Simple Representation of Spring
Marcus Armstrong
Julie Mader-Meersman
My honors capstone is a creative interpretation of spring, using fashion and graphic design as my creative outlets. I wanted to take my interest in fashion, and fuse it together with my background in the graphic design world. The final product is a work of art that is showcased in different articles of clothing, a partial branding, and a look see booklet that gives a closer look into the brand and the garments in a more stylized way. I chose to focus on Post-Minimalism, how it was popular in the 90’s, through designers like Calvin Klein and Donna Karan. In this Post-Minimalism movement, references are made to the human body, but in a reductive manner. This mini collection is designed to be a brief look into what my runway show would look like. As a design, I wanted to represent spring through the use of fabric that could represent snow and how it covers up the beautiful growth underneath. At first, you can just see the snow, but then you start to see something coming through and it is life. There is beauty in both the mask and the surface below.

Women of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Through the Twentieth Century
Mary Blackburn
Paul Tenkotte
All churches must cope with external societal change in order to keep from alienating new and current members and to maintain doctrinal authority. A good example of this is the way the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints has dealt with the various ways women’s roles have changed through the twentieth century. The actual roles of women in the Church – both in leadership within the Church and in the Church’s ideal of the family – have not changed a lot over the years. However, different aspects of the complex role women have as wives, mothers, citizens, and daughters of God have been emphasized at different points in history, as external events and cultural shifts have placed pressure on the Church. In this way the Church is able to maintain its doctrinal authority while remaining culturally relevant to its members."

Translating Escolios a un texto implicito by Nicolás Gómez Davila
Joseph Brennan
Blas Puente-Badoceda
I have begun translating—from Spanish to English—the first book of aphorisms of Nicolás Gómez Dávila’s five-book series Escolios a un texto. The project has involved critical thought about the nature of translating, the accuracy and aesthetic I want to achieve in my translating, and methodologies of translating. The full body of these aphorisms has not yet been translated into English, and it promises to be a very popular and influential text, as it has been in other Western countries. The Escolios is political, philosophical, literary, aesthetic, religious, economic, social, historical, and personal in scope, and it is written from a Right-wing, Catholic perspective. Translating it takes an exacting philosophical mind with good aesthetic taste and proficiency in both languages. Overall, the Escolios constitutes a significant contribution to literature, philosophy, modern thought and discourse, the form and style of the aphorism, and the reactionary genre of literature.
**Wedding Singer: Design and Communication**  
Larry Csernik  
**Michael Hatton**  
This project revolves around creating a lighting design for NKU’s fall semester musical, *The Wedding Singer*, which was developed from May – October and ran from October 24-November 2. Developing this design involved working collaboratively and efficiently and other theatrical artists; supplementing their artistic needs as well as creating a unique visual experience derived from my own artistic vision. While this project is centered on the design, it also places a specific focus on the communication within the process of the design that includes communicating with both peer and faculty designers, managers, and stagehands. Successful communication was maintained through paperwork (cue sheets, light plots, instrument schedule, gel schedule, etc.) as well as visuals (trial runs in advance, images to convey design ideas). The complicated nature of the design’s implementation showcases both the value of clearly communicated pre-planning as well as the need to be able to adapt. In the process I learned about designing light for a musical as well as how to improvise outside of traditional lighting positions, how to better communicate ideas (such as pre-creating certain effects in the theatre), and how to make sacrifices as a result of unexpected obstacles.

**College Students’ Perceptions and Misperceptions about Drowsy Driving**  
**Tyler Downey**  
**Angela Lipsitz**  
I designed a series of experiments to assess college students’ perceptions, and misperceptions, about drowsy driving. In each experiment participants were to read one of several scenarios about a college student on a long, monotonous drive. Depending on the study, participants were asked about the likelihood of the scenario character having a driving accident or falling asleep. Due to an insufficiency of participants, only one of the studies was completed. In this study 67 college students read a scenario in which a character drove either with a sleep debt of four hours, after drinking two beers, or having 8 hours of sleep and no alcohol. The expected likelihood of an accident was higher in the sleep debt and alcohol conditions, but there was not a difference between the two. Possible reasons for this are discussed. In a second study, a 2 x 2 design, sleep debt and time of day will be varied, and likelihood of falling asleep will be measured.

