

Hanna Holborn Gray Undergraduate Research Fellows Summer 2017

Final titles and Abstracts

Nina Angileri, *The Tarsus Connection: Striking Coins, Striking Lives. Coins from the Ella Riegel Study Collection* Archaeology

The Ella Riegel Study Collection at Bryn Mawr College houses a group of 88 coins donated by Hetty Goldman, the excavator of Gözli Kule, Tarsus. The online database Triarte alleges that these coins were excavated at the site, with 37 vaguely titled "Coin of Tarsus (?)." My work combines archival research and numismatics to clarify the provenance of the coins and to catalogue those minted in Tarsus. My study of the excavation publications and other coin catalogues concludes that no Goldman coins were excavated at Tarsus and only seven were minted there. My exhaustive investigation of the College Archives allows the history of the coins to be plausibly reconstructed. My research also reveals 20 other coins minted in Tarsus, all donated by four women who are linked to each other through their connections to Hetty Goldman, the site of Tarsus, and Bryn Mawr College. Taking artifact histories into account, my research demonstrates that the educational value of artifacts is not limited to archaeological context. Seemingly insignificant artifacts can act as powerful vehicles of meaning: the coins not only offer a valuable historical slice of Tarsian coinage, but also highlight the depth of interpersonal connections between the women who donated them.

Cheng Mun Chang, *"In the Name of Love": Assimilationist LGBT Activism as Socio-political Response in Hong Kong and Singapore.* Anthropology & East Asian Languages and Cultures

Hong Kong and Singapore are both places that share a similar degree of cultural rejection of LGBT rights, influenced by their common history as British colonies in Asia with a majority Chinese population. As a result, activist events in both places tailor their messaging to the local context in order to provide a more culturally acceptable intersection of queerness and citizenship, positioning LGBT individuals as citizens who share the values of the city and therefore belong. By comparing the perspectives of organisers and participants as well as publicity of the LGBT event Pink Dot (which originated in Singapore) in both cities, I explore how local identity and notions of citizenship and belonging are built into these events. In particular, I look at the ways in which the elements of Pink Dot that were intended to be culturally specific to Singapore are translated to the movement in Hong Kong.

Rebekah Gallop, *"Post-colonialism and Indigenous Students' Education in the United States"*
Growth and Structure of Cities

In both the United States and Australia, indigenous students are not afforded the same access to education as their non-native classmates and experience significantly lower graduation rates than any other student demographic. Throughout history, education has played a significant role in colonization, acting as a tool of assimilation and resulting in loss of languages, culture, and identity. The subject of history in particular holds tremendous power in controlling how we view the past and present. In order to analyze the inequality in graduation rates, I have focused on the importance of history courses in the education of these students. I have interviewed numerous educators, indigenous people, and historians in both Australia and the United States in order to understand their experience in education and what they believe needs to be improved. I have also looked at history books used in classrooms nationwide, curriculum, scholarly articles, and primary sources recounting significant events in history. According to my interviewees and the scholarly sources I have analyzed, change is necessary in the curriculum and history teacher preparation in order to help improve indigenous students' graduation rates.

Larissa Gama de Paula '18

In her combat boots: The Entrance of Women in the Brazilian Army, in Reality Political Science & Growth and Structure of Cities

The year of 2017 marked the first time women were allowed to join the Brazilian Army as combatants, and the first time women in administrative could become colonels. As these women increasingly undermine assumptions about biology, respectability and femininity inside of this massive institution with deep-seated values and traditions, they foment questions about their roles, skills and the privileges of men. Therefore, in this study I've attempted to address these knowledge gaps by exploring the adaptation of women in several schools of the Army, with a special focus on EsPCEx, where the first class currently trains for combat. To accomplish this, I draw upon data from several in-depth interviews I conducted during the summer of 2017.

