

COMMUNICATION STUDIES

College of Liberal & Creative Arts

Dean: Dr. Andrew Harris

Communication Studies Department

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Chair: Karen Lovaas

Program Scope

Mission of the Department

We are committed to the study of human communication in various contexts from multiple and interconnected perspectives that contribute to a more humane world. Through communication, humans form identities, connect with one another, examine values, enact cultures, and work collectively.

The department examines how people express themselves verbally and nonverbally; how identities are created, performed, and changed; how people listen to others; and how symbols relate to human behavior. It acknowledges, appreciates, and integrates human diversity in its various forms. It studies human communication in culturally and socially diverse contexts. It does so by using a variety of methods and technologies to discover and share knowledge about communication and to analyze, interpret, and perform discourse. Areas of study include language and social interaction, group processes, organizational communication, interpersonal and intercultural communication, rhetoric and political communication, public speaking, performance studies, and research methodologies.

Communication Studies students develop skills essential for leadership and career development, and for understanding and interpreting events. They learn to advocate and critically debate ideas in social and political settings, appreciate diverse communication styles, work productively in task-oriented groups, and engage in rewarding interpersonal relationships.

The department works to express what it perceives, feels, and believes, encouraging students to do the same so that all may engage openly in genuine dialogue. It also encourages the practice of hearing and honoring a variety of voices and celebrating creative and humane approaches to solving complex human problems in our local and global communities.

Application Filing Periods

Applications for admission are accepted during the application filing period for the fall and spring semesters.

Transfer applicants from other colleges must submit an application via CSU Mentor at <http://www.csumentor.edu>.

Continuing SF State students must submit their change of major form directly to the Department of Communication Studies. Change of major forms, accompanied with unofficial transcripts, will be accepted between August 1 and October 1 for spring, and between January 1 and March 1 for fall.

Advising

Students work with advisors to create their academic program, and the department hosts open advising hours for students throughout the semester. Students must consult with an advisor at the start of the program. Every undergraduate student's application for graduation must be signed by an advisor who has worked with that student and has approved the major program.

Special Programs

See advisors before selecting these programs.

Forensics

A competitive intercollegiate program in policy debate and individual speaking events such as performance of literature, extemporaneous, and persuasive speaking. Director: Teddy Albinak

English Language Arts

Students who wish to teach at the secondary level (grades 7-12) may prepare for the Secondary Credential Program with a subject matter program in English Language Arts. A program that combines communication studies and English courses is available. Advisors: Morris, English Department.

Career Outlook

Graduates in communication studies have an excellent track record entering their chosen career fields and attending graduate and professional schools. Our graduates have secured positions as public relations managers, human resources trainers, employment recruiting specialists, marketing representatives, civil rights activists, campaign managers, and sales representatives, among others. Advisors can assist students in planning programs of study that are attractive to graduate schools and prospective employers.

The department's internship program has helped many students begin their careers. The program offers over 200 internship and service learning opportunities. Students are encouraged to seek advising from the department's internship director: Paloma Mathern.

Professor

VICTORIA CHEN (1999), *Professor of Communication Studies*; B.A. (1983), Simon Fraser University (British Columbia); M.A. (1985), University of California, Santa Barbara; Ph.D. (1988), University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

AMY KILGARD (2004), *Professor of Communication Studies*; B.A. (1995), University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; M.S. (1998), Ph.D. (2004), Southern Illinois University, Carbondale.

GERIANNE M. MERRIGAN (1992), *Professor of Communication Studies*; B.S. (1981), Northwest Missouri State University; M.A. (1988), University of North Texas; Ph.D. (1992), University of Washington.

CHRISTINA M. SABEE (2007), *Professor of Communication Studies*; B.A. (1995), Macalester College; M.A. (1998), Kansas State University; Ph.D. (2001), Northwestern University.

SUSAN B. SHIMANOFF (1986), *Professor of Communication Studies, Associate Dean, College of Liberal Creative Arts*; B.A. (1972), Northwestern University; M.A. (1974), San Diego State University; Ph.D. (1978), University of Southern California.

JOSEPH S. TUMAN (1992), *Professor of Communication Studies*; B.A. (1980), J.D. (1983), University of California, Berkeley.

GUSTAVO A. YEP (1995), *Professor of Communication Studies*; B.A. (1980), M.A. (1985), Ph.D. (1990), University of Southern California.

Associate Professor

MINDI GOLDEN (2006), *Associate Professor of Communication Studies*; B.A. (1992), Humboldt State University, M.A. (1995), San Jose State University, Ph.D. (2005), University of Utah.

