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1 Relationships in Team Sports
Andrew Canavan (Nicole Legate, Faculty Sponsor)
This experiment builds on work by Legate (2013), who found that there are psychological costs associated with ostracizing another person. Assessments were given before and after a live version of the Cyberball task (Williams 2000) using confederates. Throws to each player were recorded in all 4 conditions of pressure to ostracize: no manipulation, subtle manipulation to ostracize, explicit manipulation to ostracize, and a forced ostracism condition. Finally, a post-hoc test was added to explore whether the effects of ostracizing can be generalized cross culturally. Given the relatively ethnically diverse sample, participants country of origin was assessed and coded as either individualistic or collectiveistic and tested with regard to compliance with ostracism. Preliminary results show similar throw behavior in most conditions with significant variation in explicit manipulation condition.

2 Plant Chicago: Implementing Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)
Diana Cordon (Jennifer Miller, Faculty Sponsor)
Plant Chicago is a not-for-profit whose mission is to develop circular economies of food production, energy conservation, and material reuse. Along with 14 for-profit food companies, Plant Chicago is housed within The Plant, a re-purposed building often referred to as a larger-than-life experiment and a working model for closing waste, resource and energy loops. Plant Chicago runs education programming, tours, a year round Farmers Market, and unique technology demonstration projects. During a tour, visitors see some of Plant Chicago’s closed-loop tech demonstration projects, like their aquaponics farm and algae bioreactor, and get a peek into other tenant’s food production spaces including a brewery, British-style bakery, and mushroom farm. Education at Plant Chicago revolves around hands-on learning, which takes place in both the public and K-12 settings.
Throughout my internship at Plant Chicago our main focus was to align current K-12 workshop/activity curriculum with Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). NGSS is an evidence-based framework that promotes STEM through crosscutting concepts, disciplinary core ideas, critical thinking, and practice in order to develop proficiency. NGSS is currently being implemented by K-12 teachers through their school year lesson plans. During my internship assessment plans were developed to facilitate the further integration of Plant Chicago’s K-12 program curriculum with NGSS, and to provide elementary, middle and high schools with an external educational resource that would compliment their students’ learning experience.
3 Self-Expression On Facebook Replication Study
Cynthia Chavez, Alexis Renk, Zofie Mandelski, Rafal Wojtowicz
(Nicole Legate, Faculty Sponsor)
The goal of this research project was to replicate the results of Forest and Wood’s correlational descriptive research, in which they examined the relationship between perceptions on social media use and the user's level of self-esteem by conducting a survey regarding Facebook. This particular replication had one additional variant: the survey setting. The original paper did not specify whether the survey was conducted online or in a lab, a condition which may have affected the results. To test the effect of the survey setting, the replication subjected the participants to one of two different methods: one in which participants completed the survey online at their leisure and another in which participants were invited into a laboratory setting to complete the survey in the presence of the researcher. Overall, the results of the replication showed different findings than those originally reported. The replicating team found that perceptions of Facebook use in regards to expression, safety, and disclosure with the exception of connection had a significant relationship. The team also found the research setting may have affected the participants’ perception of safety of self-disclosure on Facebook.

4 Replication of Eskine et al. (2011)
Reya Green, Lindsay Zasadzinski, Cesar Armas, Emily Darnell
(Nicole Legate, Faculty Sponsor)
Although a provocative stance, there is substantial research that points to a link between physical disgust and moral judgments (Schnall, Haidt, Clore, & Jordan, 2008; Zhong and Liljenquist, 2006).
Multiple researchers have studied overlapping areas of the brain during periods of physical and moral disgust (Borg et al., 2008; Calder, Lawrence, & Young, 2001). The established physiological link is particularly evident in the temporal and frontal cortices (Moll et al., 2005). Lesser known is the interaction between taste perception and moral judgments and even less is known about any mediating factors.
We replicated the study by Eskine, Kacinik, and Prinz (2011) and expected to find similar effects regarding a bitter taste and harsher moral judgments. We also expected these effects to be greater for individuals who politically identify as conservative since they are more sensitive to disgust (Inbar, Pizarro, & Bloom, 2009) than those of liberal viewpoints.
5 Replication of Eskine et al. (2011)
Josh Guberman, Siliva Nunez, Xing Chen, Michelle Shelby
(Nicole Legate, Faculty Sponsor)
Eskine et al. (2011) demonstrate a significant relationship between taste (specifically, disgusting
styles) and moral processing. This result, while novel, has not yet been replicated. Thus, we
endeavor to replicate both the procedures and results of the original study. We find no support
for either of the original study's hypotheses, and discuss the reasons for the unsuccessful nature
of our replication.

