Abstract: What makes a line of poetry quotable in literary scholarship? Does a line's position in relation to the poem affect its quotability and, therefore, its significance? Does a poem's time period play a role in how scholars propagate poetry? To answer these questions, I created a corpus of 250 poems from The Poetry Foundation, a database of more or less popular poems published in English, from both the Modern (roughly 1902-1965) and Romantic (roughly 1750-1870) time periods-standard, recognized periods of literary scholarship. The JSTOR database was then selected to find scholarly propagation of each line of each poem in my poetry corpus: a search was done through JSTOR for the exact phrase of a line of poetry in documents which also included the author's name. Results were then recorded and graphed against the percentage a line occurred at through the poem in which it was found. Currently, I am finding that a poem's structure is typically reflected in scholarly propagation. Still, this is not always the case, as there are some instances in which scholarly propagation deviates from a poem's structure and poems of certain line lengths tend to be less structured than poems of other line lengths. For instance, poems containing 14 lines are almost always highly structured, while the inverse is true for poems of 16 lines. Variation between the Modern and Romantic periods suggest that scholarly propagation differs between the two periods. As I continue to analyze and interpret results, I wish to address how scholars propagate poems through length, structure, and literary period. Overall, I wish to quantify how poems hold meaning in order to illustrate poetic propagation, and therefore interpretation, is predictable.
Category: Humanities

Title: (Neo)liberal homoerotics: an analysis of homonormative tendencies in U.S. gay pulp fiction, 1960-1999

Student Presenter: Chanan Brown

Faculty Advisor: Nyseth Brehm, Hollie

Abstract: Over the past four decades, the Gay Liberation Movement and broader LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer) movements have made significant achievements in the fight for sexual equality, resulting in increased acceptance of gay and queer identifying individuals and widespread normalization of gay relationships. This progress, however, has not equally benefitted all members of the LGBTQ community. Queer identity has become increasingly stratified within the intersections of class, race, ability, nationality, and gender, resulting in what can be described as homonormativity. While the concept of homonormativity and, in particular, its relationship to Neoliberalism have been closely explored by several researchers since Lisa Duggan's coining of the term in 2002, the overall body of knowledge regarding LGBT intra-community marginalization is scant. Furthermore, a detailed historical analysis of the development of social and cultural processes, which have led to normative gay and queer existences, is yet to be published. The purpose of this study is to examine the relational developments of homonormativity and Neoliberal ideologies, explicitly across their common temporalities. This will be done through content analysis of 12 archived, gay pulp novels, published in the United States between 1960 and 1999; four novels will be analyzed from each decade. The novels offer a plethora of valuable data, representing dominant sociocultural attitudes within the LGBT community as they relate to homoeroticism throughout the latter half of the 20th century. Still in process, this project will offer an understanding of the historical relationship of homonormative practices and ideologies with broader social and cultural norms, including the popularization of Neoliberal values. This knowledge will provide new insight into the most recognizable form of intra-community inequity for LGBTQ people. Additionally it will add to the valuable, but limited, literature that grapples with the systemic qualities of homonormativity and how those qualities function.
Category: Humanities

Title: Exploring factionalism in mid-late Northern Song Dynasty China: a GIS-based network approach

Student Presenter: Ruoran Cheng

Faculty Advisor: Sui, Daniel

Abstract: Social development is usually driven by the political attitudes and philosophy of several elites and coalitions in any period of time in history. In order to have a better understanding on the social evolution's regulation in China, I introduced a new digital humanity approach, supported by GIS and SNA technology, in a case study focused on factionalism in mid-late Northern Song Dynasty with data from CBDB. In the study, I explored the possibility of using digital humanity and spatial analysis as an alternative approach in historical study. These quantitative approaches indicate relatively objectivity derived from quantitative data-based analysis, comprehensibility brought by a variety of coverage on study cases and a new angle of view from expansion of study dimensions (from chronology only to space-time intergraded). Regional background has considered as an important cleavage influencing statesman's political attitude. Following the Song Dynasty political model proposed by Robert Hartwell, which considered the generalized kinships as one of the most important associations forming statesman into political groups in Song Dynasty China, and positive political support as an association connecting several political groups, I create a social elites network representing political environment in study era with 2331 individuals. Through a SNA approach, I discovered two major aggregations in network, one centered by Wang Anshi and another centered by Sima Guang, which is identical to historical records, and given a rough boundary on two social elites' coalitions in mid-late Northern Song Dynasty. Through Geo-visualization, my finding suggests a different outcome from Qian's assumption that regional background a important cleavage. I find a distinct spatial distribution between reformers and conservatives among top-rank officials, but similar phenomenon is not that clear among upper-level ones. I consider this phenomenon a reflection of bureaucracy system driven by elite coalitions in Northern Song Dynasty.
Category: Humanities

Title: Dialect classification reveals mismatch between speech processing and dialect perception

