

SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION: HONORS PROGRAM 2018-2019

The School of Communication seeks applicants with a thirst for independent research and an idea for a culminating project capping their undergraduate experience. In the fall, we will bring together independent minded, project-inspired Honor's students into a seminar to address shared research and project design strategies. In the spring, we will work with Annenberg faculty and students to see project completion, dissemination, and publicity.

1. PROCESS TO APPLY

Please submit your application to Annenberg Advisement and Academic Services via email ascjadv@usc.edu by or before **March 30, 2018**. Selection is merit based and you will be notified about being admitted to the program by email by April 30, 2018.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The Catalogue requires that you meet the following requirements. Please check

- 1.1 Must be a declared Communication major.
- 1.2. Must have a 3.5 cumulative USC GPA and a 3.5 in all Communication courses taken.
- 2.3 Must have completed the core and methods requirements. Core courses are based on the catalogue year you entered USC. Please refer to the USC catalogue for specific list of courses. Note: Students who are completing the core and methods requirements in spring 2018 are eligible to apply.

2. WHAT TO DO? Sign this form (see below), write a short paper and turn in a hard copy of application by March 30, 2018.

Write a two to three-page paper that address 3 questions below.

2.1. Please identify the course area of our department in which you would like to concentrate. Identify 3 professors in an area with whom you may wish to work in the spring. Explain why the working relationship would be productive.

2.2. Please write a page describing the areas of study that your project area is associated with and that you would like to learn about in greater detail; Below are key terms, to consider. Use these and/or add your own. In the paragraph, explain how your area of studies are relevant to the honor's experience you have in mind.

The Communication Arts and Sciences, including but not limited to: Cultural Studies of gender, sports, and indigenous peoples --politics, argument, publics --Communication technologies and community, market, entertainment, learning. --Communication between people, within groups, within ecologies, among geographies, as transport or tour, or with diasporic or subaltern cultures.-- Narrative, story-telling, music, public speaking, performance, and producing. --Networks, political economy, and social dynamics of communication. -- Communication as material infrastructure, artificial intelligence, work or labor, and cognitive resource (brain, mind, affect). --Memory, place, & space. Orientation to social justice, critique, diversity, feminism and difference, trauma, renewal and joy may furnish lines of inquiry.

2.3. Please write a page that describes how your interests, training, experience, and curiosity have brought you to the point of pursuing an extended project for your senior year. Tie in your own drives, thinking and ambitions to a **project area** that you imagine needs to be pursued—both for your own curiosity and to your peers.

3. COMPLETION REQUIREMENT:

3.1. COMM 495 – Honors Seminar (4 units, fall) recommended Preparation: COMM 301

The Seminar will meet together weekly. Discussions will be oriented to the range of topics and include gathering information, archiving artifacts, designing projects, conducting secondary research, positioning research questions, placing the project within field methods and literature, evolving research structures, projects, collaboration, and outcomes. By the end of the fall term, students will develop a proposal, research plan, and schedule for consideration by prospective advisors in the spring semester.

3.2 COMM 497 – Honors Thesis (4 units, spring)

Honors Program Director, Tom Goodnight will arrange productive relationships with faculty advisors to assure best prospects for successful completion, and will direct honors theses as needed. Typically, a final honors project will match a written thesis with a ‘making’ outcome. “Making” outcomes may include short-films, archives, sound, oral interviews, f[r]ictional narratives, activist programs.

Note:

- Required courses cannot be taken concurrently.
- Students may also work with a professor to customize a 400-level COMM course for honors status in place of COMM 495. This will be addressed after the applicant is admitted to the program and chooses to pursue this option.
- Students must receive at least a B+ or higher in the two honors courses.
- Completion of these courses does not guarantee departmental honors. You must also maintain a 3.5 cumulative and COMM GPA in order to graduate with Communication honors.

Name: _____ Student I.D. #: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Expected Graduation Date: Fall / Spring / Summer 20 ____

This application form and your essay should be turned in to Annenberg Advisement and Academic Services via email ascjadv@usc.edu by March 30, 2018.

G. Thomas Goodnight is directing the USC Annenberg Honor's program for 2018-2019.

G. Thomas Goodnight is a professor in the Annenberg School. Spring 2017, he was a visiting scholar at the Annenberg Public Policy Center, the University of Pennsylvania. He grew doctoral programs at Northwestern University and the University of Southern California. Each achieved number one rankings, while he directed over 50 dissertations. At Northwestern, he advised a university-award winning undergraduate honors thesis in feminist studies. Goodnight is a global scholar, with projects in urban communication and entrepôts in China, library networks in the West-Nile region of Uganda, volunteerism and civic development in East Los Angeles, and public response to climate events in Santiago, Chile. Goodnight is affiliated with the Fulbright Senior Scholars program, argumentation studies in Europe and Canada, and POROI. He studies communication and the global south, indigenous voices, and development. Goodnight's interests range across cultural institutions, communication infrastructures, political economies, as these emergent systems and processes of adjust and adapt to climate change through pursuing collaboration & resistance, truth & reconciliation. Goodnight initiated the Earth Science Climate Initiative at USC with JPL. Presently, he hosts a group of USCitizens who research Things China. Goodnight is a Public Diplomacy scholar, a distinguished NCA scholar, and former director of the Hardy Scholars at Northwestern. Goodnight's public culture research is associated with discursive argumentation, risk society and critical bio-anthropology. He is open to a broad range of subjects, such as those on professions, material communicative infrastructures, media assemblies, language action/aesthetics, cascade events, and representations of cognition. He is committed evolving subjectivities, cultural diversity, and polytropic ties extended across human, animal, and biotic communities.