**­­­­James Alexander McVey**

Department of Communication Studies

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# Education

## University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

### Ph.D. Communication, April 2018

Emphasis: Rhetoric, Media Studies

Dissertation: “Policing the Post-Racial: Visual Cultures of Race and Policing”

Committee: Eric King Watts (Chair), Christian O. Lundberg, Torin Monahan, Kumi Silva, Sharon Holland (American Studies)

## Baylor University

### M.A., 2012, Department of Communication

Emphasis: Rhetoric

Thesis: “Barack Obama and the Rhetoric of American Exceptionalism: Race, Economy, Security, and the Exceptional Rhetorical Apparatus of Sovereign Power”

Committee: Leslie Hahner (Chair), Martin J. Medhurst, Paul Larson (Spanish)

### B.A., 2010, Spanish, International Studies

# Professional Appointments

## Kansas State University

Assistant Professor and Director of Debate

Department of Communication Studies, 2018-Present

## Wichita State University

Instructor, Elliot School of Communication, Fall 2017

## George Mason University

Department of Communication, Assistant Director of Debate, 2012-2013

# Publications

## Peer Reviewed Publications:

James Alexander McVey, "Memeing the Black Presidency: Obama Memes and the Affective Ambivalence of Blackness," in “Symposium: Rhetoric, Race, and Resentment: Whiteness and the New Days of Rage,” *Rhetoric Review* 36:4, (2017) pp. 302-311

James Alexander McVey and Heather Suzanne Woods, “Anti-racist Activism and the Transformational Principles of Hashtag Publics: from #HandsUpDontShoot to #PantsUpDontLoot,” *Present Tense* 5:3 (2016) (Online)

Heather Suzanne Woods and James Alexander McVey, “#BlackLivesMatter as A Case Study in the Politics of Digital Media: Algorithms, Hashtag Publics, and Organizing Protest Online,” *Teaching Media Quarterly* 4:1 (2016) (Online)

James Alexander McVey, “Recalibrating the State of the Union: Visual Rhetoric and the Temporality of Neoliberal Economics in the 2011 Enhanced State of the Union Address,” *POROI: The Project on the Rhetoric of Inquiry* 11:2 (2015) (Online) **[Lead article]**

Alex McVey, “Toward New Readings of Borges and Sexuality,” *International Journal of Baudrillard Studies* 9:1 (2012) (Online)

## Book Reviews:

Alex McVey, “The Iconography of Malcolm X by Graeme Abernathy (review),” *Rhetoric & Public Affairs* 18:4 (Winter 2015) pp. 784-787

Alex McVey, “Politics of Memory: Making Slavery Visible in the Public Space - Ana Lucia Araujo (review),” *Rhetoric & Public Affairs* 18:4 (Winter 2015) pp. 793-797

Alex McVey, “Review of Andrejevic’s Infoglut,” *Surveillance & Society* 11:4: (2014) pp. 525-527

## Non-Refereed and Public Writing:

Jeff Roberts and Alex McVey, "Affirmation (-) Being Resolved in Becoming Resolution," *International Journal of Baudrillard Studies* 5.2 (2008) (Online)

Alex McVey, “Being Patriotic,” *Reading the Pictures* blog, “Visual Scholars Read the Fake Russian Ads – Part 1,” December 7, 2017, https://www.readingthepictures.org/2017/12/fake-russian-ads-1/

## In Progress

James Alexander McVey, “Barack Obama’s “A More Perfect Union,” and the Rhetoric of Racial Analogy,” in preparation for submission to *Rhetoric & Public Affairs*.

