



2014 ENGAGED LEARNING PROJECTS

100 PROJECTS

New projects = 80; Continuing Projects = 20

... 27 COUNTRIES

Australia, Bangladesh, China, Costa Rica, England, Ethiopia, France, Greece, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Panama, Peru, Russia, Rwanda, Scotland, Spain, Switzerland, Tanzania, United States, United Arab Emirates, Vietnam, Zambia

RESEARCH (50)

1. Michelle Anderson, SMU '15, is using ethnographic techniques to study indigenous land rights violations in Costa Rica, specifically from the gendered perspective of women. (Major: HRTS; Mentor: Dr. Harold Recinos)
2. Camille Biard, SMU '15, is using computational chemistry methods to develop new molecules that emit luminescence for a long period of time and can be delivered to the human body to probe cancerous cells. (Major: CHEM; Mentor: Dr. Peng Tao)
3. Paige Bluejacket, SMU '14, is exploring the cycle of incarceration among women in Dallas, TX. (Major: ANTH; Mentor: Dr. Victoria Lockwood)
4. Daniel Brooker, SMU '15, is researching the appropriate building materials and that ensure user safety of the user during construction of a Laser-Doppler Velocimetry device to measure the velocity of a moving fluid using a laser beam. (Major: ME; Mentor: Dr. Tindaro Ioppolo)
5. Matthew Bruemmer, SMU '15, is investigating the ability of electric fields to reduce radon progenies sticking to copper surfaces to understand background sources in experiments that search for dark matter and neutrinoless double beta decay. (Major: PHYS; Mentor: Dr. Stephen Sekula)
6. Marc Bullard, SMU '15, is studying the The Sunday Assembly to see how a fully secular organization, modeled after a church but lacking a major unifying text, creates a sustainable, unified, worldwide community. (Major: COMM; Mentor: Dr. Owen Lynch)
7. Christopher Carrillo, SMU '15, is planning to perform an economic assessment of a community in the Bugesera district in Rwanda to determine the sustainability of various water development projects. (Major: CEE; Mentor: Dr. Thomas Osang)
8. Tien Dang, SMU '16, is analyzing the way Balinese women in Bali, Indonesia and Balinese women in Los Angeles, California react to advertisements depicting gender objectification. (Major: ADV; Mentor: Dr. Carrie La Ferle)
9. Yewande Dada, SMU '15, is determining the effectiveness of the use of iPads on the development of reading skills and on-task behavior in children with intellectual disabilities. (Major: PSYC; Mentor: Dr. Francesca Jones)
10. Katherine Davis, SMU '15, is evaluating how programs like Outward Bound use organizational communication through their platform and mission to create a unique employee culture. (Major: PR; Mentor: Dr. Owen Lynch)
11. Kevin Donahoo, SMU '15, is building a web based application that will provide real-time, guided training to community workers in Zambia for cervical cancer diagnosis and early stage treatment. (Major: CSE; Mentor: Dr. Eric Bing and Dr. Eric Larson)
12. Colton Donica, SMU '15, is researching the similarities and differences on human rights resources developed for refugees in Costa Rica and in the United States. (Major: HRTS, PSYC; Mentor: Ms. Ashvina Patel)
13. Amanda Doyle, SMU '15, is building a scalable, mobile web application, accessible from various devices, containing general information on cervical cancer identification and treatment for the purpose of training community workers in Zambia. (Major: CSE; Mentor: Dr. Eric Bing and Dr. Eric Larson)
14. Rahfin Faruk, SMU '15, using a rational choice model, is analyzing how Bangladeshi economic decisions are influenced by U.S. foreign policy (Major: ECON, PLSC, PP, RELI; Mentor: Dr. Hiroki Takeuchi)
15. Adam Gannon, SMU '15, is researching whether the link between peroxiredoxins and Alzheimer's pathology to identify potential therapeutic strategies as well as its role of oxidative stress in neurodegeneration. (Major: ECON; Mentor: Dr. Sveta Radyuk)
16. Audrey Gill, SMU '15, is exploring the effective ways to promote social change in regards to protecting and supporting the human rights of the transgender population. (Major: STAT; Mentor: Dr. Monnie McGee)
17. Katelyn Gough, SMU '15, while studying abroad in Jordan, plans to put forth a recommendation regarding the Syrian refugee crisis within the context of Jordanian security and international affairs. (Major: JOUR, THEA, PLSC; Mentor: Dr. James Hollifield)

