

MOLLIE K. MURPHY

Pronouns: she/her/hers

Curriculum Vitae

Updated January 2025

Department of Communication Studies and Philosophy
Utah State University
Logan, UT 84321
mollie.murphy@usu.edu

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Communication Studies (Rhetoric), University of Georgia, Athens, 2018
- M.A. Communication Studies (Rhetoric), University of Montana, Missoula, 2014
Graduate Certificate in Women's and Gender Studies
- B.A. Communication Studies (with honors), University of Montana, Missoula, 2012
Minors in Women's and Gender Studies and Human and Family Development

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2024 – **Associate Professor**, Utah State University (with tenure)
Department of Communication Studies and Philosophy
- 2022 – 2024 **Director of Graduate Studies**, Utah State University
Communication Studies Master's Program
- 2018 – 2024 **Assistant Professor**, Utah State University
Department of Communication Studies and Philosophy
- 2017 – 2018 **Adjunct Instructor**, Utah State University
Department of Languages, Philosophy, and Communication Studies
- 2014 – 2017 **Graduate Instructor**, University of Georgia
Department of Communication Studies
- 2012 – 2014 **Graduate Instructor**, University of Montana
Department of Communication Studies

PUBLICATIONS

*Indicates student author

Refereed Articles

- Murphy, Mollie K. "Sublime Wonder: Rachel Carson, Nature Writing, and Human-Nature Connection." *Western Journal of Communication* published online (awaiting issue assignment).
<https://doi.org/10.1080/10570314.2024.2366213>

- Murphy, Mollie K. "Reconsidering the Role of Scientific Research in Anti-Toxics Rhetoric through Perspective by Incongruity." *Western Journal of Communication* 87, no. 3 (2023): 489-507.
- Murphy, Mollie K. "Granting Standpoint as a Strategy for Promoting Social Justice Activism: An Analysis of Dolores Huerta's Rhetoric." *Southern Communication Journal* 87, no. 5 (2022): 476-487.
- Murphy, Mollie K., and John S. Seiter. "'An Orangutan Stole My Homework': Using NPR's 'Bluff the Listener' to Introduce Narrative Rationality." *Communication Teacher* 36, no. 4 (2022): 301-306.
- Murphy, Mollie K., Mehmet Soyer, Sebahattin Ziyanak, and Taya Godfrey*. "'That's Where Our Income Comes From': Women's Perceptions of Links Between Reproductive Struggles and Hydraulic Fracturing." *Frontiers in Sociology* (Gender, Sex and Sexualities section) 6, (2021): 1-4.
- Murphy, Mollie K., Mehmet Soyer, and Marisela Martinez-Cola. "Fostering 'Brave Spaces' for Exploring Perceptions of Marginalized Groups through Reflexive Writing." *Communication Teacher* 35, no. 1 (2021): 7-11.
- Murphy, Mollie K. "Maternal Dissent in Mainstream News: 'Peace Mom' Confronts the Nation's Strict Father." *Women's Studies in Communication* 43, no. 1 (2020): 23-44.
- Murphy, Mollie K. "'We Are Seneca Lake': Defining the Substances of Sustainable and Extractive Economics through Anti-Fracking Activism." *Frontiers in Communication* (Science and Environmental Communication section) 5, (2020): 1-12.
- Soyer, Mehmet, **Mollie Murphy**, Sebahattin Ziyanak, and Cassidy Gummersall*. "'Old Town Dentonites': Community Members' Competing Constructions of Hydraulic Fracturing and Land Use in Denton, Texas." *The Extractive Industries and Society* 6, no. 4 (2019): 1333-1339.
- Murphy, Mollie K. "Scientific Argument Without a Scientific Consensus: Rachel Carson's Rhetorical Strategies in the *Silent Spring* Debates." *Argumentation and Advocacy* 55, no. 3 (2019): 194-210.
- Murphy, Mollie K., and Tina M. Harris. "White Innocence and Black Subsistence: The Rhetoric of White Heroism in *The Help*." *Howard Journal of Communications* 29, no. 1 (2018): 49-62.
Excerpts reprinted in Kornfield, Sarah. *Contemporary Rhetorical Criticism*. State College, PA: Strata Publishing, Inc., 2021.
- Murphy, Mollie K. "What's in the World Is in the Womb: Converging Environmental and Reproductive Justice through Synecdoche." *Women's Studies in Communication* 40, no. 2 (2017): 155-171. **Lead article.**

Scholarly Book Chapters

- Murphy, Mollie K. "Celebratizing Activism: Mainstream Media Coverage of Jane Fonda's 'Fire Drill Fridays,'" In *Intersectional Change-Makers in Environmental Activism*, edited by Emma Frances Bloomfield and José Castro-Sotomayor, East Lansing, MI: Michigan State University Press. (forthcoming)

Murphy, Mollie K. "The Limitations of (Privileged) Maternal Appeals: Sandra Steingraber's Constructions of Mothering in a Toxic Environment." In *Refiguring Motherhood Beyond Biology*, edited by Valerie R. Renegar and Kirsti Cole, 108-119, New York, NY: Routledge, 2023.

