

MARCH NEWSLETTER

2021



CALENDAR

*3/6-7/21 Speech and
Debate NWCC Tournament*

*3/14 Speech Contest
Applications Due*

SOCIAL MEDIA:

INSTAGRAM

@MTCOMMSTUDIES

@MTSUDEBATE

@MTSUCOMMSTUDIESCLUB

FACEBOOK

MTSU Comm Studies

TWITTER

@mtcommstudies

FEATURES

- *Meet Dr. McCormick*
- *Lambda Pi Eta*
- *Comm Studies Club*
- *Speech and Debate*
- *Celebrations!*
- *Meet our alumni*
- *College of Liberal Arts*
- *Speech Contest*

Meet Dr. Janet McCormick

Hi friends!

Well, I've been teaching Communication courses in higher ed for 30+ years. I earned my PhD in Communication from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale in 1995 and taught abroad (London, Buenos Aires, Singapore) for 7 years before joining MTSU in 2002. As a newly single mom of 2 sons, we chose to live in the country (Rockvale) with our dogs, cats, rabbits (and an abundance of the non-domesticated deer, turkeys, snakes, moles and coyotes!). My life was consumed with boating, fishing, swimming, 4-wheelers, dirt bikes, baseball (Barfield), Cub Scouts, JROTC and adventurous family vacations – I loved every minute of it!

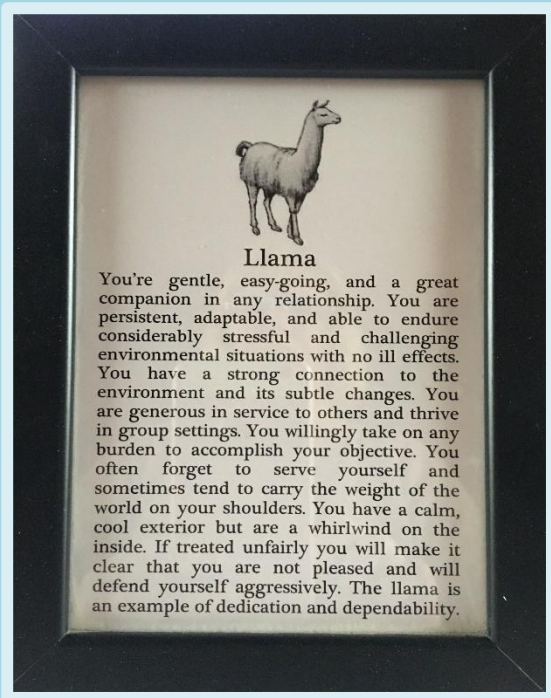


At MTSU, my focus is student success. I was an early adopter of online and

experiential learning strategies and have received a number of teaching excellence and community leadership awards. My research interests are always tied to “Communication Education” as it applies to navigating organizational life.

My sons are now grown, college graduates, and finding their own paths. I continue to stay very active in researching, faculty mentoring, training, and consulting most often in the areas of listening, interviewing, leadership, and high impact teaching practices (HIPS). My newest undertaking is to serve as the Master of Arts in Liberal Arts program Director.

Fun fact: my spirit animal is the Llama 🐪



CLUBS

SPEECH AND DEBATE

Congratulations to the new Tennessee State Champion **Joe Meggo**(below). The Speech and Debate team had a fantastic showing at the last TIFA State Championship. Interested in joining the fun and developing key public speaking/presentation skills? Join the walk on MTSU Debate team, no perquisites required. Contact our coach at patrick.richey@mtsu.edu if you're interested!

Instagram: @mtsudebate

- NETWORKING
- RESUME BUILDING
- HEADSHOTS
- PUBLIC SPEAKING
- LEADERSHIP
- PRESENTATION
- CAREER DEVELOPMENT
- COMMUNITY
- INFORMATION
- LINKEDIN GUIDANCE

COMMUNICATION STUDIES CLUB

Looking for a club filled to the brim with networking and resume building opportunities? Then the Communication Studies Club is for you! The Comm Studies Club is an organization open to all majors, providing seminars similar to Lambda Pi Eta that answer some of College's most difficult questions. From mock interviews, Career Development, service activities, and more, there's little reason not to at least attend once!

Lambda Pi Eta (LPH) is the National Communication Association's (NCA) official honor society at four-year universities in the nation.

REQUIREMENTS

- Completed 60 semester credit-hours
- Have a minimum overall cumulative GPA of 3.0 • Completed 12 semester credit-hours in Communication Studies
- Have a minimum GPA of 3.25 for all Communication Studies courses
- Currently enrolled as a student in good standing

More information is available at <https://www.mtsu.edu/communication/LPH.php>

If you have all of the requirements except for the number of credits, you can join as a pledge member for only \$5/year.