Student Presenter: Megan Dailey

Faculty Advisor: Clopper, Cynthia

Abstract: Familiar dialects can facilitate speech processing. However, recent investigation of speech processing differences between the Northern and Midland dialects revealed a different pattern: in noise-masked speech, listeners from both dialect regions identified Midland words and phrases with higher accuracy than Northern words and phrases. This preference could be explained by inconsistencies found between speaker production and perception of their own dialect. The goal of the present study was to determine whether cross-dialect processing differences between the Northern and Midland dialects are reflected in listeners' ability to explicitly categorize speakers by dialect. Participants completed a speech intelligibility in noise task followed by a forced-choice dialect categorization task. Speech stimuli were short phrases taken from passages read by eight Northern and eight Midland speakers. Responses in both tasks were scored for accuracy. Results revealed higher accuracy in processing Midland phrases than Northern phrases, yet poor dialect categorization performance across listeners. The results of the intelligibility task support that listener expectations for word pronunciations more closely match Midland word pronunciations, while dialect classification results reveal that speaker dialect is not easily distinguishable. Together, the results confirm that variation in the speech signal attributed to speaker dialect is not accessible to the listener to identify speaker dialect, even though dialect variation presents the listener with clear speech processing difficulties.
Category: Humanities

Title: Creating a new transnational identity: Chicana punk rock in east Los Angeles in the 1970s

Student Presenter: Isabella DeSpirito

Faculty Advisor: Delgadillo, Theresa

Abstract: My research examines the experience of Chicana punk rockers who entered the punk rock scene in Los Angeles in the 1970s and analyzes how this impacted their sense of ethnic, national, and gender identity. I argue that these experiences represent a new era of the punk rock scene, one of diversity and transnationalism that continues today in Los Angeles punk rock. My research contributes to Latina/o Studies, Music Studies, and Gender Studies. The texts I focus on include memoir and documentary film. My analysis of a personal memoir by punk rocker Alicia Armendariz, a.k.a. Alice Bag, called "Violence Girl" explores how she created her own sense of transnationalism by maintaining her Mexican-American identity in the white-dominated punk scene. I also analyze the Netflix documentary "Los Punks: We Are All We Have" to consider the diversity we can see in punk rock today in Los Angeles; this is where I argue that Alice Bag has made a lasting contribution. My findings include that Alice Bag was a widely influential early punk rocker who contributed to the development of this new musical genre in the U.S. by making punk rock more diverse and by carving out a space for herself as a woman and a Mexican-American. This work is significant because there is limited scholarship on women and Chicanas in punk rock, where only 15% of the total inductees in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame are women. This work further highlights the important role Mexican-Americans play, and continue to play, in the development of major music scenes in the United States.
Abstract: The purpose of this research study is to understand the complexities present when physicians become patients. By describing the particular dynamics surrounding medical care for the physician-patient, the study seeks to provide a foundation for learning how to improve treatment for the physician-patient, as well as for other kinds of patients. The oral presentation for this research study includes a report on previous research and statistical data concerning the care patterns of physician-patients; a literature review from the fields of comparative studies, narrative medicine, and medical sociology; and results and qualitative data analysis, which will be completed before the forum, from personal interviews with physicians regarding their experiences as patients, as well as their experiences treating other physician-patients. The interview analysis focuses on the language used in clinical encounters, expectations of care from both physicians and physician-patients, and physician-patient access to healthcare options. The study explores the roles that knowledge, power, and emotions (such as fear and embarrassment) play, not only in the physician and physician-patient relationship, but more generally in the relationship between the physician and the non-medically trained patient.
Title: Talking in tongues: exploring French and francophone identity through language

Student Presenter: Amelia Gulick

Faculty Advisor: Marx-Scouras, Danielle

Abstract: L'Académie Française was founded in 1635 by Cardinal Richelieu under King Louis XIV to decide what words constitute the French language. This linguistic standard establishes a foundation for the cultural standards of those for whom speaking French is a defining factor of their identity. My research explores the relationship between the Academy's preservation of a French language standard and the variations of that standard employed by actual speakers in communication and self-definition. Pop music is a particularly interesting battle ground because it is a pivotal component of culture that bridges language and culture gaps alike. This is the medium through which I explore the evolution versus preservation of French and Francophone identity as expressed through language. The analysis of song lyrics from French groups like Moussu Tèle Jovents and Zebda, as well as Québécois artists such as Mononc' Serge, Bernard Adamus, Les Cowboys Fringants, and Radio Radio, will provide insight into the effect of deviation from standard French on an artist's message. The effect of these variations and the implications of cultural nuances in the environments of artists and audiences will be evaluated by literary analysis of academic papers and news articles on French slang, Québécois language and culture, and the artists in question. Interviews with the artists will provide a first person account of why they choose the words they do; are these linguistic variations and adaptations something the artists themselves view as productive or destructive to the international identity for which the Academy standard serves as a foundation? Is it a rebellion or simply an authentic expression of self? This study will provide insight into the survival of a language - does variation pose a threat, or is the manifestation of identity in language the answer to long term preservation of both language and culture?
Category: Humanities

Title: "We Europeans": Signal Magazine and political collaboration in German-occupied Europe, 1940-1945

