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 2012 semesters, 62 students completed theses in areas as varied and original as the students themselves. What follows is a complete list of summer/fall 2012 thesis publications by college/school and some research highlights.

JORDAN COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

Animal Science

Wendee Murayama
An Economic Model for Determining Colostrum Value on Dairies in California’s Central Valley
(Chair: John Robison)

Crystal Waters
The Use of Surrogate Organisms to Validate Thermal Processing of Jerky in Small and Very Small Plants
(Chair: John Henson)

Plant Science

Kevin Brooks
The Correlation of Soil Texture, Leaf Water Potentials, and Infrared Leaf Temperatures in Pistachio (Pistacia Vera L.)
(Chair: Bruce Roberts)

Prasad Yadavali
Effects of Calcium Fertigation and Acidification on Tomatoes Grown in Salt-Affected Soils
(Chair: Dave Goorahoo)
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Art

Jamie Buettner
Embracing Jesus: Mystical Union with Christ in the Art and Imagination of Seventeenth-Century Europe
(Chair: Gina Strumwasser)

Kristen Plitt
Understanding and Assessing Educational Models for an Undergraduate Degree in Interior Design
(Chair: Sameh El Kharbawy)

Ronald Wrest
Graffiti as Vandalism: An Analysis of the Intentions, Influence, and Growth of Graffiti
(Chair: Laura Meyer)

Communication

Marcie Lierly
Fighting from the Home Front: A Qualitative Analysis of Non-Deployed Military Wives’ Blogs
(Chair: Kathy Adams)

Gabriela Rodriguez
Consuming “Others”: A Critical Performance Textual Analysis of Latinidad in Food Reality Television
(Chair: Shane Moreman)

Creative Writing—Master of Fine Arts

Ryan Cook
City of Dust
(Chair: Tim Skeen)

Jessica Lester
Framed Secrets: A Novel
(Chair: Alex Espinoza)

English

Holly Blair
The Prostitute Narrative and Moral Instruction in Daniel Defoe’s Moll Flanders and Roxana
(Chair: John Beynon)

Andrew Dominguez
The Pedagogical Implications of New Media Epistemologies
(Chair: Asao Inoue)
Patrice Isom
The Female Hero’s Journey in Molly Gloss’s *Wild Life*, Margaret Atwood’s *Surfacing*, and Kate Chopin’s *The Awakening*
(Chair: J. Lyn Johnson)

Kristen Johnson
Gender, Genre, and Gossip in Burney’s *the Witlings* and Sheridan’s *The School for Scandal*
(Chair: John Beynon)

Lane Jorgensen
Mechanical Constructs and Illusory Worlds: Paranoia in the Novels of Thomas Pynchon and Philip K. Dick
(Chair: Steve Adisasmito-Smith)

Belen Lopez
The New Magic Tale: Diana Wynne Jones and the Folk and Fairy Tale
(Chair: Ruth Jenkins)

Sean Maddox
Reimagining Collaborative Learning
(Chair: Asao Inoue)

Tomaro Scadding
The Quest for Feminine Expression in *The Bone People*, *Tenant of Wildfell Hall* and *Mrs. Dalloway*
(Chair: John Beynon)

**Linguistics**

Doreen Aune
Chukchansi Language Adult Curriculum
(Chair: Brian Agbayani)

In an effort to preserve the Chukchansi language, Doreen produced a curriculum as one part of a three-step process for developing an adult education program.

**Spanish**

Johana Alvarez
La Joven Andrea y la Niña Argüello Inspiraciones Femeninas que Modelan un Camino a Seguir Para la Igualdad en el Género
(Chair: Debbie Avila)

Lilia Calderón Flores
El Motivo del Viaje Como Medio del Desarrollo de la Identidad Femenina en los Viajes de mi Cuerpo, Ciudades Desiertas, las Ceremonias del Verano: El Bildungsroman Femenino Hispanoamericano
(Chair: Yolanda Doub)
Business Administration

Brian Geery
How Flow from Fantasy Sports Affects Consumer Behavior
(Chair: Susan Geringer)

Business Administration

Brian chronicled the emotional flow of fantasy sport participants and how said flow affects their behavior as consumers.

Communicative Disorders and Deaf Studies

Lindsey Yager
Teaching Children with Autism to Independently Produce Diverse Phrases for Requesting Using a Fading Sentence Strip Program
(Chair: Christine Maul)

Kinesiology

Christy Thornton
Using Imagery to Increase Self-Efficacy and Weight-Loss Behaviors
(Chair: Felicia Greer)

Public Health

Adlin Davod
Differences in Alcohol Consumption and Unprotected Sexual Behaviors in a Sample of Female Students at California State University, Fresno
(Chair: Vicki Krenz)

Sotheavy Long
Variations in the Quality of Life of Caregivers of Children with Speech Impairments by Age, Gender, Ethnicity, and Number of Hours Spent Caring
(Chair: Helda Pinzon-Perez)

Audrey Martinez
A Comparison of Caregivers with Asthma and Caregivers without Asthma in Fresno and Madera Counties
(Chair: Helda Pinzon-Perez)

