

## CHRISTINE E. KUNKLE

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Previously “Christine E. Rittenour”

### Professional Appointments

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- 2019 – Present Master Facilitator, ADVANCE Center, West Virginia University (WVU)  
2016 – 2019 Coordinator, Master of Arts Students, Communication Studies Department, WVU  
2023 – Present Professor, Communication Studies Department, WVU  
2015 – Present Associate Professor, Communication Studies Department, WVU  
2009 – 2015 Assistant Professor, Communication Studies Department, WVU  
2011 – 2020 Faculty Associate, Center for Women’s and Gender Studies, WVU  
2006 – 2010 Graduate Teaching Assistant, Communication Studies Department, University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
2003 – 2005 Graduate Teaching Assistant, Communication Studies Department, West Virginia University

### Education

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- 2009 Ph.D., University of Nebraska at Lincoln  
Primary Emphasis: Family and Interpersonal Communication  
Secondary Emphases: Women's and Gender Studies (Graduate Certificate), Rhetoric and

#### Culture

- 2004 Master of Arts, West Virginia University  
Emphasis: Communication Theory and Research  
2003 Bachelor of Arts, The Pennsylvania State University  
Majors: Communication Arts and Sciences, Public Relations  
Minor: Women’s Studies

### Areas of Interest

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#### Everyday Human Exchanges ↔ Social Justice

**Contexts:** Families, Groups within Academic Institutions, Personal Relationships

**Concepts:** stereotypes, prejudice, inclusion/exclusion, accommodation, intergroup dynamics (intergenerational, interdisciplinary, interracial), identity, discrimination, socialization, estrangement, categorization, gender, aging, bias, modeling, belonging, activism, change agents, feminism, diversity, embraced otherness)

### Honors and Awards

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### Funded Research

#### Investigator (\$775,000) Awarded September 2024, Terminated 4.25.25

*National Science Foundation, Racial Equity Education in STEM Grant:*

*“Collaborative Research: Developing and Testing the Equity Departmental Action Teams (EDAT) Model of Racial Equity Focused Departmental Change”*

Pi: Amena Anderson

Co-Investigators: J. Kasi Jackson,

**Co-Principal Investigator (\$2,500)** Awarded October 2018

*West Virginia University Humanities Center Discretionary Grant:*

*“West Virginia(ns) in Fallout 76: Intergroup Emotions, Interactivity, and Sense of Place”*

Co-PIs: Jaime Banks, Nicholas David Bowman

**Co-Principal Investigator (\$15,000)** Awarded April, 2018

*West Virginia University Humanities Center Team Research Grant*

*“The West Virginia Memory Project: A Photographic Tagging and Oral History Project”*

Co-PIs: Catherine Gouge (English), Tamba M’Bayo (History), Kristina Hash (P.I., Social Work),  
Lori Hostuttler (Libraries)

**Co-Principle Investigator (\$2500)** Awarded 2009

*Organization for Research of Women and Communication, Research Development Grant*

*“Mother and Daughter Communication and Feminism”*

Co-Pi: Colleen Warner Colaner

**Awards**

- 2024 Irving Goodman Aging Lecturer
- 2023 Top 3 Poster Award, Graduate Student Poster Session at the Eastern Communication Association (w/Thomas Bobbitt)
- 2023 Top Paper Panel Award, Voices of Diversity Intergroup Group of the National Communication Association (w/Rachael Purtell)
- 2019 Top Paper, Gaming Division of the National Communication Association (w/ Nicholas Bowman and Jaime Banks)
- 2016 Top Paper, Communication & Aging Division of the National Communication Association (w/ Rita Daniels and Jenna Amos)
- 2016 Advisee Kelly Odenweller Awarded Sandra Petronio Top Dissertation Award for the Family Communication Division of the National Communication Association
- 2016 Milton Dickens Award for exemplary empirical research published in *Communication Reports* for “Quality Interactions and Family Storytelling” (w/ A. Thorson, J. Koenig Kellas, and A. Trees)
- 2016 Top Paper, Applied Communication Division of the Eastern Communication Association (w/ M. Donato), Baltimore, MD.
- 2014 Top Paper, Applied Communication Division of the Eastern Communication Association (w/ A. Lancaster), Providence, Rhode Island.
- 2012 Top Four Paper, Communication and Aging Division of the National Communication Association (w/ C. Fowler), Orlando, Florida.
- 2011 Outstanding Manuscript Award, Central States Communication Association (w/ S. Myers)
- 2010 Top Four Paper, Interpersonal and Small Group Division of the Central States Communication Association (w/ S. Myers), Cincinnati, Ohio.
- 2010 Top Four Paper, Communication and Aging Division of the National Communication Association (w/ C. Fowler & J. Soliz), San Francisco, California.
- 2010 Invited Presentation, Speaker Series, University of San Francisco Committee on Children and Youth
- 2008 Presidential Fellow (top fellowship granted to doctoral students, selected by the University), University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- 2008 Honorable Mention, Outstanding Graduate Assistant Research Award, University of Nebraska, Lincoln

- 2008 Top Four Paper, Interpersonal Division of the Central States Communication Association
- 2007 Participant, Graduate Student Seminar "Intergroup Communication: Its Ubiquity and Dynamics" (Annual Wayne State Doctoral Seminar, led by Dr. Howard Giles)
- 2007 Top Four Paper, Family Division of the National Communication Association (w/ A. Thorson, J. Koenig Kellas, and A. Trees), Chicago, Illinois
- 2007 Top Four Paper, Interpersonal and Small Group Division of the National Communication Association (w/ S. Myers, M. Brann), Minneapolis, Minnesota
- 2006 Top Four Paper, Interpersonal and Small Group Division of the Central States Communication Association (w/ S. Myers & M. Brann), Indianapolis, Indiana
- 2005 University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Othmer Fellow (top fellowship granted by the University to incoming graduate students, selected by the Communication Studies Department)
- 2005 Top Student Paper, Health Communication Division of the Eastern States Communication Association (w/ M. Booth-Butterfield), Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- 2005 Top Three Paper, Interpersonal Division of the Eastern States Communication Association (w/ S. Myers), Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