KAREN E. LOVAAS (1991), *Associate Professor of Communication Studies*; B.A. (1974), University of Maryland; M.A. (1980), San Francisco State University; Ph.D. (1993), University of Hawaii.

SAMUEL MCCORMICK (2012), *Associate Professor of Communication Studies*; B.A. (2001), Indiana University; M.A. (2003), University of Colorado-Boulder; Ph.D. (2007), University of Iowa.

LEAH WINGARD (2006), *Associate Professor of Communication Studies*; B.A. (1991), University of California, Santa Cruz; Bachelorgrad (1996), University of Copenhagen, Denmark; M.A. (1998), Ph.D. (2006), University of California, Los Angeles.

Assistant Professor

FATIMA ZAHRAE CHRIFI ALAQUI (2016), *Assistant Professor of Communication Studies*; B.A. (2007), Al Akhawayn University; M.A. (2010), Ph.D. (2014), University of Denver.

CONSTANCE GORDON (2018), *Assistant Professor of Communication Studies*; B.A. (2011), San Francisco State University; M.A. (2015), Ph.D. (2018), University of Colorado Boulder.

JAVON L. JOHNSON (2013), *Assistant Professor of Communication Studies*; B.A. (2003), M.A. (2005), California State University, Los Angeles; Ph.D. (2010), Northwestern University.

CHRISTOPHER J. KOENIG (2016), *Assistant Professor of Communication Studies*; B.A. (1996), M.A. (1998), M.A. (2001), University of Texas, Austin; Ph.D. (2008), University of California, Los Angeles.

Lecturer

KATHLEEN A. ARNOLFO (2006), *Lecturer in Communication Studies*; B.A. (2003), M.A. (2006), San Francisco State University.

MARK JONES (2000), *Lecturer in Communication Studies*; B.A. (1989), M.A. (1990), California State University, Sacramento; Ph.D. (2002), Ohio University.

JENNIFER KAMMEYER (2008), *Lecturer in Communication Studies*; B.M.S. (1987), University of California, San Diego; M.A. (2008), San Francisco State University.

IVAN OPLANIC (2004), *Lecturer in Communication Studies*; B.A. (2001), M.A. (2003), San Francisco State University.

EVELYN PINE (2007), *Lecturer in Communication Studies*; B.A. (2001), M.A. (2003), San Francisco State University.

ANASTASIA PRENTISS (1996), *Lecturer in Communication Studies*; B.A. (1993), M.A. (1996), San Francisco State University; Ph.D. (2009), California Institute of Integral Studies.

CHARLES ROPE (1997), *Lecturer in Communication Studies*; B.A. (1995), M.A. (1997), San Francisco State University.

JOHN RYAN (2009), *Lecturer in Communication Studies*; B.A. (2000), M.A. (2009), San Francisco State University.

Major

- [Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies](#)

Minor

- [Minor in Communication Studies](#)

Masters

- [Master of Arts in Communication Studies](#)

COMM 120 Language, Culture, and Power (Units: 3)

Introduction to the study of language use in various cultural and political contexts including peer groups, classrooms, families, and communities. Language varieties, groups' identities, representations, and personal narratives shaped by history, power, and privilege. GE skills—writing, oral communication, critical thinking, and quantitative reasoning—will be systematically reinforced. (Plus-minus ABC/NC grading only)

Course Attributes:

- E1 LLD Pre-Fall 2019
- C2: Humanities
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
- Social Justice

COMM 150 Fundamentals of Oral Communication (Units: 3)

Introduction to communication in interpersonal relationships, group interactions, and formal speaking. Skill development in listening, speech preparation, and oral presentation. (Note: In order for this course to satisfy General Education, students must earn a C- or CR or higher grade if taken fall 2014 or later.)

Course Attributes:

- A1: Oral Communication

COMM 220 Introduction to the Performance of Literature (Units: 3)

Prerequisites: GE Area A1; priority registration for Communication Studies majors and minors, Liberal Studies majors, and English Education majors.

Oral interpretation of literature: excerpts from prose, poetry, and public speeches. Analysis of literature, script development, and performance skills. [Formerly COMM 362]

COMM 230 Introduction to Argumentation and Debate (Units: 3)

Methods of analysis and verbal formulation of the strongest possible case for and against a position or a point of view; the support of that position through evidence and inference; practical application in debate and public speaking. [Formerly COMM 365, 4 units]

COMM 240 Introduction to Nonverbal Communication (Units: 3)

Research on nonverbal communication. Interpersonal space, facial displays, body posturing, paralanguage, and costume. Individual awareness of nonverbal messages and individual range of nonverbal expression. [Formerly COMM 512, 4 units]

Course Attributes:

- D1: Social Sciences

COMM 250 Introduction to Group Discussion and Teamwork (Units: 3)

Principles of group discussion; influence of structure, norms, roles, leadership, and climate on the processes of communication and collaborative decision-making. Evaluation of members and leaders. [Formerly COMM 521, 4 units]

Course Attributes:

- C2: Humanities

COMM 304GW Writing About Communication and Masculinities - GWAR (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors; GE Area A2; COMM 150 or equivalent with a grade of C- or better; open only to students who have not satisfied the GWAR requirement.