6 First Steps in Quantifying Toxicity and Verbal Violence on Twitter
Joshua Guberman, Carol Schmitz (Libby Hemphill, Faculty Sponsor)
Online harassment is a continuing problem, endemic to many social media platforms and other
means of web-based communications, and few means exist to analyze web content for instances
of verbal violence and aggression. We are developing a scale of online aggression that can be
applied to Twitter posts (tweets) and that is based on existing measures of trait aggression and
cyberbullying. For the purpose of testing and validating our scale, we are relying on Mechanical
Turk, an Amazon Web Service, through which we can enlist and pay workers to code our dataset
of tweets. Preliminary results suggest that aggression in tweets is difficult for human coders to
identify and that we have not reached consensus about what constitutes harassment online. We
discuss our preliminary results and propose next steps such as scale modification and automated
classifier development.

7 Substitutability of Physical and Social Warmth
Mehak Hafeez, Max Burns, Dalia Martinez and Tamia Polk
(Nicole Legate, Faculty Sponsor)
We replicated a study called The Substitutability of Physical and Social Warmth in Daily Life by
Bargh and Shalev (2011), which found that people compensate loneliness with longer showers.
We recruited 65 participants at seven building sites on Illinois Institute of Technology campus
(42 males, 23 females) for the study. The participants were approached on campus, consented,
and they completed two questionnaires: Lifestyle questionnaire and UCLA Loneliness Scale.
Finally, researchers offered a bag of chips and candy bar as reward for their participation.
Results showed no relation between showering questions and loneliness scores. However, there
were several negative correlations with loneliness and: physical activity, meals eaten in a day,
and time spent on Facebook. Our study does not replicate Bargh and Shalev (2011), so the future
research is highly needed.
8 Social and Economic Implications of Gentrification on Neighborhoods in Chicago
Allan Huang (Hao Huang, Faculty Sponsor)
In a country that emphasizes the importance of land ownership, owning property has long been a factor and indicator of social status and wealth. People with greater wealth have the option to buy more expensive properties. However, when properties in low-income neighborhoods increase in cost due to increased demand from a wealthier consumer group, existing residents are forced to adapt to the rising costs or be displaced. This concept brings forth the issue of gentrification and its underlying implications. This research examines select neighborhoods in the Chicago area to compare tracts that have been gentrified, tracts that have not been gentrified, and tracts that are not eligible to gentrify to address these objectives: (1) identify the effect(s) of gentrification on neighborhoods; (2) understand the overall paradigm (or construction) of the gentrification process.

9 Obama Presidential Center: A Site Comparison
Sean Hutchison (Hao Huang, Faculty Sponsor)
The Barack Obama Presidential Center will soon be constructed in Chicago's South Side. Seven architecture firms have been shortlisted to design proposals on either of the two sites under consideration. This research uses ArcGIS mapping software and Chicago city data of the neighborhoods to weigh the qualities of both sites. Different lenses are used to study each location's surrounding physical environment and socioeconomic state. Ultimately, one of the sites is chosen as most suitable for the construction of the Barack Obama Presidential Center.

