
COMMUNICATION STUDIES

Professor: Derek Buescher; Renée Houston, (*on leave 2021–22*); James Jasinski; Bianca Wolf

Associate Professor: Nicholas Brody, *Chair*

Visiting Assistant Professor: Anna Valiavska, *Director, Center for Speech and Effective Advocacy*

About the Department

Students majoring in Communication Studies examine the human, social, political, institutional, and mediated dimensions of human communication practices and processes. In every course in the program, students learn how these communication practices and processes construct and reconstruct meanings, enable and constrain social interaction, and interact with institutional structures and cultural, historical, and political forces. Students choosing a major in Communication Studies develop analytic and interpretive skills that enhance their capacity for critical thinking, intellectual curiosity about human communication, and proficiency in basic critical/interpretive and social science methods of communication research. Students demonstrate their command of this material by the capacity to (1) conduct critical inquiry and social scientific research, (2) locate and interpret primary materials when formulating original conclusions, and (3) communicate the results of their research to diverse audiences, both orally and in writing. The competencies emphasized within the Communication Studies program are integral to postgraduate study, a wide range of occupations, and the full and open discourse essential for democratic citizenship in the twenty-first century.

In consultation with their advisor, students typically concentrate their major course work in one of four emphasis areas: Relational Studies (interpersonal, persuasion, health, technology), Rhetorical Studies (political communication, argumentation, rhetorical theory and criticism, rhetoric and the law), Media Studies (television studies, film criticism, visual communication), and Organizational Communication. The department encourages students to complement their Communication Studies major with either a minor in a related discipline or a minimum of five courses in a supporting field, selected in consultation with their department advisor.

Cocurricular Activities

The Department of Communication Studies sponsors activities that include a competitive forensics program, including participation in policy and parliamentary debate within the Cross Examination Debate Association (CEDA), National Debate Tournament (NDT), National Parliamentary Tournament of Excellence (NPTE) and the National Parliamentary Debate Association (NPDA). The department also sponsors the Washington Alpha Chapter of Pi Kappa Delta, a national forensic honorary. Participation in these projects is open to all university students. Activity credit may be granted with prior approval of the department. The department sponsors a chapter of Lambda Pi Eta, the national undergraduate honor society.

General Requirements for the Major or Minor

General university degree requirements stipulate that 1) at least four units of the major or three units of the minor be taken in residence at Puget Sound; 2) students earn a GPA of 2.0 in courses taken for the major or the minor; and 3) all courses taken for a major or minor must be taken for graded credit. Any exceptions to these stipulations are indicated in the major and minor degree requirements listed below.

Requirements for the Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies

1. One unit selected from COMM class numbered 150–199;
2. COMM 230 and 240;
3. One unit selected from COMM 343, 344, or 373;
4. One unit selected from COMM 330 or 331;
5. Five elective units selected and approved through advising from COMM, 291, 299, 308, 321, 322, 346, 347, 348, 350, 351, 352, 353, 360, 361, 368, 370, 381, 384, 399, 422, 444, 450, 460, 461, 482, 498 to include at least one elective unit at the 400-level; once requirements for #3 and #4 above have been met, additional courses from 330, 331, 343, 344, or 373 may be counted as an elective.
6. Only one 200-level elective and one unit of COMM 498 may be counted toward the major.

Requirements for the Minor in Communication Studies

Completion of 5 units, to include: COMM 230 and 240; three additional elective units from the 100-, 200-, or 300-level courses (at least two of which are 300-level courses). Theory (343, 344, 373) and Methods (330, 331) courses can also count as elective units. A single unit of COMM 150-190 elective can count toward the minor if completed in the freshman or sophomore year. Students who have not completed COMM 150-190 by the beginning of their junior year should start the minor with either COMM 230 or 240.

Notes on the Major and Minor

1. Students majoring or minoring in Communication Studies must earn a grade of C- or higher in all courses which are taken in fulfillment of a major or minor requirement.
2. 400-level courses are for majors only.
3. The Communication Studies Department reserves the option of determining, on an individual basis, a time limit on the applicability of courses to a major or minor.
4. Students may apply no more than one course to both core and Communication Studies minor requirements.
5. Students may apply up to two approved courses of study abroad credit toward their Communication Studies major.
6. Minors are required to have a secondary advisor in Communication Studies and meet with their advisor upon declaration of the minor.

