

# Curriculum Vitae

**Michael Klajbor-Smith**  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Department of Communication

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

Lincoln Hall 3001, MC-456  
702 S. Wright St.  
Urbana, IL 61801  
Email: [klajbor3@illinois.edu](mailto:klajbor3@illinois.edu) Phone: 408-650-2206

## EDUCATION

- Anticipated 2025      Ph.D., Communication, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- 2018 - 2020            M.A., Communication Studies, University of Nevada, Reno  
*Concentration:* Rhetoric  
*Thesis:* “Bad Hombres – Racialized Rhetoric in Trump’s Immigration Policy”  
*Advisor:* Jenna N. Hanchey and Lydia Huerta  
*Committee:* Deborah Boehm
- 2013 – 2016            B.A. Cultural Anthropology, Biola University, La Mirada, CA

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2021 – 2024      **Graduate College Fellowship** (\$25,000 yearly)  
*Department of Communication, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.*
- 2022                **Activism and Social Justice Division Top Paper**  
*National Communication Association Conference, New Orleans, LA*
- Friends Travel Award** (\$800)  
*Department of Communication, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.*
- 2021                **List of Teachers Ranked As Excellent By Their Students** (Fall 2021)  
*University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.*
- 2020                **List of Teachers Ranked As Excellent By Their Students** (Fall 2020)  
*University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.*
- Outstanding Fellow Award** (Summer 2020)  
*Summer Predoctoral Institute, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.*
- Summer Predoctoral Fellow** (\$5,000)  
*Summer Predoctoral Institute, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.*

**Graduate Student Travel Grant (\$500)**

*Graduate Student Association, University of Nevada, Reno.*

2019

**Graduate Student Travel Grant (\$500)**

*Graduate Student Association, University of Nevada, Reno.*

**Regent's Service Scholarship (\$1000)**

*University Board of Regents, University of Nevada, Reno.*

2016

**Cum Laude Graduate**

*Biola University.*

2014-2016

**Dean's List**

*Biola University.*

**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

2020 – 2021 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**

*Department of Communication, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

Courses Taught/Currently Teaching:

- CMN 220: Communicating Public Policy (Spring 2023)
- CMN 340: Visual Politics (Summer 2021)
- CMN 111/112: Oral and Written Communication I/II (Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Fall 2022)

2018 – 2020 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**

*Department of Communication Studies, University of Nevada, Reno*

Courses Taught:

- COM 412: Intercultural Communication (Spring 2020)
- COM 101: Public Speaking (Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2019)

**RESEARCH IN PROGRESS**

2023

Michael Klajbor-Smith, "Towards a Co-Intended Communication Pedagogy," *Liminalities*. Under review.

**CONFERENCE PAPERS & PRESENTATIONS**

2022

**#NeverAgain Means Never Again for Anyone: Jewish Memory and Legitimizing Radical Protest (*ASJD Top Paper*)**

*Competitively selected by the Activism and Social Justice Division as Top Paper for the National Communication Association Conference, New Orleans, LA, November 2022*

**Seesaws, Light Shows, and Tea Parties: Fugitive Re-Imaginations of Material Borders**

*Competitively selected by the Critical and Cultural Studies Division for the National Communication Association Conference, New Orleans, LA, November 2022*

**Seesaws, Light Shows, and Tea Parties: Fugitive Re-Imaginations of Material Borders**

*Competitively selected by the Critical and Cultural Studies Division for the National Communication Association Conference, New Orleans, LA, November 2022*

**The Wall That Covid Built – Title 42 Expulsions And Migrant Illegalities**

*Competitively selected for the Rhetoric Society of America Conference, Baltimore, MD, May 2022*

**Cultivating Resistance against Fascism: From Critical to Liberatory Communication Pedagogies and the so-called Freedom to Express in the Communication Classroom**

*Panelist, Competitively Selected by the Freedom of Expression and Political Communication for the Western States Communication Association Conference, Portland, OR, February 2022.*

2020

**“The ‘White’ House – Color Blind Racism and the Trump Administration's Border Discourse”**

*Competitively selected by the Communication, Identities, and Difference Division for the Western States Communication Association Conference, Denver, CO, February 2020.*

**“Constructing Alien – White House Executive Metaphor”**

*Competitively selected by the Rhetoric, Culture, and Advocacy Division for the Western States Communication Association Conference, Denver, CO, February 2020.*

**Formulating Diversity and Representation in Communication Discipline: Students' Perspective**

*Special format panel competitively selected for the WSCA 2020 Conference.*

**SEMINAR PARTICIPATION**

2021

**RSA Institute. Competitively Selected Participant: “The Question of Decoloniality”**

*Rhetoric Society of America, Syracuse, NY 2020.*

**RSA Institute. Competitively Selected Participant: “Bordering Rhetorics: Mobility, Containment, & the Boundaries of Critical Rhetoric”** *Rhetoric Society of America, Syracuse, NY 2020.*

2020

**NCA Preconference Seminar. Participant: “What is Survival?”**

*National Communication Association, Baltimore, 2020.*

2019            **WSCA Preconference Workshop. Participant: “Advocating with Evidence through a Feminist Lens”**  
*Western States Communication Association, Seattle, WA 2019.*

## **SERVICE POSITIONS**

### ***To the Discipline:***

2022            **Ad-Hoc Reviewer**  
*Education, Pedagogy, and Cultural Studies*

### ***To the Department:***

2019 – 2020    **CGSA President**  
*Communication Graduate Student Association, Department of Communication Studies, University of Nevada, Reno*

2018 – 2019    **CGSA Travel Coordinator**  
*Communication Graduate Student Association, Department of Communication Studies, University of Nevada, Reno*

2015 – 2016    **Anthropology Guild President**  
*Department of Anthropology, Biola University*

### ***To the Institution:***

2023            **Union Secretary**  
*Graduate Employees’ Organization, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

2021 – 2022    **Lead Contract Negotiator**  
*Graduate Employees’ Organization, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

2018 – 2019    **Literacy Specialist**  
*Department of Criminal Justice, University of Nevada, Reno  
Under Grant from UNR Board of Regents*

## **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

2019            **Student Speaker, Resist Hate Teach-In**  
*University of Nevada, Reno*

**Panelist, The Role of the Humanities in Shaping Immigration and Refugee Initiatives**  
*Thought on Tap @ Laughing Planet, Reno, Nevada*

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

**Western States Communication Association**

*Interest Groups: Intercultural Communication, Communication, Identities, and Difference, Rhetoric, Culture, and Advocacy, Communication Theory and Research*

**National Communication Association**

*Divisions: Activism and Social Justice Division, International and Intercultural Communication Studies Division, Latino/Latina Communication Studies Division, Rhetorical and Communication Theory Division*

*Caucuses: La Raza Caucus*

**Rhetorical Society of America**