

RACHAEL E. PURTELL

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CURRICULUM VITAE

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Communication Studies (ABD; Ph.D. anticipated 2023)

West Virginia University

Primary Emphasis: Intergroup Communication
Secondary Emphasis: Interpersonal Communication
Methodology: Quantitative and Qualitative
Advisor: Matthew M. Martin

M.A. Communication Studies (2020)

West Virginia University

Emphasis: Communication Theory and Research
Advisor: Christine E. Rittenour
Thesis: *Interpersonal Influences on Interpretation of Workplace Sexual Harassment*

B.A. Communication Studies & Psychology (2019)

State University of New York at New Paltz

Concentration in public relations
Minor in computer science

RESEARCH INTERESTS

My current research interests center around communication perpetuating systemic issues and communication experiences in underrepresented romantic relationships (e.g., consensually non-monogamous relationships) and include substantive areas such as intergroup contact, identity, self-disclosure, and relational turbulence. I also study diversity, equity, and inclusion practices contributing to our understanding of how social issues are communicated and perpetuated in and by the workplace by taking a social issue-centered perspective on analyzing organizational culture and communication.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 12/2022–present: *Graduate Research and Leadership Assistant*
Heath Schechinger’s Relationship Diversity Lab
APA Division 44 Committee on Consensual Non-Monogamy
<https://www.drheathschechinger.com/enm-projects>
- 08/2018–05/2019: *Research Assistant*
Glenn Geher’s Evolutionary Psychology Lab
State University of New York at New Paltz
<https://sites.google.com/view/newpaltzevolutionarypsychlab/home>

GRANT FUNDED RESEARCH

- 2021 *Formative research to inform human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination campaign messaging in rural West Virginia* (\$9,000).
The Center for Rural Health Development and WV Bureau of Public Health
PI: Julia Fraustino, West Virginia University
Role: Quantitative Lead

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

- Purtell, R. E.,** & Kunkle, C. A. (in press). Implicit and explicit bias towards Black and white transgender and cisgender men. *Ohio Communication Journal*.
- Purtell, R. E.** (2022). Relevant teaching of queer and performative theories through media interaction. *Carolinas Communication Annual*, 38, 76–80.
- Purtell, R. E.** (2022). Employing ambivalent sexism theory as a lens to make sense of workplace sexual harassment narratives in the ombuds profession. *Journal of the International Ombudsman Association*. Advance online publication.
- Kunkle, C. A., **Purtell, R. E.,** & Shelton, E. (2022). Adult children’s recollections of their white parents’ moral memorable messages about racial difference. *Journal of Family Communication*. Advance online publication.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/15267431.2022.2120881>
- Purtell, R. E.,** & Kang, K. (2022). The corporate social responsibility of Fortune 500 companies to Black Lives Matter: Strategic responses on Instagram. *Communication Reports*, 35(2), 120–133. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08934215.2022.2040559>

BOOK CHAPTERS

Myers, S. A., Beer J. R., Boswell, A. C. S., Buggs, S. M., **Purtell, R. E.**, Ritter, B. R., Taylor, C., Trump, C. S., II, Varner, D. N., Wagner, C. A., & Winner, M. P. (2021). Mentoring as an alternative motive for college student communication with their instructors. In D. Trebing & A. Atay (Eds.), *Mentoring and communication: Theories and practices* (pp. 203–224). Peter Lang.

REFEREED CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Purtell, R. E., & Kunkle, C. E. (2023, March 29–April 2). *Implicit and Explicit Bias Towards Black and White Transgender and Cisgender Men*. [Paper presentation]. Voices of Diversity Competitive Paper Panel, Eastern Communication Association 114th Annual Convention, Baltimore, MD.

Purtell, R. E. (2023, March 29–April 2). *Berg's (2011) Intergroup Perspective on Dissent*. [Panel presentation]. Innovative Ways to Study Organizational (and Instructional) Dissent, Eastern Communication Association 114th Annual Convention, Baltimore, MD.

Purtell, R. E., & Dillow, M. R. (2022, November 17–20). *Communication Privacy Management and Messages about Sex Safety in Extradyadic Sexual Encounters in Consensually Non-monogamous Partnerships*. [Paper presentation]. Sex and Communication, National Communication Association 108th Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA.

Purtell, R. E. (2022, November 17–20). *Intellectually Stimulating Queer and Performative Theories Through Media Interaction*. [G.I.F.T.S.]. Great Ideas on Teaching Students (G.I.F.T.S) Session IV), National Communication Association 108th Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA.

