**CURRICULUM VITAE**

**Savannah Greer Downing**

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**University of Georgia | Athens, GA**

Anticipated Graduation Date: 2023

Degree Expected: PhD in Communication Studies

Emphasis: Rhetorical Studies

Dissertation Committee: Belinda Stillion Southard (Chair), Kelly E. Happe, and Roger Stahl

**Colorado State University | Fort Collins, CO**

Graduation Date: 2016

Degree Received: MA in Communication Studies

Emphasis: Rhetoric and Civic Engagement

Graduate Certificate: Women’s and Gender Studies

Thesis Committee: Cindy L. Griffin (Chair), Katie L. Gibson, and Lynn Kwiatkowski

**University of Georgia | Athens, GA**

Graduation Date: 2014

Degree Received: BA in English; BA in Women’s Studies

Emphasis: Multicultural Literature (English)

Certificate: Interdisciplinary Writing (English)

*Magna cum laude*

**Teaching Experience**

**Academic Appointments**

**University of Georgia Athens, GA**

**Department of Communication Studies** August 2019-present

*Graduate Teaching Assistant*

Instructor of Record:

COMM 3330: Rhetorical Criticism

COMM 1110: Introduction to Public Speaking

COMM 1000(e): Introduction to Human Communication

Teaching Assistant:

COMM 4800: Intercultural Communication (Soroya McFarlane)

**University of South Carolina Columbia, SC**

[**Department of English Language and Literature**](https://sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/artsandsciences/english_language_and_literature/index.php)August 2017-May 2019

*Adjunct Faculty*

Instructor of Record:

SPCH 140: Fundamentals of Public Communication

20 sections of the course, including one for the [International Accelerator Program](https://sc.edu/study/international_accelerator/)

**Colorado State University Department of Communication Studies Fort Collins, CO**

*Graduate Teaching Assistant*  August 2014- May 2016

Instructor of Record:

SPCM 200: Introduction to Public Speaking

SPCM 200: Introduction to Public Speaking, [INTO Pathway](https://www.intostudy.com/en/about-into)

Teaching Assistant:

SPCM 335: Gender and Communication (Katie Gibson)

SPCM 201: Rhetoric in Western Thought (Jennifer Bone)

**Guest Lectures and Colloquia**

“Deception in Interpersonal Communication.” Guest lecture for COMM 2550H: Perspective on Interpersonal Communication, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, April 2022.

“Emotional Intelligence.” Guest lecture for COMM 2550H: Perspective on Interpersonal Communication, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, March 2022.

“Essentials of Public Speaking.” Invited guest lecture for UGA’s Masters of Marketing Research Program [Executive Seminar Series](https://www.terry.uga.edu/mmr/seminar-series.php), University of Georgia, Athens, GA, September 2021.

“Being an Effective Seminarian.” Invited guest lecture for the Department of Communication Studies Introduction to Graduate Studies course, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, September 2021.

“Language in Intercultural Communication.” Guest lecture for COMM 4800: Intercultural Communication, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, October 2020.

“Race and Rhetoric in Breast Cancer Research.” Guest lecture on Kelly Happe’s research on race, rhetoric, and genetics for SPCM 201: Rhetoric in Western Thought, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO, November 2015 and April 2016.

“A Miracle Carcinogen: Breast Cancer and Tamoxifen.” Colorado State University Communication Studies Departmental Colloquium, Fort Collins, CO, February 2016.

“Gender, Breast Cancer, and Communication.” Guest lecture for SPCM 335: Gender and Communication, Fort Collins, CO, April 2015.

**Research Experience**

**Research Assistantship**

Research Assistant for Dr. Katie Gibson, Colorado State University Summer 2015

**Publications**

Downing, Savannah (2014) “Whose Tradition? Why Augusta Webster’s Work Must Be Understood Outside of Monodrama.” *Palaver Journal*. UNC-Wilmington. (*53-8*). <http://palaverjournal.com>

[Book Review] Savannah Greer Downing (2022) “Feminist Connections: Rhetoric and Activism Across Time, Space, and Place,” *Quarterly Journal of Speech*, 108:2, 242-246,  DOI: [10.1080/00335630.2022.2057428](https://doi.org/10.1080/00335630.2022.2057428)

**Competitively Selected Conference Presentations and Seminars**

Individual Paper. “Cutting Together/Apart: Toward a Posthuman Rhetorical Criticism through Radium’s Rhetoricity.” National Communication Association, Rhetorical and Communication Theory Division, New Orleans, LA, November 2023.