10 The Spatial Distribution and The Determinants of The 100 Tallest Skyscrapers
Xavier John (Hao Huang, Faculty Sponsor)
Throughout the world they’re a number of tall buildings also known as skyscrapers. Skyscrapers dominate the skyline in many cities across the world, and are usually clustered together. Why is that trend so common? There are many reasons, which contribute to this, such as economic wealth, use of the skyscraper, and population density. From an economical point of view, skyscrapers are built in areas where there is high commerce or business trading. Skyscrapers are mainly used for offices and some shops in these locations. An example would be the One World Trade Center situated in New York. Lastly, from the point of view of population density, skyscrapers are built to house people densely populated areas, especially when there is limited land space. An example is South Korea where the majority of the population lives in high-rise buildings.
11 Romantic Relationships and the Mental Health and Well-Being of Undergraduate Students

Samreen Kalani (Nicole Ditchman, Faculty Sponsor)

College students across the world are at an elevated risk of mental health problems over the time period that they are attending college as full time students (Dennis, 2011). Therefore, it is important to research that what aspects of a college student’s life affect their mental health. Recent statistics have reported that 14.9% of college students have been diagnosed with depression, about 40% of the students indulge in binge drinking, and 30% of the students meet criteria for alcohol abuse and dependence (Whitton, Weitbrecht, Kuryłuk and Bruner, 2013). These mental illnesses can greatly impact every aspect of one’s life, especially academics and social relationships (Hysenbegasi, Hass, Rowland, 2005). The consequences linked with these mental illnesses among college students include school dropout, injury and death (Hingson, Heeren, Winter, Wechsler, 2005). Intimate relationships have a complex association with mental illnesses; it is considered a risk factor and at the same time can be a protective factor. The study will add a new outlook on the existing literature and valuable information about the correlations between the variables i.e. life satisfaction, relationship satisfaction, depression, anxiety, internet use and alcohol use.

12 Identifying Learning Opportunities in Television for Young Children

Amy Kamin, Michael DeAnda (Carly Kocurek, Jennifer Miller, Faculty Sponsors)

While many television shows for young children are advertised as educational, the density and type of learning experiences offered in these types of shows varies broadly. Additionally, since studies have shown children living in the U.S. interact with some form of screen media on an almost daily basis, the most popular of which is television, it is clear that television shows have become a primary way in which children learn about themselves and the world. According to a survey conducted by Common Sense Media in 2013, 58% of children watch TV at least once per day, which comprises of exactly half (50% or 57 minutes) of their daily screen time (which includes television, computers, mobile devices, and video games) [1]. We used a random number generator (SPSS) to select 8 programs from a pool of 43 popular children’s television shows aimed at 2-3 year-olds obtained from Common Sense Media, and also selected the long-time running programs Sesame Street and Mister Roger’s Neighborhood., We then analyzed five of the most current episodes using a pre-coded questionnaire that was completed during a viewing of each episode. We observed how each show facilitates engagement with its audience, what learning objectives exist, as well as main character traits. This analysis provides a basis for further research into how young children learn from a variety of screen media, including television, but specifically tablets and smartphones. Potentially, this knowledge can assist in the development of engaging, learning-focused, programming, applications, and games and may also inform useful guidelines for parents and early-childhood educators.
13 Co-sleeping on the Job
Nicolas Kertesz, Anoopa Sundararajan, Colt Scroggins, Cassandra Hansen
(Nicole Legate, Faculty Sponsor)
Social thermoregulation is a mechanism of homeostasis, which regulates internal body
temperature through strategies such as co-sleeping. Glucose intake is an important mechanism
that affects our bodies’ ability to thermoregulate. However, excessive glucose intake can lead to
problems such as weight gain, multiple heart conditions, and an increase in other health risks for
an individual. A pilot study led by Hans Ijzerman et al. seeks to identify the effect of co-sleeping
on glucose intake the next day. Our research attempts to replicate this pilot study and extends the
research. Our study not only looks at the effect of co-sleeping on glucose intake, but also tests
for the effects of co-sleeping vs alone-sleeping on variables such as attachment, depression, self-
control, self-esteem and communal strength. We drew participants through a convenience sample
(N = 136) from the Illinois Institute of Technology’s campus and they participated in a brief
online survey. Based on the results from our data, we did not end up replicating the pilot study’s
effect of co-sleeping on glucose intake. We examine possible causes of our results in our
discussion section. We did, however, find a significantly higher level of insecure attachment in
alone sleepers as compared to co-sleepers.

