Stephens 1

**CURRICULUM VITAE**

**Elizabeth Stephens, Ph.D.**

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# EDUCATION

**Ph.D. Communication**

University of Memphis, Memphis, Tennessee Graduation Date: December, 2010

*Primary area:* Health Communication

*Dissertation:* America’s P.R.ID.E.: Entertainment Education as a Health

Communication Intervention Strategy for Middle-School and High School Students

*Advisor:* Dr. Amanda J. Young

**M.A. Communication**

University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Arkansas

Graduation Date: May, 2002

*Primary Areas:* Interpersonal & Organizational Communication

*Thesis:* Managing Conflict in a Small Organization

*Advisor:*  Dr. Mary Eicholtz

**B.A. Rhetoric and Writing**

University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Arkansas

Graduation Date: May 2000

Major: Professional & Technical Writing

# RESEARCH INTERESTS

**Areas of Research:** Health communication, interpersonal communication, grief

**Research Methods Proficiencies:** Qualitative research methods: in-depth and semi-structured interviewing, focus groups, participant observation, case study.

# RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

2016 – Present: *Contraception Uptake among an Urban, Socioeconomic Group of Adolescents and Provider Attitudes about Counseling this Population.* Assessing communication strategies among physicians, using motivational interviewing to elicit responses.

2010 – 2012: **Project Manager** of *Narratives of Care in the Intensive Care Unit:*

*Communication Challenges in Promoting Timely Palliative Care Services.* The purpose of this research was to 1) better understand the communication challenges within the five ICUs at Methodist University Hospital, particularly in palliative care, 2) explore patients’ and families’ perceptions of the communication process, and, 3) measure nursing attributes within the ICUs that affect communication processes. This was a 2-year study in which the investigative team developed communication interventions for the ICUs to help them promote more timely discussions of palliative care and to improve communication between patients and health care providers. We are finishing the data analysis.

2008 – 2009 – Parents Resource Institute Drug Education (P.R.I.D.E.) Study. Using a case study methodology, I completed a content analysis of P.R.I.D.E.’s messages for entertainment education strategies and analyzed small group communication processes among members. To obtain data, I conducted focus groups, conducted semi-structured interviews, and performed a content analysis of the group’s materials.

# PROFESSIONAL ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

**Assistant Professor, Speech & Theatre Department,** **Middle Tennessee State University,**

**Murfreesboro, TN**

**2011 – Present**

Instructor of Record: Interpersonal Communication/COMM 2200 Small Group Communication/COMM 3220

Introduction to Organizational Communication/ORCO 3240

Interview Communication/COMM 3340

Intercultural Communication/COMM 3560

Strategic Communication/ORCO 3500

* **Modality:** online
* **Learning Management System (LMS):** D2L Brightspace
* Course designer for undergraduate Communication major

**Adjunct Instructor, Knight School of Communication, Queens University of Charlotte,**

**Charlotte, NC**

**June 30, 2014 – December 15, 2015**

Instructor of Record: Social Creation of Organizing/COMM610G

* Graduate level course
* **Modality:** online
* **Learning Management System (LMS):** Cengage/Mindtap

**Assistant Professor, Communication Department, University of Memphis, Memphis, TN August 2010 – May 2011 (1-year contract)**

Instructor of Record: Theories of Persuasion/COMM3322 (online and on campus)

Research Methods in Communication/COMM3330 Health Communication/COMM4012

Conflict/Comm6380 (combined undergraduate/graduate levels)

Seminar: Communication Ethics/COMM4381

Seminar: Health Communication Bioethics/COMM 8340 (graduate level)

* Course designer for undergraduate Communication major

**Graduate Assistant, University of Memphis, Memphis, TN**  **2005-2010**

Instructor of Record: Oral Communication/Comm2381

Theories of Human Communication/Comm3002

Theories of Persuasion/Comm3322 (online and on campus)

Research Methods in Communication/Comm3330

Organizational Communication/Comm4011 (online and on campus) Health Communication/Comm4012

**University of Arkansas Little Rock, Little Rock, AR**  Speech Communication/Spch1300

# ONLINE COURSE DESIGN

Developed with Desire2Learn (D2L) learning management software:

* Theories of Persuasion/Comm3322
* Organizational Communication/Comm4011
* Interpersonal Communication/Comm2200
* Small Group Communication/Comm3220

# ADDITIONAL LEARNING MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE

* Pearson Learning Studio
* McGraw-Hill Connect

# SCHOLARSHIP

# Publications

Young, A.J., Stephens, E., & Goldsmith, J.V. (2016). Family communication in the intensive care unit: Addressing boundary ambiguity with rhetorical agency. *Journal of Family Communication*. *Available online October, 2016. Print available spring 2017.*

**Under Review**

Stephens, E. (2016). Letting go and holding on: Coping with grief after homicide. *Illness, Crisis & Loss.*

# CONFERENCES

# Conference Presentations

Young, A.J., **Stephens, E**. & Goldsmith, J.V. (2017). *Family caregiver communication in the ICU: Toward a relational view of health literacy.* Top Papers in Applied Communication.

