Senior Honors Theses
2009-2010

Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture

Ronald Jason Ammon
Architecture
“Laventille Center for Culture and the Arts”
Thesis Director: Dr. Geoffrey Brune

Aaron Michael Grant
Architecture / Environmental Design
“Assembled Development: Large Scale Fabricated Component Design for Education in Third Ward”
Thesis Director: Dr. Geoffrey Brune

Mireille Andre Zinu Kameni
Architecture
“Kienda Service Center”
Thesis Director: Dr. Geoffrey Brune

Rafael Morales
Architecture
“The Church that Answers Questions”
Thesis Director: Dr. Geoffrey Brune

Huong Nguyen
Architecture
“What Makes a Space, a Good Student Space?”
Thesis Director: Dr. Geoffrey Brune

Maria Oran
Architecture
“Multi-Modal Transit Center for the University of Houston Main Campus”
Thesis Director: Dr. Geoffrey Brune

Athena Patira
Architecture
“Curbed Family Shelter”
Thesis Director: Dr. Geoffrey Brune
Jonathan Shelledy  
Architecture  
“The Woodlands Center for Performing Arts”  
Thesis Director: Dr. Geoffrey Brune

Sanja Zilic  
Architecture  
“Educational and Community Center – Bosnia and Herzegovina”  
Thesis Director: Dr. Geoffrey Brune

**College of Education**

Maria Ann Pulsifer  
Interdisciplinary Studies  
Thesis Director: Dr. Sabrina Marsh

Godfrey Shayne Johnathan Rodrigues  
Kinesiology-Exercise Science / Psychology  
“Applied Sport Biomechanics for Improvement in the Efficiency of the Punt in American Football: The Practical Importance of the Angle of Projection”  
Thesis Director: Dr. Joel A. Bloom

**Cullen College of Engineering**

Misturat Akinyele  
Mechanical Engineering  
“Bilateral Tele-Operation of PHANTOM Omni”  
Thesis Director: Dr. Karolos Grigoriadis

Gregory Robert Bohuslav  
Biomedical Engineering  
“Visual Psychophysics as a Measure of Fatigue”  
Thesis Director: Dr. Adam Capitano
Corey Hryc  
*Biomedical Engineering*  
“Co-expression of Overlapping Genes”  
*Thesis Director: Dr. Dan Graur*

Andrew M. Khoury  
*Biomedical Engineering*  
“Distinguishing Unknown Voices from Your Own: an fMRI Audio-Controlled Study of Self-Referential Modes”  
*Thesis Director: Dr. M. Amin Mayali*

Max Lingamfelter  
*Biomedical Engineering*  
“Unwrapping of Stented Coronary Artery Geometries and Novel Three-Dimensional Imaging Techniques Applied to Intracranial Aneurysms”  
*Thesis Director: Dr. Ralph Metcalfe*

Athar Murtaza Razvi  
*Mechanical Engineering*  
“Innovative Carbon Nancomposite Experiment”  
*Thesis Director: Dr. Gangbing Song*

Carlos Rueda  
*Chemical Engineering*  
“A Molecular Dynamics Study of the Wettability of Fluorinated Self-Assembled Monolayers”  
*Thesis Director: Dr. Manolis Doxastakis*

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**College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences**

Taylor Alvis  
*Art History*  
“Invisible Women Designers of the Modern Movement”  
*Thesis Director: Dr. Luisa Orto*

Maria Mercedes Arredondo  
*Psychology*  
“The Bilingual Cognitive Advantage: Culture and Socioeconomic Status on Executive Function”  
*Thesis Director: Dr. Hanako Yoshida*
Blair Elizabeth Ault
*Political Science / History*
“Building Libraries in a Democracy: The Progressive Life of Julia Ideson”
*Thesis Director: Dr. Charles Orson Cook*

Kevin Patrick Darby
*Psychology*
“Children and Context: Cued Attention in a Visual Search Task”
*Thesis Director: Dr. Merrill Hiscock*

Caitlin Michelle Deans
*English-Creative Writing*
“The Good Morrow”
*Thesis Director: Dr. John Harvey*

Janet E. De Luna
*Classical Studies / Accounting*
“A Compact Revisited: An Analysis of Compromise in the *Aeneid*”
*Thesis Director: Dr. Francesca A. Behr*

Heather Raye Dial
*Psychology*
“Effects of Frequency Filtering on Dichotic Listening”
*Thesis Director: Dr. Merrill Hiscock*

Patricia Gerardo
*Classical Studies*
“Lament in Greek and Roman Tragedy”
*Thesis Director: Dr. Casey Dué-Hackney*

Alejandra Gomez
*Communication Disorders*
“The acquisition of fricatives and affricates by bilingual Spanish- and English- speaking children and their monolingual peers”
*Thesis Director: Dr. Ferenc Bunta*

David Gonzales
*English-Creative Writing*
“Pigeon Down”
*Thesis Director: Dr. Aaron Reynolds*
Kyle Hodges
*English-Creative Writing*
“Maps are the silent theaters of human interaction”
*Thesis Director: Dr. Martha Serpas*

Mark F. Ellis
*English-Creative Writing*
“The Man With a Thousand Tongues”
*Thesis Director: Dr. William Monroe*

