

Margaret Bennett-Brown, PhD

margaretbennettphd@gmail.com

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. 2019 Department of Communication, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT
Interpersonal Communication Emphasis
- M.A. 2015 Department of Communication, University of Missouri- St. Louis, St. Louis, MO.
Mass Communication Emphasis
- B.A. 2013 Department of Communication, Truman State University, Kirksville, MO.
Minor: Sociology

ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, *The Kinsey Institute at Indiana University, 2021- Present*
Undergraduate and Graduate Instructor, *Texas Tech University, 2020- Present*
Visiting Assistant Professor, *University of the Pacific, 2019- 2020*

Additional Positions Held Prior to PhD Completion

Summer Instructor, *University of Connecticut, 2017-2019*
Graduate Teaching Assistant, *University of Connecticut, 2015-2019*
Graduate Student Affiliate, *Institute for Collaboration on Health, Intervention, and Policy, University of Connecticut, 2016-2019*
Graduate Student Affiliate, *Center for the Study of Interpersonal Acceptance & Rejection, University of Connecticut, 2016-2019*
Adjunct Faculty, *University of Missouri-St. Louis, 2015*
Graduate Teaching Assistant, *University of Missouri- St. Louis, 2014-2015*

PUBLICATIONS

Articles and Chapters in Press and Under Review

- Bennett-Brown, M.** & Denes, A. (under review) Testing the communication during sexual activity model: An examination of personality characteristics and their relationship with sexual communication outcomes. *Communication Research*.
- Winkler, K.L., Denes, A., Crowley, J.P, **Bennett-Brown, M.**, Dhillon, A , Ponivas, A.L.P.(under review). Further understanding benevolent sexism and rape myth acceptance: Is testosterone to blame? *Sex Roles*.
- Denes, A., Crowley, J., Dhillon, A., **Bennett-Brown, M.**, Stebbins, J.L., & Granger, S.W (in

- press). Exploring the role of oxytocin in communication processes: A test of the post sex disclosures model. *Communication Monographs*.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/03637751.2021.1957490>
- Denes, A., Crowley, J.P., & **Bennett, M.** (2020). Between the sheets: Investigating young adults' communication during sexual activity. *Personal Relationships*.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/per.12324>
- Dhillon, A., Denes, A., Crowley, J.P., Ponivas, A.L.P., Winkler, K.L., & **Bennett, M.** (2020). Does testosterone influence young adult romantic partners' accommodation during conversations about stressors? *Human Communication Research*.
<https://doi.org/10.1093/hcr/hqaa008>
- Denes, A., **Bennett, M.**, & DelGreco, M. (2020). Sexual communication and biology. In R. Weber & K. Floyd (Eds.), *Handbook of communication science and biology*. New York, NY: Routledge.
- Denes, A., Crowley, J.P., Winkler, K.L., Dhillon, A., Ponivas, A.L.P., & **Bennett, M.** (2020). Exploring the effect of pillow talk on physiological stress responses to couples' difficult conversations. *Communication Monographs*. doi: 10.1080/03637751.2020.1726424
- Bennett, M.**, LoPresti, B.J., & Denes, A. (2019). Exploring trait affectionate communication and post sex communication as mediators of the association between attachment and sexual satisfaction. *Personality & Individual Differences*.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.paid.2019.109505>
- Denes, A., & **Bennett, M.** (2019). Pillow talk. In J.J. Ponzetti (Ed.), *Macmillan encyclopedia of intimate and family relationships: An interdisciplinary approach*. New York, NY: Macmillan Reference USA.
- Denes, A., Horan, S.M., & **Bennett, M.** (2019). "Faking it" as deceptive affection: Exploring the authenticity of orgasm and relational quality indicators. *Personality & Individual Differences*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.paid.2019.06.013>
- Bennett, M.**, LoPresti, B.J., McGloin, R., & Denes, A. (2019). The desire for porn and partner?: Investigating the role of scripts in affectionate communication, sexual desire, and pornography consumption and guilt in young adults' romantic relationships. *Western Journal of Communication*. doi: 10.1080/10570314.2018.1564934
- Bennett, M.** & Denes, A. (2019). Lying in bed: An analysis of deceptive affectionate messages in casual romantic relationships. *Communication Quarterly*. doi: 10.1080/01463373.2018.1557722
- Denes, A., **Bennett, M.**, & Winkler, K.L. (2017). Exploring the benefits of affectionate communication: Implications for interpersonal acceptance-rejection theory. *Journal of Family Theory & Review*, 9, 491-506. doi: 10.1111/jftr.12218

Manuscripts in Progress

Bennett-Brown, M. (in progress). Promoting sexual communication within romantic relationships: An exploratory study testing a sexual communication intervention among young adults. Status: manuscript complete; making final edits before submission.

