Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

Graduate Conference 2009

20th- 22nd October
S Block,
University of Waikato

Research Bites

0800800145 | www.waikato.ac.nz/wfass/
RESEARCH BITES: HORS D’OEUVRES OF UNDERSTANDING
S BLOCK, GROUND FLOOR
PROGRAMME

Tuesday 20th October

5.00pm–6.00pm  Registration (pick up conference packs); Mihi, followed by wine and cheese

6.00pm–7.30pm  Theorising Research: Methods and Ethics

*Ethics and Methodology: The Balancing Act of Academic Research*
Gemma Piercy, Labour Studies, Department of Societies and Cultures, Waikato

*Rebecca’s Story The Ethics of Researching My Sister*
Vanessa Cameron Lewis, Women & Gender Studies, Department of Societies and Cultures, Waikato

*Semi-structured interviews: Which language to use?*
Nguyen Gia Viet, Department of General and Applied Linguistics, Waikato

*Uses of History: What Can Learning History Methodology Bring to Public History?*
Mark Smith, Department of History, Waikato
Wednesday 21st October

8.30am–9.00am Registration

9.00am–10.00am *Keynote: Professor Maureen Molloy*

Maureen is Professor of Women's Studies at the University of Auckland. Her research focuses on the ways in which academic and popular ideas influence each other and she has published on this in a number of areas, including policy analysis, feminist theory and intellectual history. Maureen has a particular interest in the idea of 'culture', how it developed and changes over time. Her 2008 book, for example, shows how Margaret Mead purveyed a particular version of the idea of culture from academic and intellectual debates into a popular concept. Maureen is also co-director, with Prof. Wendy Larner from The University of Bristol, of "The Fashion Project", a multi-disciplinary research group, which looks at the New Zealand designer fashion industry as a new mode of female cultural labour in a globalising economy. Maureen's interest in the contemporary fashion industry was piqued by the ways in which, over the past ten or so years, 'culture' has moved from being a 'context' to an economic activity: from a 'way of life' to a 'way of work'.

10:00am–10:15am Morning Tea

10.15am–11.45am *Perception, Appearance and Realities*

*To See or not to See: Is that the Question? Investigating Human Visual Navigation*

Diane Thomson, Department of Psychology, Waikato

*Visual Perception and Analysis of an Approaching Train at Railway Level Crossings in New Zealand*

Helen Clark, Department of Psychology, Waikato

*Dreaming of Fortune*

Caroline Thomas, Anthropology, Department of Societies and Cultures, Waikato

*An Investigation into the Factors Affecting Perceptual Stability During Pursuit Eye Movement*

Sasha Boer, Department of Psychology, Waikato
11.45am-1.15pm  Communication Across Cultures

I Killed Seven: Uncovering Miscommunication in Oral Discourse
Jonathon Ryan, Department of General and Applied Linguistics, Waikato

A Grammar Sketch of Kwara’ae: Preliminary Hypotheses
Daryl Macdonald, Department of General and Applied Linguistics, Waikato

Politics, Nations and Rival Religions: The French Marists in New Zealand 1838-1863
Sandy Harman, French, Department of Humanities, Waikato

“To be seen or NOT to be seen, that is the question”: A feminist poststructuralist perspective on how identities are represented through tattooing in the Pacific
Sean Glassie, Department of Geography, Tourism and Environmental Planning, Waikato

1.15-2.00pm  Lunch

2.00pm-3.30pm  Art meets Politics I

How can we be sure that 'art' is not simply a pile of rubbish?
Sarah Knox, English, Department of Humanities, Waikato

I Wanted to Change the World
Polly Cantlon, Department of History, Waikato

Fringe Dwellers: Alternative Theatre and Real Communities
Arianne Zilberberg, Theatre Studies, Department of Humanities, Waikato

Digital Atrocities: A Constellative Adaptation
Adam Cunningham-Reid, English, University of Auckland

3.30pm-3.45pm Afternoon tea
Trans People and Places of Social Exclusion
Lisa Stone, Department of Geography, Tourism and Environmental Planning, Waikato

A Predilection for the Colour Green – or “When is a Homosexual”? Male Same-Sex Friendships, Love and Sexuality in Victorian America
Daniel Brandl-Beck, Department of History, Waikato

Mana wahine geographies: spiritual spaces of Aotearoa New Zealand
Naomi Simmonds, Department of Geography, Tourism and Environmental Planning, Waikato

5pm: How Are You?
performed by Snox and Mittens

6pm: Nibbles and Drinks at The Cook
Thursday 22nd October

9.00am–10.30am  People, Politics, Practice

Continuity and Change: A Historical Look at the Structure of New Zealand’s Electoral System and How it Affected Third Parties
David Calderwood, Department of Political Science and Public Policy, Waikato

Female Headed Households in Sri Lanka: A Profile of Heterogeneity
Kumudika Boyagoda, Population Studies Centre, Waikato

Abortion Politics in Kenya
Wambui Njagi, Department of Political Science and Public Policy, Waikato

Jeanette Wright, Department Political Science and Public Policy, Waikato

10.30am–10.45am  Morning Tea

10.45am–12.00pm  In Sickness and in Health

Psychosocial Needs Of Parents And Children Accessing Paediatric Outpatient Clinics At Waikato Hospital
Rosalind Case, Department of Psychology, Waikato

A Matter of Fat
Jessica Ritchie, Sociology, Department of Societies and Cultures, Waikato

Muddy Doctors and Mustard Poultries
Joanna Bishop, Anthropology, Department of Societies and Cultures, Waikato
12.00pm–1.15pm  
**Constructing Spaces, Constructing Identities II**

