

## *2004-2005 Thesis Descriptions*

### Fall 2004

**Omolola Kassim**

Advisor: Thomas Ponniah

“Development as Usual: An Analysis of the Constraints Faced by the Millennium Development Goals”

**Benjamin Pickard**

Advisor: Jonathan Eastwood

“Waves of Relief and Gratitude’: Evaluating Anti-Anomic Factors in Late Modernity through Don Delillo’s White Noise”

**Ryan Rippel**

Advisor: Robert Bates

“Renaissance or Revolt: The Igbo Diaspora and the Theory of Public Goods”

### Spring 2005

**Shalini Ananthanarayanan**

Advisor: Jorge Dominguez

Effective Abortion Rights for Victims of Rape in Mexico City: A Case Study of Policy Implementation

**Zachary Baron**

Advisor: Laurie McIntosh

The University Was Always in Ruins

**Jacob Bor**

Advisor: Daniel Ziblatt

The Politics of National Responses to AIDS

**Daniella Boston**

Advisor: Ted MacDonald

One-party Democracy? A Critique of the 'No-party' Movement system in Uganda.

**Jesse Burros**

Advisor: Ajantha Subramanian

Secularism and State Power in India: The Myth of Tolerance and the Manipulation of Difference

**Martha Casillas**

Advisor: David Carrasco

La Virgen Xicana: Another Version of the Virgen

**Jonathan Chavez**

Advisor: Fiona Barker

The Ideological Transformation of Plaid Cymru in the Post-War Era and Its Effects on Devolution

**Mollie Chen**

Advisor: Nicole Newendorp

The Democratization of Good Taste in the American Middle Class

**Dennis Chira**

Advisor: David Woodruff

Growth and Development in China's Muslim Far Northwest: A Closer Look at the Develop the West Campaign and its Impact on Xinjiang

**Gabriel Chodorow-Reich**

Advisor: David Woodruff

The Determinants of Intergovernmental Transfer Reform in Argentina and its Effect on the Recent Financial Crisis.

**Michelle Chun**

Advisor: Oona Ceder

The Ends of Meaning: Language and Historical Narrative in the Works of Walter Benjamin and Hannah Arendt

**Guillermo Coronado**

Advisor: Kiku Adatto

Together in Harmony: A Case Study of Assimilation in a Latino Pentecostal Church

**Andre Crespo**

Advisor: Marshall Ganz

Developing Interethnic Cooperation: Effective Strategies for Community Development Corporations in Diverse Urban Settings

**Simi Dosekun**

Advisor: Jens Meierhenrich

"Corruption is Everywhere:" Popular Perspectives on Corruption in Nigeria

**Hani Elias**

Advisor: William Fisher

America's Desert Fathers: Renunciation in the Modern World

**Abigail Fee**

Advisor: Sadhana Bery

Contraception Among the Ewe in Ho, Ghana: Integrating Modern Contraceptives Into the Ewe Lifestyle Ten Years After the 1994 Revision of Ghana's Population Policy

**Rachel Feldberg**

Advisor: Terry Aladjem

Disenfranchised Citizenship: The Reintegration of the Former Offender in an Economy of Suspended Rights

**Caleb Franklin**

Advisor: Sara Byala

The New Cultural Broker: The Role of the Small Business Person in Developing Societies

**Lindsey Freeman**

Advisor: Kiaran Honderich

Equality Divided: How the Public/Private Divide Has Affected the Ugandan Women's Movement

**Willa Friedman**

Advisor: Kiaran Honderich

Determinants of Language Policy in African Schools

**Kristin Garcia**

Advisor: Thomas Jimenez

Things Are Getting Better: Ethnic Identity Among Mexican-American Families

**Scott Goldman**

Advisor: Thad Williamson

Politics of the NASCAR Nation: A Qualitative Look at How the Political Beliefs of NASCAR Fans Dispute the "Great Divide" Theory of American Politics

**Megumi Gordon**

Advisor: William Fisher

The Elusive Quest for Democracy: Delving into Uganda's Political Transition from 1986 to the Present

**Ilan Graff**

Advisor: Russ Muirhead

The Never-Ending Battle: Superman, Social Values, and Tomorrow's Heroic Narrative

**Alexander Greenbaum**

Advisor: Sarah Dix

Foreign Direct Investment in the Developing Polish Automobile Industry, 1991-Present

**Erol Gulay**

Advisor: Farzin Vahdat

The Formation of a 'Modern Islam': Turkey's Fethullah Gulen Community

**Justin Haan**

Advisor: Tami Buhr

Narrowcasting in Cable Television News: Structural Regulation of the Marketplace of Ideas