Purtell, R. E., Ray, T., & Myers, S. A. (2022, April 7–9). *Upward dissent as an employee response to workplace sexual harassment*. [Paper presentation]. **Top Papers in Organizational Communication**, Eastern Communication Association 113th Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA.

Purtell, R. E., & Martin, M. M. (2022, April 7–9). *Memorable messages about inclusivity of students with SEND from teachers in secondary schools*. [Paper presentation]. Instructional Communication Division, Eastern Communication Association 113th Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA.

Purtell, R. E., & Kang, K. K., (2021, November 17–21). *The corporate social responsibility of Fortune 500 companies to Black Lives Matter: Strategic responses on Instagram*. [Paper presentation]. Organizational Communication Division, National Communication Association 107th Annual Convention, Seattle, WV.

Rittenour, C. E., **Purtell, R. E.**, & Shelton, E. E., (2020, November 19–22). *Memorable family messages about difference*. [Paper presentation]. Family Communication Division, National Communication Association 106th Annual Convention, Indianapolis, IN.

Purtell, R. E., Varner, D. N., Trump II, C. S., & Taylor, C. D. (2020, April 1–5). *Predicting college students' intention to register to vote locally: An application of the theory of planned behavior*. [Panel presentation]. Theory and Methodology Division, Eastern Communication Association 111th Annual Convention, Baltimore, MD. (Conference canceled)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 08/2019 – Present: *Graduate Teaching Assistant*
Department of Communication Studies
West Virginia University
- 01/2018 – 05/2019: *Editor-in-Chief*
The New Paltz Oracle
State University of New York at New Paltz
- 06/2018 – 05/2019: *Closed Captioning Editor*
Information Technology Services
State University of New York at New Paltz
- 02/2017 – 07/2018: *Finance and Public Relations Intern*
Jeff Beals for Congress
New York's 19th Congressional District
- 05/2017 – 05/2018: *Student Brand Ambassador*
Perch'n
Online Student Housing Listing Service
- 12/2016 – 02/2017: *Public Relations Intern*
Step One Creative
Oswego, NY
- 05/2016 – 08/2016: *Public Relations Intern*
PEACE Inc. Headquarters
Syracuse, NY

TEACHING INTERESTS

My current undergraduate teaching interests are in communication theory, intercultural communication, interpersonal communication, communication and race, gender communication, and organizational communication.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

West Virginia University (2020–Present)

Course Administrator

COMM 306 – Organizational Communication

Course administrator duties included updating course materials (i.e., lectures, exams) according to the most recent edition of the textbook employed by my department for all sections and curating class assignments, activities, and examples that related the course content to current events and contemporary organizational issues.

Primary Instructor (Instructor of Record)

COMM 203 – Communication Theory

This course serves as an introduction to the study and application of communication. Students learn how to employ and evaluate communication theories, perspectives, and concepts; identify the functions and purposes of communication theory; and identify and describe the central premise, scope conditions, and tenets of various intrapersonal, interpersonal, group and organizational, media, and public communication theories. Students also gain the abilities to describe the role of research in theory development and testing and to critically analyze messages using theoretical concepts and ideas.

COMM 212 – Gender Communication

This course serves to examine the interplay of communication, gender, and culture, their influence on one another and the theoretical approaches to gender development. This course addresses the influence of gender and communication in various contexts including organizations, interpersonal relationships, the media, and society at large. Students are empowered to make informed decisions about how we personally enact out gender, address gender issues in our lives, and contribute to society's attitudes, policies, and perspectives on gender.

COMM 303 – Business & Professional Communication

This course serves to increase students' communication skills within business and professional settings. Students gain an in-depth understanding of the theories and concepts that inform professional communication; practice real-life communication skills critical to success in business and employment; apply communication theory and practice in the public speaking context, with emphasis on audience analysis, speaker delivery, communication ethics, cultural diversity, and speech organizational techniques.

COMM 306 – Organizational Communication

This course serves as instruction on the role that culture plays in organizations with adaptation of students' communication to be successful; understand appropriate and effective communication in the superior-subordinate relationship; evaluate organizational problems with strong communication strategies and the impact of organizational structure on communication.