*Survival of the Alternative Lifestylers: From Commune to Intentional Community*
Olive Jones, Sociology, Department of Societies and Cultures, Waikato

"I wonder how much of it is a cultural thing?": Discursive Experiences of Sound in the Home
Paul Beere, Department of Geography, Tourism and Environmental Planning, Waikato

*Gardens are not Mute: Transitions and Biological Repairs among Older Chinese Immigrants*
Wendy Wen Li, Department of Psychology, Waikato

1.15pm–2.00pm  
Lunch

2.00pm–3.30pm  
**Issues in Education**

*Mature Adults and Education: Female Baby Boomers Returning to Study*
Yue (Amy) Liu, Labour Studies, Department of Societies and Cultures, Waikato

*The Learning Experiences of Women Entering Self-Employed Home Based Work*
Vicky Crew, Department of Societies and Cultures, Waikato

*Teacher Cognition of Giving Feedback: Implication of a Survey*
Jinrui Li, Department of General and Applied Linguistics, Waikato

*The Roles of The World Trade Organisation (WTO) and the International Financial Institutions (IFIs) In Education: The Maintenance of Global Neoliberal Hegemony?*
Anita Abbott, Department of Political Science and Public Policy, Waikato

3.30–3.45  
Afternoon tea
3.45–5.15pm  
**Art meets Politics II**

Māori Waiata and Pūoro Relating to the Kīngitanga (King Movement) from 1912 to 2006, and an Electroacoustic Composition as an Extension of the Tradition.

Te Manaaroa Pirihi Rollo, Department of Music, Waikato

“Better must come” Reggae and the politics of change in the 1970s

Cameron Frethey, Department of Societies and Cultures, Waikato

Humour and the Jewish Spirit: Humour in Holocaust Literature

Anya Varejchina, English, Department of Humanities, Waikato

Does the Triangle Still Turn?: A Post-‘Resolution’ Analysis of Comic Form

Suzanna Ellington, English/Philosophy, Department of Humanities, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Waikato

6.30pm – late  
**Graduate Dinner**

Venue  
Whare Tapere Iti, WEL Academy of Performing Arts

Guest Speaker  
Geoff Doube, Information Officer, Hamilton Gardens

Music  
Koru String Ensemble

Scotty Stone Band
ABSTRACTS

Anita Abbott
PhD candidate, Department of Political Science and Public Policy

The Roles of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and the International Financial Institutions (IFIs) In Education: The Maintenance of Global Neoliberal Hegemony?

Education is viewed as an instrument for development. Therein lies the importance of education for social change. It is education that makes people aware of the situation around them. Yet, in a different way, education is also viewed as an instrument to maintain hegemony. At the international level, the institutions of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the International Financial Institutions (IFIs), such as the World Bank (WB), and International Monetary Fund (IMF) have roles in education that are crucial to the determination of the real meaning of education; whether education is an instrument for development, or for maintaining hegemony.

This research will explore the roles of the WTO, IMF, and WB in internationalisation of education. The research will be built on primary and secondary resources. This research will identify the link between the roles of the WTO and the IFIs in internationalisation of education, and the maintenance of global neoliberal hegemony. Furthermore, it will address the question of how the WTO and the IFIs' roles in global education can maintain hegemony.

Paul Beere
PhD candidate, Department of Geography, Tourism and Environmental Planning

"I wonder how much of it is a cultural thing?": Discursive Experiences of Sound in the Home

The practice of geography has been, up until recently, an exercise in the development of languages and techniques to capture what the eye could or should see in a landscape. Thinking about what and how to observe has long been central to the theory and practice of geography. This preoccupation with the visual is by no means isolated to geography and is embedded in a Western privileging of the visual as the primary sense of knowledge acquisition. Recent shifts in geography have moved beyond the primacy of the visual, resulting in richer narratives of embodied sensuous experiences of place. By exploring a more nuanced dialogue of sensual experience, power relations exercised through the control and maintenance of the senses have been exposed. Moving beyond the dominance of the panoptic surveillant gaze within debates relating to sensuous power relations, I explore the disciplinary effects of auralities within and
through places and spaces. These discursive and socially constructed elements of sound (and noise) are examined within the context of “home”. Particular attention will be paid to the often profound and taken-for-granted influences that sound can have on shaping experiences of “home”, identity, and wellbeing.

Joanna Bishop  
BSocSc(Hons), Anthropology, Department of Societies and Cultures

Muddy Doctors and Mustard Poultries

Exploring our country’s medical history has been done up till now by historians and anthropologists who have focused on state and bureaucratic public health services. Emphasis has been given until quite recently to the contribution of government employed physicians, most of whom were male. What has been largely ignored is the necessary and valuable system of informal medicine practiced by colonial women isolated either geographically or socially between 1840 and 1950. This paper intends to illuminate their role and highlight the importance of home doctoring in colonial New Zealand.

During the 1800s international competition for immigrants encouraged a promotion of the New Zealand that portrayed the colony as a ‘floating sanatorium’; imbued with healing qualities and inherently healthy people. As greater numbers of immigrants arrived in the colony however a very different picture emerged. Alongside ideas on health and wellness colonials brought with them an armoury of ideas and ambitions and soon the colony resembled what many had sought to leave. Overcrowded with inadequate infrastructure New Zealand soon boasted a remarkably high incidence of disease. Bureaucratic systems did their best to recover the image of a healthy country and their attempts have been well documented. This paper seeks to expand this history by identifying discrepancies in colonial literature that suggest that many settlers relied, not upon state services and colonial doctors but on a cachet of inherited knowledge and initiative.

