

COMM NOTES



Student Activities

Here's what's going on this month in the department!

Lambda Pi Eta- Communication Honorary Organization. Are you a junior with above a 3.2 departmental GPA, possibly looking to go to grad school? Well if you aren't a part of Lambda Pi Eta, you need to be. Participation in an honorary department organization can be the key to acceptance into the graduate program of your choice. For further information regarding Lambda Pi Eta contact advisor Dr. Melanie Mills at mbmills@eiu.edu.

PRSSA- Public Relations Student Society of America. Not only can you gain practical experience in Public Relations, but also in program promotion and social media marketing; and you'll even have opportunities to go to nationally recognized networking conferences in the field of communication studies. Join today and get the perks and privileges that current members are already enjoying.

Speech Team- Speaking is not just about standing at a lectern and giving a presentation. Whether it is spoken word poetry, debate, or persuasive speaking, the EIU Speech Panthers have a spot for you. Your calling may be to join the speech team and you don't even realize it. Be sure to find the EIU Speech Panthers on Facebook to obtain further information about the group. The speech team will be participating in tournaments on March 3rd-5th, 12th, and 13th, so act quickly! For more information contact Sara Gronstal at segronstal@eiu.edu

Various Other Student Activities- Are you currently taking CMN 1310 or 1390 and interested in winning some money for the speeches that you are already preparing? The Smith-Merritt Public Speaking Contest is open to students currently enrolled in CMN 1310/1390, or those who took the class last semester, and monetary awards are given to outstanding speakers.

For more information and to find the contacts for any of these organizations, visit the Communication Studies Department website @ <http://www.eiu.edu/commstudies>

March 2011

Key Dates

March

- 3:** Midterm
Deadline to Drop with No Grade/
Add Second-Half-Term Courses
- 9:** Disney College Program
Presentations (3 p.m. & 6 p.m.-
University Union)
- 14-18:** Spring Break
- 21:** Registration Opens for Fall/
Summer 2011
Deadline to Submit Entries for the
Booth Library Award
- 23:** Last Day to Apply for Spring 2011
Graduation
Deadline to Submit Application
Form for Departmental
Scholarships (12 p.m.)
- 30:** Communication Day
Broadcast Industry Job Fair

April

- 1:** Deadline to Withdraw with a "W"
- 4:** Deadline to Apply for the IL
Broadcasters Association
Scholarship (5 p.m.)
- 12 & 13:** Smith-Merritt Public Speaking
Competition (6-9 p.m.- Lumpkin
Auditorium)

Advising Corner



Preparing for Your Post-College Job Search

Communication majors often have a slightly more difficult time finding employment upon graduation because their degree program is not easy to categorize. Many college graduates fit easily into occupational niches; education majors generally go into teaching and accounting majors go into accounting or CPA positions.

Most employers are really looking for five basic items from any candidate. Those items are:

- Relational skills (interpersonal, group/team, conflict management)
- Critical thinking skills
- Writing skills
- Computer skills
- Degree and/or specific skill area (demonstrates ability to master content areas and right of passage)

As a communication major, you have a competitive advantage. You have more experience with relational and critical thinking skills than others. If you've managed your degree program positively, you have developed the computer and writing skills you need.

So, what do you need to do to prepare for your job search efforts? Consider the following items as additional things to think about beyond the normal advice.

- You need to be able to explain how your skills and experiences fit the five categories described above.
- You need to be able to explain what a communication degree is in terms that a recruiter will understand.
- You will need to be able to differentiate your degree from other degrees and describe its competitive advantage.
- You need to be able to explain what you can do for an organization.

Communication Day

Every Spring the Communication Studies Department hosts Communication Day. This event is held to spotlight faculty, graduate student and undergraduate research, and to highlight different career opportunities for current students in the Communication Studies major.



This year Communication Day will be on Wednesday, March 30th at 10:00 a.m. in the Union. For more information, please contact Dr. T. M. Linda Scholz at tscholz@eiu.edu.

Internship Opportunity



Department of Communication Studies: Recruiting Interns for Fall 2011

Spring 2011 Interns



Clockwise from Top-Left:
Shea Brunson, Amanda Tran,
Ashley Hoogstraten,
Erica Grohn, & Stephanie Gruner

Interested in working for the department or looking for another eye-catching activity to add to your resume?

