



Graduate College Communication Certification

Congratulations to our incoming
2018-2019 cohort

Shaimaa Abdelhaleem



Ph.D. student,
Department of
Geoscience

Advisor:
Dr. Wanda J. Taylor



My research is focused on studying the earthquake potentiality in the city of Las Vegas and its effect on the 2 million lives that live in it and the much more people who visit it each year. Communication is a critical aspect of everyday life. As a scientist I get engage in communication activities at every step in my research project like oral presentations, writing research proposal drafts, paper writing discussions. Effective discussions also help exchange ideas and point of view among my peers, get ideas from other researchers. So, Effective communication increases the impact of science in multiple dimensions.

SARUNA GHIMIRE



**Ph.D. student,
Department of
Environmental and
Occupational Health**

**Advisor:
Dr. Francisco S. Sy**



I am a third-year doctoral student in Public Health, with a concentration in Epidemiology and Biostatistics. Under the supervision of Dr. Francisco S. Sy and Dr. Rachelle Rodriguez, I aim, through my doctoral research, to examine the relationships and pathways between nutritional adequacy, telomere length (a biomarker of aging), and chronic diseases. My long-term research goal is to provide new insights and directions for aging research to promote healthy aging and longevity worldwide. By participating in GCCC, I am hoping to build my public speaking and presentation skills.

Kristen Herlosky



**Ph.D. student,
Department of
Anthropology**

**Advisor:
Dr. Alyssa N.
Crittenden**



Kristen Herlosky is a first-year PhD student in the Department of Anthropology under advisement of Dr. Alyssa Crittenden. She recently graduated with her Masters in Anthropology from UNLV. Her research interests are postpartum maternal health and associated infant health outcomes in the disciplines of bio-cultural and medical anthropology. Her PhD research will be a continuation of her pilot work completed in Tanzania, East Africa among the Hadza foragers.

Kristen seeks the GCCC as an opportunity to improve her public speaking skills, as well as her communication skills as a whole. She wants to be thoroughly prepared to work and speak in many different environments with clear and concise statements.

Nick Lepp



**M.A. student,
Department of
Communication
Studies**

Advisor: Dr. Bruner



My research focuses on queer theory within critical rhetoric and how it can push the limits of academic and pedagogical thought. My goal with this certificate is to better convey complex ideas to a wide range of audience members.



JOHN OLAWEPO



**Ph.D. student,
Department of
Environmental and
Occupational Health**

**Advisor:
Dr Jennifer Pharr**



John Olawepo is a doctoral student in Public Health (with a focus on Global Health) at the School of Community Health Sciences, University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV). His research interest borders around how to use implementation science methods to solve maternal and child health challenges. He is participating in the Graduate College Communication Certification to gain additional skills that will help address a key challenge facing science today – the challenge of communicating evidence-based research to the general population. He expects to use the knowledge and skills gained from this certification to develop and communicate the roll out of feasible, culturally appropriate, and transformational health solutions that will help address the management of chronic diseases on the global stage.

John Olawepo received his Master of Science degree in Public Health from the University of London, United Kingdom.

TIFFANY PEREIRA

M.S. student,
Department of
Biological Sciences

Advisor:
Dr. Scott Abella



A key problem facing scientists is communication. How can scientific data be presented in a way that engages and impacts an audience, especially hard-to-reach individuals?

As an overlooked solution to this conundrum, I find that creative media can powerfully convey scientific fact. Therefore, my graduate project at UNLV will also contain a component dedicated to scientific illustration.

I firmly believe that it is not enough for your data to reach fellow individuals in the field. The public should have access to the material as well, in a way that they can comprehend and appreciate

I look forward to improving and learning new skills in order to be an engaging communicator of science through the Communication Certificate Program.

BETH WI

**Master's in Business
and Hospitality**

**Advisors:
Dr. Michael Mejza
Dr. Mehmet Erdem**



Following my passion for making an impact in the hospitality industry, the focus of my research is examining the influence of patron and employee relationships on acceptance of robotics in the workforce and how the level of interactions between customers and service providers can help achieve higher level of customer satisfaction.

In my graduate study in business and hospitality, most courses require collaborative works and strong communication skills. More remarkably, I had the privilege of speaking in front of a large audience at the *5th annual Inspiration, Innovation, Impact: A Celebration of Research*. My experiences in these endeavors gave me confidence, but at the same time, encouraged me to further develop a solid foundation to become a great presenter. I am confident my communication skills I acquire from the program will translate well into becoming an effective communicator.