Kumudika Boyagoda  
PhD candidate, Population Studies Centre

Female Headed Households in Sri Lanka: a profile of heterogeneity

A quarter of households in Sri Lanka are headed by women, among the highest among South Asian countries. This increase has been rapid; in the past 25 years, female headed households (FHHs) have increased from 16% to 24 %. Research suggests that that the phenomenon of FHHs is not transient, that is, it is not related to the civil war. Instead, it signals a longer term demographic transition within Sri Lankan
society. Consequently, the study of FHHs is an important focus of study in the context of development. Women heading households are considered as socio economically and politically vulnerable. Further, FHHs have also been associated with poverty and poor child wellbeing outcomes. What is increasingly becoming clear is that FHHs are heterogeneous, in character as well as pathways to emergence and even their resource bases; implicit in this is that it is not possible to draw singular conclusions about their vulnerabilities or survival capacities.

The aim of this paper, is to show the profile of heterogeneity of FHHs in Sri Lanka; drawing on statistical data, the paper outlines the diversities observed among women heads according to residence, age, marital status, education, current activities and economic levels etc. The paper concludes with an attempt to link heterogeneity of FHHs to the vulnerabilities faced by these women. The link will be expanded in my PhD research work in the context of Sri Lanka to identify what types of female heads or their households are vulnerable, and in what ways.

Sasha Boer
PhD candidate, Department of Psychology

An investigation into the factors affecting perceptual stability during pursuit eye movement

Humans can generally navigate well through complex visual environments, despite the fact that they often make multiple eye movements. When our eyes are tracking a target that is moving in front of a structured stationary background, global motion of equal speed (reafferent motion) is induced in the opposite direction on the eye’s retina. Yet, we generally perceive the background as stable. Old theories of perceptual stability (Von Holst & Mittelstaedt, 1950; Sperry, 1950) have been challenged by recent research showing that our brain’s compensation for the reafferent motion is not perfect, or that the retinal motion is not fully cancelled by the extra-retinal signal of a moving eye. The retinal motion due to eye movement gets even more complicated when the background itself is moving as well. The current research explores various factors in the eye movement compensation process. Specifically, the goal is to find out what contributes to perceptual errors during pursuit eye movement, and to clarify the role of retinal and extra-retinal signals. It may also provide some insights into the eye movement compensation process which can be utilized in the field of video-based robotic visual navigation, road safety applications and neurology.
Daniel Brandl-Beck
BA(Hons), Department of History

A Predilection for the Colour Green – or “When is a Homosexual”? Male Same-Sex Friendships, Love and Sexuality in Victorian America.

We commonly associate the Victorian Age with conservative values, starched morality, prudery, sexual and emotional restraint, as well as clearly defined gender boundaries. However, a variety of nineteenth-century American men’s voices reveal in letters and diary entries that they had, in fact, a much wider range of permissive gender and sexual behaviour at their disposal. Overtly romantic – at times erotic – male-male friendships thrived alongside privately permitted, if publicly ignored or condemned sex between males. I will argue that Victorians made very different sense of such deeds and desires than we do, because their concepts of masculinity and sexuality were more malleable than our own. Social, economic and political changes throughout the nineteenth century profoundly transformed Victorian Americans’ lives. Increasing social instabilities and moral anxieties called for scientific “certainties,” which a developing medical profession provided in the form of binary, stable gender roles and constant sexual categories. Sex was institutionalised and medicalised, heterosexuality became the norm, which consequently marginalised and pathologised men who had sex with men. The overlap of the romantic, the erotic and the physical in male-male friendships is embodied in Walt Whitman’s homoerotic poetry, which inhabits an opaque no man’s land where sodomy meets love.

David Calderwood
MA, Department of Political Science and Public Policy

Continuity and Change: A Historical Look at the Structure of New Zealand’s Electoral System and How it Affected Third Parties

Three articles are examined to demonstrate the assumption that there is a historical continuity in the structure of the electoral system during the twentieth century. Focussing then mainly on the period 1890 to 1996, four broad factors have shaped the electoral system: voting method, political actors, voter reaction, communication. The interaction among them has produced two historical periods: the flexible two-party period from 1890 to 1935 and the rigid two-party period from 1935 to 1996 despite the fact that the disproportionate first-past-the-post voting system was used throughout. Within the rigid period there is two further periods: the ‘pure’ two-party period from 1935 to 1972 and the two-party period under
strain from 1972 to 1996. These three periods are quite different with profound effects on the prospects of third parties. Examining the characteristics of the electoral system for each period shows that third parties had much more chance of success in the flexible period. Their role was more limited during the rigid period, especially in the ‘pure’ period but as an indicator of strain in the final period it has profound implications for the possible reintroduction of a disproportionate system after the 2011 referendum on the electoral system.

Vanessa Cameron Lewis
Women’s and Gender Studies, Department of Societies and Cultures

Rebecca’s Story: The Ethics of Researching My Sister

In May of 2009 I embarked on a research project which aimed to document my sister Rebecca’s experience of living with the diagnosis of schizophrenia. Using both a voice recorder and video I captured her story with the idea of creating a short film.

Informed by feminist post structuralism and stand point theory this reflexive research project has focused on the ethical dilemmas that the recording of a close family member’s oral history affords. In Rebecca’s case this has also meant addressing the ethics of working with a person labelled as ‘mentally ill‘ as well as someone who will speak of their sensitive and traumatic experiences.