### Teaching

- 2008 Outstanding Instructor, University of Nebraska by the Kappa Alpha Theta Sorority
- 2005 Department Selection, International Communication Association's Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, West Virginia University

### Research

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*\*Indicates co-author's undergraduate or graduate student status while completing work on the study.*

### Books

- Harwood, J. & Kunkle, C. E. (2025) *Understanding communication and aging: Developing knowledge and awareness*. San Diego, CA: Cognella. 3<sup>rd</sup> edition.
- Jackson, J. K., Anderson, A. O., Dilks, L. M., Holmes, M. H., Kunkle, C. E., Nolan, J. J., & Latimer, M. (2023) *Engaging faculty in group-level change for Institutional Transformation: Disrupting inequity and building inclusive academic departments*. Routledge.

### Journal Articles & Chapters

- Totzkay, D., Fraustino, J. D., Costello, L. M., & Kunkle, C. E. (2024). Healthcare provider communication and data-informed message strategies for encouraging older adults to stay up to date on COVID-19 vaccination. *Journal of Applied Gerontology*, 43(9), 1228-1240. <https://doi.org/10.1177/07334648241238314>
- \*Austin, E. T., Totzkay, D., Fraustino, J. D., Costello, L. M., Kunkle, C. E., & Dillow, M. R. (2023). Quantitatively identifying messaging topics to encourage West Virginia nurses' COVID-19 vaccination. *Journal of Health Communication*, 29(1), 72-85. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10810730.2023.228598>
- \*Fellers, L. E., Kunkle, C. E., Schrod, P., & Follmer, D. J. (2023). Sanctification, relationship maintenance behaviors, and closeness within parent-adult child relationships. *Journal of Family Communication*, 23, 107-122. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15267431.2023.2189254>

- \*Butcher, M., Cohen, E., Totzkay, D., & Kunkle, C. (2023). Geek Girl today, scientist tomorrow? Women's engagement in popular geek culture and interest in STEM careers. *International Journal of Science Education, Part B*, 1-16. Doi: 10.1080/21548455.2023.2172624
- Kunkle, C. E., \*Purtell, R. E., & \*Shelton, E. (2022). Adult children's recollections of their White parents' moral memorable messages about racial difference. *Journal of Family Communication*, 23 (1), p. 1-15. doi: 10.1080/15267431.2022.2120881
- Ball, H., Weber, K., Goodboy, A. K., Kunkle, C. E., Lilly, C. L., & Myers, S. A. (2022) A mixed methodological examination of older adults' psychological reactance toward caregiving messages from their adult children. *Communication Monographs*.
- Gasiorek, J., Rittenour, C. E., Lin, M.-C., & Harwood, J., (2021). Family communication in later life. In A. L. Vangelisti (Ed.), *The Routledge Handbook of Family Communication* (pp. 112-126). New York, New York: Routledge.
- Hash, K. M., Rittenour, C. E., Gouge, C., M'bayo, T., Hostuttler, L., & \*Redding, T. (2020). Recollections and voices: An Appalachian community revisited. *Contemporary Rural Issues in Social Work Journal*, 11, 1-14  
<https://digitalcommons.murraystate.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1185&context=crsw>
- Rittenour, C. E. (2020) Family socialization of "Otherness." In J. Soliz & C. Colaner (Eds.) *Navigating Relationships in the Modern Family: Communication, Identity, and Difference*, pp. 233-249. Peter Lang.
- Daniels, R., & Rittenour, C. E. (2020). Reproducing work and family norms through daughter-parent communication. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 37, 2323-2341. doi: 10.1177/0265407520922912
- Rittenour, C. E., \*Baker, J. P., \*Burgess, K. B., \*Shields, K. E., & \*Okai, L. B.\* (2020). Communicated stereotypes, attitudes, and intended accommodation of Appalachians. *Journal of Intercultural Communication Research*, 49, 283-300. doi <https://doi.org/10.1080/17475759.2020.1772342>
- Bowman, N. D., Banks, J., & Rittenour, C. E. (2020). Country roads through 1s and 0s: Sense of place for and recollection of West Virginia following long-term engagement with Fallout 76. *Technology, Mind, and Behavior*, 1. <https://doi.org/10.1037/tmb0000001>
- Odenweller, K. G., Rittenour, C. E., Dillow, M. R., Metzger, A., Myers, S. A., & Weber, K. (2020). Ambivalent effects of stay-at-home and working mother stereotypes on mothers' intergroup and interpersonal dynamics. *Journal of Family Communication*, 20, 16-35.
- Rittenour, C. E. (2019) In-law Relationships. In J. J. Ponzetti, Jr (Ed.) *The Macmillan Encyclopedia of Families, Marriage, and Intimate Relationships*. Gale, A Cengage Company.
- Rittenour, C., \*Kromka, S. M., \*Saunders, R. K., \*Davis, K., \*Garlitz, K., \*Opatz, S. N., \*Sutherland, A., \*Thomas, M. (2019). Socializing the silent treatment: Parent and adult child communicated displeasure, identification, and satisfaction. *Journal of Family Communication*, 19, 77-93.

