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 2013 semesters, 56 students completed theses in areas as varied and original as the students themselves. What follows is a complete list of summer/fall 2013 thesis publications by college/school and some research highlights.

**Animal Science**

**Michael Brady**  
A Survey of Calcium Status of Dairy Cattle Residing in California’s Central Valley  
*(Chair: Jon Robison)*

**Chris Dent**  
Using Core Body Temperature to Determine Response to Timed Insemination in Lactating Dairy Cows  
*(Chair: Jon Robison)*

**Amy Housman**  
Correlation of Physical Characteristics with Insulin Resistance in Horses  
*(Chair: John Henson)*

**Melanie Guadalupe Jaime**  
The Effect of Supplementing Direct-Fed Microbials on Lactational Performance of Lactating Dairy Cows  
*(Chair: Jon Robison)*

**Jordan Van Grouw**  
Survey of Starch Digestibility of California Corn Silages  
*(Chair: Jon Robison)*

~Jordan analyzed corn silages grown in the Central Valley to better understand changes in starch digestibility over time of fermentation.~
Plant Science

Bardia Dehghanmanshadi
Growth, Yield, and Water Use Efficiency of Tomato Subjected to Elevated Carbon Dioxide Under Two Different Irrigation Regimes
(Chair: Florence Cassel Sharma)

David Scheidt
Growth and Yield Response of Bell Pepper CV. Pismo to Slow Release Nitrogen Fertilizer and Irrigation Regimes
(Chair: Dave Goorahoo)

Inderjot Chahal
Comparison of Salt Tolerant Alfalfa (*Medicago Sativa*) Genotypes: Seed Germination, Emergence, Dry Matter Yield and Mineral Composition of Mature Plants
(Chair: Sharon Benes)

Viticulture and Enology

Sean Pinnell
Influence of Mechanical Canopy Management and Differential RDI Stress on the Phenolic and Volatile Aroma Composition of Syrah Wines
(Chair: Kaan Kurtural)

Sijie Zhu
The Influence of Post-Veraison Foliar Potassium Applications on Table Grape Berry Quality
(Chair: Sonet Van Zyl)

Creative Writing—Master of Fine Arts

Russell Birdwell
Cancer Camp
(Chair: Steven Church)

Mary Locke
Adam’s Transgression
(Chair: Alex Espinoza)

Jennifer Matteson
Search and Rescue
(Chair: Corrinne Hales)
John’s thesis examines the Generation 1.5 experience in composition courses designed to prepare them for college-level English and offers a viable alternative to the existing paradigm.

Brice’s work combined labor and leisure by analyzing the effectiveness of using video games in a college composition classroom for learning purposes.

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English

Meredith Bulinski
Developing Reflection: From Thinking to Writing to Learning
(Chair: Asao Inoue)

John Fitzer
Meeting the Needs of Generation 1.5 Students in the Composition Classroom
(Chair: Virginia Crisco)

Daniel Frank
Digital Writing: Refiguring Pedagogy with Online Passionate Affinity Spaces
(Chair: Kathleen Godfrey)

Rupinder Heer-Gill
The Caged Bird Sings: Love as a Liberating Force in Maya Angelou’s Poetry
(Chair: Corrinne Hales)

Lisa McHarry
Reclaiming the Raped Body: The Power of Marking and Feminine Writing in The Heptaméron, Dracula, and the Girl With the Dragon Tattoo
(Chair: Toni Wein)

Brice Daniel Nakamura
Pausing to Think: Video Games in the First-Year Writing Classroom
(Chair: Asao Inoue)

Tyler Richmond
A Critical Assessment Practice for the Writing Classroom
(Chair: Asao Inoue)

Linguistics

Ruth Camburn
The Syntax of Discourse Particles in Chukchansi Yokuts
(Chair: Brain Agbayani)
**Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures**

**Azalia Santos Girón**  
Expresión Subversiva al Discurso Patriarcal en la Voz Artística de Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, Delmira Agustini y María Luisa Bombal  
(*Chair: Debbie Ávila*)

**Sara Rios**  
Ruptura del Estereotipo Femenino en Protagonistas de Valle-Inclán  
(*Chair: Debbie Avila*)

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**CRAIG SCHOOL OF BUSINESS**

**Business Administration**

**Jeanna Furst**  
The Concept of Flow in Consumer Behavior Related to Social Media: An Empirical Study  
(*Chair: Susan Geringer*)

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**LYLES COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING**

**Civil Engineering**

**Ahmad Niaz**  
Evaluation & Optimization of In-Situ Chemical Oxidation (Ozone) in Remediating Petroleum-Impacted Groundwater  
(*Chair: Lubo Liu*)

**Mechanical Engineering**

**Baltazar Gomez**  
Conceptual Design of a Manual Stair-Climbing Wheelchair  
(*Chair: The M. Nguyen*)

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**DIVISION OF GRADUATE STUDIES**