18. Maggie Hagen, SMU '15, is studying granitic bodies along the Ivrea-Verbano zone in Northwestern Italy and their origins that assembled 278-289 million years ago. (Major: GEOL, ANTH; Mentor: Dr. James Quick)
19. Mehdi Hami, SMU '15, is researching whether the increase in French taxes has impacted its population's health or nutritional decisions. (Major: BIOL, PLSC; Mentor: Ms. Carina Heckert)
20. Sana Hamirani, SMU '15, is researching the hospitality sectors in Dallas, Texas and Dubai, United Arab Emirates to compare how hotels in both locations market their image to increase the bottom line and client retention. (Major: MKTG; Mentor: Mr. Charles Besio)
21. Mark Honrales, SMU '16, is developing a detailed biochemical mechanism for ATP hydrolysis of PGP. (Major: BIOCHM, FINA; Mentor: Dr. Peng Tao)
22. Hilary Hopkins, SMU '15, is researching the structure and function of circadian clock protein Envoy, has presented her research at the Gordon Research Conference for Photosensory Receptors & Signal Transduction in Barga, Italy and is creating a SMU Undergraduate Research Journal to publish Undergraduate Research at SMU. (Major: BIOCHM; Mentor: Dr. Brian Zoltowski)
23. Kristyn Jones, SMU '15, is researching the implications of ideal partner preferences within the context of committed, established relationships, such as marriage, in order to understand long-term marital success. (Major: PSYC; Mentor: Dr. Andrea Meltzer)
24. Sara Kendrick, SMU '15, is developing a low-cost, efficient eye tracking and image stabilizing system to study stereopsis in the eye. (Major: EE; Mentor: Dr. Carlos E. Davila)
25. Raamis Khwaja, SMU '15, is researching water contamination in a slum located in Aligarh, India, to develop a solutions model for combating the spread of bacteria and chemical pollutants in drinking water. (Major: BIOCHM; Mentor: Dr. Carolyn Smith-Morris)
26. Dalton Kim, SMU '15, is preparing novel inorganic polymers which may serve as antimicrobial coatings for metal surfaces. (Major: CHEM, BIOL; Mentor: Dr. Patty Wisian-Neilson)
27. Jewel Lipps, SMU '15, is surveying forest composition within the Great Trinity Forest at the Trinity River Audubon Center (TRAC) to identify and characterize riparian forest communities to determine their successional stages. (Major: ENVSCI, CHEM; Mentor: Dr. Bonnie Jacobs)
28. Abigail Marchesseault, SMU '15, has learned traditional Balinese dance and identified pedagogical similarities and difference of methods employed by instructors to improve her skills as a dancer and teacher. (Major: DANC, APSM; Mentor: Ms. Anne Westwick)
29. Mindy McClean, SMU '15, is creating and will provide a necessary, reliable, and stabilizing environment for the isolated membrane enzyme, P-glycoprotein, using lipid nanodiscs. (Major: BIOL, CHEM; Mentor: Dr. Pia Vogel)
30. Hadley McPherson, SMU '15, placed motion-activated cameras in the Trinity River Forest and photographed the movement of wild animals to calculate population sizes and identify individual animals. (Major: BIOL, ENVSCI; Mentor: Dr. Louis Jacobs)
31. Mackenzie Mulvey, SMU '15, is creating a statistical method to determine a quantitative approach to predict how any given college basketball player will perform in the NBA. (Major: FINA; Mentor: Dr. Stephen Robertson)
32. Mayisha Nakib, SMU '15, is investigating the ability of radon progenies to stick to copper surfaces in various environments to help understand background sources in experiments that search for dark matter and neutrinoless double beta decay. (Major: PHYS, MATH; Mentor: Dr. Jodi Cooley)
33. Ketetha Olengue, SMU '15, is using computational methods to speed up and allow identification of optimal computer-based variants of inhibitors of P-glycoprotein. (Major: CHEM, CSE; Mentor: Dr. John Wise)
34. Irisa Ona, SMU '15, is investigating identity issues of the Filipino-American population and how they choose to be known based on their social environment and physical attributes. (Major: COMM; Mentor: Dr. Owen Lynch)
35. Ashley Romo, SMU '15, has developed and carried out an observational case study of a physician in Panama and in the U.S. to examine similarities and differences in medical practice of the two cultures. (Major: BIOL, PSYC; Mentor: Dr. James Calvert)
36. Tyrell Russell, SMU '16, is assessing the activity of inhibitors of P-glycoprotein in sensitizing triple negative breast cancer cells to various chemotherapeutics. (Major: BIOL; Mentor: Dr. John Wise)
37. Nicholas Saulnier, SMU '15, is using MEMS technology to design, build and test a system that harvests energy from the environment for reuse. (Major: EE; Mentor: Dr. Milton Gosney)
38. Christianne Teague, SMU '15, to better comprehend art in the era of British colonialism, is researching the art produced by William Hodges while he was deployed by the British Admiralty to accompany James Cook on his Pacific expedition. (Major: GERM; Mentor: Dr. Janis Bergman-Carton)

