GRADUATE CONCENTRATION IN RHETORIC



The premiere integrated speech/composition/digital rhetoric program

INDIANA UNIVERSITY

The Rhetoric Concentration

Indiana University's new PhD concentration in Rhetoric provides an increasingly sought after integration of Communication and Composition Studies. Students and scholars from across the spectrum of rhetorical studies collaborate on the vital educational, political, cultural, historical, and aesthetic interests emerging in research and teaching at this crucial nexus of humanist studies.

Leaving artificial boundaries behind, we are free to explore the diverse terrain of contemporary rhetorical theory, criticism, and practice in a multi-disciplinary environment that encourages you to draw on the inexhaustible resources of one of the great public research institutions.

You will receive a rigorous training in the great rhetorical traditions while exploring the latest developments in the field and your own specific scholarly passions.

With a curriculum that brings together scholars in digital rhetoric, social justice, visual culture, critical-cultural rhetoric and pedagogical theory, IU is an ideal place for graduate students to pursue their eclectic passions and interests in an environment of intellectual curiosity, creativity, scholarly rigor, social commitment, and community.





A Commitment to You

Our program is committed to providing you with the resources for developing your fullest potential as scholars, teachers, and academic citizens. Faculty provide close mentoring and advising to cultivate excellence at every stage of your graduate career.

We offer generous five-year funding packages that include one non-teaching dissertation-year fellowship.

Our graduate students are trained to teach both in writing/composition and oral communication. This combined pedagogical training opens wider opportunities in an increasingly competitive job market.

We place a pronounced emphasis on writing-to-publication, providing numerous and systematic opportunities to bring your original research to fruition through conference stipends, grants, mentoring, and peer support.

Our unique combination of intensive pedagodical training, generous research support, broad teaching opportunities, and innovative pedagogies make this program one of the premiere programs for graduate studies in Rhetoric.

Graduate Curriculum

Core Courses

- Rhetoric and Public Culture
- History of Rhetorical Theory I and II

Electives

- Rhetorical Theories of Cultural Production
- Rhetoric and Sociopolitical Judgment
- Rhetoric and Visual Culture
- Feminism and Rhetorical Theory
- The Symbolism of Evil
- Rhetorics of Transgression and Resistance
- Introduction to Methods of Criticism and Research
- Teaching Composition: Issues and Approaches
- Critical and Interpretive Theory
- Readings in Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
- Contemporary Theories in Rhetoric and Composition
- Topics in Feminist Critical Studies
- Research in Colonial and Postcolonial Studies





Courses our Graduate Students Teach

- Deliberative Democracy
- Rhetoric and Violence
- Communicating Sustainability
- The Rhetoric of Place
- Contexts for the Study of Writing
- Practicum on Research Techniques
- Intro to Methods of Criticism and Research
- Reading, Writing, and Inquiry
- Readings in Language, History, and Culture
- Stylistics
- Visual Rhetoric
- Critical and Interpretive Theory
- Readings in Performance Studies
- Readings in Media, Literature, and Culture
- Readings in Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality
- Development of Rhetoric and Composition
- Rhetorical Theories of Cultural Production
- Feminism and Rhetorical Theory
- English Grammar Review
- Professional Writing
- Introduction to Drama
- Introduction to Fiction

Rhetoric Faculty



Christine Farris



Dana Anderson



Freya Thimser



John Schilb



Katherine Silvester



Justin Hodgsor



Robert Terrill



Kurt. Zimlicka



John Arthos



John Lucaites



Cynthia Smith



Scot Barnett



Faculty Specializations

Dana Anderson: rhetorical theory, composition, pedagogy; identity, agency, and rhetorics of human personhood

John Arthos: rhetoric and hermeneutics, narrative theory, social movements

Scot Barnett: histories and theories of rhetoric; digital rhetorics, and the rhetorics of science and technology

Christine Farris: composition studies, contemporary rhetorical theory and practice, feminist rhetoric, pedagogy

Justin Hodgson: digital media and rhetorical studies; multimedia production, aesthetics, game/play theories

John Lucaites: rhetoric and social theory; judgment; visual rhetorics; contemporary rhetorical theory

John Schilb: composition, rhetoric; literary theory

Katherine Silvester: rhetoric and composition; multilingual pedagogy and composition; ethnography

Robert Terrill: rhetorical invention; African American public address; classical rhetorical theory

Freya Thimsen: performance of democratic rhetoric, critical -cultural philosophy

Selected Faculty Publications

- Scot Barnett, Rhetorical Realism: Rhetoric, Ethics, and the Ontology of Things (forthcoming).
- John Schilb, Rhetorical Refusals: Defying Audiences' Expectations (Southern Illinois University Press, 2007).
- John Lucaites, No Caption Needed: Iconic Photographs, Public Culture, and Liberal Democracy, with Robert Hariman (University of Chicago Press, 2007).
- Christine Farris, College Credit for Writing in High School: The "Taking Care of" Business, edited with Kristine Hansen (Urbana, IL: National Council of Teachers of English, 2010)
- Robert Terrill, *Double-Consciousness and the Rhetoric of Barack Obama: The Price and Promise of Citizenship* (University of South Carolina Press, 2015).
- John Arthos, Speaking Hermeneutically: Understanding in the Conduct of a Life (University of South Carolina Press, 2011).





Representative Dissertations

- Throwing Like a Girl: Constituting Citizenship for Women & Girls
- Gangsta Rap & the Politics of Race in the Post-Civil Rights Era
- The Critical Optics of Homeless Publics
- Sonic Technologies of the Self: Mediating Sound, Space, Self, and Sociality • The Influence of Nonprofit Fundraising on Community Deliberation and Judgment
- Performing the Child in Socialist Bulgaria
- The Music Commodity in the Age of Digital Rematerialization
- Selling Turkishness: Nationalism and Globalization in Turkish Advertising
- Soft Control: Television's Relationship to Digital Micromedia
- The Country Life Movement Between Productivity & Sustainability
- Re-Remembering the Cultural Legacy of Jackie Robinson
- Just Joking: Racial Comedy, Rhetorical Education, and Democratic Style
- Incarceration, Liberation, and Leisure on "The Rock"
- Socialized Medicine: Searching for Community in American Public Discourse
- Evolutionary (manifest) destiny at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in 1904
- An Ethnographic Examination of Computer Gaming Culture at LAN Partie







Campus Highlights

- a vibrant campus intellectual life, featuring the Center for Theoretical Inquiry, Center for 18th Century Studies, the Lilly Rare Books Library, Folklore Institute, Center for Constitutional Democracy, and the renowned Kinsey Institute
- renowned music, theater & cinema programs
- 200 research centers and institutes
- one of the most beautiful university campuses. Anywhere.
- a fiersome Big-Ten college sports town
- one of the three finest university art collections in the U.S.
- a new, state-of-the-art graduate library with special graduate meeting rooms & facilities
- a large multi-cultural student population fostering diverse arts, entertainment, food, and culture

Bloomington, the town

- a quintessential college town with easy access to any where (close to Indianapolis, Chicago, etc.)
- a rich and diverse culinary scene with fine international restaurants and eateries
- vibrant locally owned coop, natural foods community, and local breweries
- thriving arts scene with renowned regional theater, art and indie music, including the Lotus World Music & Arts Festival
- huge biking community, and of course the Little 500 Weekend
- spectacular state parks & wildnerness, a paradise for hikers, campers, nature buffs
- big city culture packed into one small town



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