Sample Field Research Projects

The following provides a representative sample of recent student research projects completed during the Field Research Program at the UC Center in Mexico City.

Desde el campo al mercado global: mujeres campesinas creando nuevos espacios de liderazgo dentro de las cooperativas cafetaleras y textiles
(Anthropology 196) Leticia Corona, UCB Chiapas

El movimiento punk en México D.F.: el uso de espacios y la creación de una identidad, comercialización y crítica entre las generaciones
(Sociology 196)
Through a series of ethnographic observations, participant observation, contact and formal and informal interviews with informants, this paper deals with the importance of space in the creation of identity. The student analyses three types of spaces: permanent ones, virtual/fluid spaces, and temporary spaces. Laura Zavala, UCI Mexico City

La Lengua Maya: Cómo se está perdiendo por los cambios de las fronteras de Identidad, en Tzucacab, Yuc.
This paper explored the connection between language and identity in the rural communities surrounding Mérida, Yucatan. The student examined the reasons the Mayan language is slowly lost such as labor migration and globalization and the effect the loss of fluency may have on the identity of the younger generations.
Nienke Schouten, UCB Mérida

Hogares sin Hombres: La migración y los papeles de género en Oaxaca.
(Women’s Studies 196)
In this paper the student argues that the socio-cultural ideas of gender and roles are intertwined with the process of migration between Mexico and the United States. This paper is the culmination of 2 months of anthropological research in which the intersection of gender and migration is examined. Research was based in observations of conceptions of roles, and identities, and interviews.
Nikiko Masumoto, UCB Oaxaca

Gastando por un sueño: Las acciones equivocadas del INEA frente el analfabetismo en la ciudad de Oaxaca de Juárez.
(Anthropology 196)
This paper discusses the literacy program of the National Institute of Adult Education (INEA) in the city of Oaxaca through the lens of fieldwork at a class site. The experience in the field and the political slogans of the government prove to be two very different things, and the paper concludes with the assertion that INEA is not actually doing as good of a job as it claims at working to improve in Mexico.
Athalia Markowitz, UCB Oaxaca

Nada sin Praxis: El movimiento de la Unión de la Juventud Revolucionaria de México (La URJM).
(Political Science 196)
Considering the socio-economic and political conditions in Oaxaca and its effects on the youth, this work looks to understand the sociopolitical participation of Oaxaca’s youth by documenting the movement of the Unión de la Juventud Revolucionaria de México, who have committed their lives to the struggle for a better world under the banners of Marxism- Leninism. These youth utilize the revolutionary theory to make sense of their realities and organize for social justice.
Corina García, UCSB Oaxaca