

UIC Graduate College Outstanding Thesis Award Recipients

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2015

Recipient	Department	Division	Advisor	Thesis
Jackson Cone	Neuroscience	Life Sciences	Mitchell F. Roitman	The Hunger Hormone Ghrelin Dynamically Tunes Phasic Mesolimbic Signals Underlying Food-Directed Behaviors
Cathleen Holtschneider	Social Work	Behavioral and Social Sciences	Mark Mattaini	The Impact of Transitional Living Programs: Perspectives of Homeless Youth
Joseph Mates	Mechanical and Industrial Engineering	Engineering, Mathematics and Physical Sciences	Constantine Megaridis	Tunable Multifunctional Nanomaterial & Polymer Composites: Nonwoven Applications
Tyler Mills	English	Arts and Humanities	Jennifer Ashton	Aviator without a Mask: Poems

2014

Recipient	Department	Division	Advisor	Thesis
Jenna Nigro	History	Arts and Humanities	Kirk Hoppe	Colonial Logics: Agricultural, Commercial, and Moral Experiments in the Making of French Senegal, 1763-1870
Javier Ruiz-Tagle Venero	Urban Planning	Behavioral and Social Sciences	Janet Smith	Bringing Inequality Closer: A Comparative Urban Sociology of Socially Diverse Neighborhoods
Thomas Schutzius	Mechanical and Industrial Engineering	Engineering, Mathematics & Physical Sciences	Constantine Megaridis	Large-area Coating and Patterning of Functional Nanocomposites: Design, Synthesis and Characterization
Yang Yang	Biopharmaceutical Sciences	Life Sciences	Seungpyo Hong	Interactions of Dendritic Nanomaterials with Skin Layers and Their applications in Topical Drug Delivery

2013

Recipient	Department	Division	Advisor	Thesis
Jingwei Li	Chemistry	Engineering, Mathematics & Physical Sciences	Daesung Lee	Tandem Metathesis-Based Natural Product Synthesis and Synthesis of Cyclopropenes and Their Rearrangements
Kritika Pershad	Biological Sciences	Life Sciences	Brian Kay	Directed Evolution of the Forkhead-associated Domain to Generate Anti-Phosphospecific Reagents
Rachel Venema	Social Work	Behavioral & Social Sciences	Amy Watson	Police Officer Decision Making in Reported Sexual Assaults
Tiziana Vistarini	Philosophy	Arts and Humanities	Nicholas Huggett	Emergent Spacetime in String Theory

2012

Recipient	Department	Division	Advisor	Thesis
Georgiann Davis	Sociology	Behavioral & Social Sciences	Barbara Risman	Gender Players and Gender Prisoners: When Intersex Activism, Medical Authority, and Terminology Collide
James Freitag	Mathematics, Statistics & Computer Science	Engineering, Mathematics & Physical Sciences	David Marker	Model Theory and Differential Algebraic Geometry
Cynthia Barounis	English	Arts and Humanities	Lennard Davis	Revolting Men: Queerness, Disability, and the Remaking of American Manhood
Ying He	Biopharmaceutical Sciences	Life Sciences	Zaijie Jim Wang	Epigenetic and post-translational mechanisms in pain: microRNA and phosphorylation

2011

Recipient	Department	Division	Advisor	Thesis
Mark Golitko	Anthropology	Behavioral & Social Sciences	Lawrence Keeley	Warfare and Alliance Building During the Belgian Early Neolithic, Late Sixth Millennium BC
Weronika Walkosz	Physics	Engineering, Mathematics & Physical Sciences	Serdar Ogut	Atomic Scale Characterization and First-Principles Studies of Si ₃ N ₄ Interfaces.
Catherine Burdick	Art History	Arts and Humanities	Virginia Miller	Text and Image in Classic Maya Sculpture: A.D. 600-900
Yuyu Song	Anatomy and Cell Biology	Life Sciences	Scott Brady	Stabilization of Neuronal Microtubules by Polyamines and Transglutaminase: Its Roles in Brain Function

2010

Recipient	Department	Division	Advisor	Thesis
Ruth Gomberg-Munoz	Anthropology	Behavioral & Social Sciences	Alaka Wali	Hiding in Plain Sight: Labor and Legality in a Mexican Immigrant Network
Zachary Neal	Sociology	Behavioral & Social Sciences	Pamela Popielarz and Anthony Orum	Trajectories of the Distinctive Metropolis in the Twentieth Century
Cheta Rathod	Mechanical and Industrial Engineering	Engineering, Mathematics & Physical Sciences	Ahmed Shabana	A Finite Element Flexible Track Formulation For Multibody Railroad Vehicle Applications
Andrew Blom	Philosophy	Arts and Humanities	Samuel Fleischacker	Justice with Humanity: Hugo Grotius and Ethics of International Conflict
Arpita Kadakia	Bioengineering	Life Sciences	Michael Cho	Hybrid Superporous Scaffolds: An Application for Cornea Tissue Engineering

