

CURRICULUM VITAE

Jessica E. Akey

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Education

- PhD. State University of New York at Buffalo
Communication
Degree awarded: August 2010
- M.A. University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Communication
Graduate certificate: Gender & Women's Studies
Degree awarded: August 2003
- B.S. James Madison University, VA
Major: Communication
Minors: Women's Studies and Religion
Degree awarded: May 2002

Academic Appointments

- August 2011** **State University of New York at Fredonia**
- Present *Assistant Professor*
Department of Communication
- January 2011** **Bard College**
2012 & 2013 *Faculty*
Citizen Science Program
- August 2006** **State University of New York at Buffalo**
- August 2011 *Graduate Teaching Assistant/Adjunct Instructor*
Department of Communication
- August 2002** **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**
- May 2003 *Graduate Teaching Assistant*
Department of Communication

TEACHING

Teaching and learning are major priorities in my life. I have chosen a career in academia so that these priorities are alive and thriving around me. I consider teaching a privilege and I take pride in my work as an educator. I will continue to hone and refine my pedagogical skills throughout my career, which is a learning process I fully enjoy and embrace.

CitSci: *Citizen Science*

Bard College: Winter 2011, 2012, 2013

Introduces students to science and the ideas of the scientific method. The program is designed to promote science literacy and utilizes the theme of infectious diseases, the importance of infectious disease in a community, and the impact that infectious disease outbreaks and subsequent management can have on our global society.

COM 101/COMM101: *Introduction to Communication/Fundamentals of Communication*

SUNY Buffalo: Fall 2006; Spring 2007

SUNY Fredonia: Fall 2011; Spring 2012; Fall 2012; Spring 2013

Introduces the study of communication in interpersonal, small-group, organizational, mass, and intercultural contexts. Covers communication models, theory, and research methods.

COM 231/COMM 379: *Persuasion*

SUNY Buffalo: Fall 2007; Spring 2008; Summer 2008; Fall 2008; Spring 2009;

Online version Summer 2010; Summer 2011

SUNY Fredonia: Fall 2012

Examines persuasive communication as a means of achieving goals and objectives. Also considers the theory and practice of influencing attitudes and opinions, particularly within persuasive campaigns.

COM 240: *Survey of Mass Communication*

SUNY Buffalo: Spring 2010

Explores mass media industries, their interactions with audiences, and their subsequent influence on society.

COM 300: *Written Communication*

SUNY Buffalo: Fall 2009

Covers the theory and practice of written communication. Emphasizes basic writing skills, the relationship between writing and critical thinking, and the ability to communicate ideas through the process of effective writing.

COMM 301: *Group Communication*

SUNY Fredonia: Fall 2011; Spring 2013

Focuses on small task groups, emphasizing communication in decision-making and problem solving. Reviews theories that explain the role of communication in group maintenance, cohesion, conflict management, leadership, socialization, and personality management.

COMM 373: *Gender & Communication*

SUNY Fredonia: Fall 2013

Using a variety of theoretical models and critical approaches, students examine everyday communication practices to identify how gender, communication and culture create a complex and dynamic web of meaning with significant implications for individuals and society.

COM 380/COMM 303: *Health Communication*

SUNY Buffalo: Summer 2009; Fall 2009; Spring 2010; Summer 2010

SUNY Fredonia: Spring 2012

Examines health communication and health communication campaigns in the interpersonal, organizational, and mass communication contexts, with an emphasis on research methodology.

COMM 430: *Communication Theory*

SUNY Fredonia: Spring 2013

Provides a comprehensive investigation into various theoretical and metatheoretical perspectives that currently direct theory building and research in communication. Emphasis on critical thinking as literature in the field is investigated and evaluated in light of accepted scientific criteria.

SPCOM 101: *Effective Principles of Public Speaking*

UIUC: Fall 2002; Spring 2003

Covers the practice of public speaking, emphasizing effective communication in public meetings and conferences. Provides practice in presenting speeches.

SPCOM 332: *Women and Language*

UIUC: Spring 2003

This graduate level course explores the role of gender in the discipline of communication. Evaluates research that has been done on gender differences in language use and what role language plays in empowerment and marginalization.

RESEARCH

My research interests focus on the intersection of gender, communication, and health. Specifically I'm interested in physical, mental, and emotional health management tactics for women managing illness. This line of research is the foundation for interventions designed to facilitate coping and adjustment among individuals managing illness, as well as equip caregivers with skills that will enhance care provision and, ultimately, health outcomes among those for whom they provide care.

Publications

Akey, J. E., Rintamaki, L.S. (in review). Optimal social supportive practices for healthcare professionals who treat patients managing eating disorders. *Journal Nervous and Mental Disease*.

Akey, J. E., Rintamaki, L.S. (in review). Message features affecting perceived quality of peer

support among people recovering from eating disorders. *Journal of Health Communication*.

Anker, A. E., Akey, J. E., & Feeley, T. H. (in press). Providing social support in a persuasive context: Forms of social support reported by Organ Procurement Coordinators. *Health Communication*.

Akey, J. E., Rintamaki, L. S., & Kane, T. L. (2013). Health belief model deterrents of social support seeking among people coping with eating disorders. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 145, 246-252. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jad.2012.04.045>

Conference Presentations

Akey, J. E. & Rintamaki, L. S. (2013, April). *Message features affecting perceived quality of peer support among people recovering from eating disorders*. Paper presented at the annual convention of the Eastern Communication Association, Pittsburgh, PA.