39. Jazmin Vazquez, SMU '15, comparing and examining airbrushing in advertising and the self-concept of women in the United Kingdom and the United States, plans to examine two cultures' definition of beauty. (Major: ADV, COMM; Mentor: Dr. Carrie La Ferle)
40. Sumer Wachtendorf, SMU '16, is investigating the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) and implications of it being considered a state. (Major: PLSC; Mentor: Ms. Diana Newton)
41. Macartney Welborn, SMU '15, is creating multifunctional thiols from the reaction between chlorosilanes and mercaptoalcohols, allowing for greater flexibility in regards to practical applications. (Major: BIOL, CHEM; Mentor: Dr. David Son)
42. Ben Wise, SMU '15, is repurposing microspheres for use as optical resonators to be used in advanced prosthetics as minimally invasive brain-machine interface devices. (Major: MATH; Mentor: Dr. Volkan Otugen)

Continuing 2013 Research Projects

43. Kevin Bruemmer, SMU '15, is developing original ¹³C MRI contrast agents to detect chemical species important in clinical and biological processes. (Major: CHEM; Mentor: Dr. Alexander Lippert)
44. Aaron Chu, SMU '15, is evaluating the performance of the iFlame laser transmitter before, during and after irradiation to examine its viability for usage on the Large Hadron Collider in Switzerland. (Major: ME; Mentor: Dr. Jingbo Ye)
45. Preston Hutcherson, SMU '15, enrolled in the same humanities course at two institutions, SMU and Richland College and published the article, "Office Hours" in *Inside Higher Ed*. (Major: ENGL; Mentor: Dr. Tim Cassedy)
46. Janice Kim, SMU '15, assessed the health and cancer literacy of Vietnamese women to explore how these women are able to obtain their health information. (Major: BIOL; Mentor: Dr. Smith-Morris)
47. Christina Lollar, SMU '15, researched sulfur ylide chemistry along with isatins and developed a novel sulfur ylide mediated synthetic technique for the preparation of isatin derivatives. (Major: CHEM, FREN; Mentor: Dr. Lippert)
48. Kyle Nakatsuka, SMU '15, is researching urban revitalization in communities with deep socioeconomic needs and strong movements towards cultural self-determination, comparing contemporary Native American communities of Taos and Hawai'i. (Major: BIOL, SPAN, LAAM, HRTS; Mentor: Dr. Mike Adler)
49. Gabriella Padgett, SMU '15, is exploring the development of the organic and local food movements in Beijing, China. (Major: MATH, CRCOMP; Mentor: Mr. Josh Dorfman)
50. Anish Patel, SMU '15, is researching the functionalization of carbosilane-thioether dendrimers. (Major: BIOCHEM, MATH; Mentor: Dr. David Son)

