

Shawna Harris

Communication Studies and Theatre
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EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

HIGHER EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Speech Communication, University of Georgia
Areas of Study: Interpersonal, Relational, Health and Quantitative Methods
Degree Expected: December 2009
Dissertation: Spicing up the bedroom: Introducing new sexual behavior to an established sexual relationship.
Committee members: Jennifer Monahan (advisor), Jerry Hale, Vicki Freimuth, Jennifer Samp, and Jessica Muilenburg
- M.A. Communication Studies, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Areas of Study: Mass Media, Rhetorical Criticism, and Health and Interpersonal
Degree Awarded: August, 2005
Thesis: Understanding the Role of Predicted Outcome Value in the Negotiation of Condom Use
Advisor: Jennifer Bevan
- B.S. Communication Studies, Emphasis in Broadcasting and Advertising
Southern Utah University
Degree Awarded: December, 2002
Capstone Paper: Romantic Feelings in Cross-Sex Friendships.

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Teaching Positions:

**Assistant Professor, Department of Communication Studies and Theatre,
Missouri Western State University, Aug 2009- present.**

Course Instructor, COM 104, Oral Communication, Fall 2009.

The objective of this course is to introduce students to interpersonal, public speaking, and small group communication and offer a basic understanding in each area and give students the skills to enhance their abilities in each communication area.

Course Instructor, COM 210, Presentational Communication, Fall 2009.

The objective of this course is to introduce students to different forms of presentations including different public speaking opportunities and interviewing and offer students advanced skills in giving different forms of presentations.

Graduate Instructor, Department of Speech Communication, The University of Georgia, Aug 2005- May 2009.

Course Instructor, SPCM 4900, Communicating Intimacy in Romantic Relationships (designer and instructor), Spring 2009.

The objective of this senior level seminar is to engage students in and educate them about theories pertaining to communication about intimacy within the context of romantic relationships.

Course Instructor, SPCM 4500, Advanced Interpersonal Communication, Fall 2008.

The primary objective of this senior level seminar is to engage students in and educate them about theories and concepts designed to improve their understanding of various aspects of close, intimate relationships.

Course Instructor, SPCM 3700, Empirical Research Methods in Communication, Summer 2007, Fall 2007.

This core course for majors examines the process of conducting research in communication from a social scientific perspective. We conduct a research project starting with conceptualization and literature review, to data collection/analysis and a class presentation of the project results.

Course Instructor, SPCM 1500, Advanced Interpersonal Communication, Fall 2005, Spring 2007, Fall 2007, Spring 2008, Summer 2008, Fall 2008, Spring 2009.

The goal of this course is to help students become better communicators in dyadic encounters and introduce students to a wide array of perspectives/theories on interpersonal communication.

Graduate Instructor/Teaching Assistant, Department of Communication Studies, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Aug 2003-May 2005.

Teaching Assistant, COM 325, Video Editing and Electronic News-Gathering. Lecture and laboratory covering aesthetics and mechanics of video editing and electronic news gathering camera technique. The goal of the course is to ensure students have the skills and understand basic principles and guidelines for producing news.

Teaching Assistant, COM 441, UNLViews. This course allows students to get advanced training in producing, directing, reporting, editing and anchoring television newscasts.

Course Instructor, COM 101: Oral Communication. Theory and performance work in extemporaneous speaking and related speaking experiences. Emphasis placed on developing skills necessary for effective public speaking.

Course Instructor, COM 102: Introduction to Interpersonal Communication
Examination of theories of effective interpersonal communication with in-class exercises designed to provide practical application of theory.

Research Positions:

Grant Funded Research Assistant, Department of Communication Studies, University of Georgia, Spring 2006-Fall 2006. Assistant to Professor Vicki Freimuth for the Southern Center of Health and Poverty.

Study Focus: Understanding Multiple Risk Perceptions and Responses of the Southern Poor

- Conduct quantitative and qualitative research
- Assist in development of focus group moderator guides and interview protocols
- Analyze quantitative data using analysis of variance, cluster analysis, and multi-level modeling using SPSS, SAS, and Stata Software
- Write and prepare manuscripts for submission to peer-reviewed journals
- Review and summarize literature on communication and health disparities

Research Assistant to Dr. Karen Hausbeck. "Lolita Syndrome." Department of Sociology, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Presented at the April Pacific Sociology Meeting in Portland, OR.