Critical reading, synthesis, and analysis of communication in the production, maintenance, and contestation of expressions and performances of masculinity in diverse relationships, discourses, and contexts. Emphasis on development of writing competencies. (ABC/NC grading only) [Formerly COMM 504GW]

Course Attributes:

- Graduation Writing Assessment

COMM 312GW Writing About Interpersonal Communication - GWAR (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors; GE Area A2; COMM 150 equivalent with a grade of C- or better; open only to students who have not satisfied the GWAR requirement.

Theory, conceptual frameworks, and primary scholarship related to communication processes in varied relationships. Application of course concepts to analyze and impact interpersonal communication. Emphasis on written summary and synthesis of interpersonal communication research or critical analysis of interpersonal communication. (ABC/NC grading only) [Formerly COMM 502GW]

Course Attributes:

- Graduation Writing Assessment

COMM 321GW Writing About Communication Theory - GWAR (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors; GE Area A2; COMM 150 equivalent with a grade of C- or better; open only to students who have not satisfied the GWAR requirement.

Communication theories and research. Communication models, verbal and nonverbal symbols, systems theory, symbolic interactionism, persuasion/compliance-gaining, and communication in various contexts. (ABC/NC grading only)

Course Attributes:

- Graduation Writing Assessment

COMM 322GW Writing About Organizational Communication - GWAR (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors; GE Area A2; COMM 150 equivalent with a grade of C- or better; open only to students who have not satisfied the GWAR requirement.

Develop writing competencies (proposing, drafting, editing) for use in professional, industrial, and community organizations. Description and analysis of organizational communication processes, practices, and policies. (ABC/NC grading only) [Formerly COMM 522GW]

Course Attributes:

- Graduation Writing Assessment

COMM 334GW Writing About Mediation - GWAR (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors, Liberal Studies majors, and Conflict Resolution students; GE Areas A1 and E.

Develop skills in communication for dispute resolution in mediation and upper-level writing competencies. (ABC/NC grading only) [Formerly COMM 534GW]

Course Attributes:

- Graduation Writing Assessment

COMM 344GW Writing About Popular Media - GWAR (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors; GE Area A2; COMM 150 equivalent with a grade of C- or better; open only to students who have not satisfied the GWAR requirement.

Rhetorical and critical media theories applied to careful, constructive analysis of popular media in this writing intensive course. (ABC/NC grading only) [Formerly COMM 444GW]

Course Attributes:

- Graduation Writing Assessment

COMM 348GW Writing About Environmental Rhetoric - GWAR (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors; GE Areas A1 and A2; open only to students who have not satisfied the GWAR requirement.

Critical reading and summarizing of communication scholarship and analysis of contemporary rhetoric related to environmentalism and environmental justice. Emphasis on developing writing competencies. (ABC/NC grading only) [Formerly COMM 448GW]

Course Attributes:

- Graduation Writing Assessment
- Environmental Sustainability

COMM 361GW Writing About Social Semiotics - GWAR (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors; GE Areas A1 and A2; open only to students who have not satisfied the GWAR requirement.

Social functions of language and symbolism in everyday life. Analyses of how meaning is constituted and communicated through the use of symbols in social and cultural practices. (ABC/NC grading only) [Formerly 561GW]

Course Attributes:

- Graduation Writing Assessment

COMM 362GW Writing About Discourse in Interaction - GVAR (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors; GE Areas A1 and A2; open only to students who have not satisfied the GVAR requirement.

Theoretical foundations for analyzing discourse in interaction. Frequently studied, recurrent structures in discourse in a variety of settings. (ABC/NC grading only) [Formerly COMM 562GW]

Course Attributes:

- Graduation Writing Assessment

COMM 368 Forensics (Units: 2)

Prerequisite: COMM 150 or equivalent.

On-campus and intercollegiate forensics activities including debate, oratory, extemporaneous speaking, and discussion. Activity. May be repeated without limit, but only 4 units may count towards the Communication Studies degree requirements.

COMM 400 Variable Topics in Social Contexts & Interaction (Units: 2)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; GE Area A1; may be taken concurrently with GVAR.

