

MID - FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER



CALENDAR

**2/13 TIFA STATE
CHAMPIONSHIP - SPEECH
AND DEBATE**

2/15 TCA SUBMISSION

**2/17 Lambda Pi Eta Grad
School Info Session**

**2/18 Dr. E Stephens WGST
Presentation**

**3/14 Speech Contest
Applications Due**

SOCIAL MEDIA:

INSTAGRAM

@MTSUDEBATE

@MTCOMMSTUDIES

@MTSUCOMMSTUDIESCLUB

FACEBOOK

MTSU Comm Studies

TWITTER

@mtcommstudies

FEATURES

- **Dr. Hoskins Spotlight**
- **Lambda Pi Eta**
- **Comm Studies Club**
- **Speech and Debate**
- **Uncertainty and Coping in
r/PregnancyAfterLoss**
- **"What's it like to be a
communication student?"**
- **Mental Health Training**
- **Essay Feature**

MEET DR. HOSKINS



Dr. Natalie Hoskins lives in Murfreesboro with her husband and two children. She finds joy in growing and propagating houseplants, singing karaoke, and having dance parties in her living room. Though it's an old photo, the picture below shows Dr. Hoskins singing karaoke while dancing in her living room with houseplants – the trifecta! In addition to serving the campus community, she also serves as an assistant scoutmaster for the all-female BSA scout troop in Murfreesboro, Troop 2019, and enjoys all the fun outdoor adventures, like camping and backpacking.

Dr. Hoskins came to MTSU from New York after teaching at SUNY-Oswego as a Visiting Assistant Professor. Before that, she was a licensed and nationally certified massage therapist for 17 years. Born and raised in Kansas, she earned her B.A. (2005) in Philosophy from The

University of Missouri-Kansas City and both her M.A. (2013) and Ph.D. (2017) in Communication Studies from The University of Kansas.

Dr. Hoskins teaches a variety of courses that reflect her interests and expertise. However, her favorite courses include Gender Communication, Conflict in Communication, Quantitative Research Methods, and Courses in the Health Communication Concentration. She wishes to inspire others to see that studying communication can cultivate both professional and personal growth.

Though teaching is Dr. Hoskins' favorite part about being at MTSU, her research is closely tied to her goals as an educator. She studies communication in the contexts of gender socialization, social support, and violence and aggression, focusing on how to increase interpersonal and community health and wellness. For example, in an article published in *the Journal of Interpersonal Violence* (2020), Dr. Hoskins examines how the effects of childhood trauma can be worsened by adherence to masculine gender norms and the absence of positive social ties. Dr. Hoskins loves the MTSU campus community and can't wait to see you all back in person in the fall semester. Until then, she hopes everybody stays safe and healthy and manages to find a little joy.



RESEARCH

Being PAL: Uncertainty and Coping in r/PregnancyAfterLoss

[Elizabeth D. Dalton](#) and [Katie Gruber](#)

Published January 25, 2021 in Health Communication
<https://doi.org/10.1080/10410236.2021.1874641>

Abstract: Women who become pregnant again following miscarriage or stillbirth are in a particularly vulnerable position as they grapple with uncertainty about the current pregnancy's viability and outcomes. In this study, we examine the types of uncertainty that emerge in pregnancy after loss (PAL) and how women manage that uncertainty. Framed by the theory of communication and uncertainty management, we thematically analyzed threads ($N = 636$) from the online discussion board Reddit, focusing on the specific subreddit community r/PregnancyAfterLoss. Themes of physiological, emotional, and social uncertainty dominated the PAL experiences of these online community members. Uncertainty management and coping strategies included direct information seeking, bracing, mantras, and accepting uncertainty as part of the PAL experience. Theoretical contributions of this study include an initial conceptualization of emotional uncertainty in health communication. In addition, we draw parallels between uncertainty in PAL and in illness and highlight the unique features of PAL that expand our understanding of uncertainty in health. Practical implications are drawn from members' expressed needs and uncertainty management practices, and provide direction for supporting women through the PAL experience.



