

Graduate Course Atlas Spring 2019

COMM 6216

SPECIAL TOPICS: PUBLIC MEMORY, RHETORIC & CIVIL RIGHTS - Christina Moss

Tuesday/Thursday 2:40-4:05

The purpose of this course is to analyze and critique the rhetorical commemoration of Civil Rights. Specific attention will be paid to the legacy of Civil Rights Movements and their cultural and political implications on race, class, and gender. The course asks students to consider what political narratives and memories are "displayed," in a variety of contexts, and how such displays narrate cultural values and history. During a portion of Spring Break students will have the opportunity to travel to sites in Atlanta, Birmingham, Montgomery, and Selma. During this trip students will visit commemorative sites significant to Civil Rights Activism¹.

Texts:

- Selma – Film
 - Confederates in the Attic – Horwitz
 - Places of Public Memory – Dickinson, Blair & Ott eds.
 - Making Whiteness: The Culture of Segregation in the South, 1890-1940 – Hale
-

COMM 6341

INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION (ONLINE) - Katherine Grace Hendrix

This course in interpersonal communication emphasizes both communication theory and the experiential application of the course content. The course content will be explored through exercises and discussion designed to develop and/or enhance skills such as: perception, the effective presentation of ideas and emotions, and maintaining healthy relationships.

Practical application within the classroom should increase the likelihood of retention and use of the concepts outside of the classroom as part of a life-long process. This life-long process should include growth and movement toward quality-based, confirming interaction with others as well as recognizing circumstances where interpersonal behavior is inappropriate.

¹ In the case where a student cannot attend the research trip, students will propose a comparable experience that the student may do on their own time.

COMM 6373**INTERRACIAL COMMUNICATION – Andre E. Johnson****Tuesday/Thursday, 11:20-12:45pm**

In this class, we will study interracial communication as what Orbe and Harris calls the “transactional process of message exchange between individuals in a situational context where racial difference is perceived as a salient factor by at least one person.” Students will examine the special problems encountered in communication among races. By critically engaging with assigned readings, participating in group work and facilitating discussions, students will explore how prejudice, stereotypes, and self-concepts can and do affect communication between races. In addition, students will also examine how race functions and explore methods and approaches to minimize problems that may arise within the communication experience.

Text:

Orbe, Mark and Tina Harris. *Interracial Communication: Theory Into Practice*. SAGE Publications, Inc; Third Edition (2013). ISBN-13: 978-1452275710

Additional Readings Assigned by the Professor

COMM 6851**FILM HISTORY II – Steven J. Ross****Monday/Wednesday, 2:40-5:10pm**

This course will examine films from the late 1940's through the late 1970's. The focus will be primarily – but not exclusively- on American cinema. Touchstone films, such as THE SEARCHERS, VERTIGO, LAWRENCE OF ARABIA, and CHINATOWN will be studied from a variety of perspectives – as will specific genres, such as The Western and Film Noir, that flourished during this period. The relationship between the medium and the American sociopolitical landscape will also be given consideration, particularly in terms of the House UnAmerican Activities Hearings in the 1950's. Please note that Film History I is NOT a necessary prerequisite to take this course.

COMM 6853**DOCUMENTARY FORM FILM – David Appleby****Monday/Wednesday, 12:40-2:05pm**

We will discuss the development of non-fiction film as both a rhetorical and expressive form. The course will provide a broad overview as well as allow for the analysis of individual films, genres, eras and filmmakers. Readings and discussions will address such questions as, “How do we come to know others and the worlds they inhabit?... What strategies are available to us for the representation of people?” (Bill Nichols) “Who are these visitors, these avowed doers of good, these earnest documentarians, and what are they up to... and what will come of this, for us and for them?” (Robert Coles) “When does fact veer toward fiction – and how are those words to be understood with respect to one another?” (Robert Coles)

COMM 6856**Gender and Film – Marina Levina****Monday, 5:30pm - 8:30pm**

Using film studies, media studies, and cultural studies approaches this course examines how gender and, consequently, race and sexuality is represented in film. Specific attention is given to feminist analysis in film studies. The class focuses on films produced from the 1950s to the present.

Proposed Texts:

Sue Thornham, *Feminist Film Theory: A Reader*. Other readings will be assigned

Particulars:

Graduate students will be required to write a film analysis essay and answer advance level questions on the exams. They might be required to do additional readings.