# Awards and Honors

## Fellowships and Departmental Awards

Caroline H. and Thomas S. Royster Fellowship, Royster Society of Fellows, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2013-2018 [$145,000, incl. tuition, fees, two non-service years]

Outstanding Graduate Student Award, Department of Communication Studies, Baylor University, May 2012

Graduate Assistantship, Glen R. Capp Debate Forum, 2011-2012 [Tuition waiver, $14,700]

GEAR UP Waco Assistantship, Baylor University, 2010-2011 [Tuition waiver, $14,700]

## Research Grants and Awards

UNC Institute for African American Research (IAAR) Graduate Student Summer Research Grant, competitive award, covering technology costs for dissertation research [$350]

Cross Examination Debate Association Micro-Grant, research grant, Co-Investigator with Allison Harper. Dr. Katherine Rowan served as University mandated Primary Investigator, July 2013. [$5,000]

## Travel Grants and Awards

UNC Graduate Student Opportunity Fund, Competitive award, registration fees for the 2015 Rhetoric Society of America Summer Institute, May 2015 [$340]

UNC Graduate and Professional Student Federation Travel Award, Competitive travel grant, travel to Southern States Communication Association, April 2015 [$400]

Graduate Student Honorarium, Speech & Debate as Civic Education Conference hosted by the Department of Communication Arts & Sciences and the Center for Democratic Deliberation at Penn State University, January 9, 2015 [$350]

## Top Paper Panels and Awards

Top Graduate Student Paper Panel, “When will the world end? When was the end of the world? Temporality and Fanon,” African American Communication division, National Communication Association Conference, Dallas, TX, November 2017

Top Paper Panel, “Burke and Agamben: Toward a Political Ontology of Rhetoric,” Kenneth Burke Society, National Communication Association Conference, November 2015, Las Vegas, NV

Top Paper, National Communication Association, Cross Examination Debate Association Division, “A Preliminary Analysis of Attitudes Toward Mutually Preferred Judging and Diversity in Intercollegiate Policy Debate,” with Allison Harper, second author November 2014 [$200.00]

Top Paper, National Communication Association, Cross Examination Debate Association Division, “The Model Judge: Using Multiple Regression Analysis to Identify Characteristics of Highly Preferred Judges in Policy Debate,” with Allison Harper and Jackie Poapst, second author, November 2013 [$50.00]

Top Graduate Student Paper Panel, Rhetorical Theory Division, National Communication Association Conference, November 2011

# Conference Activity

## Invited Presentations

“On the Rhetorical Ambivalence of Hashtag Activism,” Plenary II: Rights - Activists, Advocates, Academics: Working for Women’s Civic, Digital, & Institutional Spaces, Feminisms and Rhetorics conference, Dayton, OH, 2017

“Policing the Post-Racial: on the Visual Rhetoric of the Blue Lives Matter Movement,” Colloquium, Department of Communication, Kansas State University, November 8, 2017

## Panels Organized

“Race, Rhetoric, and the Problem of (In)Visibility,” Rhetoric Society of America Conference, Atlanta, GA, May 2016

## Papers Presented

“Meaning, Affect, and Race: The Memes of the Blue Lives Matter Movement,” Accepted as part of a panel, “Memes in a Post-Truth Era,” for the National Communication Association conference 2018.

“Horizons of the Post-Racial - Rhetoric, Media and the Temporal In-Between of Race,” Paper accepted as part of a competitively selected panel, “New Media, New Rhetorics?: Re-Inventing Rhetoric’s Past with Its Technological Future,” Rhetoric Society of America Conference 2018.

“But what about Blue Racism?” #BlueLivesMatter and White Masculine Victimization,” Paper accepted as part of a competitively selected panel titled, “Disarticulating Whiteness and Masculinity in the time of Donald J. Trump,” Southern States Communication Association Conference 2018.

“When will the world end? When was the end of the world? Temporality and Fanon,” African American Communication division, **Top Student Paper Panel**,National Communication Association Conference, Dallas, TX, November 2017

“The Sight of the Sovereign Body: Body-Mounted Police Cameras and the Decline of Symbolic Efficiency,” paper presented as part of a competitively selected panel titled, “What’s ‘the Body’ Anyhow?: Re-Innovating Embodiment as Visual Rhetoric,” Southern States Communication Association, Charleston, SC, May 2017

"The Subject of the Unsung: Remembering Slavery at the University of North Carolina,” competitively selected paper, Southern States Communication Association, Charleston, SC, May 2017

“The Revolution Will Not Be Photoshopped: The Visual Rhetoric of Digital Image Manipulation and the #BlackLivesMatter Movement,” Paper presented as part of a competitively selected panel titled “Race, Rhetoric, and the Problem of (In)Visibility,” Rhetoric Society of America Conference, Atlanta, GA, May 2016