- Rittenour, C., \*Kromka, S., \*Pitts, S., \*Thorwart, M., \*Vickers, J., & \*Whyte, K. (2018). Communication surrounding estrangement: Stereotypes, attitudes and (non)accommodation strategies. *Behavioral Sciences*, 8, 1-16.
- \*Wasserman, J. A. and C. E. Rittenour (2018). Who wants to play? Cueing perceived sex-based stereotypes of games." *Computers in Human Behavior*, 91, 252-262.
- Rittenour, C. E., & Odenweller, K. G. (2019). It's not that easy: Challenges of motherhood. In A. M. Alford & M. Miller-Day (Eds.), *Constructing motherhood and daughterhood: Communicating across generations*. New York: Peter Lang, p. 251-264.
- Daniels, R., & Rittenour, C. E. (2018). Negotiating identities in the United States: Female international students' identity gaps and management strategies. *Intercultural Communication Studies*, 27, 37-54.
- Odenweller, K. G., Brann, B. M., Rittenour, C. E., & Myers, S. A. (2018). Intergenerational transmission of traditional and contemporary gender ideologies via father-son memorable messages. *Communication Research Reports*, 35, 232-244.
- Colaner, C. W., Horstman, H. K., & Rittenour, C. E. (2018). Negotiating adoptive and birth shared family identity: A social identity complexity approach. *Western Journal of Communication*, 82, 393-415.
- Soliz, J., Cronan, S., Bergquist, G., Nuru, A. K., & Rittenour, C. E., (2017). Perceived benefits and challenges of a multiethnic-racial identity: Insight from adults with mixed heritage. *Identity*, 17, 267-281.
- Odenweller, K. G. & Rittenour, C. E. (2017). Stereotypes of stay-at-home and working mothers. *Southern Communication Journal*, 82, 57-72.
- Lancaster, A. L., & Rittenour, C. E. (2017). Parishioners' and non-parishioners' perceptions of priests: Homilies informed by an intergroup perspective are linked to more positive perceptions. *Journal of Communication and Religion*, 40, 76-89.
- Fowler, C. & Rittenour, C. E. (2017). A lifespan approach to children-in-law's perceptions of parent-in-law communication. *Journal of Family Communication*, 17, 254-272.
- Rittenour, C. E., & Cohen, E. L. (2016). Viewing our aged selves: Age progression simulations increase young adults' aging anxiety and negative stereotypes of older adults. *The International Journal of Aging and Human Development*, 82, 271-289.
- Horstman, H. K., Colaner, C. W., & Rittenour, C. E. (2016). Contributing factors of adult adoptees' identity work and self-esteem: Family communication patterns and adoption-specific communication. *Journal of Family Communication*, 16, 263-276.
- Goodboy, A. K., Martin, M. M., & Rittenour, C. E. (2016). Bullying as an expression of intolerant schemas. *Journal of Child & Adolescent Trauma*, 1-6. doi: 10.1007/s40653-016-0089-9
- Goodboy, A. K., Martin, M. M., & Rittenour, C. E. (2016). Bullying as a display of social dominance orientation. *Communication Research Reports*, 33, 159-165.

- Rittenour, C. E., & Koenig Kellas, J. (2015). Making sense of hurtful mother-in-law messages: Applying attribution theory to the in-law triad. *Communication Quarterly*, 63, 62-80.
- Soliz, J., & Rittenour, C. E. (2015). Generativity in the family: Grandparent-grandchild relationships and the intergenerational transmission of values and worldviews. In V. Waldron & D. Kelley (Eds), *Developing good relationships: Moral communication across the lifespan*. (pp. 55-74). New York: Peter Lang. [Includes original data and analysis]
- Colaner, C. W., & Rittenour, C. E. (2015). "Feminism begins at home": The influence of mother-daughter gender socialization on daughter career and motherhood aspirations as channeled through daughter feminist identification. *Communication Quarterly*, 63, 81-98.
- Mikucki-Enyart, S., Caughlin, J., & Rittenour, C. E. (2015). Content and relational implications of children-in-law's relational uncertainty within the in-law dyad during the transition to extended family. *Communication Quarterly*, 63, 286-309.
- Rittenour, C. E., Colaner, C. W., & \*Odenweller, K. G. (2014). Mothers' identities and gender socialization of daughters. *Southern Communication Journal*, 79, 215-234. doi: 10.1080/1041794X.2014.895408
- Thorson, A. R., Rittenour, C. E., Koenig Kellas, J., & Trees, A. R. (2013). Quality interactions and family storytelling. *Communication Reports*, 26, 88-100.
- \*LaBelle, S., Booth-Butterfield, M., & Rittenour, C. E. (2013). Attitudes toward profoundly hearing impaired and deaf individuals: Links with intergroup anxiety, social dominance orientation, and contact. *Western Journal of Communication*, 77, 489-506.
- \*Odenweller, K., Rittenour, C. E., Brann, M., & Myers, S. (2013) Father-son family communication patterns and gender ideologies: A modeling and compensation analysis. *Journal of Family Communication*, 13, 340-357.
- Harwood, J., Rittenour, C. E., & Lin, M.-C. (2013). Family communication in later life. In A. L. Vangelisti (Ed.), *The Routledge Handbook of Family Communication* (pp. 112-126). New York, New York: Routledge.
- Rittenour, C. E., & Colaner, C. W. (2012). Finding female fulfillment: Intersecting role-based and morality-based identities of motherhood, feminism, and generativity as predictors of women's self satisfaction and life satisfaction. *Sex Roles*, 67, 351-362.
- Soliz, J., & Rittenour, C. E. (2012). Family as an intergroup arena. In H. Giles (Ed.), *The Handbook of Intergroup Communication* (pp. 331-342). Thousand Oaks, CA: Routledge.
- Rittenour, C. E. (2012). Daughter-in-law standards for mother-in-law communication: Associations with daughter-in-law perceptions of relational satisfaction and shared family identity. *Journal of Family Communication*, 12, 93-110.

