



2021

Undergraduate Research Award (URA) Opportunities

(Alphabetical by discipline)

Anthropology

Supervisor: Julia Gamble

Contact Information: Julia.Gamble@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

Dr. Gamble studies interactions between early life stress and later life health in past populations by looking at growth lines in teeth combined with further evidence from the skeleton. Broadly, she is interested in patterns of stress and in how to read these from the skeleton. Her current work involves regional focuses on Denmark and Austria. She is also looking at Arctic faunal populations (caribou) for patterns of stress as seen in teeth.

Anthropology

Supervisor: Kent Fowler/Ben Collins

Contact Information: Benjamin.Collins@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

We have developed a project for an undergraduate student who is interested in synthesising the chronological framework for Manitoba's archaeological record. The student will work with us to use the Canadian Archaeological Radiocarbon Database (CARD) to map the distribution of archaeological sites across major environmental zones in Manitoba and through time to explore potential pulses related to past periods of major climatic change.

Anthropology

Supervisor: Haskel Greenfield

Contact Information: Haskel.Greenfield@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

1. Bronze Age archaeology of the Near East
 2. ArcGIS analysis of archaeological excavation from Europe, Near East or Africa
 3. Making an archaeological film on European and/or Near Eastern archaeological excavations
 4. Art, theatre and social protest in Greenwich Village – a biography
 5. Origins of metallurgy
 6. Zooarchaeology – animal bones in archaeology
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Anthropology

Supervisor: Derek Johnson

Contact Information: Derek.Johnson@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

Undergraduate students interested in economic or environmental anthropology, international development studies, nutrition, or fisheries are welcome to apply for an undergraduate research award to work as part of the SSHRC Partnership Grant project Dried Fish Matters: Mapping the Social Economy of Dried Fish in South and Southeast Asia for Enhanced Wellbeing and Nutrition. Students will work with the Project Director, Dr. Derek Johnson, and the project manager to support project priorities including literature reviews, targeted research on thematic areas of interest, and analysis of secondary data sets.

Anthropology

Supervisor: Lara Rosenoff Gauvin

Contact Information: Lara.RosenoffGauvin@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

My current work concerns initializing and sustaining a collaborative repatriation process in the Department of Anthropology at U of M. I am particularly interested in addressing settler

colonial violence as manifest in academic institutions, and in fostering community-driven work that creates and allows for processes that rebuilds relationships and centers respect, responsibility and reciprocity.

Classics

Supervisor: Mike Sampson

Contact Information: Mike.Sampson@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

My principal areas of research interest are ancient Greek literature and papyrology. Research in the former takes the form of analyzing Greek tragedy and lyric poetry from a number of perspectives: e.g., its historical, cultural, intellectual, religious, political, and mythological context(s), sometimes with the assistance of modern theoretical frameworks. The latter involves reading, transcribing, and analyzing original Greek documents on papyrus, which have been preserved since antiquity by the desert sands of Egypt and of which there are tens of thousands—still unstudied—in institutional and private collections around that globe. This material provides a rare, first-hand witness to daily life, religious practices, and government bureaucracy in the ancient world. I am also part of an international team that curates the papyri.info web portal for the field, which opens up numerous possibilities in the digital humanities.

Economics – Economics and Society Stream

Supervisor: Robert Chernomas

Contact Information: Robert.Chernomas@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

A key area of research in the discipline of the economics determinants of health is the question of whether biological, behavioral, economic, or political economic factors are primarily responsible for an individual's health outcomes. Dr. Robert Chernomas is writing a book entitled, *The American Gene: Unnatural Selection*, the purpose of which is to critique the resurgence of biodeterminism, the idea that a person's health outcomes are the sole

product of their genetics without taking into account their working and living conditions. The goal of the book is threefold: to contextualize the resurgence of biodeterminism in its history, to demonstrate how the scientific research backing the resurgence is not entirely valid, and to present an alternative framework with which to study economic inequality and health outcomes. A student working with Dr. Chernomas would assist him in completing any necessary tasks in the final stages of finishing the book.

Across different times and places, a variety of interest groups has attempted to influence public policy. On one side, big business has come together to create organizations to represent their policy preferences. Both the Business Roundtable in the United States and the Canadian Council of Chief Executives were formed in the 1970s. On the other side, labor unions, environmental groups, feminists, and others have voiced their opposition to policies proposed by big business from the Reagan era, onward. Dr. Chernomas is in the preliminary stages of writing a book, whose goal is to assess the success of these various groups in shaping the actions of government. Once completed, it will answer a question of who wields power and how in different societies. A student working with Dr. Chernomas would conduct data collection. For instance, they would study Business Roundtable archives and compare them against policies that have been enacted.

