

Unduplicated Empirical Theories of 2016:

As Compiled from Seven Mainline Communication Journals

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In 2016, the seven mainline, empirical journals—*Communication Monographs*, *Communication Research*, *Human Communication Research*, *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*, *Journal of Broadcasting & Electronic Media*, *Journal of Communication*, and *Management Communication Quarterly*—produced 253 empirical articles that yielded 415 unduplicated theory/model references, a decline of 32 references from 2015 and 31 from 2014. Initial analysis attributes the decline to the reduced use of the citation broadside. The production of new theory appeared to continue unabated.

The Theories of 2016

1. Accountability theory
2. Action-implicative discourse analysis theory (AIDA)
3. Active parental media mediation model
4. Actor network theory
5. Actor oriented theory of political dialogue
6. Actor partner interdependence model
7. Adaptive structuration theory
8. Advanced warranting theory
9. Advice response theory
10. Affect as information model
11. Affective disposition theory
12. Agenda building theory

¹ Based on authors' naming convention. Some content may be duplicated because of the use of different names and some content may be omitted because it was not designated as a theory or model.

13. Agenda setting theory
14. Altruism dual route model
15. Appraisal theory
16. Assimilation contrast theory
17. Attachment theory
18. Attribution theory
19. Audience duplication theory
20. Auto immersion model of dispositional self-regulation
21. Automaticity theory
22. Balance theory
23. Behavior change theory
24. Belief sampling model of attitude
25. Bio informational theory of emotion
26. Biopsychosocial model of challenge and threat
27. Blog mediated crisis communication model
28. Bourdieu's field theory
29. Career of metaphor theory
30. Cascading activation model of politics
31. Catharsis theory
32. Channel complementarity theory
33. Channel expansion theory
34. Cognitive appraisal theory of emotion
35. Cognitive dissonance theory

36. Cognitive evaluation theory
37. Cognitive experiential self theory
38. Cognitive load/working memory model
39. Cognitive model of argument
40. Cognitive processing theory
41. Collaboration theory
42. Collective action theory
43. Common ground theory
44. Communication accommodation theory
45. Communication design theory
46. Communication for development and social change theory
47. Communication infrastructure theory
48. Communication privacy management theory
49. Communication theory of identity
50. Communication-human information processing model
51. Community ecology theory
52. community evolution theory
53. Community journalism theory
54. Community structural pluralism model
55. Complexity theory
56. Comprehensive communication centered theory of sojourner adjustment
57. Comprehensive theory of narrative
58. Conceptual metaphor theory

59. Construal level theory
60. Construal model of attitude
61. Constructivist grounded theory
62. Constructivist theory of justice
63. Contact management model
64. Contact theory
65. Controlled interactivity and political action model
66. Conversational constraint theory
67. Coordination model of collaboration
68. Coordination theory
69. Core periphery network model
70. Correspondent inference theory
71. Crisis communication theory
72. Critical elite theory
73. Cross protection inoculation theory
74. Crystallized theory of the self
75. Cultivation theory
76. Cultural discount theory
77. Defense cascade model
78. Deliberative citizen theory
79. Deliberative democratic theory
80. Deliberative model of argument
81. Deliberative theory

82. Delusional pretense theory of irony
83. Democratic corporatist model
84. Democratic theory
85. Dialectical theory
86. Dialogic theory of public relations
87. Dialogical self theory
88. Differential susceptibility to media effects model
89. Diffusion of innovation theory
90. Diffusion theory
91. Dimensional theory of emotion
92. Directional theory of issue voting
93. Displaced effects model moral foundations theory
94. Displacement theory
95. Dissent dyadic process model in psychological contract breach
96. Domestication theory
97. Drive theory
98. Dual process theory of supportive message outcomes
99. Dual systems theory
100. Dyadic power theory
101. Dynamic equilibrium model of organizing
102. Dynamic situation model of the story
103. Dynamic systems theory
104. Early learning model

105. Economic theory of political journalism
106. Elite network theory
107. Emerging adulthood theory
108. Emotion in relationships model
109. Emotional contagion theory
110. Emotional support discrepancy model
111. Empathy attitude model
112. Entertainment theory
113. Entropy model of uncertainty
114. Equity theory
115. Ethnic enclave theory
116. Ethnolinguistic identity theory
117. Evolutionary theory
118. Excitation-transfer theory
119. Exemplification theory
120. Exotic culture theory
121. Expectancy value model
122. Expectancy violations theory
123. Extended elaboration likelihood model
124. Extended parallel processing model
125. Family communication patterns theory
126. Fear as acquired drive model
127. Feedback intervention theory