Intensive study of a special topic in Social Contexts and/or Interaction consisting primarily of focused reading assignments, sustained in- and out-of-class discussions, multi-media presentations and responses, and individual and group-based projects. Topics to be specified in the Class Schedule. May be repeated for a total of 4 units when topics vary. (Plus-minus letter grade, CR/NC, RP)

COMM 403 Transgender Communication Studies (Units: 2)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division standing; GE Area A1; or consent of the instructor.

Focus on the production, maintenance, and potential contestation of gender through communication practices and cultural discourses within specific political and socio-historical contexts. Exploration and examination of gender beyond the male/female binary in interpersonal communication and mediated representations.

COMM 425 The Dark Side of Interpersonal Communication (Unit: 1)

Prerequisite: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; COMM GVAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

Critical reading and evaluation of primary communication scholarship related to potentially harmful and/or hurtful communication in interpersonal relationships. Application of knowledge regarding "the dark side" of interpersonal communication to enhance ethical communication in interpersonal contexts. [Formerly COMM 625]

COMM 427 Case Studies in Health Communication (Unit: 1)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; COMM 150 or equivalent; COMM GVAR (may be taken concurrently).

Understanding communication challenges and experiences in diverse health contexts using contemporary health communication theories and concepts to analyze and create narrative case studies.

COMM 428 Health Communication in Visual and Graphic Medicine (Units: 2)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division standing; priority enrollment for Communication Studies majors; COMM 150 or equivalent; or consent of the instructor.

Visual communication and graphic medicine is a growing movement in health communication that uses a range of visual strategies for communicating health information including pictures, drawings, graphs, diagrams, sequential art, and comics to portray experiences of health and well-being, illness and disease, and health care service delivery and reception. Application of health communication theories to interpret and critique visual and graphic medicine through reading, discussion, and a final visual portfolio.

COMM 442 Dialogue Facilitation Practicum (Units: 2)

Prerequisite: COMM 150 or equivalent or consent of the instructor.

Theoretical readings on dialogue and critical examination of the social construction of differences from a systemic perspective. Strong emphasis on application of dialogue facilitation skills (e.g., systemic questioning, CVA Model) to enhance the quality of communication in situations where disparate viewpoints create tension and conflict. (Plus-minus letter grade only)

COMM 502 Interpersonal Communication (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division standing; COMM GVAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently). Enrollment priority for Communication Studies majors and Conflict Resolution Certificate students.

Theory, conceptual frameworks, and primary scholarship related to verbal and nonverbal communication processes in varied relationships, including influences, interactions, and outcomes. Application of course concepts to analyze and impact interpersonal communication.

COMM 503 Gender and Communication (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors, Criminal Justice majors, and Conflict Resolution Certificate students; COMM GVAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

Analysis and application of the research on the interrelationships among communication, gender, and power, in a variety of micro, meso, and macro contexts.

COMM 504 Communication and Masculinities (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; COMM GVAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

Analysis of communication in the production, maintenance, and contestation of various expressions and performances of masculinity, from identity and interpersonal relationships to mediated texts and cultural discourses, in national and international contexts.

COMM 515 Family Communication (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors and Conflict Resolution Certificate students; COMM GVAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

Theoretical perspectives and scholarship regarding diverse family communication processes including the communicative creation of family, family stories, conflict, roles, rules, intimacy, and stressors.

COMM 522 Organizational Communication (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; COMM GWAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

Use theory and research to analyze and critique communication processes, practices, and policies within and between organizations; consider multiple groups of stakeholders for public, private, and not-for-profit sector organizations; investigate communication within particular organizations and industries.

COMM 525 Sexualities and Communication (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors, Criminal Justice majors, and Conflict Resolution Certificate students; COMM GWAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

Analysis and application of research on the interrelationships among communication, sexuality, and power in a variety of micro, meso, and macro contexts.

COMM 527 Health Communication (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: GE Areas A1, A2, A3, and B4 or consent of the instructor.

Theory and practice of communication about health. Communication in interpersonal, group, organizational, mass media, and cultural contexts. Application of communication to health and wellness as well as illness and health problems.

Course Attributes:

- E1 LLD Pre-Fall 2019
- UD-D: Social Sciences

COMM 530 Communication in Organizational Training (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; COMM GWAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

Communication techniques necessary for successful training in organizations. Skills in assessing training needs, designing programs, and evaluating results.

COMM 531 Conflict Resolution (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: GE Areas A1, A2, A3, and B4 or consent of the instructor.

Communication and conflict in two-person, small group, and organization settings. Conflict resolution and leadership skills development.

