

JACKI WILLENBORG

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Department of Communication
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Email: willenb2@uwm.edu
Pronouns: She/Her/Hers

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Communication, Expected May 2024

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI

- Areas of Interest: Mental Health Communication, Resiliency, Trauma-Informed Care, Occupational Trauma
- Dissertation: *Building resilience in trauma work: An application of the theory of resilience and relational load to occupational trauma exposure*
- Doctoral Committee: Dr. Erin Sahlstein Parcell (Chair), Dr. Erin Ruppel, Dr. Ali Gattoni, Dr. Linda Britz

Trauma-Informed Care Certificate, School of Social Work, May 2022

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI

M.A. Communication, August 2019

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI

- Areas of Interest: Mental Health Communication, Interpersonal Communication, Psychopathology
- Thesis: *To meme, or not to meme: Applying the theory of motivated information management to the provision of support after depressed individuals share suicidal memes*
- Thesis Committee: Dr. Erin Sahlstein Parcell (Chair), Dr. Erin Ruppel, Dr. Lisa Bradford

B.A. Communication Studies, May 2017

The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

WORK EXPERIENCE

Teaching Positions

Adjunct Instructor, August 2023–Present

Marquette University, Diederich College of Communication

- **COMM 6953: Proseminar in Health, Science, and Technology**
 - ❖ Fall 2023
 - ❖ 1 section
 - ❖ Research-oriented graduate seminar
 - ❖ Approximately 10 students per section

Graduate Teaching Assistant, August 2017–Present*University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Department of Communication*

- **COM 101: Introduction to Interpersonal Communication**
 - ❖ Fall 2017 – Spring 2020, Summer 2021, Fall 2023
 - ❖ 2–4 sections per semester
 - ❖ Approximately 20 students per section

- **COM 105: Business and Professional Communication**
 - ❖ Fall 2023 – present
 - ❖ 2 sections per semester
 - ❖ Approximately 22 students per section

- **COM 320: Nonverbal Communication**
 - ❖ Fall 2021 – present
 - ❖ 2 sections per semester
 - ❖ Approximately 24 students per section

- **COM 301: Interpersonal Processes**
 - ❖ Fall 2020 – Fall 2021
 - ❖ 2 sections per semester
 - ❖ Approximately 24 students per section

Campus Community Positions

Prevention Program Assistant, August 2019–May 2020*University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Department of Health Promotion & Wellness*

- Planned outreach events designed to promote campus counseling services to students
- Led Student Connect trainings designed to teach students about signs of suicidal ideation and how to intervene
- Co-led Bystander Intervention trainings designed to teach students about signs of relational abuse and how to intervene

Research Positions

Graduate Research Assistant, March 2021–Present*University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Department of Communication*

- **Difficult Conversations for Military Couples**
 - ❖ Coordinated surveys and compensation for 50 couples participating in a longitudinal study about conversations surrounding reunion from deployment

- ❖ Contacted Family Readiness Groups across the country to spread the word about the study and attract the attention of potential participants
- ❖ Assessed screening survey data to recruit eligible participants

Undergraduate Research Assistant, May 2015-May 2017

The University of Iowa, Department of Communication Studies

- **Family Resiliency and Chronic Illness**
 - ❖ Recorded confidential biological data from 30 participants including saliva samples, blood samples, and blood pressure
 - ❖ Administered follow-up surveys to participants regarding relationships within the family
 - ❖ Analyzed medical data to recruit participants weekly through the pediatric lab at the University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics
- **Video Chat Support**
 - ❖ Administered 12 research interactions with participants utilizing video chat software to produce and track interactions identifying various methods of support used
 - ❖ Collaborated with a research team of eight assistants to contribute significant study details involving the improvement of quality control over data to head researcher

Office Assistant, September 2013-December 2014

The University of Iowa, Human Subjects Office

- Worked closely with the Institutional Review Board in the approval process for various studies being conducted on campus
- Gained IRB certification and organized hundreds of biomedical and social studies for IRB members to review in weekly and monthly meetings

HONORS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

Honors

Graduate Student Excellence Fellowship, \$2500, August 2022

University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

Awards

Communication Department Award for Teaching, May 2023

University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, Department of Communication

Top Inclusive Scholarship Paper, Graduate Student Caucus

Central States Communication Association

Willenborg, J. (2023). *No romo: Exploring aromantic relationship preferences*

Communication Department Award for Service, May 2022
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, Department of Communication

Melvin H. Miller Award for Service, May 2020
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, Department of Communication

Chancellor’s Graduate School Award, \$2000, August 2019
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

Melvin H. Miller Award for Teaching, May 2019
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, Department of Communication

Chancellor’s Graduate School Award, \$3500, August 2017
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

Grants

Dissertation Completion Support Program, \$750, August 2022
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

Communication Department Student Support Grant, \$850, March 2022
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, Department of Communication

- *Building resilience in trauma work: An application of the theory of resilience and relational load to occupational trauma exposure*
- Funded participant compensation

Communication Department Student Support Grant, \$750, March 2021
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, Department of Communication

- *Resilience in the time of COVID: A perspective from college students*
- Funded transcription expenses of co–authored research

Communication Department Student Support Grant, \$300, November 2019
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, Department of Communication

