

Outstanding Thesis Award 2007-2008

UNK Overall Thesis Winner:

Anna Thompson (Re-)Reading Hardy
Rebecca Umland - English, Advisor

College of Education:

Justin Rethorst Differences in Job Satisfaction Among Collegiate Athletic Trainers
Scott Unruh – Kinesiology & Sports Sciences, Advisor

College of Fine Arts and Humanities:

Judy Kay Lorenzen Let Autumn Come
Allison Hedge Coke - English, Advisor

College of Natural and Social Sciences:

Roger Yerdon Rotational Grazing Effects on Above-Ground Biomass, Species Diversity, and Forage Quality in Tallgrass Prairie in Southern Manitoba
Steve Rothenberger - Biology, Advisor

College of Natural and Social Sciences Honorable Mention:

Anjeza Pashaj Changes in *Glutathione-S-Transferase* Gene Expression in Large Caged Populations of *Drosophila Melanogaster*
Kim Carlson - Biology, Advisor

Joshua Rice Gazing Westward, Watching God: A Case Study of Two Protestant Missions on the Antebellum Frontier
James Rohrer - History, Advisor

Jeffrey Wrehe "Thus Does Glory Fade": A History of Fort McPherson and Fort Hartsuff
Mark Ellis - History, Advisor

Outstanding Thesis Award 2010-2011

University of Nebraska at Kearney

Ethan Cordes Nora Virus Infection of *Drosophila Melanogaster*: Evaluation of Differential Gene Expression and Virus Evolution
Kim Carlson - Biology, Advisor

College of Fine Arts and Humanities

Sandra Anthony Insh'allah
Martha Kruse - English, Advisor

College of Natural and Social Sciences

Martha Isabel Montanez Diaz Transcriptome Changes in Switchgrass (*Panicum Virgatum* L.) Seeds When Hydrogen Peroxide is Applied to Alleviate Dormancy
Paul Twigg - Biology, Advisor

Outstanding Thesis Award 2011-2012

University of Nebraska at Kearney – overall winner

Amber J. Alexander Fighting the War from Home: The Impact of the Fairmont, Harvard and Bruning Army Air Fields on Rural Nebraska Residents
Mark Ellis - History, Advisor

College of Fine Arts and Humanities

Faith A. Colburn Threshold: A Memoir
Allison Hedge-Coke - English, Advisor

Honorable Mention:

Paul Skinner Fighting for Their Place: Constructing Masculinity in Chuck Palahniuk's Fight Club
Robert Ficociello - English, Advisor

College of Natural and Social Sciences

John Stratton DesMoines ordnance Plant Ankeny, Iowa, on the Home Front During World War II
Vernon Volpe - History, Advisor

Honorable Mention:

Stephanie R. Butler Tests of Marking Methods and Survey Protocols for Burying Beetles (Coleoptera: Silphidae)
Wyatt Hoback - Biology, Advisor

Honorable Mention:

Christopher S. Uphoff Seasonal Food Habits and Variability in Length of Age-0 Walleye in Harlan County Reservoir, Nebraska
Casey Schoenebeck - Biology, Advisor

Outstanding Thesis Award 2012-2013

College of Fine Arts and Humanities

Carrie Crockett The War Over Time: Bakhtin and Bulgakov vs. Soviet Utopianism
Susan Honeyman - English, Advisor

College of Natural and Social Sciences

Shelley R. Frear The Genoa Indian School: A Mixed Legacy 50 Years of Transformation, Survival, and Hope in a United States Government Indian Boarding School on the Nebraska Plains
Mark Ellis - History, Advisor

Honorable Mention:

Fredrick A. Baker "What Gallant Times Were Those!" The Ninth Texas Infantry Regiment at the American Civil War Battles of Shiloh and Murfreesboro
Vernon Volpe - History, Advisor

Honorable Mention:

Joshua J. Granger

A Floristic Comparison and Ecological Analysis of Bur Oak (*Quercus Macrocarpa* Michx.) Savannas in Central Nebraska
Steve Rothenberger - Biology, Advisor

Overall University of Nebraska at Kearney winners in 2 categories:**Biological Sciences:**

David Alexander-John Schumann

Experimental Repatriation of Plains Topminnow, *Fundulus Sciadicus*, for Species Conservation and Evaluation of Potential Limits to Persistence in Nebraska
Wyatt Hoback - Biology, Advisor

Humanities:

Laura Leigh Hyatt

Evoking Supernatural Music in Shakespeare: From Celestial to Magical Music
Marguerite Tassi - English, Advisor

Outstanding Thesis Award 2013-2014**University of Nebraska at Kearney**

Joshua Arostegui

The People's Liberation Army and the Sino-Indian Border Conflict of 1962
Pradeep Barua - History, Advisor