Course Offerings in Communication Studies

Unless otherwise specified, each course carries 1 unit of credit and is offered at least once each academic year. Please see “Frequency of Course Offerings” on page 18.

Seminars in Scholarly Inquiry. See *Seminars in Scholarly Inquiry in the Core Curriculum section of this Bulletin for course descriptions (page 18)*. *Seminars in Scholarly Inquiry do not count for the major or minor.*

SSI1/SSI2 109 Rhetoric, Film, and National Identity

SSI1/SSI2 116 Communicating Forgiveness and Revenge

SSI1/SSI2 118 Doing Gender

SSI1/SSI2 143 Controversies of Communication and Technology

SSI1/SSI2 144 Constitutional Controversies

SSI1 162 Colonialism and Films

SSI1/SSI2 187 Controversies of Communication: The American Dream

Other courses offered by Communication Studies Department faculty. See *Connections in the Core Curriculum* section of this Bulletin for *Connections* course descriptions (page 34).

AFAM 346 African Americans and American Law

Satisfies the Connections core requirement.

CONN 340 Gender and Communication

Satisfies the Connections core requirement.

Communication Studies (COMM)

156 Introduction to Interpersonal Communication This course is designed as an introductory course on face-to-face communication in our social and personal relationships—our acquaintances, friendships, romantic partnerships, and relations with other loved ones. The basic premise of the course is to position one to maximize communicative effectiveness in these relationships with knowledge about how communication functions combined with analysis about one's own and others' communication practices and experiences. As a social scientific approaches course, this class will emphasize an understanding and application of various theories of interpersonal communication. *Prerequisite: First year or sophomore standing or permission of instructor. Satisfies the Social Scientific Approaches core requirement. Offered frequently.*

160 Introduction to Organizational Communication This course provides students with an introduction to the field of organizational communication as it exists within the discipline of Communication Studies. Through a survey of traditional and contemporary theories used to study the relationship between communication and organization, students are asked to analyze, compare, and apply theory to gain an appreciation for how communication scholars ask questions and study modern organizations in contemporary society. Specific theories covered include bureaucracy, rationality, power, systems, inter-organizational relationships, culture, conflict, race, gender, technology, and globalization. Throughout the course, theory will be applied to examples from a range of organizations including for-profit, government, educational institutions, civil sector, and virtual organizations. *Prerequisite: First year or sophomore standing or permission of instructor. Satisfies the Social Scientific Approaches core requirement. Offered frequently.*

170 Introduction to Media Studies: Governmentality and Torture This course introduces the discipline of Communication Studies through the allied fields of media and cultural studies. Students gain foundational understanding in methods and critical approaches to contemporary media. The course begins with a survey of media structures and institutions (questions of media role in democracy), media texts and genres (questions of media form), and media and identity (questions of representation). The course transitions from this overview into topical or thematic views of media. Topics may include: (1) representation and ideology with attention to race and gender; (2) trauma and torture pre and post 9-11; (3) memories of war, trauma, and immigration with attention to imperialism, race, and gender; (4) media and social/economic systems; (5) public sphere deliberation and media as democratic processes; or (6) Disney Culture. *Prerequisite: First year or sophomore standing or permission of instructor. Satisfies the Humanistic Approaches core requirement. Offered frequently.*

171 Introduction to American Civic Rhetoric This course uses rhetorical and argumentation theory to introduce students to the discipline of Communication Studies. Students gain foundational understanding of the concepts, theories, and methods related to the study of American civic rhetoric. This course begins with a brief introduction to key concepts in rhetorical studies and then examines key examples of American civic rhetoric that have shaped the political culture of the United States

throughout its history. *Prerequisite: First-year or sophomore only, or by instructor permission. Satisfies the Humanistic Approaches core requirement. Offered every other year.*