Student Presenter: Jordan Henry

Faculty Advisor: Conklin, Alice

Abstract: Within the vast body of scholarship on the Second World War, the most groundbreaking research in recent years has explored the complex relationships between Germans and the peoples they conquered. While European historians have traditionally focused on national resistance movements during the war, the topic of collaboration with the Nazi regime has remained controversial. My research tackles this contentious subject by examining the relationship between the French and German press industries, using the history of a German propaganda publication, Signal magazine, as a case study. Signal was a photojournalism magazine published by the German military between April 1940 and April 1945. The magazine was printed by local publishing houses throughout Europe, relying on collaborative networks between Germans and other Europeans. The scholarship on this history is surprisingly sparse: only a handful of articles in French and German exist, with English scholarship virtually non-existent. In this study, I seek out both the material conditions of the magazine's publication and the ideological underpinnings of its contributors. Through the analysis of archival materials in Washington, D.C. and Paris - including German occupation records, U.S. military records, and French legal documents - I uncover the French and German journalists, photographers, and businessmen who contributed to the magazine. In conjunction with secondary sources, I use this information to reconstruct a coherent narrative for the magazine. Although current scholarship distinguishes distinct categories of cooperation with the enemy, ranging from accommodation to outright collaboration, my research suggests that a more nuanced approach must be made; for some contributors, working for the Nazi regime blurred the lines between collaboration and personal and professional survival. This project adds to our understanding of collaboration by shedding new light on how those in the press industry viewed their place within the Nazi New Order.
Abstract: In 2015, The Ohio State University’s Rare Books and Manuscripts Library acquired a medieval archive from Southern France. There are a total of eighty-two legal documents with dates ranging from 1426 to 1774. The majority of these documents are parchment, though some are paper, and are written in either Latin, Old Gascon, or a macaronic mixture of Latin and Old Gascon. Since no one has worked with these documents, I decided to create a project in order to provide resources for future scholars. This project has three parts: creating a catalog, creating an identification system for these documents, and creating a database that gives scholars access to notary stamps used in medieval Southern France. The catalog allows documentation of size, dates, condition, notary stamps, and important names that a scholar could use to find documents relating to their research while also providing the library with the means to share the collection with the public. Creating an identification system allows people to find and refer to each document, thus allowing future researchers to see how certain documents are connected. An identification system of this manner can be adapted and used for other documents added to OSU’s legal manuscript collection. Lastly, by utilizing the database future researchers can search by notarial stamp and find information pertaining to that stamp. In short, this project aims to make these medieval manuscripts more accessible to scholars at Ohio State and beyond by providing additional resources for public use.
Category: Humanities

Title: Psychotherapy à la française: The status of psychoanalysis in contemporary France as compared to the United States

Student Presenter: Jessica LaHote

Faculty Advisor: Willging, Jennifer

Abstract: Psychoanalysis has played a critical role in the development of modern psychology and psychotherapy. However, psychotherapy in the majority of the Western world, including the United States, has shifted towards a cognitive-behavioral approach that advocates for evidence-based practice. In France, psychoanalysis remains highly influential, most notably defended by a highly outspoken minority of lacaniens, psychoanalysts who subscribe to the theories of Jacques Lacan (1901-81). While previous studies offer possible explanations for the persistent influence of psychoanalysis in France, little research has treated the current perceptions of psychoanalysis and cognitive-behaviorism there. This study begins by comparing the trajectory of psychoanalysis in France and in the United States. It then evaluates the current climate amongst French psychologists, psychiatrists, and psychoanalysts via observations at the Centre Hospitalier Sainte-Anne, the largest psychiatric hospital in France, and in-person interviews. It appears that although the ongoing debate between cognitive-behaviorists and psychoanalysts in France has been renewed in the twenty-first century, little theoretical shift has occurred within the fields of psychiatry and psychology there. The deep philosophical and historical roots of psychoanalysis, as well as the continuing influence of Jacques Lacan, secure its role within French psychiatry, psychology, and society. Consequently, many French psychoanalysts view critiques of psychoanalysis as a threat to French culture as a result of American influence. While its focus is the difference between current perceptions of psychoanalysis in France and the United States, this study explores more generally how cultural context plays a role in past and present diagnosis and treatment of mental illness and thus contributes to the debate over whether international standards of diagnosis and treatment are attainable.
Abstract: My project explores how Sir Thomas Malory (d. 1471) used real life events to shape his retelling of the popular tale of King Arthur. Malory wrote in England during a civil war known as 'The Wars of the Roses' (1455-1485). This conflict involved members of the royal family fighting to put different people on the throne of England. Malory's involvement in this dynastic dispute landed him jail, which was where he penned his famous Le Morte Darthur. I began my research by simultaneously reading Le Morte Darthur in its original spelling and secondary scholarship on the Wars of the Roses and Malory himself. During my research, I noticed a pattern of footnotes mentioning how certain parts of Le Morte Darthur are not from a source that Malory claimed to be using. I also noticed how these new parts that Malory was inventing matched something that would have just occurred in contemporary society. I compiled a list of plot details Malory invented that did not match a source and the list is very substantial. As I furthered my research, I realized many of these changes reflected contemporary notions of themes such as counsel and crusading. I have concluded that the changes Malory made in his retelling of King Arthur's life were made to specifically reflect some of the events that occurred during his lifetime, such as issues with counsel and crusading, and through these changes we can determine how Malory felt the ruling class should behave. Naturally, everyone's life influences their writing in some way but the amount of times real life shows up in Le Morte Darthur leads me to believe that this is so much more than coincidence. This conclusion leads us to better understand this time in British history and how late medieval people interpreted and reacted to political events.
Category: Humanities