- Myers, S. A., & Rittenour, C. E. (2011/2012). Demographic and relational predictors of adult siblings' use of relational maintenance behaviors. *Journal of Communication, Speech, and Theatre Association of North Dakota*, 24, 1-17.
- Rittenour, C. E., & Booth-Butterfield, M. (2010). College students' sexual health: Investigating the role of peer communication. In G. L. Kreps (Ed.) *Health Communication*, Volume 1 (pp. 215-224). Thousand Oaks: Sage. [Reprint of 2006 publication in *Communication Quarterly*.]
- Myers, S. A. & Rittenour, C. E. (2010). Aggression in the K-12 Classroom. In T. Avtgis & A. Rancer (Eds.). *Arguments, Aggression, and Conflict: New Directions in Theory and Research* (pp. 139-158). Thousand Oaks, CA: Routledge.
- Rittenour, C. E., & Soliz, J. (2009). Communicative and relational dimensions of shared family identity and relational intentions in mother-in-law/daughter-in-law relationships: Developing a conceptual model for mother-in-law/daughter-in-law research. *Western Journal of Communication*, 73, 67-90.
- Soliz, J., Thorson, A. R., & Rittenour, C. E. (2009). Communicative predictors of relational satisfaction, shared family identity, and ethnic group salience in multiethnic families. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 71, 819-832.
- Myers, S. M, Brann, M., & Rittenour, C. E. (2008). Interpersonal communication motives as a predictor of early and middle adulthood siblings' use of relational maintenance behaviors. *Communication Research Reports*, 25, 1-13.
- Rittenour, C. E., & Martin, M. M. (2008). Convergent validity of the communication-based emotional support scale. *Communication Studies*, 59, 235-241.
- Rittenour, C. E., Myers, S. A., & Brann, M. (2007). Commitment and emotional closeness in the sibling relationship. *Southern Communication Journal*, 72, 169-183.
- Brann, M., Rittenour, C. E., & Myers, S. A. (2007). Adult children's forgiveness of parents' betrayals. *Communication Research Reports*, 24, 353-360.
- Rittenour, C. E., & Booth-Butterfield, M. (2006). College students' sexual health: Investigating the role of peer communication. *Qualitative Research Reports in Communication*, 7, 57-65.
- Myers, S. A., Schrod, P., & Rittenour, C. E. (2006). The perceived impact of hurtful messages on adult children's academic performance. In L. Turner & R. West (Eds.), *Family communication: A reference of theory and research* (pp. 425-445). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. [Includes original data and analysis]
- Rittenour, C. E., & Myers, S. A. (2005). The impact of adolescents' perceptions of interparental conflict on adolescents' aggressive communication traits. *Iowa Journal of Communication*, 37, 123-138.

### **Conference Presentations of Competitive Papers**

*\*Indicates co-author's graduate student status while completing work on the study*

Nolan, J. J., Anderson, A., Jackson, K., Kunkle, C. & Henderson, H. *Repairing Harm and Restoring Relationships in Institutional Settings*. Interactive teaching and research session presented at the 2024 West Virginia Social Justice Summit, Buckhannon, WV.

\*Baker, A., Kunkle, C. & Follmer, J. *Grandparents' Supporting Role in Adult Grandchildren's Academic Success: The Importance of Parental Encouragement and Reciprocal Self-Disclosure*. Paper presented at the 2023 National Communication Association Conference, National Harbor, MD.

Totzkay, D., Costello, L., Fraustino, J., & Kunkle, C. *Message strategies and communication gaps for encouraging aging adults to get vaccinated and boosted against COVID-19*. Paper presented at the 2023 National Communication Association Conference, National Harbor, MD.

\*Bobbitt, T. D., & Kunkle, C.E. *A Wealthy 73-Year-Old Walks into a Wrestling Ring: Stereotype Content Model and Posted Public Responses to Ric Flair's Last Match*. Poster presented at Eastern Communication Association Conference, Baltimore, MD, 2023. \*Top 3 Poster Award\*

\*Purtell, R. E., Kunkle, C. E. Implicit and Explicit Bias Towards Black and White Transgender and Cisgender Men, Paper Presented Voices of Diversity Intergroup Group of the National Communication Association, Baltimore, MD, 2023. \*Top Paper Panel Award

\*Austin, E. T., Totzkay, D., Fraustino, J. D., Costello, L., Kunkle, C. E., & Dillow, M. R. (2022). COVID-19 vaccine confidence among West Virginia nurses and the role of identity and information needs. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association Conference, New Orleans, LA.

\*Fellers, L., Rittenour, C. E., & Schrodt, P. (2022). Sanctification, relational maintenance, and closeness within parent-adult child relationships. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association Conference, New Orleans, LA.

\*Martin, M. & Rittenour, C. E. (2022). Collectively constructing age identity: Role playing family conflict surrounding an aging parents' independence. Great Ideas For Teaching accepted for presentation at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association Conference, New Orleans, LA.

\*Shin, M., Rittenour, C. E., Adame, E. A. (2022). Helicopter parenting and first-semester students' adjustment to college: A self-determination theory perspective. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association Conference, New Orleans, LA.

Rittenour, C. E. (November 2020) Family Socialization of "Otherness". *Paper presented at the annual meeting – held virtually - of the National Communication Association, Family Communication Division*.

Rittenour, C. E., Shelton, E., & Purtell, R. (November 2020) Families' Memorable Moral Messages about Racial Difference. *Paper presented at the annual meeting – held virtually - of the National Communication Association, Family Communication Division*

Shelton, E., & Rittenour, C. E. (November 2020) The Role of Communication Accommodation in Mother-in-law/Daughter-in-law relationships. *Paper presented at the annual meeting – held virtually - of the National Communication Association, Family Communication Division*.

