

Sami Giles

385-831-9819, samigiles52@gmail.com

Education

Bachelor of Science, Applied Communication

Utah Valley University, Orem, Utah

Expected Graduation- December 2025

Teaching and Mentoring Experience

Instructional Assistant, Communication Department, Oct 2024 - Present

Utah Valley University, Orem, Utah

Supported faculty and students with COMM 1020 instructional needs.

Graded assignments and provided students with feedback to help foster positive educational outcomes.

Provided academic support while maintaining progress and engagement of 20 undergraduate students.

Addressed student inquiries and maintained organized documentation of course materials and academic resources.

Math Mentor Team Lead, Jan 2022 - Oct 2024

Utah Valley University, Orem, Utah

Lead team of 4 mentors, enhancing support for 20 students in math.

Implemented strategies improving student understanding of complex math concepts.

Organized study groups, boosting exam preparedness and confidence.

Collaborated with instructors to tailor feedback, supporting individual student needs.

Conference Presentations

Giles, S. (2025, April). *The relationship between religion and pop culture*. Central States Communication Association, Cincinnati, Ohio (April 2025)

Giles, S. (2025, April). *For Us, But Not With Us: How Political Messaging Exploits Queer Individuals for Voter Appeal*. Ethics Symposium, Utah Valley University, Orem, Utah (April, 2025)

Research Experience

Independent Study - Queer Theory and Critical Cultural Theory

Analyzed texts from Jack Halberstam, Mimi Marinucci, Tony E. Adams & Judith Butler, and applied theoretical understanding to queer experiences within the LDS Church.

Studied under faculty mentors Dr. Stevie Munz and Prof. Brent Austin.

Relevant Coursework

COMM 350R- Critical Cultural Theory

COMM 3020- Research Methods

COMM 319G- Intercultural Communication

COMM 3050- Theories of Communication