Title: Who are the true Romans? Ethnic polemic at the fall of Empire

Student Presenter: Kaelyn McAdams

Faculty Advisor: Kaldellis, Anthony

Abstract: After the death of Theodosius the first, the Roman Empire found itself divided into eastern and western halves governed by Theodosius' two sons: Honorius and Arcadius. This division resulted in the formation of twin Res Publicae, with separate courts and emperors, which almost immediately led to discord between the two halves. When the barbarian regent of Honorius, Stilicho, sought to control both the western and eastern halves of the empire, just as Theodosius had done, he employed Claudian, a western court poet, to slander the eastern regent Eutropius in a panegyric, while simultaneously portraying Stilicho as a hyper-masculine Roman savior. This way the misdoings and femininity of the eunuch Eutropius were used to taint the entire eastern court. In an attempt to control the Roman Empire, Stilicho and Claudian opened up a dialog in which the western empire claimed to have greater authority over its eastern counterpart, and therefore could legitimize its dominance. This thesis examines three western, Latin-speaking authors (beginning with Claudian) and one eastern Greek-speaking author in order to understand western Roman perceptions of eastern Romans through the fifth and sixth centuries. By looking closely at the tone, vocabulary and references to the Greek people (both ancient and contemporary to their authors) within these works, we see that authors maintain the literary precedent of western dominance that was set by Claudian in the early fifth century. Asserting dominance often required authors to simultaneously point out the weaknesses of the eastern, Greek-speaking Romans and therefore to warp history by manipulating and utilizing late antique stereotypes. From my research scholars can see the effects of derogatory political rhetoric and how this shapes political alliances, but also how rhetoric changes and must be analyzed closely in its historical context.
Category: Humanities

Title: November 13: A turning point for French citizens of Maghribi descent?

Student Presenter: Massarah Mikati

Faculty Advisor: Marx-Scouras, Danielle

Abstract: France is a multicultural country that attempts to preserve its social model of universalism by concealing the diversity of its non-white citizens. Citizens must conform to a "neutral" identity in the public sphere, where hyphenated and individualistic identities, as they exist in the U.S., are foreign and unacceptable concepts. In the aftermath of the November 13, 2015 attacks in Paris, this social model is crumbling. My research examines how the November 13 attacks impacted the lives and identities of French Maghrabis. This community has been facing racism in France, such as employment discrimination and not qualifying as "pure" French, since the beginning of the 20th century, in the name of universalism and laïcité (secularism). After spending four months in France interviewing a diverse group of French citizens about identity, pluralism and diversity in France, I found that the attacks brought to light the false claims that the universalism France's government practices results in equality. The consequences of this social model climaxed on November 13, 2015, where France's attackers were not foreigners, like those of America's 9/11, but were French-born and raised. As such, the attacks ignited a crisis over what it means to be French, the place of the French Maghrabi community in this definition, and the problematic notion and façade of universalism. My research is applicable to broader issues faced by democratic countries worldwide, and is of particular interest to Americans with the commencement of a new presidency and a heightened public discourse regarding Islam and multiculturalism. By examining the issues that plague French society, this research speaks to what it means to be a pluralistic democracy, questions how integration contributes to a well-functioning democracy, and analyzes the destiny of countries where hyphenated identities are a taboo.
Abstract: This project examines the development of children's regional dialect vowel systems through a comparison of the acoustic properties of vowels produced by 4-11 year olds from the Northern, Midland, and Southern regions of the United States. The Northern dialect is characterized by the Northern Cities Vowel Shift (NCVS), in which low vowels follow a clockwise rotation; front vowels move back, higher vowels move lower, and so on. The Midland dialect is characterized by a merger of the low-back vowels and by fronting of the high-back vowels. The Southern dialect is characterized by monophthongization of /aÉ#/ (as in "eye") in addition to back-vowel fronting. In the current study, color names were elicited from 61 children from these three regions, including 16 4-5 year olds, 10 6-7 year olds, 12 8-9 year olds, and 23 10-11 year olds. The first, second, and third formant frequencies of the vowels in these words were obtained to model each participant's vowel space and reveal the developmental trajectory of dialect-specific vowel production within each region. We predict that the vowel spaces will show clear regional distinctions for even the youngest children, including evidence of the NCVS for Northern children, of the Midland back-vowel shifts for Midland children, and of /aÉ#/monophthongization and back-vowel fronting for Southern children. We also expect to observe larger regional differences among older children than younger children, reflecting their increased social awareness and language experience. The emergence of dialect variation in child language is not a well-understood process. The results of this project will give us more insight into dialect development in children.
Category: Humanities