**Raja Haddad**

Advisor: Stanley Hoffman

The "World-Image": Film, (Post)Modernity, and Cultural Movement

**Jia Han**

Advisor: Michael Fortner

From Banquets to Ballots: The Role of Civic Voluntarism in Asian American Political Participation

**Jacqueline Harrington**

Advisor: Beth Simmons

Framing Effects and Endorsements Effects in Foreign Affairs: American Public Opinion on the International Criminal Court

**Margo Hoppin**

Advisor: Thomas Ponniah

Racial Ideology in Security and Immigration Policy since 9/11

**David Huebner**

Advisor: Stanley Hoffman

More than 'Paradise and Power': Creating Transatlantic Worldviews  
Understanding the Recent Animosity in US-European relations and the Potential Parallels with the Debate over Polarization in the US

**Daniel Kahn**

Advisor: John Summers

Leonard Woolf's Contribution to International Thought

**Michael Kalin**

Advisor: James Wilkinson

Living as a Vocation

**Shanthini Kasturi**

Advisor: Anya Bernstein

The Medical Response to Domestic Violence, 1979-1995

**Jody Kelman**

Advisor: Michael Hiscox

The Broken Promise: Why Liberal Democracies Shut Their Doors to Asylum Seekers

**Allison Khaskelis**

Advisor: Mary Waters

Identity and Belonging in America: the Experiences of Soviet Jewish Emigres in New York City

**Jane Kim**

Advisor: Maureen Sullivan

Unequal Protection in the Homeland: Privacy Rights, Violence Against Women, and US Response to International and Domestic Terrorism

**Tor Krever**

Advisor: Michael Hiscox

Political Determinants of PTA Formation: The effects of Political Partisanship and Voter Sentiment on the Development of Preferential Trade Agreements.

**Kacie Lally**

Advisor: Paulo Daflon-Barrozo

Catholicism in Crisis: Sexual Abuse of Children in the Archdiocese of Boston

**Jennifer Lee**

Advisor: Elizabeth Perry

Diverging from the "Norm": The Development of Women's Studies in China

**Samuel Lessin**

Advisor: Thad Williamson

Understanding Wal-Mart Labor Relations with the Exit/Voice Theory of Albert Hirschman

**Andrea Letvin**

Advisor: Sadhana Bery

Training Workers for a Bangalore Call Center: Unintentional Cultural Imperialism

**Rebecca Leventhal**

Advisor: Sadhana Bery

Buying, Selling, and Belonging: The Effect of Private and Public Action after 9-11 on America's South Asian Small Business Owners

**Joy Lin**

Advisor: Marcyliena Morgan

Welcome Home, Vietnam: Asian Pacific American Counterpublic Memory Making

**Minh Ly**

Advisor: Stanley Hoffman

A Theory of Human Rights

**Nicholas Ma**

Advisor:

U.N. Mechanisms for Peace Creation in Southern Lebanon Following the Israeli Withdrawal in 2000

**Emma Mackinnon**

Advisor: Peter Gordon

Subjectivity and Violence in the Work of Emmanuel Levinas

**Matthew Mahan**

Advisor: John Summers

Harvard College and the Liberal Arts: Are We Being Educated or Trained for the Twenty-First Century?

**Tumi Makgetla**

Advisor: Jeff Friedan

The Political Economy of Trade Policy in the South African Clothing Sector

**Christine Malumphy**

Advisor: William Phelan

Public Opinion and International Organization: A Quantitative Investigation of Central and Eastern European Public Opinion on European Union Accession

**Daniel Margolskee**

Advisor: Bo-Mi Choi

Totality and Prose Style: Judith Butler, Theodor Adorno and Their Critics.

**Jetta Martin**

Advisor: Deborah Foster

"Her Art is Her Life is Her Work": Katherine Dunham and the Crafting of a Performative Identity

**Ayla Matanock**

Advisor: Andrew Kydd

Legitimizing Terrorism: Ideational Factors that Affect the Tactical Decision to Use Terror by Sendero Luminoso and the EZLN

**Susan Mathai**

Advisor: Arachu Castro

Reinterpreting Contraception and Abortion Practices in Post-Revolutionary Cuba

**Elizabeth McCarthy**

Advisor: Anya Bernstein

"Is it your fault?" Personal Responsibility and Obesity in American Public Policy

**Jeslyn Miller**

Advisor: Nicole Newendorp

How Shall We Sing the Lord's Song in a Foreign Land? A Study of the Afro-Cuban Religion of Regla Ocha as a "Living Continuity", Uprooted and Transplanted in New York and New Jersey.