Course Attributes:

- E1 LLD Pre-Fall 2019
- UD-D: Social Sciences

COMM 532 Interviewing Methods in Organizational Settings (Units: 4)

Prerequisite: COMM 150 or equivalent. Enrollment priority for upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors.

The interview as a complex communication process focusing on the development of patterns of questions and appropriate response strategies. Rhetorical analysis of interviews in professional contexts.

COMM 533 Communication and Empowerment in Organizations (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; COMM GWAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

The process of empowerment as it relates to human communication; various conceptualizations of "empowerment," existing treatment(s), and communicative strategies for individual, group or team, and organizational empowerment.

COMM 534 Mediation Theory and Practice (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors, Liberal Studies majors, and Conflict Resolution students; GE Areas A1 and E.

Theories of mediation and alternative dispute resolution, mediation skills training, and exposure to community mediation organizations and practices. In-depth case analysis, role plays, and community service opportunities.

COMM 537 Leadership Communication (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; COMM GWAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

Theories and concepts of leadership communication in organizational and public settings; use case studies and personal experience to apply leadership skills, identify one's own predispositions and strengths as a leader, and articulate ethical leadership communication practices.

COMM 538 Discourse in Interaction (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; COMM GWAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

Theoretical foundations for analyzing discourse in interaction; frequently studied, recurrent structures in discourse in a variety of settings. [Formerly COMM 562]

COMM 541 Critical Approaches to Culture and Communication (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: GE Areas A1, A2, A3, and B4 or consent of the instructor.

Study of communication and culture from a critical perspective in a variety of contexts ranging from local to global. Focus on how non-dominant or marginalized groups' identities, representations, and personal narratives are shaped by history, power, and privilege.

Course Attributes:

- UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
- Social Justice

COMM 543 Dialogues Across Differences (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors, Criminal Justice majors, and students in the Conflict Resolution Certificate program; GE Areas A1 and E.

Dialogue as a means to make connections between disparate worldviews, integrating theory and practice. Using facilitation as a vehicle to improve the quality of communication to address difficult and sensitive issues through systemic questioning in public dialogue.

COMM 544 Communication and Aging (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; COMM GWAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

Theory and research regarding communication with and about older adults including cultural meanings of aging, impacts on communication, and relational contexts involving older adults with attention to ethical communication issues.

Course Attributes:

- E1 LLD Pre-Fall 2019

COMM 550 Classical Rhetoric (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; COMM GWAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

Theories and practices of rhetorical artistry in ancient Greek and/or Roman cultures.

COMM 551 Persuasion (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors and Liberal Studies majors; GE Areas A1 and E.

Factors involved in influencing audience attitudes through public speeches. Awareness of oral persuasion as used in our society and to clarify ethical standards of responsibility of the persuader. [Formerly COMM 366]

COMM 552 Performance and Feminism (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors, Liberal Studies majors, and English Education majors; GE Areas A1 and E.

Feminist communication and performance theories and practices. Performance skills development. Application of performance as a means of liberation, form of resistance, and force for social change. Ethical performance development and critique. [Formerly COMM 352: Women and Words]

COMM 553 Performance and Identity (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors, Liberal Studies majors, and English Education majors; GE Areas A1 and E.

Communication and performance theories of identity including power and identity and identity co-construction. Performing intersections of race, gender, sexuality, class, ability, nationality, religion, and so on. Performance skills development and ethical performance development and critique. [Formerly COMM 363]

COMM 554 Performance of Children's Literature (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors, Child and Adolescent Development majors, Liberal Studies majors, and English Education majors; GE Areas A1 and E.

Theories and practices of performing children's literature in a variety of contexts. Analysis of children's literature. Performance skills development and ethical performance development and critique. [Formerly COMM 364]

COMM 555 Ensemble Performance Workshop (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; COMM GWAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

Focus on presentation of original and adapted texts for performance, including textual and audience analysis, direction, and use of physical spaces. Additional meetings outside class required for rehearsals and performances. Activity. May be repeated for a total of 8 units. [Formerly COMM 696]

COMM 556 Performance Art: Aesthetic Communication Criticism (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; COMM GWAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

Understand performance art as critical communication and engagement with the social world. Explore the history of performance art, develop critical tools for using performance as a method, and create performances/installations using different theoretical/aesthetic texts and methods. [Formerly COMM 496]

COMM 557 Performance and Pedagogy of the Oppressed for Educators (Units: 3)

Prerequisite: COMM 150 or equivalent.

Examination of the theories of Augusto Boal and Paulo Freire and their application for educators and community activists. [CSL may be available]

(This course is offered as LS 403 and COMM 557. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

Course Attributes:

- Social Justice

COMM 559 Theory and Practice in Advanced Public Speaking (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors and Liberal Studies majors; GE Areas A1 and E.