Title: African spirituality and the slave experience in pre-antebellum America

Student Presenter: Chris Newman

Faculty Advisor: Kobo, Ousman

Abstract: This thesis examines African spirituality and its influence on the lives of enslaved Africans in America. Earlier historiography suggested that Christian beliefs had a profound impact on the cultural attitudes of the enslaved black populations. My thesis dislodges this theory and ultimately offers a compelling appraisal to the contrary. Indeed, African spirituality was embedded in the cultural, political, social, and religious lives of Africans prior to the Trans-Atlantic Slave trade, insomuch that during the Middle Passage it was their spiritual connectedness which they held onto. My paper begins with the insurrection of Nat Turner and analyzes the fear that white planters had of African spirituality. Relaying that conversion to Christianity by enslaved Africans was minimal for the first century and a half of the slave experience, I present African spirituality as the paramount influence. Further, my thesis analyzes slave narratives showing how ritual worship was vital to the lives of enslaved Africans. Finally, I investigate the practice of conjuring and the religion of Hoodoo to display the processes through which enslaved Africans both protected themselves and developed a religious counter to Christianity. My findings show that there is a greater need to investigate the impacts of African spirituality on both sides of the Atlantic to deepen our understanding of the connection between African religions and Christianity both during the era of American slavery and modern times.
Category: Humanities

Title: The Holodomor and the Ukrainian diaspora: historical narratives in a changing world

Student Presenter: Stavroula Pabst

Faculty Advisor: Hoffmann, David

Abstract: In the early 1930s, a famine often called the Holodomor took place in Ukraine, and millions of people died. In recent decades, many, particularly the Ukrainian diaspora around the world, have suggested the Holodomor was genocide against the Ukrainian people by the Soviet government, and several countries have recognized the famine as such. No scholarly consensus exists, however, as to whether the Holodomor was genocide. This project therefore focuses on the connection between the nature of the western Ukrainian diaspora and its advocacy for recognition of the Holodomor as genocide despite a lack of consensus on the subject. To investigate many materials, including books and websites on the historiography of the Holodomor were read, as well as the history and behaviors of the Ukrainian diaspora in various places. The project has relied heavily on primary sources such as public statements from various politicians and governments, current websites directly expressing the views of Ukrainian diaspora groups, and newspapers expressing certain points of view regarding the famine. Because the Ukrainian diaspora positioned itself into relative places of prominence in new communities, current research shows it has done significant work to advocate for the awareness of the Holodomor as genocide. Many declarations, monuments, laws, museums, and the like have been created to recognize and commemorate the Holodomor as genocide, including a monument in Washington, D.C. This progress towards recognition of the Holodomor despite the lack of scholarly consensus suggests that societal power of diaspora populations and their advocacy on behalf of certain issues can be stronger than established scholarship in changing societal and historical narratives about a certain population or event. Moreover, the Holodomor is significant in current Russian and Ukrainian relations: the current conflict in Ukraine has led to repeated allusions to the Holodomor and its role in the current political narrative.
Abstract: Modern literary scholars believe that a vast majority of William Shakespeare's sonnets were written to a fair young man and most scholars find them to be erotic. But did earlier readers see the sonnets that way? My research delves into the early reception history of Shakespeare's sonnets to see if editors, publishers, and readers identified homoerotic desires within Shakespeare's first 126 sonnets. Before the sonnets were printed for the public, they were first shared between private friends in the form of manuscripts. It wasn't until 1609 when the sonnets were printed in a Quarto. Very little is known about its reception due to lack of surviving evidence. The sonnets were next printed in 1640 by editor John Benson under the title Poems: Written by Wil Shake-speare. Gent. Of the 154 sonnets, Benson included only 146 in his collection. He combined several sonnets to create longer narrative poems and changed pronouns in three sonnets. My paper focuses on how Benson's decision to combine sonnets 38, 39, 40 changed their meaning. I analyze them as single sonnets and then as they are printed in Benson's edition as a narrative poem. I argue that Benson's changes erased any trace of homoeroticism by changing the lyric verse (presenting the speaker's desire without any restriction) into narrative verse (a more controlled form). My paper shows the need of future research into Benson's edition and their reception.