COMMUNITY SERVICE (21)

1. Tyler Friske, SMU '15, while shadowing physicians in Iringa, Tanzania, gained new insight into the standards and practices of African hospitals, the extent to which modern medicine is used and how it can be promoted. (Major: ME; Mentor: Mr. Caleb Marsh)
2. Kelly Kiser, SMU '15, is developing a sustainable EMS education program on campus and will oversee the continuation of Operation HeartSafe (Major: BIOL, SPAN; Mentor: Mr. Lee Arning)
3. Alaina Leggette, SMU '15, through volunteering at Baylor College of Dentistry Free Dental Clinics, is gaining experience in the field of dentistry and understanding Dallas's socioeconomic disparity. (Major: BIOL, ECON; Mentor: Mr. Caleb Marsh)
4. Stephanie Newland, SMU '15, is exploring whether involvement in the Jesters Program benefits participants with intellectual and/or physical disabilities, their parents, and program volunteers. (Major: BIOL, SPAN; Mentor: Dr. Stephanie Al Otaiba)
5. Hena Rafiq, SMU '16, is developing a comprehensive resource kit to help previously incarcerated women successfully reenter society. (Major: PLSC, PR; Mentor: Mr. Charles Bittner)
6. Lisa Raizes, SMU '15, as a volunteer for the Unity Project, gained knowledge of the Ethiopian-Israeli youth and Israeli youth integration in Israel. (Major: MKCL; Mentor: Dr. Debra Branch)
7. Asia Rodgers, SMU '15, is using art therapy to humanize and build confidence in women who have been victims of sex trafficking (Major: HRTS; Mentor: Dr. Elizabeth Wheaton)
8. Maxwell Schauer mann, SMU '15, is creating a self-sustaining recycling effort, Cans for Kids, which will benefit pediatrics research through the donation of the recycling proceeds. (Major: RE Pre-Med; Mentor: Ms. Jomita Fleming)
9. Jaime Sisson, SMU '15, is creating an English literacy and citizenship preparation program for staff employees at SMU. (Major: SPAN; Mentor: Ms. Linda Evans)

10. Justin Thomas, SMU '15, is developing a health education program aimed at children through community surveys of current eating and exercise habits coupled with investigation into currently offered community health and education resources in West Dallas. (Major: PSYC; Mentor: Ms. Regina Nippert)
11. Courtney Thrower, SMU '15, is conducting a nutrition and exercise workshop to educate the community of West Dallas. (Major: BIOL; Mentor: Dr. Donna Gober)
12. Lizzie Wilson, SMU '15, is creating a class that will use experiential learning to introduce seven skills and concepts to incoming SMU first-year students to help jumpstart their education and leadership skills. (Major: EnvE; Mentor: Dr. Andrew Quicksall)
13. Kelly Zitka, SMU '15, brought together the SMU community and the All Stars Project of Dallas, a non-profit organization that transforms lives of youth using the developmental power of stage performance. (Major: DANC; Mentor: Mr. Clyde Valentin)