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2009

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Mahadevabharath Somayaji	Chemical Engineering	Engineering, Mathematics & Physical Sciences	Andreas Linninger	Drug Transport Mechanisms in the Human Brain
Andrew Wyatt	Anthropology	Behavioral & Social Sciences	Joel Palka	Gardens on Hills: Ancient Maya Terracing and Agricultural Production at Chan, Belize
Aurora Shehu	Physiology and Biophysics	Life Sciences	Guela Gibori	Regulation and Function of HSD17B7 Enzyme in Fetal Survival and Human Breast Tumorigenesis
Mathias Nilges	English	Arts and Humanities	Madhu Dubey	Nostalgia for the Future: Post-Fordist U.S. Literature and Culture
Jian Zhou	Economics	Behavioral & Social Sciences	Daniel P. McMillen	Three Essays in Urban Economics

2008

Recipient	Department	Division	Advisor	Thesis
Utpal Chatterjee	Physics	Engineering, Mathematics & Physical Sciences	Juan-Carlos Campuzano	Angle Resolved Photoemission Spectroscopy study of High Temperature Super Conductors
Davide Furceri	Economics	Behavioral & Social Sciences	George Karras	Three Essays in International Macroeconomics
John Allen	Physiology and Biophysics	Life Sciences	Mark Rasenick	Regulation of heterotrimeric G protein signaling by lipid microdomains

2007

Recipient	Department	Division	Advisor	Thesis
Quan Hoang	Anatomy and Cell Biology	Life Sciences	Yasuko Nakajima	Ionic and Transduction Mechanisms of Sleep and Arousal: Orexin Effects on Inward Rectifier K ⁺ Channels
Kathleen McLellan	English	Arts and Humanities	Lisa A. Freeman	Contract and Contradiction: Representations of Women's Labor in Eighteenth Century British Literature
Gustavo Otero Y Garzón	Physics	Engineering, Mathematics & Physical Sciences	Cecilia Gerber	Measurement of the top quark pair production cross section in pp collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 1.96$ TeV
Michael Wenz	Economics	Behavioral & Social Sciences	Daniel McMillen	Casino Gambling and Economic Development

2006

Recipient	Department	Division	Advisor	Thesis
Aneta Iordanova	Physics	Engineering, Mathematics & Physical Sciences	D. J. Hofman	Properties of Charged-Particle Production at Mid-Rapidity for Au+Au Collisions at RHIC Energies
Bridget H. Tsemo	English	Arts and Humanities	Walter Benn Michaels	Confronting an "Unwashed Democracy": African-American Literature at the Turn of the Century
Susan Vahebi	Physiology and Biophysics	Life Sciences	R. John Solaro	Regulations of Cardiac Myofilament Mechano-Energetics by G-Protein Signaling

2005

Recipient	Department	Division	Advisor	Thesis
Lilliam M. Friedberg	Germanic Studies	Arts and Humanities	Dagmar C. G. Lorenz	Had we but the word...: A Critical Commentary on Thickly Descriptive Translations of Ingeborg Bachmann
Devin N. Sears	Chemistry	Engineering, Mathematics & Physical Sciences	Cynthia J. Jameson	Calculations of Intermolecular ¹²⁹ Xe Chemical Shifts
Huzefa Photowala	Biological Sciences	Life Sciences	Simon Alford	G Protein-Coupled Receptors Inhibit Fusion Properties
Yue Xiao	Economics	Behavioral & Social Sciences	Paul Pieper	Investment Components and Economic Growth

2004

Recipient	Department	Division	Advisor	Thesis
Haiping Xu	Computer Science	Engineering, Mathematics & Physical Sciences	Sol M. Shatz	A Model-Based Approach for Development of Multi-Agent Software Systems
Elizabeth Bass	Economics	Behavioral & Social Sciences	Barry Chiswick	Health Coverage in America: Are Immigrants Different?
Jin Zhou	Anatomy and Cell Biology	Life Sciences	Rochelle Cohen	Molecular Mechanisms of Estrogen Action in the Brain: Possible Role of CREB Signaling