14 The cause and result of climate change
Zhizhen Li (Hao Huang, Faculty Sponsor)
In recent 10 years, global warming become the most important problem to
worry about in the next decade. In this project, I will show some cause might have related to
climate change such as, population, fuel use and economy. And I will show how the result relate
to climate change such as, ice melting, Pm2.5 increasing and animal dying.

15 Society of Research in Psychopathology's Family Tree
Jacob Mansfield (Michael Young, Faculty Sponsor)
During the course of this semester I worked with Dr. Young on creating an academic family tree
of the membership of the Society for Research in Psychopathology (SRP) – a leading
organization of psychopathology researchers. Dr. Young assisted me on creating a survey to
collect the information that we needed from the members. We discussed the importance of the
structure of questions in order to facilitate getting the required information from the members
about their universities and graduate school mentors. Once the data were collected I formatted
the data into a model that best suited our needs for the final product. My poster will display a
rough draft of the family tree highlighting major academic families within the organization as
well highlighting universities that are producing a high volume of members. The final family tree
will be presented at this year’s SRP meeting. The purpose of this project is to discover which
universities and professors are contributing to the growth of the society and psychopathology
research.
16 Note Taking Medium and Retention of Information
Jacob McCurry (Kristina Bauer, Faculty Sponsor)
This study investigated the relationship between note taking medium (i.e., using computers or by hand) and retention of presented material. Methodology was replicated from a study by Mueller and Oppenhiemer (2014) on the same topic, which found that students who took notes by hand performed better on conceptual knowledge tests of the material than those who took notes on a laptop. For the current study, students were assigned to a random condition of either computer or paper notes. Then, they were administered a pre-survey to self-rate their knowledge on the topic. Subjects then took notes while watching a Ted Talk video. Immediately after, a 10-minute math distracter task was administered. Finally, the subjects completed a survey consisting of factual knowledge and conceptual knowledge questions, as well as demographic items, a burnout scale, and information about their academic performance. Participants were 159 college students (Mage = 20.17, SD = 2.36) from a southeastern university. There were 3 students who did not report ethnicity, 63.5% of the remaining students reported identifying as Caucasian/white. Additionally, 66% identified as female. Contrary to Mueller and Oppenhiemer, no significant differences were found between the two groups on factual or conceptual knowledge. Instead, supplemental analyses revealed that the quantity of notes taken moderated the impact of condition on factual knowledge such that students in the handwritten notes condition who took more notes retained the most information.

