

# Nadia Marie Johnson, M.A.

University of South Florida | Department of Communication  
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## EDUCATION

**University of South Florida**, Tampa, FL  
Ph.D. in Communication  
Anticipated Graduation Date: May 2028

**Wake Forest University**, Winston-Salem, NC  
Master of Arts in Communication (Graduate School of Arts & Sciences)  
Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies (*Concentration*)  
May 2024

**Johnson C. Smith University**, Charlotte, NC  
Bachelor of Arts in Communication Arts  
May 2022

## HONORS

Summa Cum Laude (B.A.), 4.0 GPA Over Undergrad Matriculation Achievement (B.A.), Highest GPA in Communications Major (B.A.), Coke for Education Grant ('20), HBCU Living Legends Scholarship ('21), William Randolph Hearst Scholarship, and Richter Scholarship Award Recipient (2023)

## AFFILIATIONS

McDonald's for NC (Trilozoo) Ambassador, Graduate School Honor Council Rep, WFU Graduate Student Association Diversity & Inclusion Chair ('23-), Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated (Initiated: Gamma Delta Chapter (Spring 2022); Current: Alpha Alpha Theta Omega Chapter), Lambda Pi Eta National Communications Honor Society, Bullooming Founder, JCSU Transfer Student Association Founder, Charlotte Racial Justice Consortium Fellow ('20-'21), Coca-Cola Consolidated HBCU S.O.A.R ('21), JCSU Student Government Association President ('21-'22)

## TRAINING

JCSU Career Pathways Academy (2021-2022), JCSU Student Leadership & Engagement Training (2019-2022), GetInclusive Student Upstanders (2020)

## WORK EXPERIENCE

**University of South Florida,** Tampa, FL  
*Public Speaking Instructor of Record* August 2024–  
• Teaching the SPC 2608 Introduction to Public Speaking to undergraduate students.

**Wake Forest University Student-Athlete Services,** Winston-Salem, NC  
*Tutor* August 2023 – May 2024  
• Assisted WFU Student-Athlete Services with tutoring communication and related courses (e.g., public speaking).

**Wake Forest University (Dept. of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies),** Winston-Salem, NC  
*Social Media Coordinator* March 2023 – May 2024  
• Managed communication channels via Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Mailchimp.  
• Increased page engagement and follower count..  
• Created flyers for center events.  
• Developed content series around LGBTQ+ allyship.

**Save the Children Charity Org.,**

*Non-Profit Advocate*

Winston-Salem, NC  
June 2023 – December 2023

- Top-performing fundraiser (16+ donors/week committed to \$25/mo or more) for the Save the Children Charity Organization on the streets of the Triad to help end childhood hunger
- Held face-to-face conversations to form lifelong partnerships through donations allocated to provide meals for low-income children when they are not in school.

**Wake Forest University LGBTQ+ Center,**

*Communication Graduate Assistant*

Winston-Salem, NC  
August 2022 – April 2023

- Managed social and communication channels via Instagram, Twitter, and Mailchimp.
- Increased page engagement and follower count.
- Created flyers for center events, like content series around LGBTQ+ allyship.

**Wake Forest University Women's Center,**

*Communication Graduate Assistant*

Winston-Salem, NC  
August 2022 – April 2023

- Managed social and communication channels via Instagram, Twitter, and Mailchimp.
- Increased page engagement and follower count.
- Created flyers for center events, like content series around women's history.

**Seacrest Studios,**

*Intern*

Charlotte, NC  
January 2022 – May 2022

- Created and produced the weekly mental health awareness radio show "ABCs to Inspiration" for patients aged 4 to 16, which was also broadcast throughout the Levine Children's Hospital.
- Entertained children patients with games and crafts.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**University of South Florida (Dept. of Communication),**

*Graduate Teaching Associate,*

Tampa, FL  
August 2024 –

- Responsible for teaching public speaking to undergraduate students enrolled in SPC 2608.

**Wake Forest University (Dept. of Communication),**

*Graduate Teaching Assistant,*

Winston-Salem, NC  
August 2023 – May 2024

- Assisted Dr. Rowie Kirby-Straker, Assistant Professor of Communication, in coordinating the Wake Speaks (and Wake Spooks), a community speech evening event where attendees listen to speeches on various topics.
- Assisted with three communication public speaking courses by conducting weekly speech consultations that help them prepare for major class speech assignments.
- Managed the Wake Speaking Center's social media platforms, informing students about the speaking center services and upcoming center events and providing public speaking tips.

**Wake Forest University (Dept. of Communication),**

*Graduate Teaching Assistant,*

Winston-Salem, NC  
August 2022 – December 2022

- Facilitated weekly public speaking workshops.
- Graded major speeches like informative and persuasive speeches.
- Provided individual and group student support.

**TRIO Upward Bound (Johnson C. Smith University),**

*Lead Tutor Counselor and Electives Instructor,*

Charlotte, NC  
May 2022 – July 2022

- Led 30 students as they matriculated through a rigorous 6-week college readiness program.
- Instructed a blended public speaking and drama course focusing on the program's core values.

- Developed social and educational programming for students, like public speaking training sessions
- Served as a residential mentor.

**Kelly Educational Services,**  
*Substitute Teacher*

Augusta, GA  
January 2019 – May 2019

- Amplified the substitutional experience at Richmond County’s elementary and middle schools. Creatively carried out lesson plans in a variety of subjects. Thoroughly maintained a safe and productive classroom environment.

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

**University of South Carolina-Upstate**

Spartanburg, SC  
March 2024

*Participation in the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies South Conference  
Care Feminisms, Crip Futures, March 28-30, 2024*

- Delivered a paper on “Caring About WGS: Engaging in Self-Care and Campus Wellness Through Digital Series.”

**Richter Scholarship Award**

*Award Recipient*

May 2023 – June 2023

- Awarded \$7200.00 to research the colorism and skin bleaching epidemic in the Trelawney Parish of Jamaica for 25 days.
  - Interviewed 15 Black Jamaican women about their personal experiences with colorism and knowledge about the dynamics of skin bleaching in Jamaica and the greater Caribbean.

**Wake Forest University (Dept. of Communication),**

*Graduate Research Assistant*

Winston-Salem, NC  
April 2023 – August 2023

- Assisted Dr. Phillip Cunningham, Assistant Professor of Media Studies, in reconstructing the Black Popular Culture course offered in Fall 2023.
  - Conducted research for Dr. Cunningham by reading contemporary literature.
  - Participated in brainstorming sessions.

**Wake Forest University (Dept. of Communication),**

*Graduate Research Assistant*

Winston-Salem, NC  
January 2023 – April 2023

- Assisted Dr. Rowie Kirby-Straker, Assistant Professor of Communication, and other partners with research concerning environmental assets and resources of St. Vincent and the Grenadines
  - Organized research references in Zotero.
  - Sorted research tags in Microsoft Excel.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TRAINING**

CITI IRB Program (2021–), Barbizon USA Model/Actress Trainee (2017–), Augusta Mini Theatre Arts & Life Skills School Actress Trainee (2008-2018), NOCTI Level 2 Chef Certification (2018), ServSafe Certified (2017)

**ACADEMIC RESEARCH**

“Black Women Representation in Rap Music Videos” | *peer-reviewed and published May 2022 in The JCSU University Research Journal – Vol. 23*

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Kirby-Straker, R., Johnston, C., Shields, K. & Von Burg, R. (2023) Academic research and

knowledge repatriation at the intersection of epistemic and environmental justice in the Caribbean. *The Geographical Journal*, 00, 1– 8. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1111/geoj.12516>