

Zantel Nichols

Vita
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Texas Southern University
Department of Communication Studies
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Education

- Ph.D. 2017 **University of Nebraska-Lincoln.** *College of Liberal Arts.* Lincoln, NE
Major: Organizational Communication
Secondary: Interpersonal Communication, Leadership
Major Professor: Dawn Braithwaite, Ph.D.
Dissertation: *Communicating resiliency among nonprofit leaders in grassroots human service organizations (NGHSOs).*
- M.A. 2004 **Texas Southern University.** *College of Liberal Arts.* Houston, TX
Major: Communication Studies
Major Professor: Bun Lee, Ph.D.
Thesis: *The impact of increased media coverage of tiger woods, venus and serena williams on african-american high school students.*
- B.A. 1992 **University of Iowa.** *College of Liberal Arts.* Iowa City, IA
Major: Journalism & Mass Communications
Minor: Public Relations

Academic Appointments

- 2018 - present Assistant Professor, Tenure-track – Department of Communication Studies, Texas Southern University
- 2019 – present Academic Advisor – MA in Communication program, School of Communication, Texas Southern University
- 2015 – present Chapter Advisor – Lambda Pi Eta National Communication Honor Society, Alpha Delta Theta Chapter, School of Communication, Texas Southern University
- 2019 – 2021 School of Communication Graduate Director, Texas Southern University
- 2016 - 2018 Academic Advisor – Department of Communication Arts & Sciences, Texas Southern University
- 2017 – 2018 Program Coordinator - Department of Communication Arts & Sciences, Texas Southern University
- 2012- 2018 Visiting Assistant Professor – Department of Communication Arts & Sciences, Texas Southern University

2016-2017	Adjunct Professor – Department of English & Communication, San Jacinto Community College
2016 -2018	Basic Course Coordinator, Department of Communication Arts & Sciences, Texas Southern University
2012- 2016	Adjunct Professor - Online, Department of English & Communication, School of Arts & Humanities, American Military University/American Public University
2009-2012	Graduate Teaching Assistant, Communication Department, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
2011-2012	Instructor, William H. Thompson Scholars Learning Community, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
2011-2012	Athletic Advisor/Tutor, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Athletic Department
2006-2009	Instructor, School of Communication, Texas Southern University
2006 – 2009	Basic Course Coordinator, Department of Communication Arts & Sciences, Texas Southern University
2007-2008	Academic Advisor, School of Communication, Texas Southern University
2006-2007	Adjunct Professor, Department of Communication, Houston Community College
2004 – 2006	Adjunct Professor, Department of Communication Arts & Sciences, Texas Southern University

Research, Publications, & Presentations

Conference Panelist

TSU CommWeek Conference, (2021, March) *Social Media & Nonprofits*. Houston, TX.

National Communication Association Conference, “Communication at the crossroads” (2020, November). *Coping with COVID-19: Creating a holistic Black life in virtual spaces at the club, gym, church, happy hours, house parties, and brunches*. Online, synchronous.

National Communication Conference, “Communication for survival” (2019, November). *Surviving pedagogy in virtual spaces: Challenges and opportunities in the online communication classroom within diverse institutional contexts*. Baltimore, MD. Houston, TX.

TSU CommWeek Conference, “Trends in the communication studies discipline” (2019, March). *Millennium: Honoring the past, treasuring the present, shaping the future*. Texas Southern University, Houston, TX.

Intercultural Communication Conference (2014, April). Panel Chair, *Past and present, Black is, (black) ain't: African-merican music forms depiction of the african-american community and its impact over the past 50 years*. Houston, TX.

Conference Moderator

Intercultural Communication Conference, "Agency, privilege and voice: Communicating in the age of globalization" (2017, March). *To "friend" or not to friend": Benefits and pitfall of students and advisors interacting via social media.* Texas Southern University, Houston, TX.

Intercultural Communication Conference (2016, April). *"Millennials, multiculturalism and mobile connectivity: The next big thing."*, Houston, TX.

Intercultural Communication Conference (2015, April). *Media content in national and global context.* Houston, TX.

Conference Papers

Nichols, Z. (2018, March). *Communicative practices of resilience in the nonprofit grassroots human service organization.* Paper presented at annual Research Week 2018, Texas Southern University, Houston, TX.

