

Fall 2025

Theories and Histories of Communication

COM 6001 | CRN TBA

W 6:00-9:15 PM | CIS 3057

Overview:

This course introduces students to theory and research in communication, with a view to cultivating an appreciation for the interdisciplinary nature of communication study. A central aim of the course is to provide conceptual and historical orientation to some of the enduring questions, core research traditions, and significant theoretical perspectives that animate communication study. Students will become conversant with the major epistemological, ontological, and axiological issues that underpin the discipline of communication. Because of its place in the curriculum, the course is designed to provide all students, regardless of area of specialty, with a grounding in the various debates and dialogues that characterize the field. Of importance is that we highlight the diverse ways in which our departmental faculty theorize, research, and engage in the different disciplinary traditions as a model for conversations that enrich scholarship across differences. Other goals of the course are to introduce students to the thinking, reading, and writing required of graduate study in the field, and to the communication program at USF. Through readings, discussions, written work, and presentations students will be exposed to the traditions, concepts, and practices that are necessary to graduate work in this program. We focus on helping you to develop, improve, and refine your reading and writing skills, which requires the development of various habits and practices.

For more information, please email Dr. Sonia Ivancic & Dr. Josh Scacco at sivancic@usf.edu and jscacco@usf.edu .