

Eletra S. Gilchrist-Petty, Ph.D.

Associate Professor
The University of Alabama in Huntsville
College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences
Department of Communication Arts

EDUCATION

- Ph.D., 2004 University of Memphis; Memphis, TN
Major: Communication
Dissertation: "Students' use of compliance-seeking strategies with Black and White graduate teaching assistants"
- M.A., 2001 University of Alabama; Tuscaloosa, AL
Major: Communication Studies
Thesis: "Beyond the verbal filter: Communicator style and motivation to control racism"
- B.A., 1999 University of Alabama; Tuscaloosa, AL
Major: Communication Studies
Minor: Journalism
Summa Cum Laude
Honors Thesis: "Communicator style as a predictor of student success"

INSTRUCTIONAL EXPERIENCE

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| Communication Pedagogy | Senior Seminar in Communication |
| Introduction to Rhetorical Communication | Advanced Public Speaking |
| Communication Research Methods | Communication and Culture |
| Interpersonal Communication | Persuasion |
| Intro to Journalism | Advanced Media Writing |
| Dark Side of Interpersonal Communication | Small Group Communication |
| African American Communication | |

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- Associate/Assistant Professor The University of Alabama in Huntsville, Huntsville, AL 2008-present
*Tenure and promotion awarded in 2013
- Assistant Professor Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN 2004-2008

PUBLICATIONS/CONFERENCES/SCHOLARSHIP

Publications

- "You don't know what you don't know": Mitigating Uncertainty in Transracial Adoption. (under review). In S. LeBlanc (Ed.), *Going Behind Closed Doors: Case Studies in Family Communication*. Kendall Hunt.
- Black hair. (under review). *Race in American Popular Culture*.
- Taking interest in students' disinterest: Best practices for mitigating amotivation in the basic course. (2018). *Journal of Communication Pedagogy*, 1(1), 101-108. doi: 10.31446/JCP.2018.17

- Deviant Communication in Teacher-Student Interactions* (2018). Hershey, PA: IGI Global.
- When Lifestage Matters: A Narrative Account of a Pregnancy-Related Invisible Illness. (In press). In K. Morant Williams (Ed.), *Beyond the Veil: Women, Invisibility & Health*. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books.
- Unraveling Complexities in the Teacher-Student Relationship: Perceptions of Immediacy, Credibility, and Learning. (2017). *Carolinas Communication Annual, XXXIII*, 45-61.
- Uh, um, you know: How discourse markers affect perceptions of speaker character. (2017). In R. Garner (Ed.), *Brain waves: A compendium of ideas and views from UAH campus thought leaders* (pp. 155-158). Huntsville, AL: UAH.
- Contexts of the Dark Side of Communication*. (2016). New York, NY: Peter Lang Publishing Inc. With co-editor Dr. Shawn Long, UNC Charlotte.
- Didn't Expect You to Hurt Me This Way: A Typology of Hurtful Events in Dating and Marital Relationships. (2016). In E. S. Gilchrist-Petty & S. D. Long (Eds.), *Contexts of the Dark Side of Communication*. New York, NY: Peter Lang.
- Full STEAM Ahead: The Corporate Introductory Speech for STEM Majors and Employees. (2016). The Pedagogy Database. www.pedagogydatabase.com
- Momma's Embedded Advice: The Relationship Between Mother-Daughter Marriage Narratives and Daughters' Marital Satisfaction. (2015). *Southern Communication Journal, 80*(4), 293-310. With co-author Nicole Reynolds, UAH student.
- "You Did What?" The Relationship between Forgiveness Tendency, Communication of Forgiveness, and Relationship Satisfaction in Married and Dating Couples." (2014). *Communication Reports, 27*(2), 78-90. With co-authors Dr. Pavica Sheldon, UAH and Adam Lessley, UAH student.
- "Suck it Up": The Relationship between Willingness to Communicate and Reduced Soldier Stress." (2014). *Journal of Northwest Communication, 42*(1), 87-116. With co-author Zack Folk, UAH student.
- Family as an Academic Motivator for African-American and Ghanaian Students' University Attendance." (2013). In S. Marrow & D. Leoutsakas (Eds.), *More than Blood: Today's Reality & Tomorrow's Vision of Family*. Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.
- "African-American Women's Perceptions of Constitutive Meanings of Good Hair Articulated in Black Hair Magazine Advertisements." (2012). *Journalism and Mass Communication, 2*(1), 279-293. With co-author Courtney Thompson, UAH student.
- "Articulating the Heuristic Value of African-American Communication Studies." (2012). *Review of Communication, 1-14*. With co-author Dr. Ronald L. Jackson II, University of Illinois.
- "Cultural Dis/Continuity in African American and Ghanaian Mothers' Voices and Identities." (2012). *Journal of Intercultural Communication Research, 41*(1), 81-108. With co-researcher Dr. Sakile Camara, California State University, Northridge.
- Exploring Organizational Cultures through Virtual Survey Research. (2012). In S. D. Long (Ed.), *Virtual Work and Human Interaction Research* (pp. 176-191). Hershey, PA: IGI Global, with co-author Dr. Pavica Sheldon, University of Alabama Huntsville.
- Experiences of Single African-American Women Professors: With this Ph.D., I thee Wed*. (2011). Lanham, MD: Lexington Books.
- Neither an "Old Maid" nor a "Miss Independent": Deflating the negative perceptions of single African-American women professors. (2011). In E. S. Gilchrist (Ed.), *Experiences of single African-American women professors: With this Ph.D., I thee wed* (pp. 177-200). Lanham, MD: Lexington Books.
- "One of These Things Is Not Like The Others": African American Women Professors' Experiences with Majority-Race Students." (2011). In M. N. Niles & N. Gordon (Eds.), *Still Searching for Our Mothers'*