CLUB CONTACTS

Lambda Pi Eta –

Meredith mec6p@mtmail.mtsu.edu

Dr. Priddis dee.priddis@mtmail.mtsu.edu

Comm Studies Club –

Gabriela(President) gli2r@mtmail.mtsu.edu

SPEECH AND DEBATE –

Patrick.richey@mtmail.mtsu.edu

CELEBRATIONS

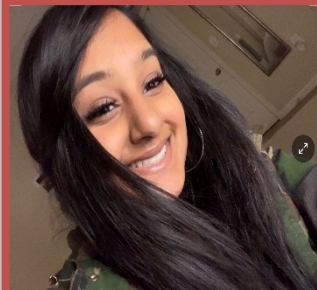
L'Oreal Stephens (Faculty) has been selected as a 2021 National Women's History Month Trailblazer for this year's theme "Valiant Women of the Vote: Refusing to be Silenced" in honor of the 100th year of suffrage by the June Anderson Center for Women and Non-Traditional Students. She will be honored with other Trailblazers on March 2nd in the KUC. -----



Both **Chianne Chanthara** (major) and **Reba John** (minor) were nominated and accepted to the **MTSU Institute for Leadership Excellence** that will take place in May 2021. This is a great opportunity for both students to build their leadership skills. Congratulations!



Chianne Chanthara is a Communication major with minors in Marketing and Public Relations that is graduating in December.. She stated, **"Being a part of the Communication program here at MTSU has helped me grow as a student and a leader. I am deeply passionate about people, whether it's building relationships, understanding others, or just having conversations in passing... there's a way to do it and do it well! My courses here have built me up as a person, a friend, and as a leader. There's no doubt about it. A great leader must know how to communicate well with whoever they encounter. This program has helped me do that, but what I've learned goes way past the surface."**



Reba John is a junior from Chattanooga that is studying Pre-Law Concentration with a minor in Communication. She stated, **"Communication classes have helped me become a better leader by instilling confidence in me. They have also helped me connect with others, and resolve issues in my life. Being born and raised in two different cultures has taught me to step out of my comfort zone and communicate with different types of people and learn new things."**

We asked what our alumni were doing with their comm degrees...

MARY KATE BROWN



"The course of study has really colored the way I see and interpret the world, making me a unique addition to any team."

Mary Kate Brown (Culture and Social Influence, 2020) is studying for her M.Ed. at Vanderbilt University.

ALISON BECKHAM



Alison Beckham (Organizational, Fall 2020) is currently a Real Estate Agent.

"They have helped me with understanding how organizations work and the best way to handle different situations within my organization. They also helped immensely with interviewing skills both when I've been the interviewee as well as the interviewer."

KATHERINE MCCANN



Katherine McCann (Organizational Communication, 2018) currently possesses a M.Ed. in management and supervision and is the Residence Director at Belmont University.

They've benefited me in literally every step of my professional life. The classes that had a large impact were particularly Interpersonal Communication, Interviewing, and Listening. I regularly use these skills daily in my job. I feel like I learned quite a bit about how to advertise myself well in Interviewing, and I, honestly, only had like 5 interviews (with 10 apps) before I was offered my current job. I had a job before I even graduated. I often get complimented on my ability to effectively listen and communicate, and regularly use the skills I learned to help my RAs that I supervise be more effective in their communication.

RACHAEL ARIEL



Rachel Ariel (Organizational, 2014) is currently practicing Human Resources.

FLYERS

Middle Tennessee State University

College of Liberal Arts

Master of Arts in Liberal Arts

<http://www.mtsu.edu/mala>

MTSU's Master of Arts in Liberal Arts is an innovative program allowing students to earn a graduate degree through a course of study built around the subjects that they find most interesting and captivating. Anyone holding a bachelor's degree can pursue long-held or new passions through a personally customized program developed around individual interests. Lifelong learners, professionals, students returning to school after a break, and recent graduates can find flexibility to fit their educational needs through this unique master's program. Students attend engaging courses and have opportunities to participate in projects in the region or even enroll in education-abroad courses around the world. Top-quality professors bring varying research and teaching interests to the classroom through inspiring instruction. The M.A. in Liberal Arts allows students to refine skills, expand horizons, learn for the joy of it, and obtain the graduate degree they have always wanted.

- 30 hours with full-time and part-time opportunities; evening and online classes available
- Preparation for further graduate study, a new job, pursuits after retirement or lifelong learning
- Specially designed courses taught by some of MTSU's most engaging professors
- Flexible course selection to customize the program around your needs
- Options for studying independently with faculty on a particular topic and/or participating in MTSU faculty-led study abroad programs
- Customized advising to help you succeed

Interested?

For more information contact:

MALA Interim Program Director, Dr. Janet McCormick,
Janet.McCormick@mtsu.edu

The Next Comm Studies Club Meeting:

"Moving from College to Career"

Join us for a virtual workshop with the Career Development Center on navigating the job market as a soon-to-be graduate. Attendees can expect guidance on the resources that MTSU offers for the job search, how the pandemic has changed the job market, and what you can do now to set yourself up for success once you graduate.