Economics – Economics and Econometrics Stream

Supervisor: Greg Mason

Contact Information: Gregory.Mason@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

Development of an Indigenous Community Economic Database:

Using the 2016 Census as a basis, this project will augment the census data with additional community level data such as geographic attributes (distance to nearest city), transportation linkages, and economic/business development status. I have the 2016 Census information for all First Nations (those that agreed to participate in the census), but need to add other data drawn from websites, annual reports of organizations located on reserve, etc. The research work will involve working with a large excel spreadsheet, extracting information from websites, and consultations with First Nations. I intend to apply for support from

Indigenous Initiatives Fund and seek one or more Indigenous faculty to participate. I think the student should be First Nations, both from the pedagogical value (research skills acquisition) and to facilitate data collection from First Nations Communities.

Economics – Economics and Econometrics Stream

Supervisor: Carlos Yepez

Contact Information: Carlos.Yepez@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

My research interests lie in quantitative macroeconomics, business cycle analysis, international finance, and macro-econometrics, with an emphasis on monetary and fiscal policy analysis.

English, Theatre, Film and Media

Supervisor: Pam Perkins

Contact Information: Pam.Perkins@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

I'm working on late 18th / early 19th c. narratives of British travel around the North Atlantic rim. I'm particularly interested in English-language manuscript accounts of travel to / life in the Orkneys and Shetland; the Faroe Islands and Iceland; and settlements along the Newfoundland and Labrador coasts. I am also interested in accounts from the HBC archives of visits to/ reports from their factories. I want to use this work to explore the ways that mss accounts of travel did (or did not) get incorporated into published versions of British representations of their place in a North Atlantic world.

English, Theatre, Film and Media

Supervisor: David Watt

Contact Information: David.Watt@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

Students interested in pursuing a research project with me would have the opportunity to work with me on the following two projects. First, I am currently working with archivists and librarians to develop an interactive guide to the medieval and Renaissance manuscripts and early printed books at the University of Manitoba and its Colleges; this project will provide the opportunity for an undergraduate researcher to become more familiar with objects that range from a manuscript fragment written around 1100 to a copy of Shakespeare's Second Folio printed in 1632 and beyond. Second, I am currently working on an edition of Geoffrey's Chaucer's Dream Poetry and other Verse with three other collaborators outside the university; this project will invite undergraduate researchers to learn more about Chaucer's verse as well as the editorial process involved in publishing poetry that was initially copied by hand six centuries ago.

German and Slavic Studies

Supervisor: Stephan Jaeger

Contact Information: stephan.jaeger@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

Dr. Jaeger's research analyzes the representation of war and genocide, particularly the two world wars and the Holocaust in German, European, and North-American public memory in museums, literature, film, and historiography. His current research is particularly interested in the narration and representation of the Holocaust and other atrocities, in perspectives of perpetration, collaboration, implication, and victimhood in physical and virtual exhibitions, and how these museum exhibitions create experiences and empathy. Student research could relate, among others, to current online exhibition strategies and/or the analysis of online reactions/reviews to specific museums, monuments, and exhibitions.

Areas of research: German and European Studies, War and Holocaust Studies, Representation of Atrocities in transhistorical contexts, Museum and Memory Studies.

History

Supervisor: Len Kuffert

Contact Information: Len.Kuffert@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

Prof Kuffert is exploring the relationship between the hobby of woodworking and print and broadcast media outlets during the twentieth century. The main question to be tackled is: How did print and broadcast media help woodworking become an appealing pastime and a source of identity for so many? Given the scarcity of well-documented hobbyist woodworking guilds or clubs, the most promising research avenue remains mass media outlets. Magazines, manuals, project books, and instructional broadcasts reveal what hobbyists did in and around the workshop. They also chronicle technological change (how tools and techniques became commodities); address gender and race (how woodworking was constructed as male and white), and tell us about the curation of knowledge (how hobby culture thrived largely on expertise and its distribution).

History / Native Studies

Supervisor: Sean Carleton

Contact Information: sean.carleton@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

I am looking to collaborate with an Undergraduate Researcher on a project looking at the history and politics of settler colonialism in Canada. Students will get to examine sources from the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, Department of Indian Affairs, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and conduct meaningful research to help promote truth and reconciliation.

Labour Studies

Supervisor: Julia Smith

Contact Information: Julia.Smith@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

I'm looking to collaborate with a student on a research project on feminist labour activism in Canada. The research assistant will get to transcribe interviews with activists and examine archival documents related to labour and feminist movements.

