

*Graduate Student  
Expanding Experiences at VSU*



V A L D O S T A   S T A T E   U N I V E R S I T Y

EIGHTH ANNUAL

**Graduate Student Research  
& Scholarship Symposium**

APRIL 22, 2016





College of the Arts

Music

ESTUDOS BEM HUMORADOS PARA TROMPETE SOLO BY  
FERNANDO MORAIS: AN INTRODUCTION

Gilmar Cavalcante da Silva

Dr. Kenneth Kirk, Faculty Mentor  
Department of Music

The purpose of this research was to make known the ( V W X G R V % H P + X P R U D G R V S D U D 7 U R P (+ X P R U R X V ( W X G H V I R U 6 R O R 7 U X P S H W) (2013), an unpublished collection of 12 short character Brazilian styles by Fernando Morais (b. 1966). The history and current practices of Brazilian trumpet pedagogy were examined, and the Estudos placed within that context and the broader international context. The Estudos % H P + X P R U D G R V S D U D were studied with three reasons. First, they are good music, worthy of study and performance. Second, they can act as a resource to preserve native Brazilian popular styles and to introduce those styles to non-Brazilians. Third, they are pedagogically useful as alternatives to other, better-known, etudes. To support these claims two of the etudes were analyzed in detail.

A PERFORMANCE OF Six Pack for Solo Tuba BY JAMES MEADOR

Curtis L. Thornton

Dr. Daniel Rowland, Faculty Mentor  
Department of Music

All too often when people think of tuba playing what comes to mind is marching band or bass lines in marches,



THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECOLOGICAL CHANGE OF CHERRY LAKE, FL, USA  
FROM THE MID-HOLOCENE TO MODERN DAY:  
PLACING HUMAN IMPACTS IN THE CONTEXT OF NATURAL HISTORY

James Ragan

Dr. Matthew Waters, Faculty Mentor  
Department of Biology

+ XPDQV RIWHQ SOD\ D GLUHFU UROH LQ WKH LQÀX[ RI QXWULHQWV L  
re able to s-1.e -19T\* (information about clim)18.change, inMennal lak8.changetor(N)changet to ter. 0tchy)Ti (rea by d  
Department of Biology



## THE EFFECTS OF THE LSVT ON VOCAL QUALITY ON AN ADOLESCENT WITH PARKINSONIAN-LIKE SYMPTOMS

Jade A. Dampier

Dr. Matthew Carter, Faculty Mentor  
Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

The purpose of this study was to assess the effectiveness the LSVT program had on an adolescent's vocal quality that was diagnosed with Parkinsonian like symptoms. The treatment was implemented over the course of three weeks with a total of twelve sessions. During treatment sessions, the participant worked on various



PRESENCE OF PROSODIC DEFICITS IN CHILDREN WITH AUTISM IN  
THE ABSENCE OF LINGUISTIC INFORMATION

Kelsey M. Hedman

Drs. Matthew Carter and Lynn Adams, Faculty Mentors  
Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

This study was designed to examine the prosodic abilities of children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in the absence of linguistic information. Previous studies have shown that children with ASD commonly exhibit lower-level non-linguistic abilities. Assessing the child's prosodic ability at a more basic level may allow typically developing child. The researcher assessed each child's ability to accurately reproduce 2- and 3- pure tone sequences when presented in a sound attenuated booth. Overall, the researcher found that the child with

SURVRGLF GH¿FLWV DW WKH ZRUG DQG VHQWHQFH OHYHO WKHVH G  
FOLQLFLDQV WR DVVHV D FKLOG¶V DELOLW\ DW DQ HDUOLHU DJH D  
WZR SDUWLFLSDQWV D \HDU PRQWK ROGSFKDQG ZLWKH UJK IPKQFW  
+) \$ H[KLELWHG JUHDWHU GLI¿FXOW\ UHSURGXFLQJ WKH DQG WRQ

EFFECTS OF HYPERTEXT ON LANGUAGE DELAYED SCHOOL  
AGE LANGUAGE STUDENTS

Hannah Leicher

Dr. Crystal Randolph, Faculty Mentor  
Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

## PREDICTING ORAL READING COMPREHENSION ABILITIES

Taylor M. Struble

Dr. Matthew Carter, Faculty Mentor  
Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