180 Introduction to Critical Issues in Public Culture: Democracy and Identity in US Public Discourse This course uses critical and cultural studies approaches to introduce students to the discipline of Communication Studies. Students gain foundational understanding in methods and critical approaches to public culture, including media. The course begins with a survey of key concepts, public culture, democracy, identity, and communication, and then moves to a topical study of discourse as part of public culture in the struggle to maintain or advance concepts of democracy within the context of competing identities related to issues of race, class, gender, and political affiliation. *Prerequisite: First year or sophomore standing or permission of instructor. Satisfies the Humanistic Approaches core requirement. Offered every other year.*

181 Introduction to Online Communication This course provides an introduction to the fields of human communication and technology, computer-mediated communication, and internet studies as they exist within the discipline of Communication Studies. The course covers a broad range of theories and applies them to the modern use of existing technologies and newer media in an effort to uncover how these technological systems affect today's communication climate. Specific areas may include the following: online impression formation and self-presentation, mobile communication, personal relationships, political communication, language use and memes, online celebrity, and harassment and cyberbullying. Students will be introduced to social science research, scholarly argument, and empirical observation. *Prerequisite: First year or sophomore standing or permission of instructor. Satisfies the Social Scientific Approaches core requirement. Offered frequently.*

190 Introduction to Film Studies: Transnationalism and Modernity This course introduces the Communication Studies discipline through the interpretation and analysis of cinema across historical, geographic, linguistic, and cultural contexts. Students will come away with a foundational understanding of the power of visual media in the form of film, as well as a variety of critical approaches used in communication inquiry. The course begins by surveying introductory readings in the study of film. The course then transitions toward explorations of film as a vehicle of visual communication throughout 20th-century globalization. The course concludes by discussing the present and future of cinema in the Digital Age. Students are expected to engage in conversations that question contemporary global cartography in both the historical and technological development of cinema, as well as the implicit politics found in visual representations of other cultures. *Prerequisite: First year or sophomore standing or permission of instructor. Satisfies the Humanistic Approaches core requirement. Offered frequently.*

192 Thinking on Your Feet: Extemporaneous Speaking 0.25 activity units. The purpose of this course is to provide an opportunity for students who are true novices, either by lack of prior experience or due to communication anxiety, to gain skills in public speaking that will be needed for their success at and beyond Puget Sound. Class sessions will include instruction and practice; additional time will be required for rehearsal and feedback with Peer Speech Consultants in the Center for Speech and Effective Advocacy. Course topics include: managing communication anxiety, basic speech structure, using speaker notes productively, effective speech delivery, impromptu speaking, extemporaneous speaking, managing questions and answers, being a supportive audience member. *Pass/Fail Required.*

230 Communication Theory This course is designed to introduce stu-

dents to the role that theory plays in different types of communication research. The course looks at the different motives scholars have for studying communication, and the different types of theory they develop to pursue these motives. In addition, the main areas of communication scholarship are reviewed with respect to the theories that can inform research in those domains. The class is divided into six general topical foci: Individual/sender processes, receiver-based processes (message processing), relational processes (dyads and social networks), media, gender/culture/society, and organizations/groups. Students are expected to engage in practices of close reading, critique, and evaluation of these theories within the communication science tradition. *Prerequisite: One unit selected from COMM 150 - COMM 199; may be taken concurrently.*

240 Introduction to Communication Criticism Academic communication criticism (or critical inquiry) typically differs from popular forms of criticism in the amount of attention it devotes to descriptive analysis. Rigorous descriptive analysis is the foundation of critical inquiry in communication studies. This course introduces students to some of the basic analytic concepts that communication critics employ to analyze film, prose discourse (essays, speeches), and visual images. Course concepts include media grammars and styles, figurative language and visual tropes, narrative forms, and genre. Throughout the course students will learn how to prepare close readings of multiple texts. *Prerequisite: One unit selected from COMM 150 - COMM 199; may be taken concurrently. Offered every semester.*

292 Intercollegiate Debate 0.25 activity units. Participating in intercollegiate forensics. *May be repeated for credit.*

299 Supervised Research Variable credit up to 0.50 units. This course provides research experience in either social science or the critical/interpretative research tradition for advanced sophomores and juniors. Students assist a department faculty member in various aspects of the research process (e.g. reviewing literature, gathering and analyzing data, etc.). Students must prepare and submit a written summary of their research work for a final grade. Interested students should contact the department chair to see what research opportunities are available in a given semester. *Prerequisite: One course selected from COMM 150 - COMM 199; completion or concurrent enrollment in COMM 240 and COMM 330 or COMM 331. May be repeated for credit up to 1.00 unit.*