Panel. “Time, Memory, and the Environment.” Rhetoric Society of America, Baltimore, MD, 2022.

Individual Paper. “‘A Wasted Wraith:’ Radium's Rhetoricity through the Body as a Medium.” Southern States Communication Association, Rhetoric and Public Address Division, Greenville, SC, April 2022.

Discussant. “Equally Essential: Findings of Employee Experiences and Research Processes during COVID-19.” Society for Social Work and Research, Washington, DC, January 2022.

Seminar Participant. “Rhetorical Ethics in an Unjust World.” Rhetoric Society of America Summer Institute, 2021.

Writing Workshop Participant. “Futures of New Materialism.” Rhetoric Society of America Summer Institute, 2021.

Individual Paper. “Intersectionality Scholarship as a Rhizomatic *Agencement*.” National Communication Association, Feminist and Gender Studies Division, Seattle, WA, November 2021.

Individual Paper. “Remembering the Radium Girls: A Diffractive Reading of Memory Works.” Southern States Communication Association, Rhetoric and Public Address Division, April 2021. (virtual, synchronous) **Top Paper Panel**

Individual Paper. “Toward a Feminist New Materialist Rhetoric.” Southern States Communication Association, Communication Theory Division, April 2021. (virtual, synchronous)

Individual Paper. “Bulletproof Bodies, Agentic Matter.” National Communication Association, Feminist and Gender Studies Division, Indianapolis, IN, November 2020. (virtual, asynchronous)

Individual Paper. “‘Who speaks for the unborn?’”: Mother as a Reproductive Justice Rhetoric of Care.” National Communication Association, Public Address Division, Indianapolis, IN, November 2020. (virtual, asynchronous)

Individual Paper. “Sisters Network, Inc. as a Biosocial Community Without Genes.” National Communication Association, Association for the Rhetoric of Science, Technology, and Medicine Division, Indianapolis, IN, November 2020. (virtual, asynchronous)

Individual Paper. “Ruptured Rhythms in a (De)construction Zone: Rhythmanalysis of Remington Street’s Redux as a Greenway.” Western States Communication Association, Rhetoric, Culture, and Advocacy, Denver, CO, February 2020.

Individual Paper. “Komen as Ideological State Apparatus.” Western States Communication Association, Organization for Research on Women and Communication, Seattle, WA, February 2019.

Individual Paper. “Translating Tamoxifen Through the Internet: A Content Analysis of Informational Websites Regarding Tamoxifen Side Effects.” Western States Communication Association, Health Communication Division, San Diego, CA, March 2016.

Individual Paper. “Black Sisterhood on a Pink Platform: Strong Black Womanhood Collective Identity in Black Women’s Breast Cancer Activism.” Western States Communication Association, Organization for Research on Women and Communication, San Diego, CA, March 2016.

Individual Paper. “Children of God at the National Prayer Breakfast: President Obama’s Failed Attempt to Preach Unification in the Wake of ISIS Terror.” National Communication Association, Public Address Division, Las Vegas, NV, November 2015.

Individual Paper. “Abjective Agency: Women’s Cancered Bodies in Film through Abjection and the Semiotic.” National Communication Association, Feminist and Women’s Studies Division, Las Vegas, NV, November 2015.

Individual Paper. “Whose Tradition? Why Augusta Webster’s Work Must Be Understood Outside of Monodrama.” Southeastern Women’s Studies Association Conference, Wilmington, NC. March 2014.

Individual Paper. “Race and the Writing Center: Dismantling Power Structures in the University.” Women’s Studies Student Symposium, Athens, GA, March 2014.