Abstract: Historians generally agree that the Balkan Wars, which took place in 1912 and 1913, significantly contributed to the outbreak of World War I in 1914. The First Balkan War was fought in 1912 and 1913 between the Balkan League (consisting of Serbia, Bulgaria, Greece, and Montenegro) against the Ottoman Empire; in the Second Balkan War, Bulgaria fought alone against and was decisively defeated by a coalition of its former allies, Romania, and the Ottoman Empire. The two Great Powers with the most geopolitical interest in the region, Austria-Hungary and Russia, remained neutral in the conflicts. Unlike the other South Slavic states, the Bulgarian government did not have a distinctly Russophile or Austrophile orientation, instead taking a Realpolitik approach in which it favored whichever government whose friendship was more advantageous to it at a particular moment, while never becoming permanently close with one or another. My project answers the following questions: what was Austria-Hungary trying to gain from its relationship with Bulgaria? What was Bulgaria trying to gain from its relationship with Austria-Hungary? What factors impeded the development of closer ties between the two states? Using archival telegrams between the Austro-Hungarian Embassy in Sofia and the Foreign Ministry in Vienna, as well as a variety of secondary sources, I conclude that the Austro-Hungarian-Bulgarian rapprochement was driven by mutual, compatible, and complimentary economic and geopolitical interests, yet never developed into an alliance due to conflicting relations with Romania and Russia. Understanding this relationship and its effect on Great Power Politics enriches our understanding of the causes of World War I.
Abstract: When interpreting a work of art, it is not uncommon for the piece to be labeled philosophical, yet identifying the features which enable visual art to express philosophical concepts or ideas is often troublesome. For instance, it is unclear how an image rather than a sign can depict a concept, or whether a painting can be both creative and insightful. The scandal circling Gustav Klimt's 1901 painting entitled "Philosophy" elucidates these concerns. Commissioned by the University of Vienna as a ceiling painting for the Great Hall, the faculty ultimately rejected the painting. They had expected an Italian Fresco-style painting of philosophers engaged in contemplation and discourse, instead of Klimt's dreamlike depiction of life and symbols of wisdom, painted in the then-radical manner of the Viennese Secession. Today, the painting is criticized, on the contrary, for being not innovative enough. In particular historians find that its symbols function merely as signs, not as images. By contrast, I show that Klimt's "Philosophy" appeals to themes such as eternal recurrence and the struggle for freedom and authenticity as well as artistic forms found in contemporaneous philosophy, especially in Friedrich Nietzsche's Thus Spoke Zarathustra. Zarathustra similarly presents philosophical ideas in a modern and unprecedented artistic fashion and lacks a clear argumentative structure. By appeal to a formal analysis of Klimt's "Philosophy", combined with an evaluation of influential reviews of the painting, a comparison with Nietzsche's Thus Spoke Zarathustra, and the application of contemporary philosophical theories of painting, I argue that "Philosophy" is not only a valuable piece of art, but also a modern philosophical work. Furthermore, I will show that through form, painting can express philosophical ideas in a manner inaccessible to philosophical language.
Abstract: Late Antiquity and the Reformation witnessed invective polemic against Christian saint cults, a controversial subject from the birth of the cults until the present. I investigate the adaptation of a specific rhetoric, developed by Justin Martyr in the second century, to polemic against saint cults during each period. Late Antique and Reformation Christian polemicists employed Justin's demonology in polemic against saint cults in order to advance their claims that the cults were a retention of pagan worship. They claimed that, just as fallen angels tricked Gentiles into worshiping demons with magic and sacrifice, as Justin describes, so now demons tricked Christians into worshiping saints by performing false miracles at saint shrines. Polemicists also employed Justin's dichotomy of rationality versus irrationality to claim that they were true, rational Christians who would be saved, while those who worshiped saints were like irrational pagans who would be annihilated. However, arguments that these cultic practices were retentions of paganism are often misleading - many of the practices were wholly Christian. I discuss several examples from Vigilantius, Epiphanius, William Tyndale, and other polemicists to demonstrate how charges of paganism were often artificially constructed. Each writer used Justin's demonological dichotomy as a tool to advance accusations that the cults were pagan. Therefore, we should not look at polemical descriptions of practices surrounding saint cults which describe them as pagan and immediately attempt to infer which elements, or to what extent, they were a product of pagan influence. Polemicists likely exaggerated or fabricated certain elements to make the cults appear pagan, using Justin's demonology to advance these charges. All Christian polemic and heresiology should be studied with this reasoning, for polemicists often misrepresented information in order to make an accusation, using polemical tropes to reinforce claims, and employing eschatological dichotomies to place the fear of God in readers.
Category: Humanities