Because of ethical constraints there has been little work done in the recording of oral histories of the 'mentally ill' to date. For this reason the work that Rebecca and I have done has gone some way to redress the silencing of the ‘unacceptable’ narrative of the schizophrenic by privileging Rebecca’s voice and story. The value of my staying with Rebecca and actively listening while also accepting and valuing her narrative has been immeasurable. In doing this we destabilized both the historic behavior in my family along with that of wider society. The paper that I wish to present will reflect on this journey and the ethical dilemmas that our research raised.
Polly Cantlon
PhD candidate, Department of History

I Wanted to Change the World

The graphic design cooperative the Wellington Media Collective was established by young New Zealanders with ideas of pre-figuring socialism, and of contributing to national culture by establishing a leftist inspired collective to “share media skills with community groups and individuals so they can get their message across more effectively”.

It can be considered that through the mediation of the design process and its material products, most notably posters, the designers and printers of the collective became enmeshed in an expanding & constantly active network. The Wellington Media Collective worked with or for numberless national and local, trade unions, community groups, cultural groups, and anti-establishment groups, including feminist, Maori activist and Maori sovereignty groups. During the 1980s also the Collective itself changed until the Collective ceased operating in the 1990s.

This trans-disciplinary study locates the Collective within New Zealand history, following the theories of Bruno Latour’s Actor-Network-Theory. It considers how the Collective affected New Zealand’s political, racial and cultural landscape of the time and the significance of its existence, ideas, processes and artifacts.

Rosalind Case
MSocSc(Psych) and PGDipPsych(Clin), Department of Psychology

Psychosocial Needs of Parents and Children Accessing Paediatric Outpatient Clinics at Waikato Hospital

Background

The present study examined the relationships between parental and child distress, illness, and socio-economic factors.

Method

152 parents completed a battery of questionnaires in a paediatric outpatient clinic, which included measures of parent and child distress, and quality of life. Demographic and health information was collected and paediatricians completed a measure of health status, medication adherence and perceived need for psychosocial support for each participant.
Results
Parental and child distress symptoms were found to be significantly higher than in a normal population. Significant relationships between parent and child distress levels were identified, however there was no significant relationship between illness type and distress levels. Chronic illness types and lower paediatrician ratings of medication adherence were positively associated with lower household incomes and Maori ethnicity.

Conclusion
Families with unwell children experience psychological distress to a higher degree than those in normal populations. The level of distress in this population suggests a significant need for psychological intervention and support. Socio-economic deprivation factors operate as determinants for health but may not contribute to the development of psychological distress in this population.

Helen Clark
MSocSc, Department of Psychology

Visual Perception and Analysis of an Approaching Train at Railway Level Crossings in New Zealand.

New Zealand has had an ongoing issue with the frequency of injuries and fatalities occurring at level crossings. Despite warning procedures in place (warning bells and/or barriers), drivers will still cross in front of oncoming trains, with often disastrous consequences. Rural areas are particularly troublesome, despite good visibility of the railway track. Visually drivers appear to underestimate the arrival time of a train, but why this happens, is unclear.

The topic of this research is to determine the ability of the human visual system to estimate the speed and arrival time of an approaching train at a level crossing intersection, and also to identify whether there are factors contributing to the rate of level crossing accidents associated with visual or perceptual illusions. In addition, this research will attempt to ascertain whether human eye movement behaviour is assisting or interfering with the ability of an observer to correctly make the above judgements.

There has been little research done which has looked at applying visual perception to railway level crossing accidents. Due to the high number of fatalities in New Zealand and the high-profile attributed to these accidents, information garnered by this research could have very beneficial and perhaps life-saving applications.

Vicky Crew
The learning experiences of women entering self-employed home based work

The lifelong learning literature does not account very well for the learning experiences of workers employed outside traditional workplaces patterns. This is surprising given technological developments have increasingly enabled workers to be employed outside of the office and the traditional employment relationship in terms of both wages and in particular conditions, such as professional development. My project seeks to address this gap in the literature by exploring the learning experiences of women entering self-employed home based work through a case study approach. The purpose of this paper presentation is to outline my research design, supply selected findings from my three interviews and describe some key elements from my discussion. In particular, I will explore the challenges and rewards of pursuing this kind of work identity as a woman.

Adam Cunningham-Reid
PhD candidate, English, University of Auckland

Digital Atrocities: A Constellative Adaptation

First published in 1970, J.G. Ballard's *The Atrocity Exhibition* is a highly layered and convoluted text that conflates culture, sexuality, and science in fragmented and self-reflexive ways to question and problematize the concept of identity in a post-apocalyptic 1960's America. As a British author, Ballard relies primarily on global perceptions of America, re-presenting and distorting these perceptions as a means to question American culture and the mass-desensitization towards violence and tragedy which he attributes to American media.

The text juggles multiple ideas and themes simultaneously. One of the most prominent is an effort to encourage readers to create a system (or constellation) of logic in the chaotic randomness that permeates every line. However, through its myriad efforts and themes, the text struggles against the print medium it has been forced into. As a response to this, I am constructing a digital adaptation to emphasize certain thematic concerns of the text. This paper will discuss some of the central themes of *The Atrocity Exhibition* and my ideas for a digital adaptation.

Please note: this presentation includes illustrations and photographs that contain nudity and potentially disturbing images.
Suzanna Ellington
BA(Hons), English, Philosophy, Department of Humanities, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies

Does the Triangle Still Turn?: A Post-'Resolution' Analysis of Comic Form.

