THE CAMPUS

Our graduate program is located in one of the most beautiful and stimulating environments in the world. The campus’s residential character, its unparalleled physical beauty, its location in an historic city whose cultural life is diverse and whose commitment to preserving the environment is legendary—all provide the ideal setting for an internationally renowned academic community recognized for its excellence and innovation. The breadth and excellence of UCSB’s teaching and research are known internationally. UCSB offers more than 90 majors and 200 degree programs to more than 20,000 undergraduate students from across the globe. In 2015, UCSB also was recognized for its commitment to diversity by being designated as a Hispanic-Serving Institute (HIS) with 27% of its undergraduate student body identifying as Latino/a.

CAMPUS FACTS

• Officially designated as a Hispanic-Serving Institute
• Renowned for its distinguished faculty, including six Nobel prize laureates in chemistry, physics, and economics
• Received 4.5/5 stars on Gender Identity/Expression and LGBTQ Policy Inclusion from Campus Pride Index
• Ranked 8th among all public universities in U.S. News and World Report’s 2017 “Best Colleges” list
In our MA/PhD program, you will find the most distinguished faculty in the field working closely with the best and brightest graduate students. We provide research, teaching, and service in communication science that is socially relevant, theoretically motivated, and methodologically rigorous and eclectic.

Our department bridges 3 interrelated areas of communication: (a) Interpersonal/Intergroup, (b) Media, and (c) Organizational. Graduate students also can choose to add an interdisciplinary focus to their work through pursuing a doctoral emphasis in one or more of the following 6 areas: (a) Cognitive Science; (b) Feminist Studies; (c) Global Studies; (d) Language, Interaction and Social Organization; (e) Quantitative Methods in Social Sciences; and (f) Information Technology and Society. Students also can earn certificates in College and University Teaching and the Graduate Program in Management Practice.
INTERPERSONAL & INTERGROUP

Our approach to interpersonal communication focuses on the dynamic ways in which messages are constructed, exchanged, and interpreted in relational contexts—ranging from casual acquaintances to family members. In addition, our approach to intergroup communication examines the impact of social contexts on the generation and interpretation of messages, symbols, and identity where frames of reference may (intragroup communication) or may not (intergroup communication) be shared. Each of these two areas operates with unique assumptions. Yet, our melding of these approaches recognizes that interpersonal encounters can take place within underlying intergroup frames while between-group interactions can have interpersonal contingencies.
INTERPERSONAL & INTERGROUP RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

• Communication accommodation theory
• Conflict management
• Credibility & decision making
• Cultural influences
• Deception & nonverbal behaviors
• Discrimination
• Forgiveness communication
• Health communication
• Hopeful communication
• Immigration and acculturation
• Information seeking
• Language, power, & dominance
• Lifespan communication & caregiving
• Privacy management
• Relational maintenance
• Risk & resilience
• Social identity processes & evolution
• Stress & coping
• Substance-use prevention
• Uncertainty management

SAMPLE PUBLICATIONS


In the area of media communication, we examine issues involving the creation, distribution, use, reception, context, and effects of mediated messages. We have a diverse set of interests, with emphases that span the psychological, physiological, social, group, organizational, and global issues associated with the modern media landscape. We conceive of media broadly, in both traditional (e.g., TV, print, film) and contemporary forms (e.g., the Internet/social media, mobile phones, video games). Faculty and students examine a wide range of media contexts, including entertainment, health, news, politics, communication campaigns, policy, and digital media.
MEDIA RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

- Communication networks & diffusion of innovations
- Effects of emotions on the processing & impact of media messages
- Health communication, information seeking, & persuasion
- Influence of media portrayals of immigration on cognitions, emotions, and behaviors
- Impact of race/ethnicity on identity & intergroup outcomes
- Issues of credibility & privacy with digital networked information
- Media & information literacy
- Media law & policy
- Media portrayals of violence & terrorism
- Narratives & moral judgment
- Physiological & neuroscientific approaches to the study of media
- Use & effects of video games, the Internet, mobile phones, & society