Principles of effective extemporaneous speaking; practice in preparation and delivery of speeches for different occasions. Class criticism of student speeches. [Formerly COMM 351]

COMM 560 Political Communication (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; COMM GWAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

American political communication in terms of rhetorical structure, substance, strategy, and style. Analysis of contemporary political campaign rhetoric and communication. [Formerly COMM 440]

COMM 561 Social Semiotics (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; COMM GWAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

Social functions of language and symbolism in everyday life. Analyses of how meaning is constituted and communicated through the use of symbols in social and cultural practices.

COMM 563 Conversational Analysis (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; COMM GEAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

Critical examination of theoretical approaches to and applied research on conversational interaction in everyday life with attention to data collection, data management, and data analysis strategies of naturally occurring conversations.

COMM 564 Issues in Free Speech (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors, Criminal Justice Studies majors, and Conflict Resolution Certificate students; GE Areas A1 and E.

Issues and cases involving freedom of expression. Historical and current controversies involving national survival, public morality, law and order, academic freedom, and privacy. Symbolic and non-verbal free speech issues. [Formerly COMM 461]

COMM 565 Rhetorical Theory (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; COMM GEAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

Conceptual approaches to persuasive artistry and rhetorical cultures. [Formerly COMM 341]

COMM 566 Communication and Social Process (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; COMM GEAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

Critical and conceptual analysis of norms, behaviors, and institutions of social life. [Formerly COMM 302]

Course Attributes:

- Social Justice

COMM 570 Human Communication and New Technologies (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; COMM GEAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

How technologies such as teleconferencing, telecommunicating, computer conferencing, videotexts, electronic mail, etc., will affect human communication. Issues of trust, synchrony, privacy, and electronic style.

COMM 571 The Rhetoric of Terrorism (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors and Criminal Justice majors; GE Areas A1 and E.

Rhetorical implications of terrorism sponsored by individuals, dissent groups, criminal enterprises and/or states; examines how symbolic messages are rhetorically communicated and disseminated for and interpreted by audiences. [Formerly COMM 445]

COMM 572 Rhetoric of Ecology (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; COMM GEAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

Critical reading and synthesis of communication scholarship related to environmentalism and environmental justice. Critical analysis of relevant examples of contemporary rhetoric. [Formerly COMM 448]

COMM 573 The Rhetoric of Criminality and Punishment (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors, Criminal Justice Studies majors, and Global Peace, Human Rights, and Justice Studies minors; GE Areas A1 and E.

Contemporary rhetoric of violence and hate, including social discourses of crime and punishment, war and peace, and hatred related to race, sex, gender, sexuality, and class. [Formerly COMM 449]

COMM 574 Rhetoric of the Media (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; COMM GEAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

Rhetorical dimensions of major communication technologies through history from oral culture to social media, and its impact on human consciousness and behavior. [Formerly COMM 444]

COMM 575 Emerging and Social Media (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; COMM GEAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

Investigation of the emergence of new communication practices as well as their social, political, cultural, and economic impact in personal, communal, cultural, social, institutional, and international life.

COMM 590 Advanced Performance Study (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; COMM GEAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

Seminar in performance studies including the performance of literary and ethnographic texts. Emphasis on presenting and critiquing performances inside and outside the classroom. [Formerly COMM 697]

COMM 661 Quantitative Methods in Communication (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors and Child and Adolescent Development majors; GE Areas A1 and E.

Basic empirical research skills including design of studies, analysis of data, and preparation of research reports. Practical applications of research.

COMM 662 Critical and Rhetorical Methods in Communication (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; COMM GEAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

Methodological intersections between critical inquiry and rhetorical analysis. Pride of place is given to methods that allow students to address and expand the disciplinary boundaries of rhetorical criticism.

COMM 663 Performative Methods in Communication (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; COMM GEAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

Human communication through the performance of materials gathered from everyday life. Techniques for collecting naturally occurring conversations and conducting oral history interviews which are adapted for individual and group performances.

COMM 664 LSI Methods in Communication (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors and minors; COMM GVAR or equivalent (may be taken concurrently).

Methods for exploring verbal and nonverbal communication behaviors in language and social interaction. Transcription and analysis of everyday face-to-face talk. Data analysis methods include conversation analysis, ethnomethodology, speech acts, and gesture analysis.

COMM 670 Seminar in Communication Studies (Units: 2)

Prerequisites: Restricted to senior Communication Studies majors having completed a minimum of 24 units of COMM coursework or consent of instructor. COMM GVAR or equivalent.

Integration and application of major coursework to demonstrate achievement of COMM program learning outcomes through a final ePortfolio project.

