



A NEWSLETTER FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

## A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

As we steam past the mid-point of the semester, we have exciting news to share. You may have caught wind of this through email or other channels, but the Department of Communication received a total of four College of Humanities Awards this week. Those honors deserve to be celebrated here and when we see our colleagues, so please join me in giving a big cheers to our colleagues.

Tae Lee and Ben Lyons both received the College of Humanities Rising Star Award. Mike Middleton won the College of Humanities Distinguished Service Award. And Helga Shugart was the recipient of the College of Humanities Distinguished Scholar Award.

These are wonderful achievements and a reminder of the strong work of our Department across areas of research, service, and teaching. Please take a moment to congratulate Tae, Ben, Mike, and Helga when you see them, and a big thank you to everyone who contributed to this year's nominations.

You can keep up with our many celebrations with this newsletter as well on our Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook pages (thank you, Brie, for your work there!). And as always, if you have celebrations in any aspect of life to share, please send them our way.



### Kent Ono awarded APACSD Distinguished Scholar Award

Dr. Kent Ono will be awarded the inaugural Distinguished Scholar Award for the Asian/Pacific American Caucus and Studies Division at NCA in recognition of leading scholarship and advancement of the interests of APAC/SD. Congratulations Dr. Ono!



# Department Alum Courtney Tanner honored as Utah's Reporter of the Year


Join us in congratulating Courtney Tanner for being honored as Utah's Reporter of the Year at the annual Utah Headliners Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists gathering in Salt Lake City! Courtney is a graduate of the department and has been an education reporter for the Salt Lake Tribune for the last five years.

## EVENTS THIS WEEK




**TODAY**

**THE GENERIC CLOSET:**  
*The Industrial and Cultural Politics of Black-Cast Sitcoms*

OCTOBER 27  
3:30-5:00 PM  
LNCO 1100



with **Dr. ALFRED L. MARTIN, Jr.**  
*University of Iowa*

**28**



Shoshana Zuboff : "The Age of Surveillance Capitalism"  
October 28, 2021 @ 12PM (Virtual)

**28**


**FALLOUT AND FEAR: THE EMERGENCE OF NUCLEAR NARRATIVES IN THE WAKE OF BIKINI ATOLL**

Dr. Katharina Gerstenberger  
ENVIRONMENTAL HUMANITIES  
RESEARCH PROFESSOR 2019-21

OCTOBER 28, 2021 | 4 PM | CTIHB JEWEL BOX



**28**



Call her Ganda Film Screening and Discussion  
October 28, 2021 @ 7PM (Virtual)

**28**



Conversaciones y Reflexiones sobre la Cultura Nahua  
October 29, 2021 @ 12PM (Virtual)

# CRASH COURSE

## Podcasting with Maria Shilaos Nelson

COMM 4670 has been designed to help students find their own voice by telling audio stories about things of which they are passionate. It teaches them how to ethically use the rapidly growing platform of podcasting as a means to deliver directly to a consumer's cellphone important and relevant information.

Students analyze podcast story structure and learn how to pitch and collaborate on audio stories. Over the course of the semester, they work with a team to develop four group podcasts that are later published by the College of Humanities on the Humanities Radio website. They also create the first episode of their own personal podcast. In the process, they learn research and interview techniques, script writing, recording and editing of audio content. But most importantly, they experience the joy of publishing relevant and compelling stories and interviews.

CLICK TO  
LISTEN



The course also exposes them to the realities that come with the business of podcasting and shows them what they need to know to be successful. They learn the value of creating a unique podcast with a clearly defined purpose and audience. They also learn the importance of connecting with that audience by creating unique social media posts on several platforms.

The course allows students to engage with the community by interviewing experts and members of the community on important topics. It also allows the community to see those issues from the perspective of students.

This course is unique because it creates an immersive environment that gives students an opportunity to apply the theory and ethics, they're learning in the classroom, to their on published material. This course is all about innovation and finding new ways to tell stories in the rapidly changing podcasting environment.

I hope students in this course find the joy that I have found in my career of audio storytelling. It is fulfilling to tell a story that uses wonderful natural sounds to emotionally immerse a listener into the subject. After all, there's nothing better than the picture painted by our own imaginations.

# Us Upfront

Erin Spencer

If I didn't work in education, I would be:  
an artist!

A quote I live by...

Ya gotta risk it to get the biscuit!

Fictional character I'm most like:

Phoebe from *Friends* or Lizzie from *Pride and Prejudice*

Last book I finished

*The Life of Plants: A Metaphysics of Mixture*, Emanuele Coccia

Last movie I saw:

*The Mummy* with Tom Cruise

If I'm at a concert, it is...

Phish!!

I hope my students...

feel encouraged to become experts on the issues they care about.

