LAUREN H. BRYANT

Department of Communication, SS 351
University at Albany, SUNY
1400 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12222
lbryant@albany.edu
518-442-4870

EDUCATION

2014   Ph.D., Sociology and Communication, University at Albany, SUNY
Dissertation: Gender balanced or gender biased? An examination of news coverage of male and female governors
Committee: Dr. Jennifer Stromer-Galley, Dr. Christine Bose, Dr. Ron Jacobs, Dr. Mihye Seo

2008   M.A., Communication, University at Albany, SUNY

1998   B.A., Sociology, University of Virginia

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

communication theories, media studies, social media, political communication, campaign communication, gender inequality, gendered communication

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2018-present   Lecturer, Department of Communication, University at Albany, SUNY

2017-2018;   Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Communication, University at
2015-2016   Albany, SUNY

2011-2015   Adjunct, Department of Communication, University at Albany, SUNY

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

ACOM 265X – Introduction to Communication Theory
Fall 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024; Spring 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024
This course is required for all communication majors and minors. The course enrollment is 170 students. ACOM 265X is taught using a full Team-Based Learning approach. Classes are devoted to in-class team tasks that introduce students to group, interpersonal, intercultural, and mass communication theories. The theories discussed help students solve everyday communication problems and become savvier and more critical consumers of communication messages. This course fulfills the information literacy requirement of the general education curriculum.

ACOM 383 – Social Media: Theory and Practice
Fall 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024; Spring 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024; Summer 2024

This fully online course provides students with a fundamental theoretical understanding of social media as well as the practical application of social media skills. Students examine social media as it relates to organizational, political, and health communication.

ACOM 203Y – Speech Composition and Presentation
Spring 2011, 2012, 2014, 2017; Fall 2012, 2013, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2023, 2024
This course is required for all communication majors and minors. ACOM 203Y provides students with the knowledge to design, implement, and evaluate oral presentations. Students learn a variety of purposes in oral presentations including giving and evaluating introductory, informative, persuasive, and ceremonial speeches.

UFSP 100 – Unlocking Your Communication Potential
Fall 2024
This one-credit course is offered through the University at Albany's First Year Experience program and is designed to introduce students to the University as well as to the field of communication. Topic covered include: communicating your point of view, listening to others, collaborating in a team, and overcoming speaking anxiety.

ACOM 499 – Senior Honors Project
Fall 2022 – Spring 2023
Supervised an undergraduate Honors College thesis for the Communication Department
Title: Death and Dynasties: Using Family Communication Patterns Theory to Understand Individual Feelings Regarding the End of Life

ACOM 378 – Gender and Communication
Spring 2016; Fall 2016
This course introduces students to different theories about gender construction, gender identities, and gender roles and how these theories intersect with communication. Students examine gender in several contexts including interpersonal, organizational, health, and political communication.

ACOM 382 – Introduction to Political Communication
Fall 2015
This course is an overview of the field of political communication. Topics include political campaigns, public opinion, and the role of governmental and media institutions in the political process.

PEER- REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Jackson, S., Zhang, F., Boichak, O., Bryant, L., Li, Y., Hemsley, J., Stromer-Galley, J., Semaan, B., & McCracken, N. (2017). Identifying political topics in social media messages: A lexicon-based approach. In Proceedings of the 8th International Conference on Social Media & Society, Toronto, Canada.

Zhang, F., Tanupabrungsun, S., Hemsley, J., Robinson, J., Semaan, B., Bryant, L., Stromer-Galley, J., Boichak, O., & Hegde, Y. (2017). Strategic temporality on social media during the general election of the 2016 U.S. presidential campaign. In Proceedings of the 8th International Conference on Social Media & Society, Toronto, Canada.

Stromer-Galley, J., Bryant, L. & Bimber, B. (2015). Context and medium matter: Expressing disagreements online and face-to-face in political deliberations. Journal of Public Deliberation, 11(1).

Stromer-Galley, J. & Bryant, L. (2011). Agenda control in the 2008 CNN/YouTube debates. Communication Quarterly, 59(5), 529-546.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Jackson, S., Zhang, F., Boichak, O., Bryant, L., Li, Y., Hemsley, J., Stromer-Galley, J., Semaan, B., & McCracken, N. (August 2017). A method for computational topic identification in social media messages. American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA.

Stromer-Galley, J., Hemsley, J., Rossini, P., Robinson, J., Bryant, L., Semaan, B., & Boichak, O. (May 2017). Explaining Trump: Analyzing the relationship between social media and mainstream media coverage. International Communication Association, San Diego, CA.

Rossini, P., Jackson, S., Zhang, F., Bryant, L., Kenski, K., & Stromer-Galley, J. (May 2017). Disrupting controlled interactivity? An analysis of public comments on Facebook in the 2016 U.S. presidential campaign. International Communication Association, San Diego, CA.