**Service**

**Service to Discipline**

Conference Paper Reviewer, National Communication Association 2022

Feminist and Gender Studies

Conference Paper Review, National Communication Association 2022

Activism and Social Justice

Conference Paper Reviewer, National Communication Association 2022

Rhetoric and Communication Theory

Panel Chair, Rhetoric Society of America Conference 2022

Panel Chair, Southern States Communication Association 2022

Conference Paper Reviewer, Southern States Communication Association 2021

Rhetoric and Public Address

Conference Paper Reviewer, Rhetoric Society of America 2021

Conference Paper Reviewer, National Communication Association, 2021, 2022

Feminist and Gender Studies

Conference Paper Reviewer, National Communication Association, 2020

Student Section

Conference Paper Reviewer, Western States Communication Association, 2019, 2021

Rhetoric, Culture, Advocacy

**Service to Department**

Departmental Representative, Graduate Student Association 2021-2022

Served on the Student Advocacy and Campus Issues Committee

President, Communication Studies Graduate Forum 2021-2022

Attended faculty meetings, serving as liaison between departmental faculty and graduate students

Contributor, UGA’s Communication Studies Introduction to Public Speaking workbook 2021

Revised our workbook to be compatible with a new textbook, including new learning exercises, more inclusive examples, and relevancy for our curriculum

Volunteer, Public Speaking Competition 2019

Graduate Student Representative, Graduate Student Orientation | Colorado State University 2015

**Service to Community**

External Communications Officer, [United Campus Workers of Georgia](https://www.ucwga.com/), UGA Chapter 2022

Elected to serve as the central point of contact between UCWGA and others with whom our organization may be in communication, such as other organizations and the press.

Initiatives: Publicizing our union efforts on social media channels: Twitter and Instagram.

Co-Chair, [United Campus Workers of Georgia](https://www.ucwga.com/), UGA Chapter 2021

Elected to serve as a co-leader of our wall-to-wall chapter, representing the interests of all

workers: staff, faculty, and students

Initiatives: Living Wage Campaign, in collaboration with Athens’s Economic Justice Coalition, Gender equity in higher education, Tenure in Georgia, Graduate Student fees

Chair of Covid Committee June 2020-Janaury 2021

United Campus Workers of Georgia, UGA Chapter

Scheduled and facilitated weekly meetings to organize for safer working conditions during

Covid-19.

Organized petitions, media coverage, and [protests in support of safer conditions](https://www.redandblack.com/uganews/ucwga-rally-calls-for-better-treatment-of-uga-employees/article_9ad86bdc-aa43-11eb-9eac-ab5daceef54e.html)

Initiatives: Mask mandate, hazard pay for staff, data transparency, and testing

Board Member, [The Georgia Feminist](https://thegeorgiafeminist.org/), a nonprofit organization Summer 2021-present

Facilitated discussions of interest to fellow ‘Georgia feminists’

Contributed to newsletters akin to public-facing scholarship

Assisted t-shirt drive for Get Out the Vote organizations in Georgia

Developed merchandise designs and slogans to benefit reproductive justice organizations in the South

Blog Contributor, UGA Women’s Outreach and Resource Collective Spring 2014- Spring 2015

**HONORS/AWARDS**

**University of Georgia, PhD**

[NCA Graduate Student Activist Award](https://www.natcom.org/awards/activism-and-social-justice-division) 2022

Competitively selected by the NCA Activism and Social Justice Division

[NCA Doctoral Honors Seminar Participant](https://www.natcom.org/convention-events/nca-sponsored-events/nca-doctoral-honors-seminar) 2022

Competitively selected participant (Rhetoric and Performance Studies),

George Mason University

[Jerold L. Hale Graduate Service Award](https://comm.uga.edu/jerold-l-hale-graduate-student-service-award) 2022

Faculty nominated service award for “significant contributions to the Department of Communication Studies graduate program in service and citizenship”

[Willson Center Graduate Research Award](https://willson.uga.edu/research/graduate-research-awards/) ($1,000) 2022

Grant for dissertation research on the Radium Girls of Ottawa, Illinois

[Future Faculty Fellow](https://ctl.uga.edu/grad-student/future-faculty-fellows/) 2022

Competitively selected cohort member of 15 Graduate Teaching Assistants from across the University

Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award 2022

South Georgia Fellowship ($5,000) Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Fall 2022

Top Paper Panel, Rhetoric & Public Address, Southern States Communication Association 2021

**Colorado State University, MA**

Travel Grant, NCA Conference ($275) Fall 2015

Awarded by NCA Diversity Caucus

Bill and Linda Haskins Graduate Teaching Assistant Scholarship ($1,000) Fall 2014

Awarded to one incoming GTA by the Graduate Committee