Political Studies

Supervisor: Andrea Charron

Contact Information: Andrea.Charron@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

1) Canada is an enthusiastic supporter of economic sanctions. Sanctions are a tool of foreign policy used by "senders", like Canada, to signal the need for a change in behaviour or policy by a target using measures short of force, such as banning the sale of weapons to a target (for example, against North Korea). Canada currently applies sanctions to respond to international crisis, violations of peace and security, gross violations of human rights or acts of significant corruption around the world. With 20 regimes currently in place, the government has adopted new legislation (including the Sergei Magnitsky Law) to complement the many other related pieces of Canadian legislation to enable an even greater pace of sanctioning activity. And yet, it remains one of the least studied foreign policy tools to date. A student working with me would collect and analyse key documents and legislation related to the decisions made to apply sanctions in one or more case studies.

2) NORAD in the early days

I have all of the declassified letters and exchanges between the Governments of the US and Canada between 1955 - 1972 which need annotating.

Political Studies

Supervisor: Royce Koop

Contact Information: Royce.Koop@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

Current research involves examinations of political representation in Canada and other developed democracies; political parties and their grassroots organizations in Canada; Canadian Parliament; and Canadian municipal politics (related in particular to representation, professionalism and institutional characteristics).

Psychology

Supervisor: Ryan Giuliano

Contact Information: ryan.giuliano@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

Psychophysiological methods relevant to parent-child interactions.

Psychology

Supervisor: Steve Greening

Contact Information: Steven.Greening@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

Dr. Greening conducts research on the cognitive neuroscience of emotion and cognition interactions, and combines research involving healthy volunteers with patients with psychopathology, such as mood and anxiety disorders. The lab employs a range of methods including functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) and diffusion tensor imaging (DTI), psychophysiology (e.g., skin conductance response), individual differences, and behavioral testing.

Psychology

Supervisor: Madeleine Keevy

Contact Information: Madeleine.Keevy@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Translational and applied behaviour analysis, autism spectrum disorder, challenging behaviour, functional analysis, functional communication training, relapse

CURRENT RESEARCH INTERESTS: Caregiver training and education, refinements of function-based interventions, prevention and relapse mitigation for challenging behaviour in children with autism spectrum disorder and developmental disabilities.

Psychology

Supervisor: Kristin Reynolds

Contact Information: Kristin.Reynolds@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

Dr. Reynolds is the Director of the Health Information Exchange Lab, with work focusing on decreasing gaps in the translation of health-related knowledge to the public and increasing access to health-related services. The Health Information Exchange Lab collaborates with community partners in provincial and national sectors in the development and evaluation of mental health information and services for the public. At present, major projects in the lab include: 1) The CONNECT Program: Development and Evaluation of a Telephone-Based Mental Health Program for Adults 65+ Experiencing Loneliness, Social Isolation, and Co-Occurring Mental Health Problems; 2) Development and Evaluation of an E-Health and M-Health Intervention for Perinatal Anxiety During COVID-19; 3) Mental Health in Long-Term Care Facilities During COVID-19.

Psychology

Supervisor: Leslie Roos

Contact Information: Leslie.Roos@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

Leslie Roos is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology and Affiliated with the Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba. Her research aims to prevent childhood mental illness through the development of innovative familial mental health and parenting programs that addresses community-identified unmet needs and/or narrow in on the neurobiological mechanisms of change.

Psychology

Supervisor: Katherine Starzyk

Contact Information: Katherine.Starzyk@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

Katherine Starzyk, Ph.D., is a Polish-Canadian Associate Professor in Social and Personality Psychology at the University of Manitoba and Director of the Social Justice Laboratory. She is also a Founding Member of the Centre for Human Rights Research and a Research Affiliate of the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation. She aims to understand how to shift attitudes toward past and present human rights issues. At present, Katherine is focusing on the Canadian Reconciliation Barometer project, the goal of which is to develop a measure of reconciliation that is acceptable to both Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. She also collaborates on other projects with undergraduate and graduate students and faculty members. The graduate students in her lab are working on developing anti-racism interventions. An undergraduate research award student would work on a project related to the measurement of reconciliation or racism. Katherine and other lab members are strongly committed to equity and diversity. We especially welcome interest from members of gender minority groups, racialized persons, Indigenous Peoples, and others who may contribute to further diversity of ideas.

Religion

Supervisor: Ken MacKendrick

Contact Information: Kenneth.MacKendrick@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

My research examines how we create, maintain, and modify social formations by means of creating imaginary social worlds. These imagined worlds are most evident in pretend play and games. I argue that the dynamics of pretense are also at work in ritual, myth, and religion.