Peebles, Jennifer, and **Mollie Murphy**. "Discourse and Rhetorical Analysis Approaches to Environment, Media, and Communication." In *The Routledge Handbook of Environment and Communication* (2nd Edition), edited by Anders Hansen and Robert Cox, 50-62, New York, NY: Routledge, 2023.

Murphy, Mollie. "Civil Disobedience in Anti-Fracking Activism: Sandra Steingraber's Ironic Constructions of Incarceration." In *Sociological Studies of Environmental Conflict*, edited by Sebahattin Ziyanak, Mehmet Soyer, and Dian Jordan-Werhane, 7-20, Lanham, MD: Hamilton Books, 2020.

Harris, Tina M., and **Mollie Murphy**. "Race/Ethnicity in the Classroom." In *The Handbook of Instructional Communication: Rhetorical and Relational Perspectives* (2nd Edition), edited by Marian L. Houser and Angela M. Hosek, 158-169. New York, NY: Routledge, 2018.

Invited Non-Refereed Publications

Murphy, Mollie K. "A Surprising and Important Reason to Protect Public Lands: The (Sustainable) Economic Benefits," Environmental Communication Division of the National Communication Association Blog Series, October 21, 2021
<https://sites.google.com/view/ecdnca/blog#h.in5ohbkmzqbp>

Works in Progress

Murphy, Mollie K. "Emotion as Motive: Aligning Hope and Action in Jane Goodall's Climate Rhetoric," under review.

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2023 Graduate Faculty Mentor of the Year, Department of Communication Studies and Philosophy, Utah State University
 Researcher of the Year, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Utah State University
- 2022 Researcher of the Year, Department of Communication Studies and Philosophy, Utah State University
- 2020 Top Paper Panel, National Communication Association, Environmental Communication Division
- 2019 Peak Summer Research Fellowship (to support mentorship of undergraduate research), Utah State University (\$1,000)
- 2018 Creative Activity and Research Enhancement Award, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Utah State University (\$2,000)

Undergraduate Faculty Mentor of the Year, Department of Languages, Philosophy, and Communication Studies, Utah State University

- 2017 Top Paper Panel, National Communication Association, Feminist and Women's Studies Division

Jerold L. Hale Graduate Student Service Award, Department of Communication Studies, University of Georgia

- 2016 Top Paper Panel and Overall Top Student Paper, National Communication Association, Kenneth Burke Society

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Competitively Selected Manuscripts

- 2023 Murphy, Mollie K. "Jane Fonda's Climate Activism: Accessing a Transcendent Vision of Society through Secular Conversion," National Communication Association, Activism and Social Justice Division, National Harbor, MD.

Seiter, Christian, John S. Seiter, and **Mollie K. Murphy**. "Metaphors We Play By: A Card Game to Teach the Power of Figurative Language," National Communication Association, Great Ideas for Teaching Students (G.I.F.T.S.), National Harbor, MD.

- 2021 Murphy, Mollie K. "The Limitations of (Privileged) Maternal Appeals: Sandra Steingraber's Constructions of Mothering in a Toxic Environment," National Communication Association, Feminist and Gender Studies Division, Seattle, WA.

Murphy, Mollie K., and John S. Seiter. "Using NPR's 'Bluff the Listener' to Teach the Narrative Paradigm," International Communication Association, Instructional and Developmental Communication Division, virtual conference.

- 2020 Murphy, Mollie K. "Cultivating a (Feminine) Sublime Sense of Wonder: Rachel Carson's Environmental Pedagogy," National Communication Association, Environmental Communication Division, virtual conference. ***Top Paper Panel**

Murphy, Mollie K. "Standpoint and *Êthos* in the United Farm Workers Movement: Collectivizing Activists Through Shared Epistemology," National Communication Association, Activism and Social Justice Division, virtual conference.

