MAY 2021
NEWSLETTER

CALENDAR

Last day of Classes 4/28
Graduation May 7th-8th
Fall semester begins August 23rd
Lambda Pi Eta Sip and Chat April 28th

SOCIAL MEDIA:

INSTAGRAM
@MTCOMMSTUDIES
@MTSUDEBATE
@MTSUCOMMSTUDIESCLUB

FACEBOOK
MTSU Comm Studies

TWITTER
@mtcommstudies

FEATURES
- Meet Dr. Chevrette
- Clubs
- Speech and Debate
- Meet our Alumni
- Flyers
- Congratulations
- Internships
- COVID-19 Vaccines
JOIN LAMBDA PI ETA FOR

SIP & CHAT

with your professors

APRIL 28, 2021 | 10:00-11:00AM
JONES HALL COMM STUDIES OFFICE
Meet Dr. Roberta Chevrette

Dr. Chevrette has been at MTSU since 2017. She is originally from California, and lived for many years in Sacramento, a capital city filled with Americana and roots music where she spent several years making music of her own. After finishing her undergraduate degree in Anthropology and Women’s Studies, she moved to Phoenix, Arizona to earn her PhD from Arizona State University while enjoying desert hikes and backyard sunsets. She has also lived in the cities of Philadelphia and Kutztown, Pennsylvania, and spent a half a year living in an airstream trailer in the forests of Northern California. After all of this, she is happy to call Nashville home, and loves the combination of living in a city with a small-town feel, lots of music, and nature nearby.

Dr. Chevrette enjoys teaching Communication Studies courses at MTSU, including Critical Methods in Communication, Intercultural Communication, and other courses in the Culture and Social Influence concentration. She also teaches in the Women’s and Gender Studies program, and loves working with diverse students with an array of backgrounds and identities. Her main goal in the classroom is to guide students to become aware of, and critically examine, the ways rhetorical structures and cultural systems of gender, race, and sexuality shape our ways of thinking and our everyday experiences. She enjoys mentoring students to develop their own research and career interests so that they can find jobs they enjoy and make a positive impact in the lives of others.

Dr. Chevrette’s research uses queer, feminist, and postcolonial frameworks to examine relationships among communication, identity, and social justice. She is co-author of the book Dangerous Dames: Representing Female-Bodied Empowerment in Postfeminist Media, and has published articles in journals including Communication Monographs, Communication Theory, and QED: A Journal in GLBTQ Worldmaking. She has also published co-authored work with COMM students, including a study of the local organization Murfreesboro Loves.

Outside of school, you can find Dr. Chevrette rock climbing, running, hiking, cooking, attending Bonnaroo, and checking out local concerts, restaurants, and breweries. Favorite foods include sushi and tacos, and musicians include Rising Appalachia, Michael Franti, Ani DiFranco, and Emancipator, but there are so many more (foods and music)! She loves road trips and traveling near and far by herself or with her fiancé Jordan and her dog River.
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

The team is in route to close out their season with both TIPDA and singles Nationals. Wish them luck in defending TIPDA #1 in the nation.

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.
The MTSU debate team closes its season off with some fiery IPDA National breaks. This team gets results from its hard work, practice, and continued persistence at tournaments.

Join us as we return to traveling in person next year!
I got a master's in higher education from ASU, am working on a second master's in human relations from northern Arizona university but I am trying to apply for counseling from northern Arizona university instead.

- Abby Howard

I am the Human Resources Director for Chick-dip-A of Murfreesboro, a proud provider of 300 jobs in our local community!

- Morgan Miller

Business Communication and interpersonal communication class(es) were the most helpful! Learning how to compose professional documents, write detail oriented but focused memos is a skill I use daily. Learning how to talk to people one on one and in various situations is key to daily interactions.

- Christin Reynolds

Master of Administration, Belmont University, Spring 2013 (completed)

- Christin Reynolds

I am currently pursuing a Masters in Social Work.

- Roger May

Full-Time Nonprofit Development and Events Manager (STARS Nashville) and Part-Time Event Planning Assistant (Elliott Events)

- Shelby Huggins

Sourcing Account Specialist for the State of Tennessee

- Tara Roark
You are all cordially invited to attend our Spring Research Showcase!