Bowman, N., Banks, J., & Rittenour, C. E. (November, 2019) Country Roads through 1s and Os: Sense of

place for and recognition of West Virginia following long-term engagement with Fallout 76. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern States Communication Association, Instructional Communication Division.*

Thorwart, M., & Rittenour, C. E. (2019). First generation college students' communication with parents: Support, distraction, and identity gaps. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern States Communication Association, Instructional Communication Division.*

Rittenour, C. E., Pitts, S., (2018). Communication surrounding spouses of alcoholics. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Family Communication Division.*

Rittenour, C. E., Kromka, S. M., Pitts, S., Thorwart, M. A., Vickers, J., & Whyte, K.V. (2018). Stereotypes of estranged adult children. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern States Communication Association, Interpersonal and Small Group Communication Division.*

Rittenour, C. E., Baker, J. P., Burgess, K. B., Shields, K. E., Okai, L. B. (2018) Poor, backwards, and inbred: Stereotypes of Appalachians. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern States Communication Association, Interpersonal and Small Group Communication Division.*

Thomas, M. J., Rittenour, C. E., Martin, M. M., & Myers, S. A. (2018). Identity gaps and perceived racial prejudice in the grandparent-grandchild relationship. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern States Communication Association, Interpersonal and Small Group Communication Division.*

Rittenour, C. E., Andrews, K., Anzur, C. K., Garlitz, K., Davis, K., Kromka, S., Luo, Z., Nicholson, A., Opatz, S. A., Russell, R., Saunders, R., Skerda, K., Smith, B., Sutherland, A., & Thomas, M. (2017). Silent treatment in families. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Family Communication Division.*

Odenweller, K. G., Rittenour, C. E., Dillow, M. R., Metzger, A., Myers, S. A., & Weber, K. D. (2017). Communicating to resolve the "mommy wars:" Testing the Common Ingroup Identity Model with stay-at-home and working mothers. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Family Communication Division.*

Anzur, C.K., & Rittenour, C. E. (2017). "It almost seemed taboo to even talk about it": Adoptees' initiation of birth family conversations with their adoptive parents. *Poster presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Family Communication Division.*

Ball, H., Weber, K. D., Goodboy, A. K., Lilly, C., Myers, S. A., & Rittenour, C. E. (2017). Applying psychological reactance theory to examine older adults' responses to persuasive health messages from adult child caregivers. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Health Communication Division.*

Rittenour, C. E., Daniels, R., Amos, J. (2016). Young adults' reactions to older adults' versus young adults' communicated racism. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Communication and Aging Division.*

Odenweller, K. G., Rittenour, C. E., Dillow, M. R., Metzger, A., Myers, S. A., & Weber, K. D. (2016) Communicated stereotypes among stay-at-home and working mothers: An intergroup communication

- perspective of the “Mommy Wars.” *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Family Communication Division/Organization Communication Divisions.*
- Daniels, R. & Rittenour, C. E. (2016). Negotiating identities: Female international students’ identity gaps and strategies for coping in the United States. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, the International and Intercultural Communication Division.*
- Goodboy, A. K., Martin, M. M., & Rittenour, C. E. (2016) “Communicating with(out) conscience: Intolerant schemas and student bullying.” *Paper presented at the Applied Communication Division, Southern Communication Association.*
- Donato, M. & Rittenour, C. E. (2016, March). “Siblings’ versus strangers’ emotional and behavioral reactions to a hypothetical emergency scenario.” *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Communication Association, Baltimore, MD [Top Paper, Applied Communication Division]*
- Rittenour, C. E., & Cohen, E. L. (2015, November). Terror management and outgrouping our future selves: Young adults’ ageist attitudes after “oldify” app use. *Research poster presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Las Vegas, NV.*
- Odenweller, K. G., & Rittenour, C. E. (2014, November). Stereotypes of stay-at-home and working mothers. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Chicago, IL.*
- Goodboy, A., Rittenour, C. E., Myers, S. A., Bolkan, S. (2015, April). The distal role of family communication in fostering instructional dissent. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Communication Association, Philadelphia, PA.*
- \*Lancaster, A. L., & Rittenour, C. E. (2014, April). Parishioners and non-parishioners perceptions of priests: Homilies informed by an intergroup perspective are linked to more positive perceptions. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Communication Association, Providence, Rhode Island. [Top Paper, Applied Communication Division]*
- Mikucki-Enyart, S., Caughlin, J., & Rittenour, C. E. (2013, May) The content and relational implications of children-in-law’s relational uncertainty within the in-law dyad during the transition to extended family. *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Communication Association in London, England.*
- Rittenour, C. E., & Colaner, C. (2013, April) Communicating gendered values: Women’s motherhood, feminism, and generativity identities as predictors of gender socialization of daughters. *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Central States Communication Association in Kansas City, Missouri.*
- Fowler, C., & Rittenour, C. E. (2012, November) Children’s positive/negative interactions with parents-in-law: In group status as a mediator of in-law interactions and children-in-law’s perceptions of marital and in-law satisfaction. *Paper presented Annual Meeting of the National Communication Association in Orlando, Florida. [Top Two Paper, Communication and Aging Division]*
- Mikucki-Enyart, S., & Rittenour, C. E. (2012, November) “Does my future-mother-in-law really like me or just tolerate me?”: Children-in-law’s relational uncertainty during the transition to extended family. *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the National Communication Association in Orlando, Florida.*

\*Nuru, A., Soliz, J., & Rittenour, C. E. (2012, November) Constructing, expressing, and reflecting ethnic identity: Perspectives from multiethnic individuals. *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the National Communication Association in Orlando, Florida.*

\*Odenweller, K. G., Westerman, D., & Rittenour, C. E. (2012, November) Family communication patterns and online relational maintenance behaviors: Investigating college students' relationships with their parents. *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the National Communication Association in Orlando, Florida.*

Rittenour, C. E., & Koenig-Kellas (2012, March) The role of attributions, perceptions of agreement, and spousal communication in daughter-in-law satisfaction with the in-law triad. *Paper presented the Annual Meeting of the Central States Communication Association in Cleveland, Ohio.*

Mikucki-Enyart, S. & Rittenour, C. E. (2011, November) The transition to extended family: Examining relational uncertainty in the parent-adult child dyad. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association in New Orleans, Louisiana.*

Colaner, C. & Rittenour, C. E. (2011, November). Feminism begins at home: The influence of mother gender socialization on daughter's motherhood and career aspirations as channeled through daughter feminist identification. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association in New Orleans, Louisiana.*

