Uncharted Territory in Emerging Urbanism: Gender, Life Course, and Lived Experience of Urbanizing People Buried in Charnel House A56, Bab edh-Dhra’, Jordan

This project aims to explore Charnel house A56 at Bab edh-Dhra’, Jordan. I combined traditional bioarcheological and archaeological methods with feminist approaches to the life course in order to explore the lives of these individuals.

I chose this topic because I believe there needs to be a more diverse discussion about small and large commingled collections, in which gendered and feminist theory should be practiced during analyzing skeletal remains and material culture.

Sara Berumen
- Major: Gender Studies
- Supplementary Major: Anthropology
- Adviser: Meredith Chesson
Geobiographies of Violence and Survival in the Poetry of Natasha Trethewey and Colette Bryce

In this thesis, I explore how 21st-century African American and Northern Irish poets engage with their history and the landscape. Contemporary comparisons of the American South and Northern Ireland must account for personal and institutional violence. In their poetry, Natasha Trethewey and Colette Bryce employ what I call “geobiography,” which explores their personal histories in relationship with the landscape in which they grew up and the history they inherit.

I studied abroad in Dublin, Ireland, for a semester. Between my History of Ireland course and a trip to Belfast and Derry in Northern Ireland, I realized that there are many similarities between the Catholics in Northern Ireland and African Americans which have not received enough recognition over the past century.

Peyton Davis
- Major: English
- Supplementary Major: Gender Studies
- Adviser: Mark Sanders
Study everything. Do anything.

I really enjoyed being a part of the English program. I found the courses to be challenging but also rewarding. I learned a lot about literature and writing, and I enjoyed the opportunities to explore different genres and styles.

In both the English and Gender Studies programs, I was able to develop critical thinking skills and learn how to analyze literature and society from different perspectives.

In this project, I examined the influence of Emma Goldman’s anarchism on Margaret Anderson’s editorial uses of feminisms in the modernist magazine The Little Review.

Meaningful Blasphemes in The Little Review

Advisor: Barbara Green
Gender Studies
Minor: Anthropology and
Major: English
The Anticipatory Body: Towards a Critical Trans Materialisms

New materialisms is a bent in feminist theory that has been prevalent recently; however, a similar shift has not been witnessed in critical trans studies. My thesis project seeks to amalgamate the fields of critical trans studies and new materialisms through an interdisciplinary analysis of the body.

I provide four analytic concepts by which the field of “critical trans materialisms” might emerge: porosity, faciality, flesh, and death.

I became interested in this topic after taking the first trans studies course offered at Notre Dame, taught by my adviser Pamela Butler. The following summer, I received a research grant to pursue many of the questions I had within the field. Thus, I centered my thesis within an intellectually stimulating and theoretically interesting nexus of research that was still largely unexplored.

James Zwierzynski
- Major: Gender Studies
- Advisers: Pamela Butler and Lindsey Breitwieser

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