**Lindsey Morse**

Advisor: Aaron Mauck

Banning Smoking in All Workplaces Including Bars and Restaurants: A Boston Case Study

**Mika C. Morse**

Advisor: William Fisher

Breaking Through the Micro-credit Glass Ceiling:  
The role of Non-Financial Services in Poverty-Alleviating Micro-Credit Programs

**Roxanna K. Myhrum**

Advisor: Darra Mulderry

Disabled, Beyond Comprehension: Reconstructing the Social Model of Disability in the Americans with Disabilities Act

**Dominique Nong**

Advisor: Terry Aladjem

In Pursuit of the Ideal American Citizen: The Controversial Bias of the U.S. Naturalization Process

**Seth Pearson**

Advisor: Sarah Dix

Neoliberalism and the Transformation of Business and Civil Society in Chile

**Herbert Claiborne Pell**

Advisor: Thad Williamson

Deindustrialization and Community Change in Rhode Island.

**Nicholas Pike**

Advisor: Jens Meierhenrich

"The Political Economy of Oil: US Foreign Policy and the Resource Curse in Angola"

**Alexander Post**

Advisor: Marth Minow

Building the New Progressive Infrastructure

**Alex Potapov**

Advisor: Paul Peterson

Controversy and Compromise: The Politics of School Voucher Programs

**Karl Procaccini**

Advisor: Terri Bimes

An Analysis of Class in Presidential Campaign Rhetoric, 1932-2004

**Sabeel Rahman**

Advisor: Adjantha Subramanian

Empowerment and the Legitimacy of Political Action: Explaining the Depoliticization of NGO-led Development in Bangladesh

**Zachary Ramirez**

Advisor: Chris Sturr

Negotiating the 'Toughest Beat in the State': An Inquiry into the Relationship Between the California Department of Corrections and the California Correctional Peace Officers Association, 1970-2004

**Edward Rawlinson**

Advisor: Michael Hiscox

Culture vs. the US: An Examination of Cultural Protection in the Face of Trade Liberalization

**H. Michael Rosenberg**

Advisor: Richard B. Freeman

Dreams, Denim, and Destiny: Competitive Responses in the Laguna Region's Blue Jeans Maquiladoras

**Rebecca Rubins**

Advisor: David Peritz

Political Trust Reconsidered: Presidential Leadership and External Efficacy in the Reagan Years

**Elizabeth Sabin**

Advisor: Terry Aladjem

Absconding with Individuality: The Implications of U.S. Advertising Strategies on the Global Frontier

**Orlando Segura Jr.**

Advisor: Chris Sturr

The Rise and Fall of the Rehabilitative Ideal in Massachusetts Juvenile Justice

**Genevieve Sheehan**

Advisor: William Phelan

Information and Politics: Assessing the Effect of Transparency on European Treaty Negotiations.

**Alyssa Shell**

Advisor: Aaron Mauck

“If a tree falls in the forest...”: How Mexican American Women Survive and Complicate Life with Diabetes in Southwest New Mexico

**Philip Sherrill**

Advisor: Rozlyn Engel

Bonds and Vagabonds: the Role of Individual and Institutional "Personality" in the Development of Debt-Based Public Finance

**Brett Simchowicz**

Advisor: Kiaran Honderich

"The Contradiction of Democratization: Evaluating Transition Theory in the Context of the South African Social Welfare System"

**Stephanie Skier**

Advisor: Maureen Sullivan

"Rational Kitchens": How Scientific Kitchen Designs Reconfigured Domestic Space and Subjectivity from the White City to the New Frankfurt

**Andrew Spofford**

Advisor: Andrea Walsh

The Rise of Narrowcasting in Public Radio

**Julia Stephens**

Advisor: Judith Surkis

School Britannia: The Transnational Social Reform Community and Debates on Women's Education in British India (1870-1890)

**Josh Stern**

Advisor: Paul Lachelier

The Candidate in American Society: Campaign Approaches and Citizen Engagement in Political Life

**Vaughn Tan**

Advisor: Theodore Bestor

Agent of Change: M.F.K. Fisher and the introduction of Japanese Haute Cuisine to America, 1977-1983.

**Aaron Tanaka**

Advisor: Chris Sturr

Criminalizing Youth of Color: Schools, Police and Prisons

**Richard Tieken**

Advisor: Sarah Dix

Debt Service and Social Spending in Latin America: Is There Really a Tradeoff?

**Benjamin Toff**

Advisor: Lynne Layton

The Theater of Articulation: An Analysis of Ideology and How TV News Conveys Meaning Through Theatrics

**Quang Tran**

Advisor: Kiku Adatto

Voices & Memories: Formative and Transformative Moments of Immigrant Civic Identity

**Florence Twu**

Advisor: Peter Benson

Abu Ghraib: Power, Sovereignty and the State of Exception

**Lisa Zhang**

Advisor: Arthur Kleinman

Falling From Grace: Depression As an Examined Experience Among Young Chinese American Adults in Boston-Area Universities

**Manuela Zoninsein**

Advisor: Sarah Dix

Re-Interpreting the Samba