

Department of Communication  
**Fall 2022 Graduate Course Descriptions**

SPC 6934 Communication Pedagogy

Dr. Aubrey Huber

In this course, we will approach the study of communication pedagogy theoretically and pragmatically by doing a survey of pedagogical theories, methods, and histories in the discipline. In particular, we will examine the three different areas of communication pedagogy: communication education, instructional communication, and critical communication pedagogy. Theorizing the classroom as a site of research, we will discuss how pedagogical spaces, practitioners, and students are communicatively produced. The goal of this course is to carefully consider the philosophical and practical implications of teaching and learning through a constitutive communication perspective.

Projected assignments include:

A Statement of Teaching Philosophy, Reading Facilitation, Journal Review, Pedagogical Art Installation, Academic Paper.

COMM 7933 Content Analysis (PhD Seminar)

Dr. Joshua Scacco

This course examines techniques for the systematic analysis of texts, with particular emphasis placed on social scientific approaches. News media stories, organizational materials, health and political advertisements, digital marketing, speeches, and other texts serve as important sites for analysis in this course. The course proceeds through topics including theorization and development of content codes, reliability mechanics and application, analysis techniques for coding and modeling data, and computer-assisted techniques (big data-type strategies). As the course covers major topics, students simultaneously apply class techniques in teams on a tailored content analysis research project. Each project will proceed from start (idea/proposal) to theorization (code review and development) to analysis (reliability/coding/modeling) to final product.

COM 6001 Theories and Histories of Communication

Professors Jane Jorgenson and Steve Wilson

This required class for all incoming M.A. and Ph.D. students explores theories and histories of communication, with a view to cultivating an appreciation for the interdisciplinary nature of communication study. A central aim of the course is to provide conceptual and historical orientation to some of the enduring questions, core research traditions, and significant theoretical perspectives that animate communication study. Students will become conversant with the major epistemological, ontological, and axiological issues that underpin the discipline of communication. Because of its place in the curriculum, the course is designed to provide all students, regardless of area of specialty, with a grounding in the various debates and dialogues that characterize the field. The course also highlights the diverse ways in which our departmental faculty theorize, research, and engage in the different disciplinary traditions as a model for conversations that enrich scholarship across differences. Other goals of the course are to introduce students to the thinking, reading, and writing required of graduate study in the field, and to the communication program at USF.

### SPC 6934 Career Communication & Strategies

Dr. Patrice Buzzanell

*SPC 6934 Career Communication & Strategies*—This seminar explores the meanings and impact of career on everyday life, from birth to retirement (and other configurations), and in micro-macro (local, national, and global) and in mediated and face-to-face contexts. We pay particular attention to underrepresented issues, group members, and conceptualizations of work and career as well as the changing work-life landscape.

### COM 7325 Qualitative Research

Dr. Sonia R. Ivancic

In this class, students will learn how to conduct research using qualitative methodology. More specifically, we will explore the theoretical foundations, philosophical assumptions, and practical applications of qualitative research. Students will learn about all steps of the research process such as: how to design a study, conduct fieldwork, interview participants, analyze data, and communicate results effectively. We will also examine how to assess the value of knowledge claims and evaluate rigor in interpretive inquiry. Throughout the course, we will discuss articles about craft and exemplary studies that embody diverse topics, designs, theory, methods, and styles of writing. Ultimately, students will develop the ability to talk about their own orientation towards methods.

### COM 7933 Black Feminism Now

Dr. Aisha Durham

Black feminist thought is a dialectical, dialogical, intersectional, experiential, relational, and dynamic

body of situated, subjugated knowledge developed from the collective standpoint of Black women (1) to understand positionality and power, (2) to name and reclaim politically-informed, creative-intellectual work to escape, survive, and resist oppression, and (3) to advocate for transformative social change for Black people and other minoritized groups globally. In this course, we will discuss distinguishing features and core themes (e.g., outsider-within, matrix of domination, and controlling images) of Black feminist thought, and connect canonical communication research to contemporary scholarship in hood, hip hop, trap, abolition, and hashtag feminisms to flesh what Black feminist thought means today.

The course will draw from scholarship in the humanities and social sciences. No research background in this area is required. The seminar is intended to provide a deep engagement with critical social theory by attending to select topics that inform communication studies. Students enrolled in this course will gain professional training by performing peer reviews, producing a publishable book review, and presenting abbreviated research findings as a conference-ready paper, performance, or multimedia project.

At the close of the course, students should be able to:

- Identify key concepts and thinkers in BFT that contribute to communication studies
- Analyze communication texts applying BFT as critical social theory

Produce and present a conference-ready paper informed by BFT distinguishing features

## COM 6121: Organizational Communication

Dr. Mahuya Pal

The course provides an introduction to theory and research on human communication in complex organizations, including the communicative impact of organizations on the broader society. The course offers a survey of approaches to the study of organizational communication. While engaging with the dominant concepts in the field, the course aims to raise important critical questions about the role of the organization in neoliberal politics. The course interrogates the rhetoric of modernity and the logic of coloniality that informs the field. We will conclude by studying recent scholarships that call for decolonizing organization studies from the hegemony of management to account for studies of subaltern organizing. In sum, we will engage with cutting-edge scholarship in organizational communication, and conclude by exploring new ways of thinking of organizational communication in the context of contemporary global politics.