Young, A.J., **Stephens, E.** & Goldsmith, J.V. (2016). *Family Caregiver Communication and Health Literacy in the ICU.* Competitive poster presented at the 8th Annual Health Literacy Research Conference, October 13, 2016.

Stephens, E. (2016). *Letting go and holding on: An autoethnography of grief.* Southern States Communication Association. Ethnography Division Top Paper Award, April 2016.

Young, A.J. & **Stephens, E**. (2015). *Family communication in the intensive care unit: Addressing boundary ambiguity with rhetorical agency.* Competitive poster presented at Kentucky Conference on Health Communication, April 2016.

Stephens, E. (2013). *Coaching and mentoring our online students: An exploratory study of online students.*  Presented at Tennessee Communication Association, September 2013.

Young, A. & **Stephens, E.** (2011).

National Communication Association, November 2011, Health Communication Division.

Stephens, E. *America’s P.R.ID.E.: Entertainment Education as a Health Communication Intervention Strategy for Middle-School and High School Students.* Research in progress paper presented at the National Communication Association annual conference,

November 2009.

Stephens, E. *Messages about Tobacco: The Tobacco Free Memphis Intervention with Middle School and High School Students.* (2008). Competitive paper presented at the Southern States Communication Association annual conference, April 2008.

Stephens, E. Job Corps: *Smoking Intervention Using Social Cognitive Theory.* Competitive paper presented at the National Communication Association annual conference,

November 2007.

Stephens, E. *An Analysis of Medical Team Communication in the Bristol Royal Infirmary Case.* Competitive poster presented at the National Communication Association annual conference, November 2006.

Stephens, E. *Rhetorical Analysis of an Informed Consent Document.* Competitive paper presented at the National Communication Association annual conference, November

2005.

# Panel Discussions

Panelist, *Rhetorical Minefields in Qualitative Research,* Tennessee Board of Regents Qualitative Research Conference, October 2012

# Professional Conference Service

Southern States Communication Association, Ethnography Interest Division, Vice Chair elect, 2016-2017

Reviewer, Southern States Communication Association, Ethnography Division, 2016

Reviewer, Carolinas Communication Association, 2016

Reviewer, Qualitative Health Journal, 2015 – present

Reviewer, Competitive Papers: Peace and Conflict Division, National Communication

Association, 2011

Reviewer, Competitive Papers: Health Communication Division, International Communication Association, 2008

# AWARDS

Southern States Communication Association. Ethnography Division Top Paper Award, April 2016. *Letting go and holding on: An autoethnography of grief.*

Tennessee Communication Association, emerging leader Horizon Award, 2014.

The John Angus Campbell Teaching Award for Excellence in Teaching, University of Memphis Communication Department, 2009

# GRANT/COMMUNITY WORK

**Chair, Tobacco Free Memphis 2005-2008**

Funded by a grant through the Memphis Shelby County Health Department as a program grant,

Tobacco Free Memphis researched, planned, and executed behavioral interventions aimed at 6th – 12th grade students to eliminate youth initiation of tobacco use. TFM also served as part of a multi-organization team that promoted a public smoking ban in Memphis.

# CERTIFICATIONS

LERN Certified Faculty Developer (CFD) Training in online instructional design. Enrolled for Feb 1, 2017 – April 8, 2017 through Distance Learning Department, MTSU.

# SERVICE

**Department Service**

## University of Memphis

Vice President, Communication Graduate Student Association, 2009

**Faculty Development**

## University of Memphis

Introduction to Turnitin, 2011

D2L Bootcamp: Advanced training in Desire2Learn software, 2010

## Middle Tennessee State University

Desire 2 Learn regional conference, learning management software, February, 2015.

Information Technology Division workshop, “Introduction to Blackboard Collaborate,” 2012

Information Technology Division workshop, “Softchalk 1: Introduction to Softchalk Lesson Creation Software,” 2012

# PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Southern States Communication Association

# OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Public Administration**

Membership Services Manager, Arkansas Local Police & Fire Retirement System, Little Rock, Arkansas