All MTSU Students welcome
Wednesday, March 17th
1pm-2pm

REGISTER FOR THE EVENT:

[https://mtsu.edu/communication/Communication Studies Club.php](https://mtsu.edu/communication/Communication%20Studies%20Club.php)

Do you have an announcement you want featured in the next newsletter? Contact Solomon at sb9h@mtmail.mtsu.edu

DEPARTMENT OF
COMMUNICATION STUDIES

ANNUAL COMM 2200 Speech Contest

Would you like a chance to win **\$250** by
delivering a persuasive speech?

DELIVER YOUR SPEECH AT OUR ANNUAL SPEECH CONTEST!

Submit your application and YouTube video link to
Speech.Contest@mtsu.edu
by Sunday, March 14th.

Contest will be held during MTSU's Scholars Week
April 12-16.

Visit www.mtsu.edu/speechcontest for more information.

Natonya Listach (faculty) will be featured as a part of a book talk on March 5 at 7:00 p.m. The book title is **Womanist Ethical Rhetoric: A Call for Liberation and Social Justice in Turbulent Times** and her chapter title is, *"Women, Step Forward!" Doing Rhetorical Historiography by Exploring Womanist Leadership in the AME Church*. This piece was co-authored by my advisor, Dr. Andre Johnson and the book is available for purchase through Amazon 😊

<https://www.amazon.com/Womanist-Ethical-Rhetoric-Liberation-Turbulent/dp/1793613559>



Register in advance for this webinar:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_K9vVCrILR-WgzOJ1ypkgDg

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Ready Reference Resource How Does a Student...

Receive Writing Support?

The University Writing Center, in Walker Library 262, provides writing resources for students via remote learning including one-on-one, 45-minute appointments. Sign up at mtsu.edu/writing-center

Get Tutoring Assistance?

Find tutoring schedules for free remote tutoring in over 180 courses at mtsu.edu/studentsuccess/tutoring.php

Schedule an Academic Advising Appointment?

Find the link on Pipeline MT's Registration and Student Records page at pipeline.mtsu.edu

Receive Food Assistance?

The Student Food Pantry provides access to free food, meal vouchers, and personal items with a student ID and is located with MT One Stop, SSAC second floor. Or make an online request at mtsu.edu/foodpantry.

Receive Medical Care?

The Health Services Building located at the Rec Center is open Monday-Friday during fall and spring semesters. Contact the office at **615-898-2988** and mthealth@mtsu.edu.

Get Counseling Assistance?

Fully committed to the emotional health and wellness of our students, Counseling Services is housed in KUC 326-S. Schedule an appointment by calling **615-898-2670**

Report Sexual Violence, Harassment, and/or Discrimination?

Visit the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance in Cope 116 or at mtsu.edu/iec

Access Free Professional Clothing?

Raiders' Closet in KUC 327 has professional attire for both men and women (suits, jackets, slacks, shirts, ties, skirts, scarves). Email kim.collins@mtsu.edu or call **615-898-5467**

Receive Life Needs Support?

The June Anderson Center, located in Student Union 330, offers housing/utility assistance, legal clinics, child care services, food vouchers, and scholarships. mtsu.edu/jac

Learn about Internships and Employers?

The Career Development Center's services include career advising appointments, professional document review, virtual interview practice, and job search databases. Contact them at **615-898-2500** and career@mtsu.edu.

Apply for an Emergency Grant?

The MTSU Emergency Micro-Grant Program helps students in good standing with short-term financial emergencies to enable them to cope with unexpected hardships and remain in school. Apply on your academic college's home page.

Contact Campus Police?

Reach the University Police 24-7 by calling **615-898-2424** on a cell phone or campus phone or **911** on a campus phone only

Qualify for an Accommodation?

Visit the Disability and Access Center in KUC 107, call **615-898-2783**, or email dacemail@mtsu.edu

Access Training Videos Online?

MTSU students have access to the online training video library, LinkedIn Learning, which has over 3,000 training videos. mtsu.edu/itd/lil.php

Report Misconduct by a Student?

Submit incident to the Office of Student Conduct, located in KUC 208, through the online form at mtsu.edu/student-conduct

Succeed as a First-Generation Student?

Student Support Services, housed in KUC 308, works especially with first-generation and Pell grant-eligible students to ensure they navigate college successfully and graduate. One-on-one help with tutoring, advising, mentoring, and major selection are a few of the services provided. mtsu.edu/ssupport

Learn More about Veterans' Student Benefits?

The Charlie and Hazel Daniels Veterans and Military Family Center, in KUC 124/316, provides transition services for veterans and their families after returning to civilian life. Contact the center staff through mtsu.edu/military



Office of Student Success

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

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TENNESSEE
STATE UNIVERSITY.

I AM *true*
BLUE

0720-9104 / Middle Tennessee State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or disability. See our full policy at mtsu.edu/iec.