

Reed Van Schenck, M.A.

Ph.D Candidate and Teaching Assistant
Department of Communication
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Education

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| 2021 | M.A., University of Pittsburgh, Communication |
| 2019 | B.A., Summa Cum Laude, Wake Forest University 2015-2019
Majors: History, Communication;
Minor: Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies |

Current Academic Training

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| 2019-present | Ph.D, University of Pittsburgh, Communication
Certificate in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies
Committee: Dr. Paul Johnson (Chair), Dr. Calum Matheson, Dr. Gordon Mitchell, Dr. Josef Nguyen (University of Texas at Dallas) |
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Peer-Reviewed Journal Publications

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| 2024 (forthcoming) | Co-editor with Elaine Venter, "Digital Platforms and Agency," <i>Lateral</i> , special section, Fall 2024. |
| 2023 | "'Remaking the World Memetically': Interrogating White Nationalist Subject Formation through the Circulation of the 'Wagecuck' Meme." <i>Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies</i> , vol. 20 iss. 3, September 2023, https://doi.org/10.1080/14791420.2023.2228867 .

"Deplatforming 'the People': media populism, racial capitalism, and the regulation of online reactionary networks." <i>Media, Culture & Society</i> , OnlineFirst April 19, 2023, https://doi.org/10.1177/01634437231169909 |

Book Chapters

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| 2023 | "'America First is Inevitable': The Triumphalist Rhetoric of Nicholas Fuentes," in <i>Extremism and Conspiracy Movements: From The Alt-Right to QAnon</i> , ed. Christopher T. Conner and Nicholas MacMurray, Lexington |
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Books.

"Defining Hate Speech as Constitutive Rhetoric," in *Hate Speech and Social Media* vol. 2, ed. Branco Di Fátima, LabCom Books (University of Beira Interior) and EdiPUCE (Pontifical Catholic University of Ecuador)

Book Reviews

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| 2022 | "Decoding the Digital Church." <i>Southern Communication Journal</i> 87, no. 6 (October 11, 2022): 84-86.
https://doi.org/10.1080/1041794X.2022.2134445 . |
| 2021 | "Rhetoric in Neoliberalism." <i>Quarterly Journal of Speech</i> 107, no. 1 (January 2, 2021): 112-16.
https://doi.org/10.1080/00335630.2020.1838073 . |

Fellowships and Grants

External Funding Awarded

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| 2023-2024 | Social Science Research Council, Data Fluencies Dissertation Research Grant with Digital Democracies Institute, \$15,000 for <i>The Reactionary Web: Digital Media and the Reconstruction of White Supremacist Networks after the Alt-Right</i> |
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Internal Funding Awarded

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| 2021 | Dietrich Dean's Summer Fellowship for Research, University of Pittsburgh. |
| 2019 | Mellon Predoctoral Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA. |

Honors and Awards

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| 2023 | Most Valuable Professor, University of Pittsburgh Women's Lacrosse Team. |
| 2022 | Teddy Albinia Award for Outstanding Instruction in Applied Persuasion, University of Texas, Austin, TX. |
| 2019 | Top Student Paper in the GLBTQ Studies Division for "Surviving Whiteness," National Communication Association, Baltimore, MD.

Senior Award for Service and Activism, Department of Women's, |

Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC.

Senior Award for Distinguished Achievements in Communication, Department of Communication, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC.

Best Honors Thesis, Department of Communication, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC.

Competitive Conference Papers (selected)

2023

"Free Platforms/Free People: Racial Capitalism and the Regulation of America First Reactionary Populist Media," National Communication Association, National Harbor, MD.

"Gamer Publics: Live-stream Debate and the Mediation of Public Address in the Digital Attention Economy," National Communication Association, National Harbor, MD.

"One Hundred Nazi Screens: The constitutive function of graphical user interfaces on U.S. American white nationalist information sharing platforms," Association of Internet Researchers, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA.