**The Evolution of Japanese: How Loan-words Have Affected Japan’s Language and Society**  
**Kristian Fausz**  
**Makoto Nakamura**  
This research examined loan-words (assimilated foreign words) in the Japanese language from the introduction of writing until today. The purpose of this research was to discover the linguistic changes that Japanese has undergone, identify the cultural influences, and determine their effects. It was found that languages undergo linguistic cycles during which the cultural and linguistic authority figure is replaced resulting in periods of instability and transformation. It was also found that loan-words are introduced during these periods to express new ideas and technologies introduced by the new authority. In a globalizing world the assimilation of loan-words is a natural process. There have been four linguistic cycles in Japan and they are signified by four cultural authorities that influenced Japanese: 1) China, 2) Japanese Warriors, 3) English, and 4) Modern Japan. Today English loan-words, the most abundant and recently introduced, are controversial. There is a fear that English loan-words are damaging the purity of Japanese as well as the ability of students to properly learn English. However, Japanese has not been “pure” since the introduction of Chinese writing in the 5th century, counter-evidence weakens educational arguments, and unnecessary English loan-words will naturally be phased out like Chinese was in the past.
Engaging with College Athletics Stakeholders in a PR 2.0 World
Clare Field
David Thomson

The revolution of the digital age has transformed the world of Public Relations. With digital technologies making it easier for people to be connected, the way that people form relationships is changing. People expect more out of those whom they are connected to, and the world of Public Relations is no exception. People today expect more personal, and more involved and interactive communication with the brands and organizations that they identify with. It is no longer about preaching to an audience and hoping they hear and understand the messages you are trying to communicate to them. Instead, it’s about creating an interactive conversation with them.

As an intern with Northern Kentucky University (NKU) Athletic Department’s Go Norse Fund, I have experienced first-hand how such relationships are created and maintained with NKU Athletics’ stakeholders. In this multimedia portfolio, you will find examples of some of the work I have done for the Go Norse Fund that demonstrates how to engage college athletics stakeholders in a PR 2.0 world.

A Cultural Education Experience: Why Foreign Language Education in High Schools is Beneficial
Lauren Ghouse
Kajsa Larson

This project is entitled “A Cultural Education Experience: Why Foreign Language Education in High Schools Is Beneficial.” The purpose of this project is to understand why and how foreign language education in high schools is important. We felt it was beneficial to gain insight into why other students chose to study a foreign language. Through surveys, and a questionnaire, NKU foreign language majors and minors were asked questions such as how they thought studying another language would affect their future, if their education in high school had much of an influence on their decision, and if taking a foreign language had helped them prepare for college. The results of the study were in favor of the original hypothesis of “Foreign language education in high schools is beneficial to the furthering of one’s education and future plans”. The inspiration came from personal experiences with foreign languages in high school, and how it inspired the researcher to continue their education in college. The results of this study, and book research, reinforce the importance of bilingualism and how it can be advantageous in today’s job market. Having foreign language education in high schools can be a good preparation for college and the world beyond.

Histone Deacetylase 2 (HDAC2) Inhibitors as a Potential Lung Cancer Treatment
Rebecca Kidney
Lili Ma

My research this summer entailed developing santacruzamate analogues as histone deacetylase 2 (HDAC2) inhibitors. Histones are proteins used by cell components to coil and condense DNA. Acetylation of histones is a post-translational modification that makes the promoter regions of DNA transcripts more accessible, allowing for transcription. Deacetylation does the exact opposite, making DNA less accessible to cellular machinery and causing a decrease in the transcription rate. When chromosomes are condensed, transcription of the DNA is very difficult because access to promoter regions is blocked, making it impossible to transcribe. Histone deacetylases (HDAC) are enzymes that remove acetyl groups from histones that alter transcription and several signaling pathways involved with lung cancer to enhance tumor survival/growth. Research has shown that many cancers contain high levels of HDACs. This summer I developed HDAC inhibitors using a two-step method consisting of carbamate formation and amide coupling.
The Relationship between Social Media Use and Happiness
Salena Lisner
Kathleen O’Connor
The purpose of this study was to examine the relationship between hours spent on social media websites per day on two dimensions of happiness: daily happiness, measured by the Oxford Happiness Inventory (OHI), and life satisfaction, measured by the Satisfaction with Life Scale (SWLS). The current body of research tends to focused on the relationship between internet use as a whole and life satisfaction with variability in the results. Participants in the current study included students enrolled in Northern Kentucky University psychology classes that require or allow access to Sona. Participants completed both the OHI and SWLS and the scores of these measures were compared to self-reported measures of minutes spent on various social media websites per day. It was hypothesized that participants who spend less time on social media sites per day would report higher levels of both daily happiness and life satisfaction. The hypothesis was not supported, though various significant correlations were found between happiness, life, and various demographic variable collected. The results suggest that there may not be a strong relationship between minutes spent on social media websites and happiness or life satisfaction like many might assume. The results also serve to support the body of research that examines various factors that relate to happiness and life satisfaction levels.
Keywords: social media, daily happiness, life satisfaction