- 2018 Murphy, Mollie K. "When Science Becomes Personal: Negotiating Incompatible Knowledges Through Perspective By (In)Congruity," National Communication Association, Environmental Communication Division, Salt Lake City, UT.

Murphy, Mollie K. "(Re)Contextualizing Activist *Êthos*: Challenging the Status Quo, Reinforcing its Metaphors," National Communication Association, Activism and Social Justice Division, Salt Lake City, UT.

- 2017 Murphy, Mollie K. "Containing Anti-War Protest: Cindy Sheehan Confronts the Nation's Strict Father," National Communication Association, Feminist and Women's Studies Division, Dallas, TX. ***Top Paper Panel**
- Murphy, Mollie K. "Scientific Argument Without a Scientific Consensus: Rachel Carson's Rhetorical Strategies in the *Silent Spring* Debates," National Communication Association, Environment Communication Division, Dallas, TX.
- Murphy, Mollie K. "Gender, Sexuality, and Environmental Justice: Understanding the Intersectional Activism of 'Queers for the Climate,'" Southern States Communication Association, Gender Studies Division, Greenville, SC.
- 2016 Murphy, Mollie K. "Substantiating the Connection Between Humans and Nature through Anti-Fracking Civil Disobedience," National Communication Association, Kenneth Burke Society, Philadelphia, PA. ***Top Paper Panel and Top Student Paper**
- 2015 Murphy, Mollie K. "Environmental Toxins and the Polluted Maternal Body: Synecdoche as a Strategy for Rethinking Gendered Appeals," National Communication Association, Feminist and Women's Studies Division, Las Vegas, NV.
- Murphy, Mollie K. "'Everyone' for 'Climate Justice': The Post-Identity Rhetoric of the People's Climate March," National Communication Association, Rhetorical and Communication Theory Division, Las Vegas, NV.
- Murphy, Mollie K. "Crafting the 'Positive Woman': A Narrative Critique of Phyllis Schlafly's 1979 Speech Denouncing the Women's Movement," Southern States Communication Association, Gender Studies Division, Tampa, FL.
- 2014 Murphy, Mollie K. "Education, Activism, and Future Generations: Perspectives of Environmentally Conscious Parents," Northwest Communication Association, Environmental Communication Interest Group, Coeur d'Alene, ID.
- Murphy, Mollie K. "Science, Experience, and Synecdoche: Reconsidering Scientific and Experiential Knowledge Claims in Sandra Steingraber's *Having Faith: An Ecologist's Journey to Motherhood*," Western States Communication Association, Environmental Interest Group, Anaheim, CA.
- 2013 Murphy, Mollie K. "Convenient Truths: Links Between Parenting and the Environmental Crisis in Sandra Steingraber's *Raising Elijah: Protecting Our Children in an Age of Environmental Crisis*," Northwest Communication Association, Environmental Communication Interest Group, Coeur d'Alene, ID.
- Papers Presented as Part of a Competitively Selected Panel**
- 2022 Murphy, Mollie K. "Hope as Motive: Exploring the Emotive Directional Substance of Environmental Advocacy," National Communication Association, Activism and Social Justice Division, New Orleans, LA.

- 2021 Murphy, Mollie K. "Individualizing Activism: Mainstream Media Coverage of Jane Fonda's 'Fire Drill Fridays,'" Conference on Communication and the Environment, virtual conference.
- 2016 Murphy, Mollie K. "Understanding the White Savior in Film Through Kenneth Burke's Theory of Dramatism," National Communication Association, African American Communication and Culture Division, Philadelphia, PA.

Additional Project Presentations (abstract submitted)

- 2019 Gummersall, Cassidy, Mehmet Soyer, and **Mollie Murphy**. "Divisive Drilling: Community Members' Competing Constructions of Hydraulic Fracturing in Denton, Texas," Pacific Sociological Association, Environmental Sociology Division, Oakland, CA. (not in attendance)

Murphy, Mollie K. "Toward a 'Substantive' Human Economic Order," Future Memory Conference: Mapping the Anthropocene, Utah State University, Logan.

Soyer, Mehmet, **Mollie Murphy**, and Marisela Martinez-Cola, "Autoethnography: A Tool for Social Justice Learning," Teaching for Learning Conference, Utah State University, Logan.

- 2015 Murphy, Mollie K. "Fighting Fracking and Remembering Rachel Carson: Sandra Steingraber and the Rhetoric of Women's Anti-Toxics Activism," Women and Girls in Georgia Conference, University of Georgia, Athens.

