



The Communication Age: Connecting and Engaging

By Autumn Edwards, Chad C. Edwards, Shawn T. Wahl, Scott A. Myers

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We are in "the communication age." No matter who you are or how you communicate, we are all members of a society who connect *through* the internet, not just to it. From face-to-face interactions to all forms of social media, **The Communication Age, Second Edition** invites you to join the conversation about today's issues and make your voice heard. This contemporary and engaging text introduces students to the essentials of interpersonal, small group, and public communication while incorporating technology, media, and speech communication to foster civic engagement for a better future.

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- Rank: #11378 in Books
- Brand: Sage Publications Ltd
- Published on: 2016-01-22
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.90" h x .70" w x 8.00" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 520 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

"The Communication Age: Connecting and Engaging is the most accessible, user friendly introduction to speech communication currently on the market. It is truly a title that not only captures the challenge of teaching this subject but which also rises to that challenge and makes that goal attainable for 21st Century undergrads."--Dr. Tim Chandler

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--Dr. Tim Chandler

"This generation of students learns differently, approach life differently, and has a different set of goals than generations in the past. The whole tone and theme of this book is just that! It embraces life in the communication age and the civic-mindedness of our current students. From the relevant real life scenarios presented by the authors to the Career Frontier feature, which offers practical strategies for communication competence in the workplace, this book has been so useful for me in the classroom. It's definitely more accessible/relevant than other textbooks on the market."

--Jaime Bochantin

"The Communication Age is a thought-provoking reflection of how we have arrived at a time in which traditional means of communicating are intricately intertwined with new technologies. Through the authors' modern, conversational writing style and extensive connection to current issues, the information in the text demonstrates a keen sense of understanding how to reach Millennial (Digital Native) students while also appealing to their Generation X (Digital Immigrant) professors. It is a solid base and a must read for any course that is designed to blend 21st century communication concepts with public speaking mastery."

--Deborah Sheffield

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About the Author

Autumn P. Edwards (PhD, Ohio University) is an associate professor in the School of Communication at Western Michigan University. Her scholarly interests include interpersonal communication, communication and technology, and communication theory. Her research focuses on the influence of individuals' personally held theories of communication on aspects of community life, relational health, and personal well-being. Recent published work appears in journals such as the *Journal of Family Communication*, *Communication Studies*, *Health Communication*, *Communication Research Reports*, *Communication Education*, and *The Journal of Computer Mediated Communication* and in several edited books. She is the recipient of an Outstanding Teaching Award and the Kim Giffin Research Award from the University of Kansas and was designated a Claude Kantner Research Fellow at Ohio University.

Chad Edwards (PhD, University of Kansas) is an associate professor of communication in the School of Communication at Western Michigan University. Previously, he was a Hartel Fellow at Marietta College. Chad's research interests include communication in the teacher-student relationship, human-robot interaction, and transformative communication practices. Recent publications include articles in *Communication Education*, *Communication Research Reports*, *Basic Communication Course Annual*,

Journal on Excellence in College Teaching, and other communication and education studies journals. He serves on numerous editorial boards including that of *Communication Education*. He has held offices at both national and regional communication conferences and is currently the first vice president of the Central States Communication Association. In 2009, Chad received the Distinguished Teaching Award from Western Michigan University (the highest teaching award given by WMU). He also has been awarded teaching awards from the College of Arts and Sciences at Western Michigan University, the University of Kansas, and Texas Tech University. Additionally, Chad has received several top paper awards for his research.

Shawn T. Wahl (PhD, University of Nebraska, Lincoln) is a professor of communication and head of the Department of Communication in the School of Communication Studies at Missouri State University (MSU). Prior to MSU, he served as head of the Department of Communication, Mass Media, & Theatre at Angelo State University and as the director of graduate studies at Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi. He is coauthor of *Nonverbal Communication for a Lifetime, Business and Professional Communication: KEYS for Workplace Excellence, Persuasion in Your Life, Communication and Culture In Your Life*, and *Public Relations Principles: Strategies for Professional Success*. Shawn has published articles in *Communication Education, Communication Research Reports, Communication Teacher, Journal of Family Communication*, and *Basic Communication Course Annual*. Shawn was a faculty participant in the National Communication Association Learning Outcomes in Communication project and is the 2016 President of the Central States Communication Association. In addition, Shawn has worked across the nation as a corporate trainer, communication consultant, and leadership coach in a variety of industries. Outside of his professional work, he enjoys spending time with his family and two Chinese pugs (Jake and Bentley).

Scott A. Myers (PhD, Kent State University) is a professor and Peggy Rardin McConnell Chair in the Department of Communication Studies at West Virginia University (WVU) where he teaches courses in instructional communication, organizational communication, and communication pedagogy. His research interests center primarily on the student-instructor relationship in the college classroom and the adult sibling relationship, with his research appearing in outlets such as *Communication Education, Journal of Family Communication, Communication Research Reports*, and *Communication Quarterly*, among others. At WVU, he was recognized by the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences as a Woodburn Professor (2005–2007) and as an Outstanding Teacher in 2010. He is a former editor of *Communication Teacher*, a former executive director of the Central States Communication Association (CSCA), and a past president of CSCA.

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