308 Organizational Communication Theory This course offers a focused review of organizational communication in terms of historical roots, metatheoretical commitments, conceptual and theoretical approaches, and contemporary research. The first half of the course is devoted to a consideration of the organizational communication discipline in terms of history, metatheory and methodology, and important conceptual and theoretical approaches to understanding organizing and organizations. The second half of the course is devoted to discussions of a range of contemporary research on specific topics that are currently of interest to organizational communication scholars. Topics include, but are not limited to, work-life balance, emotional labor, power, and resistance in organizations. *Prerequisite: COMM 160 recommended. Offered frequently.*

321 Film Criticism This is a critical writing course which focuses on how popular film narratives (independent and mainstream) function in American culture. Students study visual and narrative composition of film, the politics of film aesthetics and production, and the competing rhetorics of American film directors and genres. The discussion of each film is contextualized through attention to visual and narrative construction of gender, race, ethnicity, nationality, sexuality, and social class. Course materials include readings and videostreamed films. Additionally,

students select a film of their own choosing for intense study. Not appropriate for first year students. *Prerequisite: COMM 240 or permission of instructor. Offered frequently.*

322 Television Culture This advanced course addresses the cultural influences of American television from 1946 to present day. In particular, the course examines the intersections of the television medium with politics and government, social movements, cultural conflicts, film aesthetics, advertising and consumerism. Some of the topics covered in the course include the changing character of broadcast news (from Edward R. Murrow to Jon Stewart), women and feminisms in television, television genres, and television and race. *Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in COMM 240 or 373; or permission of instructor.*

330 Quantitative Research Methods The main goal of this course is to introduce students to the social scientific tradition of communication research. Over the course of the semester, students will be responsible for developing an interesting and novel research question and/or hypotheses based on scientific literature and theory. Students will learn how to critically evaluate empirical research and employ the scientific method to investigate issues and questions that arise within the study of human communication. Students will become familiar with survey research, experimentation, and techniques for data analysis. *Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment with COMM 230 or 330; or permission of instructor. Offered frequently.*

331 Qualitative Research Methods This course introduces students to the ideology, designs, implementation, and analytic techniques of qualitative research that enable them to describe and explain social phenomena related to social and personal relationships and health. Students will learn experientially throughout the semester and, upon successful completion of this course, will be able to draw on the appropriate qualitative methodological tools to best answer original research questions. *Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment with COMM 230 or 330; or permission of instructor. Offered frequently.*

343 Argumentation Theory This course examines theories of argumentation to explore how communities arrive at decisions. To that end, this course develops the skills of reason-giving and critical evaluation that are central to competent participation in a democratic society. In this course, students actively engage the formal structure of arguments. Students learn to evaluate the rhetorical claims of others while constructing their own claims with reasoning adapted to the constraints of the situation. Students learn to question, analyze and critically engage the claims, grounds, warrants, evidence and reasoning of public discourse and will grasp the major theoretical trends in the field of argumentation. While the course focuses on the major theoretical trends of argumentation, it does so through grounded topic areas to understand the relationship between *theoria* and *praxis*. Primarily, the course covers theories of the public sphere, the body, visual argument, feminist argumentation, collective memory, and critical approaches to argumentation. *Prerequisite: COMM 240 or permission of instructor. Offered occasionally.*

344 Rhetorical Theory An advanced course that examines the evolution of rhetorical theory during the past twenty-five hundred years and the cultural forces that have given rise to variations in the classical paradigm. Students of the language arts, classics, philosophy, as well as communication, should find the course a useful cognate in their academic programs. *Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in COMM 240; or permission of instructor. Offered frequently.*

346 Rhetoric and the Law For most of recorded history, the study of law and the study of rhetoric were linked. The professionalization and

specialization of legal education in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries severed a connection that had persisted for two thousand years. Over the past few decades, rhetorical scholars in communication departments and scholars in other academic disciplines (including political science, literary studies, and the law itself) have begun to forge a new link among the law, legal advocacy, and rhetoric, and this course introduces students to this relatively new interdisciplinary movement. The course concentrates on three intersecting themes: the law as language, the law as argument, and the law as constitutive rhetoric. *Prerequisite: COMM 240 recommended. Offered occasionally.*