COMM 404 – Persuasion

Examines the communicative processes of persuasion, compliance, and social influence and their ability to change, reinforce, or shape attitudes, beliefs, and

behaviors. Evaluates informal and formal persuasive messages with a focus on the critical consumption and evaluation of successful and unsuccessful persuasive communication across various communicative channels.

Teaching Assistant

COMM 203 – Communication Theory
PUBH 693C – Dismantling Structural Racism in Public Health
COMM 104 – Public Communication
COMM 100 – Principles of Human Communication
COMM 306 – Organizational Communication

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Purtell, R. E. (2023). *Race, gender, and sexuality in relationships*. COMM722: Dark Side of Interpersonal Communication, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV.

Purtell, R. E. (2023). *Honoring diversity series: Overlooked forms of racism at predominantly white institutions*. Honors College, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV.

Purtell, R. E. (2022). *Anti-racism series: Overlooked forms of racism at predominantly white institutions*. Honors College, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV.

Purtell, R. E. (2022). *Uses and gratifications theory*. COMM203: Communication Theory, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV.

Gladstone, M. **Purtell, R. E.**, Oldham, L., & Godwin, W. (2022). *Strengthening social justice solidarity: How to handle... Microaggression mishaps*. Activism Work Worth Doing, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV.

Gladstone, M. **Purtell, R. E.**, Oldham, L., & Godwin, W. (2022). *Strengthening social justice solidarity: White silence*. Activism Work Worth Doing, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV.

Purtell, R. E. (2022). *Race, gender, and sexuality in relationships*. COMM702: Advanced Interpersonal Communication, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV.

Gladstone, M. **Purtell, R. E.**, Oldham, L., & Godwin, W. (2022). *Making mistakes and receiving feedback*. Activism Work Worth Doing, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV.

Purtell, R. E. (2021). *Classroom management for graduate teaching assistants*. COMM796: Graduate Seminar, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV.

Rittenour, C. E. & **Purtell, R. E.** (2021). *Challenging conversations in the classroom*. New Graduate Student Orientation, Department of Communication Studies, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV.

Purtell, R. E., Robey, C., Ray, T., Butcher, M. D., Finch, E., Austin, E. T., & Rittenour, C. E. (2021). *Awareness & advocacy of intersectional identities in JEDI service*.

Department of Communication Studies Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
Committee, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV.

Purtell, R. E. (2021). *Addressing racism embedded in organizational culture*. PUBH693C:
Dismantling Structural Racism in Public Health, West Virginia University, Morgantown,
WV.

HONORS & AWARDS

- 2023 Dissertation Grant (\$800), Eberly College of Arts & Sciences, West Virginia University
- 2023 Polyamory Foundation Grant (\$4,000), Polyamory Foundation
- 2022 Student Caucus Travel Grant (\$200), National Communication Association
- 2022 Renee Kisner Doctoral Student Collegiality Award, Department of Communication
Studies, West Virginia University
- 2022 Top Paper, Organizational Communication Division, Eastern Communication
Association 113th Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA
- 2021 Student Caucus Travel Grant (\$300), National Communication Association
- 2019 Presidential Award in Communication Studies, Department of Communication Studies,
State University of New York at New Paltz
- 2019 Distinguished Senior in Student Affairs, Center for Student Media, State University of
New York at New Paltz
- 2019 Excellent Student in Psychology Award, Department of Psychology, State University of
New York at New Paltz
- 2018 Michelle Vargas-Robin Memorial Award, Department of Athletics, State University of
New York at New Paltz

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Research Training

- 2021 Qualitative Research Workshop (3 hours): Eastern Communication Association;
Instructor: Sarah J. Tracy, Arizona State University
- 2020 Graduate Student Library Immersion Program (24 hours): WVU Libraries; Instructor:
Alyssa Wright, West Virginia University

Quantitative Methodology Training

- 2023 Path Analysis with Interactions and Indirect Effects in Mplus (12 hours): Instats;
Instructor: Michael Zyphur, University of Queensland
- 2022 Mplus From Scratch (6 hours): Quantfish; Instructor: Christian Geiser, Utah State
University
- 2021 Introduction to Structural Equation Modeling (24 hours): The Center for Statistical
Training by Curran-Bauer Analytics; Instructor: Dan J. Bauer, Patrick J. Curran,
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Diversity and Student Support Training

- 2022 At-Risk Mental Health for Faculty and Staff (1 hour): kognito; West Virginia University