Continuing 2013 Community Service Projects

14. Julianna Bond, SMU '15, is developing a viable model of organic and sustainable micro-farming techniques as part of the Green City Initiative project. (Major: MNO; Mentor: Dr. Elaine Heath)
15. Hanan Hassan, SMU '15, volunteered with Vision on Africa and developed a life skills tool kit of basic business concepts as a result of working with economically deprived women and youth of Yeka sub-city, Ethiopia. (Major: ACCT, ENGL; Mentor: Dr. Maribeth Kuenzi)
16. Danielle Katz, SMU '15, using her Spanish skills and education minor, volunteered at an over-populated kindergarten in Cuzco, Peru through the non-profit UBELONG. (Majors: SPAN; Mentor: Dr. Renata Égüez)
17. Richard Nixon, SMU '15, expanded a group microfinance project into Vickery Meadow with the creation of business development workshops. (Major: ME; Mentor: Mr. Jim Bryan)
18. Derek Phanekham, SMU '15, is working with Green City Initiative to develop it as an interdisciplinary learning site to learn about viable, small scale agricultural models transferable to blighted urban neighborhoods. (Major: CSE, MATH; Mentor: Dr. Elaine Heath)
19. Daisuke Takeda, SMU '15, has expanded Green Riba, an e-commerce and traditional micro-finance storefront. (Major: FINA; Mentor: Ms. Regina Nippert)
20. Ashley Wali, SMU '15, created kits for the Nari Project in Bangladesh and Genesis Women Shelter in Dallas to address actual needs of women suffering from domestic violence and assessed the kits' effectiveness to both groups of women. (Major: FINA, FASHMD; Mentor: Dr. Rick Halperin)
21. Lucy Yu, SMU '15, returned to work with Medical Brigades in Panama this summer, is coordinating a doctor shadowing program for SMU pre-health students, through the now chartered, SMU Medical Brigades student organization. (Major: MATH, CHEM; Mentor: Ms. Miroslava Detcheva)

INTERNSHIPS (1)

1. Gopika Shah, SMU '15, while interning at international anti-trafficking agencies in Austin, London and Mumbai, is comparing policy effects on non-profit restoration and victim aftercare. (Major: ECON, PLSC; Mentor: Dr. Elizabeth Wheaton)

CREATIVE WORK (28)

1. Emily Bernet, SMU '16, as a result of participating in the SMU-in-London program, is creating a dance piece that integrates the unique creative vibrancy of London's underground culture. (Major: DANC; Mentor: Dr. Shelley Berg)
2. Madeline Dockery-Fuhrmann, SMU '15, is researching ensemble building and devised theatre in Greece, and plans to lead her own ensemble of SMU theatre students in a comparable performance. (Major: THEA; Mentor: Dr. Gretchen Smith)
3. Neil Hiddink, SMU '15, is leading and managing the development of a Laser-Doppler Velocimetry device to measure the velocity of a moving fluid using a laser beam. (Major: ME; Mentor: Ioppolo Tindaro)
4. Nathan Hillis, SMU '15, is implementing a data warehousing system to maximize information storage and retrieval as a tool for health workers to screen and treat cervical cancer. (Major: CSE; Mentor: Dr. Eric Bing and Dr. Eric Larson)
5. Ariana Howell, SMU '15, is creating a performance piece which focuses on the effects of modernism on native Australians, with a special focus the environment as it pertains to indigenous religious practice and philosophy. (Major: THEA; Mentor: Dr. Gretchen Smith)
6. Kenny Knowles, SMU '14, is developing a robotic vehicle that can execute a summersaulting and jumping motions actuated by torque applied at the wheels. (Major: ME; Mentor: Dr. Joe Zoghzyghy)