\*Rudick, C. K., Myers, S. A., Dillow, M. E., and Rittenour, C. E. (2011, April) Students' perceptions of classroom justice and their use of politeness strategies. *Manuscript presented at the Annual Meeting of the Central States Communication Association in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.*

Rittenour, C. E., Colaner, C. W. (2011, February) Women's intersecting identities, female fulfillment, and gender guidance: The links between women's mothering, feminist, and generativity identities, mother's wellbeing, and gender socialization of daughters. *Manuscript presented at the Annual Meeting of the Western States Communication Association in Monterey, California.*

Rittenour, C. E., Fowler, C., & Soliz, J. (2010, November) Grandchildren's perceptions of intergenerational communication: An investigation of sex differences and similarities in grandparent-grandchild dyads. *Manuscript presented at the Annual Meeting of the National Communication Association, San Francisco, CA. [Top Four Paper, Communication and Aging Division]*

Rittenour, C. E. (2010, April). How could she ever measure up? Daughter-in-law standards for mother-in-law communication. *Manuscript presented at the Annual Meeting of the Eastern Communication Association, Baltimore, Maryland.*

Myers, S. A., & Rittenour, C. E. (2010, April) Demographic and relational predictors of adult siblings' use of relational maintenance behaviors. *Manuscript presented at the Annual Meeting of the Central States Communication Association, Cincinnati, Ohio. [Top Four Paper, Interpersonal and Small Group Division]*

Rittenour, C. E. (2009, November) Communication within and surrounding mother-in-law/daughter-in-law relationships: Implications for relational outcomes and future family functioning. *Manuscript presented at the Annual Meeting of the National Communication Association, San Diego, California.*

- Soliz, J., Rittenour, C. E., & Thorson, A. R. (2008, April) Communicative predictors of relational satisfaction, shared family identity, and ethnic group salience in multiethnic families. *Manuscript presented at the Annual Meeting of the Central States Communication Association, Madison, Wisconsin.* [Top Four Paper, Interpersonal and Small Group Division]
- Rittenour, C. E., & Soliz, J. (2007, November) Communicative predictors of shared family identity, future contact, and caregiving intentions in mother-in-law/daughter-in-law relationships. *Manuscript presented at the Annual Meeting of the National Communication Association, Chicago, Illinois.*
- Thorson, A., Rittenour, C. E., Koenig Kellas, J., & Trees, A. (2007, November) Utilizing multilevel modeling: Illuminating family communication intricacies. *Manuscript presented at the Annual Meeting of the National Communication Association, Chicago, IL.* [Top Four Paper, Family Division]
- Brann, M., Myers, S.A., & Rittenour, C. E. (2007, November). Caring for the one who cared for you: Parent-child discussions about caregiving. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Chicago, Illinois.*
- Myers, M., Brann, M., & Rittenour, C. E. (2007, April) Interpersonal communication motives as a predictor of middle adulthood siblings' use of relational maintenance behaviors. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Central States Communication Association, Minneapolis, Minnesota.* [Top Four Paper, Interpersonal and Small Group Division]
- Brann, M., Rittenour, C. E., & Myers, S. A. (2006, November). Adult children's forgiveness of parents' betrayals: Progressing towards greater commitment, trust, and relational satisfaction. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, San Antonio, Texas.*
- Rittenour, C. E. (2006, November). Relational dialectics in the parent- and child-in-law relationship. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Central States Communication Association in Indianapolis, Indiana.*
- Rittenour, C. E. (2006, October). American mothers' support and opposition of the War in Iraq. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Organization for the Study of Communication, Language and Gender, St. Louis, Missouri.*
- Rittenour, C. E., & Brann, M. (2006, April). Ageism toward youth: A closer look at older adults' perceptions of young people. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Central States Communication Association, Indianapolis, Indiana.*
- Rittenour, C. E., Myers, S. A., & Brann, M. (2006, April). Commitment and emotional closeness in the sibling relationship. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Central States Communication Association, Indianapolis, Indiana.* [Top Four Paper. Interpersonal and Small Group Division]
- Myers, S. A., Schrod, P., & Rittenour, C. E. (2005, November). The impact of parents' use of hurtful messages on adult children's self-esteem and educational motivation. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Boston, Massachusetts.*
- Rittenour, C. E., & Brann, M. (2005, November). Storytelling: Love and relationships from older adults' perspectives. *Paper presented at the 2005 National Communication Association Convention, Boston, Massachusetts.*

Myers, S. A., Rocca, K. A., Dunleavy, K. N., Hanselman, M., Humphrey, L. E., Ike, I., Kubic, K. N., Rittenour, C. E., & Regan, K. A. (2005, April). The relationship between college student participation and perceived instructor communicator style. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Communication Association, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.*

Rittenour, C. E., & Booth-Butterfield, M. (2005, April). College students' sexual health: Investigating the role of peer communication. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Communication Association, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.* [Top Student Paper, Health Communication Interest Group]

Rittenour, C. E., & Martin, M. M. (2005, April). The Emotional Support Scale: A validity study. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Communication Association, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.*

Rittenour, C. E., & Myers, S. A. (2005, April). Adolescents' perceptions of interparental conflict and the impact on their aggressive communication traits. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Communication Association, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.* [Top Three Paper, Interpersonal Interest Group]

Myers, S. A., Brewster, D. W., & Kunkle, C. E. (2004, April). Applying face-negotiation theory to small group communication. *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Central States Communication Association, Cleveland, Ohio.* [Maiden name is Kunkle.]

### **Research Panel Presentation at Professional Conference**

"Developing Academic Change Agents for Equity in STEM & Beyond" Anderson, A., Rittenour, C. E., Nolan, J. & Sura, T. (2019). 2019 Equity in STEM Community Convening sponsored by the ADVANCE Resource & Coordination (ARC) Network, in Cleveland, Ohio, 10/6-8.

