

Croft Institute - Thesis Defenses

Wednesday, April 25th

Emily Hightower – 2:00 PM – *The World is Their Oyster: French Luxury Good Makers and Emerging Markets*

Vihara Dharmaratne – 4:00 PM – *Oil Wells and Well-Oiled Guns: The Resource Curse and Government-Directed Violence During the Arab Spring Uprisings*

Thursday, April 26th

Evan Akin – 4:00 PM – *Taxing the Bubble: The Experimental Residential Property Tax on Trial in Shanghai and Chongqing and the Effect on Housing Prices*

Friday, April 27th

Megan Loria – 9:00 AM – *Debunking the Myth of an Aggregate Minority: An Analysis of Educational Disparities Among China's Fifty-six Ethnic Groups*

Robin Helton – 11:00 AM – *Faulkner in Japan: A "Second Occupation"*

Kira Thomas – 1:00 PM – *Turning Japanese: How Will the Concept of Japanese Identity Shift to Accommodate the Country's Growing Need for Foreign Workers?*

Blake Golden – 2:00 PM – *The Effect of the U.S. Occupation on Japanese Gender Roles and Sexuality: A Cultural and Literary Study*

Monday, April 30th

Kara Johnson – 3:00 PM – *German National Identity and Sport*

Robert Wilson – 4:00 PM – *Islam in France: Evaluating the Role of the Mosque in Society*

Tuesday, May 1st

Robert Hamilton – 9:00 AM – *Support for Democracy: An Explanation of Its Development Through Its Institutions*

Evan Extine – 10:00 AM – *Intellectual Property and Culture: Differences and Origins*

Kimberly Biagini – 3:00 PM - *'The Triple Bottom Line': Examining EU Support for Organic Agriculture with Examples from Italian Wine Producers*

Joe Coelho – 4:00 PM – *The Evolution of German Power: Case of Somalia*

Wednesday, May 2nd

Tabitha Bandi – 9:00 AM – *Ethnic Tourism's Effect on Bai Ethnic Minority's Identity in Dali, China*

Erin Mauffray – 10:00 AM – *Disaster Community: La Cultura Sísmica of Chile*

Sarah-Fey Rumbarger – 11:00 AM – *When Political Causes Become Trendy: A Study of Indigenous Party Formation in Ecuador, Bolivia, and Peru*

Elizabeth Younger – 1:00 PM – *Organized Crime in Post-Soviet Russia: A Comprehensive Threat Analysis*

Shantala Weiss – 3:00 PM – *Correlating Taxation and Income Inequality: An Interregional Study*

Thursday, May 3rd

Sara Pettersen – 9:00 AM – *China's Ideal Woman: Mao Era to Present*

Gabby Rangel – 3:00 PM – *Currency Devaluation and Trade Imbalances: Chinese Export Growth and United States' Trade Deficit*

Emily Ambos – 4:00 PM – *Draw of Mexican Immigrants to the United States*

Friday, May 4th

Jamey Hurst – 3:00 PM – *The Causes and Effects of Chinese Investment in Africa*