Students in COMM 3750 have been working hard this semester to conduct original survey research, putting what they've learned about quantitative research methods into practice. This semester, students in six research teams are examining communication phenomena related to the COVID-19 pandemic, spanning several communication topics (e.g., interpersonal, org comm, gender, and media).

We would like faculty, students, and staff to join us and support the students in their accomplishments, as well as challenge them with questions about their study designs and interpretations of results. Please share the attached flyer with your classes and encourage all students to attend, whether they have taken 3750 or not! If any students are anxious, or just curious, about 3750, this will give them a chance to see what all the hubbub is about! We also plan to celebrate our graduating seniors with a little slideshow at the beginning. Come show your support!

The event will be during our scheduled final exam time on May 6th from 1pm to 3pm (via Zoom), so I know many of you will not be able to attend. However, if you can make it, we hope to see you there! Here is the Zoom link for your convenience: https://mtsu.zoom.us/j/87982316456
COMM3990

Instructional Communication for Human Resource Trainers

M-W 2:20-3:45 PM with Dr. Priddis

CRN: 87030

Examines communication training as a tool for human resource development in organizations, enabling preparation and implementation of training workshops and programs for professional development. This course is designed to walk through the theory and research of building and training from analysis to facilitation. Students will present their group’s final training project for a live audience.

WGST 3500/COMM 3810

WOMEN IN THE MEDIA

(Topics in Culture and Social Influence)

FALL 2021  TR 1:00-2:25 PM
DR. ROBERTA CHEVRETTE

An introduction to the subject of women and gendered representations in popular mass media. Emphasis include: female-bodied action heroes in contemporary television and movies, the cultural icon Wonder Woman and her comic-book history, representations of Black womanhood and Black girl magic, feminist social media activism, and more.

Boutwell Dramatic Arts 214
Interested in an Internship?

Students may earn credit in the major by participating in an internship. It’s a great way to network, try out a job to see if it’s what you thought, and possibly secure a career upon graduation. To find an internship, you can conduct online research on your own and explore various options. If the company or business doesn’t mention internships on their website, feel free to reach out to them and ask if they are willing to take on an intern. You can also visit the College Internship Coordinator, Ella Weaver to discuss your interests and suggestions she might have. Make an appointment by visiting the CLA Internship website.

You may earn 1, 2 or 3 credit hours per semester. The number of hours you work during the semester determines the number of credits. 1 credit = 40 hours; 2 credits = 80 hours; 3 credits = 120 hours. However, to earn credits you need to follow these steps:

1. Secure an internship
2. Complete a Department Internship Agreement form and submit it to Dr. Hundley. The form is available from Ms. Weaver, the Comm Studies Dept, is on the Comm Studies Dept website, and you may also get it from Dr. Hundley.
3. Once approved, you’ll be permitted to register for COMM 4900. Complete the registration.

In addition to working the required number of hours, you are also required to complete work to earn course credit. The syllabus, assignments, due dates, and other information is provided on D2L.

It’s a good idea to think about this in advance. That is, if you are considering a summer internship, you should be in conversation about this by spring midterm. If you are looking for a fall semester internship, start exploring the options in July. If you are thinking about an internship in the spring, you should probably be checking it out in late October. Some companies may take formal applications and require interviews. Other companies are less formal. Plan it out, make it count, and take advantage of the opportunity.

Summer and Fall Internship Opportunities with Volunteer Tennessee

Volunteer Tennessee is seeking energetic and organized interns for the summer and fall of 2021.

Interns will help in the planning and coordination of the Tennessee Conference on Volunteerism and Service-Learning and the Governor's Volunteer Stars Awards. Interns must have excellent communication and organization skills and a heart for service.

For the application and more information, please visit our website at https://www.tn.gov/volunteer-tennessee/vt-aboutus/vt-positions.html.

Recruitment/Outreach Intern

Communication Studies Department

Interested in developing hard skills to well supplement your major such as graphic design and social media management? The COMMS 4900 internship is for you! 3 credit hours will also count to your major for this unpaid internship. Contact Dr. Priddis via email if this entices you!
Policy & Communications Assistant Job Opening – Office of Senator Bill Frist, MD

The Nashville, Tennessee-based Office of Senator Bill Frist, MD seeks a driven, energetic policy & communications assistant to support the former Senator and his senior policy advisor.

