

# DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION

## GRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS: Spring 2023 [as of 11/2/2022]

All courses carry 3-credits unless otherwise indicated

**593D: Advanced Screenwriting**  
**Prof. Geisler Office: S318 ILC**

**Tues-Thurs. 11:30 AM-12:45 PM**

**Lecture.** Building on the introductory course (COMM 445: Seminar-Screenwriting), 593D is an intensive workshop where students receive continuing, in-depth feedback on their work in progress, as they strive for professional competence in feature-length theatrical screenwriting or writing for episodic television. Included is an analysis of two professional screenplays and the films or shows produced from them, as students delve into the writer's art and craft. Students will complete either the first 60 pages of a feature film screenplay or a complete episode for a dramatic television show, or two episodes for a sitcom. **(Course capacity is 16)**

**Course Eligibility:** Prereqs are either Comm 445 or another college level screenwriting course or permission of the instructor.

**621: Quantitative Methods in Research**  
**Prof. Goldman Office: N370 ILC**

**Thurs. 4-6:45 PM**

**Lecture.** Introduction to the structure, process, and logic of quantitative empirical research in communication. Topics include research design, measurement, descriptive and inferential statistics, and basic multivariate analysis. Students acquire an ability to critique various methodological approaches and techniques. Preparation for more advanced courses. Required of all Communication graduate students. **(Course capacity is 10)**

**Course Eligibility\*:** Open to Doctoral Communication Graduate Students, others by permission of instructor

**S690G: Engaged Research Methods/Comm**  
**Prof. Fuentes-Bautista Office: N372 ILC**

**Day and Time -TBD**

**Lecture.** Engaged scholarship promotes collaboration between academics and diverse publics outside academia – practitioners, government officials, industry, social movements, advocates, and citizen groups – in knowledge production and creative projects that are mutually beneficial and contribute to the public good. This graduate seminar introduces participants to main epistemological frameworks, collaborative methods, and dissemination strategies employed in the field of communication to advance engaged and public scholarship that emphasize the social and democratic dimension of communication research that engages affected publics in open deliberation, knowledge creation and problem-solving work.

Drawing on projects developed under diverse subdisciplines in communications, students will develop theoretical, ethical, and practical insights on how engaged research methods are employed to advance knowledge on critical media education and media literacy pedagogy, disinformation studies, communication for sustainable development, communication and anti-racist interventions, media advocacy and social movements, public interest technology, and media policy advocacy and evaluation.

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### S690G Continued

Primary objectives of this course are to:

- introduce students to different ontological and epistemological approaches to engaged scholarship in communication;
- explore a range of goals, designs and methods employed by different communication subdisciplines to advance engaged scholarship in the field;
- understand ethical and practical demands of engaged scholarship in communication;
- learn how to build and maintain mutually beneficial and effective collaboration between academics and community partners;
- learn common strategies employed by engaged scholars to disseminate knowledge and information creatively and effectively to reach non-academic publics.

**Credit:** 3 credit hours. **Pre-requisite:** Completion of a graduate-level research methods course or relevant research field experience. **Room:** TBA (*Course Capacity is 10*)

**693D: Introduction to Film Theory**  
**Prof. Ciecko Office: N328 ILC**

**Tues. 4-6:45 PM**

**Seminar.** . This course offers an introductory overview of major approaches to the study of film and audiovisual media, including formalism and realism ("classical" film theory), and theoretical and critical methods informed by structuralism, semiology, phenomenology, psychoanalysis, political theory, and cultural studies. Auteurism, feminist film theory, queer theory, genre studies, spectator/audience/ reception, star and performance studies, apparatus theory, postcolonial theory, and theories of new media will also be considered. The format and content of the seminar are discussion-intensive, interdisciplinary, and multi-perspectival. Written response assignments and activities, presentations, and screenings provide class participants with opportunities to apply theories, dialogically engage with course readings and related materials, and develop exploratory projects tailored to individual interests and goals. Prior study of film is not required. **Course Eligibility:** This course is a requirement for the Graduate Certificate in Film Studies, but is open to all graduate students, any major or program (**Course capacity 10**)  
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**697M: Fixing Social Media**  
**Prof. Zuckerman Office: 632 Thompson Hall**

**Mon. 7-9:30PM**

**Seminar.** This course examines soci technical problems with existing modes of social media and works towards building new, affirmative visions for social media through technical and policy means. Students will examine interventions to address problems with contemporary social media and design and develop possible intervention . (**Course capacity is 10**)  
**Course Eligibility:** Doctoral and Masters Graduate students

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**794M: Field Research Methods in Communication**  
**Prof. Dori-Hacohen Office: N374 ILC**

**Mon. 4 -6:45PM**

**Lecture.** Field Research Methods in Comm

This course teaches methods in the field of Discourse Studies. We use one type of discourse, “Meet the Contestant” segment from the quiz show Jeopardy to learn how to analyze mundane, mediated, and online interactions; however a student can experiment with own data. After discussing some assumptions of studying such data, we move to the basic structures, sequences, allocation of talk, and references, taken from frameworks such as Sociology, Sociolinguistics, Critical Discourse Studies and others. Then we examine more complex structures: narrative and arguments. The goal is to finish the course with a collaborative research project to be presented in conferences and papers.” **(Course Capacity is 10) Course Eligibility: Doctoral and Masters Graduate Students**

**797E:ST-Performing Survival**  
**Prof. Pérez Office: S316 ILC**

**Wed. 4-6:45PM**

**Seminar.** Performing Survival brings together theories of performance (narrative, embodiment, aesthetics, creativity, writing, methodology) with critical cultural theories of power (woman of color feminism, queer, trans, disability) to contemplate how they bear on survival. Survival will be approached as ontological (embodied, being) and epistemological (knowing, knowledge), as identity (survivor), and as performance, performativity, relating, and worldmaking. The course practices slow reading of texts that range from scholarly to narrative. Participants will draw from course concepts to generate original work in the genre, style, and form that meets their disciplinary and departmental expectations. **(Course Capacity is 10) Course Eligibility: Doctoral and Masters Graduate Students**

**891A: Pro-Seminar-Graduate Intro to Communication {1 credit.} Mon. 12:20–1:10PM**  
**Prof. West Office: S324 ILC**

**Seminar.**

The Proseminar is a 1-credit class spread across the Fall and Spring semesters. Over 15 class meetings, this class introduces you to many of the people, knowledge, and tools that the department feels you need to start you on a successful path in the Communication PhD Program. Our meetings focus on professional development and training in the areas of pedagogy, research, and career planning. **(Course capacity is 10)**

**Course Eligibility\*:** Open to Doctoral Communication Graduate students

**Course Notes:** **This course is required for first year graduate students.**