- Gardens: Experiences of New, Tenure Track Faculty of Color at 'Majority' Institutions* (pp. 213-233). Lanham, MD: University Press of America.
- “The Athletic/Academic Advisor's Playbook: Seeking Compliance from College Student-Athletes.” (2011). *Journal of the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA)*, 31(1), 29-41 with co-researcher Dr. Jason Thompson, Brooklyn College.
- Employees' Perceptions of Relational Limitations Inherent in Virtual Work. (2010). In S. D. Long (Ed.), *Communication, Relationships, and Practices in Virtual Work* (pp. 224-238). Hershey, PA: IGI Global.
- A Sweet Approach to Teaching the One-Variable Chi Square Test. (2010). *Communication Teacher*, 24, 14-18.
- Language in the Classroom: Students' Use of Compliance-Gaining Strategies in a Class Enrollment Scenario. (2009) *NIDA Journal of Language and Communication*, 14(14), 37-55.
- Understanding and Enhancing Instructor Credibility in the Basic Course. (2007). In L. W. Hugenberg et al., *Basic Communication Course Best Practices: A Training Manual for Instructors* (pp. 43-52). Dubuque, Iowa: Kendall/Hunt.
- A Service-Learning Approach to Small Group Communication. (2007). *Kentucky Journal of Communication*, 26, 55-65.
- Classroom Oscars: Preparing students to accept an award. (2003). *The Successful Professor*, 2, 8-9.
- Communicator style: A study of college students. (2000). (ERIC Document Reproduction Service)

- Note: I have co-authored 4 journal publications with students.

Conference Presentations

- A Uses and Gratifications Theoretical Examination of Gender, Race, and Sexual Orientation in Shondaland. Paper presented at the 2017 **Southern States Communication Association Conference**, Greenville, SC.
- Civic Callings in the Communication Classroom: Dialogues of Race and Social Justice. Paper presented at the 2016 **National Communication Association Conference**, Philadelphia, PA.
- Polysemic Constructions: Fox's Empire Provides New Lenses to View Black Motherhood, Masculinity, Mental Health, and Modern-Day Families. Paper presented at the 2016 **National Communication Association Conference**, Philadelphia, PA.
- Reimagining Higher Education: The Influence of Race, Class, Gender, and Religion on Communication Pedagogy and Curriculum. Paper presented at the 2016 **National Communication Association Conference**, Philadelphia, PA.
- Representations of Women, Race, and Violence in (un)Civil Society. Paper presented at the 2016 **National Communication Association Conference**, Philadelphia, PA.
- Cultivating Classroom Diversity at Primary White Institutions. Paper presented at the 2016 **World Communication Association Conference**, Winnipeg, Canada.
- Hurtful Communication and Conscience: A Typology of Hurtful Events in Dating and Marital Relationships. Paper to be presented at the 2016 **Southern States Communication Association Conference**, Austin, TX.
- Full STEAM Ahead: Making Communication Arts Relevant for STEM Majors and Employees. (2015). Presented at the **Alabama Communication Association Conference**, Tuscaloosa, AL.
- Students' Perceptions of Professor Verbal and Nonverbal Immediacy Behaviors as Learning Predictors. (2015). Presented at the **Southern States Communication Association Conference**, Tampa, FL.