Our Time: A Chapter of Northern Kentucky University
Arturo Minera
Sara Drabik
This documentary was created with the Northern Kentucky University student in mind. Its purpose is to serve as a resource to students in furthering their education of Northern being the least state funded university in the commonwealth of Kentucky. While research has been done in explaining this issue through various texts and essays, none have been done through the methodology of documentary film. What you will find in this documentary is the journey Arturo Minera takes to find the answer to two questions: Why is NKU the least funded? And what can we do about it? In this thirty-minute film, the audience will be informed on the issue and the actions they can take to make a difference. Though it is not the first step students have made in informing other students of this issue, this is the first of this specific kind of media used to help draw more attention to something that is essential to an NKU students’ knowledge, this issue being one that directly impacts them as students of Northern, but also citizens of the commonwealth.

Hunger: An Issue without Boundaries
Rachel Mullins
Jessica Taylor
My capstone project explored the complex, global issues of hunger and food insecurity, as well as the efforts being made to end these injustices. In order to do this, I wrote a research paper that gives an overview of these issues. I also included descriptions of the largest government run, food assistance program in the United States, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, and Mexico’s National Crusade Against Hunger, a five year plan created by the government to stop hunger. Programs administered by governments are not enough to end food insecurity, so I also included information about food assistance programs run by YMCA branches in both countries.

The other major goal for my project was to engage with the community to end these issues. I planned a family-friendly fall festival that raised 276 dollars, which will be split between YMCA branches in Cincinnati and Mexico City. These branches will be using the money to purchase food for families in
need. In a reflection paper, I wrote about how rewarding it was to do most of the work on my own, and the joy of seeing the festival come together thanks to the help of family, friends, colleagues, and strangers.

**Niche Analysis of the European Wall Lizard From Two Introduced North American Populations**
Wesley Parsons  
*Richard Dursche*

The European wall lizard (*Podarcis muralis*) is a Lacertid lizard that is found throughout Europe, primarily inhabiting Italy and Spain. However, there are two populations of wall lizard introduced to North America: one in Cincinnati, Ohio and the other on Vancouver Island, British Columbia. Our investigations focus on the comparative biology of these two introduced populations in North America. Numbers have become established and are still rapidly growing each year due to their ability to thrive in urbanized saxiculous microhabitats. This comparative study is an initial analysis of niche occupancy by these introduced lizards to determine if they 1) occupy a vacant urban niche and 2) have expanded their physiological parameters away from their native populations. Our objectives were to generate time-activity budgets to determine their allocation of time and energy throughout the day and measure their physiological capacities across a range of temperatures. Lizards were observed for 10-minute focal samples, recording their sex, stage of maturation, and microhabitat usage. A range of size-classes of individuals (ages) within the species was tested for ontogenetic variation in physiological capacities, including metabolic rates and sprint speeds.

**The Public Good of Public Parks**
Caleb Patterson  
*Carol Medlicott*

Public parklands have a great positive impact on the quality of human life and have throughout history. By examining Washington, Eden, and Ault Parks in Cincinnati, this relationship can be explored in depth. The parks often provided opportunity for relief from the growing industrialization of the city. In addition, they gave residents of the city a place where they could play, relax, socialize, and gather for social movements. While each of the parks have major differences in their historical developments, their contributions to the city are similar and very important to a full understanding of the history of Cincinnati. However, more important than their contributions to the history of the city are the lasting impacts that the parks left and continue to leave on residents of Cincinnati.