Bennett-Brown, M. & Denes, A.(in progress) The construction and validation of the communication during sexual activity scale. Status: manuscript complete; making final edits before submission.

Denes, A, Crowley, J.P., Dhillon, A., Ponivas, A., **Bennett-Brown, M.**, & Winkler, K.L., (in progress). Does increasing post sex communication influence satisfaction, distress, and communication about stressors? A test of the theory of resilience and relational load. Status: Manuscript complete; making final edits before submission.

Denes, A., Crowley, J.P, **Bennett-Brown, M.**, Winkler, K.L., Ponivas, A., & Dhillon, A. (in progress). Do genetics influence sexual communication? Investigating the role of OXTR and pillow talk in sexual self-disclosure and satisfaction. Status: Data collection complete; data analysis and manuscript preparation underway.

LoPresti, B.J. & **Bennett-Brown, M.** (in progress). Me, myself, and I (in bed): Analyzing the dimensions of sexual narcissism in relation to personality traits and predictions on sexual and relational satisfaction. Status: Manuscript preparation and data analysis underway.

Bennett-Brown, M., LoPresti, B.J., & Denes, A. (in progress) Is now the time? : An examination of themes in negatively valenced post-sex disclosures. Status: Code book being developed, recruiting coders.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

*(*signifies top paper)*

Bennett-Brown, M. (2021, November). “We did not agree on what we were okay with doing”: Analyzing qualitative responses on negatively valenced talk during sexual activity among young adults. Paper to be presented at the annual meeting of The Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality in San Juan, PR.

Bennett-Brown, M. & LoPresti, B.J. (2021, November). Exploring pornography involvement: The influence of empathy, identification, and hostile sexist attitudes on one’s likelihood to consume hostile pornography amongst young adult pornography consumers. To be presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association in Seattle, WA.

* Denes, A., Crowley, J., Dhillon, A., **Bennett, M.**, Stebbins, J.L., & Granger, S.W (2021, May). *Exploring the role of oxytocin in communication processes: A test of the post sex disclosures model.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the International

Communication Association (online conference due to COVID-19). **Top 4 Paper- Interpersonal Communication Division.**

Bennett, M. (2020, November). *Pain does not mean less pleasure : An examination of bleeding and discomfort during sexual activity and its relationships with sexual satisfaction and communication.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of The Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality in New Orleans, LA (online conference due to COVID-19).

Bennett, M. (2020, November). *The construction and validation of the communication during sexual activity scale (CDSAS).* Paper presented at the annual meeting of The Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality in New Orleans, LA (online conference due to COVID-19).

Bennett, M. (2020, November). *Promoting sexual communication within romantic relationships: An exploratory study testing a sexual communication intervention among young adults.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association in Indianapolis, IN (online conference due to COVID-19).

Bennett, M. (2019, November). *“This feels so good!”: A qualitative examination of communication during sexual activity.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of The Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality in Denver, CO.

Bennett, M. & LoPresti, B.J. (2019, November). *You’re darn tootin’!: Connecting “potty talk” to sexual communication and relational satisfaction among young adults in romantic relationships.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of The Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality in Denver, CO.

Bennett, M. (2019, November) *Communicating violations of genital expectations: Considering pornography’s influence through sexual scripts on expectancy violations theory in sexual communication.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association in Baltimore, MD.

Winkler, K.L., Denes, A., Crowley, J., **Bennett, M.**, Dhillon, A., & Ponivas, A. (2019, May). *Exploring links between testosterone, benevolent sexism, and rape myth acceptance.* Paper presented at the annual International Communication Association in Washington D.C.