128. Feeling as information theory
129. Five factor model of personality
130. Focus theory of normative conduct
131. Foundational model for adapting safety rules
132. Four flows theory of communicative constitution of organizations theory
133. Functional emotion theory
134. Functional theory of political campaign discourse
135. Functional theory of political discourse
136. Galileo mental model approach
137. Game theory
138. Gatekeeping theory
139. Gatekeeping theory
140. Gateway belief model
141. Gender congruity theory
142. General learning model
143. General workgroup model for adapting safety rules
144. Global commodity chains model
145. Global value chain theory
146. Grief theory
147. Health belief model
148. Herzberg two factor theory
149. Heuristic systematic model of information processing
150. Hierarchy of influences model

151. Hostile media effects theory
152. Hyper personal model in computer mediated communication
153. Implicit display theory of irony
154. Impression management theory
155. Inclusive fitness theory
156. Indexing theory
157. Indirect effects model
158. Industrial organization theory
159. Information acquisition and processing model
160. Information and communication technology succession theory
161. Information fiduciary theory
162. Information integration theory
163. Information seeking model
164. Inoculation theory
165. Inspirational reality TV model
166. Institutional theory
167. Integrated theories of media choice
168. Integrated threat theory
169. Integrated threat theory of prejudice
170. Integrative model of approach and avoidance processes
171. Integrative social contracts theory
172. Integrative theory of communication and cross-cultural adaptation
173. Intellectual property theory

174. Interaction richness theory
175. Interactive model of communication
176. Interactivity effects model
177. Interactivity effects of mediated indirect contact theory
178. Intercultural workgroup communication theory
179. Interdependence theory
180. Intergroup contact theory
181. Intergroup threat theory
182. Interpersonal judgment theory
183. Interpretive media ethics theory
184. Intra—individual drive theory
185. Invisible support perspective
186. Job demands-resources model
187. Journalism’s theory of democracy
188. Kantian theory of deliberative democracy
189. Kin selection theory
190. Language expectancy theory
191. Leader member dyadic communication model
192. Leader member exchange theory
193. Least objectionable program theory
194. Legacy model of original reporting
195. Limited capacity model of motivated mediated message processing
196. Linguistic bias theory

197. Maguire's model of persuasion
198. Media activation effect model
199. Media enjoyment theory
200. Media ethics theory
201. Media experience theory
202. Media habit theory
203. Media richness theory
204. Media substitution theory
205. Media synchronicity theory
206. Mediated contact theory
207. Mediatization of politics elite theory
208. Mediatization theory
209. Message centered theory
210. Message credibility model
211. Mindfulness model
212. Modality agency interactivity and navigability model (MAIN)
213. Model for resource dilemma management
214. Model of collaboration failure
215. Model of inter-attitude structure and dynamics
216. Model of intrapersonal argument
217. Model of motivations discussion and civic participation
218. Model of narrative coherence
219. Model of online flaming

- 220. Model of organizational dissent
- 221. Model of political information seeking and skepticism
- 222. Model of siblings self-disclosure and relational uncertainty
- 223. Model of smart phone use and political participation
- 224. Model of social sexual communication
- 225. Model of structural inference
- 226. Model of working memory
- 227. Modernization theory
- 228. Moral foundation theory
- 229. Moral intuitions theory
- 230. Moral sensitivity communication model
- 231. Motivation relative preference and social network choice model (M-P-N model)
- 232. Multiple resource theory
- 233. Narrative persuasion theory
- 234. Need satisfaction model
- 235. Negativity bias theory
- 236. Negativity theory
- 237. Neo-Marxists dependency theory
- 238. Neo-modernization dependency theory
- 239. Network gatekeeping theory
- 240. Network theory
- 241. News ecology field theory
- 242. News flow theory

- 243. News framing theory
- 244. News production theory
- 245. News self-affirmation theory
- 246. Normative model of democracy
- 247. Normative model of journalism
- 248. Normative pragmatic theory
- 249. Objectification theory
- 250. Online model of cultivation
- 251. Optimal distinctiveness theory
- 252. Optimal matching model
- 253. Organization public relationships theory
- 254. Organizational cultural theory
- 255. Organizational identity theory
- 256. Orientation-stimulus-reasoning-orientation-response model
- 257. Parallel process model
- 258. Parallel routes of motivation model
- 259. Parasociability of social television model
- 260. Parasocial contact theory
- 261. Parental mediation theory
- 262. Participative theory of leadership
- 263. Partisan media use theory
- 264. Person/culture mental model fit
- 265. Plurilingual organizational theory