**Understanding Discipline's Effect on a Young Adult's Conflict Resolution Style**
Bridget Shaefer  
*Tara McLendon*

My Honors Capstone was a social experiment revolving around young adults, memories from childhood, parenting styles, and conflict resolution styles. Two surveys were utilized: the Alabama Parenting Questionnaire (Frick, 1991), which measures parenting styles as remembered from childhood, and the Conflict Resolution Scale (Gilam La Valley, 2009), which measures how college-age adults resolve conflict. My research question was, “Do NKU social work students’ memories of how they were parented as children affect their conflict resolution style as young adults?” The sample consisted of NKU social work students between the ages of 18-25 that were predominately Caucasian females in their early 20's. Participants answered the 42-question survey of the Alabama Parenting Questionnaire (APQ) related to how they were parented as children, and the participants answered “Which of the six styles of conflict resolution best describes your generally style?” from the Conflict Resolution Scale (CRS) by picking either “indirect fighting, competitive fighting, compromising, collaborating, avoiding, or yielding”. These six categories were then divided into “healthy vs. unhealthy”. Results indicated that
positive parenting during childhood (APQ) equates to healthy conflict resolution for children as adults (CRS), and that poor monitoring/supervision during childhood (APQ) equates to unhealthy conflict resolution for children as adults (CRS).

Multimedia Journalism: Using Digital Tools to Enhance Environmental Reporting and Storytelling
Kevin Schultz
Michele Day
This capstone examines the impact of digital journalism tools on the reporting of environmental issues at an institution for higher education. By first establishing a beat for environmental issues at Northern Kentucky University through the publication of stories in the university’s independent, student-run news organization, The Northerner, I was able to experiment with various computer assisted reporting tools to enhance the communication of my otherwise traditional journalism through the use of TheNortherner.com. I created a blog, NorthernerGreenBeat.Wordpress.com, to detail my experience covering the newly established beat and to serve as an archive for my research and collection of my curated lists of top digital journalism tools. Besides getting the opportunity to assess the impact of digital journalism tools in a university news publication, which made the reach of my reporting more accessible in both audience reach and ease of understanding/interest, I was also able to assess the university’s current standings as it pertains to its civic responsibility as a regional environmental steward. This project opened up an already established dialogue within a select group at NKU to a more general audience to help ensure that environmental issues within the university are accessible to all constituents of the community and that the university is held accountable for its environmental influence.

Marketing Professional Softball
Alexandra Smith
Denise Luethge
The sponsorship of sports has been seen as a useful tool for building brand awareness, brand image, and corporate image. While sponsorships help corporations sustain a competitive business advantage, they also help increase market share and sales volume. When looking at women’s sports, it is clear that corporations would rather sponsor men’s teams, adding to the list of inequities between men’s and women’s sports. From the start, the competition is not fair. However, there is a large opportunity present for sponsors of women’s sports in a low cost high value situation. Although little work has been completed to study sponsorship of women’s sports, sponsors would be smart to differentiate their portfolios and become a sponsor to the unique fan bases of women’s sports before their competition realizes the same opportunity. Overall, more research needs to be conducted and more work and effort need to be utilized to decrease the gap between men’s and women’s sports.

Female Inmate and Their Reentry into Society
Mariah Stanforth
Danielle McDonald
The population of female inmates has more than tripled since 1980. Mandatory minimums and sentencing guidelines are sending women to prison at higher rates and for a longer period of time than ever before. In an attempt to understand the spike, it is important to consider not only the crimes that females are committing, but also the driving factors and the unique challenges they face. The present paper will explore the relationship between female inmates’ backgrounds and their adjustment to incarceration, as well as its relationship with factors effecting recidivism.
**Global Tales of Tragedy - Lessons Learned from an International Media Content Analysis**
Katherine Wiley

*Belle Zembrod & Zachary Hart*

This study analyzed media coverage of three major crises, examining differences in how these events were covered. News stories about the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the Japanese tsunami in 2011, and the ongoing Eurozone crisis were investigated using a framing approach based on the events in order to uncover what journalists from three countries (United States, England, Australia) focused on the most in their stories. The findings suggest that all three countries report predominantly on negative content. Differences were found in media coverage of the impact of the crisis on each country based on geographic location, timing of the news story and media culture.

**Human Trafficking In Bangkok and Cincinnati: "Two Choices"**
Donald Wright

*Belle Zembrod*

Human trafficking is the fastest growing world crime. There are an estimated 21 million human trafficking victims in the world which means there are more slaves now than there were at the height of the African slave trade. How the human trafficking industry rears its ugly head is different depending on where it is taking place. There are profound similarities and stark differences between human trafficking in Cincinnati, Ohio and Bangkok, Thailand. When the causes of human trafficking are different, there must be different ways to respond to the industry. The agencies and services that work together to help victims and work against the furthering of human trafficking is commonly called the response network. Comparing response networks between the two cities are key in understanding and developing plans to combat human trafficking locally and internationally.