Bennett, M. (2018, November) *Talk dirty to me: Developing a scale to analyze communication during sexual activity as related to sexual arousal & satisfaction.* Paper/Poster presented at the annual meeting of The Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality in Montreal, Canada.

Bennett, M., LoPresti, B.J., & Denes, A. (2018, November) *Is now the time :An examination of themes in negatively valenced post-sex disclosures.* Paper/Poster presented at the annual meeting of The Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality in Montreal, Canada.

- LoPresti, B.J. & **Bennett, M.** (2018, November). *Me, myself, and I (in bed): Analyzing the dimensions of sexual narcissism in relation to personality traits and predictions on sexual and relational satisfaction*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of The Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality in Montreal, Canada.
- Denes, A., Horan, S., & **Bennett, M.** (2018, November) *“Faking It” As deceptive affection: Exploring the authenticity of orgasm and relational quality indicators*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association in Salt Lake City, UT.
- Denes, A., Crowley, J.P., Winkler, K, Ponivas, A., Dhillon, A., & **Bennett, M.** (2018, May). *Exploring the effect of pillow talk on physiological stress responses to couples’ difficult conversations*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the International Communication Association in Prauge, Czech Republic.
- Denes, A., Crowley, J.P, **Bennett, M.**, Dhillon, A., Ponivas, A., & Winkler, K.L. (2018, February). *Do genetics interact with pillow talk to influence relational outcomes? Investigating the role of the oxytocin receptor gene in the post-sex communication process*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Western States Communication Association in Santa Clara, California.
- Bennett, M.**, LoPresti, B.J., McGloin, R., & Denes, A. (2017, November). *Pornography’s affect: Considering the influence of pornography on sexual desire and relationship satisfaction in emerging adults’ romantic relationships within the context of affectionate exchange theory*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association in Dallas, TX.
- Denes, A., Crowley, J.P., Winkler, K, Ponivas, A., **Bennett, M.**, & Dhillon, A. (2017, November). *Exploring links between conflict, cortisol, and salivary alpha amylase: A pillow talk experiment*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association in Dallas, TX.
- *Dhillon, A., Denes, A., Crowley, J.P., Ponivas, A., Winkler, K., & **Bennett, M.** (2017, November). *Does physiology influence accommodation and satisfaction during conflict?: Exploring the role of testosterone in couples’ conflict conversations*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association in Dallas, TX. **Top 2 Paper-Interpersonal Communication Division.**
- Bennett, M.** (2017, November). *Lying in bed: An analysis of deceptive affectionate messages in casual romantic relationships*. Paper/poster presented at the annual meeting of The Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality in Atlanta, GA.
- Bennett, M.**, LoPresti, B.J., & Denes, A. (2017, November). *Too attached to hostility: Examining the associations between attachment styles, trait hostility, hostile sexism, and pornography preferences*. Paper/poster presented at the annual meeting of The Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality in Atlanta, GA.

- Denes, A. Crowley, J.P., & **Bennett, M.** (2017, November). *Communication between the sheets: Investigating the associations among communication during sexual activity, orgasm, post sex communication, and relationship satisfaction*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of The Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality in Atlanta, GA.
- Denes, A., Crowley, J.P., Dhillon, A., Ponivas, A., **Bennett, M.**, & Winkler, K. (2017, May). *Does increasing post sex communication influence satisfaction, distress, and conflict in relationships?: A pillow talk intervention*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the International Communication Association in San Diego, CA.
- Denes, A. Crowley, J.P., & **Bennett, M.** (2017, May). *Communication between the sheets: Investigating the associations among communication during sexual activity, orgasm, post sex communication, and relationship satisfaction*. Paper/poster presented at the annual meeting of the International Communication Association in San Diego, CA.
- Denes, A., **Bennett, M.**, & K.L. Winker (2017, February). *Exploring the benefits of affectionate communication: Implications for interpersonal acceptance and rejection*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Cross-Cultural Research in New Orleans, LA.
- Denes, A., Crowley, J.P., Ponivas, A., Dhillon, A., Winkler, K.L., & **Bennett, M.** (2016, November). *Does pillow talk affect relationship satisfaction and physiological stress responses?: Preliminary results from the pillow talk experiment*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association in Philadelphia, PA.
- Bennett, M.** & Christensen, J. (2016, November) *"This is not how I imagined prison to be at all": An examination of orange is the new black and public policy support*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association in Philadelphia, PA.

