combined Creatine Plus Caffeine Supplementation on Skeletal Muscle Recruitment And Torque Generation During High Intensity Isokinetic Exercise
(Chair: Felicia Greer)

Colleen Marie Horn (read ABSTRACT)
The UNIFORM Approach for a Psychological Skills Training Intervention: A Case Study
(Chair: Jenelle N. Gilbert)
Amanda Leigh Thoens (read ABSTRACT)
Dose-Response of Posterior Shoulder Capsular Stretching in College-Aged Baseball Pitchers
(Chair: Robert Pettitt)

Social Work Education

Madhu Sameer (read ABSTRACT)
Vipassana Meditation: A Qualitative Study
(Chair: Anne Petrovich)

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

Biology

Wendy Jean Holmes (read ABSTRACT)
EPG Waveforms of Sharphooters Correlated with First Penetration of Xylem
(Chair: Fred Schreiber)

Jamie Lorraine Jackson (read ABSTRACT)
Treatment Regimes and Recovery Rates of Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) and Green-Winged Teal (Anas crecca) Suffering with Avian Botulism Poisoning, and Confirmation of Botulinum Type C Toxin Presence
(Chair: Paul R. Crosbie)

Saben Kane (read ABSTRACT)
Early Development of the Plant-Parasitic Nematode, Meloidogyne incognita
(Chair: Alejandro Calderón-Urrea)

Karl Kraft (read ABSTRACT)
If You Build It, Will They Come? Landbird Response to Riparian Restoration at the San Joaquin River National Wildlife Refuge, California
(Chair: Madhusudan Katti)

Carlos Alberto Tristán (read ABSTRACT)
Gene Expression Profile of Nicotiana tabacum Plants Expressing Caenorhabditis elegans’ Programmed Cell Death Genes
(Chair: Alejandro Calderón-Urrea)
**Chemistry**

**Enrique Jose Lopez** (read ABSTRACT)
Field Measurements of Toxic Particles in the San Joaquin Valley, California
*(Chair: Alam S. Hasson)*

Enrique Lopez’s findings will help shape policy and air quality standards for the San Joaquin Valley, which remains among the worst areas for air quality for California.

**Earth and Environmental Sciences**

**Sana Alsaoudi** (read ABSTRACT)
Stable Isotopic Analysis of the Regional Hydrology of the San Joaquin River, from Millerton Lake to Mendota Pool, California
*(Chair: Zhi Wang)*

**Nelson Bernal Cortes** (read ABSTRACT)
Using Stable Isotopes to Characterize the Groundwater Recharge in the Sierra Nevada Foothills
*(Chair: C. John Suen)*

**Susan Bratcher** (read ABSTRACT)
Oxygen and Nitrogen Isotope Ratios in Ground Water From an Agricultural Area in the San Joaquin Valley, California
*(Chair: C. John Suen)*

**Ori Sartono** (read ABSTRACT)
Parameterization of a Fractured Hardrock Aquifer in Western Foothills of the Sierra Nevada, California
*(Chair: Zhi Wang)*

**Psychology**

**Zhanna Bagdasarov** (read ABSTRACT)
Cultural Framework and Anger Expression in Russian Immigrant Women
*(Chair: Christine Edmondson)*

Zhanna Bagdasarov found that both anger expression and anger suppression were significant predictors of mental health status in her sample of Russian women, and that cultural framework interacts with anger expression to contribute to immigrant mental health problems.

**Jennifer Anne Bopp Litz** (read ABSTRACT)
Measuring Attachment Security in Middle Childhood: Connections to Behavior, Adjustment, School Adaptation, and Social Skills
*(Chair: Jean Ritter)*
**Lori Diane Javaux** (read ABSTRACT)
Teaching Children with Autism to Self-Manage On-Task Behavior in a General Education Classroom: Effects on Independent Functioning and Work Performance
*(Chair: Jean Ritter)*

**Michelle R. Johnson** (read ABSTRACT)
A Validation Study of the Morally Debatable Values Scale – Revised
*(Chair: Ronald D. Yockey)*

**Susie Sandoval Verduzco** (read ABSTRACT)
Differences Between Jumpstart and Non-Jumpstart Children As Rated on the School Success Checklist
*(Chair: Karen Carey)*

**CRAIG SCHOOL OF BUSINESS**

**Judson Ray Myers** (read ABSTRACT)
A Strategic, Fundamental and Financial Evaluation of Pacific Sunwear of California, Inc.
*(Chair: K.C. Chen)*

**KREMEN SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**

**Literacy and Early Education**

**Amanda Terry** (read ABSTRACT)
Reading in the Fast Lane: An Evaluative Study on the Effectiveness of Accelerated Reader® in a Fourth-Grade Literacy Program
*(Chair: Elaine Garan)*