- Mama's Embedded Advice: The Relationship between Mother-Daughter Marriage Narratives and Daughters' Marital Satisfaction. (2014). Presented at the **National Communication Association Conference**, Chicago, IL.
- When the Mother-in-law Moves In: Negotiating Marriage and Caregiver Stress. (2014). Presented at the **Eastern Communication Association Conference**, Providence, RI.
- "You Did What?" The Relationship between Forgiveness Tendency, Communication of Forgiveness, and Relationship Satisfaction in Married and Dating Couples." (2013). Presented at the **International Communication Association Conference**, London, with co-authors Dr. Pavica Sheldon, UAH and Adam Lessley, UAH student.
- Whatcha Call Me? Unveiling and Debunking Negative Perceptions of Single African-American Women Professors. (2012). Presented at the **National Communication Association Conference**, Orlando, FL.
- Mobile Texting as a Social Medium for Relationship Pursuit and Maintenance. (2012). Presented at the **Alabama Communication Association Conference**. Mobile, AL.
- An Exploration of Otherness: Experiences of African-American Women Professors with Majority-Race Students. (2012). Presented at the **Western States Communication Association Conference**. Albuquerque, NM.
- Media Effects and Black Hair Politics. (2011). Presented at **Hawaii University International Arts & Humanities Conference**. Honolulu, HI, with co-author Courtney Thompson, UAHuntsville Student.
- Trials and Triumphs of Navigating the Promotion & Tenure Process. (2011). Presented at the **African American Communication & Culture Division/Black Caucus of NCA Preconference**. New Orleans, LA.
- Academic Motivation of African-American and Ghanaian University Students: An Exploration of Cultural Continuity. Presented at the annual conference of the **National Communication Association**, New Orleans, LA.
- The Voice of Mothers: Cultural Dis/Continuity in African-American and Ghanaian Women. (2011). Presented at the biennial conference of the **World Communication Association**. Lima, Peru. Presented with co-author Dr. Sakile Camara, California State University, Northridge.
- The Athletic/Academic Advisor's Playbook: Seeking Compliance from College Student-Athletes. (2011). Presented at the annual conference of the **Eastern Communication Association**, with co-researcher Dr. Jason Thompson, Brooklyn College.
- Building Bridges: Cultural Continuity in African American and Ghanaian Culture. (2010). Presented at the annual conference of the **National Communication Association**, San Francisco, CA.
- Employees' Perceptions of Relational Limitations Inherent in Virtual Work. (2010). Presented at the annual conference of the **National Communication Association**, San Francisco, CA.
- Are the "Colored Girls" being Pushed off the Bridge by Black Men?: Exploring the Depictions in Tyler Perry's *For Colored Girls*. (2010). Presented at the annual conference of the **National Communication Association**, San Francisco, CA.
- "I hate statistics!" A Positive Communication Approach to Alleviating Statistics Anxiety Associated with the Independent Samples *t* test. (2010). Presented at the annual conference of the **Southern States Communication Association**, Memphis, TN.
- When What's Funny to You Ain't Funny to Me: Racial Dynamics and Classroom Humor. (2010). Presented at the annual conference of the **Southern States Communication**, Memphis, TN.
- Single African-American Female Professors' Discourses of Stability and Change. (2009). Presented at the annual conference of the **National Communication Association**, Chicago, IL.