17 Caregiver Attitudes Towards Child Usage of Technology and Electronic Devices
Deysi Paniagua, Jacqueline Suriano (Jennifer L. Miller, Carly Kocurek, Faculty Sponsors)
Limited research exists to support iPad technology as an effective tool for increasing early literacy rates at home and in classroom settings. Not surprisingly, caregivers play a significant role in literacy development and success during toddlerhood. Therefore, the aim of this study is to understand caregiver perceptions and attitudes towards the use of technology and electronic devices. Participants will also be asked questions about how mobile applications can be improved. Insights will be transcribed and analyzed using NVivo to establish existing trends among participant responses. Thus far, participants express acceptance of tablet use as an instrument for infant literacy development despite their concern over the amount of time spent while engaging with the handheld devices.
Humanitarian Work psychology (HWP) concerns the synthesis of organizational, industrial, work, and other areas of psychology with deliberate and organized effort to enhance human welfare (“The Global Organization”, 2016). HWP is a unique hybrid of both the nonprofit world and professional fields as it applies the principles of Industrial Organizational psychology to humanitarian aid. Unlike traditional Industrial Organizational psychology, HWP is more focused on the well-being and humanitarian treatment of all workers, low to high incomes, internationally. HWP uses the disciplines taught in the organizational psychology field to aid in humanitarian activities such as poverty reduction and to the empowerment of marginalized groups (“The Global Organization”, 2016). Because of the novelty of the field, there is a limited amount of information that is solely completed under the title of HWP. The research of HWP is disorganized as it fragmented over various fields of psychology. It is the purpose of this study to unite the disjointed research of HWP into a singular cohesive piece. This was accomplished by completing a thorough examination of work in HWP. Different studies, papers, and other sources were collected from various fields of I/O, International Organization reports, economics reports, and other fields. The large variety of sources show that the research that has been done is disjointed and spread across different fields. To inspire a connection between all the diverse fields, a thematic analysis was created to unify HWP into a singular cohesive piece. The goal of this piece is that not only will it synthesis HWP, but in addition, be benchmark for current research in HWP, foster collaborations between researchers, and serve to stimulate new research in this area.
19 Influence of social isolation on serotonergic fiber density in the auditory midbrain
Rebecca L. Sandlain, Sarah M. Keesom, Bradley Wise, Laura M. Hurley (Nicole Legate, Faculty Sponsor)
Past social experience plays an important role in shaping how receivers process signals. In the auditory system, serotonin is a potential mechanism for linking social experience with auditory processing for three reasons: 1.) serotonin influences single neurons’ response to auditory stimuli; 2.) changes in serotonin reflect contextual features of social encounters, and 3.) the serotonergic system is sensitive to social experience in other brain regions. In this study, we investigate how past social experience affects the serotonergic fiber density of the inferior colliculus (IC), an auditory midbrain region that demonstrates selectivity for species-specific vocalizations. Male CBA/J mice (Mus musculus) were given different social experiences by using a classic manipulation: housing for four weeks either individually or in a social group of three mice. Subsequently, we used immunohistochemistry with florescence to label the serotonin transporter (SERT) as a marker for serotonergic fibers. Tissue sections were imaged, and ImageJ was used to quantify the fiber density as the percent area of the IC covered by fibers. We expect there will be a difference in serotonergic fiber density for individually verses socially housed mice. A difference in serotonergic fiber density would suggest that the mice differ in the ability to release serotonin, which could lead to differences in the ability of serotonin to reflect social information in this auditory center.

20 Fertility Rates, and their influence around the World
Juan Serrano (Hao Huang, Faculty Sponsor)
General fertility rate is the number of live births per 1000 women between the ages of 15 and 44 years. Fertility rates influence economic growth, cultural stability and more. Both of the extremes, high or low fertility rates, could be problematic for a country. In this project the influence of fertility rates around the world and their impact on the economies will be analyzed. After the data is analyzed an average stable fertility rate that avoids the negative consequences will be provided. This fertility rate would avoid both extremes which bring negative consequences to the countries.
21 Replication Study: Forest and Wood Self-Esteem and Self-Disclosure on Facebook
Jacqueline Suriano, Tasheica Lindsay, Sonia Kamdar, Jonathan Tacuri
(Nicole Legate, Faculty Sponsor)
To address the pressing need for replication within psychology, this study aimed to replicate Study 1 from Forest and Wood’s (2012) paper that found that individuals with low self-esteem recognize the benefits of self-disclosure on social media in comparison to in-person interactions. It is especially important to replicate this study as it is highly cited. We recruited a sample of X students from Illinois Institute of Technology and followed the same procedures from Forest and Wood with one exception – we used two different methods, participants either took the study online and or in the lab. We found that people with higher self-esteem tend to disclose themselves on Facebook more than people with low self-esteem, which is opposite of the findings of the original study. However, people with high self-esteem feel less safe disclosing on Facebook rather than in person, which supports the original study. The findings suggest that people with high self-esteem have no problem disclosing things about themselves on Facebook but would rather disclose in person. In addition to replicating this study, gender was observed in terms of how it interacted with self-esteem, self-disclosure, connection, and safety. Gender played no significant role in self-esteem as well as the other variables.

