



**BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY**  
invites applications for the position of:

## **Assistant or Associate Professor of Communication Studies**

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### **IFO POSTING**

**OPENING DATE:** January 10, 2022

**CLOSING DATE:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022, at 11:59 p.m.

**APPOINTMENT DATE:** August 16, 2022

**SALARY:** Depends on Qualifications

**JOB TYPE:** Full-time Probationary / Tenure Track

**BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY (BSU)** invites applicants to join our team as an **Assistant or Associate Professor of Communication Studies** for a probationary tenure-track position beginning in Fall 2022. BSU's vision is to educate people to lead inspired lives. To accomplish BSU's vision, the University prioritizes creating a culture in which diversity is embraced and all people are safe, welcome, and validated. BSU also prioritizes increasing engagement with Indigenous communities to become a destination university.

BSU is located amid the lakes and forests of northern Minnesota and occupies a wooded campus along the shore of Lake Bemidji. BSU balances rigorous academia with the opportunity to enjoy a fun, robust, outdoor culture. The proximity to the lake and the surrounding north woods allows easy access to an assortment of recreation. Major campus facilities are connected by all-season underground passages for safe and warm travel during the cold, winter months.

Enrolling around 5,000 students, BSU offers more than 70 undergraduate majors and nine graduate degrees encompassing arts, sciences and select professional programs. BSU is a member of the Minnesota State system of colleges and universities and has a faculty and staff of more than 550. BSU's [\*Shared Fundamental Values\*](#) include civic engagement and leadership, international and multicultural understanding, belief in the power of the liberal arts, and environmental stewardship.

BSU's [Communication Studies](#) program is housed within the Department of Sociology and Communication Studies. The first ever B.A. degree in Communication Studies has just been approved and we now have a full major and minor in Communication Studies. It has been exciting to build a program that provides students with career opportunities in the communication discipline. Foci of the program include relational, presentational, organizational, and applied communication, and courses with special interest in community engagement and service-learning. While currently an undergraduate on-campus degree, we do offer graduate courses and, in the future, will have a graduate certificate. The program has collaborative initiatives with various departments across the university making communication courses a fundamental part of other curricula. In addition to the academic program, we have a campus-wide student organization, Communication Scholars Society, for students wanting more active participation in the discipline. We are a diverse faculty, and the department is fully committed to equity and inclusiveness in our programs and classrooms.

**Responsibilities of the Assistant or Associate Professor of Communication Studies include:**

- Teaching four courses (12 credits) within the communication discipline per semester.
- Teaching lower-level courses such as Public Speaking, Career and Professional Communication, and Interpersonal Communication.
- Teaching core communication courses in Communication Theory and Research Methods.
- Teaching upper-level undergraduate communication courses based on expertise, that may include Advanced Public Presentation, Business Communication (advanced online course with excel, written and oral communication), Communication and Conflict, Environmental Communication, Family Communication, Gender Communication, Interviewing, Organizational Communication, Persuasion, and Small Group Communication.
- Teaching graduate-level courses with the future development of a graduate program in Communication Studies to include Business Communication (advanced collaborative course with excel, written, and oral communication competencies), and other graduate courses within the communication discipline.
- Designing and delivering courses for on-campus and online delivery.
- Advising and supporting students' academic progress, undergraduate research, and student organization initiatives.
- Contributing to a collegial and supportive environment that advances the goals of the program, including curriculum development and assessment of an undergraduate major, as well as a future graduate program in Communication Studies.
- Contributing to interdisciplinary teaching and involvement in activities that support BSU's [Shared Fundamental Values](#).
- Participating in faculty departmental governance.
- Commitment to quality undergraduate teaching, scholarship within the discipline, student development, and service to the University, community, and discipline.

**Minimum qualifications for this position include:**

- Ph.D. in Communication Studies, Speech Communication, or closely related Communication field.
- Three (3) years of teaching communication courses at the undergraduate level in Communication Studies.
- Demonstrated excellence of, and commitment to, quality teaching of communication courses at the undergraduate level.
- Demonstrated expertise and ability to teach from the following undergraduate courses: Business Communication (advanced undergraduate/graduate online course with excel, written, and oral communication), Communication and Conflict, Communication in a Diverse Society (Intercultural Communication), Gender Communication, and Environmental Communication.
- Ability to develop and teach graduate courses in Communication Studies.
- Advanced and sophisticated knowledge of, and familiarity with, current scholarship, theories, and research in the following areas in which the successful candidate will be asked to teach graduate students: Business Communication (advanced undergraduate/graduate online course with excel, written, and oral communication), Communication in a Diverse Society (Intercultural Communication), Communication Theory, Environmental Communication, Gender Communication, Persuasion, and Research Methods.
- Demonstrated evidence of continued or promising scholarly agenda within the communication discipline (e.g., conference presentations and publications).
- Demonstrated experience working with and/or interest in working with students and colleagues from multi-cultural and diverse backgrounds.

**Preferred qualifications include:**

- Additional demonstrated undergraduate teaching in upper-level communication courses such as Communication and Conflict, Communication Theory, Health Communication, Organizational Communication, Persuasion, and Interviewing.
- Demonstrated excellence of, and commitment to, quality teaching of community-engaged, or service-learning courses.

- Demonstrated excellence of, and commitment to, quality teaching of communication courses at the graduate level.
- Experience with curricular development and assessment.