347 Public Discourse Public Discourse This course analyzes the creation, reception, and impact of American public discourse over the last five decades. Course material focuses on the process of rhetorical advocacy as it occurs in key political and cultural events and significant public controversies. Through detailed analysis of message construction, the course enhances students' appreciation of the range of strategic choices available to public advocates, increases students' understanding of the limitations and constraints that confront public advocates, and nurtures students' ability to analyze and evaluate public discourse. Through the reconstruction and analysis of important episodes and controversies in recent American history (including decisions to drop the atomic bomb, the cold war, Vietnam, civil rights, and feminism), the course develops students' knowledge of the role of public discourse in historical events and illustrates the relationship between rhetorical practice and American public culture. **African American Discourse:** This course analyzes the tradition of African American public discourse from the late eighteenth to the early twenty-first centuries. Through detailed analysis of message construction, the course enhances students' appreciation of the range of strategic choices available to African American advocates, increases students' understanding of the limitations on constraints that have confronted public advocates, and nurtures students' capacity to analyze and evaluate various forms of public discourse. Course topics include: the emergence of an African American public voice in late eighteenth-century America (e.g. Benjamin Banneker, Absalom Jones), African American abolitionist voices (e.g. David Walker, Frederick Douglass, Henry Highland Garnet), the advocacy efforts of African American women (Maria W. Stewart, Sojourner Truth, Ida B. Wells), African American public discourse in the reconstruction and post-reconstruction era (e.g. Joseph Rainey, Booker T. Washington, W.E.B. DuBois), the twentieth-century civil rights movement (the Brown decision, Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, "black power" advocates), and various contemporary civic controversies (e.g. reparations, affirmative action). *Prerequisite: Previous work in rhetorical studies (COMM 240, COMM 343 or COMM 344) recommended. Offered occasionally.*

348 Political Communication This course examines the historical development of "the rhetorical presidency," the genres of presidential and judicial discourse, the argumentative dynamics of legal interpretation (how people argue about the meaning of texts), and the process of policy deliberation in the legislative branch. The course also explores the idea that political communication constructs or constitutes our culture's "social reality" (our shared values, traditions, behavioral norms, etc.). The course prepares students to become more sophisticated and literate consumers of political communication. *Prerequisite: COMM 240 or permission of instructor. Offered occasionally.*

350 Family Communication Many orientations to the social world are formed from our experiences that extend from family identities; in particular, the ways individuals relate and communicate with others are profoundly affected by our familial relationships. Furthermore, understanding the family as a communication system is imperative in an era when

family issues are at the forefront of national concerns in governmental, educational, health, and religious arenas. This class regards the examination of "family" as fundamental to a comprehensive understanding of relational communication. This upper level course is intended to help students understand how communication helps people develop, maintain, enhance, or disturb family relationships. Students learn to think, write, and speak critically about what "family" means, and about the various forms, functions, and processes of family communication. This course is designed to help students better understand family communication in their own lives, both theoretically and practically. *Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in COMM 230, or permission of instructor. Offered occasionally.*

351 The Dark Side of Interpersonal Communication This is an advanced relational course, ideal for students who have previous exposure to relational theory and constructs. This course introduces a variety of 'dark side' topics and issues that are often neglected as important phenomena in the scope of human relationships. The course includes a critical examination of the 'dark side' of communication moving beyond the Pollyanna-like perspectives that pervade much of interpersonal communicative research, (i.e., be attractive, open, honest, good-humored, etc.) in an attempt to achieve a more realistic and balanced view of human interaction. *Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in COMM 230, or permission of instructor. Offered occasionally.*

