



SPRING 2017 IE PRE GRAD MENTORSHIP RESEARCH REPORT

149 undergraduates (approximately 70% of whom are first-generation, economically disadvantaged or underrepresented minority students) enrolled this semester in the Intellectual Entrepreneurship (IE) Pre Grad Mentorship. They work with graduate student mentors and faculty in approximately 50 academic disciplines in UT's colleges/schools. For many interns conducting original research or engaging in creative projects is a key component of their IE experience. In fact, because of the generosity of 14 of UT's deans, many IE interns travel to and present their research at academic conferences. In view of the vital role played by research at UT, as well as the ongoing need to educate students to engage in this enterprise, we wish to share a few examples of the research projects undertaken by spring 2017 IE Pre Grad interns.

LIBERAL ARTS

David Bordelon (Philosophy): Research and critical analysis of Kant's moral philosophy.

Brittany Mitchell (Anthropology): Research and analysis of micro-charcoal deposits as a pilot study, with training in soil analytical methods.

Javonna Hamilton (Psychology): Researching mental health of ethnic minority college students and it's effects on their academic performance & functioning.

Andrea Nunez (Spanish and Portuguese): Along with my mentor I am collecting tweets as part of a comparative study of the use of the Spanish word "órale" in English and Spanish.

Josh Rudd (Linguistics): Research on native Spanish-speakers' perception of the English sounds /w/, /b/, and /v/.

Katherine Soon (Developmental Psychology): Research about the language use in child-parent play with respects to vocabulary development and socioeconomic status.

M. Rose Miller (Linguistic Anthropology): Comparative study of two common rooms in the Honors Quad.

Esttivalis Antinori (Psychology): Researching the validity of the science early interest scale (called PICES) that the lab has created and finding ways to improve it.

Bianca Chavez (Cognitive Neuroscience): Assisting my mentor in using cognitive neuroscience methodologies, including EEG, to investigate the neurocognitive basis of attention bias, and racially biased associations.

Sheldon Smith (Archaeology): Conducting provenience studies of Terminal Classic and Post-Classic ceramics from the Maya site of Colha.

Paula Benavides (Sociology): Researching and analyzing the effects of race, gender, and social class in regards to the Colombian conflict.

Bahareh Sharafi (Psychology): I am coding and using this technique to explore of working memory.

Alejandro Rey Hipolito (French and Italian): Investigating the perception of a new language in monolinguals and bilinguals.

Bahar Sahami (Government): Collecting, coding, and analyzing data pertinent to the High Court of Australia. This research will aid in determining trends in Australia's High Court decisions.

Yasmeen Nofal (Psychology): Data collection, transcription, and coding of studies concerning how children learn and the cross-cultural differences that exist in this learning.

Cole Dulworth (Philosophy): researching the Ancient Greek and Early-Modern philosophical conceptions of friendship.

Maria Arteaga (Psychology): Research focused on social and cognitive factors involved in learning a foreign language, primarily in pre-school aged children.

Stephanie Estrera (Developmental Psychology): Transcription, data collection, and coding in studies which analyze the development of learning in children.

Daniela Pachon (Environmental Science/ Geography and the Environment): Research on Maya Civilization and the human interaction with the environment. Using soil as a proxy, we study the climate change and human impact from around 3,000 years ago to 11,000 years ago.

Azza Matthias (Psychology): Research Assistant in Dr. Dominguez's Neuroendocrinology and Motivation lab where I conduct histology, microscopy, rodent surgery, behavioral analysis, and laboratory administration.

Virginia Gonzalez (Developmental Psychology): Research and analysis in children's interest in causal information.

Jennifer Velazquez (Cognitive Neuroscience): Assisting with research on neural overlap of domain-specific representations.

Gabriela Morgan (Psychology): Research and analysis of causal learning in children.

Shirlyn Sia (Clinical Psychology): Researching the ethnic and gender differences and/or similarities between reasons adults have sex.

NATURAL SCIENCES

Gabriela Ibarra (Chemistry): The synthesis of new chelating ligands for potential applications in luminescent lanthanide and transition metal complexes.

Alyssa Jones (Computer Science): Automating feature detection and mapping of the Antarctic Ice Sheet using segmentation algorithms.

Celinda Vallejo (Inorganic Chemistry): Synthesizing novel titanium complexes based on vitamin B analogues and supporting ligands scaffolds for hydromination reactions.

Mirka Robles (Nutritional Science/Public Health): Researching how intervention through school gardens, nutrition & cooking classes impacts Austin schools with low-socioeconomic status families and high-susceptibility of being obese or overweight.