Lucas, K., Nichols, Z., Rick, J. M., & Westling, A. (2010, November). *How-to and must-do messages: A comparison of first- and continuing-generation college students' family messages.* Paper presented at annual meeting of the National Communication Association, San Francisco, CA.

Curriculum Development

Audited and restructured Masters of Arts in Communication program Fall 2020. Created new degree plans for concentrations in Organizational Communication, Media Studies, Professional Communication & Digital Media, and Health Communication. Aligned degree with state mandates and compliance codes.

Assisted with design and implementation of new Communication Studies Bachelors of Arts Degree (Spring 2019). Constructed syllabi, course design, concentrations, curriculum, university proposal and matriculation process.

Designed and proposed new Master's in Arts program with concentrations in Health Communication or Organizational Communication (Summer 2014- Fall 2015). Worked with the Curriculum Committee to revise and create programs of study in the field of communication.

Publications

Nichols, Z., Hall, G., Mitchell, K., Burton, R. (2022). *Public speaking in diverse contexts* (in progress). Kendall Hunt Publishing. Dubuque, IA.

Ward, J. W., Campbell, K. D., & Nichols, Z. D. (2012). *Essentials of business and professional communication.* New York, NY: McGraw Hill Publishing.

Manuscripts

Nichols, Z. D. (2017, November). Dissertation: *Communicating resiliency among nonprofit leaders in grassroots human service organizations (NGHSOs), IRB approval granted, data analysis Fall 2015.*

Courses Taught

Texas Southern University

COMM 5301, CM 526: Introduction to Graduate Studies

Fall & Spring 2022, 2021, 2018, 2019, 2020, 1 section

Introduced MA in Communication students to advanced communication theory, and research.

Introduce graduate students to the matriculation in graduate school. Students learn the process of constructing thesis and master projects and use of APA style format from the proposal to defense as well as establishing a career trajectory after graduation.

COMM 5334, CM 534: Introduction to Graduate Research

Fall & Spring 2022, 2021, 2018, 2019, 2020, 1 section

Introduced MA in Communication students to communication research methodology, data collection, and research skills. Teach best practices in reading and analyzing qualitative and quantitative data analysis. Guide students through IRB process.

CM 552: Organizational Communication Theory

Fall 2019, 1 section

Introduced students with a concentration in organizational communication to approaches, models, and processes in nonverbal behaviors, structures, and approaches in various types of organizations. Students examined and applied learning in practical application and through written papers, quizzes and exams.

CM 570: Communication in the Global Workplace

Summer 2021, 1 section

Taught advanced organizational communication concepts and theoretical frameworks applicable to global organizations such as Google, Facebook, and online education. Introduced models to examine culture through messaging and performative behaviors to encourage diversity, inclusion and equity in transnational work settings.

COMM 338: Introduction to Organizational Communication

Fall 2017-2020, 1 section; Fall 2016, 1 section;

Taught upper level course that focused on basic theory, concepts, models and approaches to organizational structure, behavior, culture and contexts. Students examined and applied learning in practical application and through case studies presented in class.

SC 438: Communication & Organizational Behavior

Spring 2017-2020 1 section;

Taught upper level course that focused on basic theory, concepts, models and approaches to organizational structure, behavior, culture and contexts. Students examined and applied learning in practical application and through case studies presented in class.

CM 130: Introduction to Communication Studies

Spring 2018, Fall 2017, 1 section; Spring 2017, 2 section; Fall 2016, 2 section; Spring 2015, 1 section

Introduced communication majors on basic theory, concepts, models and the various fields of study in the communication discipline. Students examined and applied learning in practical application and through written papers, quizzes and exams.

CM 200: Introduction to Communication Research Techniques

Spring 2018, Fall 2017, 1 section; Spring 2017, 1 section; Fall 2016, 1 section; Spring 2015, 1 section

Introduce communication majors to academic research and writing techniques. Students learn how to assess the credibility of sources, read and understand quantitative & qualitative research, and construct a research proposal.

SC 230: Urban Rhetorical Patterns

Fall 2017, 1 section

Taught upper level course that focused on the rhetoric of social movements, language, discourse, and strategies of protest. Students study various social movements in history, learn the basic construction of the rhetorical criticism and analyze symbolic meaning through written and verbal language.