352 Health Communication Campaigns Health communication campaigns are coordinated, large-scale efforts to promote health and reduce health risks. Campaigns are traditionally rooted in 1) persuasive approaches which focus on altering attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors and 2) communicative approaches that evaluate multiple levels of communication, different channels, and diverse communication technologies. This course introduces the historical perspectives of health campaigns, provides insights into various theories which inform campaign work, and reviews the methodological considerations of researching, implementing, and evaluating health campaigns. In this course students explore the design and analysis of health campaigns blending theory, practice and methods to critique past, present, and future campaigns. This course stresses practical application as students develop a hypothetical health campaign by which they come to fully understand the ways that campaigns are planned, organized, executed, and evaluated. This course covers a wide range of theories and topics on health campaigns including but not limited to: Agenda Setting, Agenda Building, Uses and Effects, Cultivation, Parasocial Interaction, Edu-tainment, Social Marketing, Diffusion of Innovations, Health Belief Model, Social Norms, Stages of Change, and Knowledge Gap. Applies to the Bioethics (BIOE) program. *Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in COMM 230, or permission of instructor. Offered occasionally.*

353 Health Communication This course will survey a number of topics relevant to the institutional settings of medicine (e.g. patient-provider interaction, health care team interactions), intercultural factors that influence health care (e.g., divergent needs, preferences, and access based on culture), the interpersonal ramifications of illness (e.g. coping, social support), and societal concerns regarding health and healthcare delivery (e.g., health insurance system, technological influence in healthcare, crises communication). Students will have an opportunity to explore and better understand the role communication plays in healthcare delivery, health promotion, disease prevention, environmental and risk communication, media and mass communication, and technology. *Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in COMM 230 is recommended. Cannot be audited.*

360 Contemporary Issues in Organizational Communication Using a variety of different organizational lenses (i.e. culture, workgroup, and agent), students learn to think through issues in modern organizations. Course materials encourage students to take the role of organizational agents as they face ethical dilemmas in examining contemporary organizational issues such as gender, language, class, and technology. Students can expect a variety of theory and application, integration through intensive class discussion, ethics case papers, and an in-depth group project, which includes a 40-minute professional presentation. Other assignments focus on developing writing skills that are appropriate for typical business and professional settings. The goal of the course is to encourage student reflection on how everyday communication (e.g. writing a simple memo) can affect and construct a system of interaction with profound organizational and social consequences. *Prerequisite: Junior or senior standing or permission of instructor. Offered every other year.*

361 Organizing Difference Using a variety of different organizational lenses (e.g. culture, workgroup, and agent), students learn to think through how social identity issues materialize in modern organizational policy and practice. Course materials encourage students to take the role of diverse organizational agents as they face ethical dilemmas in examining contemporary social identity issues such as gender, race, class, and age. Students can expect a variety of theory and application integration through intensive class discussion, reflective and analytic writing assignments and a final research project. The goal of the course is to encourage students to identify issues of organizational power and practices of oppression, particularly as these practices may result in disparate material consequences of economic health and well-being. *Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in COMM 230, or permission of instructor. Satisfies the Knowledge, Identity, Power graduation requirement. Offered occasionally.*

368 Environment and Organizational Practice Since organizations cannot exist without communication and interaction, organizational life is filled with communication activities that intersect with personal boundaries. Management and coordination, training, decision-making, and conflict are only a few examples. On another level, organizations are themselves the products of the constant processes of organizing. Thus, communication forms and maintains organizations by enabling the process of organizing. This course is designed to give students an intensive inquiry into systems theory as a way of understanding organizations as a function of communication and environment. Initially students review a variety of approaches which inform their understanding of organizational communication as it is practiced in the everyday life of organizations; however, the lion's share of the semester is spent studying intersections of communicating about and across systems and considering the impact of that communication on stakeholders. The course closes by considering the very basis for which the use of systems theory began to understand the relationship of organizations to the environment. Of course how people conceptualize what counts as environment changes over the years so in particular the course focuses on the impacts organizational practices impose on our natural environment and how management might change those practices to create a sustainable environment. *Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. Offered occasionally.*

370 Communication and Diversity The purpose of this course is to enhance students' understanding of diversity issues as they relate to the study of communication. The course looks at how the media, its images and discourses, shape one's understanding of experiences, shape the experiences of women, and the experiences of people of color. The course also explores the ways in which elements of the media socially reproduce prejudice and foster resistance to prejudice. As a result of

engagement in the course, students gain the ability to critically analyze and evaluate media products. They also become aware of critical professional issues in relation to a diversified workforce as it relates to the production, distribution, and consumption of media products. *Cross-listed as AFAM/COMM 370. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. Satisfies the Knowledge, Identity, Power graduation requirement. Offered frequently.*