TEACHING

**Texas Tech University
Lubbock, TX**

*Graduate Professional Communication in Health, Technology, and Science
(Spring 2021- online format)*

Instructor of Record

Responsibilities: Teach a graduate seminar on health communication and the role it plays in the fields of science and technology. Create syllabus and schedule. Grade all student work. Average enrollment = 14

Communication Theory

(Spring 2021 & Summer 2021- online format)

Instructor of Record

Responsibilities: Teach a course on basic principles and theories of the field of communication. Introduce students to the discipline of communication. Create syllabus and schedule. Facilitate discussion and active learning within the classroom. Grade all student work.

Average enrollment = 50

Communication in Nursing

(Fall 2020 & Spring 2021- online format)

Instructor of Record

Responsibilities: Teach a course on principles and theories of communication and their relationship to the field of nursing. Introduce students to skills for dealing with nursing-specific conflict with patients and physicians, develop therapeutic communication styles to address different ages and education levels of patients and their families, learn to craft effective messages, and manage crises. Create syllabus and schedule. Grade all student work. Average enrollment = 40

Communication in Healthcare

(Fall 2020, Summer 2021-online format, & Fall 2021-online format)

Instructor of Record

Responsibilities: Teach a course on principles and theories of health communication. Introduce students to health communication including background on language and theories from the health communication literature. Create syllabus and schedule. Grade all student work. Average enrollment = 30

Speaking for Business

(Fall 2020- online format)

Instructor of Record

Responsibilities: Teach a course designed to introduce basic skills, principles, and contexts of communication in business and professional settings with verbal and nonverbal elements of oral communication emphasized. Create syllabus and schedule. Grade all student work. Average enrollment = 20

**University of the Pacific
Stockton, CA**

Interpersonal Communication

(Fall 2019-large lecture format; Spring 2020-large lecture format; Summer 2020- online format)

Instructor of Record

Responsibilities: Teach a course on principles and theories of interpersonal communication. Introduce students to interpersonal communication including background on language and theories from the interpersonal literature. Create syllabus and schedule. Manage a team of 3-6 teaching assistants and design various activities and lectures for their discussion sections.

Average enrollment = 120

Human Communication Theory

(Fall 2019; Spring 2020)

Instructor of Record

Responsibilities: Teach a course on basic principles and theories of the field of communication. Introduce students to the discipline of communication. Create syllabus and schedule. Facilitate discussion and active learning within the classroom. Grade all student work.

Average enrollment = 25

Professional Communication & Professionalism

(Spring 2020)

Instructor of Record

Responsibilities: Teach an applied course on communication concepts in relation to communication careers. Assist students in career and graduate school searches. Schedule career service. Create syllabus and schedule. Facilitate discussion and active learning within the classroom. Grade all student work.

Average enrollment = 25

Introduction to Communication

(Spring 2020)

Instructor of Record

Responsibilities: Introduce students to the discipline of communication. Provide students with a basic knowledge of the communication department and faculty research conducted within the department. Create syllabus and schedule. Facilitate discussion and active learning within the classroom. Grade all student work.

Average enrollment = 25

First Year Pacific Writing Seminar

(Fall 2019)

Instructor of Record

Responsibilities: Teach a course to first-year students about reading, writing, and critical thinking. Grade all student work.

Average enrollment = 24

**University of Connecticut
Storrs, CT**

Advanced Interpersonal Communication

(Spring 2019)

Instructor of Record

Responsibilities: Teach a course on more advanced principles and theories of interpersonal communication. Provide detailed background on interpersonal communication research within the field and department. Facilitate conversation about interpersonal communication research. Introduce students to proposal writing and research design. Follow guidelines for writing-intensive course set by the university. Create new syllabus and schedule. Grade all student work.