This study was concerned with predicting reading comprehension abilities by examining standardized test words accurately by sight was shown to exhibit the highest relation to reading comprehension. Results of this study were as follows: The study was conducted with a group of 100 participants who were asked to read a list of words accurately by sight. The words were taken from a standardized test. The results showed that the words that were read accurately by sight were also the words that were read with the highest comprehension. This suggests that reading fluency is a strong predictor of reading comprehension. The study also found that the words that were read with the highest comprehension were also the words that were read with the highest accuracy. This suggests that reading comprehension is a strong predictor of reading accuracy. The study was conducted with a group of 100 participants who were asked to read a list of words accurately by sight. The words were taken from a standardized test. The results showed that the words that were read accurately by sight were also the words that were read with the highest comprehension. This suggests that reading fluency is a strong predictor of reading comprehension. The study also found that the words that were read with the highest comprehension were also the words that were read with the highest accuracy. This suggests that reading comprehension is a strong predictor of reading accuracy.

### Curriculum, Leadership, and Technology

## A NARRATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE IMPACT OF AFRICAN AMERICAN FEMALE COLLEGE PROFESSIONALS' LIFE HISTORIES ON THEIR PERCEPTIONS REGARDING AAVE VERSUS CODE SWITCHING

Elizabeth Gassel Perkins

Drs. Richard Schmertzing and Lorraine Schmertzing, Faculty Mentors  
Department of Curriculum, Leadership, and Technology

In an effort to learn how best to work with students who are speakers of African American Vernacular English (AAVE) in the college English composition classroom, this study examines the perceptions of AAVE, Standard English (SE), and Code Switching (CS) among African American female college professionals. The study was conducted with a group of 100 participants who were asked to read a list of words accurately by sight. The words were taken from a standardized test. The results showed that the words that were read accurately by sight were also the words that were read with the highest comprehension. This suggests that reading fluency is a strong predictor of reading comprehension. The study also found that the words that were read with the highest comprehension were also the words that were read with the highest accuracy. This suggests that reading comprehension is a strong predictor of reading accuracy. The study was conducted with a group of 100 participants who were asked to read a list of words accurately by sight. The words were taken from a standardized test. The results showed that the words that were read accurately by sight were also the words that were read with the highest comprehension. This suggests that reading fluency is a strong predictor of reading comprehension. The study also found that the words that were read with the highest comprehension were also the words that were read with the highest accuracy. This suggests that reading comprehension is a strong predictor of reading accuracy.

OUT FROM THE SHADOWS: A COUNTERNARRATIVE OF SUCCESSFUL  
AFRICAN AMERICAN MALES IN SCHOOL

Kevin B. Scott

Dr. Richard Schmertzing, Faculty Mentor  
Department of Curriculum, Leadership, and Technology

This dissertation centers on the adolescent African American male, his schooling, his life experiences, and my own experiences as a school counselor, and my mission to help and guide as many of these African American



Marriage and Family Therapy

## MARRIED COUPLES' EXPERIENCES OF PREMARITAL COUNSELING

Isadora Burnham, Violina Lilova, and Elizabeth Newton

Dr. Jennifer Lambert-Shute, Faculty Mentor  
Department of Psychology, Counseling, and Family Therapy

In this study, we sought to explore the ways in which a couple's experience with premarital counseling has impacted their marriage if such an impact exists. Our focus was to unpack the experiences of participants to obtain a better understanding of how attending premarital counseling impacts their relationships and their ideas

RI FRXQVHOLQJ :LOOLDPVRQ 7ULDO %UDGEXU\ DQG .DUQH\

counseling on a couple's later help-seeking behavior and found that couples were more likely to seek counseling later in their marriage if they had attended premarital counseling compared to those who had not. Tambling and Glebova (2013) explored the following themes that impact couples' experiences: who conducts the premarital counseling, the number of sessions required, cost, preferred topics, and the like. In considering

WKH WKHPHV DPRQJ SUHYLRXV UHVHDUFK ¿ QGLQJV ZH FRQGXFWHG

sampling method to recruit participants.