Stromer-Galley, J., Rossini, P. G. C., Hemsley, J., Kenski, K., Zhang, F., Bryant, L., & Semaan, B. (October 2016). Social media, U.S. presidential campaigns, and public opinion polls: Disentangling effects. Association of Internet Researchers Annual Conference, Berlin, Germany.

Stromer-Galley, J., Rossini, P. G. C., Bryant, L. Semaan, B., Hemsley, J., Kenski, K., & Zhang, F. (August 2016). Online interaction: Do candidates still avoid it? American Political Science Association Political Communication Preconference, Philadelphia, PA.

Stromer-Galley, J., Tanupabrungsun, S., Zhang, F., Hemsley, J., McCracken, N., Bryant, L., Dobreski, B., Semaan, B. (June 2016). Strategic changes in gubernatorial campaign messaging over time: A computational analysis. International Conference on Computational Social Science, Chicago, Illinois.

Stromer-Galley, J., Kenski, K., Hemsley, J., Bryant, L., Xu, H., & Semaan, B. (October 2015). How it begins and how it ends: U.S. gubernatorial campaign messaging on social media over time. Association of Internet Researchers Annual Conference, Phoenix, AZ.

Bryant, L. (November 2016). Gender balanced or gender biased? An examination of news coverage of male and female governors. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Political Communication Division of the National Communication Association, Philadelphia, PA.

Bryant, L. (November 2010). The spouses of presidential candidates: The media's coverage of the unofficial running mates. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Political Communication Division of the National Communication Association, San Francisco, CA.

Stromer-Galley, J. & Bryant, L. (November 2010). Agenda control in the 2008 CNN/YouTube debates. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Mass Communication Division of the National Communication Association, San Francisco, CA.

Stromer-Galley, J. & Bryant, L. (November 2009). Journalists vs. citizens as questioners: Comparing the CNN/YouTube and MSNBC 2008 campaign primary debates. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Political Communication Division of the National Communication Association, Chicago, IL.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

2024   Podcast, Center for the Advancement of Teaching, Learning and Online Education, University at Albany, SUNY. Invited guest to discuss the role of AI in higher education, including how students think about AI in relation to their assignments and how instructors can effectively respond to this new technology.

2024   *Teaching Large Classes*, SUNY New Paltz, Faculty Development Center (via Zoom), March 4, 2024. This workshop focused on various components of Team-Based Learning including active learning, engagement, collaboration and reflection. SUNY New Paltz, SUNY Oswego, SUNY Plattsburgh and SUNY Ulster were invited to attend.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2016-2017   Research Assistant, Illuminating 2016, Syracuse University
            The goal of this research project was to use machine learning to provide journalists with a summary of the content and sentiment of online political communication.

2009   Research Assistant, Department of Communication, University at Albany, SUNY
            Duties included collecting and transcribing questions from CNN/YouTube and MSNBC presidential debates, coding debate questions and analyzing content analysis data.

2008-2009   Research Assistant, Department of Communication, University at Albany, SUNY
            Deliberative E-Rule Making Decision Facilitation Project (DeER), Funded by the National Science Foundation. This research project used online public deliberation and natural language processing technologies to test the value of different types of feedback on federal agency rules.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2023   Brightspace Basics Workshops, CATLOE, University at Albany, SUNY

2022   Designing for Online Learning: Building an Online Classroom, Asynchronous Five Week Course, ITLAL, University at Albany, SUNY.

2021   Cultural Competency and Implicit Bias Workshop, Office of Diversity and Inclusion, University at Albany, SUNY.

2021	Designing for Online Learning: Ongoing Improvement of Online Teaching through Guided Self-Reflection Workshop, ITLAL, University at Albany, SUNY.
2020	Moving Activity & Discussion Based Teaching Online Workshop, ITLAL, University at Albany, SUNY.
2019	Designing for Online Learning Workshop, University at Albany, SUNY.
2017	Team-Based Learning Academy, University at Albany, SUNY. The academy consisted of a two-day workshop followed by a series of consultations with the Institute for Teaching, Learning & Academic Leadership staff to develop a full team-based learning course.
2014	Online Course Development Program, University at Albany, SUNY. Selected to participate in summer long program to develop a new, fully online course for the Department of Communication.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2018-present	UAlbany in the High School Communication Department Liaison
2018-present	Undergraduate Curriculum Committee member, Department of Communication
2022-2023	Search Committee Member for an Instructional Consultant Position for the Center for the Advancement of Teaching, Learning, and Online Education, University at Albany, SUNY
2019, 2017	Manuscript Reviewer: Communication Quarterly
2015	Manuscript Reviewer: The Electronic Journal of Communication

AWARDS

2024	Received the College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Award for Outstanding Achievement in Teaching
2024	Nominated for the 2024 Spark Faculty/Student Engagement Award
2024	Nominated for the 2024 Torch Faculty/Student Engagement Award
2021	Nominated for the 2021 Torch Faculty/Student Engagement Award
2016	Received Outstanding Service Award, Disability Resource Center
2015	Nominated for the Gerald R. Miller Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award
2009-2010	Student travel grant, University at Albany, SUNY, Department of Communication