The prevalence of triangular relationships in comic theatre is something that cannot be disputed. Whether it is a simple case of amusing infidelity or the attempt by a third party to stake a claim in the once-dyadic relationship of the other two characters, such situations can be treated in various ways to produce a comic effect. The difficulty with this is that when the tension of a play is related to a third character, unless the source of the tension is effectively removed by the resolution of events, there always remains the possibility that the character or a similar antagonist will return. This aim of this paper is to analyse six plays from Tom Stoppard, Oscar Wilde, and Noel Coward in order to suggest that the successfulness of such resolution is dependent upon the functioning of the triangle within the body of the play. The significant features to be considered include the interference of the past with the present, supposed and actual infidelity, and the balance of power and importance within the three-part relationship.

Cameron Frethey
MSocSc, Department of Societies and Cultures

‘Better must come’: Reggae and the politics of change in the 1970s

This paper discusses the intertwining relationship between the rise of reggae music on a local and global scale, and the political efforts of Michael Manley (Jamaican PM from 1972-1980) to close the gap between rich and poor. Central to Manley’s success was the wavering support from cultural spokesperson and icon Bob Marley. The paper will trace how reggae music was co-opted by political parties with the view of securing votes and constituencies. In particular this paper will explore the complexity of the wants of the people, most of whom were poor, marginalised and disempowered, but were fundamental to the grassroots reggae movement. Manley’s politics of change intended to establish equality and opportunity, however intense pressure from major financial institutions made these goals difficult to achieve. These challenges were compounded by the changing values and expectations of the middle class and the shifting direction of reggae music, as the seventies drew to a close.
Sean Glassie
BSocSc(Hons), Department of Geography, Tourism and Environmental Planning

“To be seen or NOT to be seen that is the question”: A feminist poststructuralist perspective on how identities are represented through tattooing in the Pacific.

This paper extends on the growing research on tattooing in the Pacific islands drawing on Polynesian cultures and a range of arguments from a small group of people in Hamilton, Otago and Rotorua all with tattoos that affiliate themselves with specific islands/nations. The concept is of interest because tattooing has been seen as a male domain. Until recently as there are larger scale tattoos that females are obtaining contesting the binary of Masculinity and Feminine bodies. Questions that I set out to answer are: why do males have more tattoos than females in the Polynesian countries? Is it a masculine aspect about withstanding extreme amounts of pain than our female counterparts or is it something else?

In practical terms the voices of the interviewees send out messages of concerns about private/public, pain threshold adoptions and identity issues surrounding the obtaining of a Polynesian designed tattoo. As a result of this, the ranges of answers are very diverse. I hope to shed light on the motivations/ reasons for the tattooing process of pacific designs and shed some light onto why these cultural practices have been dominant for centuries.

Sandy Harman
PhD candidate, French, Department of Humanities

Politics, Nations and Rival Religions: The French Marists in New Zealand 1838-1863

Led by Bishop Pompallier, the French Marists were a young religious order committed to missionary work in Oceania. Priests were forbidden by the Roman Catholic Church to interfere in political matters, yet Pompallier and the French Marist missionaries played a significant role in the political events of colonial New Zealand from the Treaty of Waitangi through to the New Zealand Wars. This paper examines the stance adopted by Pompallier and the Marists in the face of an increasingly British and Protestant New Zealand, and the complex nature of nationalism and sectarianism in the wider context of colonisation and evangelisation of the Pacific. It was virtually impossible for missionaries to remain
politically neutral given that France and Britain were in constant competition, and at times the Marists were involuntarily drawn into political conflicts and unduly censured for plotting against the British Crown. But on occasion they, like many Anglican missionaries, deliberately entered the political arena to protect their mission establishments, to challenge British authority and to take part in what they viewed as the epic battle between Catholicism, Protestantism and paganism.

Olive Jones
PhD candidate, Sociology, Department of Societies and Cultures

Survival of the Alternative Lifestylers: From Commune to Intentional Community

During the 1970s and 80s in New Zealand rural land was relatively cheap and numerous groups of people formed cooperatives to purchase land collectively for the purpose of establishing rural communes. They were mostly young idealists, wanting to create environmentally sustainable and socially meaningful communities with other like-minded individuals, as an alternative to what they saw as a corrupt, alienating and materially driven society.

Most of these communes were short-lived, but a significant number have survived and are now well-established intentional communities, with stable multi-generational populations. This paper discusses the transformation from commune to intentional community in New Zealand, and identifies some of the challenges that long-lived communities face to stay viable.

Sarah Knox
BA(Hons), English, Department of Humanities

How can we be sure that 'art' is not simply a pile of rubbish?

Dane Mitchell's 'Collateral', which won the National contemporary Art Award 2009, has brought into focus a serious aesthetic question. The aesthetic question is whether the art in question is good? What makes a prize winner and who is given the authority to make these decisions? Emile Zola's His Masterpiece (1886) will be examined in light of these questions. Zola's novel is about the Impressionists and their struggle for recognition by the Salon in Paris, considering the judges of the Salon were members of the Ecole de Beaux Arts, a government sponsored elite with a vested interest in their own students and style of art. I will provide a 19th century Parisian and Contemporary Hamilton comparison. Zola's novel certainly makes you think.
Jinrui Li
PhD candidate, Department of General and Applied Linguistics

Teacher cognition of giving feedback – implication of a survey

Although giving feedback on students’ written assignment is an important teaching activity, the value of it is still an on-going debate (e.g. Ferris, 1995, 1999, 2003, 2004, 2006; Truscott, 1996, 1999, 2007). There is a growing understanding of the need to explore teacher cognition (Borg, 2006) of this activity, which is the topic of my multi-method research project. The present paper focuses on the initial phase of data collection—an open-ended survey carried out online among 52 tutors in a faculty of a New Zealand university. The purpose of this paper is to discuss how survey can be used to explore teacher cognition of giving feedback on students' written assignments. It begins with a brief introduction of the background of the study. Then the procedure of data collection and data analysis is explained. Convergences and divergences of the beliefs elicited from the data are discussed.

