

# COMMUNICATION AND JOURNALISM

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**Website** (<http://shss.umkc.edu/communication-and-journalism/>)

## Contact Information

### Office:

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**Department Chair:** Ye Wang

## Department Description

The Department of Communication and Journalism prepares students to think creatively and critically while developing strong oral, written, and visual communication skills essential for success in diverse careers. Graduates are equipped for roles in media production, content creation, public relations, advertising, journalism, corporate communication, and community engagement. The department offers a wide range of programs, including professional and interpersonal communication, public communication, journalism (digital, multimedia, broadcast, and print), strategic communication, advertising, public relations, media studies, and multimedia production, including digital media, audio, and video.

## Faculty

### Listing of Faculty

#### Jess Gantt-Shafer

Assistant Professor of Communication and Journalism; M.A. (Colorado State University), B.A., Ph.D. (Texas A&M University).

#### Joshua Jackson

Assistant Teaching Professor of Communication and Journalism; B.A. (Belhaven University); M.S. (Jackson State University).

#### Sarah L. Jones

Assistant Teaching Professor of Communication and Journalism; B.A. (Hastings College); M.A. (Minnesota State University); Ph.D. (University of Nebraska-Lincoln).

#### Steven Kraske

Teaching Professor of Communication and Journalism; B.A. (University of Wisconsin-Madison).

#### Linda Kurz

Associate Teaching Professor of Communication and Journalism; BA (University of Texas-Austin); M.A. (Baylor University), Ph.D. (Baylor University).

#### Judith McCormick

Associate Teaching Professor of Communication and Journalism; B.A., M.A. (Texas Tech University), Ph.D. (Kansas State University).

#### Steven P. Melling

Teaching Professor of Communication and Journalism; B.S. (Northwest Missouri State University); M.A., Ph.D. (University of Kansas).

#### Peter Morello

Associate Professor of Communication and Journalism; B.A. (University of Wisconsin-Madison); M.S. (Columbia University). Ed.D. (Baker University)

#### Michael W. Schaefer

Lecturer of Communication and Journalism; B.A., M.A. (University of Missouri-Kansas City).

#### Ye Wang<sup>2,3</sup>

Professor of Communication and Journalism; B.A. (Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications); M.A. Linguistics (Beijing Foreign Studies University); M.S. Computer Science with an Emphasis of AI (University of Missouri-Kansas City); M.A., Ph.D. Journalism (The Missouri School of Journalism, University of Missouri-Columbia).

<sup>1</sup> Associate or Adjunct Graduate Faculty

<sup>2</sup> Members of UMKC Graduate Faculty

<sup>3</sup> Members of UMKC Doctoral Faculty

## Emeriti

### Joan E. Aitken

Professor Emerita of Communication and Journalism; B.A. (Michigan State University); M.A., Ed.D. (University of Arkansas).

### Gregory D. Black

Professor Emeritus of Communication and Journalism; B.S. (Bowling Green State University); M.A. (California State); Ph.D. (University of Kansas).

### Gregory Gutenko

Associate Professor Emeritus of Communication and Journalism; B.A., M.A. (University of Missouri-Kansas City); Ph.D. (University of Missouri-Columbia).

### Gaylord V. Marr

Retired Professor Emeritus of Communication and Journalism; B.A., M.A. (University of Nebraska).

### Michael Neer

Retired, Professor Emeritus of Communication and Journalism; B.A., M.A., Ph.D. (University of Missouri-Columbia).

### Robert B. Unger

Retired, Professor Emeritus of Communication and Journalism; B.A. (University of Missouri-Columbia); M.P.A. (Harvard University).

## Undergraduate

### Bachelor of Arts: Communication

- Professional Communication Emphasis (<https://catalog.umkc.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/academic-departments-programs/communication-journalism/professional-communication-ba-emphasis/>)
- Digital Journalism and Media Emphasis (<https://catalog.umkc.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/academic-departments-programs/communication-journalism/digital-journalism-media-communication-ba-emphasis/>)
- Strategic Communication Emphasis (<https://catalog.umkc.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/academic-departments-programs/communication-journalism/strategic-communication-ba-emphasis/>)

### Minors

- Minor in Professional Communication (<https://catalog.umkc.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/academic-departments-programs/communication-journalism/minor-professional-communication/>)
- Minor in Communication (<https://catalog.umkc.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/academic-departments-programs/communication-journalism/minor-communication-studies/>)
- Minor in Environmental Communications (<https://catalog.umkc.edu/colleges-schools/science-engineering/ees/minor-environmental-communications/>) (Joint program with Earth and Environmental Sciences)