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ACADEMIC PREPARATION

Doctor of Philosophy, Cultural Studies, 2006
George Mason University
Fairfax, Virginia

Master of Arts, Communication Studies, 1994
Graduation with Distinction
California State University, Northridge
Northridge, California.

Bachelor of Arts, Communication Studies, 1992
Cum Laude
California State University, Northridge
Northridge, California.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Lecturer, University of California, Los Angeles, Department of Communication Studies, Los Angeles, California, June 2003-present.

Courses Taught:

*The Rhetoric of Popular Culture – A course that takes a rhetorical approach to the study of U.S. popular culture. It examines, both at a theoretical level and through specific case studies, ways in which popular cultural texts perform rhetorically to influence political and social struggles shaping everyday life. Students examine particular artifacts that [re]negotiate cultural meanings and develop a greater understanding of the ways language functions as a vehicle for human action.

*Public Images & National Identity – This course is a University sponsored travel study course taught in Washington D.C. It takes an experiential approach to the study of U.S. monuments, memorials, and museums with a focus on how these public sites of commemoration and memory manifest national identity. Through the lens of contemporary rhetorical theory & criticism, students examine how the artifacts serve as symbols for national purpose, moral duty, communal citizenship and political legitimacy.

*Power, Persuasion & the Mass Media: The 2008 Campaign – This course is a University sponsored travel study course taught in Washington D.C. It examines political communication & mass-mediated representations of electoral politics in the 2008 elections. It explores the ways both individuals & institutions use rhetorical discourse to exercise power & influence public opinion. Special focus is given to the status of contemporary democracy in light of 21st century communication technologies.

*Gender & Communication - This course examines the meaning and relationships between the concepts: communication, gender and culture. It is concerned with exploring the ways that communication is involved in creating, negotiating and performing gendered identities

*Public Speaking - A foundation course which teaches basic communication principles emphasizing the organization and delivery of extemporaneous speeches, effective writing, critical listening and an ethics of interaction.

Adjunct Instructor; Graduate Teaching Associate, California State University, Northridge, Department of Communication Studies, Northridge, California, August 1992-present (intermittent semesters).

Courses Taught:

* Public Speaking - A foundation course which teaches basic communication principles emphasizing the organization and delivery of extemporaneous speeches, effective writing, critical listening and an ethics of interaction.

* Readers Theatre -Program Coordinator:- Responsible for coordinating several productions of oral interpretation each semester, publicity for such productions, and the organization of student participation.

*Rhetorical Criticism – A survey of approaches to rhetorical criticism. Course focuses upon the theoretical understanding of each approach and its application to a broad range of communication texts.

*Communication Theory –A Course addressing the theories that ground the Communication Studies discipline. Course material examines scholarship from the rhetorical, socio-psychological, socio-cultural, semiotic, phenomenological and critical traditions.

*Rhetoric of Crime & Punishment - This course examines crime and punishment in the United States as rhetorical phenomena—in other words, as phenomena that are shaped in part by symbolic action. American legal history, theories of criminal justice, as well as specific case studies of crime and punishment are examined as a means to discover rhetorical processes at work in the construction of American crime and punishment.

*Performance, Language & Cultural Studies –An examination of the relationships among culture, language and performance. Course addresses specifically the ways that discourse is a performative endeavor for human action as well as how culture constitutes a source for the [re]negotiation of social meaning and subjectivity.

Professor, Communication Studies, College of the Canyons, Department of Communication Studies, Santa Clarita, California, January 2000-present.

Courses Taught:

*Public Speaking - A foundation course which teaches basic communication principles emphasizing the organization and delivery of extemporaneous speeches, effective writing, critical listening and an ethics of interaction.

*Intercultural Communication - An examination of the cultural dimensions of the communication process. Course specifically focuses on creating an understanding of the

ways in which culture creates, maintains, and resists societal structures through the system of human meaning making. Course objectives include providing students an understanding of basic concepts and theories of intercultural communication, an increased awareness and sensitivity to cultural differences, and recognition of the ways communication is deeply implicated in our understanding of and negotiation of difference.