372 Contemporary Media Culture: Deconstructing Disney The course focuses on critical understanding and evaluation of Disney as a constitutive element of contemporary culture both in the United States and globally. Through analysis of Disney animated films, Disney corporate reach and marketing, and Disney theme parks ("Where dreams come true") students engage questions highlighted by Henry Giroux about Disney, "such as what role [Disney] plays in (1) shaping public memory, national identity, gender roles, and childhood values; (2) suggesting who and what qualifies as an agent; and (3) determining the role of consumerism in American Culture around the globe" (The Mouse that Roared, p. 10, 2010). The course draws heavily on literature and theory from rhetorical criticism, media criticism, and cultural studies to engage the textual productions of Disney, Disney's historical location in U.S. culture, Disney's corporate structure and self-presentation, and its experiential vacation through theme parks, resorts, and vacation clubs. Disney broadly, and its theme parks specifically, offers highly orchestrated and managed immersive entertainment spaces. A clearer understanding of Disney cultural reach allows the course to enter discussions about citizenship, identity production including race, gender, ethnicity, and nationalism, labor and capital flow, ideology and interpellation, cultural appropriation and homogenization, consumerism and commodification, hyperreality, narrative, and resistance. *Satisfies the Knowledge, Identity, and Power graduation requirement. Prerequisite: COMM 240. Prerequisite: COMM 240 or permission of instructor. Satisfies the Knowledge, Identity, Power graduation requirement. Offered occasionally.*

373 Critical Cultural Theory This course introduces students to the methodological and theoretical approaches of cultural studies and does so with attention to both the interrelationships of race, gender, and class as well as the contemporary politics of social justice. Although this course is, in general, not canonical in its orientation, the suggested readings do point students toward some key scholarship in cultural studies. Beyond seeing cultural studies, as traditionally viewed by academics, as developing out of Western academic critiques of culture and philosophy, this course examines the multiple locations, and politics of these locations, that gave rise to cultural studies. The course has many goals: to introduce the nascent field of cultural studies scholarship, to encourage analysis of the 'politics of location' of cultural studies research, to provide a broad understanding of the history of cultural studies, and to help students ground their own perspectives within an area of cultural studies scholarship with particular and particularistic assumptions, perspectives, and approaches. *Prerequisite: COMM 240 or permission of instructor. COMM 321, COMM 322, COMM 343, or COMM 344 recommended. Offered frequently.*

381 Communication and the Internet This course is part of the human communication and technology curriculum. This course explores issues and questions about computer-mediated communication in multiple contexts, in order to understand the psychological, interpersonal, professional, social, and cultural implications of computer-mediated communication. The objective of Communication and the Internet is to develop a critical view of online communication by applying the processes and principles of social scientific theories and research to issues and

patterns of Internet communication. Lectures, discussions, and assignments are designed to give students insight into the way technology currently impacts their daily lives, and how it may affect them in the future. *Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment with COMM 230 or 330; or permission of instructor. Offered frequently.*

384 Topics in Communication Upper level courses in various areas of the communication discipline. Course content varies with each offering. *Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in COMM 230 or 240 (based on course approach) or permission of instructor. May be repeated for credit. Offered occasionally.*

399 Supervised Research Variable credit up to 0.50 units. This course provides research experience in either social science or the critical/interpretative research tradition for juniors and seniors. Students assist a department faculty member in various aspects of the research process (e.g. reviewing literature, gathering and analyzing data, etc.). Students must prepare and submit a written summary of their research work for a final grade. Interested students should contact the department chair to see what research opportunities are available in a given semester. *Prerequisite: COMM 230 and 240 or permission of instructor. May be repeated for credit up to 1.00 unit.*

422 Advanced Media Studies This course is the capstone of the media studies curriculum. Students have the opportunity to study the historical, technological and economic contexts within which images of the human body have been circulated, regulated, and negotiated. *Prerequisite: COMM 240. Communication studies major or permission of instructor. Offered occasionally.*