Study Focus: Understanding the manner in which children view and respond to media images.

- Attend all focus groups
- Assist in focus group construction and take notes.
- Organize all video recordings of focus groups
- Attend and record presentations of the project.

MANUSCRIPTS, CONFERENCES AND COMPETITIVELY SELECTED PAPERS

Harris, S., & Monahan, J.L. (in preparation). *You want to do what? Factors predicting how people introduce new sexual behavior.*

Harris, S., Hovick, S.R., Freimuth, V.F., Johnson-Turbes, A., & Chervin, D. (under review). Health protection and information seeking behaviors among poor and near-poor individuals.

Harris, S. & Monahan, J. L. (in preparation). *How do I do this? Goals and sexual initiation.*

Harris, S. & Monahan, J.L. (2009, November). Is that too much to ask? Introducing new sexual acts to a relationship. Paper to be presented at the meeting of the National Communication Association, Chicago, IL: Interpersonal Division.

Harris, S. (2008, November). *Overcoming Barriers: Addressing the Needs of Low Income Individuals*. Paper to be presented at the meeting of the National Communication Association, San Diego, CA: Applied Division.

Freimuth, V., Chervin, D., Hovick, S., Johnson-Turbes, A., Harris S., and Criss, S. (2007). *Patterns of response to health risks among the Southern Poor*. Paper presented at the American Public Health Association 2007 Annual Meeting, Washington D.C.

Harris, S. (2007, November). *Show me that you care: The influence of alternatives, investment and intimacy on nonverbal immediacy behaviors produced during conflict*. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Communication Association, Chicago, IL: Interpersonal Division.

Harris, S., Hovick, S., Freimuth, V. (2006). *Patterns of response to health risks among low-income individuals*. Poster presented at the University of Georgia Biomedical and Health Sciences Institute 2006 Retreat, Athens, GA.

Freimuth, V., Chervin, D., Johnson-Turbes, A., Harris, S., Hovick, S. (2006). *Understanding multiple risk*. Included in a panel of *Reports from the CDC Centers of Excellence in Health Communication*. Paper presented at the National Communication Association November 2006 Convention, San Antonio, TX.

Harris, S. & Bevan, J. (2006, November). *Understanding the role of predicted outcome value In the negotiation of condom use*. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Communication Association, San Antonio, TX: Health Division

INVITED LECTURES

Aug. 2008 *Becoming a Communication Scholar* – Departmental Orientation – University of Georgia (Jennifer A. Samp) with Eric Jenkins.

Aug. 2007 *Creating Paper Assignments and Teaching the Basic Interpersonal Communication Course* – Departmental Teaching Assistant Orientation – University of Georgia.

Nov. 2004 *Sex and Condom Use in Interpersonal Relationships* –Invited class lecture- Com 302 (Issues in Interpersonal Communication) – University of Nevada, LV (Jennifer Bevan, course instructor)

Mar. 2007 *Sexual Scripts and the Sexual Double Standard* – Invited class lecture-
SPCM 1010(Communication in Human Society) – University of
Georgia (Jennifer A. Samp, course instructor)

INNOVATION, SERVICE, AND ACADEMIC AWARDS

- 2009 *Leadership St. Joseph*. This is a program dedicated to increasing leadership skills among those in various professions throughout the community. I provide a three hour workshop on basic skills for giving presentations.
- 2008 *Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award*, University of Georgia. This is a competitive award within the university system among all departments. GTAs are to participate by the basic course director and is selected based on the recommendation letter written.
- 2008 *Outstanding Teaching Award*, Instructional & Developmental Communication Division of the International Communication Association
- 2007-2009 Undergraduate Tutoring for Athletes in Communication Courses. The athletic department requires one on one tutoring services of all freshman athletes at the University of Georgia. In this program I would help students prepare for class and tests in lower and upper level SPCM courses. Also, I act as a lab monitor in which my responsibilities often include assisting students with other courses.
- 2003 Distinguished Broadcasting Student, Southern Utah University.
- 2002 Distinguished Broadcasting Student, Southern Utah University.
- 1998 Full Academic Scholarship, Southeastern Illinois College.

References

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