Title: The rhetoric of the New Woman: 1890-1920

Student Presenter: Rachel Stroup

Faculty Advisor: Skinner, Carolyn

Abstract: This project is a rhetorical analysis that studies the conversation about the emerging archetype of the American New Woman in the popular press dating from 1890-1920. The New Woman served as the aggregate stereotype of modern women during the Progressive Era-namely women who rode bicycles, attended college, and pursued careers. Magazines and newspapers depicted the New Woman as a sharp distinction from the esteemed Victorian "True" woman, who was submissive, pious, and virtuous. Because the True Woman was such a strong influence, much of the conversation about the New Woman held True Woman ideas. This project found that this discussion possessed the same argumentative features as the conversation about True Womanhood-women were lumped together as a whole and were all expected to follow the same roles. In addition, because the term "New Woman" is, by definition, a direct response to the old ways of womanhood, rhetoric that specifically used the phrase "New Woman" had an inauspicious connotation and tended to be derisively enacted against the archetype. Methodologically, this project relied on online archival research to identify and examine Progressive Era newspapers, and magazines, and feminist rhetorical historiography to analyze rhetorical appeals and strategies used by writers in this debate over the proper role of women. Because the rhetoric surrounding the New Woman has been understudied by rhetorical scholars, the goal of this project is to contribute to the field's understanding of this discursive construction as it was enacted through the debate in the context of immense sociological and technological change from 1890 to 1920. Rhetorical analyses of feminist conversations in history bear a significance today in understanding the effective and ineffective appeals used in feminist movements and in understanding how current cultural precepts about gender are heavily influenced by the past.
Abstract: The underrepresentation of Hispanic minorities in health care professions is one of many contributing factors to health disparities among this population. Even so, there are few specific programs designed to increase the number of Hispanic students entering these professions. The IMPACT (Interpreters for the Medical Professions through Advanced Curriculum and Teaching) project is a collaborative initiative of South-Western City Schools and Ohio State University to address the low number of Hispanic students entering the health professions in Central Ohio. The program seeks to leverage institutional collaborations to allow students to accumulate college credit before graduating high school and reduce language barriers by preparing English proficient, Spanish heritage learners to become certified medical interpreters upon graduation from the Southwestern Career Academy. This study focuses on the development of IMPACT’s Spanish heritage learners in the elimination of language barriers and promotion of vocational training to strengthen post-secondary enrollment and attainment. In order to accomplish this, archival groundwork was taken from previous programs and research polls in order to gain a more comprehensive view of the impacts of language barriers in health care and utilize this information to strengthen The Ohio State University’s IMPACT program. Through this research, it was found that: there is significant importance of Spanish Heritage learners in the health care system as a critical part in eliminating language barriers and addressing the underrepresentation of minorities. Thus, the study is extremely relevant in today's world because it is actively engaging Latino students in the endeavor of higher education. Additionally, these programs utilize and refine pre-existing skills in Latino students, while maturing necessary college skills vital to the development and expansion of Latino students in baccalaureate attainment.
Abstract: In a right dislocation construction, an entity referred to in the clause is referred to again by a noun phrase at the right edge of the clause, as in "She's trouble, that one" (Davies 2004-). While American English speakers use right dislocation constructions almost solely to correct speech errors and potential ambiguities, British English speakers use these constructions in a much wider variety of contexts, including those in which they could not plausibly be correcting ambiguity (Huddleston & Pullum 2002). The linguistic literature has focused on the structure (syntax) of right dislocation constructions, mostly neglecting the meaning (semantics) and use (pragmatics). Authors that do address these topics often treat right and left dislocation as analogous markers of a sentence's topic, ignoring differences between them (Davison 1984). My research examines the semantics and pragmatics of right dislocation constructions, in particular on whether right dislocation does indeed mark a topic and which contexts license the use of right dislocation constructions. I will particularly focus on instances in which the dislocated noun phrase is a demonstrative like that one, as these appear to be the most commonly dislocated elements and cannot be used to disambiguate. Natural occurrences of right dislocation construction in the British National Corpus will be collected and analyzed to develop hypotheses about the meaning and use of such constructions (in time for presentation at the Denman). These hypotheses will be tested in the summer of 2017 through one-on-one elicitation with native speakers of British English. This research will address an understudied but nevertheless frequent construction from a new perspective, using different methodology than that in previous literature. This will lead to a better understanding of how British and American English differ and insight into how British English speakers use their language in a broader variety of discourse contexts. Davies, Mark. (2004-) BYU-BNC. (Based on the British National Corpus from Oxford University Press). Available online at http://corpus.byu.edu/bnc/. Davison, A. (1984, December). Syntactic Markedness and the Definition of Sentence Topic. Language, 60(4), 797-846. Huddleston, R. D., & Pullum, G. K. (2002). The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.
Abstract: American universities officially classify students into two broad identity categories, international and domestic. However, there is one neglected group that complicates simple categorization: Third Culture Kids. A Third Culture Kid, or TCK, is "a person who has spent a significant part of his or her developmental years outside the parents' culture" (Pollock), often living abroad during formative years of their childhood. Despite the growth of the Third Culture population on college campuses, little research has been conducted about TCKs in American universities. This study then asks questions that have gone largely unasked in universities: what are TCKs' experiences acclimating to American universities, and how can universities better accommodate Third Culture Kids? More specifically, what happens to students who fall in-between official identity categories? To answer these questions, I collected stories from TCKs and secondary sources to determine how TCKs' identities as global nomads affected their transition to university. The TCKs in the study narrate experiences of adversity thanks to diversity, suggesting a need to expand the strict identity categories used on college campuses to encourage the multiplicity of the student body. By using TCKs as models, this overlooked population can benefit university communities as a whole by complicating the cultural and administrative identity categories used on campuses and supporting the space in-between.
Abstract: English speakers from the Midwest sometimes use a variant of the word across that sounds like "acrosst." One might naively interpret that "acrosst" is really "a-crossed" - perhaps speakers that use this variant attach the past-tense - to "cross", which they mistakenly assume is a verbal form. However, across is not the only word to follow this pattern. Certain English adverbials have two acceptable phonological forms, one form ending with -/st/ and one form ending without. This {-∅/, -/st/} alternation comprises prepositions and adverbs with the structure - followed by a nominal or adjectival root, such as among(st) or amid(st), as well as other various morphologically diverse members. This project investigates whether a word-class specific morpheme structure constraint, a limit on what sound structure patterns can appear in a certain class or subclass of words, majorly influenced the development of the {-∅/, -/st/} alternation. Current analysis, which this project corroborates, suggests that -/s/ in the -/st/ forms of these adverbials originates from a Germanic genitive marker -/Vs/, first combining with this class of adverbials ca. 1100, generating a form with final -/s/. A new proposal for the origin of final -/t/ elaborates that the dominance of nominal plural -/s/ ca. 1300 caused adverbials comprising nominal or adjectival roots to adhere to a morpheme structure constraint that avoids a final -/s/. A final -/t/ then surfaced on applicable adverbials to satisfy the constraint, moving -/s/ from final position; this generated today's {-∅/, -/st/} alternation. This proposed chronology was confirmed through statistical analysis of the prevalence of {-∅/, -/s/ and -/st/} forms over the history of English. The evidence for this chronology suggests that language change can occur due to certain word classes carving out mutually exclusive morphophonotactic space, reserving certain patterns of sound structure for themselves.
Category: Humanities