- 2022 At-Risk Mental Health for Students (1 hour): kognito; West Virginia University
 2022 Antiracist Communication Pedagogy Badge (6 hours): SpeakWrite; West Virginia University
 2021 A Long Talk About an Uncomfortable Truth (6 hours): A Long Talk; West Virginia University
 2021 Transgender Safe Zone Training (2 hours): LGBTQ+ Center; West Virginia University
 2021 LGBTQ+ Safe Zone Training (2 hours): LGBTQ+ Center; West Virginia University
 2020 Transitioning 101 (2 hours): The WVU School of Medicine Surgical Interest Group with the Student Healthcare Alliance for Promoting Equality; Instructor: WVU Surgical Interest Group, West Virginia University

Other

- 2021 Educators Designing Great Experiences (EDGE) Institute (10 hours): West Virginia University Teaching and Learning Commons; Instructor: Eric Lemley, West Virginia University
 2021 Education as Regenerative Space: The First Annual Thought Leadership Webinar (1.5 hours): The Community of Practice at Harvard Human Flourishing Program, Harvard University

GRADUATE COURSES COMPLETED

West Virginia University (2019–Present)

COMM511	Research Methods for Non-Profit Organizations
COMM601	Instructional Communication
COMM602	Interpersonal Communication
COMM606	Theory and Research in Organizational Communication
COMM611	Intergroup Communication
COMM629	Health Communication
COMM645	Masspersonal Communication
COMM691A	Graduate Studies in Communication
COMM693A	Institutional Dissent
COMM693B	Workplace Relationships
COMM693D	Family Differences
COMM693E	Darkside of Family Communication
COMM697	Thesis Research
COMM700	Survey of Human Communication Theory
COMM701	Graduate Research Methods
COMM702	Advanced Interpersonal Communication
COMM706	Advanced Organizational Communication
COMM711	Advanced Seminar in Research Methods
COMM712	Communication Measurement
COMM722	Dark Side of Interpersonal Communication
COMM790	Teaching Practicum
COMM794B	Personality
COMM796	Graduate Seminar
COMM797	Dissertation Research

EDP613	Statistical Methods 1
EDP614	Statistical Methods 2
EDP618	Mixing Methodologies
GRAD693A	Teaching Different Cultures
PUBH693C	Dismantling Structural Racism in Public Health
SOC728	Content Analysis

SERVICE

Service to the Discipline

American Psychological Association Division 44 Committee on Consensual Non-Monogamy

Graduate Research and Leadership Assistant (2022–present)

National Communication Association

Convention Volunteer (2022)

Paper Reviewer, Organizational Communication Division (2022)

Paper Reviewer, Student Section (2022)

Panel Chair, Organizational Communication Division (2022)

Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access Committee (2022)

Convention Volunteer (2021)

Eastern Communication Association

Assistant Program Planner, Undergraduate Scholars Conference (2023)

Panel Respondent, Undergraduate Scholars Conference (2023)

Panel Chair, Organization Communication Division (2023)

Vice Chair, Organizational Communication Division (2023)

Executive Council Representative, Organizational Communication Division (2023)

Paper Reviewer, Organizational Communication Division (2023)

Panel Reviewer, Organizational Communication Division (2023)

Panel Chair, Organizational Communication Division (2023)

Vice Chair, Organizational Communication Division (2022)

Executive Council Representative, Organizational Communication Division (2022)

Paper Reviewer, Organizational Communications Division (2022)

Paper Reviewer, Undergraduate Scholars Conference (2022)

Panel Chair, Organizational Communication Division (2022)

Executive Council Representative, Organizational Communication Division (2021)

Journal of Family Communication

Invited Reviewer, Editor: Scott A. Myers (2022–present)

Editorial Assistant, Editor: Scott A. Myers (2020–present)

Service to the University, College, & Department

West Virginia University

Student Leader, Activism Work Worth Doing (2021–present)

Student Leader, Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee (2021–present)

School of Public Health Diversity Task Force (2021–present)

Service to the Community

New Paltz, New York

Athletes Together (2017–2019)

Adopt A Family (2015–2018)

It's On Us (2015–2018)

Awareness for Suicide Prevention and Support (2015–2018)

Morgantown, West Virginia

Grant Research for Mountaineer United Soccer Club (2020)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Eastern Communication Association (Lifetime Member)

Interpersonal Communication Interest Group

Organizational Communication Interest Group

National Communication Association

Women's Caucus

Interpersonal Communication Division

Organizational Communication Division