Johnesha Danielle White-Daniels (Mathematics): I am working on a project on Graph Theory.

COMMUNICATION

Catherine Xu (Communication Sciences and Disorders): Research in the SoundBrain and Griffin Lab pertaining to the pressure on the working memory in bilinguals and monolinguals.

Alaynah Lanier (Speech-Language Pathology with a focus on Bilingualism): Analysis of tongue twisters in order to gain insight pertaining to articulation and speech of bilingual K-5th graders at UT's HABLA Lab.

Annika Horne (RTF): Studying gender roles in *The Devil Wears Prada* and similar films and helping Kathy Fuller Seeley with historical research on Radio, Television and Film in the United States—particularly in San Antonio around 1910.

Margaret Brewer (Communication Sciences and Disorders): Working with doctoral student and Dr. Davis by analyzing transcribed speech of children with hearing loss.

Melina Karayiannis (Communication Studies): Research on the effects of epistemic markers in persuasive speech making.

Sarah Gorman (Communication Sciences and Disorders): I am working in the Lang Stuttering Institute assessing evidence based therapy sessions with adults and children who stutter.

Samantha Godfrey (Communication Sciences and Disorders): Doing research on Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Daniel Krasnicki (Film): Researching how "Blaxploitation" cinema in the 1970's was used as a means of resisting hegemonic control, similar to the Third Cinema movement.

Brooke Conway (Communication Sciences and Disorders): Working with patients who have suffered from Traumatic Brain Injuries, focusing the research on identifying differences in perception of emotion, through prosodic and linguistic modalities.

Christian Washington (Communication Studies) Working on perspectives on healthcare in the Latino LGBT community.

Izzah Ahmad (Communication Sciences and Disorders): Research on different treatment methods for people with primary progressive Aphasia.

Emily Sun (Communication Sciences and Disorders): Research on the relationship between cognitive abilities and language processing.

Delaney Quattlebaum (Communication Sciences and Disorders): Working with Dr. Franco's research on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Dominique Arzola (Communication Sciences and Disorders): Working in the SoundBrain Lab and assisting with data collection on how the brain perceives speech.

Daniela Cheung (Communication Sciences and Disorders): I am coding narrative data using language analyzing software; doing literature review pertaining to the narrative data coded and simple data analyses using basic statistical knowledge.

EDUCATION

Stephanie Tomasky (Education/Disability Studies): Making campus more accessible by creating a training module for faculty regarding classroom disability accommodations and founding a student service organization to help students with disabilities on the Forty Acres.

Dominique McGaha (Counseling Psychology): Recruiting participants for a study on Black student activism and also researching ethnic considerations in counseling.

Yasmeen Davila (Cultural Studies and Education): Research on how daily lives of Indigenous and Native students are affected by structural education systems. Looking at the knowledge taught from home and the knowledge they bring back from higher education and public school systems in general.

ENGINEERING

Larisa Liberty (Environmental Engineering): Assisting with research on nanoparticles and their role in contaminant fate and transport as well as water sanitation.

Brenda Rodriguez-Nino (Biomedical Engineering): Research on the hardware development of a Biaxial Bioreactor for mitral heart tissue testing.

FINE ARTS

Adraint Bereal (Product Design): Working to redesign the water bottle— going through the design process of research and sketching. This includes breaking down the steps of the design process through rendering, manufacturing, and branding.

Raul Alejandro Facundo Gomez (Musicology): Research on Joaquin DePrez and the music attributed to him.

PHARMACY

Farhana Zabidi (Pharmacy): Assisting on research analyzing adherence rate of anti-depressant medicines in children and adolescents.

Oanh Tran (Pharmacology and Toxicology): DNA polymerase beta is found to be major components in the base excision repairs for DNA mutations. I'm currently researching the biological effect of the G80R polymerase Beta variances on inducing ovarian cancer in patients.

LBJ SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Husaina Yusuf (Public Affairs): The research I am conducting is a case study of a former woman senator regarding the effects of gender in Texas Legislator communication.

SOCIAL WORK

Breonna Copeland (Social Work): Analyzing a local coalition and city council committee meeting.

Margaret Reidy (Social Work): Research concerns how social workers consider the role of hope as they work with individuals/families with a diagnosis of cancer. This work involves data collection, transcription and coding.

Cindy Salazar (Social Work): Researching how gentrification impacts social service delivery, and evaluating outreach strategies for The Neighborhood Services Unit with The Health and Human Services Department.