THAT’S WHAT SHE SAID: AN AUTOETHNOGRAPHIC STUDY ON CROSS-GENERATIONAL FILIPINA-AMERICAN LANGUAGING AND LITERACIES
Joanne Rose Andres Castillo (Dr. Christie Toth)
Department of Writing & Rhetoric Studies

Varying generations of Filipina-Americans communicate differently. The difference in the ways information is synthesized and perceived or received causes a significant amount of friction in the relationships between the generations as expectations and reality clash. In this autoethnographic project, I explored how meaning was intended to transfer and what meaning was received by three different generations of Filipina-Americans in a single family. Fieldnotes and interviews of three different women were coded and analyzed to identify emergent themes involving implicit expectations, contextualization, and what elements were deemed necessary in communicating information. Though this data analysis is ongoing, the following trends were noticed: the initial generations of Filipina-Americans were more likely to rely on implicit communication and a hierarchy of knowledges based on familial/social status. Younger generations seemed more likely to utilize digital technologies to determine specific locations to contextualize new knowledges. Continued analysis of the data gathered seeks to identify further themes which might indicate ways in which different generations make and relate knowledge. This research seeks to identify the literacies needed to transfer knowledge effectively in all directions between generations.