“Afro-Pessimism in Public: on the Rhetorical Contingency of Blackness,” competitively selected paper, Rhetoric Society of America Conference, Atlanta, GA, May 2016

“Following the Facts in Ferguson: Bob McCulloch, Forensic Science, and the Disciplining of #BlackLivesMatter,” Paper presented as part of the competitively selected panel, “The Science(s) of Rhetoric: Versions of (and Aversions to) the Rhetorical Criticism of Science and Technology,” Southern States Communication Association, Austin, TX April 2016

“Burke and Agamben: Toward a Political Ontology of Rhetoric,” competitively selected paper, **Top Paper Panel**, Kenneth Burke Society Division, National Communication Association, Las Vegas, NV, November 2015

“Toward a Rhetorical Theory of Scalar Racism,” competitively selected paper, Rhetorical and Critical Theory Division, National Communication Association, Las Vegas, NV November 2015

“Voices of Protest and Visions of Change: Social Media and the Digital Archive of Ferguson, MO,” competitively selected paper, Critical and Cultural Studies Division, National Communication Association, Las Vegas, NV, November 2015

“Recalibrating the State of the Union: Visual Rhetoric and Temporality in the 2011 Enhanced State of the Union Address,” competitively selected paper, Rhetoric and Public Address Division, Southern States Communication Association conference, Tampa, FL, April 2015

“Datafying the Caselist –Evidence Archives, Power, and Performance in the Era of Big Data,” competitively selected paper, Speech & Debate as Civic Education Conference at Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA, March 2015

“A Preliminary Analysis of Attitudes Toward Mutually Preferred Judging and Diversity in Intercollegiate Policy Debate,” with Allison Harper, second author, competitively selected paper, **Top Paper,** Cross Examination Debate Association Division, National Communication Association, Chicago, IL, November 2014

“‘My Brother’s Keeper’ and the Shifting Trajectories of Race, Class, and Gender in the Rhetoric of President Barack Obama,” competitively selected paper, Public Address Division, National Communication Association, Chicago, IL, November 2014

“Does Debate Technology Have Politics?: Toward a Socio-Technological Understanding of Technology in College Policy Debate,” competitively selected paper, Cross Examination Debate Association division, National Communication Association, Chicago, IL, November 2014

“Recording Technology as Counter-Surveillance and The Technological Mediation of NYPD’s Stop and Frisk,” competitively selected paper, Critical and Cultural Studies Division, National Communication Association, Chicago, IL, November 2014

“American Exceptionalism, The Rule of Law, and the Rhetoric of the Sovereign Decision in President Barack Obama’s ‘Our Security, Our Values,’” competitively selected paper, Rhetoric and Public Address Division, Southern States Communication Association, September 2013

“The Paradoxes of Sovereign Temporality in Barack Obama's ‘Our Security, Our Values,’” competitively selected paper, Rhetoric Society of America, National Conference, San Antonio, TX, May 2014

“The Model Judge: Using Multiple Regression Analysis to Identify Characteristics of Highly Preferred Judges in Policy Debate,” with Allison Harper, second author, competitively selected paper, **Top Paper**, Cross Examination Debate Association Division. National Communication Association, Washington D.C. November 2013

“A More Perfect Union and the Ruse of Analogy,” competitively selected paper, Public Address Division, National Communication Association, Washington D.C., November 2013

“‘A More Perfect Union’ and the Inclusive Exclusion of Racial Analogy,” competitively selected paper, Equality Equals…? Conference, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, April 2013

“Winning the Neo-liberal Future: The Use of Time as a Rhetorical Strategy in President Barack Obama’s 2011 State of the Union Address,” competitively selected paper, Public Address Division, National Communication Association, November 2012

“Approaching Black History Like a Fly Malcolm X – Kanye West and the Rhetorical Profanation of Black History as Cultural Style,” competitively selected paper, African American Communication & Culture Division, National Communication Association, November 2012

“Infancy, History, and the Rhetorical Situation: Toward an Agambenian Critique of Rhetorical Theory,” competitively selected paper, **Top Graduate Student Paper Panel,** Rhetorical Theory Division. presented at the NCA National Convention, New Orleans, LA, November 2011

