

EDUCATION AND PROJECTS

Bachelor of Arts Major in History Graduating May 2020

Texas State University

Minors: German and English

Overall GPA: 4.00

Studied the German language abroad in Vienna, Austria during June 2018 and gained conversational skill with it.

An honors thesis that will culminate to an exhibit case on the history of contemporary American and British editorial comics regarding the Spanish Civil War.

Completed 18 hours of Honors coursework throughout my college career. Successfully had my creative writing work published in the Persona Literary Magazine in Spring 2019.

HONORS

Five semesters of Dean's List

Honors College academic award for completion of three honors courses

Alumni Association Freshman Initiative Scholarship awarded in 2016

Texas State Achievement Scholarship awarded in 2016

Honors Merry Kone Fitzpatrick Scholarship awarded in 2019

Taylor Murphy Scholarship awarded in 2019

LEADERSHIP ROLES AND VOLUNTEER WORK

- Texas State Bobcat Build, April 2018, April 2019
- Texas State German Contest, volunteer, February 2018 and 2019
- Texas State History Club, Secretary, March 2018 – January 2020,
Vice President, January 2020 – Ongoing Membership
 - Formulated weekly emails and led bi-weekly club activities.
 - Worked with fellow officers to create historical presentations geared towards average students.
 - Recently overcame the sudden departure of the club's president and provisionally led the club with the former Vice President.
- Delta Phi Alpha, Secretary, November 2018 – Ongoing Membership
 - The Texas State German Honor Society.
 - Aided in planning of weekly German book club.
- Texas State Nerd Fighters, Secretary, October 2018 – Ongoing Membership
 - Collaboratively organized casual activities for large member body.
 - Kept track of attendance and reward-based system for dozens of members.
 - Helped to decide direction of club through intensive officer meetings.

- Lessons from Abroad Conference, February 2nd, 2019
 - Learned how to apply my international study abroad experience professionally.

EXPERIENCE

Museum Intern

May 2019 – August 2019

Temple Railroad and Heritage Museum, Temple, Texas

- Interned part-time 16-20 hours a week for a total of 165 hours.
- Created a museum case exhibit dedicated to the personal railroad collection of a donor.
- Researched the life story of Johnny Cash and spoke about it to museum visitors for a temporary exhibit on his “At Folsom Prison” live album.
- Accessioned and catalogued railroad artifacts, such as china for passenger cars and signal lanterns.
- Collaborated with museum volunteers and professionals daily, including the Curator, Educational Coordinator, Museum Coordinator, and Museum Development Assistant.
- Helped to set up children’s activities for the museum.
- Assisted at the museum’s offsite archives for two days.
- Gained experience with PastPerfect Museum Software.
- Oversaw select children’s activities during monthly family day events.

SI Leader for History 1310-1320

January 2019 – Ongoing Employment

Student Learning Assistance Center, Albert B. Alkek Library

- Organized and led three tutoring sessions a week.
- Collaborated with Professor and Instructional Assistant to meet students’ needs.
- Advised students to help them develop skill in the analysis of primary historical sources.
- Tutored students to develop their proficiency in writing historical essays.
- Attended history lectures to gain better understanding of material I tutored.

German Study Abroad Program

June 2018

International Culture Institute (IKI), Vienna

- Studied at an international language academy, taking three hours of instruction in German every weekday.
- Earned six hours of German credit.
- Attended courses and activities with international classmates from Brazil, Japan, and Hungary.
- Toured historic museums in Vienna, such as the Natural History Museum Vienna, the Belvedere, the Leopold Museum, and the Museum of Military History.

AMERICAN AND BRITISH NEWSPAPER COMICS AND THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR

PROPOSAL:

My capstone honors thesis and senior seminar project concerns the reaction of American and British newspapers to the 1936-1939 Spanish Civil War. Specifically, I am researching editorial cartoons and how they depicted the conflict. I am interested in understanding how the visual rhetoric of the comics sought to sway readers to a 'side' and inform them on how they should understand the complicated conflict. I believe these comics could be important to understanding how people understood the distant conflict. My full analysis of the comics will culminate into a research paper. Additionally, I am planning to present select comics from my research and my analysis of them in a museum exhibit case, as the comics are visually interesting, informative on a more obscure conflict, and relate to my American audience through the source material of American comics. The project is my own, but I will collaborate frequently with my faculty advisor Dr. Louie Valencia and my second reader Dr. Joshua Paddison.

The Spanish conflict between Spanish republican government and the military revolt was often perceived as fairly complicated, a proxy war between Soviet Union and Nazi Germany, and loaded with sinister seeming ideologies. The republican government was seen as traditionally democratic from some angles but was also supported by a variety of leftist organizations and eventually the Soviet Union. The military rebels were appealingly conservative and Catholic to some in the West, but their fascist ideology and support from Germany and Italy meant they were thoroughly associated with the Nazis. Since both sides of the conflict contained traditionally objectionable factions to the West, it was complicated to rally to either one for the people of Britain or the United States. Intervention by the great powers was officially prohibited by the Non-Intervention Agreement, but the issue was still controversial. As newspapers detailed the dramatic events of the conflict, editorial comics accompanied the articles simplified this perplexing event for the reader and argued their position on the war. For example, an editorial comic disagreeing with both sides I found in the New York Times depicted a bandit walking on Spain with the name "political madness" carrying the flag with "FASCISTS" and "LEFTISTS" written on it. In this way, both sides and political ideologies are generalized without nuance and broadly condemned as signs of insanity and violence, perhaps leading a reader to be unsympathetic to the war and hostile to intervention.