SC 433: Health Communication

Fall 2017, 1 section; Fall 2015, 1 section; Fall 2013, 1 section; Fall 2015, 1 section

Taught upper level course that focused on theory, models and approaches to health communication contexts. Students are introduced to the field of health communication, e-health, m-health, and other new media outlets utilized in health communication. Students construct and propose a health campaign from start to finish.

SC 434: Principles of Leadership

Spring 2018, 1 section; Spring 2016, 1 section; Spring 2015, 1 section; Fall 2014, 1 section

Taught upper level course an introduction to the study and practice of leadership from a communication perspective. There is a particular focus on the relationship between communicating and leading. Combined reading assignments, lectures, discussions, classical and current approaches to leadership processes in various organizational contexts. Course included reading assignments, lectures, discussions, leadership portfolios and case study analysis.

SC 435: Advanced Public Speaking

Fall 2014, 1 section, Fall 2013, 1 section

Taught upper level course that examines modern and classical speeches. Students construct and deliver advanced speeches such as proposals, rhetorical performance, and manuscripts. Course includes reading assignments, lectures, discussions, speech writing and analysis, and polished presentation skills.

SC 233: Communication Skills for Health Professionals

Fall & Spring 2016, 1 section, Fall & Spring 2015, 1 section, Fall 2013, 1 section

Taught survey course designed for students in the health fields. Students explored communication dynamics in various health care contexts. The course focused on improving interpersonal, nonverbal and listening skills.

SC 232: Interpersonal Communication

Spring 2018, 1 section, Spring 2016, 1 section; Fall & Spring 2014, 1 section, Fall 2009, 2 sections, Spring 2010, 2 sections

Taught survey course that focused on theory, interpersonal relationships in different relational contexts. This course focused included lecture, exams, papers, and class discussion.

COMM 136: Public Address

(1 section each) Summer 2017; Fall 2016; Fall 2015; Summer 2015; Fall 2005; Spring 2005; Fall 2005; Spring 2006, 4 sections

Taught course in the research, composition, organization, delivery and analysis of speeches for various purposes and occasions. Facilitated students in developing proficiency in public speaking situations; emphasis on content, organization, and delivery of polished speeches.

COMM 135: Business & Professional Communication

Summer 2016-2020, Summer & Fall 2016 1 section, Fall 2013 1 section, 2004-Spring 2009; Total: 25

sections

Taught survey course. Designed course to focus on theory, business communication applications, interviewing and ethics of speech communication. Combined reading assignments, lectures, discussions, principles of interviewing, and polished presentation skills.

Basic Course Coordinator

Fall 2015 – Fall 2016; Fall 2007-Spring 2009

Managed 8-10 faculty in curriculum development and university course audits. Planned, organized, and executed a comprehensive re-organization of curriculum taught in basic course; assisted in the re-alignment of department objectives and capstone courses. Assisted with the university accreditation of Texas Southern University's Southern Association Academic Accreditation.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

COMM 210: Small Group Communication

Fall 2010, 2 sections; Spring 2011, 2 sections

Teach small group communication courses for communication majors. Combined reading assignments (textbook & scholarly peered-reviewed articles). Approached a variety of current problems (e.g., leadership, participatory models, phases of group development) using small group processes to analyze the issues, research and evaluate possible solutions, and present findings.

COMM 209: Public Speaking

Fall 2011, 1 sections

Teach course in basic rhetorical speech, research, composition, organization, delivery and analysis of speeches for various purposes. Facilitate students in developing proficiency in public speaking situations; emphasis on content, organization, and delivery of polished speeches.

COMM 286: Business & Professional Communication

Fall 2009, 2 sections, Spring 2010, 2 sections

Taught survey course that focused on theory, business communication applications, interviewing and ethics of speech communication. Combined reading assignments, lectures, discussions, principles of interviewing, and polished presentation skills. Managed and mentored six Instructional Assistants.

San Jacinto Community College

SPCH 1311: Introduction to Public Speaking:

Spring 2017, 1 section

Taught survey course in theories and practice of communication in interpersonal, small group, and public speech. A survey course in the basic principles of oral communication. Includes the study of the use of the body and voice, the speaker-listener relationship, and preparation and delivery of platform speeches and other methods of speech presentations.