7. Geenah Krisht, SMU '15, is the producer for *Legacy*, a film written, directed and crewed entirely by students of SMU's Summer Film Program. (Major: JOUR, FILM; Mentor: Dr. Mark Kerins)
8. Kristen Lee, SMU '15, is developing and scripting a multi-media performance of the Korean War through the lens of her Korean grandfather's experience. (Major: THEA; Mentor: Dr. Gretchen Smith)
9. Jui-Jui Lin, SMU '15, is sampling the frequency shifts of particles in fluid measurements and converting the data to velocity measurements as part of the Laser-Doppler Velocimeter project. (Major: EE; Mentor: Dr. Tindaro Ioppolo)
10. Diane Liu, SMU '15, investigated how the modern Gaga dance movement relates to Israeli folk dance, and its ties with the modern dance scene in China. (Major: DANC; Mentor: Dr. Shelley Berg)
11. Stephanie Machado, SMU '15, researched London ghost tour guides' methods in engaging their audiences and is creating a performance piece using similar conventions, breaking down the walls between actors and audience. (Major: THEA; Mentor: Dr. Gretchen Smith)
12. Ryan-Patrick McLaughlin, SMU '15, is creating a performance piece based on careful observation and interviews that interrogate the way general public think about and experience gender. (Major: THEA; Mentor: Dr. Gretchen Smith)
13. Jackson McMartin, SMU '15, is the editor for *Legacy*, a film written, directed and crewed entirely by students of SMU's Summer Film Program. (Major: FILM, MKTG; Mentor: Dr. Mark Kerins)
14. Sarah Mowery, SMU '15, is using photojournalism to document the various types of people who come together in the Paris metro system to illustrate the demographic makeup of the city. (Major: COMM; Mentor: Dr. Debora Hunter)
15. Jacob Nice, SMU '15, toured with Fabulous Beast, an international performing arts company in Europe and the U.K. (Major: THEA; Mentor: Dr. Gretchen Smith)
16. Ben Ohene, SMU '15, will create a documentary exploring how people view each other and pass judgment on individuals based on their attire. (Major: FILM; Mentor: Dr. Mark Kerins)
17. Daniel Pappas, SMU '15, acting as sound editor, will be capturing, mixing, and recording audio for *Legacy*, a film written, directed and crewed entirely by students of SMU's Summer Film Program. (Major: FILM; Mentor: Dr. Mark Kerins)
18. Natalia Perea, SMU '15, is creating an exhibition at SMU utilizing poetry and photography, based on investigation into Flamenco as cultural history of Spain. (Major: DANC, ENGL; Mentor: Dr. Shelley Berg)
19. Olga Romanova, SMU '15, during her travel to her home country, has documented the Latvian emigration and post-economic crisis situation, producing a body of photojournalistic work. (Major: ART; Mentor: Dr. Debora Hunter)
20. Mirna Salas, SMU '15, is facilitating the application of lenses and a receiver on a Laser-Doppler Velocimetry device that measures the velocity of a moving fluid using a laser beam. (Major: MATH; Mentor: Dr. Tindaro Ioppolo)
21. Parker Smitherman, SMU '15, is producing a short film titled, *LUCKY*, and distributing it to film festivals nationwide. (Major: FILM; Mentor: Dr. Mark Kerins)
22. Zachery Standerfer, SMU '15, is designing the main housing of a Laser-Doppler Velocimetry device that measures the velocity of a moving fluid using a laser beam. (Major: ME; Mentor: Dr. Tindaro Ioppolo)
23. Ally Van Deuren, SMU '15, has visited weekly arts performances and events over the past year to develop an online resource that promotes the talents and interests of the Dallas arts community. (Major: THEA, JOUR; Mentor: Dr. Gretchen Smith)
24. Amar Zenyu, SMU '15, is developing a laser that will emit light at an adequate wavelength and constant frequency contributing to the layout and positioning of the laser optical fibers necessary for the Laser-Doppler Velocimetry device. (Major: ME; Mentor: Dr. Tindaro Ioppolo)

Continuing 2013 Creative Work Projects

25. Kathleen Gaskins, SMU '15, used her time in the London Arts program to lay the foundation of a creative performance piece called the Universal Language of Art. (Major: THEA, JOUR; Mentor: Dr. Shelley Berg)
26. Thomas Kennedy, SMU '16, is developing a web server for iGiddyUp, an iOS application which will improve the efficiency of the SMU Giddy Up system. (Major: CSE; Mentor: Dr. Mark Fontenot)
27. Patrick Leopard II, SMU '16, is developing an implementation plan for iGiddyUp, iOS application which will improve the efficiency of the SMU Giddy Up system. (Major: CSE, MATH; Mentor: Dr. Mark Fontenot)
28. Mei Mei Pollitt, SMU '15, having attended the Festival D'Avignon and the Fringe Festival last summer and the International Foundation for Theatre Education and Research in Moscow this summer, created a solo performance and kicked off the database of contemporary international theatre for the Meadows community. (Major: THEA, FREN, RUSS; Mentor: Dr. Gretchen Smith)