Rittenour, C. E., \*Berkebile, T., \*Cupp, J. G., \*Decierdo, A., \*de la Garza, A., \*Fletcher, H., \*La Belle, S., \*Lybarger, J., \*Odenweller, K., \*Rice, Z., \*Saint Aubin, M., & \*Thoma, J. (2011, April). Outsiders in their own homes: The excluded, the ostracized, and other black sheep of the family. *Panel presented at the Annual Meeting of the Central States Communication Association in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.*

### **Invited Presentations**

*Communication and Aging in the Family.* Presented to the Ohio University Family Communication Class (3.9.23)

Jackson, J. K., & Rittenour, C. E. (March, 2022) Inclusive hiring initiative – group level process intervention. *Flash talk presented at the Symposium of Innovative Faculty Hiring Practices to Improve Diversity*, from the National Science Foundation's Alliances for Graduate Education's Research University Alliance.

*Rules of Engagement: Student and Expert Discussion Panel on Diversity and Romantic Relationships.* "Expert Panelist" Sponsored by the WVU Office of Diversity and Inclusion. (Fall 2014)

*In-laws or Outlaws? Factors Associated with the Success or Failure of Mother-in-law/Daughter-in-law Relationships*" as part of the University of San Francisco's Committee on Children and Youth Speaker Series (Fall 2010)

*Storytelling about love and relationships shared by older adults.* Presented to the UNL Communication Studies colloquium (Fall 2006).

## **Teaching and Advising**

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**Teaching Interests:** family communication, intergroup communication, aging/lifespan, nonviolence and inclusivity

### **Graduate Courses at West Virginia University**

Family Communication  
Family Difference (taught as special topic)  
Darkside of Family Communication (taught as special topic)  
Intergroup Communication  
Communication and Aging (taught as special topic)  
Professional Preparation: Capstone Course for MA students (“grad comm capstone”/summer 2020)  
Diversity in the Workplace  
Nonviolent Communication

### **Undergraduate Courses at West Virginia University**

Communication Cornerstones  
Communication and Aging  
Family Communication  
Interpersonal Communication Theory  
Peace Begins at Home (taught as special topic) on intersections of anti-racism and family communication  
Nonverbal Communication

### **Undergraduate Courses, Instructed at University of Nebraska-Lincoln**

Business and Professional Communication (instructor; co-administrator)  
Interpersonal Communication (instructor)  
Research Methods (instructor)  
Small Group Problem Solving (instructor)

### **Invited Lectures, Facilitations, and Workshops**

Co-designed and co-facilitated “Repairing Harm and Restoring Relationships in Institutional Settings” during the Restorative Justice Summit in Buckhannon, WV (June, 2024)

Co-designed, co-taught, and independently met with Oklahoma State University Equity Advocates on the topic of Change Agent Identity. Co-Facilitated WVU ADVANCE Dialogues® as a means of helping them jumpstart their social justice initiatives. (Fall 2023-Spring 2024)

Facilitated within, supported the planning of, and happily attended the “*Disclosing Failure: Benefit or Hazard for STEM Women Faculty? Advancing An Equity and Inclusion Perspective*” Conference (<https://www.failedisclosure2024.com/>).

Co-designed, trained “extensions of ADVANCE” WVU faculty to be co-facilitators, and was the point person for the Provost-requested “Inclusive Hiring Initiative.” This initiative was implemented in order to positively, proactively direct 10 units (3 pilot departments in fall 2020 and 7 in spring 2021) in their own designing of a search plan, advertisement language, and evaluation rubric that all move their unit toward

enhancing specific, active efforts that should bring underrepresented racial (and sometimes sex-based) social groups to our shared WVU community.

“Challenging Conversations in the Classroom”: A 90 minute interactive presentation for faculty; sponsored by our campus’s Teaching and Learning Commons and the ADVANCE center. Conducted separately on-campus and in a webinar for participation by branch campus (Fall 2019, Spring 2025)

WVU college of Law Facilitation (co-facilitator): A four-session facilitation series with all faculty and administration in the WVU College of Law; presented with ADVANCE Center team at West Virginia University, Summer & Fall, 2019.

“Communication Accommodation Theory”: Graduate Course in Communication Theory, WVU Communication Studies Department (Guest Presenter: Spring 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2016, Fall 2018)

“Family Violence and Abuse”: Undergraduate Course in Family Communication, UNL Communication Studies Department (Guest Presenter: Fall 2011, Spring 2012)

“Nonverbal Communication”: Produced online lecture for *Fundamentals of Human Communication - Advanced Scholars Program for high school honors students* (Fall 2008)

## **Advising**

### Advised Dissertations Chair – Completed

Rita Daniels (August 2016)

Kelly Lynn Geier Odenweller (August 2015)

### Dissertation Advising

Samantha Leggett-Bradley

Madison Martin

### Ph.D. Dissertation Committees – Completed

#### Communication Studies:

Alysse Baker (May 2024)

Shaun Anderson (August 2016)

Christine Anzur (August 2018)

Jordan Atkinson (August 2018)

Hannah Ball (August 2015)

Lauren Clyne Fellers (2023)

Samaha Ghani (2024)

Hailey Gillen (August 2014)

Colleen Malachowski (May 2012)

Sara Pitts (March 2022)

Michael Sollitto (August 2014)

Casey Stratton (August 2023)

Melissa Tindage (August 2016)

Lori Vela (August 2013)

Kylie Wilson (2021)

Psychology:

Elizabeth Babskie (August 2016)  
James Henry (May 2013)  
Elizabeth Price (August 2018)  
Katelyn Romm (May 2020)  
Ria Travers (August 2016)

Division of Design and Corporate Marketing:  
Hannah Gnegy (August 2016)

Ph.D. Dissertation Committees – In Progress

Communication Studies:

Thomas Bobbitt  
Hailey Scherer

M.A. Thesis Advisees – Completed

Kelly Lynn Geier Odenweller (August 2011)  
Rachael Purtell (August 2020)  
Erin Shelton (August 2019)  
Matthew Thomas (August 2017)  
Janelle Vickers (August 2018)

M.A. Thesis Committee - Completed

Charles K. Rudick (August 2010)  
Kristina (Pellien) Smith (Division of Design and Corporate Marketing)

M.A. Comprehensive Exam Committee - Completed

Class of 2011-Class of 2018

Service

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**Service to Discipline**

Editorial Review Board

May – Present	<i>Journal of Social and Personal Relationships</i>
2021 – Present	<i>Communication Monographs</i>
2018 – Present	<i>International Journal of Aging and Human Development</i>
2014 – Present	<i>Journal of Family Communication</i>
2017 – 2024	<i>Behavioral Sciences</i>
2014	<i>Southern Communication Journal</i> , Associate Editorial Board
2016	<i>Communication Teacher's</i> Special Issue on Diversity
2012	<i>Iowa Journal of Communication's</i> Special Issue on Communication and the Family
2013	<i>Journal of Family Communication's</i> Special Issue on Family Communication Patterns
2010	<i>Journal of Family Communication's</i> Special Issue on Culture

Guest Reviewer

*Advance*

*Annals for the International Communication Association*  
*Communication Quarterly*  
*Communication Reports*  
*Communication Research Reports*  
*Communication Studies*  
*Family Relations*  
*Health Communication*  
*Health Education*  
*Human Development*  
*Iowa Journal of Communication*  
*Journal of Applied Communication Research*  
*Journal of Communication*  
*Journal of Computer Mediated Communication*  
*Journal of Genetic Psychology*  
*Journal of Language and Social Psychology*  
*Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*  
*Personal Relationships*  
*Psychology of Popular Media*  
*Social Behavior and Personality*  
*Southern Communication Journal*  
*Western Journal of Communication*  
*Dissertation Award for Family Communication Division*

(Past) Chair, Vice-Chair and Program Planner, Communication and Aging Division of National Communication Association (2014 Conference/Present)

Secretary, Communication and Aging Division of National Communication Association (Spring 2006-Spring 2008)

Member, Legislative Assembly (2015-2016)

Thesis Award Committee Chair, Communication and Aging Division of NCA (2012)

#### Conference Reviewer

ICA theme panels on Communicating Across the Lifespan (2014)  
Intergroup Communication Division of the International Communication Association (2013)  
Communication and Aging Division of the National Communication Association (2006, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012)  
Family Communication Division of the National Communication Association (2010)  
Small Group and Interpersonal Division of the Central States Communication Association (2009)  
Interpersonal Communication Division of the Eastern Communication Association (2011)  
Undergraduate Student Caucus/Paper Reviewer of the Eastern Communication Association (2012, 2016, 2017, 2018)

*Member*, Tellers' Committee for the Central States Communication Association (2004-2005)

#### **Service to Department**

*Member*, Faculty Evaluation Committee, Communication Studies Department (2021)

*Member, Hiring Committee for Teaching Assistant Professor*  
*Co-Chair, Justice Equity Diversity & Inclusion Committee (2023-2024)*  
*Chair, Faculty Mentoring Committee (Spring 2012)*  
*Chair, Interdisciplinary Committee, Departmental “2020 Strategic Plan” (Spring 2013)*  
*Member, Graduate Studies Committee (2011-2019)*  
*Chair, Hiring Committee, Organizational Communication Position*  
*Member, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (2009-2015)*  
*Member, Faculty Evaluation Committee (2019, 2020)*

### **Service to College**

*Advisor, Matthew Witkowski, Research Apprenticeship Program (Spring 2021-Spring 2022)*  
*Member, Faculty Evaluation Committee, Women’s and Gender Studies (2021)*  
*Advisory Committee, Center for Women’s and Gender Studies (for highly involved Associate Faculty Members)*  
*Member, Eberly College - Curriculum and Academic Quality Committee (2015-2017)*  
*Member, Eberly College - Faculty Evaluation Committee (2015-2017)*  
*Member, Eberly College - Dean’s Advisory Committee (2017)*  
*Member, Hiring Committee (2012, 2014)*  
*Reviewer, Center for Women’s and Gender Studies Graduate Student Awards*  
*Member, Curriculum and Academic Quality Committee*  
*Coordinator, Communication Studies and Psychology Graduate Student Research Colloquium (Spring 2014)*  
*Member, Hiring Committee for Psychology Department (2013)*

### **Service to WVU**

*Master Facilitator, ADVANCE center (<https://advance.wvu.edu/>)*  
*Point Person, Inclusive Hiring Initiative: (<https://advance.wvu.edu/inclusive-hiring-initiative>)*  
*Member, Age Friendly University Committee (Spring 2023)*

### **Service to Community**

*Course Developer and Instructor, Family 101 for Children, Conducted in the Community United Methodist Church in Morgantown, WV (2019)*

*Presenter, West Virginia University’s 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Institute on Aging, “Building Harmonious Grandparent/Parent Ties” (2013)*

*Guest Speaker, Cumberland County Chapter of the PA Association of School Retirees  
“Better than Botox: Communicating to ‘Feel Young’” (2013)*

*Grant Assistant, WV Healthy Start's HAPI Project (Funded through a University Student Learning Grant, 2005).*

- Installed a communication component
- This project was an outreach program for pregnant women at high-risk for intimate partner violence.

## **Memberships in Professional Organizations**

International Communication Association

National Communication Association

Eastern Communication Association

## **Featured in Media:**

**NZZ (online magazine)** “Schwiegermonster oder Ersatzmami? Über die dornige Beziehung zwischen Frau und Schwiegermutter” translated “Monster-in-law or surrogate mommy? On the thorny relationship between wife and mother-in-law” on November 4, 2024

**O: Oprah Winfrey’s Magazine.** “The Mother-in-law Survival Guide” By Rory Evans. Published: Nov 17, 2023