

CMST GRADUATE BULLETIN

Department of Communication Studies

Spring 2018

CMST 4012 Communication and Relationships, Jim Honeycutt

- In this course, we examine the exciting dynamics of communication encounters in human relationships. Communication occurs in 4 ways in relationships; 1) intrapersonally in which we imagine in our heads encounters with a relational partner, 2) verbal interactions that are often scripted, 3) nonverbally (smiles, scowls, and silence) and 4) through e-mail in terms of cyber communication. Many individuals believe that "communication" is so basic that it is taken for granted and not thought about. Unfortunately, this myth tends to result in such things as misunderstandings, conflict, avoidance, and stereotyping. We will examine the basic concepts, theories and research findings relevant to initiating, developing, maintaining, and terminating relationships.
- Past Syllabus: <https://bit.ly/2OFhsMm>

CMST 4112 Health Communication, Loretta Pecchioni

- Think of this course as a capstone experience in which you have the opportunity to combine your skills, knowledge, and experience regarding communication to an applied setting that cuts across the range of communicative situations. Drawing on those abilities, this class provides you with a foundation of health-related terms and concepts in order to apply effective communication skills and to critique various aspects of communication practices in formal and informal health care settings.
- Past Syllabus: <https://bit.ly/2PhuWxh>

CMST 4119 Nonverbal Communication, Renee Edwards

- This course provides an in-depth study of nonverbal communication. Because CMST 2010 or an equivalent is a prerequisite for the class, students should

already understand the communication process and have some familiarity with nonverbal messages and their many forms and functions. This course will examine nonverbal communication in two ways. The first will be to examine theories and research about the codes and communicative functions of nonverbal behaviors. This will provide a cognitive understanding of the importance, pervasiveness, and effect of nonverbal communication, as well as the role it plays in the overall communication process. The second way that we will examine nonverbal communication is to experience actively how individuals use it, and discover what happens when nonverbal rules are violated. We will explore nonverbal abilities and expectations to understand the range of nonverbal communication. This will provide students with a subjective awareness of their own and others' nonverbal messages.

- past syllabus: <https://bit.ly/2OIs0u5>

CMST 4145 Group Performance, Tracy Shaffer

- Theory and techniques of adapting and staging nondramatic literature and other materials for group performance; directing for Reader's Theatre, Chamber Theatre, Story Theatre, and other forms.
- Past Syllabus: <https://bit.ly/2PPkJP1>

CMST 4169 Visual Rhetoric, Stephanie Houston Grey

- Throughout the history of western society vision has played a key role in the evolution of human thought from Plato's cave to the transparent observer that is the foundation of Enlightenment philosophy. Visuality is key to understanding how we come to know the world. Bear in mind that we are not talking about the physical act of seeing, but the socially constructed process through which we are taught to see. Visuality is a product that emerges from political practice, cultural narratives and everyday performances. From the time we are children we are trained to focus and place visuality in a primary role in how lives. It can be a practice steeped in both subversion and control. We also come to know ourselves as objects of display as we swim in a sea of symbols in which human bodies are presented for mass-consumption. Most recent syllabus: <https://bit.ly/2yVkyRV>

CMST 4107 Communication as Culture (Communication, Culture, and the Economy), William Saas

- In this course, we will explore how communication and culture constitute the modern economy. Our exploration will entail: (1) critical engagement with research from experts across the humanities and social sciences; (2) use of rhetorical methods to analyze contemporary economic discourses and controversies; and (3) translation of our individual and collective research experiences into a comprehensive “argumentative dictionary.” Most recent syllabus: <https://bit.ly/2Jc1Daa>

CMST 4162 Crime, Communication, and Culture, Bryan McCann

- Explores rhetorical dimensions of crime and incarceration in the United States; special attention to historical and contemporary expressions of race, class, gender, sexuality, national identity, etc. in and around criminal justice system. Our goal in this course is to better grasp how crime, including our socially constructed definitions thereof, allows us to make sense of the world around us. In other words, we will engage the ways public discourses of crime and criminality function as sites of cultural production. Throughout the semester, we will engage a wide range of texts, including rhetorical, historical, philosophical, and sociological research on the criminal justice system and its role in public culture. We will also study primary sources from a variety of perspectives that highlight how crime and criminality impact different communities, and how members of such communities have used communication to reckon with this salient dimension of American culture. Most recent syllabus: <https://bit.ly/2D0JGLm>

CMST 7913 Evolution and Intergroup Communication, Jim Honeycutt

- This seminar offers an introduction to evolutionary psychology and costly signaling approaches to the evolution of human communication. Topics include but are not limited to: language, gossip, pathogen avoidance, deception, laughter, norms, aggression, hierarchies, mating, physiology, imagined interactions, religious beliefs, daydreaming, pheromones, prejudice, and coalitional behavior. My goal is to enable students versed in the standard social science model to apply evolutionary thinking to their areas of interest.
- Past syllabus: <https://bit.ly/2R4bkds>

CMST 7944 Performance and Media, Trish Suchy

- Critical, historical and/or creative research in topics related to media in performance in contexts such as media theatre, film, video, television, Internet and virtual reality

CMST 7966 Problems in Rhetorical Theory, Criticism and History (Rhetoric and Ideology), Ashley Mack

- This course explores the different theoretical conceptions of ideology and their deployment as resources in modern rhetorical and cultural critique. We will contrast conceptions of ideological critique across classical Marxist, post-Marxist, psychoanalytic, feminist, post-structuralist, queer, postcolonial, de/colonial, and cultural studies. Finally, we will examine what implications these distinct critical perspectives bear on our understanding of human agency, consciousness, hegemony, domination/oppression, and our modern social imaginary.

CMST 7970 Rhetoric and Citizenship(s), Bryan McCann

- Drawing from a wide range of readings in rhetorical studies and other fields, this seminar engages citizenship as an object of rhetorical critique. Throughout the semester, we shall address several questions, including: What is the role of rhetoric in constituting norms of citizenship? What is the/a public? To what extent does the notion of a public sphere enhance or limit our understanding of citizenship? What is the role of marginalized communities in traditional models of citizenship?