- Unbreakable Ties Enable Success: A Panel Discussion about Stability and Change within NCA's Black Professional Organizations. (2009). Presented at the annual conference of the **National Communication Association**, Chicago, IL.
- An Unconventional Marriage to the Academy: Exploring Professor Success and Relationship Costs from the African American Female Perspective. (2008). Presented at the annual conference of the **National Communication Association**, San Diego, CA.
- Unconventional Classroom Persuasion: An Investigation of Students Seeking Compliance from Male and Female Professors. (2008). Presented at the annual conference of the **National Communication Association**, San Diego, CA.
- Transforming the Basic Course into a Diversified Experiential Learning Environment. (2007). Presented at the annual conference of the **National Communication Association**, Chicago, IL.
- Extending Helping Hands: Blending Service Learning with Small Group Pedagogy. (2007). Presented at the annual conference of the **Tennessee Communication Association**, Murfreesboro, TN.
- The Complete Spectrum: Incorporating the "Dark Side" in Interpersonal Pedagogy. (2007). Presented during the annual **Scholars Week** for the College of Liberal Arts, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN.
- Are You a Real Professor? Credibility Challenges Confronting GTAs in the Basic Course. (2006). Presented at the annual conference of the **National Communication Association**, San Antonio, TX.
- Do You Meet my Criteria? Assessing what Students Want in an Interpersonal Relationship. (2006). Presented at the annual conference of the **National Communication Association**, San Antonio, TX.
- Taste the Rainbow": An Innovative Approach to Teaching the One-Variable Chi-Square Test. (2006). Presented at the annual conference of the **Tennessee Communication Association**, Murfreesboro, TN.
- Metaphorical Persuasive Message Production: Role of Affect. (2006). Presented at the annual conference of the **Southern States Communication Association**, Dallas, TX, with co-authors Pradeep Sopory and Bill Maze, The University of Memphis.
- A divided classroom: How students differ in seeking compliance from Black and White GTAs. (2005). Presented at the annual conference of the **National Communication Association**, Boston, MA.
- Exploring humor's efficacy in the classroom: Assessing positive and negative outcomes. (2005). Presented at the annual conference of the **National Communication Association**, Boston, MA, with co-author Bill Maze, The University of Memphis.
- The perpetuation of modern racism and Black identity formation by the mass media. (2004). Presented at the annual conference of the **National Communication Association**, Chicago, IL.
- The invisible norm: How Whiteness impacts interpersonal interactions. (2004). Presented at the annual conference of the **National Communication Association**, Chicago, IL.
- The discourse of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X: A special topics course. (2003). Presented at the annual conference of the **National Communication Association**, Miami, FL.
- Speaking off the cuff" from a fortune cookie: An innovative approach to teaching impromptu speaking. (2003). Paper presented at the annual conference of the **National Communication Association**, Miami, FL.
- The Darker Side of Interpersonal Communication—An Important Dimension of Interpersonal Pedagogy. (2003). Presented at the annual conference of the **Southern States Communication Association**, Birmingham, AL, with co-author Bill Maze, The University of Memphis.
- Classroom Authoritarianism: The use and effectiveness of the "Iron Fist". (2002). Presented at the annual conference of the **Tennessee Communication Association**, Murfreesboro, TN.

Communicator style: A study of college students. (2000). Presented at the annual conference of the **National Communication Association**, Seattle, WA.

GRANTS and AWARDS

- 2018 UAH Distinguished Teaching Award
- 2018 Distinguished Speaker Grant
- 2016 UAH Teaching Award Nominee
- 2014 University of Alabama College of Communication & Information Sciences Top 40 Alumni
- 2013 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Faculty Award given by the UAH Minority Graduate Student Association
- 2012 Top National Journal Article Award given by the African American Communication and Culture Division of the National Communication Association
- 2010 UAH Mini-Grant awarded for \$8,158
- 2009 Salmon Library Enhancement Grant awarded for \$1,116 from the UAH Humanities
- 2009 Distinguished Speaker Grant awarded for \$1,500