Sophia Watts, a sophomore in the Culture and Social Influence concentration, has an essay published in the current issue of the MTSU journal *Scientia Et Humanitas*. Her essay, "How Has the Portrayal of Women on the Television Series *Doctor Who* Evolved from 1963 to 2019," can be read at <https://libjournals.mtsu.edu/index.php/scientia/issue/view/170/101>.

Information about submitting your own essays for publication can be found at <https://scientiaethumanitas.submittable.com/submit>, with a deadline of March 1 for the 2021 journal. Congratulations Sophia!

Have an announcement you want featured in the next newsletter?
Contact Solomon Barber at sb9h@mtmail.mtsu.edu and attach what you wish to be showcased in the next month's newsletter.

CLUBS/TEAMS: COMMUNICATION STUDIES CLUB

Communication Studies Club is a student-led networking, professional development, and service club. We are open to all students, and there are no major or GPA requirements to join. Some of our activities have included:

- Bringing in outside speakers to educate us on career opportunities in the field of communication and discuss job readiness
- Coordinating with the Career Development Center at MTSU to offer professional service such as resume and LinkedIn workshops, headshots, and mock interviews
- Participating in service activities as a group in Nashville area

We aim to provide a space where Communication students can pursue their interests and take on leadership roles to add to their resumes, so we're always open to suggestions from new members on meeting ideas for the semester.



Communication
Studies
Communication Studies Club

For more information: https://www.mtsu.edu/communication/Communication_Studies_Club.php, or contact Gaby Jaimes (Student President) at glj2r@mtmail.mtsu.edu.

LAMBDA PI ETA

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.

Contacts

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President)

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(Faculty Advisor)

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Speech & Debate Team

The MTSU Debate remains active in the debate scene, closing out team rounds with **THREE quarterfinalist breaks in the team portion of the Southern Forensics Championship. The team's poised for an active and busy season throughout the 2021 spring semester, a busy season YOU can be a part of! Please contact Patrick.richey@mtsu.edu if you're interested in MTSU's walk on debate team! (FOLLOW @mtsudebate for updates!)**



GENERAL NEWS

Are you interested in attending Mental Health First Aid training?

The Center for Health and Human Services at MTSU
is excited to announce that
Mental Health First Aid Certification
New Training Dates!

As everyone is practicing social distancing, and taking care to
protect your health,
this email is a friendly reminder that it's a great time to give
yourself a mental health check-up!
The past year has been rough for everyone, and students are
certainly no exception.

Training Classes are as follows:

Zoom Session Date	Time	Must Register Before Midnight:
Monday, February 8	8am-2pm	Feb 6
Friday, February 12	8am - 2pm	Feb 10
Saturday, February 13	8am-2pm	Feb 11
Monday February 22	8am - 2pm	Feb 20
Friday, February 26	8am-2pm	Feb 24
Monday March 1	8am - 2pm	Feb 27
Saturday, March 6	8am - 2pm	March 4
Friday, March 12	8am-2pm	March 10
Monday, March 15	8am-2pm	March 13
Friday March 26	8am-2pm	March 24

Visit <https://www.mtsu.edu/chhs/MentalHealthFirstAid.php> to
find out how to register!

Click the link below to check out a PBS segment on the impact of
the pandemic on student mental health.

If you're struggling, you're not alone, and it's OK to seek help!

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/how-the-pandemic-is-impacting-college-students-mental-health>

**Participants needed: Study on
undergraduate communication
majors**

"What is it like to be a Communication student?"

Students are invited to participate in a study
exploring how social sciences majors with
undefined vocational paths (i.e., Communication
Studies) learn about and experience future
careers. This study seeks to gather information
about the skills obtained in a social science major.

Participants need to be 18 years or older, and
currently declared major in Communication
Studies, Organizational Communication,
Communication Arts, or a similar field.
If you have students that would like to participate,
they will be asked to answer brief questions about
their experience in a video interview (Zoom or
similar format); interviews will last 30-45 minutes.

Please email hkgeorge@crimson.ua.edu to find a
time convenient for when the interview may be
conducted. (Participants will be asked to have
reliable internet connection and microphone for
recording purposes.)

Thank you!

For more information, contact student researcher Hannah
George (hkgeorge@crimson.ua.edu) or committee chair Dr.
Heather Carmack (hjcarmack@ua.edu) in the Communication
Department at the University of Alabama.

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



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