Panels Organized

- 2022 "Honoring Liberation and Advocacy: Exploring Emotional Appeals in Activist Rhetorics," National Communication Association, Activism and Social Justice Division, New Orleans, LA.

Panel Respondent

- 2022 "Everything to Everyone: Examining Mothering through Activism, Mental Health, Neoliberalism, and Work," National Communication Association, Feminist and Gender Studies Division, New Orleans, LA.
- 2021 "(En)Gendering Renewal and Transformation in Environmental Communication," National Communication Association, Environmental Communication Division, Seattle, WA.

Panel Chair

- 2016 "Rhetoric and the New Materialism Turn in the Theoretical and Critical Humanities," National Communication Association, Rhetorical and Communication Theory Division, Philadelphia, PA.

CAMPUS AND DEPARTMENTAL PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 Invited guest speaker on gender, feminism, and sustainability, Student Organization for Sustainability and Natural Resources, Utah State University, Logan.

- 2019 Invited Speaker, “Poor Body Image and Disordered Eating: Structural Causes and Avenues for Change,” lecture to female student athletes, Utah State University, Logan.
- 2018 Organizer and Co-Facilitator (with Mehmet Soyer), “Strategies for Speaking Out Against Everyday Prejudice,” Inclusive Excellence Symposium, Utah State University, Logan.
- 2014 Colloquium Presentation, “‘It Was My Job to Keep My Children Safe’: Sandra Steingraber and the Parental Rhetoric of Precaution,” University of Montana, Missoula.

TEACHING

Courses Taught (*asynchronous online course; **online synchronous broadcast course; ***online asynchronous/synchronous hybrid course; unmarked classes taught face-to-face)

All courses taught as Instructor of Record unless otherwise noted.

Utah State University

Undergraduate Courses

Environmental Communication, 4 sections (Fall 2019; Spring 2021***; Spring 2022; Spring 2024)

Gender Communication, 8 sections (Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Summer 2019; Spring 2021***; Fall 2021; Spring 2022; Spring 2023; Fall 2023)

Communication Criticism, 4 sections (Spring 2018, Fall 2020*; Fall 2021; Fall 2023)

Interpersonal Communication, 6 sections (Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Summer 2018, Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2019)

Intercultural Communication, 1 section (Fall 2017)

Graduate Courses

Seminar in Rhetorical Criticism, 2 sections (Fall 2020**; Fall 2022)

Professional Development, 3 sections (Fall 2020**; Spring 2023; Spring 2024)

University of Georgia

Intro to Interpersonal Communication, 2 sections (Spring 2017)

Intro to Rhetorical Criticism, 1 section (Summer 2016)

Intro to Public Speaking, 10 sections (Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Summer 2015, Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2016, Summer 2017)

Intro to Public Speaking, Teaching Assistant, 4 breakout sections (Fall 2014, Spring 2015)

University of Montana

Public Speaking, 7 sections (Fall 2012, Winter 2013, Spring 2013, Fall 2013, Spring 2014)

Graduate Advising*Thesis Advisor*

Aubry Barnes, MA, Communication Studies, in progress (co-advisor with Jennifer Peoples)

Charlotte Williams, MA, Communication Studies, graduated Spring 2024

Thesis title: “The Rise and Fall of Elizabeth Holmes: Investigating Mythical Contexts in Media Coverage”

Jessica Marinho, MA, Communication Studies, graduated Spring 2023

Thesis title: “All Good Women are Mothers: Exploring Gender Binaries in *How I Met Your Mother*.”

Michala Zilkey, MA, Communication Studies, graduated Spring 2022

Thesis title: “The Personal is Still Political: An Analysis of Jessica Valenti’s Contemporary Feminine Style.” Presented at the National Communication Association Convention, 2022.

Shelby Crow, MA, Communication Studies, graduated Spring 2021

Thesis title: “The Rhetoric of the Double-Voice: Strategic Ambiguity in the Silent Protest Parade.” Project awarded **Top Student Paper Award** for National Communication Association’s African American Communication and Culture Division, 2021. **Revised thesis published in *Southern Communication Journal*.**

Committee Member

Kymerlie Crosby, MA, Communication Studies, graduated Spring 2024

MaKayla Lindsay, MA, Communication Studies, graduated Spring 2024

Sydney Berenyi, MA, Communication Studies, graduated Spring 2023

Marissa Sáez, MA, Communication Studies, graduated Spring 2023

Donald Owens, MA, Communication Studies, graduated Spring 2022

Christian Lippert, MA, Communication Studies, graduated Spring 2021

Invited Guest Lectures

Seminar in Reproductive Justice, Dr. Emily Winderman, University of Minnesota, Spring 2022