AN EXPLORATORY STUDY OF THE BENEFITS OF THERAPY IN THE  
AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY

Cheryl Coleman, La'Wanda Maxwell, and Jennifer Yingling

Dr. Jennifer Lambert-Shute, Faculty Mentor  
Department of Psychology, Counseling, and Family Therapy

OLVWUXVW RI WKH PHGLFDO ¿ HOG KDV \$IHUHQ DDQ \$RQJUVFDDQGRDQXQK M

RI WKLV VWXG\ LV WR H[SORUH SHUFHSWLRQVRIHIELFDQ¿ WRPRXU

Research will explore prominent themes pertaining to psychotherapy and collect data using interviews. These themes include but are not limited to improper diagnosis, family/community assumptions, ridicule, and religious views. The researchers hope to gain better insight on the reasons why psychotherapy is not widely used in

WKHVH FRPPXQLWLV DQG DWWHPSW WR EULG \$HUWIKDIQJ \$SHEHLWZQM

GENDER ROLES IN BINATIONAL COUPLES OF MIXED-IMMIGRATION STATUS  
LIVING IN THE UNITED STATES

Ashley N. Lanier, Katelyn O. Coburn, Ellory K. Bishop, and Christina E. Vrandopulo

Dr. Jennifer Lambert-Shute, Faculty Mentor  
Department of Psychology, Counseling, and Family Therapy

& XU UHQWO\ WKHUH LV D ODFN RI UHVHDUFK RQ WKH ZD\V LQ ZKLFK V  
gender roles within intermarriages. For this reason, we chose to interview women who immigrated to the

---

## CIVIC EDUCATION IN THE ADVANCED PLACEMENT CLASSROOM

Erin E. Goff

Dr. Julia McKissack, Faculty Mentor  
Department of Middle, Secondary, Reading and Deaf Education

Constitutional literacy is low among Americans, and schools are tasked with educating students about civic participation and should be utilized in these efforts. The need to provide a rigorous and also relevant curriculum has increased enrollment in Advanced Placement courses throughout the nation. This study addressed the effects problem based learning (PBL), a student led pedagogical method of presenting a problem for solving before concepts and subject information is taught, had on student achievement, engagement, and attitudes to be greater during PBL instruction than current teacher led best practices instruction. The large effect PBL had on student achievement and behavior illustrates the positive impact this approach has on the opportunity for student learning in advanced classrooms.

## EFFECTS OF TARGETED DRILLS ON COMPUTATIONAL FLUENCY FOR FIRST-GRADE STUDENTS

Amber L. Hare

Dr. Ellice P. Martin, Faculty Mentor  
Department of Middle, Secondary, Reading and Deaf Education

This study examined the effects of timed targeted drills (TTD) on the math achievement, attitudes toward math, and engagement of first-grade students. Participants participated in 4 weeks of TTD intervention treatment, followed by 4 weeks of TD control treatment. Math achievement was measured using a commercially-available instrument designed to measure computational fluency, and attitudes toward math were measured with an observation checklist. Both instruments were developed by the teacher-researcher. Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, paired one-tailed t tests, and Cohen's d. Results indicated small, positive effects of TTD on math achievement, but the gains were minimal. As a result, the study was therefore inconclusive. The TTD intervention was an effective intervention, but the gains were minimal. As a result, the study was therefore inconclusive.

EFFECTS OF MULTIFACETED LITERACY INSTRUCTION FOR  
MIDDLE SCHOOL ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS LEARNERS WITH  
MODERATE INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

Judy Hall Lippincott

Drs. Dawn Lambeth and Ellice Martin, Faculty Mentors  
Department of Middle, Secondary, Reading and Deaf Education

The current study's purpose was to ascertain the effects of integrating multifaceted literacy instruction

---



SOCIAL JUSTICE PERSPECTIVE ON POLICY REGARDING  
THE EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN

Catherine M. Citta

Dr. Phillip Dybicz, Faculty Mentor  
Department of Social Work

Children who experience homelessness often face barriers in accessing their education. This research, using the social justice framework, analyzes the values guiding policy regarding the education of homeless children.