SERVICE TO UNIVERSITY & PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

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| ▪ National Communication Association (NCA) Teaching & Learning Council | 2019-2022 |
| ▪ NCA video series committee | 2018-2019 |
| ▪ Department of Communication Arts, Chair of Department Chair Search Committee | 2017-2018 |
| ▪ UAH Civility Forum Facilitator | Spring 2016 |
| ▪ CAHS Tenure and Promotion Committee (PTAC) | 2016, 2017 |
| ▪ UAH Department of Communication Arts Interim Department Chair | Spring 2016 |
| ▪ Black Caucus Representative of the Affirmative Action and Intercaucus Committee of National Communication Association | 2015-2017 |
| ▪ Chair of the At-large Nominating Committee for the National Communication Association | 2013-2014 |
| ▪ M.A. in Professional Communication Committee | 2014-2016 |
| ▪ UAH College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Dean Search Committee | 2015 |
| ▪ SACSOS Reaccreditation Committee | 2014-15 |
| ▪ Student Instructional Evaluation Committee (SIE) | 2014-15 |
| ▪ B.A. in Writing Committee | 2014-15 |
| ▪ UAH Faculty Senator | 2011-2013 |
| ▪ UAH Faculty and Student Development Faculty Senate Committee | 2011-2013 |
| ▪ Conducted writing and reporting workshop to staff members of the UAH student newspaper, <i>The Charger Times</i> | 2012 |
| ▪ Chair/President, First Vice Chair, Second Vice Chair, Secretary, and Nominating Committee of the African American Communication & Culture Division of the National Communication Association | 2005-2012 |
| ▪ UAH Faculty/Staff Traffic Appeals Committee | 2009-2013 |
| ▪ Faculty advisor to Lambda Pi Eta, Communication Arts student honor society | 2010-present |
| ▪ RELACS Presenter. "So Why are You Here? Academic Motivation and the Pedagogical Implications Surrounding African-American and Ghanaian University Attendance" | 2011 |
| ▪ Equal Opportunity Affirmative Action Committee, UAH College of Arts, Humanities, and Sciences Representative | 2008-2014 |
| ▪ APA Editor for the <i>Journal of College Reading and Learning</i> | 2009-2012 |

- *Journal of Intercultural Communication Research*, Article Reviewer 2012
- *Critical Studies in Media Communication*, Article Reviewer 2011-2012
- *Journal of Research Practice*, Article Reviewer 2010
- Oxford University Press Book Reviewer 2008-2009
- Conference Paper/Panel Reviewer for National Communication Association, Southern States Communication Association, World Communication Association, and Eastern Communication Association 2006-present
- Has advised 23 undergraduate theses and 1 graduate thesis 2008-present

COMMUNITY OUTREACH & PUBLIC SERVICE

Type	Date
▪ North Alabama Mothers and Daughters' Tea, speaker	2017
▪ Mt. Zion Missionary Society, Town Creek, AL, speaker	2016
▪ Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Celebration, speaker	2015
▪ Website editor for S2LawnService	2015
▪ NAACP keynote address for the Lawrence County NAACP award's banquet	2014
▪ External Tenure & Promotion Peer Evaluator	2013-present
▪ Interviewed by USA Today for Article entitled "Fussing over the First Lady's Hair"	1-23-13
▪ Interviewed by Poynter Newspaper for Article entitled "A year after daily publication Ceased in Alabama and New Orleans, media market is 'fractured'"	10-3-13
▪ Black History address to Ebenezer Baptist Church, Hillsboro, AL	2012
▪ Keynote address entitled "The Academic Woman: Balancing Responsibilities Expectations, and Biases" to single academic women at Jackson State University, Jackson, MS	2011
▪ Facilitated various community service projects, such as teaching cultural lessons and donating school supplies and monetary gifts to the Royal Seed Orphanage and Saint Peter's School in Ghana (Africa) as part of the Interdisciplinary Scholars of the African Diaspora Alliance (ISADA) Ghana Study Abroad Program	2010
▪ Interpersonal & Intercultural Communication Workshop to International Teachers sponsored by the UAH Office of International Programs & Services Teacher Orientation Program	2010
▪ Interpersonal & Intercultural Communication Workshop to American Teachers at Buckhorn High School, sponsored by the UAH Office of International Programs & Services Teacher Orientation Program	2009
▪ Diversity Trainer for the Army Core of Engineers' African American/Black History Month Program, Huntsville, AL	2009
▪ Rush Workshop on Interpersonal Communication skills to the UAH members of Delta Zeta Sorority	2009
▪ Individual Speaker and Group Panelist for the Alabama A&M University Dianne Phipps Seminar on the value of Student Organizations, Normal, AL	2008
▪ Commencement Speaker, East Lawrence High School, Trinity AL	2008