"LARPing as Adversaries: The Manufactured Conclusion of the Alt-Right," Cultural Studies Association, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA.

2022

"The Optics War: The Rhetorical Reconstitution of Supremacist Networks after 'Unite the Right' in the United States," Conference on Supremacism and Authoritarianism, Institute for Research on Male Supremacism, online.

"Finding Our PLACE in Activism and Social Justice: A Rich Discussion about In-Progress Works from Graduate Students in the Division," National Communication Association, New Orleans, LA.

"Neo-McCarthyism: Anti-Communist Rhetoric in U.S. American Reactionary Digital Networks," Mid-Atlantic Popular & American Culture Association, online.

"Deplatforming the People: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Populism, Victimhood, and Censorship in an Online Right-Wing Extremist Community," SMSociety 22 (Social Media & Society), online.

"The Ethnostate of Father, Mother, and Me: The Sexual Relation of White Nationalism," Lacan: Clinic and Culture, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA.

"Deplatforming the People: Reckoning with Victimhood, Censorship, and Radicalization in the Online Populist Rhetoric of Nicholas J. Fuentes," Chair on "Erasure and Hyper-Exposure: Reckoning with Hate and New Media," Cultural Studies Association, Chicago, IL.

"Lurking in the Closet: A Cyberethnographic Analysis of Transgender Embodiment on 4chan's /lgbt/ Board," Rhetoric Society of America, Baltimore, MD.

"The Charge of Activism" (Chair), Rhetoric Society of America, Baltimore, MD.

2021

"Wacky Ideologies: The Memetic Circulation of the Political Compass," National Communication Association, Seattle, WA.

"Seeing versus Believing: Teaching Digital Rhetoric in a Post-Truth World," National Communication Association, Seattle, WA.

"From Debater to Coach: The Transition from Participant to Leadership Roles in Collegiate Policy Debate," National Communication Association, Seattle, WA.

"Watch Me Debate: Livestream Debate Cultures and Mediated Argument," Mid-Atlantic Popular & American Culture Association, online.

2020

"Digital Dissent: Navigating a Future for Collegiate Policy Debate," National Communication Association, online.

2019

"Surviving Whiteness: Fantasy, Faggotry, and the Androphile Politics of Jack Donovan," National Communication Association, Baltimore, MD.

"Debate and the Far Right," National Communication Association, Baltimore, MD.

"Dysphoria Wars: Transmedicalism and its Unthought Subjects," Mid-Atlantic Popular & American Culture Association, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA.

"The Historian of Non-Events: Re/Presenting the Past in Postmodern Times," Undergraduate Moral and Political Philosophy Conference, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC.

2018

"Monsters at Play: The Rhetoric of Fear in Anti-Transgender Bathroom

Bill Visual Rhetoric," National Communication Association, Salt Lake City, UT.

"(Trans)Gender at Play: Enhancement as a Rhetorical Intervention into Gender-Affirming Surgery", National Communication Association, Salt Lake City, UT.

Panel Presentations

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| 2023 | <p>(Chair) "Digital Media and Critical Rhetorical Methods," National Communication Association, National Harbor, MD.</p> <p>"White Nationalism & Racial Rhetorical Narratives of American Freedom," National Communication Association, National Harbor, MD.</p> <p>"Racial Capitalism and Visual Culture Roundtable," Cultural Studies Association, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA.</p> |
| 2022 | <p>"Situating Ongoing Interventions Into Extremism: Whiteness, Gender, and Digitality," National Communication Association, New Orleans, LA.</p> <p>"Queer and Trans Participation in Intercollegiate Policy Debate," National Communication Association, New Orleans, LA.</p> <p>(Chair) "The Charge of Activism," Rhetoric Society of America, Baltimore, MD.</p> |
| 2021 | <p>"Seeing versus Believing: Teaching Digital Rhetoric in a Post-Truth World," National Communication Association, Seattle, WA.</p> <p>"From Debater to Coach: The Transition from Participant to Leadership Roles in Collegiate Policy Debate," National Communication Association, Seattle, WA.</p> |
| 2020 | <p>"Digital Dissent: Navigating a Future for Collegiate Policy Debate," National Communication Association, online.</p> |
| 2019 | <p>"Debate and the Far Right," National Communication Association, Baltimore, MD.</p> |

Work Experience

Teaching

University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA.