22 The Effect that Distance from a United States’s Highway Has on Surrounding Population Density
Chris Troiani (Hao Huang, Faculty Sponsor)
With the increase of technology over the past few decades, towns are no longer required to be situated around roads. This leaves open one question. Are cities still situated around roads? A slightly different question that this project is focused around is “How does population density vary as distance from a highway varies?”
For this project, multiple distances had to be chosen; these would be the varying distances that would be used to study the effect of distance from a highway on population density. The three different distances studied were 50, 500, and 2,640 feet. Fifty feet was chosen because the noise from a highway is quite intense at this distance. Five-hundred feet was chosen because when living within this distance, one is more likely to develop health problems.
Using the distances chosen, a map of US highways, and block data of multiple states, population densities were calculated. To do this, buffers of the selected distances were created around the highways. These buffers were intersected with the state layers in order to new layers that contained only the parts of the states within the buffers. Using the tables within the new layers, the total population living in each layer was found. The area of each layer was calculated in the tables, and then population density was found for each layer.
From the population densities, one could see that population density does change as distance changes. The population density within 50 feet was the lowest; this may have been because people do not want to live in areas where highway noise is loud. The density within 500 feet was
the highest. While people may be more likely to acquire health problems, they may be willing to overlook the possible health conditions to have the convenience of a nearby highway.

23 Addiction Stigma
Lorenzo Washington. Dana Kraus (Patrick W. Corrigan, Faculty Sponsor)
Conceptual and empirical domains of investigations on addiction stigma are equally lacking compared to the literature on mental illness stigma. To address this discrepancy, we will convene a Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR) team in order to begin the process of identifying the stereotypes associated with Substance Use Disorders. We began by identifying who to include on the CBPR team. Our goal was to compile a team of eight people to develop a questionnaire that examine the public’s view of stereotypes’ about addiction. Some suggested “types” of participants for the CBPR team are past substance users, active users, providers with an abstinence perspective, providers with harm reduction perspectives, family members, and law enforcement officers, legal and medical professionals. Each has a unique perspective surrounding the issues of addiction which allows for a broader view and more generalizable finding. Additionally, we were looking for diversity among the members in regards to race, ethnicity, gender, veteran status, and sexual preference for the same reasons. We anticipated having around 5 face to face meetings during which we developed the questionnaire to be used for the next step in the project, the focus group. Likewise, the focus group participants should maintain the maximum degree diversity possible to insure the most comprehensive viewpoints about stigma and addiction. We predict that the findings will mirror those stigmas surrounding mental illness in addition to the legal sanctions imposed as a result of criminalization of this disorder. This research will address the call for better understanding of the nature of the problem and ways to impact it.
24 Moral Framing of Persuasive Political Messages: The Case for Universal Basic Income

Samuel Wietlispach (Arlen Moller, Faculty Sponsor)

The purpose of this research is to assess the persuasiveness of different messages on attitudes towards Universal Basic Income (UBI) using a moral framing framework for message tailoring. Conservatives and liberals are found to have different emphasis on categories defined by Moral Foundations Theory, thus this theory predicts that different messages will be more or less persuasive for conservative versus liberal participants. Participants will be randomly assigned to one of three moral frame messages: (1) the Fairness Message Condition, (2) Ingroup Message Condition, or (3) the Neutral Message Condition. We will then test attitudes towards UBI after exposure to message frames. Hypothesis 1 is that increases in pro-UBI attitudes will be greater for the conservatives participants exposed to the Ingroup condition (vs. Fairness Message or Neutral Message conditions). Hypothesis 2 is that increases in pro-UBI attitudes will be greater for the liberal participants exposed to the Fairness Message condition (relative to InGroup and Neutral conditions). This research will test the resilience of the Ingroup component of conservative morals on a political topic that has not previously been studied using Moral Foundations Theory. This can inform the types of messaging that proponents of UBI should be using in order to bridge the divide of political ideology.