COMM 685 Projects in the Teaching of Communication (Units: 1-4)

Prerequisites: A grade of B or better in the course (or equivalent) in which the student will be aide, and consent of the instructor.

Students learn more about a previously studied topic in communication and about pedagogical strategies for sharing that knowledge. (Students may earn a maximum of 4 units toward the baccalaureate degree for any course(s) numbered 685 regardless of discipline.)

COMM 695 Internship in Communication Studies (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division Communication Studies majors; COMM GVAR* or equivalent.

Students participate in a 120-hour internship at a University-approved organization that integrates Communication Studies theories, scholarship, and ethics with practical work experience. Additional focus includes career development and applying for employment. May be repeated for a total of 8 units with 4 units counted towards major requirements.

COMM 699 Independent Study (Units: 1-4)

Prerequisites: Upper-division standing; consent of the major adviser and supervising faculty member; and a GPA of 3.0.

Supervised study in communication planned and completed under the direction of a member of the department. Repeatable for credit to total 8 units. Enrollment by petition.

COMM 700 Introduction to Graduate Study (Units: 4)

Prerequisite: Restricted to graduate students in Communication Studies or consent of the instructor.

Introduction to the field and the study of communication from a social justice perspective. Coverage of its major paradigms, theoretical contexts, and methodologies as well as its reading, research, writing, and presentation conventions and practices.

COMM 721 Seminar in Rhetorical and Communication Theory (Units: 4)

Prerequisite: Restricted to graduate students in Communication Studies or consent of the instructor.

Issues in rhetorical and communication theory and practice.

COMM 725 Seminar in Sexualities and Communication (Units: 4)

Prerequisite: Restricted to graduate students in Communication Studies or Sexuality Studies or consent of the instructor.

How sexual identities are created, shaped, produced, reproduced, maintained, changed, contested, and challenged through communication practices. Social, cultural, and historical contexts. Interpersonal and mass media contexts.

(This course is offered as COMM 725 and SXS 810. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

COMM 731 Seminar in Communication and Social Criticism (Units: 4)

Prerequisite: Restricted to graduate students in Communication Studies or consent of the instructor.

Analysis and application of research related to issues of communicative practice, relations of power, and social change.

COMM 740 Seminar in Interpersonal Communication (Units: 4)

Prerequisite: Restricted to graduate students in Communication Studies or consent of the instructor.

Theoretical approaches and primary scholarship regarding communication processes in relationships, with attention to social justice. Analysis of extant research, and application or extension of theory or research.

COMM 745 Seminar in Gender and Communication (Units: 4)

Prerequisite: Restricted to graduate students in Communication Studies or consent of the instructor.

Multidisciplinary examination of the complex relationship between sex, gender, power, and communication within particular historical and geopolitical contexts. Multiple theoretical perspectives and methodological approaches for the analysis of gender and communication, from interpersonal to mediated settings. (Plus-minus letter grade only)

COMM 750 Seminar in Culture and Communication (Units: 4)

Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of the instructor.

Multidisciplinary examination of the complex relationship between culture, power, and communication within particular historical and geopolitical contexts. Multiple theoretical perspectives and methodological approaches for the analysis of culture and communication, from interpersonal to mediated settings.

COMM 755 Conflict and Communication (Units: 4)

Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of the instructor.

Analysis of theories and research in conflict and communication, application of interdisciplinary principles to the study of conflict and communication, practical applications toward working with conflict, communication and scholarship.

COMM 760 Seminar in Organizational Communication (Units: 4)

Prerequisite: Restricted to graduate students in Communication Studies or consent of the instructor.

Theories, research methods, and practices for organizational communication and development from the perspective of the process consultant. A case study and either a research or consulting intervention proposal are required.

COMM 761 Seminar: Corporate Communication (Units: 4)

Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of the instructor.

Explores the public level of organizational communication. Focus on symbolic implications and speech perspective of corporate communication methods including image molding, identity shaping, recognition building, reputation enhancement, and advocacy strategies.

COMM 773 Seminar in Language and Social Interaction (Units: 4)

Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of the instructor.

Examination of the historical and theoretical basis for language and social interaction research. Focus on select interactional settings or topics in communication studies from a language and social interaction perspective.

COMM 780 Studies in Contemporary Theory (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Graduate standing; COMM 700 (may be taken concurrently); or consent of the instructor.

Focus is on the in depth study of one or more contemporary theories relevant to the communication studies discipline. Topic to be specified in Class Schedule. May be repeated when topics vary.

COMM 797 Performance Theory and Practice in Communication (Units: 4)

Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of the instructor.