444 Advanced Rhetorical Studies This course is the capstone of the rhetorical studies curriculum. As such, it presupposes that students grasp the analytic techniques introduced in COMM 244 and the conceptual issues introduced in COMM 344. Its purpose is to examine exemplary forms of scholarly inquiry in rhetorical studies in order to better prepare students to engage in independent and creative scholarly inquiry. *Prerequisite: Communication Studies major or permission of instructor. Offered occasionally.*

450 Health and Relationships This course is the capstone of the relational and behavioral studies and health communication curricula. Students will review current research that intersects interpersonal, family and health communication, considering its methodological, critical, and practical implications. Students taking this course should be knowledgeable about relational and health theories and research reviewed in other related courses. *Prerequisite: COMM 230 and 330 or 331; Communication Studies major; or permission of instructor. Offered occasionally.*

460 Technology, Organization, and Globalization This course is one possible capstone of the organizational studies curriculum. Students consider how communication and collaboration technologies influence the creation, content, and pattern of knowledge networks within and between organizations. The course focuses special attention on recently emerging organizational forms including the virtual organization, the network organization, and the global organization. The remainder of the course examines how communication technology systems are changing the very fabric of our work experience in the twenty-first century. Discussion focuses on the relationships between technologies and social practices at the individual, group, organizational, interorganizational and global levels, as well as organizational and societal policy issues. *Prerequisite: COMM 308. Communication Studies major or permission of instructor. Offered occasionally.*

461 Advanced Organizational Communication This course is a capstone of the Organizational Studies Curriculum. Students have the opportunity to explore a variety of qualitative inquiry methods as applied to the study of anticipatory socialization, entry, assimilation, and expectations of work/life balance in organizations. *Prerequisite: COMM 308. Communication Studies major or permission of instructor. Offered occasionally.*

482 Communication in Personal Relationships: Online and Off This advanced course focuses on describing, explaining, and predicting communication processes that occur within the context of close relationships, with a focus on the effects of technology on these processes. The field of personal relationships is interdisciplinary, with scholars from areas such as communication, family studies, and social psychology all contributing to knowledge about communication in relationships. Similarly, mediated communication research is conducted by scholars in various fields—including communication, computer science, and sociology. Therefore, this course emphasizes communication but also includes concepts and theories from other fields. The overall goal of the class is to help students better understand some of the factors affecting relationships and technology, and to appreciate the impact of communication on their relationships in a variety of contexts. This course balances an in-depth examination of several classic studies in the field of relational communication with close readings of cutting-edge research published in the past five to ten years. Each week, students read articles that consider topics in both online and offline contexts. Students demonstrate mastery of material from each of their previous communication classes—particularly their courses in social scientific methods and theory—to enter into the scholarly conversation surrounding the examination of communication in relationships. *Prerequisite: COMM 230 and 330 or 331; Communication Studies major; or permission of instructor. Offered occasionally.*

495/496 Independent Study Variable credit up to 1.00 unit. Independent study is available to those students who wish to continue their learning in an area after completing the regularly offered courses in that area. *Prerequisite: Junior or senior standing with a minimum 3.0 GPA. May be repeated for credit up to 4.00 units. Cannot be audited. Cannot be taken Credit/No Credit.*

498 Internship Seminar Variable credit up to 1.00 unit. This scheduled weekly interdisciplinary seminar provides the context to reflect on concrete experiences at an off-campus internship site and to link these experiences to academic study relating to the political, psychological, social, economic and intellectual forces that shape our views on work and its meaning. The aim is to integrate study in the liberal arts with issues and themes surrounding the pursuit of a creative, productive, and satisfying professional life. Students receive 1.0 unit of academic credit for the academic work that augments their concurrent internship fieldwork. This course is not applicable to the Upper-Division Graduation Requirement. Only 1.0 unit may be assigned to an individual internship and no more than 2.0 units of internship credit, or internship credit in combination with co-operative education credit, may be applied to an undergraduate degree. *Prerequisite: Approval of instructor and the CES internship coordinator. May be repeated for credit up to 2.00 units. Cannot be audited. Cannot be taken Credit/No Credit.*