Sociology and Criminology

Supervisor: Sonia Bookman

Contact Information: Sonia.Bookman@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

Consumer culture has become an important arena for the articulation and performance of everyday cosmopolitanism. Cosmopolitanism is a complex concept, which encompasses global awareness, openness to cultural diversity, and a philosophy of world citizenship. A growing sociology of cosmopolitanism is concerned with the ways in which cosmopolitan emerges and takes shape in everyday life, including practices of consumption. This research project will explore how cosmopolitanism is configured and performed in cosmopolitan spaces of consumption and in relation to global brands, which are increasingly configured as cosmopolitan citizens through their involvement with corporate social responsibility. It will critically examine the ways in which consumers are encouraged to identify with and perform a kind of cosmopolitanism through consumption activity framed by brands and cosmopolitan consumption spaces (such as artisanal food halls, cultural festivals, and food trucks). The research will involve a combination of qualitative strategies, including case study, participant observation, and Instagram research. Case studies will be conducted on specific global brands, their involvement with CSR, and how they establish contexts of consumption that support cosmopolitan performances – ways of being, feeling, and acting cosmopolitan with the brand. Social media research on brand communities will consider how individuals engage with the cosmopolitan possibilities afforded by brands, examining practices, discourses, and visual information shared online. In particular, the research will involve detailed participant observation of various cosmopolitan spaces of consumption in order to gain insight into the

ways in which material objects, practices, and ambiances frame and invoke cosmopolitan imaginaries and contribute to the co-production of a cosmopolitan consumption experience.

Sociology and Criminology

(affiliated with Department of Environment and Geography; and the Natural Resource Institute)

Supervisor: Annette Desmarais

Contact Information: Annette.Desmarais@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

My community-based research focuses on transforming food systems so that they are more socially-just and ecologically sustainable. This involves research on, among other questions: What are the human rights dimensions of food systems? What is food sovereignty and why is it so important? How are communities, local food movements and farmers' organizations building food sovereignty? I am also particularly interested in investigating how to transform the food system at the University of Manitoba.

Sociology and Criminology

Supervisor: Susan Prentice

Contact Information: Susan.Prentice@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

Susan Prentice's research is centred on social policy, care, families, social movements and gender. Much of her work focusses on childcare policy.

Sociology and Criminology

Supervisor: Katrin Roots

Contact Information: Katrin.Roots@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

My research focuses on Canada's human trafficking issue, specifically looking at the policing and prosecution of human trafficking cases. My work explores, in socio-historical context, the ways that the issue of trafficking has been defined and acted upon through the development

and reform of international legal regimes and transnational enforcement mechanisms. What is perhaps the most significant contribution of my research is that it explores whether and how these international and transnational developments play out through on-the-ground enforcement and prosecution methods employed by police and legal professional in Canada. Amongst other things, my research reveals that these anti-trafficking efforts overwhelmingly aim to regulate and criminalize the sex trade, constructing sex workers as victims of trafficking and poor, young, racialized men as suspects of trafficking. The latter finding forming the basis of my continuing project which looks at the racialized implications of this construction of trafficking and, in particular, the criminal justice and immigration consequences of anti-trafficking efforts on largely racialized young men who are charged with and convicted of trafficking. More broadly, my research interests are in legal and criminal justice approaches to gendered violence, including those stemming from sex work, human trafficking, sexual assault, domestic violence etc.

Sociology and Criminology

Supervisor: Andrew Woolford

Contact Information: Andrew.Woolford@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

1) Symbiotic Destruction: Genocide, Human Groups, and the Natural World -- in Summer 2021 RAs will assist with the Lake Winnipeg case study, examining the impact of changes to the Lake upon Anishinaabe and Cree communities (e.g., preparing and transcribing interviews, coding, and other tasks); 2) Transformative Approaches to Restorative Justice -- RAs will help gather and organize literature related to abolitionism, restorative justice, de-institutionalization, and other related topics; 3) Assiniboia Indian Residential School -- this is an ongoing community-based project assisting Survivors from the Assiniboia School in preparing a commemorative display for the former school site. Tasks will include grant applications, consultation with Survivors, etc.

Women's and Gender Studies

Supervisor: Jocelyn Thorpe

Contact Information: Jocelyn.Thorpe@umanitoba.ca

Research Interests:

My research draws from critical race, feminist, and environmental studies scholarship to examine the history and legacies of, as well as challenges to, colonialism in the Canadian context. I seek to understand how past discourses and relationships of power lead to and naturalize present-day social and environmental inequities, and to open up possibilities for more just relationships among humans and between humans and the non-human world in which we live.