Wendy Wen Li
PhD candidate, Department of Psychology

Gardens are not Mute: Transitions and Biographical Repairs among Older Chinese Immigrants

Psychologists have foregrounded the importance of links between places and daily practices in the construction of subjectivities and wellbeing. This paper explores domestic gardening practices among older Chinese immigrants. Initial and follow-up interviews were conducted with 32 Chinese adults ranging in age from 62 to 77 years. Participants recount activities such as gardening as a means of forging a new sense of self and place in their adoptive country. Gardening provides a strategy for biographical repairs through spatiotemporally establishing biographical continuity between their old lives in China and their new lives in New Zealand. Core issues explored include gardening as memory aides, link across countries, refuge or home-cultural space, contact zone for engaging with the wider adoptive community.
Mature adults and education: Female baby boomers returning to study

There is a growing global awareness of the demographic changes in most nation-states in which there are increasing numbers of old adults in proportion to other age cohorts within the lifecourse. Within educational gerontology, much of the literature has emphasized the ‘educational needs’ of older adults in isolation from social context. This research focuses on how some female baby boomers have returned to study in order to either enter into primary teaching or upgrade from diploma to degree. In this paper I will present findings from the interviews about the interviewees’ experiences of returning to study teaching as a mature student, and then will analyse these experiences of returning to study at different stages of their life. Theoretical and practical implications are discussed in relation to the literature.

Daryl Macdonald
MA, Department of General and Applied Linguistics

A grammar sketch of Kwara’ae: Preliminary hypotheses

Glottal stops, metathesis, reduplication, alienable and inalienable possession are just some of the linguistic features of Kwara’ae, one of sixty-three languages spoken in the Solomon Islands (Tryon & Hackman, 1983). Although some descriptive work has already been done with this language (Deck, 1934, Ivens, 1931), the frameworks of analysis and interpretation follow “ordinary English grammar” texts of the era (Deck, 1934). What is more, it is a well established linguistic principle that all languages change, and that some of the original data collected in these projects are now out-dated. In this presentation, I explain the nature of the project currently being undertaken to address both these issues. Some early hypotheses about the grammar sketch itself will also be discussed, including the afore-mentioned linguistic features and several others equally as interesting!

Wambui Njagi
PhD candidate, Department of Political Science and Public Policy

Abortion Politics in Kenya

In August 2003, the heads of government of the African Union approved the Additional Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People’s Rights. Of importance to the current paper is Article 14(2c) of the Protocol which calls for the involvement of the states and their duty to protect the lives of women who are vulnerable to the fatal consequences of unsafe abortion. However, Kenya, like many other African states has signed but is yet to ratify the Protocol.
By failing to ratify the Protocol, the state has continued to deny basic citizenship rights for women. This leads to the question of the extent to which the state should regulate women’s sexuality through attempting to prevent them from making decisions around reproduction and sexual activity. This further raises broader issues concerning the legal and political construction of what it means to be a woman citizen of a nation state and how other differences beyond gender, e.g., sexuality, religion, and class, fit into a hierarchy of citizenship under-written by state institutions.

This paper will analyse the debate over the abortion law reform as a struggle between different actors over the meaning of abortion, motherhood and sexuality, and ultimately the value of women’s lives. It will demonstrate how the interplay of gender discourses and political practices have shaped the process of discussion on abortion law reform in Kenya. The paper will show how the state can mediate between competing discourses on abortion and on how fields of discursivity structure the abortion debate. It draws on the feminist poststructuralism theoretical work on the state and Michel Foucault’s biopower.

Viet Gia Nguyen
PhD candidate, Department of General and Applied Linguistics

Semi-structured interviews: Which language to use?

Interviewing is no doubt one of the most commonly used methods of data collection in social science research to date. In qualitative research, effective interviewers can generally elicit extremely rich amount of data that helps gain insights of a topic area.

Although much work has been devoted to practical issues of interviewing, little research has addressed the issue of language choice, particularly in a bilingual context.

This paper will present findings from a small scale study, in which a particular focus is on how an interviewer uses questions in two different languages (L1 and L2). The findings reveal that there are differences in how questions are used, in terms of question types, structural complexity and conceptual loading. Implications of language choice in interviewing will be opened for discussions.
Gemma Piercy
PhD candidate, Labour Studies, Department of Societies and Cultures

Ethics and Methodology: The balancing act of academic research

My PhD is a qualitative project with three phases of research seeking to understand how baristas learn and articulate their occupational or work identity. The first phase, participant observation, provides an opportunity to experience first-hand how individuals learn how to make espresso coffee. The second phase semi-structured interviews, seeks out understandings around the unique nature of the coffee industry. The third phase seeks knowledge from individual baristas using the life history approach. The intention of combining these different methods is to facilitate an interdisciplinary approach that can build a fuller picture of the relationship around and between the subjectivities of work and learning. The purpose of this paper is to describe and discuss these methods. In particular, I will focus on the method of participant observation and the ethical conundrums that have occurred during the process of research design and ethical approval process.

Jessica Ritchie
BSocSc(Hons), Sociology, Department of Societies and Cultures

A Matter of Fat

For decades scientists and health professionals have been telling us that eating saturated fat causes heart disease, what if they are wrong?