The Communication Studies Department will continue its internships in Fall 2011. Areas of concentration include public relations and publicity, social media, and podcasts. The internships are open to students who are willing to make a full year or semester-long commitment of a minimum of nine work hours per week in order to earn three semester hours per term. Students will work as part of a project team with other interns to develop a consistent and comprehensive departmental message. Responsibilities will vary from promotion of programs, publication of a monthly newsletter, creation of bulletin boards, updating social media websites, and other projects to be developed. Take the opportunity to become more involved and develop materials for a professional portfolio at the end of the internship.

For more information about how to apply, see Mark Borzi or Leigh Bryan.

Internship Opportunity



Disney College Program



Internship Description

The Walt Disney Company is currently recruiting college students of all credit levels to work in its theme parks and resorts at Walt Disney World in Florida or Disneyland in California. This semester-long, paid internship is perfect for Communication Studies students because it helps develop interpersonal and professional communication capabilities as well as transferable skills that will be useful in any future career.

Some of the available roles include those in Attractions, Character Performing, Food & Beverage, Hospitality, Merchandise, Main Entrance Operations, PhotoPass Photography, and Vacation Planning. Whatever the role, students have the opportunity to utilize their communication skills and put the theories they've learned in the classroom into practice, plus acquire new communication skills through hands on experience.

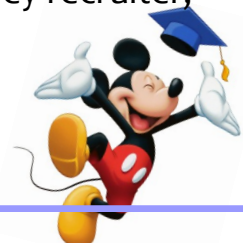
Program Benefits

- ◆ Earn money and gain work experience.
- ◆ Gain college credit by enrolling in collegiate courses through Disney University or sign up for online classes or internship credit through EIU.
- ◆ Strengthen your resume by listing a very well-known and respected company as one of your past employers.
- ◆ Network with Disney professionals at work or through special networking events scheduled specifically for the interns throughout the program.
- ◆ Meet other interns from countries all over the world and create lasting friendships.

For more detailed information and the chance to speak with a Disney recruiter, attend one of the on-campus presentations:

MARCH 9TH

3 p.m. & 6 p.m. — UNIVERSITY BALLROOM



Faculty Spotlight



Name: Diana Ingram

Hometown: Chrisman, IL is the mailing address but it really is Scotland, IL.

Classes I am teaching this semester: CMN 1310, 1390, and 3300 (my favorite).

Hobbies: Playing music, listening to music, studying music (what a nerd), disc golf, movies, traveling.

Favorite Movie: Young Frankenstein.

Favorite Book: *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *Got a Revolution: The Turbulent Flight of Jefferson Airplane*.

Favorite Quote: Sooo many... “Those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart.” -Matthew 15:18

Something quirky about me: For someone who is SO not into math/physics, I love Albert Einstein.

Why I love Communication Studies: Because it works! Our entire existence revolves around communication. Every day, everywhere. 100% application in ALL that we do. That’s pretty sweet.



Did You Know?



You Could Win Up to \$500 for Doing Your Homework!

Students who are currently taking Introduction to Speech Communication (CMN 1310/1390) or who completed it in Fall 2010 are eligible to compete in the Smith-Merritt Public Speaking Competition this Spring. Students will deliver the persuasive speech they've written and delivered in class and can edit or revise it for the contest based on their instructor's feedback. Finalists will advance for the chance to win monetary prizes. The first place speaker receives \$500, second place receives \$300, and third place receives \$100.

The contest is hosted by the Communication Studies Department and is an annual event held in honor of two former faculty members, Calvin Smith and Floyd Merritt. All students, faculty, and staff members are welcome to attend the event on April 11th and 12th from 6:00pm to 9:00pm in the Lumpkin Hall Auditorium (LMPH 2030). There is no cost to attend. Contact Dr. Rich Jones at rgjones@eiu.edu for more information.

1st Prize = \$500

2nd Prize = \$300

3rd Prize = \$100



New Logo!

The Communication Studies Department has a new logo. Look for it in departmental publications and bulletin boards around Coleman!



Got
Media?



Follow us on Twitter [@eiuCMNstudies](https://twitter.com/eiuCMNstudies) to receive tweets about class cancellations, faculty birthdays, and deadline reminders.

Join the Facebook group at **EIU Communication Studies** to stay connected to friends, faculty, and alumni and to learn about what fellow majors are doing in their internships and while studying abroad!