Title: Free-classification of American dialects in three conditions: natural, monotonized, and low-pass filtered speech

Student Presenter: Erin Walpole

Faculty Advisor: Clopper, Cynthia

Abstract: When listeners perceive utterances said by speakers, they take in a plethora of information including: where the speaker is from, their age, gender, ethnicity, and background. The dialect used by the speaker delivers prosodic, segmental, and temporal cues that provide information about the speaker's background. In this study, we analyzed the perception of these cues in six regional dialects of American English (Northern, Southern, Mid-Atlantic, Western, New-England and Midland). We wanted to know how many dialect groups listeners could make when fewer prosodic cues were present. We also wanted to know which cues listeners used when they sorted speakers into groups based on their dialect.

In our study, speakers' voices were put through a low-pass filter, and monotonized. Low-pass filtering deletes all acoustic information above 400HZ (removing segmental information) and monotonizing takes the mean pitch of each speaker and fixes the sentence at that pitch (removing intonation information). Native monolingual American English listeners from The Ohio State University completed a free-classification (sorting) task. In the task, the participants were asked to sort 60 native speakers of American English into groups depending on where they thought they were from based solely on speaker's dialect. Each of the 60 speakers read the same sentence: "they lived in a cottage deep in the woods." Three conditions were used to test which cues listeners relied on more, when classifying the speakers into groups: unaltered, monotonized, and low-pass filtered. We found that listeners were more accurate with their groupings in the unaltered and monotone conditions, than they were in the low-pass filtered condition. This result indicates that listeners rely more on segmental information, than they do prosodic, or intonational information when classifying speakers by regional dialect.
Category: Humanities

Title: The found footage films of William E. Jones: another look at gay porn

Student Presenter: Max Wildenhaus

Faculty Advisor: Levin, Erica

Abstract: William E. Jones is a gay, Ohio-born found footage filmmaker whose work draws from a variety of sources, including found footage from the porn industry to depict the experience of gay men in the 1980s and 1990s. His work has been screened at the Tate Modern, Anthology Film Archives, Austrian Film Museum, and the Sundance Film Festival. He has made two feature length documentaries, as well as over two dozen shorter pieces and installations. Jones has been a frequent resident in the Film and Video studio here at the Wexner Center, where he has completed a few of his works. These films are now held in the OSU library. Despite Jones' work receiving attention from film critics, practically no scholarly writing on his work exists. This project focuses on his use of gay porn as source material for footage and investigation. These films serve as a memorial to many of the marginalized male actors who died during the AIDS crisis in the 1980s and 90s. I will be analyzing three films, v.o. (2006, All Male Mash Up (2006) and Finished (1997), as well as referring to interviews and personal correspondence with Jones. By removing scenes from their original locale, Jones creates narratives that invite the viewer to come to terms with the complexities and nuances of the men's lives.
Abstract: Social development is usually driven by the political attitudes and philosophy of several elites and coalitions in any period of time in history. In order to have a better understanding on the social evolution's regulation in China, I introduced a new digital humanity approach, supported by GIS and SNA technology, in a case study focused on factionalism in mid-late Northern Song Dynasty with data from CBDB. In the study, I explored the possibility of using digital humanity and spatial analysis as an alternative approach in historical study. These quantitative approaches indicate relatively objectivity derived from quantitative data-based analysis, comprehensibility brought by a variety of coverage on study cases and a new angle of view from expansion of study dimensions (from chronology only to space-time intergraded). Regional background has considered as a important cleavage influencing state-mans' political attitude. Following the Song Dynasty political model proposed by Robert Hartwell, which considered the generalized kinships as one of the most important associations forming statesman into political groups in Song Dynasty China, and positive political support as an association connecting several political groups, I create a social elites network representing political environment in study era with 2331 individuals. Through a SNA approach, I discovered two major aggregations in network, one centered by Wang Anshi and another centered by Sima Guang, which is identical to historical records, and given a rough boundary on two social elites' coalitions in mid-late Northern Song Dynasty. Through Geo-visualization, my finding suggests a different outcome from Qian's assumption that regional background a important cleavage. I find a distinct spatial distribution between reformers and conservatives among top-rank officials, but similar phenomenon is not that clear among upper-level ones. I consider this phenomenon a reflection of bureaucracy system driven by elite coalitions in Northern Song Dynasty.