



Asha Barnes

- Major: Anthropology
- Minor: Africana Studies
- Adviser: Alex Chavez

Religion and Religious Practice in Contemporary Jamaica

An ethnographic study of religion in Jamaica, my thesis explores the tensions and negotiations between Christianity and the West African traditions, religions, and practice. As a person of Jamaican Maroon descent, I felt it necessary to explore the various legacies of slavery and colonialism in Jamaica. I found that in my own family there were tensions and negotiations happening relative to these practices and beliefs.

Traveled to Jamaica with funding from the Department of Anthropology.



Mary Conklin

- Majors: Anthropology and Science Preprofessional Studies
- Adviser: Lee Gettler

Evolutionary and Biocultural Approaches to Contemporary U.S. Family Systems: Understanding Parental Care, Division of Labor, and Psychobiology

My thesis is an anthropological analysis of local family systems by using evolutionary and biocultural perspectives to explore expectations surrounding gendered parental roles and childcare and their implications for well-being. I drew on a study with 48 local families that tested for correlations of infant temperament with parental care and mental well-being. One core result was that parents of negatively tempered infants had lower well-being and greater marital conflict. My interests in parent-child interactions developed through my anthropology courses and time in Professor Gettler's Hormones, Health, and Human Behavior Lab.

Received a grant from the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program to present research at the Human Biology Association annual meeting.



Jacklyn Cooney

- Major: Environmental Sciences
- Minors: Anthropology and Hesburgh Program in Public Service
- Adviser: Abigail Ocobock

Maternal Morbidity and Mortality Rates Facing American Women, and the Health Disparities Driving the Increasing Trends

Increasing maternal morbidity and mortality rates are a significant issue in America — especially in comparison to other developed nations. The increasing rate can be attributed to the health disparities among racial groups and socio-economic classes, as well as the lack of national collaboration and organization to combat these trends. I find it baffling that a country can simultaneously have the lowest infant morbidity and mortality rates and the highest maternal morbidity and mortality rates of the past quarter century. It is a societal, health, and political problem that needs to be addressed and combatted.



Nicholas Furnari

- Major: Anthropology (Honors)
- Adviser: Rahul Oka

The Contagion of Fear: Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Populist Movements

I examined what environmental factors are conducive to the rise of populist movements by using historical case studies — namely, the French Revolution and the English Civil Wars — and relating them, in turn, to the modern state of U.S. politics. My interest in economic anthropology began as a first-year student and has grown since, especially due to the influence of my adviser and his colleagues at Notre Dame and around the world. The topic of populism was of particular interest to me because of the 2016 election cycle.



Elizabeth McGough

- Majors: Anthropology (Honors) and Biological Sciences
- Adviser: Natalie Porter

Examining Factors That Impede Dental Health Among Minority Populations in South Bend, Indiana

Through a series of interviews and ethnographic observations at the Sister Maura Brannick, C.S.C., Health Center's dental clinic in South Bend, I investigated how economic, sociocultural, and linguistic factors impact the dental care minority patients receive. While the field of medical anthropology has been an important part of health-related research for many years, extending this field to include dental anthropology is equally valuable. As a future dentist, I believe it is important to identify the challenges that patients face in attaining oral health. The importance of oral health to an individual's overall health provides further impetus to draw attention to these challenges.

Received funding from the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program.



Olivia Mikkelsen

- Major: Design
- Concentration in Visual Communication Design
- Minors: Anthropology and Collaborative Innovation
- Adviser: Ann-Marie Conrado

Academic Clarity and the Discernment Process

Our goals as students often shift from studying our passions to studying what will make us the most successful in life. With 80 percent of college students nationwide changing their major at least once, accompanied by a variety of pressures, I wanted to design a solution to assist the process of academic discernment by exposing a full spectrum of academic and professional possibilities. My experience was one of confusion and frustration with the discernment process. As a designer, I was excited to create an intervention to help incoming students hopefully avoid these feelings.



Lauren O'Connell

- Major: Anthropology
- Supplementary Major: Arts and Letters Pre-Health
- Minor: Latino Studies
- Glynn Family Honors Program
- Kellogg International Scholar
- Adviser: Vania Smith-Oka

Envuelto en Estrés (Wrapped in Stress): Health Decision Making and Tobacco Use Among Medical Students in Puebla, Mexico

Tobacco use among medical professionals in Mexico is higher than among the general population. What cultural and social factors influence the decision to smoke despite extensive scientific knowledge of the negative consequences? How does this impact a physician's ability to counsel patients on cessation? I chose this topic after studying abroad in Puebla, Mexico, and noticing the popularity of cigarettes among medical students. As a student interested in culture and global public health, I was intrigued by this trend and wanted to explore further.

Received funding from the Glynn Family Honors Program.



Candice Park

- Major: Biological Sciences
- Minor: Anthropology
- Glynn Family Honors Program
- Advisers: Vania Smith-Oka and Mark Schurr

Analysis of Stable Isotopes and Socioeconomic Status of a New Delhi Population

I investigate whether differences in dietary patterns among populations of varying socioeconomic status can be captured by carbon and nitrogen isotopes of fingernails among residents of New Delhi. To accompany the collected fingernail samples, I distributed brief demographic questionnaires and 24-hour diet recall surveys to participants. I became interested in Indian culture after participating in the Kellogg Summer Internship Program and traveling to India for eight weeks with Child Family Health International. I wanted to combine my previous research experience in stable isotope analysis with my interest in food and nutrition in India.

