

## MMC6929 Colloquium – Fall 2025

**Professor: Dr. Marcia DiStaso, APR, Associate Dean, College of Journalism and Communications**

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### Course Description

Catalog description: “Provides common grounding in subjects across doctoral students’ research approaches. Students enroll in the fall during the first year.” This course will be a mixture of lectures, discussions, and guest speakers.

*\* This syllabus is subject to change as appropriate and necessary. Updates will be posted on Canvas.*

### Course Objectives & Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students should:

- have identified their research agenda;
- have a conference schedule and plan;
- understand how the research pipeline works;
- have ideas of people to collaborate with;
- have plans for publishing and service activities;
- have a good network of CJC faculty; and
- understand the expectations, rules, policies, and procedures of the CJC Ph.D. program.

### Readings

[American Psychological Association. \(2020\). Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association \(7th ed.\).](#) (Recommended)

Required readings and presentation materials will be made available on Canvas.

### Evaluation of Coursework

The class is graded S/U. A satisfactory grade requires attendance, active participation in discussions, and meeting expectations for assignments.

#### **Assignments: 60%**

We will have assignments related to weekly topics. Directions will be provided separately.

#### **Participation: 40%**

This is a hands-on course with weekly discussions and assignments. Students are required to come to class having reviewed the speakers for that day. Please contact me as soon as possible if you are unable to attend class.

### Availability

Please feel free to reach out to me any time. I'm available by email or phone and will try to get back to you as quickly as possible.

### Academic Policies and Resources

For UF policies on class recordings, attendance, grading, disability resources, honor code, and other campus resources visit: <https://go.ufl.edu/syllabuspolicies>.

## Course Schedule

Date	Topic
WEEK 1 8/22	<b>CLASS:</b> Introductions <b>HW:</b> Self-Assessment <b>RF:</b> None
WEEK 2 8/29	<b>CLASS:</b> Library Resources with April Hines <b>HW:</b> Plagiarism <b>RF:</b> None
WEEK 3 9/5	<b>CLASS:</b> Building a Research Agenda <b>HW:</b> Research Agenda <b>RF:</b> Faculty & Staff Research Blitz
WEEK 4 9/12	<b>CLASS:</b> None <b>RF:</b> Social media listening and monitoring tools with <a href="#">Dr. Carpenter</a>
WEEK 5 9/19	<b>CLASS:</b> Expectations <b>HW:</b> TA/RA/IOB Plan <b>RF:</b> Natural Disasters & Hurricane Tracking with <a href="#">Dr. Liu</a> and <a href="#">Dr. Wang</a>
WEEK 6 9/26	<b>CLASS:</b> Collaborating and Building a Committee <b>HW:</b> Collaboration Assignment <b>RF:</b> METL and CJC guest, <a href="#">Dr. Shyam Sundar</a>
WEEK 7 10/3	<b>CLASS:</b> Conferencing <b>HW:</b> Conference Planning <b>RF:</b> STEM Translational Communication Center Research
WEEK 8 10/10	<b>CLASS:</b> Publishing <b>HW:</b> Journal Planning <b>RF:</b> Grad Student Research Blitz
WEEK 9 10/17	UF Closed – Homecoming
WEEK 10 10/24	<b>CLASS:</b> Service & Industry Connections <b>HW:</b> Service and Industry Planning <b>RF:</b> Implementing AI in the Classroom with <a href="#">Dr. Jennifer Parker</a>
WEEK 11 10/31	<b>CLASS:</b> Awards & CVs <b>HW:</b> Award Planning <b>RF:</b> ICA/NCA Work Day
WEEK 12 11/7	<b>CLASS:</b> Finishing the PhD Strong <b>RF:</b> Community-Centered Research Methods with <a href="#">Dr. Haywood</a> and <a href="#">Dr. Dalisay</a>
WEEK 13 11/14	<b>CLASS:</b> Elevator Pitch & Last Questions <b>RF:</b> Public Interest Communication Research with <a href="#">Prof. Christiano</a> and <a href="#">Dr. Lee</a>
WEEK 14 11/21	<b>CLASS:</b> None <b>RF:</b> None
WEEK 15 11/28	Thanksgiving Break
WEEK 16 12/5	Reading Days
WEEK 17 12/12	Finals