It is common knowledge that eating saturated fat causes heart disease and that high cholesterol levels are unhealthy. These things are considered to be scientifically proven, yet there are many historical and cultural exceptions that continue to defy this knowledge. The Masai tribe in Kenya who consume only blood, milk and meat have a diet high in saturated fat and yet have no evidence of coronary heart disease, as do the French on their notoriously fatty diet. Despite these and many other exceptions mainstream medical and scientific opinion is dogmatic in its conviction that saturated fat is unhealthy.

This paper looks at the history and science behind the lipid hypothesis; that high levels of cholesterol in the blood cause heart disease, and the diet-heart hypothesis; that saturated fat in the diet causes heart disease. It explores the controversy around these ideas and the research which has been engineered to support them. It critically evaluates the scientific paradigm and the marginalisation of dissenters.
Te Manaaroa Pirihi Rollo
PhD candidate, Department of Music

Kīngitanga

Māori waiata and pūoro relating to the Kīngitanga (King Movement) from 1912 to 2006, and an electroacoustic composition as an extension of the tradition.

Māori waiata and pūoro have always been an important part in ancient and contemporary Māori society. This research study will collect and examine traditional and contemporary Māori waiata relating to the Kīngitanga (Māori King Movement) 1912 – 2006, and an electroacoustic composition (pūoro) as an extension of the tradition.

The main focus of this study is directed at the Kīngitanga (1912 – 2006) during the reign of King Te Rata, King Koroki and the Māori Queen, Te Arikinui Te Atairangikaahu. This political movement still services the Māori people regarding the injustices of the Colonial Government and readdresses land confiscation, sovereignty, and Māori independence. This is a unique study never before attempted.

The revival of Māori waiata, the creation of waiata and pūoro, the researching of a model or models for composing Māori waiata, and the composition of an electroacoustic piece of music including taonga pūoro, will be an interesting and challenging research project.

Specifically, the researcher will investigate and find answers to the following questions:

1. What Traditional Māori ‘waiata’ are available in literature, archives, selected Māori tribes and other resources relating to the Kīngitanga (Māori King Movement) 1912 – 2006?

2. What is an ideal model or models for composing traditional and contemporary ‘waiata’ today? Test the models by composing a traditional and contemporary Māori waiata.

3. As an extension, the import of the ‘electro-acoustic’ music genre into Māori music, and how it can convey Māori concepts and values
Jonathon Ryan
PhD candidate, Department of General and Applied Linguistics

I killed seven: Uncovering miscommunication in oral discourse

Mis- or strained communication may potentially occur wherever speakers and hearers are not coordinated in their language use. While ambiguities and misunderstandings are a feature of daily conversation, the potential for miscommunication is still greater for successful users of English as a second language, who may have difficulty in using certain features of language. However, teachers and learners may find it difficult to identify the source of such mis- or strained communication in everyday classrooms. Even an analysis of recorded extracts or transcripts of interactions among SUEs can only provide tentative and partial indications. This presentation, based on a wider study of miscommunication in referential language use, outlines a procedure in which the researcher attempts to discover details of the mental model that hearers construct as they listen to a narrative. One of the findings relates to how small language errors may interact to create unintended meanings.

Naomi Simmonds
PhD candidate, Department of Geography, Tourism and Environmental Planning

Mana wahine geographies: spiritual spaces of Aotearoa New Zealand.

Key words: Mana wahine, spirituality, gender, colonisation

In this paper I offer mana wahine (Māori feminist discourse) as an epistemological and methodological perspective that engages with the complex intersections of colonisation, race, gender and spirituality in Aotearoa New Zealand. This paper draws on empirical material from interviews with Māori women in Hamilton, Aotearoa about their spatial, spiritual and embodied relationships to Papatūānuku (a figure in Māori mythology who is simultaneously discursive, symbolic, material and spiritual). I examine the marginalisation of Māori women's knowledges through the process of colonisation, specifically looking at the spiritual spaces associated with this knowledge. I argue that a more nuanced approach to Māori women’s lived, spatial and spiritual geographies is necessary in order to tease out the ‘baffling inconsistencies’ that Māori women face as a result of their colonised realities. I then demonstrate how using a mana wahine approach Māori women’s knowledges can be reconceptualised and previously ignored knowledges are made visible. In doing so, I engage a politics of knowledge production in an attempt to disrupt the hegemony of colonial and patriarchal ideologies.
Mark Smith
PhD candidate, Department of History

Uses of History: What Can Learning History Methodology Bring to Public History?

This is a presentation of the first six months of a transdisciplinary public history thesis that explores another way in which we might think about History. This thesis will engage with the novel Learning History methodology in order to determine how several Waikato organisations use history.

Learning histories is a tiny but growing field in management communications/organisational development theory that has particular relevance for exploring collective consciousness. It emphasises utility, action and the concerns of the present – concerns that connect it with public history. It owes much to social constructionism, ethnography and oral history, while offering a distinct practice. Through working at the interface between this management-theory ‘way of knowing and way of doing’ and public history, I hope to determine how historians might reclaim them.

At only six months into the thesis, the research emphasis is on the theoretical and methodological possibilities – so the presentation will examine the tensions, problems and possibilities of the combination of disciplines in light of the literature and a small pilot case study. After first explaining the methodology, I will present the possibilities of the thesis, and then the findings from the pilot case. The significance of this work is in the potential of this management-theory approach for public history and for new ways to think about the historical discipline.