266. Polarized pluralist model of media
267. Politeness theory
268. Political efficacy model
269. Politics-media-politics model (PMP)
270. Possible future selves model
271. Postcolonial theory
272. PR excellence theory
273. Practice theory
274. Presumed media influence theory
275. Priming theory
276. Private interest theory
277. Problematic internet use theory
278. Processing fluency and language attitudes model
279. Prominence interpretation theory
280. Propaganda model
281. Protection motivation theory
282. Protest communication model
283. Psychological trauma theory
284. Public-interest theory
285. Punctuated equilibrium model
286. Ramen noodles theory
287. Reactance theory
288. Regulators capture theory

289. Regulatory focus theory
290. Reinforcing spiral's model
291. Relational framing theory
292. Relational leadership theory
293. Relational turbulence theory
294. Relative constancy theory
295. Relevance theory
296. Resorts dependence theory
297. Resource-based theory
298. Restrictive parental media mediation model
299. Rhetorical theory of public relations
300. Risk convergence model
301. Risk information seeking and processing model
302. Role balance theory
303. Role congruity theory
304. Role theory
305. Schema theory
306. Scripting theory
307. Selective exposure for self and affect management model
308. Selective exposure theory
309. Selective exposure theory
310. Self actualizing and dutiful citizen model (AC-DC model)
311. Self awareness theory

- 312. Self categorization theory
- 313. Self control model
- 314. Self evaluation maintenance model
- 315. Self-affirmation theory
- 316. Self-determination theory
- 317. Self-disclosure topic model
- 318. Self-regulation theory
- 319. Sequential information integration model
- 320. Signal detection theory
- 321. Signaling theory
- 322. Social capital model
- 323. Social capital theory
- 324. Social categorization theory
- 325. Social cognitive learning theory
- 326. Social cognitive theory
- 327. Social cognitive theory of internet use and gratifications
- 328. Social determination theory
- 329. Social exchange theory
- 330. Social identification theory
- 331. Social identity model of deindividuation
- 332. Social identity theory
- 333. Social identity theory of intergroup behavior
- 334. Social influence theory

335. Social information processing theory
336. Social media theory
337. Social mediated crisis communication model
338. Social penetration theory
339. Social responsibility model of journalism
340. Social skills deficit vulnerability model
341. Social systems theory
342. Social theory of political participation
343. Socio-evolutionary theory
344. Sojourner theory
345. Source authority hub model
346. Speech act theory
347. Spiral of silence theory
348. Statistical learning theory
349. Stereotype content model
350. Stressor support specificity model
351. Structural theory of heterogeneity and inequality
352. Structuration theory
353. Teaching hospital model of journalism
354. Technological affordances model
355. Technology acceptance model
356. Temporarily expanding boundaries of the self (TEBOTS) model
357. Tenor-vehicle model of metaphor

358. Testing model of adapting safety rules
359. The emotional broadcaster theory of social sharing
360. Theory of affective intelligence
361. Theory of behavioral disconfirmation
362. Theory of bounded generalized reciprocity
363. Theory of communicative action
364. Theory of constructivism
365. Theory of conversationally induced reappraisals
366. Theory of cooperation and competition
367. Theory of deliberative systems
368. Theory of enjoyable alterations of players self perception
369. Theory of entertainment persuasion
370. Theory of entrepreneurship
371. Theory of government information processing
372. Theory of imbrication and organizational communication
373. Theory of independent mindedness
374. Theory of interpersonal goals and situations
375. Theory of interpersonal influence
376. Theory of media attendance
377. Theory of mediated deliberation
378. Theory of mediated prospective memory
379. Theory of mind
380. Theory of mind abilities

381. Theory of motivated information management
382. Theory of narrative persuasion
383. Theory of networked individualism
384. Theory of niche
385. Theory of paradox
386. Theory of persuasion heuristics
387. Theory of planned behavior
388. Theory of preparedness
389. Theory of reasoned action
390. Theory of resilience and relational load
391. Theory of sense making
392. Theory of situated cognition
393. Theory of social choice
394. Theory of subjective quality assessments
395. Theory of the firm
396. Theory of trait ownership
397. Third person effects theory
398. Third person perception model
399. Top-down model of political socialization
400. Trait ownership theory
401. Transacted memory systems in group behavior model
402. Transactional model of social media and body image
403. Transportation theory

- 404. Transportation-imagery model
- 405. Two-step flow theory
- 406. Uncertainty reduction theory
- 407. Uses and gratifications theory
- 408. Verbal person centeredness indirect effects model
- 409. Vicarious goal satiation theory
- 410. Vigilant interaction theory
- 411. Virtue theory
- 412. Virtuous circle theory
- 413. Warranting theory
- 414. Work/family border theory
- 415. World system theory