

Communication Studies Lecturer & Director of Forensics

REQ# 30464BR

SUMMARY:

The Department of Communication Studies in the College of Media and Communication at Texas Tech University invites applications for a Director of Forensics in the faculty rank of lecturer beginning January 1, 2023, or September 1, 2023.

The Texas Tech debate team, housed in the Department of Communication Studies, is a nationally competitive program. The team has participated in parliamentary and policy debate formats and interpretive speech events. The Director of Forensics is responsible for maintenance of team budgets, arrangement of travel, recruitment of undergraduate students to the team, recruitment and supervision of graduate coaching assistants, community service including the administration of high school forensic competition and promotion of local debate activities, alumni outreach and public relations, and development efforts.

The position also includes teaching courses in Communication Studies in the faculty member's areas of specialization and as assigned by the department chair or associate chair. The debate coach would be expected to teach 7 credit hours per semester, typically the undergraduate argumentation and debate course and a speech and debate practicum. Although summer teaching is not guaranteed, it can be requested, and, when available, would warrant additional compensation.

At Texas Tech University, a lecturer appointment is annually renewable and after six years is eligible for promotion to senior lecturer and continuing appointment.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

Candidates should have extensive coaching and teaching experience. A Master's degree in Communication Studies is required. Candidates should have a demonstrated record of teaching excellence at the undergraduate level in one or more modalities (face-to-face, online, hybrid) and class sizes (large lecture, lecture, and seminar).

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

Our intent is to bring outstanding and collegial faculty who value excellence in teaching, and who can make positive contributions in service, outreach, and engagement, especially in the domains of competitive debate and speaking. Experience working with diverse student populations and first-generation students is highly desirable.

Candidates must apply online at jobs.texastech.edu. Candidates should submit a cover letter, curriculum vitae, a philosophy of coaching statement, a vision statement for the future of the debate program, a teaching philosophy, evidence of teaching effectiveness, three letters of

recommendation, and official transcripts. Any questions can be directed to the search chair, Dr. Katie Langford at katie.langford@ttu.edu.

The Department of Communication Studies (<https://www.depts.ttu.edu/comc/programs/commstudies/>) is home to more than 400 undergraduate majors, 25+ graduate majors in our separate MA program, with ten tenure-line faculty, five lecturers, and several adjunct instructors.

The Department of Communication Studies is housed in the College of Media & Communication. The College of Media & Communication (<http://www.depts.ttu.edu/comc/>) at Texas Tech University serves approximately 2500 students across its undergraduate majors and graduate programs. The college's enrollment and credit hours have grown consistently for the last seven years; the number of full-time faculty has almost tripled; and the area for facilities has increased more than 40%. CoMC is the #1 rated research unit in the TTU System per the 2020 Academic Ranking of World Universities (Shanghai Ranking). Its private and state grants initiatives have skyrocketed in recent years, achieving its 2025 grants goals in fall 2020. It maintains high standards for teaching, even as its reputation as a media research center expands. CoMC metrics for student retention and graduation rates are near the top at Texas Tech in many categories. The college is proud that *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* magazine recently ranked it 19th nationally for graduating Hispanic/Latino students, and individuals and teams in the college have won awards for their dedication to diversity and inclusion (<https://www.depts.ttu.edu/comc/diversity/>).

Research strengths among college faculty include Hispanic and international, strategic, science/health, gaming/AI, leadership, interpersonal/organizational, and political communication, as well as social scientific research methods. The Thomas Jay Harris Institute for Hispanic and International Communication studies and offers programs in Hispanic and international/intercultural communication (comc.ttu.edu/research/hihic).

Texas Tech University is a public research university with an enrollment of more than 40,000 students. It offers over 100 undergraduate majors and more than 100 master's and 50 doctoral degree programs. Texas Tech is the largest comprehensive higher education institution in the western two-thirds of Texas and is the state's only campus with an adjoining research university, law school, and medical school. Texas Tech students come from almost every county in Texas, all 50 states, and more than 100 countries. TTU is a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI), and the university's current Quality Enhancement Plan is "Bear Our Banners Far and Wide: Communication in a Global Society" (www.depts.ttu.edu/globalcommunications). Texas Tech University is recognized as a Carnegie Tier 1 Research University and is a member of the Big 12 Athletic Conference. The university is located in Lubbock, Texas, a vibrant, diverse city of almost 300,000 residents.

As an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer, Texas Tech University is dedicated to the goal of building a culturally diverse faculty committed to teaching and working in a multicultural environment. We actively encourage applications from all those who can contribute, through their research, teaching, and/or service, to the diversity and excellence of the academic community at Texas Tech University. The university welcomes applications from minorities, women, protected veterans, persons with disabilities, and dual-career couples.