Akey, J. E., Rintamaki, L. S., & Kane, T. L. (2012, November). *Optimal social supportive practices for healthcare professionals who treat individuals managing eating disorders*. Paper presented at the annual convention of the National Communication Association, Orlando, FL.

Akey, J.E. (2012, October). *Making the most out of patient-provider communication*. Presented at Wellness is Wealth Conference, sponsored by Housing Options Made Easy, Jamestown, NY.

Akey, J. E., Rintamaki, L. S., & Kane, T. L. (2009, November). *Exploring the potential utility of motivational interviewing for improving eating disorder therapeutic interventions*. Paper presented at the annual convention of the National Communication Association, Chicago, IL.

Akey, J. E., Rintamaki, L. S., & Kane, T. L. (2009, November). *Health belief model deterrents of social support seeking among people coping with eating disorders*. Paper presented at the annual convention of the National Communication Association, Chicago, IL.

Akey, J. E. (2009, June). *The role of spirituality in the treatment for individuals managing eating disorders*. Paper presented at the annual International Spirituality and Social Work Conference, Los Angeles, CA.

Akey, J. E. (2008, November). *Celebrity as commodity: The effects of model familiarity and headline framing on ratings of attractiveness and healthiness*. Paper presented at the annual convention of the National Communication Association, San Diego, CA.

Akey, J. E. (2003, October). *Continuing the tradition: The portrayal of weddings in women's magazines*. Paper presented at the annual convention of the Organization for the Study of Communication, Language and Gender, Ft. Mitchell, KY.

Workshop Presentations

Working and Learning in Groups presented at The Professional Development Center Associates Program at Fredonia, NY, November 28, 2012.

Speak Up: A Workshop on Confident, Effective Speaking in Everyday Situations sponsored by STRAWW (Southern Tier Activities Without Walls), November 8, 2012.

Tips to Becoming an Effective Public Speaker presented at The Professional Development Center Associates Program at Fredonia, NY, October 2, 2012.

Group Work Using Technology presented at The Professional Development Center Associates Program at Fredonia, NY, April 3, 2012.

Improving Group Work Performance presented at The Professional Development Center Associates Program at Fredonia, NY, March 21, 2012.

Other Scholarly Activities

Panel Chair, Annual Conference of NCA – Health Communication Division (November 2012).

Created content for presentation skills materials for SUNY Fredonia, titled “An Overview of Oral Presentation Skills” (April 2012 – November 2012).

Manuscript Reviewer for *Journal of Health Communication* (November 2012; August 2012; July 2012; December 2011).

Panel Respondent, Convocation Keynote Speaker Dr. Jean Kilbourne, SUNY Fredonia (September 2012).

Facilitator for 3-day Target Your Teaching Conference, University at Buffalo (August 2007-2011).

Reviewer for Feminist and Women Studies Division of NCA (February 2009).

Panel Respondent, University at Buffalo Gender Institute’s Graduate Student Works in Progress Event (December 2008).

Grants

Title: *15th Annual Gender Conference*

Funding Agency: Carnahan-Jackson Humanities Fund

Project Funding: \$1,220

Description: The annual research conference on gender is dedicated to bringing together students and faculty from multiple disciplines in the interest of sharing and learning about research in gender and women's studies.

Role: Co-Primary Investigator/Conference organizer

Status: Funded, January 2013

Title: *Exploring the Relationship Between Social Support Interactions and Eating Disorder Outcomes*

Funding Agency: Mark Diamond Research Fund

Project Funding: \$2,000

Description: This study is designed to identify how specific social interactions affect subsequent emotional and behavioral outcomes among people living with eating disorders.

Role: Primary Investigator

Status: Funded, April 2009

Professional Memberships

Eastern Communication Association

National Communication Association

Organization for the Study of Communication, Language & Gender

SERVICE

Co-organizer for 15th Annual Gender Conference, SUNY Fredonia (November 2012 – March 2013).

Building safety coordinator, SUNY Fredonia (November 2012 – present).

Advisory Board Member, Women's & Gender Studies, SUNY Fredonia (October 2012 – present).

University Judicial Board Member, SUNY Fredonia (August 2012 – present).

Search Committee Member for Broadcast Journalism appointment, SUNY Fredonia's Department of Communication (May 2012 – December 2012).

Faculty Co-Advisor for Lambda Pi Eta, National Honor Society for Communication (March 2012 – present).

Personnel Committee Member for SUNY Fredonia's Department of Communication (September 2011 – present).

Partnerships

WNY Eating Disorder Resource Center: I am a member of a panel that consists of professionals from Buffalo (in fields including psychology, medicine, social work, and business) working to develop a facility for individuals and families who struggle with eating issues.

Certifications

Mt. Sinai School of Medicine SAVI program: Sexual Assault and Violence Intervention (SAVI) Program trained advocates are on-call around the clock to provide immediate crisis intervention, emotional support, and information to female and male survivors of rape, sexual assault, incest, and domestic violence who arrive at emergency rooms in Manhattan and Queens, New York.

HONORS and DISTINCTIONS

Incomplete List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by their Students. (2002-2003). University of Illinois. Ranked as “outstanding” and “excellent” teacher for Sp Com 101: Public Speaking.

Scholarships

Full stipend recipient for CIEE International Development Seminar July 2013

Full stipend recipient for UB Coast-to-Coast Symposium June 2009 & June 2010

International Experience

CIEE International Faculty Development Seminar; Gaborone, Botswana, July 2013

Study abroad with The British Institute of Florence; Italy, January – May 2001