Traveled to India with funding from the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program.



Katherine Portman

- Major: Anthropology
- Supplementary Major: Applied Computational Mathematics and Statistics
- Glynn Family Honors Program
- Adviser: Donna Glowacki

Water Management on the Mesa: Communal Resource Use in Park Mesa, Colorado

Many archaeologists have argued that water management reflects a society's sociopolitical structure. Typically, the more complex a society, the more complex its water management. I challenge that model by examining four reservoirs on Park Mesa in Mesa Verde National Park in southwest Colorado and the changes in their surrounding communities between AD 700-1200. I want to be an archaeologist, and I have recently become interested in how ancient peoples managed water. We all need water to live, and I think it is fascinating to compare how people develop and maintain different systems of water management based on their societal structure.

Traveled to Mesa Verde National Park, Colorado.

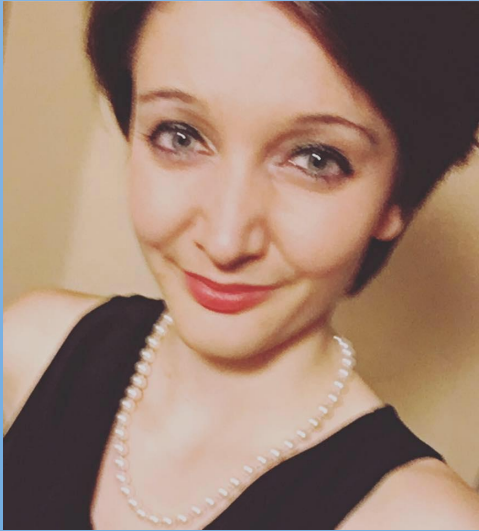


Emily Schoenbauer

- Major: Anthropology
- Minor: Business Economics
- Adviser: Eric Haanstad

Theatre as Vehicle for Social Change

I am assistant director of FTT's spring production of *Native Gardens*, a comedy about the relationship between an older, white couple and their new, young, Latinx neighbors. The play covers a dispute over the fence line between their yards, becoming an all-out "border dispute." My thesis analyses the use of the theatre itself, the actors, and comedy in commenting on Latinx stereotypes in America. I have a strong interest in immigration, multiculturalism, and race in America. This research bridges my interests in theatre and Latinx culture, analysing the effectiveness of theatre in creating real social change.



Katie Surine

- Majors: Music Performance (Honors Voice) and Anthropology
- Advisers: Deborah Mayer and Kiera Duffy

Senior Recital

For my senior voice recital, a variety of classical musical periods and styles were represented on the program, including works by Handel, Harbison, Mussorgsky, Poulenc, and Schubert. Selections were sung in Italian, German, Russian, and French. I chose my musical selections in collaboration with my advisers, so as to best show off my voice and my ability to perform severely contrasting works in several different languages. It was also important that I was passionate about the music on my recital program.



Chandler Turner

- Major: Anthropology
- Supplementary Major: Arts and Letters Pre-Health
- Adviser: Vania Smith-Oka

Physician Burnout Causes and Possible Solutions

Burnout is defined as the “physical and mental collapse caused by overwork or stress.” My thesis focuses on specific causes of burnout among physicians and explores possible solutions to this pervasive problem. My hope is to influence the way the public thinks of physicians and to provide the profession with viable feedback to combat this issue. I chose this topic when I was going through career discernment. I wanted to know more about the medical field and its problems so I could properly prepare for my future.

Received funding from Multicultural Student Programs and Services.



Emily Vincent

- Majors: Anthropology and Chinese
- Minor: Business Economics
- Glynn Family Honors Program
- Hesburgh-Yusko Scholar
- Adviser: Eric Haanstad

Power and Face: An Exploration of Foreign NGOs in China

My thesis is an anthropological evaluation of the evolution and current state of foreign non-governmental organizations in China involved with the welfare of abandoned children with disabilities. I chose this topic because I am interested in the trend of child abandonment in China, which I have been studying since high school. I'm interested in the intersection of international relations, cultural pressures, and historical precedent as they affect foreign NGOs that deal with vulnerable child populations in China.

Traveled to Beijing, China, with funding from the Flatley Center for Undergraduate Scholarly Engagement and the Hesburgh-Yusko Scholars Program.



Margaret Walsh

- Major: Anthropology
- Minor: Irish Studies
- Adviser: Ian Kuijt

Sacred Trees and Holy Wells: Syncretism in Ireland

Christianity arrived in Ireland in the fifth century, quickly surpassing pagan religion in popularity. Yet paganism in Ireland did not disappear. Rather, the preexisting rituals, sites, and even deities melded into local Christian practices. The preservation of sacred trees and holy wells functions as a physical example of the intersection of these two religions. My thesis analyzes this syncretism in Ireland. I studied in Ireland in spring 2017 and was lucky enough to return that fall for a class. While there, I continually saw evidence of paganism seeping into Christian tradition, and it fascinated me. I wanted to see exactly how the two religions mixed in folklore and archaeology.