Lisa Stone
MSocSc, Department of Geography, Tourism and Environmental Planning

Trans People and Places of Social Exclusion

Geographers have only recently begun to explore relationships between transgendered bodies and places. This new field highlights the lived experiences, lifestyles and marginalisation of trans people. It also challenges geographical scholarship which tended to favour a ‘straight forward’ mapping of gender onto biological sex organs. In this paper I explore ways in which trans people and spaces are mutually constituted in Hamilton. Drawing on poststructural feminist, transgender, and emotional geographical theory and in-depth interviews with four trans people, there are three points to my discussion. First I argue that the nature of space and place determines the level of acceptance of trans people. This in
turn determines their comfort levels, bodily appearance, gender expression and movement. Second, the more that trans people transgress masculine/feminine gender binaries, the less they fit into the pre dominantly heteronormative spaces and places of Hamilton. Finally, trans people utilise strategies of resistance to retain their preferred gender identity in a multitude of ways throughout their everyday lives. They challenge the policing of gender binaries and create trans spaces. I seek to understand how these spaces are created and how heteronormative spaces become trans friendly.

**Caroline Thomas**  
PhD candidate, Anthropology, Department of Societies and Cultures

**Dreaming of Fortune**

This paper will introduce the topic of my Research, Reo Franklin Fortune with a brief outline of his career and work

Reo Fortune’s dream works are comprised of his MA thesis Dream Problems (1925), a published paper “The Psychology of Dreams” (1926b), and a book The Mind in Sleep (1927a). These three works taken together illustrate his developing theory regarding dreams as ‘revolutions of conflicts’. In these works, also, he questioned the works of Freud and Rivers, and critiqued the Bergson (1915) and Havelock Ellis (1911) view that dreams are trivial and insignificant.

Fortune used his own dreams as raw data for his thesis and this paper examines these to reveal his struggle with Christianity, the events of World War One and Moral issues.

**Diane Thomson**  
PhD candidate, Department of Psychology

**To see or not to see: is that the question? Investigating human visual navigation**

The ability of humans to construct and use “cognitive maps” while navigating in unfamiliar environments is examined: particularly, how accurately these map-like mental representations record geometric relationships between places in the environment. The focus of the study is the contribution of visual information (e.g., landmarks and depth cues) to the formation of such maps. Previous research has emphasized the importance of vestibular information. The use of virtual reality allows the two sources of information to be studied separately. Realistic large-scale virtual environments were developed for the study, which are modelled on real-life Hamilton locations and incorporate features commonly found on New Zealand roads. The role of rotation is of particular interest: drivers’ visual
perception at roundabouts is investigated. In experiments conducted in a driving simulator, participants navigated through the virtual environments, along routes consisting of roads linked by a roundabout. The accuracy of their mental maps, based on their visual perception, was examined. The effects of using different route layouts, varying urban and rural settings, and including or excluding landmarks were investigated; together with differences between active and passive navigation (analogous to driver and passenger experience respectively). The study is relevant to road safety and driver education in New Zealand.

Anyà Varejchina

BA(Hons), English, Department of Humanities

Humour and the Jewish Spirit: Humour in Holocaust Literature

Jewish tradition is known for its jokes but the very idea of humour in Holocaust literature appears to be absurd and out of place. In Western tradition there is a strong sense of intolerance of anything humorous, especially when it comes to something as tragic as Holocaust. Tragedy, as a literary genre, is serious, even sublime, while humour is discarded more and more as “comic relief”. Humour in Holocaust literature serves three purposes: it criticizes the brutal Nazi regime and sparks resistance to it; it encourages unity in those poking fun at the tyrannical regime; and it aids the oppressed through their suffering not letting them go mad.

Jeanette Wright

PhD candidate, Department of Political Science and Public Policy


This paper introduces an approach to examining the question of whether in NZ today it is possible to simultaneously enjoy economic growth while protecting the integrity of the environment. Two environmental discourses, sustainable development and ecological modernisation dominate how the relationship between the environment, economy society and public policy is framed and conceptualised. While both are grounded by the view that economic growth and environmental benefits can be simultaneously generated, the sustainable development discourse emphasises citizen participation, a long term view and equity and justice issues. Ecological modernisation is premised on the promise that a combination of eco-efficient technologies and environmental management
processes will produce environmental and economic benefits. Drawing on these policy discourses, the paper outlines a proposal for a case study of the New Zealand dairy industry to examine the extent to which principles of ecological modernisation have become embedded in environmental policy discourse within this sector. It will do so through an examination of institutional texts, implementation strategies, industry regulation and a Q sort survey of key actors. The case study aims to evaluate the efficacy of ecological modernisation for achieving sustainable development goals and the implications for long term ecological sustainability in New Zealand.

Arianne Zilberberg
BA(Hons), Theatre Studies, Department of Humanities

Fringe Dwellers: Alternative Theatre and Real Communities

Third Theatre, also known as Autonomous Theatre, evolved as an alternative and unconventional theatre movement during the mid 20th Century. Third Theatre practitioners operate independently of popular mainstream conventions and including established training systems. A number of the characteristics that help define Third Theatre include: group-based training focused around a central director or pedagogue; an exploration of physical theatre; performances developed by the company or group- generally not text based; performance space is taken outside "conventional theatre" and placed in quarries, warehouses, old buildings, churches, black boxes, or even just a carpet; an experimental approach to training and performance.

My presentation will explore the Gardzienice Theatre Association as a case study and current example of Third Theatre practice. Their training habits and performance style will be examined alongside a survey of the group’s survival on the fringe of society as well as on the fringe of the global artistic world. Founded in 1976 by Włodzimierz Staniewski, after his five year stint with Jerzy Grotowski of the world renowned Laboratory Theatre, Gardzienice set up base in a village of the same name near Lublin Poland, and has remained grounded there to this day.