2022-present

Faculty Liaison, College in High School:

- Argumentation Forum (Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024)

2020-present

Instructor, Department of Communication:

- Mass Communication and Society (COMMRC 0320)
- Public Speaking (COMMRC 0520)
- Argumentation (COMMRC 0500)

Debate Pedagogy

2020-2023

Graduate Assistant, William Pitt Debating Union, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA.

2022

Lab Leader, Dartmouth Debate Institute, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH.

2016-2020

Lab Assistant, Ross Kennedy Smith Debate Institute, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC.

Research Positions

Institute for Research on Male Supremacism, University of California at Berkeley, Berkeley, CA.

Mentee, 2022-present.

Digital Scholarship Services, University of Pittsburgh Library System, Pittsburgh, PA.

Intern, Summer 2021.

Outputs: [“Pittsburgh Always Antifascist”](#) (Digital Exhibit) and [Geotags for Archival Material](#)

Service – National Level

2023

Peer Reviewer, *Frontiers in Communication*

Reviewer, Northwest Communication Association

Reviewer, National Communication Association, Public Address Division

Reviewer, Association of Internet Researchers

2021	Reviewer, National Communication Association, GLBTQ Studies Division
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Service – University/Department Level

2022-2023	Hiring Committee for Associate Director of Debate, Department of Communication
	Secretary, Rhetoric Society of America Student Chapter, University of Pittsburgh.
	Vice President, Communication Graduate Student Organization, University of Pittsburgh.
	Member, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, Arts and Sciences Graduate Student Organization, University of Pittsburgh.
2021-2022	Proseminar Curriculum Committee, Department of Communication, University of Pittsburgh.
	Arts and Sciences GSO Representative from Communication, University of Pittsburgh.
2020-2021	Social Media Coordinator, Cultural Studies and Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Graduate Student Organization, University of Pittsburgh.
	Arts and Sciences GSO Representative from Communication, University of Pittsburgh.
2019-2020	Programming Coordinator, Cultural Studies and Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Graduate Student Organization, University of Pittsburgh.
	Graduate Culture and Experience Representative, Communication Graduate Student Organization, University of Pittsburgh.
2018	Program Assistant, Wake Forest Argumentation Conference.
2016	Moderator, Wake Forest University Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Symposium

Academic Affiliations

Center for Information, Technology, and Public Life

Institute for Research on Male Supremacism

National Communication Association

Rhetoric Society of America

Cultural Studies Association

Mid-Atlantic Popular and American Culture Association

Phi Beta Kappa, Wake Forest University

Lambda Pi Eta, Wake Forest University

Public Advocacy

Public Speaking

The Ministry of Science, serial online live-stream, 2022-present

Designs and organizes live public debates about political controversies.

March for Our Lives, Winston-Salem, NC

North Carolina Trans Pride, Charlotte, NC.

“The Labor of Trans Activism: Lessons from the Triad” co-presented with Tessa Harper

The Young Democratic Socialists of America

President, Wake Forest University Chapter, 2018-2019.

Co-Author, National [Mutual Mentorship Guide](#), Fall 2018.

DEI Co-Mentorship

Wake Forest University LGBTQ Center Speaker’s Bureau, 2017-2019

Facilitated DEI trainings for faculty about gender and sexuality.

BRANCHES Social Justice Retreat, Pro Humanitate Institute, Washington, D.C. October 2017

Facilitated modules to teach DEI best practices.