*Communication & Gender - An exploration of the ways in which communication is involved in creating personal & gendered identities, social roles, and cultural norms. Course focuses on helping students develop skills enabling them to recognize how gendered relationships influence human perceptions, behaviors and expectations which inevitably influence social organizations, public institutions, and cultural practices.

*Process of Communication - An examination of a broad range of theory grounding the Communication Studies discipline including those addressing language, discourse, message production & reception, symbolic interaction & social construction, & critical theory. The course works to unpack a range of theoretical paradigms and their relationships to everyday communication situations.

*Rhetoric & Contemporary Culture - This course provides an examination of the introductory principles of rhetorical theory and their application to public discourse. Accordingly, it emphasizes an understanding of the theories of the rhetorical function of language, its persuasive role in human communication, as well as methods used to critique that discourse.

*Introduction to Women's Studies - This course, offered in the Sociology Department, introduces students specifically to the sociological study of gender and surveys a variety of topics related to the field of Women's Studies. Students develop a greater understanding of the social, cultural, and political influences that shape everyday life as a function of sex and gender as well as the ways those influences relate to institutional power.

*Small Group Communication – A course devoted to examining theories of small group interaction. Topics include group formation, leadership, conflict resolution and communicative roles.

*Interpersonal Communication – A course focused on examining theories of communication in interpersonal relationships. Students learn to recognize and explain communication in human relationships and the ways that perception, self concept, emotions, conflict, verbal and non-verbal meaning and technology influence the success and or failures of such communication.

INSTRUCTOR, George Mason University, Department of Speech Communication & New Century College, Fairfax, Virginia, August 1996-2000.

Courses Taught:

*Rhetorical Theory and Criticism - A course surveying Classical and Contemporary Rhetorical Theory and its corollary modes of criticism. The course emphasizes the examination of public discourse as a social, cultural, and political production of both knowledge(s) and practice(s).

*Interpersonal & Small Group Communication - An exploration of communication theory as it informs interpersonal and small group dynamics. Skills that increase communication

competence in both of these settings are emphasized, and special attention is given to such variables as gender, culture, and the import of language.

*Community of Learners - An intensive interdisciplinary, team-taught "learning community" designed for first year freshman that focuses on developing general college skills and habits of mind for academic research, collaborative learning, information technology, and problem solving. The course exists as the first unit in a series of four within a progressive college wide program which aims to integrate disciplinary perspectives, encourage a renewed student-faculty collaboration, and recombine theory and praxis in undergraduate education.

*Communication & the Natural World - A second six-week unit following "Community of Learners" [above]. The course is also taught from an interdisciplinary perspective by a team of seven faculty. This specific unit focuses on data analysis, critical thinking, and communicating within the field of science, scientific discourse, and public health. It takes an integrative, collaborative, and experiential approach to teaching the disciplines of Science, Communication, and Mathematics.

*Self as Citizen - A capstone course to a comprehensive first year of study for which "Community of Learners" initiates. This learning community focuses on various conceptions of self and sociality as they imply moral choices, cultural differences, civic values, and approaches to epistemology. The course takes an integrative, collaborative, and experiential approach to teaching the disciplines of Rhetoric, Philosophy, and Sociology.

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS, PROFESSIONAL PARTICIPATION & PUBLICATIONS

Navigating our Diverse Environment: Teaching the Multicultural Communication Course in Community College. Panel Participant, Western States Communication Association, Albuquerque, New Mexico, February 2012.

Using Portfolios: Shifting from Teaching to Learning. Panel Participant, Western States Communication Association, Albuquerque, New Mexico, February 2012.

Cashing in on Crime: The Drive to Privatize State Prisons in California [Forthcoming 2013] Boulder: Lynne Rienner Publishing.

Cashing in on Criminality: Private Prisons, Corporate Power & the Color of Crime. Spirart Justice Journal Spring 2009 Volume 1: 2.

Emerging Racial Categories. Panel Participant: National Communication Association, San Diego, California, November 2008.

The Wise Ones Council/Counsel: Chair, Roundtable Discussion: Western States Communication Association, Denver, Colorado, February 2008.

