

## Core Faculty Members

Olga Kuchinskaya, PhD, University of California at San Diego

John Lyne, PhD, University of Wisconsin

Gordon R. Mitchell, PhD, Northwestern University

## Supporting Faculty

Johanna Hartelius, PhD, University of Texas

Brenton J. Malin, PhD, University of Iowa

David L Marshall, PhD, Johns Hopkins University

Lester C. Olson, PhD, University of Wisconsin

Ronald J. Zboray, PhD, New York University

For the most current list of faculty members, their areas of expertise, and recent books published, visit: <http://www.comm.pitt.edu/people/list>

For more details and updated information about the Graduate Program in Communication at Pitt, visit [www.comm.pitt.edu/graduate](http://www.comm.pitt.edu/graduate)

## Admissions Requirements

*All admissions are to the Department of Communication, not to the specific areas of emphasis. We welcome applicants whose interests bridge between and among these areas: History, Theory, and Criticism of Rhetoric; Public Address and Argument; Media and Culture; Rhetoric of Science*

- A bachelor's or master's degree in communication or a related field
- Transcripts from all universities and/or colleges attended
- Recent scores on the Graduate Record Examination (and, if not a native speaker of English, TOEFL)
- Writing sample
- Personal statement
- Three letters of recommendation (preferably from former professors)
- Curriculum Vitae

All applicants must apply online by first business day in January for admission in the fall semester.

## Financial Aid

The average of six students admitted each year normally receive teaching assistantships and fellowships that include a full-tuition scholarship, medical insurance, free public transportation, and a stipend for teaching services or full-time research. Summer grants and teaching opportunities may be applied for.

## Apply Online

[www.comm.pitt.edu/apply](http://www.comm.pitt.edu/apply)

### University of Pittsburgh

**Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences**

**Department of Communication**

**1117 Cathedral of Learning**

**4200 Fifth Avenue**

**Pittsburgh, PA 15260**

[www.comm.pitt.edu/graduate](http://www.comm.pitt.edu/graduate)

Contact: [commgrad@pitt.edu](mailto:commgrad@pitt.edu)

412-624-6569

**University of Pittsburgh**

# Department of Communication

Graduate Program area of  
emphasis

## Rhetoric of Science



## The Graduate Program in

**Communication** in the Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh is consistently identified as one of the top 10 programs in the country. Its faculty and graduates have provided leadership to the field and continue to shape the study of communication in significant ways.

The program offers **four areas of emphasis**: history, theory, and criticism of rhetoric; media and culture; public address and argument; and rhetoric of science.

The **rhetoric of science** area is grounded in the assumption that rhetoric mediates the shape and influence of science.

**Rhetorical analysis of scientific** texts brings attention to the persuasive dimensions of scientific and technologically mediated cultural artifacts.

**Critical study of science policy controversies** looks to those public places where scientists, journalists, politicians, and others debate scientific issues.

**Special resources** are afforded by the University's world-famous program in history and philosophy of science and by its innovative program in bioethics and health law.

*Concurrent master's degrees may be sought in cognate departments, such as the Departments of History and Philosophy of Science, Philosophy, and Bioethics.*

## Seminars Include

### Science and Its Rhetorics

Explores the following questions through exemplary cases chosen from both the natural and human sciences:

- What role does rhetorical argument play in the discourse of science?
- What is the relationship between the epistemological criteria of science and the use of rhetorical argument, tropes, and topoi?
- How does rhetoric connect culture and science?
- In what ways can science be brought to bear on matters of public interest?
- In what ways can arguments within science, as well as arguments drawn from science, be persuasive?
- How does rhetoric shape discourses concerning medicine and public health?

### Seminar in Public Argument: Science and Culture

It is commonplace to define science in opposition to both ideology and rhetoric. This course aims to expose ideological and rhetorical "contaminants" in the very heartland of science. More specifically, we will argue for a cultural studies approach to science, one that employs materialist, feminist, and psychoanalytic tools of critique.

### Rhetoric of Science Policy

Examines rhetorical dynamics of science policy controversies as they play out in public disputes. Case studies will vary in different semesters, and may include focus on disputes about medical ethics, genetic testing, and matters of public health and medicine; controversies over the military and defense policies of the United States; or controversies concerning immigration policy.

### Power and Knowledge

Examines knowledge and ignorance as outcomes of cultural and political struggles, and as ways to maintain power and authority. It is organized around a series of questions and theoretical debates, starting with: How do we come to know what we know? What legitimizes our knowledge? What don't we know and why?



One of the leading public research universities in the United States, the University of Pittsburgh is a member of the prestigious Association of American Universities. To learn more about Pitt, visit [www.pitt.edu](http://www.pitt.edu).



Thriving amid the echoes of its industrial past, **Pittsburgh** is a vibrant urban center that is rich in history, ethnic tradition, and diverse religious cultures. For more information about Pittsburgh, visit [www.coolpgh.pitt.edu](http://www.coolpgh.pitt.edu).