Sara Beth Gabler
*English*
“Gendered Madness”
*Thesis Director: Dr. William Monroe*

Derek Robert Goodwin
*History / Political Science*
“The NAACP’s Fifth Secretariat, 1918-1920”
*Thesis Director: Dr. Charles Orson Cook*

Angela Eileen Grasso
*Applied Music*
“Traces of the Past: Uses of Folk Music in Selected Viola Repertoire”
*Thesis Director: Dr. Andrew Davis*

Katelyn Halpern
*English*
*Thesis Discipline: Honors*
“A Necessary Marriage: Integrating the Fine and Liberal Arts at the University of Houston Honors College”
*Thesis Director: Dr. John Harvey*

Justina N. Isidienu
*English-Creative Writing*
“Blues for Daddy”
*Thesis Director: Dr. Nicholas Flynn*

Caitlin Johnson
*English-Creative Writing*
“Untitled”
*Thesis Director: Dr. Nicholas Flynn*
Matthew Kolodoski  
*Political Science*  
“The Role of International Law in Curbing Piracy: An Exploration of Universal Jurisdiction”  
*Thesis Director: Dr. Ronald Vardy*

Emily Paige Lacy  
*Studio Art-Painting / Philosophy*  
“Aesthetic Experience: The Third Thing”  
*Thesis Director: Dr. Cynthia Freeland*

Christie A. Maurer  
*English-Creative Writing*  
“Some Creature”  
*Thesis Director: Dr. Nicholas Flynn*

Michael Osborne  
*English*  
“I Will Be Ruled By Thee in Anything”: Masters and Servants in Early Modern English Drama”  
*Thesis Director: Dr. Ann Christensen*

Sarah Panjwani  
*Communication Disorders*  
“An Investigation of Speech Language Pathologist Knowledge and Practices with Assessment of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students”  
*Thesis Director: Dr. Martha Dunkelberger*

Amanda Kathleen Pate  
*English-Creative Writing*  
“A Mirror to Descent”  
*Thesis Director: Dr. Aaron Reynolds*

Heather Elizabeth Pedoto  
*English-Creative Writing*  
“One out of Five Items that Adeline Stein Left on the Bus on the Way to the Zoo”  
*Thesis Director: Dr. John Harvey*
John Ellsworth Phillips
Theatre
“The Philadelphia Connection”
Thesis Director: Dr. John Harvey

Cynthia Plascencia
English-Creative Writing
“Tu Prieta”
Thesis Director: Dr. James Kastely

Ashley Marie Radmacher
Psychology
“The Development of Manual Skill and Hand Preference in Preschool and Early Age School Children”
Thesis Director: Dr. Merrill Hiscock

Daniel Sellers
History
“The First Pennsylvania Rifle Regiment: Frontier Culture and the American Revolution”
Thesis Director: Dr. James Martin

Angela So
English-Creative Writing
“How to Wear a Cotton Candy Dress”
Thesis Director: Dr. Aaron Reynolds

Samantha S. Thorpe
English-Creative Writing
“The World Above is Quiet”
Thesis Director: Dr. William Monroe

Westley Trevino
Economics
“The South Central YMCA, Quentin Mease and the Civil Rights Movement in Houston, 1955-1968”
Thesis Director: Dr. Scott Imberman

Ronnie John Turner
Communications-Journalism / History
“The South Central YMCA, Quentin Mease and the Civil Rights Movement in Houston, 1955-1968”
Thesis Director: Dr. Charles Orson Cook
Jyothis Varghese
Psychology
“Project G.O.A.L.S.: Helping Those with a Chronic Illness Reach Their Goals”
Thesis Director: Dr. Mary J. Naus

Petrus Wassdorf
Political Science
“Texas Constitutional Revision”
Thesis Director: Dr. Richard W. Murray

Christine Elizabeth Wisch
Music Education / Spanish
“The Spanish Sonatas of Joaquin Turina: The Creation of Spanish Sound Within Absolute Form”
Thesis Director: Dr. Paul Bertagnolli

Abdul Zakaria
Economics / Accounting
“The Effects of Oil Price Changes on Houston and Dallas Unemployment”
Thesis Director: Dr. Ruxandra Prodan

College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Corey Allen Henderson
Physics / Mathematics
“Particle-in-cell Model of Plasma Behavior in the Exhaust Region of VASIMR Using OOPIC Pro”
Thesis Director: Dr. E. A. Bering

Rouba Najjar
Biology
“Developing an in vivo phage display system for bacterium shewanella oneidensis MR-1”
Thesis Director: Dr. Donna Pattison
Shyam Champak Panchal
Chemistry
“Synthesis of Curcumin Derivatives and Evaluation for Anti-Bacterial and Anti-Fungal Activity”
Thesis Director: Dr. Joydip Das

Srinivas Pushpala
Biology
“Excess Loads: A Study in Gait”
Thesis Director: Dr. Adam Thrasher

Rita Evelyn Sirrieh
Biochemical/Biophysical Sciences
“Regulation of Hepatic Drug Metabolizing Enzymes by P. aeruginosa Infection of the Murine Lungs”
Thesis Director: Dr. Romi Ghose