Ye Min
Knowledge, Attitudes and Awareness Related to the Cervical Cancer Human Papilloma Virus and the HPV Vaccine Among Women in Two Clinics in Fresno County, California
(Chair: Mohammad Rahman)
Tara Rothford
Changes of Knowledge About Teenage Pregnancy by Gender Among Students Enrolled in a Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Program in Tulare County, California
(Chair: Helda Pinzon-Perez)

Dulawar Singh
An Analysis of Risk Factors for Heart Disease in a Sample of Punjabis Living in Fresno County, California
(Chair: Helda Pinzon-Perez)

Biology

Jordan Anderson
Distribution and Foraging Behavior of Ground and Tree Squirrels in an Urban Environment
(Chair: Madhusudan Katti)

Conrad Braganza
Growth and Physiological Characteristics of Native and Invasive Plant Species of the San Joaquin Valley, California
(Chair: John Constable)

Nate Follen
Microsatellite Markers for Salt/Boron Tolerance in Poplar Trees
(Chair: James Prince)

Athena Goodarzi
The Acute Effects of an Environmental Neurotoxin L-BMAA on Walking Behavior of Drosophila Melanogaster – A Model to Study Neurodegenerative Diseases
(Chair: Ulrike Muller)

Rosemary Luzania
The Effects of Fasting and Re-Feeding on Growth and Glucose Metabolism and the Neuroendocrine Control of Appetite in the Tilapia, Oreochromis Mossambicus
(Chair: Brian Tsukimura)

Nalong Mekdara
The Effects of an Environmental Neurotoxin BMAA on Locomotory Behavior of Drosophila
(Chair: Ulrike Muller)

Whitney Menefee
Understanding Sequence Basis of the Reversed Allostery in the Xanthomonas Axonopodis CLP
(Chair: Hwan Youn)

Nalong studied the effects of glutamate levels on locomotory behavior of flies.
Eric Meyer  
Ecotoxicology of Free-Ranging Western Pond Turtles  
(*Emys Marmorata*)  
(*Chair: Steve Blumenshine*)

Monica Sharma  
Water Quality Assessment of the Upper Fresno River Watershed in Madera County  
(*Chair: Alice Wright*)

**Chemistry**

Ramya Addala  
Kinetic and Mechanistic Studies of Isoprene Reaction in the Atmosphere  
(*Chair: Alam Hasson*)

Elizabeth Buchnoff  
Efficacy of Pre-Laboratory Worksheets Versus Quizzes Utilizing Clicker Technology in a General Chemistry Course  
(*Chair: Eric Perso*)

Kurt Heisel  
Understanding the Conformational Preference of Intrinsically Disordered Proteins by NMR-Based Solvent Perturbation: Application to the Small Fg-Nucleoporin  
(*Chair: Krish Krishnan*)

Mandeep Singh  
(*Chair: Santanu Maitra*)

**Geology**

Brent Jackson  
The Role of Vesiculated Enclaves in Layer Overtur and Volcanic Eruption  
(*Chair: Keith Putirka*)

Jennifer Jackson  
Southern Extension of the Feather River Ultramafic Belt, Central Sierra Nevada, California: Evidence for Along-Strike Variation of Basement Units in an Orogenic Belt  
(*Chair: John Wakabayashi*)
Robin Trayler
Stable Isotope Records of Inland California Megafauna – New Insights into Pleistocene Paleoecology and Paleoenvironmental Conditions
(Chair: Robert Dundas)

Gary Hagy
Cross-Cultural Differences in the Reactivity to Self-Concept Primes and the Mediating Role of Self-Monitoring
(Chair: Robert Levine)

Anneka Hofschneider
Using Behavioral Techniques to Treat Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injuries: The Effects of Stimulus Equivalence Training to Teach Face Affect Recognition
(Chair: Amanda Adams)

Kevin Loewen
A Mixed Contingency Package Intervention to Reduce Unscheduled Absences in a California State Agency
(Chair: Amanda Adams)

Azure Pellegrino
The Effects of Goal Setting, Public Posting, and Verbal Feedback on Inappropriate On-Court Behaviors of High School Tennis Players
(Chair: Marianne Jackson)
Joey examined the relationship between perceived social inequality and the ultimate attribution error, striving to determine if they held any influence on the maintenance of social identity in post-genocide societies.

School Psychology (Ed.S.)

Cy Hiyane
An Examination of Parental Homophobia: The Creation and Validation of the Parental Homophobic Affect Scale
(Chair: Marilyn Wilson)

Nelarie Romo
Disproportionality and Assessment Practices for Students Who Are English Language Learners (ELL)
(Chair: Marilyn Wilson)

History

José Garza
For God or Country: The Persecution of Jehovah’s Witnesses in the Shadow of World War II
(Chair: Lori Clune)

Maria Lorenzo
Race, Gender and Mexican Americanization: How Mainstream Anglo Assumptions Inspired Mexican Americanization in California, 1914-1939
(Chair: Blain Roberts)

Public Administration

Kau Vue
Hmong Political Participation in the United States
(Chair: Kurt Cline)

Kau provided an overview of political participation among Hmong Americans and analyzed some factors which might influence their participation.