Average enrollment = 19

Small Group Communication

(Summer 2017; Fall 2017)

Instructor of Record

Responsibilities: Follow guidelines for writing-intensive course set by the university. Teach a course on principles and theories of small group communication. Introduce students to small group communication including background and theories from the literature. Create syllabus and schedule. Grade all student work. Average enrollment = 19

Interpersonal Communication

(Spring 2017; Spring 2018; Summer 2018-online format; Fall 2018-large lecture format; Summer 2019- online format)

Instructor of Record

Responsibilities: Teach a course on principles and theories of interpersonal communication. Introduce students to interpersonal communication including background on language and theories from the interpersonal literature. Create syllabus and schedule based on previous semester. Grade all student work. Average enrollment = 40 (80 students for large lecture)

The Process of Communication

(Spring 2017)

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Responsibilities: Lead two weekly discussion sections examining foundational theories and concepts in communication. Attend bi-weekly lectures given by supervising instructor. Grade weekly participation, discussion challenges, pop quizzes, and paper assignments. Average enrollment (per discussion section) = 25

Interpersonal Communication

(Fall 2016; Spring 2019)

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Responsibilities: Lead four weekly discussion sections examining interpersonal communication. Attend bi-weekly lectures given by supervising instructor and weekly meetings with other teaching assistants to discuss weekly lesson plans. Grade weekly participation, monthly quizzes, and final papers. Average enrollment (per discussion section) = 25

Public Speaking

(Fall 2015; Spring 2016)

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Responsibilities: Lead three bi-weekly discussion sections examining the fundamentals of public speaking. Attend weekly lecture given by supervising instructor. Grade four speeches, two speech outlines, weekly participation feedback, and extra credit online speech activities. Average enrollment (per discussion section) = 25

**University of Missouri- St. Louis
St. Louis, MO**

Communication Theory

(Summer 2015)

Adjunct Lecturer/Instructor of Record

Responsibilities: Teach an online course on principles and theories in the field of Communication. Introduce students to the history and the language used in the field. Create

syllabus and schedule based on previous semester. Grade all student work. Average enrollment=30

Introduction to Mass Communication

(Spring 2015)

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Responsibilities: Aid professor in grading and classroom duties. Average enrollment = 25

Male & Female Communication

(Spring 2015)

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Responsibilities: Aid professor in grading and online classroom duties. Average enrollment = 25

Communication Research Methods

(Fall 2014)

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Responsibilities: Aid professor in grading and classroom duties. Average enrollment = 25

Media & Health Communication

(Fall 2014)

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Responsibilities: Aid professor in grading and classroom duties. Average enrollment = 25

SERVICE

Advising

MA Associate Advisor (Completed): *Micah Smith- Texas Tech University*

MA Associate Advisor (Current): *Kelly Hutchison- University of the Pacific*

Amber Mateer- University of the Pacific

Sonia Moore- Texas Tech University

National Communication Association

2021-Present, Health Communication Division Reviewer

2021-Present, Interpersonal Communication Division Reviewer

Alpha Sigma Alpha National Sexual Assault Prevention Program

2020-Present, Facilitator

Journal of Social and Personal Relationships

2019-Present, Reviewer

International Communication Association

2017-Present, Mass Communication Division Reviewer

2017-Present, Interpersonal Communication Division Reviewer

Health Studies Advisory Committee, University of the Pacific

2019-2020, Member

Center for Teaching and Learning Faculty Mentorship Program, University of the Pacific

2019-2020, Selected Mentee

Communication Graduate Student Association, University of Connecticut

2017-2018, Treasurer

Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly

2016-Present, Ad Hoc Reviewer

INVITED PRESENTATIONS, AWARDS, & CERTIFICATIONS

Top 4 Paper Panel- Interpersonal Communication Division

2021- International Communication Association

Institutional Review Board Human Research Protection Program

2020- Certified Participant at Texas Tech University

QPR Suicide Prevention Training

2020- Certified Participant at Texas Tech University

Interpersonal Communication & Survey Research

2019- Senior Capstone Course at University of the Pacific

Sexual Communication & Gender Lecture

2019- Gender & Communication Course at University of Connecticut

Communication Selected Research Lecture on Sexual Communication & Pornography

2017 & 2018- First Year Honors Course, *Sex & the Campus*, at University of Connecticut

Interpersonal & Group Conflict Management Lecture

2017-Alpha Omicron Pi Chapter at University of Connecticut

Top 2 Paper Panel -Interpersonal Communication Division

2017-National Communication Association

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

International Communication Association

National Communication Association

Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality

International Association for Relationship Research