Elinor Haney. *Inching Towards Utopia: Queering Language and Politics in Science Fiction*
English

I aim to research conceptualizations of the human body -- and particularly of the gendered human body -- in contemporary science fiction literature. As a field of literature that allows literally boundless space for imaginings of gendered embodiments and queer futurities, Science Fiction is a field often overlooked by academia that has long been great interest to me. Through an application of queer and transhumanist theory to relevant literature and through my own research and interpretation, I aim to call to attention the many alternative relationships between mind, body, and gender that have existed as part and parcel of the genre, and to bring forth my own addition to the current bevy of queer potentialities that the human imagination allows for.

Xinyi Huang, *The Wenzhou merchants and their petty commodities in Paris: Space, Power and Social Networks Within Chinese Commercial Enclave*

Growth and Structure of Cities & French and Francophone Studies

This research explores the social and economic implications of the Wenzhou Chinese diaspora in Paris, France. Widely known as China's Jerusalem, the coastal Chinese city of Wenzhou is famous for thousands of self-started, family-run businesses. Drawing on multi-sited fieldwork, this research is an ethnographic study of the emergence, development and ramification of Wenzhou commercial enclaves in and around Paris. The study shows how non-elite immigrants and traders from Wenzhou have brought their vision of petty commodities in a European context and how they perceive and deal with issues relating to domestic relations, education and native-place based loyalty. It highlights the role of social networks and interpersonal ties regarding the construction of Chinese enclave labor market, and suggests a dialectical relationship between spatial practices and the production and privatization of power.

Megan Murray '18, *Property and Revolution: Groundwork for a Radical Reading of Kant*.
Political Science

Immanuel Kant formulates his conception of right in *The Metaphysics of Morals*. Property is a central right on Kant's argument. Some scholars have taken Kant to understand, by "property," a conception of ownership that grants us robust rights over the disposal of our property; this conception of property is a common assumption in liberal thought. Those who take Kant to defend liberal property rights *a priori* miss the radical implications of Kantian freedom and property. In this essay, I argue that property in Kant takes no certain material form; rather, it is defined and limited only by the possibility of use for all. Under Kant's formulation of right, we both *can* and *should* look beyond liberal property rights in our understanding of a rightful condition. Furthermore, I argue that Kant's prohibition on revolution, rather than constituting an unqualified call to obey all organized displays of force, applies only to institutions in loose or aspiring conformity to right. My interpretation of revolution in Kant, furthermore, recognizes the connection between property rights, social dependence and state legitimacy. Overall my interpretation establishes the basis for radical, even revolutionary Kantian theory, through which we could imagine a morality of revolutionary political and economic change.

Katie Rodgers, *Lovers, Spinsters, Lesbians, Haters: What's Queer in Hill House*. English

This paper examines the intricate female relationships and tensions in Shirley Jackson's *The Haunting of Hill House*, with special interest in the earlier drafts of this work that are housed in the Library of Congress, Washington DC. I set out to examine the different tensions among women in the novel. I have researched the queerness of this novel and looking through the lens of earlier drafts. As the curse of the house only follows women, the particulars of the Haunting are a reflection of the true struggle of white American women and their role in the domestic sphere.

Nathalia Santos '18, *The "De Janeiro" Part of Rio: Analyzing the Chance of Women of Color from Danger Zones.* Economics & Political Science

Women are constantly ignored from Economic studies involving the labor market due to selectivity problems. In Brazil the case is even worse, because the data necessary to evaluate intergenerational mobility between mothers and daughters was collected for the first and only time in 2014. Since women, and specially women of color from danger zones, are increasingly becoming the head of household, it is time their reality is addressed. In this study, I've attempted to tackle this question by performing a qualitative analysis on their intergenerational socioeconomic mobility. I draw upon data from several in-depth interviews I conducted during the summer of 2017. Using Pavuna, a small suburb in Rio de Janeiro, as my case study, I discuss race, tell the story of the neighborhood and of the Pavunense mothers and daughters who live there.