COMM 7321/8321**COMMUNICATION THEORY - Katherine Grace Hendrix**

This course serves as an overview of theories created by communication scholars and/or applicable to communication contexts. We will discuss how theories are constructed, evaluated, and applied in everyday contexts. In particular, our focus will be on learning how certain theories are applied in family and interpersonal contexts. We will begin with a broad overview of what constitutes theory, the communication process, and the nature of communication research. From this macro view, we will then explore individual theories and their application in specific contexts. All theories will be viewed with a critical eye towards applicability in our daily lives, processes left unexplained, and consistency/inconsistency with other related theories and, if applicable, media influence.

COMM 7332/8332**SEMINAR IN COMMUNICATION RESEARCH – Gray Matthews****Thursday, 5:30-8:30 pm**

This course will explore a dynamic critique of the Western tradition of education from an indigenous perspective, which will question, open and alter our critical/cultural approaches to the study and practice of human communication. We will *experience* criticism as much as formulate it as we seek to understand contemporary indigenous scholarship focusing primarily on issues of decolonization. Central to our study will be the critical concept of *relational health*. To this end we will adopt an approach that is contemplative and heuristic rather than analytical and predetermined. Humility, rather than expertise, will be a better guide and aim in a course that challenges dominant models, pretenses and biases of thought as well as systems and industries of knowledge/world-making.

Texts:Required:

Coulthard, Glen Sean. *Red Skin White Masks: Rejecting the Colonial Politics of Recognition*. (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota, 2014).

Grande, Sandy. *Red Pedagogy: Native American Social and Political Thought* (NY: Rowman and Littlefield, 2015, 2nd edition).

Million, Dian. *Therapeutic Nations: Healing in an Age of Indigenous Human Rights*. (Tucson: University of Arizona, 2013).

Smith, Linda Tuhiwai. *Decolonizing Methodologies: Research and Indigenous Peoples*. (NY: Zed, 2012, 2nd edition).

Sample List of Recommended Readings:

Battiste, Marie. *Decolonizing Education: Nourishing the Learning Spirit*. (Vancouver, BC: Purich, 2013).

Cajete, Gregory. *Indigenous Community: Rekindling the Teachings of the Seventh Fire*. (St. Paul, MN: Living Justice, 2015).

Decolonization: Indigeneity, Education & Society (online journal).
<https://jps.library.utoronto.ca/index.php/des/index>

Kovach, Margaret. *Indigenous Methodologies: Characteristics, Conversations, and Contexts*. (Toronto: University of Toronto, 2009).

Mignolo, Walter D. and Catherine Walsh. *On Decoloniality: Concepts, Analytics, Praxis*. (Durham, NC: Duke University, 2018).

COMM 7820/8820

TOPICS IN RHETORIC (Pedagogical Rhetoric)-Antonio de Velasco

Tuesday, 5:30pm-8:30pm

What have been the dominant means and ends of rhetorical instruction since antiquity? How does foregrounding the practice of pedagogy alter perspectives on the history, scope, and future of rhetoric study? This course addresses such questions by surveying topics and thinkers central to the history of how rhetoric has been taught. Our particular focus will be on how leading figures in rhetoric define, contest, and make teachable three central practices: controversy, judgment, and performance. The primary goal of the course is to equip scholar-teachers with the historical and conceptual background necessary to motivate and give purpose to their work in the communication classroom.

Texts

A History of Education in Antiquity, Henri Irénée Marrou
Rhetoric in the European Tradition, Thomas W. Conley
On the Contrary, Thomas O. Sloane
Liberating Language, Shirley Wilson Logan
Democracy as Discussion, William M. Keith
The Ethics and Politics of Speech, Pat J. Gehrke
 Reserve texts (R) available on “Content” link in eCourseware

Assignments

Weekly responses
 Final Exam
 Construction of a course proposal

COMM 7/8012

SEMINAR IN HEALTH COMMUNICATION – Sachiko Terui

Wednesday, 5:30pm-8:30pm

The course examines diverse theoretical and methodological approaches to understanding the interrelationships among communication and health/illness. Although there will be an emphasis on the social processes of enacting identity in face-to-face interactions, we will also sample theories with a more social cognitive emphasis and issues related to mass media communication. In particular, we will conduct in-depth examinations of important areas of research such as health narratives, social support, stigma and communication, provider-patient communication, and culture and minority health.

The class is designed to assist students in comparing and contrasting different conceptualizations, theories, and methods by examining a wide variety of issues so that you can make informed choices about theory and method in your own research.