Practicum in performance studies, including performance of literature, performance ethnography, and other performance theories. Emphasis on gaining experience in creating performances in response to theory in multiple contexts.

COMM 850 Teaching Communication (Units: 4)

Prerequisite: Restricted to graduate students in Communication Studies or consent of the instructor.

Introduction to theories and practices of teaching communication. Develop appropriate and effective syllabi, instruction and evaluation materials for an introductory communication studies course. Practice facilitation, evaluation, critique, and reflection for teacher preparation.

COMM 851 Internship in Teaching Communication (Units: 2)

Prerequisite: Restricted to graduate students in Communication Studies or consent of the instructor.

Internship in introductory communication studies course. Introduction to all aspects of teaching including facilitating class, lecturing, providing student feedback, and reflecting on teaching choices with an experienced instructor. Must be taken simultaneously with COMM 850. (CR/NC grading only)

COMM 852 Supervision of Teaching Communication (Unit: 1)

Prerequisite: Restricted to graduate students in Communication Studies or consent of the instructor.

Supplements teaching experience with appropriate supervision and training in curriculum, teaching techniques, grading procedures, etc. Repeatable once for credit. (CR/NC grading only)

COMM 870 Multiple Methods in Communication Research (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: Restricted to graduate students in Communication Studies; COMM 700 or equivalent.

Exploration of different ways of knowing about communication, identify paradigm assumptions, critique communication scholarship from multiple paradigms, and propose an individual research project in a paradigm of choice.

COMM 872 Field Research Strategies (Units: 4)

Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of the instructor.

Ethnographic approach to communication through the use of a variety of qualitative methods including participant/observation, interviewing, conversation analysis, and unobtrusive measures.

COMM 873 Research Strategies in Language and Social Interaction (Units: 4)

Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of the instructor.

Methods for collecting recordings of interaction; foundations for analyzing such recordings for graduate level research projects.

COMM 885 Graduate Projects in the Teaching of Communication (Units: 4)

Prerequisites: A grade of B or better in the course or its equivalent in which the student will be an aide; consent of the instructor.

An application of previously acquired knowledge through assisting instruction and learning pedagogical strategies. May be repeated for a total of 8 units.

COMM 890 Research Practicum in Communication Studies (Units: 2)

Prerequisites: Graduate standing in Communication Studies; COMM 700 or consent of the instructor.

Completion of a communication research project from the selection of dissemination venue and paper write up to submission and presentation of findings. May be repeated for a total of 4 units.

COMM 894 Creative Work Project (Units: 3)

Prerequisites: Consent of the instructor; approval of Advancement to Candidacy (ATC) and Culminating Experience (CE) forms by Graduate Studies; a GPA of 3.5; and recommendation of the major adviser. Advancement to Candidacy and Proposal for Culminating Experience Requirement forms must be approved by the Graduate Division before registration.

(CR/NC grading only)

COMM 896 Directed Readings in Communication Studies (Units: 3)

Prerequisites: Advancement To Candidacy (ATC) and Proposal for Culminating Experience Requirement forms approved by an adviser or the department chair prior to registration. Enrollment in COMM 896 and COMM 896EXM is required for students who select the examination option as their culminating experience. Not open to M.A. candidates selecting the thesis or creative project culminating experience option.

Texts and topics in speech communication based on the departmental reading list and student's areas of emphasis in preparation for the Comprehensive Written Examination. (CR/NC grading only)

COMM 896EXM Culminating Experience Examination (Unit: 0)

Prerequisites: Consent of the instructor, committee chair, and approval of Advancement to Candidacy (ATC) and Culminating Experience (CE) forms by Graduate Studies. ATC and Proposal for Culminating Experience Requirement forms must be approved by the Division of Graduate Studies before registration. Enrollment in COMM 896 and COMM 896EXM is required for students whose select the examination option for their culminating experience. Not open to M.A. candidates selecting the thesis or creative project culminating experience option.

A comprehensive examination to assess the ability to integrate knowledge, show critical and independent thinking, and demonstrate mastery in Communication Studies. (CR/NC, RP)

COMM 898 Master's Thesis (Units: 3)

Prerequisites: Consent of the instructor; approval of Advancement to Candidacy (ATC) and Culminating Experience (CE) forms by Graduate Studies; a GPA of 3.5; and recommendation of the major adviser.

Intensive, systematic study of significant topic in communication studies. (CR/NC grading only)

COMM 899 Independent Study for Investigation in Communication Studies (Units: 1-4)

Prerequisites: Consent of the graduate major adviser and supervising faculty member; a GPA of 3.25. Open only to graduate students of demonstrated ability to do independent work. Enrollment by petition.

Study is planned, developed, and completed under the direction of a member of the faculty.