American Public University (Online Institution)

COMM 200: Public Speaking

May 2012, 1 section; June 2012, 1 section; July 2012, 1 section; Dec. 2012, 1 section

Teach online course in basic rhetorical speech, research, composition, organization, delivery and analysis of speeches for various purposes. Facilitate students using online collaboration and Community of Inquiry (COI) teaching pedagogy in developing proficiency in public speaking situations; emphasis on content, organization, and delivery of polished speeches.

Houston Community College

SPCH 1311: Introduction to Speech Communication:

Spring 2007, 1 section; Summer 2007, 1 section

Taught survey course in theories and practice of communication in interpersonal, small group, and public speech. A survey course in the basic principles of oral communication. Includes the study of the use of the body and voice, the speaker-listener relationship, and preparation and delivery of platform speeches and other methods of speech presentations.

Professional Experience

National Hockey League (Fall 2021). *Consultant*. Analysis of organizational culture and propose changes to promote diversity, and increase community involvement among marginalized groups.

Empowerment Network. *Intern; Administrative Assistant*. Omaha, NE (Summer 2011- Fall 2012).

Alief ISD. *Teacher*. Houston, TX (1995-1997).

Fort Bend ISD. *Teacher*. Houston, TX (1997-2002).

XO Communications. *Account Executive*. Houston, TX (2002-2005).

Truemark Lending. *Loan Officer*. Houston, TX (2005-2008).

University of Iowa Office of Admissions. *Admissions Counselor/Special Programs Coordinator*. Iowa City, IA (1992-1995).

Professional Memberships & Service

General Education Core Assessment Committee Member (2017- 2018). Manage assessment tools, measurements, and oversee accreditation process for the departmental basic course.

Committee Chair (2017-2018): School of Communication Program Assessment Committee. School of Communication, Texas Southern University.

Member: National Communication Association (2009-present).

Member: Curriculum/Evaluation Committee. (2013-present). Texas Southern University, School of Communication.

Advisor: Alpha Delta Theta Chapter of Lambda Pi Eta Honor Society of the National Communication Association . Texas Southern University (2015 - present).

Member: E-Learning/Web Development Committee. (2015). Texas Southern University, School of Communication.

Advisor: Communication Student Alliance (2014-2015). Texas Southern University, School of Communication.

Member: Diversity Committee. (2009-2010). Univ. of Nebraska-Lincoln, Communication Studies Department.

Member: Scholarship & Awards Committee. (2009-2010). Univ. of Nebraska-Lincoln, Communication Studies Department.

Member: Colloquium Committee. (2010-2011). Univ. of Nebraska-Lincoln, Communication Studies Department.

Member: University Advisory Board (2008-2009). Texas Southern University, Office of the Provost.

Member: University SACS (Core) Assessment Committee (2008-2009). Texas Southern University, Office of the Provost.

Member: Intercultural Communication Conference Planning Committee (2007-2009). Texas Southern University, School of Communications.

Host: Scholars Office Hours; National Communication Association Annual Conference (Fall 2009).

Usher: National Communication Association Annual Conference (Fall 2009).

Auditor/Trainer: University General Education Core Council (2008-2009). Texas Southern University, School of Communications.

Awards

Dean's Award for Outstanding Vision, Dedication and Commitment to Excellence – School of Communication. Texas Southern University. (March 2019).

Tiger Award for Academic Program Quality & Research – Texas Southern University. (May 2019)

Bruce Kendall Award for Excellence in Teaching Graduate Scholar Award – Department of Communication Studies. University of Nebraska-Lincoln. (Spring 2011).

United Way Heartland Blueprint Candidate – Omaha, NE (May 2011)

Teaching, Speaking, & Volunteer Work

Fundraising Committee member – ChooseToDo Inc., Houston, Texas.

Board Member – United Way of the Midlands. Omaha, NE.

Speaker - "Colors do matter: Interviews & networking ." University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Agriculture & Leadership Department. (January 2010).

Coordinator – Adopt A Block Leadership Conference, Omaha, NE (Spring 2012).

Coordinator – Annual African American Leadership Conference, Omaha, NE (Spring 2010, 2012).