Prison as Panacea, or the Discourses of Delinquency & Crime. Paper :Cultural Studies Association, New York, New York, May 2008.

A Study of Online Interaction & Its Effects on Student Retention. Panel Participant: Western States Communication Association Convention, Seattle, Washington, February 2007.

An Active-Learning Approach to Teaching Ethics & Freedom of Speech. Panel Participant: G.I.F.T.S., Western States Communication Association Convention, Seattle, Washington, February, 2007.

Using the Dialectic Method to Teach Public Speaking. Panel Participant: G.I.F.T.S., Western States Communication Association Convention, Palm Springs, California, February, 2006.

The Discourse of Crime & Terror. Paper: Hawaii International Conference on Arts & Humanities, January, 2005.

Experiencing Theory: Doing is Understanding. Panel Participant, Western States Communication Association Conference, San Francisco February 2005.

Active Learning in the Classroom.: Guest Instructor Teaching & Learning Institute, College of the Canyons, Santa Clarita, California, Spring 2003.

Men, Women, and the Media: Lessons in Forming Gendered Identities
Invited Lecture: Tuesday Afternoons with the Professors series,
Santa Clarita, California, September, 2001.

"E-Racing" The Boundaries: Notes on Reformulizing the Racialized Subject. Paper: National Communication Association Summer Conference: "Communication & Cultural Politics," Iowa City, Iowa, July, 2000.

Mapping Internal Third Worlds. Collaborative paper presented to the National Communication Association Conference, Chicago, Ill., November, 1999.

Capital Crimes. Paper presented to the Cultural Studies Colloquium, George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia, April, 1999.

What's in a Test?: Collaborative Exams and Interacting to Learn. Paper: Eastern Communication Association Conference, West Virginia, April, 1999.

Reebok, Late Capital Processes & Crime, or, How much Do You Want for that Subculture? Paper presented to the National Communication Association Conference, New York, November, 1998.

The Corporate Prison: The Production of Crime & the Sale of Discipline.
Paper: The Postcolonialism and Cultural Resistance Seminar,
University of Joensuu, Finland, May 1998.

Racism, & The Law: Constructing the Bounds of Whiteness
Paper presented to the National Communication Association Conference, Chicago, Ill.,
November, 1997.

Corporate Curriculum: The Academy as Commodity.
Paper presented to The Couch-Stone Symposium: "Postmodern Culture, Global Capitalism, and Democratic Action," College Park, Maryland,
April, 1997.

Interviewer: *National Communication Association Focus Groups*. Served as one of four focus group facilitators organized by the Association to evaluate membership satisfaction and potential areas of organizational development. Interviews took place at the National Communication Association Convention, San Diego, California, November, 1996.

Race and its (Re)Formation: Discursive Perversion and the Los Angeles Riots.

Paper: Multiculturalism, Cultural Diversity, and Global Communication Conference, Rochester, New York, July, 1996.

Encouraging Critical Thinking Through the Use of Pop Culture:

Paper presented to the Western States Communication Association Conference, Pasadena, California, February, 1996.

Uprising in Los Angeles: An Analysis of Myth and Ritual in the Los Angeles Times.

Paper presented to the Western States Communication Association Conference, Portland, Oregon, February, 1995.

Revisoning Rhetoric and Communication: Examining the Contributions of Women in

the Field. Paper presented to the Western States Communication Association Conference, San Jose, California, February, 1994.

Disruption in the Classroom: Co-conceiver and organizer of the first city-wide interdisciplinary conference focusing on disruption(both actual and metaphorical)as an impetus to creative teaching and classroom interaction. California State University, Northridge, November, 1994.

ACADEMIC HONORS

Recipient, College of Arts & Sciences Fellowship, George Mason University, Fairfax, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999.

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society member, California State University, Northridge, 1992 - 1996.

Golden Key National Honor Society member, California State University, Northridge, 1989 - 1994.

Lambda Pi Eta National Communication Honor Society, Phi Chapter Member, California State University, Northridge, 1992 - 1994.

Recipient, Kent Joel Snyder Scholarship, Department of Speech Communication, California State University, Northridge, awarded 1999.