In this role, you will make an impact by drafting op-eds, speeches, social media copy and more to guide decisions and educate others in wide-ranging health policy areas. Position can be in-person or remote, so we are not limited by geography (although we do have a Middle TN preference).

**Responsibilities:**

- Extensive writing and researching biweekly articles and op-eds on current health policy issues
- Drafting briefing materials to prep Senator Frist in advance of public events
- Supporting the Senator’s A Second Opinion Podcast
- Managing daily engagement on multiple social media accounts
- Updating billfrist.com and asecondopinionpodcast.com
- Speechwriting

**The ideal candidate:**

- Excellent writing and communications skills with demonstrated experience
- Ability to work effectively within a small and diverse team, being both a collaborative team player and a self-motivated initiator
- Willingness to engage in and take on diverse projects
- Skill in social media and website management
- Comfort in working with deadlines
- Bachelor's degree or higher
- Healthcare policy knowledge/experience preferred
- Experience working in or around government preferred

Opportunity to work remotely, although Middle Tennessee residence strongly preferred

Applicants should submit a letter of interest, and a current resume to Erin Rogus at erogus@wfrist.com.

Applicant screening begins immediately and continues until the position is filled. Salary commensurate with experience. Half-time and full-time options available.

The Tennessee Department of Treasury is seeking a Communications intern for Summer 2021.

Each year, The Treasury Department strives to have interns from a variety of universities across the state and would appreciate your help in getting this message out to students in your university’s Communications Department.

This internship is a 10-week paid educational and experiential learning opportunity and offers undergraduate and graduate students a chance to witness and participate in the operations of a State constitutional office.

The program is both professionally and academically beneficial, providing interns with practical, hands-on experience in state government. The internship will be a mostly virtual work schedule, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, June 7 – Aug 13.

**Description of Position:**

The Communications Division is responsible for all press, public relations, publications, and communications on behalf of Treasury and its programs. The intern should be prepared on Day 1 to assist with all communications tasks.

Supports work of the division by maintaining professionalism on all communications and developing new ways to communicate internally and externally.

The 2021 intern will assist in producing, editing and creating video as part of their project.

**Requirements:**

- Communications, Journalism, Public Relations, Marketing, Graphic Design, or English Major
- Enrolled in or graduate of a degree-seeking program at an accredited university
- Minimum GPA of 3.0
- Must provide own housing accommodations
- Experience in copywriting and editing; working knowledge of MS Office
- Adobe Creative Suite experience desired; experience with graphic and photo editing software preferred
- Experience creating informational videos, including video editing with Adobe Premiere Pro preferred

To Apply:

To apply for an internship with the Tennessee Department of Treasury, please send your resume to treasury.resumes@tn.gov, with the subject line “Communications Summer Internship.” Successful candidates will be contacted by phone to schedule an interview.
The Annual Scholars Week Speech Contest is officially over and here are the results -

First place - Jacob Dilts
Second place - Guadaloupe George
Third place - Luke Elrod
Fourth place - Odette Rosales
Fifth place - Amir Alam

The participants have been notified and their certificates and gift cards will be mailed once Natonya Listach receives their mailing addresses at: natonya.listach@mtsu.edu

Tennessee Communication Association Annual Conference took place virtually this year.

Awards:

Dorotha Norton Spirit of Service: Patrick Richey, MTSU
Student Undergraduate Papers
1st Place: Miura Rempis for her paper: How Machiavelli’s The Prince Affects Incumbent Elections in the United States Middle Tennessee State University
Mentor: Dr. Patrick Richey
Dear MTSU Students, Faculty, Staff, and Retirees,

Per Rutherford County Vaccination guidelines announced yesterday, we are pleased to now be able to offer COVID-19 vaccination to adults aged 18 and over who are:

- MTSU current students and their spouses
- MTSU Faculty and Staff and their permanent household members
- MTSU Retirees

To schedule an appointment please go to [https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/VaccinationClinic2@mtsu.edu/bookings/](https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/VaccinationClinic2@mtsu.edu/bookings/). The person scheduling the appointment will need a current valid MTSU email account. Please bring a photo ID that includes date of birth (i.e., a driver’s license or passport) to your appointment.