Through historical and comparative analyses, it is found that a right based value supplemented with need  
EDVHG YDOXH LV WKH PRVW DGHTXDWH LQ JXLGLQJ VXFK SROLF\ 7K  
ZRUN ¿HOG DQG WKH HIIHFWLYHQHV RI WKH FXUUHQWO\ SROLF\ LV

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF MINDFULNESS MEDITATION FOR CLIENTS  
WITH HIGH ANXIETY AND LIMITED SOCIAL INTERACTIONS

Kasey Knight Griner

Dr. Hanae Kanno, Faculty Mentor  
Department of Social Work

## SOCIAL JUSTICE FRAMEWORK: FAIR SENTENCING ACT OF 2010

Kenyetta T. Hayes

Dr. Phillip Dybicz, Faculty Mentor  
Department of Social Work

Congress passed the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1986 as a direct response to the increased Cocaine usage and convictions that disproportionately represented minority populations as the culprit. The Fair Sentencing Act of the racial discrimination in drug sentencing. The purpose of this comparative analysis is to make a moral argument utilizing the social justice framework to determine which values (needs, rights, deserts, and equality) are best to guide policy in drug sentencing in order to reduce racial discrimination. The analysis focus on the best values to guide preferred policy to reduce racial discrimination in drug sentencing, are formal equality informed by deserts and moral equality informed by rights. These values are consistent with all of the social work values with special emphasis on service, social justice, and dignity and worth of the person.

## THE EFFECTS OF EXERCISE AND MEDITATION ON STRESS AND DEPRESSION FOR SOCIAL WORKERS

Sandra Y. G. Jones

Drs. Hanae Kanno and Mizanur Miah, Faculty Mentors  
Department of Social Work

Social workers endure countless hours in environments and with populations at risk that can be both stressful and poverty. From September 21, 2015 - November 16, 2015, I conducted a Single Subject Research Design (SSRD) to improve the stress and depression levels of three social workers working in different positions in this social program: (1) program director, (2) program coordinator, and (3) caseworker; using a multiple baseline track their progress. Guidelines for the exercise or meditation intervention were at least three times per week

## SOCIAL WORK, RELIGION, SPIRITUALITY AND POLICY

Glenn Ritchie

Dr. Diane Holliman, Faculty Mentor  
Department of Social Work

7KLV SDSHU UHSUHVHQWV D UHYLHZ RI OLWHUDWXUH FRQFHUQLQJ W  
welfare policy and social work practice. The review begins by examining the historical trends concerning the  
LQÀXHQFH RI UHOLJLRQ DQG VSLULWXDOLW\ RQ VRFLDO ZHOIDUH SR  
WKDW SURKLELW GLVFULPLQDWLRQ DJDLQVW IDLWK EDVHG LQLWLDW  
WR WKDW LQ WKH 8QLWHG .LQJRP )LQDOO\ WKH UHYLHZERHH SXQDSRQV  
of this research is examine the outcomes of religion and spirituality on social work practice and to determine  
what areas of impact are worthy for additional research. Additional research is needed to determine possible  
GLVFULPLQDWLRQ E\ IDLWK EDVHG LQLWLDWLYHV EHQH¿WWLQJ IURP

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE POLICY AND PERSEVERING  
THE RIGHTS OF UNDOCUMENTED VICTIMS

Anita Rojas

Dr. Phillip Dybicz, Faculty Mentor  
Department of Social Work

2QH LQ IRXU ZRPHQ LQ WKH 8QLWHG 6WDWHV KDV H[S,PHLHQDEQW SRV  
without documentation are at higher risk of being domestic violence victims due to a number of barriers  
and circumstances. The purpose of this research was to examine the best social justice value set to guide  
SROLF\ GHDOLQJ ZLWK QRQ FLWL]HQ GRPHVWLQ YLROHQFH YLFWLPV  
evaluation and a cross-country comparative analysis. Through analysis of data, the researcher found that  
human rights were the best values to guide policy dealing with non-citizen domestic violence victims because  
rights advanced justice for this vulnerable population and were parallel with the values of the social work  
SURIHVVRQ 7KURXJKRXW 8QLWHG 6WDWHV KLVWRU\ WKH VWDQGS R  
changes in social values. Currently, domestic violence victims, regardless of their immigration status, have the  
right to seek law enforcement protection without fearing repercussions under the Violence Against Women's  
Act of 2013.









### The Graduate School

LOCATION Converse Hall • 3rd Floor

ADDRESS 1500 N. Patterson St. • Valdosta, GA 31698-0005

PHONE 229.333.5694 • TOLL FREE 800.618.1878 • EXT 5 • FAX 229.245.3853

WEB [www.valdosta.edu/gradschool](http://www.valdosta.edu/gradschool) • E-MAIL [gradschool@valdosta.edu](mailto:gradschool@valdosta.edu)