Additional Pedagogical Activities

Honors Book Lab Co-Facilitator (with Mehmet Soyer), Utah State University, Spring 2021

SERVICES TO THE DISCIPLINE

Member, Editorial Review Board, *Women & Language* (2022-present)

Book Proposal Reviewer, Rowman and Littlefield (2024 x1)

Ad-hoc Reviewer, *Southern Communication Journal* (2024 x1)

Ad-hoc Reviewer, *Environmental Politics* (2024 x1)

Ad-hoc Reviewer, *Argumentation and Advocacy* (2022 x1; 2024 x2)

Ad-hoc Reviewer, *Frontiers in Communication* (2023 x1)

Ad-hoc Reviewer, *European Journal of Cultural Studies* (2022 x1; 2023 x1)

Ad-hoc Reviewer, *Women’s Studies in Communication* (2019 x1; 2023 x1)

Ad-hoc Reviewer, *Environmental Communication* (2022 x1)

Ad-hoc Reviewer, *Kentucky Journal of Communication* (2021 x1)

Ad-hoc Reviewer, *Women & Language* (2020 x1)

Environmental Communication Awards Committee, National Communication Association (2024)

Reviewer for National Communication Association

Environmental Communication (2021, 2022, 2023, 2024)

Rhetorical and Communication Theory (2017, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023)

Activism and Social Justice (2022)

Feminist and Gender Studies (2018, 2019, 2022)

Public Address (2016)

Reviewer for International Communication Association

Instructional and Developmental Communication Division (2020)

SERVICES TO THE UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENT

Utah State University

Admissions Application Reviewer, Utah State University Honors College (Spring 2024)

College of Humanities and Social Sciences Awards Committee (Spring 2024)

Search Committee Member, Department Head, Communication Studies and Philosophy (Fall 2023)

Moderator, graduate research panels at the Communication Studies and Philosophy Research Symposium (Spring 2023)

Search Committee Member, Staff Assistant, Communication Studies and Philosophy (Fall 2022)

Moderator, “Communication, Social Justice, and the Environment” panel at Student Research Symposium, Department of World Languages and Cultures & Department of Communication Studies and Philosophy (Spring 2022)

Search Committee Member, Assistant Professor, Communication Studies (Spring 2022)

Member, Communication Studies Curriculum Committee (Spring 2022)

Application Reviewer for Hubbard Scholarship, College of Humanities and Social Sciences (Spring 2019, Spring 2020, Spring 2021, Spring 2022)

Member, M.A. Handbook and Assessment Committee for Communication Studies (Fall 2021)

Member, Anti-Oppression Committee, College of Humanities and Social Sciences (Spring 2018-Spring 2021)

Moderator, “Explorations of Communication and Relationships: Gender, the Environment, and Romantic/Sexual Partnerships” panel at Student Research Symposium, Department of Languages, Philosophy, and Communication Studies (Spring 2021)

Application Reviewer for Jessie and Jared Richards Scholarship, College of Humanities and Social Sciences (Spring 2019, Spring 2021)

Application Reviewer for Seibert Family Scholarship, College of Humanities and Social Sciences (Spring 2021)

Search Committee Member, Department Head, Communication Studies and Philosophy (Spring 2021)

Invited Public Speaking Competition Judge (Spring 2018, Fall 2020)

Member, Sustainability Working Group, College of Humanities and Social Sciences (Fall 2019-Spring 2020)

Search Committee Member, Post-Doctoral Teaching Fellow, Communication Studies (Spring 2020)

Member, Languages, Philosophy, and Communication Studies Departmental Awards Committee (Fall 2019)

“Mock Networking” Event Guest, Center for Women and Gender Women’s Leadership Initiative (Spring 2019)

Discussant, “Effective Communication,” Center for Women and Gender’s Women’s Leadership Initiative (Spring 2019)

Moderator, “Criticism and Visual Rhetoric” panel at Student Research Symposium, Department of Languages, Philosophy, and Communication Studies (Spring 2018)

University of Georgia

Co-Chair, Student Committee for Graduate Program Recruitment (Fall 2016 – Spring 2017)

Treasurer, Communication Studies Graduate Forum (Fall 2015 – Spring 2016)

Public Speaking Competition Judge/Volunteer (Fall 2014, Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2016, Spring 2017)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

National Communication Association (2015-Present)