SAMPLE PUBLICATIONS


ORGANIZATIONAL

Students and faculty in organizational communication investigate complex communication issues in contemporary organizing. Our research examines patterns or networks of interaction; effects of the social, political, and physical environment; relationships involved in organizing; messages and information flow; and interpretations of communication as it enacts, emanates from, and shapes forms of organizing in corporate, community, governmental and nongovernmental settings. We explore such topics as collective action and collaborative relationships, traditional and digital/online media in organizations, organizational technology and organization processes, international and global organizing, organizational entry and exit, identity and identification, gender issues, groups and teams, and discourse in and about organizations.
SAMPLE PUBLICATIONS


ORGANIZATIONAL RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

- Communication technology & organization processes
- Corporate social responsibility
- Intergroup & intercultural collaboration; collaborative processes & technology
- Negotiations & conflict management during organizing
- Networks of communication, clandestine & emergent network forms
- Socialization & assimilation, membership negotiation, & identification
FACULTY RECOGNITIONS

UCSB’s Department of Communication includes award-winning distinguished faculty:

- Senior and Associate Editors of prestigious journals including Communication Research, Journal of Communication, Communication Monographs, Journal of Language and Social Psychology.
- Recipients of millions of dollars in external funding from the National Science Foundation, Department of Defense, the National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of State, Marsden Foundation, and Templeton Foundation.
- Recipients of numerous ICA and NCA awards, including top paper awards, and distinguished article awards.
- Five ICA Fellows and four NCA Distinguished Scholars.
- Three winners of ICA’s Steven H. Chaffee Career Achievement Award—the most of any program.
- Recipients of many university-wide teaching and mentoring awards.
EXAMPLES OF GRADUATE ALUMNI PLACEMENT

Richard Huskey (2016), Assistant Professor of Communication, The Ohio State University
Marko Dragojevic (2015), Assistant Professor of Communication, University of Kentucky
Bernadette Gailliard (2013), Assistant Professor of Communication, Rutgers University
Jessica Gasiorek (2013), Assistant Professor of Communication, University of Hawai‘i at Manoa
Stephanie Robbins (2013), Assistant Professor of Communication, Ohio University
Amanda Denes (2012), Assistant Professor of Communication, University of Connecticut
Jody Jahn (2012), Assistant Professor of Communication, University of Colorado, Boulder
Jiyeon So (2012), Assistant Professor of Communication, University of Georgia
Katy Pearce (2011), Assistant Professor of Communication, University of Washington
Emily Moyer-Gusé (2007), Assistant Professor (now Associate Professor) of Communication, The Ohio State University
Sahara Byrne (2007), Assistant Professor (now Associate Professor) of Communication, Cornell University
FACULTY
Tamara Afifi, Prof., Interpersonal
Walid Afifi, Prof., Interpersonal
Norah Dunbar, Prof., Interpersonal/Social Influence
Andrew Flanagin, Prof., Media/Organizational
Jennifer Gibbs, Prof., Organizational/Culture
Howie Giles, Prof., Interpersonal/Intergroup
Jennifer Kam, Assoc. Prof., Interpersonal/Culture/Health
Dan Linz, Prof., Media/Culture
Dana Mastro, Prof., Media/Culture
Andy Merolla, Asst. Prof., Interpersonal
Miriam Metzger, Prof., Media
Karen Myers, Assoc. Prof., Organizational
Robin Nabi, Prof., Media/Health
W. James Potter, Prof., Media
Linda Putnam, Research Prof., Organizational
Scott Reid, Prof., Interpersonal/Intergroup
Ronald E. Rice, Prof., Organizational/Media
Cynthia Stohl, Prof., Organizational
Michael Stohl, Prof., Organizational/Media
René Weber, Prof., Media

AFFILIATED FACULTY
Bruce Bimber, Prof., Political Science
Nancy Collins, Prof., Psychological & Brain Sciences
Noah Friedkin, Prof., Sociology
David Hamilton, Prof., Psychological & Brain Sciences
Paul Leonardi, Prof., Technology Management
Diane Mackie, Prof., Psychological & Brain Sciences
Brenda Major, Prof., Psychological & Brain Sciences
John Mohr, Prof., Sociology
David Seibold, Prof., Technology Management

LECTURERS
Gordon Abra, Lecturer, Interpersonal
Desiree Aldeis, Lecturer, Interpersonal
Anna Laura Jansma, Lecturer, Interpersonal
Ziad Matni, Lecturer, Media/Organizational
Charles Mullin, Lecturer, Media
Dolly Mullin, Lecturer, Media

MORE INFORMATION
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Campus photos were taken by Tony Mastres