Through my research, I plan to accumulate more comics and investigate what other messages are being sent over the Spanish Civil War through editorial comics in this period. I will answer research questions such as: How did comic artists use their art to sway readers to support certain perspectives of the conflict? How did the artists simplify and reframe the conflict? What were the common conventions of their comics? How do they differ based on the newspaper they were in and which were most important? To answer these questions, I will go through the pages of newspapers contained on the Alkek Library ProQuest Historical Newspapers databases and find a large sample size of comics from different newspapers to analyze. In addition to analyzing the comics through the lens of sources like *British News Media and the Spanish Civil War: Tomorrow*

May Be Too Late, I will work with my second reader and thesis advisor to evaluate the symbols and caricatures used. Besides compiling the comics, my role will include producing a fifteen to twenty-page research paper including the plans for the case exhibit, developing all materials for the case exhibit, and constructing the case exhibit. Regarding the case exhibit, I plan to locate it in a large case in the Taylor History Murphy Building. My plans for the case will also be carefully informed by the collection of papers in *Public Humanities and the Spanish Civil War*, which discusses the current relationship between public history and the Spanish Civil War. This will ensure that, even though I am speaking primarily of British and American comics, my case exhibit is respectful and does not misrepresent aspects of the war.

I plan to pursue a M.A. in Public History and study European history further after I graduate in May 2020, which will further my career goals of working in a European history focused museum or other historical organizations. This project is a good starting point for developing my acumen in those future studies and occupations, as it synergizes my concentration European history topics with my career goals in museum work.

References

Deacon, David. *British News Media and the Spanish Civil War: Tomorrow May Be Too Late*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2008. Accessed February 10, 2020.
www.jstor.org/stable/10.3366/j.ctt1r1xhc.

"Editorial Cartoon 1 -- no Title." *New York Times (1923-Current File)*, Aug 09, 1936.
<http://libproxy.txstate.edu/login?url=https://search-proquest-com.libproxy.txstate.edu/docview/101801534?accountid=5683>.

Menezes, Alison Ribeiro de, Sánchez Antonio Cazorla, and Adrian Shubert, eds. *Public Humanities and the Spanish Civil War: Connected and Contested Histories*. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 2018.

PROJECT TIMELINE

Stage One: Research and Drafting

Throughout late January and February, I will be compiling the bulk of the comics I will use from the Alkek Library ProQuest Historical Newspapers databases. I will search through most of the major newspapers, but likely will narrow down to a smaller sample size if plenty of comics are found. With the aid of my thesis advisor and second reader, I will work on my analysis and the labelling of these pieces during this time as well, completing drafts of the textual components by February 26th. Building up my bibliography for my research paper will also be a goal during this period. I will finally complete a draft of the research paper and a schematic for the exhibit case to turn in by the early drafts due-by date of March 2nd for the Honors Thesis course.

Stage Two: Exhibit Work and Further Drafting

Throughout March, I will continue to analyze comics, develop my research paper, and create a more final exhibit schematic to submit another draft by the initial draft due-by date of March 27th. I will complete an abstract by March 13th and submit it to the Honors College and the Undergraduate Research Conference. I will have chosen the comics from my sample size I am going to present in the exhibit case this month, as well as find approval for my exhibit case plan in the Taylor Murphy History building. Additionally, I will accumulate the supplies I need to assemble the exhibit case. Primarily, this will mean purchasing self-adhesive foam board and other miscellaneous supplies to hang up the materials in my case. The case will include the comics and accompanying textual elements, such as explanatory labels and titles. By the end of March and early April, I will have printed and attached the case materials to the foam board.

Stage Three: Assembling the Exhibit and Finalizing the Paper

In early April, I will continue working on my research paper, develop my presentation for the Honors Thesis Forum, develop a poster for the Undergraduate Research Conference, and complete any remaining materials for the exhibit case. I plan to assemble the museum case exhibit on April 18th or 19th, which is the weekend before the Honors Thesis Forum and the Undergraduate Research Conference. If I fully complete my exhibit materials earlier, I will assemble the exhibit case on April 11th or 12th. I will present my research at the Honors Thesis Forum and the Undergraduate Research Conference in the April 22nd-April 24th period. I will also develop my final draft, which will include a guide to my exhibit and photographs of it. I will submit it on May 4th, thus completing my project.

BUDGET NARRATIVE

I am requesting \$300 in funds for my project. \$195.98 of the funds will go to purchasing foam board to build my exhibit with. The foam board is useful for making the materials stand out better and look more professionally presented. \$11.99 of the funds will go to Museum Sticky Putty by Alcolin to hang up the boards with. \$42.03 of the funds will go to miscellaneous supplies such as glue, pins, and any additional printing costs on campus. \$50 dollars of the funds will go towards gas needed to travel for any particular supplies, as well as compensation for stress endured and time taken on the research.

| Item | Price Per Unit | Amount | Cost |
|---|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Elmer's Self-Adhesive Foam Boards, 20 x 30 Inches, 3/16-Inch Thick, White, 10 Count | \$97.99 | 2 | \$195.98 |
| Museum Sticky Putty by Alcolin, 3 Pack | \$11.99 | 1 | \$11.99 |
| Miscellaneous, unforeseen supply costs, as well as any printing costs | | | \$42.03 |
| Compensation for gas, research work, and stress | | | \$50 |
| Total | | | \$300 |