College of Fine Arts and Humanities

Justin Zyla

The Muting of the Dawn
Robert Ficociello - English, Advisor

College of Natural and Social Sciences

Erick Wadsworth

The 1866 European Mormon Migration
Mark Ellis - History, Advisor

Kellie Licking-Murray

Drosophila Melanogaster Nora Virus Virus-Like Particles: *In Vitro* Assembly
Kimberly Carlson - Biology, Advisor

Honorable Mention:

Dustin Casady

Body Condition of Spring Migratory Female Northern Pintails and Measures of Plasma Lipid Metabolites to Assess Habitat Quality in the Rainwater Basin
Letty Reichart - Biology, Advisor

Outstanding Thesis Award 2014-2015**University of Nebraska at Kearney**

Jake A. Eberlein

Wilderness Cathedral: A History of the Coeur d'Alene's Old Sacred Heart Mission at Cataldo, Idaho, 1846-1976
Mark Ellis - History, Advisor

College of Fine Arts and Humanities

Jason Willard A Fortification in Music: Reading J. R. R. Tolkien's Legendarium with Plato's Dialogues to Educate the City in Virtue and Guard It, with the Light of Logos and Mousike Undivided, Against Sophistry
Marguerite Tassi - English, Advisor

Outstanding Thesis Award 2015-2016

University of Nebraska at Kearney

Ron Judd The Liberal Arts on Trial: Charles H. Fisher and Red-Scare Politics at Western Washington College of Education, 1933-39
Linda Van Ingen - History, Advisor

College of Fine Arts and Humanities

Kevin Stones Beneath the Poppy Fields
Jessica Hollander - English, Advisor

Honorable Mention:

Heather Zaruba Back to Basics: Natural Morality in the Novels of Thomas Hardy
Rebecca Umland - English, Advisor

College of Education

Marissa Bongers Dietary Habits and Nutrition Knowledge in Female Collegiate Distance Runners
Greg Brown – Kinesiology & Sports Sciences, Advisor

Britni Norfolk Screening and Identification of Individuals with Brain Injury Seeking Services through the Area Agency on Aging in Rural Nebraska
Miechelle McKelvey – Communication Disorders, Advisor

Outstanding Thesis Award 2016-2017

University of Nebraska at Kearney

Arielle E. Roberts Sideways Stories: A Parallax of Queered Memory
Susan Honeyman - English, Advisor

College of Natural & Social Sciences

Madelina Cordia The Fruits of Their Labor: The Bracero Program in Southern Oregon, 1942-1964
Mark Ellis - History, Advisor

Outstanding Thesis Award 2017-2018

University of Nebraska at Kearney

Jacob Hillesheim “Sanctuary of Belief and Conscience”: The US Supreme Court, Freedom of Speech, and Brandenburg V. Ohio
Linda Van Ingen - History, Advisor

College of Arts & Sciences

Kay Fahlbusch Running Away
Martha Kruse - English, Advisor

Outstanding Thesis Award 2018-2019

University of Nebraska at Kearney

Sara Ruggles Sustainable Empowerment: A New Community-Based Oral History Program Design
Jinny Turmen - History, Advisor

Robert Ritson The Spatial Ecology of Bison (Bison Bison) in Multiple Herds Across the American West
Dustin Ranglack - Biology, Advisor

Outstanding Thesis Award 2019-2020

University of Nebraska at Kearney – Best UNK Thesis Award

Gail Blankenau Journey to Freedom from Nebraska Territory
Chris Steinke - History, Advisor

University of Nebraska at Kearney – Honorable Mention

Erica Brandow The Relationship Between Communication and Temperament When Completing Tasks Varying on Difficulty
Philip Lai - Communication Disorders, Advisor

Outstanding Thesis Award 2020-2021

University of Nebraska at Kearney – Best Thesis Award

Brian Mason Comparison of Abiotic and Biotic Factors Between Coves of Varying Connection to Harlan County Reservoir, Nebraska

University of Nebraska at Kearney – Honorable Mention

Shelby Hinrichs Addressing Adolescents’ Syntactic Complexity and Overall Writing Skills through an Online Writing Workshop: A Pilot Study with the Homeschool Population

Outstanding Thesis Award 2021-2022

University of Nebraska at Kearney – Best Thesis Award

John Masker Growth, Maturation, and Weight Status: Insights from a
Longitudinal Cohort of Nebraska Youth
Kate Heelan – Kinesiology & Sports Sciences, Advisor

Tanya Woodward My Soul Cries Out: Reimagining Lament for Research and
Language Practice With Edwidge Danticat
Amanda Sladek - English, Advisor

Outstanding Thesis Award 2022-2023

University of Nebraska at Kearney – Best Thesis Award

Michael Nelson Is This Your Boy? The Spirit of the American Doughboy in World War I
Memorialization
Will Stoutamire – History, Advisor

University of Nebraska at Kearney – Honorable Mention

Brenda Lopez Adame Los Dictados Como Herramienta Útil en el Aula de Español para Hablantes de
Herencia
Janet Eckerson – Modern Languages, Advisor