- *One step forward, two steps back: Understanding borderline personality disorder in friendships through relational dialectics theory*
- Funded travel expenses to present co–authored research at a national conference

Communication Department Student Support Grant, \$250, October 2018
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, Department of Communication

- *One step forward, two steps back: Understanding borderline personality disorder in friendships through relational dialectics theory*
- Funded travel expenses to present co–authored research at a national conference

John Paul Jones Scholarship, \$250, October 2017
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

RESEARCH

- Willenborg, J. (2023). *Building resilience in trauma work: An application of the theory of resilience and relational load to occupational trauma exposure*. [Manuscript in preparation]. Department of Communication, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee.
- Willenborg, J. (2023). *No romo: Exploring aromantic relationship preferences*. [Manuscript in preparation]. Department of Communication, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee.
- Fowler, V., Gabryelczyk, K., Gahler, H., Graves, Z. I., Hanchey, J., Hay, A., Holland, C., Ki, Y. J., Lilly, A., Limbach, S., Peters, C., Roe, C., Spencer, L., Murray, S., & **Willenborg, J.** (2023, November). *Freedom from allonormativity: A roundtable discussion centering asexualities and aromanticisms in communication research, teaching, and praxis*. Competitive panel to be presented at the National Communication Association annual convention, National Harbor, MD.
- Sahlstein Parcell, E., Ruppel, E. K., Kahlow, J., & **Willenborg, J. P.** (2023, November). *Difficult post-deployment conversations for military couples: Initial findings using the theory of motivated information management*. Competitive paper to be presented at the National Communication Association annual convention, National Harbor, MD.
- Willenborg, J.** (2023, March). *No romo: Exploring aromantic relationship preferences*. Competitive paper presented at the Central States Communication Association annual convention, St. Louis, MO. *Top Inclusive Scholarship Paper, Graduate Student Caucus
- Sahlstein Parcell, E., Simpson, D., & **Willenborg, J.** (2022). Relating across transitions: Negotiating uncertainties and stigma within personal relationships. In D. O. Braithwaite, J. Child, K. Rossetto, & J. T. Wood (Eds.), *Casing interpersonal communication* (3rd ed.) (pp. 59–65). Kendall–Hunt.
- Kelpinski, L., **Willenborg, J.**, & Sahlstein Parcell, E. (2019, November). *One step forward, two steps back: Understanding borderline personality disorder in friendships through relational dialectics theory*. Paper presented at the National Communication Association annual convention, Baltimore, MD.
- Beattie, A., Wieland, M., **Willenborg, J.**, Kelpinski, L. F., Bistodeau, K., & Richards, R. (2019, April). *What doesn't kill you makes you stronger? Discussing the mental health crisis among graduate students*. Competitive panel presented at the Central States Communication Association annual convention, Omaha, NE.
- Kelpinski, L., **Willenborg, J.**, & Sahlstein Parcell, E. (2018, November) *One step forward, two steps back: Understanding borderline personality disorder in friendships through*

relational dialectics theory. Research in progress presented at the National Communication Association annual convention, Salt Lake City, UT.

SERVICE

Committee Positions

PhD Mentorship Coordinator, September 2022–May 2023

Communication Graduate Student Council, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Member, NCA Mental Health and Communication Task Force, September 2021–May 2022

National Communication Association

Awards Committee Representative, September 2020–May 2022

Communication Graduate Student Council, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Member, Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Mental Health, April 2020–May 2021

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Activities Coordinator, September 2018–May 2020

Communication Graduate Student Council, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Undergraduate Student Representative, September 2017–May 2018

Communication Graduate Student Council, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Volunteer Work

Volunteer, Fall 2017, 2021, 2022

Graduate Open House, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Volunteer, Fall 2019, 2022

Make a Difference Day, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Paper Reviewer, Fall 2017, 2022

Central States Communication Association

Volunteer, Fall 2019

Undergraduate Majors Fair, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Volunteer Judge, Spring 2019

Communication 103 Public Speaking Showcase, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Student Ambassador, Fall 2016

Department of Communication Studies, The University of Iowa

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Teaching Programs & Seminars Attended

Inclusive Teaching and Navigating Conflict, October 2022
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Department of Communication

Inclusive Teaching Toward Justice, July 2022
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning

Reassessing Assessment, September 2021
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Department of Communication

Online and Blended Teaching, August 2021
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning

Accessibility Training, August 2020
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning

Searching for Balance: Mental Health in Graduate Students, February 2020
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Department of Communication

Pedagogical Uses of Screen-casting Software, October 2017
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Department of Communication

Research Seminars Attended

Promiscuous Politics: Rhetorical Perversions of Democratic Community, March 2022
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Department of Communication

Cleaning the Nation: National Purification, Contemporary Hindu Nationalism and the Politics of Gender, April 2021
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Department of Communication

Case Studies in Research Ethics, February 2021
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Department of Communication

Critical Intercultural Communication Pedagogy and Praxis in an Era of Neoliberalism, December 2020
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Department of Communication

He Cheated, She Cheated, We Cheated, October 2019
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Department of Communication

Voices of Gun Violence, September 2019

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Department of Communication

The vMLK Project: Crafting a Necessary (Digital) Space to Explore Rhetorical Leadership and Civic Transformation, October 2018

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Department of Communication