**Interdisciplinary Studies**

**Robert Koons**  
Assessing the Long-Term Impact of Early 20th Century Railroad Logging on Forest Soils: Case Study on the Stanislaus National Forest, California  
(*Chair: Robert Dundas*)
Communicative Disorders and Deaf Studies

Tricia Minty
The Efficacy of Musical Stimuli in Teaching Morphologic Structures in Children With Expressive Language Disorders
(Chair: Christine Maul)

Public Health

Chathurika Goonawardena
The Effect of Anxiety or Depression on Academic Performance Among College Students Attending California State University, Fresno
(Chair: Vickie Krenz)

Raquel Mirelez Hagopian
Factors Associated with Contraceptive Use Among Female Students at a Public California State University Campus
(Chair: Helda Pinzon-Perez)

Jin Zeng
The Mental Health Status of Asian American Students at Fresno State
(Chair: Vickie Krenz)

~Jin's piece focuses on the mental health of Asian American college students as compared to White, African American, and Hispanic students.~

Biology

Elizabeth Braschayko
The Effects of Chronic Cortisol on Growth, Appetite, and Metabolism in Tilapia (Oreochromis Mossambicus)
(Chair: Larry Riley)

Sanjiva Gunasekara
Transcriptome Analysis of CRP* Toxicity
(Chair: Hwan Youn)
Jessica Tyson
Molecular Evidence of Heartworm Larvae in Field Collected *Aedes Sierrensis* in Eastern Madera County, California
*(Chair: Paul Crosbie)*

**Chemistry**

Lucas Algrim
Temperature-Dependent Kinetic and Mechanistic Study of the Gas-Phase Oxidation of Select Carboxyls
*(Chair: Alam Hasson)*

Akiteru Ikeda
Electrochemical and Optical Spectroscopic Studies on C60 and C70 Fullerenes in Various Electrolyte Systems
*(Chair: Jai-Pil Choi)*

Kennedy-Kiet Tuan Vu
Measurements of Redox-Active Organics in Fine Particulate Matter
*(Chair: Alam Hasson)*

Martin Leon
Development of Chalcone-Based Small Organic Molecules for Apolipoprotein E (APOE) Modulation
*(Chair: Santanu Maitra)*

Kang Xiong-Hang
Induced Oxidative Stress in *Drosophila Melanogaster* Exposed to an Environmental Neurotoxin
*(Chair: Joy Goto)*

David Zimmerman
The Key to the Neurotoxicity of B-Methylamino Alanine Lies Within the Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectrum
*(Chair: Krish Krishnan)*
Geology

Juanita Florence Muniz
Magnetostatigraphy and Paleomagnetic Analysis of the Tulare and Turlock Lake Formations, San Joaquin Valley, California
(Chair: Christopher Pluhar)

Physics

Arya Afshari
Optimizing the Search for Excited Bosons W* in Dijet Angular Distributions for the Atlas Experiment
(Chair: Ray Hall)

Joseph DiPirro
Analytical Solutions for Sensitivity Contribution in Nuclear Imaging
(Chair: Douglas Singleton)

Psychology

Ashley Dunbar
The Treatment of Intra-Species Dog Aggression: An Examination of Negative Reinforcement in Shaping Alternative Behaviors
(Chair: Amanda Adams)

Nicole Jones
The Effect of Mexican Orientation and Anglo Orientation on Perception of Stressors
(Chair: Amanda Mortimer)

Charles Kralowec
An Empirical Investigation of the Factor Structure of the Davis Interpersonal Reactivity Index Among School-Age Children
(Chair: Paul Price)

Jovonnie Esquierdo Leal
An Examination of the Effects of Verbal Stimuli, as Identified by the IRAP, on the Rate of Revolutions Pedaled on a Stationary Bicycle
(Chair: Marianne Jackson)

Jordan Prendez
Neural Correlates of Confidence and Error Detection: An Investigation of Error-Related Negativity in a Short-Term Memory Task
(Chair: Martin Shapiro)

~Jordan’s thesis studies the physiological and behavioral responses of participants completing a short-term memory task.~
Iris Price  
Neural Correlates of a Novel Loss-Framed Gambling Task: Investigation of the Feedback-Related Negativity (FRN) and Positive 300 (P300)  
(Chair: Martin Shapiro)

Marisol Reynoso  
Using Task Analyses with Patients with Acquired Brain Injuries: A Study on Accident Prevention Skills Training  
(Chair: Amanda Adams)

Sara Stein-Torres  
Quantitative Differences in Religious Conversion by Age and Level of Personal Change  
(Chair: Michael Botwin)

Criminology  
Yongseol Jang  
Causes and Effects of Victim Participation in the Community Justice Conferencing Program in Fresno County, California  
(Chair: Yoshiko Takahashi)

History  
Whitney Thompson-Tozier  
“Armed With Badges of Red, White, & Blue”: The 1921 California Oil Strike and the End of Union Bargaining in “The Lean Years”  
(Chair: Daniel Cady)

Gee Xiong  
Ntxhais Nkauj Ntsuab: A Study on the Miss Hmong Pageants in America  
(Chair: Jill Fields)