**To facilitate proper crediting, please ensure that your application and/or resume clearly demonstrate fulfillment of these minimum and preferred qualifications.**

**Other Considerations:**

- All applicants must be able to lawfully accept employment in the United States at the time of an offer of employment.
  - Official transcript(s) must be provided to Human Resources upon hire.
  - Employment for this position is covered by the collective bargaining agreement for the Inter Faculty Organization (IFO) which can be found at <https://www.ifo.org/>.
  - In accordance with the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MinnState) Vehicle Fleet Safety Program, faculty and staff driving on college/university business, who use a rental or state vehicle, shall be required to complete a vehicle Use Agreement form and conform to MinnState's vehicle use criteria and consent to a motor vehicle records check.
  - BSU and NTC are tobacco free workplaces ([see policy](#)).
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**APPLY ONLINE:** <https://bemidjistate.peopleadmin.com/>

**A complete application will include the following attachments:**

- Cover letter, which addresses the required qualifications and your specific interest in working at Bemidji State University.
- Resume/Curriculum Vitae.
- Unofficial transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate coursework.
- A teaching philosophy/statement that discusses your commitment to teaching, and experience with teaching undergraduate and graduate students.
- Teaching evaluations, where available, or evidence of teaching effectiveness.

**Inquiries:**

Dr. Donna Pawlowski, Search Chair  
Professor and Coordinator of Communication Studies  
[donna.pawlowski@bemidjistate.edu](mailto:donna.pawlowski@bemidjistate.edu)

If you have general questions about this posting or submitting an application, contact Teresa Hanson at [teresa.hanson@bemidjistate.edu](mailto:teresa.hanson@bemidjistate.edu)

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**UNIVERSITY / COMMUNITY  
WHY BEMIDJI:**

Bemidji State University is nestled among the pines along the shores of Lake Bemidji, just blocks from a thriving downtown community. In this Northwoods setting, students, staff, and faculty have a variety of activities at their fingertips. Possessing all the charm and character of a college town, Bemidji remains a tight-knit community of good neighbors and engaged citizens who always come out to cheer for the Bemidji State Beavers. While the city of Bemidji — named after the Ojibwe Chief Shaynowishkung (nicknamed Bemidji) — is home to a diverse population of more than 15,000 people, it serves a regional population of more than 100,000.

Located between three American Indian reservations – Leech Lake, Red Lake and White Earth, students at Bemidji State University have the opportunity to experience a dynamic local culture and history. Bemidji also sits at the

center of the legends of Paul Bunyan and Babe the Blue Ox. The famous statues of Paul and Babe greet students as they drive in from the south along Lake Bemidji.

Though quaint and historic, the city offers the urban conveniences upon which college students rely. Bemidji State is conveniently located minutes away from affordable restaurants, cozy coffee shops, grocery stores, city parks and more. Small, locally owned shops and art sculptures line the streets of downtown Bemidji, while national chains can be found in and around the Bemidji area, including an uptown selection of department stores and restaurants.

The thriving downtown community presents ample opportunities for engagement off-campus. Among other things, there are fine-dining restaurants, cafes, and a natural foods co-op in downtown Bemidji. The historic Paul Bunyan Playhouse has a calendar of classic shows; restaurants and lounges offer weekly live music performances; the First Friday Art Walk provides a tour of new monthly art exhibits; and annual events such as the Loop the Lake Festival, the Dragon Boat Festival, the Blue Ox Marathon, Bemidji Winterfest, and The Minnesota Finlandia bring the community together.

For those who love the outdoors, there are wooded, multi-use trail systems within minutes of campus and community parks with walking trails, playgrounds and a skate park. Lake Bemidji State Park and its miles of navigable trails is located directly across the lake from BSU, and the Buena Vista Ski Area — just 12 miles north of campus — offers downhill skiing and BSU-sponsored student transportation in the winter months. Further, the Mississippi River Headwaters is a mere 45 minutes from Bemidji.

For further information [About BSU](#) visit our website at: <http://www.bemidjistate.edu>

Review a "special report on how this former lumber town has rebuilt itself as a high-speed, regional center of enterprise" at [Bemidji 2.0](#)

#### Other Resources:

- Visit Bemidji – <https://www.visitbemidji.com/>
- 218 Relocate / Greater Bemidji – <https://www.218relocate.com/>
- Bemidji Area Chamber of Commerce – <https://www.bemidji.org/>
- Explore Minnesota – <https://www.exploreminnesota.com/article/top-things-to-do-bemidji>

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#### Statement of Notice

Bemidji State University prohibits discrimination and sexual violence of any kind. Contact the Center for Civil Rights [Investigation Office](#) if you have concerns regarding discrimination and/or sexual violence. Per [Minnesota State System Procedure 1B.3.1](#), all universities and colleges must provide contact information of their Title IX Coordinator.

Steven D. Parker, Campus Diversity Officer & Title IX Coordinator

Email: [TitleIX@bemidjistate.edu](mailto:TitleIX@bemidjistate.edu)

Phone: (218) 755-4121

1500 Birchmont Drive NE, Deputy Hall, Room 211, Bemidji, MN 56601

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*Bemidji State University is an Affirmative Action Equal Opportunity Employer and Educator. This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities. Consumers with hearing or speech disabilities may contact us via their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service.*