

Carolinas Communication Association

Call for submissions

2026 Annual Conference

REVOLUTION(ARIES)

October 9 – 10, 2026

Sumter, SC

Carolinas Communication Association invites submissions for proposals and papers spanning all methods and aspects of communication studies methods and interests for presentation at the regional CCA Annual Conference, October 9-10, 2026 in Sumter, South Carolina. While our organization represents scholarship from North Carolina, South Carolina, and around the region, we welcome all submissions.

2026 marks the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence and the American Revolutionary War. More Revolutionary War battles were fought in South Carolina than any other colony. Sumter, our conference site, was named after General Thomas Sumter who led troops to victory in the War.

The conference theme *REVOLUTION(ARIES)* asks submitters to consider other revolutions and revolutionaries, from the Colonial Era to the modern day, who overcame seemingly insurmountable obstacles to eradicate injustice and propel the nation to “a more perfect union.” Not all revolutions have culminated in a more equitable society; yet, they are being repeated as demonstrated in today’s struggles related to freedom of the press and speech as well as reproductive, voting, and immigration rights, to name just a few. Some Americans have dubbed themselves as revolutionaries to attack the fundamental tenets of the Declaration of Independence, while others battle to uphold and preserve these tenets. The battle is forged among revolutionaries on both sides.

- What role has and does communication (interpersonal, organizational, mass and social media, oratory, etc.) play in these revolutions?
- How have different constituents, either organizations, institutions, or individuals, conceived of “a more perfect union”?
- What groups or individuals have strategically invoked “revolution” or proclaimed themselves “revolutionaries” and to what end?

CCA is dedicated to supporting academic research in its many contexts. As such, while we encourage participants to submit work that examines *REVOLUTION(ARIES)*, it is not required. We are an organization that proudly supports all levels of academic work:

- Undergraduate and graduate students are invited to submit research papers or posters.
- Faculty are invited to submit research papers.
- Faculty and graduate students are invited to submit research or teaching panels.
- Faculty and graduate students are invited to submit Great Ideas for Teaching Students (GIFTS).

Research Papers

All paper submissions must include two Microsoft Word file attachments: (1) a file containing a cover sheet listing the paper title and author name(s), affiliation, email, physical address and phone number for all authors, and (2) an anonymized file including a 50-word abstract and the completed paper not to exceed 25 double-spaced pages excluding references and appendices. *Please use "CCA Paper submission" in the subject line.*

Posters

Undergraduate and graduate Poster submissions must include two Microsoft Word file attachments: (1) a file containing a cover sheet listing the paper title and author name(s), affiliation, email, physical address and phone number for all authors, and (2) a file including a 50-word abstract and a rationalization of the use of a poster. If accepted, poster presenters must use best practices in designing the poster: Important information should be readable from about 10 feet away; title is short and draws interest; word count of about 300 to 800 words; text is clear and to the point; use of bullets, numbering, and headlines make it easy to read, effective use of graphics, color and fonts; consistent and clean layout; includes acknowledgments, your name and institutional affiliation. *Please use "CCA Poster submission" in the subject line.*

Panel Proposals

Research or teaching panel proposals must include one attachment containing the following: (1) a one-page rationale for the proposed panel, (2) a brief (50-word) description for the conference program, and (3) a list of all participants including names, affiliations and contact information (e-mail, physical address and phone number). *Please use "CCA Panel proposal" in the subject line.*

GIFTS (Great Ideas for Teaching)

GIFTS submissions are teaching ideas for any/all courses – Interpersonal, Organizational, Small Group, Media, Gender, Research Methods, Rhetoric, etc. All ideas must be original to the presenter, the submission must not duplicate any other previously published work, including the author's previously published work, and should have been previously implemented in the classroom. All GIFTS submissions will be considered for Top GIFTS recognition. GIFTS submissions are structured into individual sections as follows: (1) Title; (2) Course/Program: The applicable course(s) for which the GIFTS was conducted; (3) Abstract: 100 words; (4) Rationale: A brief explanation of the reason for the activity, research question, hypothesis, etc.; (5) Directions/Method: A description of the process, procedures, etc.; (6) Results/Debrief: A discussion of the results, findings, benefits, etc.; (7) Appendix (if applicable): FYI handouts, lists, examples, etc.; (8) References (if applicable). *Please use "CCA GIFTS submission" in the subject line.*

Awards are available for the top faculty, top undergraduate and top graduate papers, and the top GIFTS paper.

Each submitter may be included on the conference program a maximum of two (2) times, including co-authored submissions.

Common practices of professional ethics tell us that, if submitting traditional papers, authors should expect anonymous review and should not submit the same paper that has been submitted and presented at other academic conferences and/or published and/or accepted for publication. Additionally, if a presenter submits work and that work is accepted for presentation, the presenter has agreed to register for the conference and attend in-person to present the work.

Please submit papers, panel proposals, or posters via email to fenimorw@uscsumter.edu. Please include "CCA 2026" in the subject line.

Submissions are due May 15, 2026.

All questions can be directed to Dr. Wanda Little Fenimore, CCA 1st vice president, at fenimorw@uscsumter.edu.