“Signifyin(g) the Voice of post-Katrina New Orleans: Lil Wayne’s ‘Tie My Hand’ and the Rhetoric of Hip-Hop,” competitively selected paper, African American Communication & Culture Division, National Communication Association, New Orleans, LA, November 2011

“The Rhetorical Consciousness of Lil’ Wayne,” competitively selected paper, presented at the Pop Culture Association/American Culture Association’s National Convention, San Antonio, TX, April 2011

## Discussant

“Race and Rage: Reflections on the Rhetoric of Whiteness and Resentment,” National Communication Association, Dallas, TX, November 2017

“Calling All Voices: Race, Inclusion, Expression, Protest, & Civility,” National Communication Association, Philadelphia, PA, November 2016

# Teaching

## Wichita State University

Instructor, Communication 660/860 – Seminar in Race, Rhetoric and Media, Fall 2017

## University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

### Courses Taught:

Communication 140, Introduction to Media Studies and Criticism

Communication 170, Rhetoric and Public Issues

Communication 171, Argumentation and Debate

### Courses Assisted:

Communication 113, Public Speaking (Christian Lundberg)

Communication 140, Intro to Media Studies and Criticism (Neal Thomas)

Communication 170, Think, Speak, Argue, UNC’s Chancellors Science Scholars Program (Christian Lundberg)

Communication 312, Persuasion (Michael Waltman)

Communication 170, Rhetoric & Public Issues (V. William Balthrop)

## Duke Talent Identification Program (Duke TIP)

Instructor, “Choosing Sides: Debate and Persuasion,” 7th and 8th grade Gifted and Talented program, University of Kansas Campus, Lawrence, KS, June 2014

Instructor, “Choosing Sides: Debate and Persuasion,” 7th and 8th grade Gifted and Talented program, Appalachian State University Campus, Boone, NC, July 2014

Curriculum Resource Guide Developer, “That’s Debatable: Debate and Persuasion,” Spring 2016

## George Mason University

### Courses Taught:

Communication 260, Basic Debate Theory & Practice, 2012-2013

Communication 362, Argument and Public Policy, 2013

## Baylor University

GEAR UP Waco, STEM Communication, 2009-2011

# Debate Coaching

## Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS

Director of Debate, 2018-Present

## Wichita State University, Wichita, KS

Assistant Debate Coach, 2016- 2018

## The Harker School, Middle School, San Jose, CA

Assistant Debate Coach, Summer 2017

## The Blake School, Minneapolis, MN

Assistant Debate Coach, 2015 –2016

## Woods Charter School, Chapel Hill, NC

Chapel Hill, NC, Debate Coach, 2014-2015

## George Mason University, Fairfax, VA

Assistant Debate Coach, 2013-2016

Assistant Director of Debate, 2012-2013

## Baylor University, Waco, TX

Graduate Assistant coach for the Glenn R. Capp Debate Forum, 2010-2012

Baylor Summer Debate Workshop, Waco, TX, Lab leader, 2006-2012

## Midway High School, Waco, TX

Assistant Debate Coach, 2009-2014

## Jayhawk Debate Institute, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS

Lab Leader – 2011-2013

## Invited Debate Lectures:

“Debating the Kritik,” Kansas City Kansas Community College, Kansas City, KS, Guest Lecturer, Debate Camp, Summer 2011

“Debating Baudrillard” Lecture, University of Texas San Antonio, Guest Lecturer, Debate Camp, Summer 2011

“How to Debate the Kritik,” Patriot Classic Debate Institute, George Mason University, Guest Lecturer, Summer 2013

“Critical Surveillance Studies 101,” Nebraska Debate Institute, Guest Lecturer via Skype, Summer 2015, $50.00 honorarium

# Professional Development

Rhetoric Society of America Summer Institute, Rhetoric and Race Seminar, 2015

RSA Research Network, Rhetoric Society of America, 2014

# Service

## Editorial

Reviewer, Digital Humanities Quarterly, March 2016

Editorial Intern, *Rhetoric & Public Affairs*, 2010-2013

## University

Moderator, Royster Society of Fellows Speaker Series, “Discourse in the University, and Beyond!” panel on Free Speech, Race, and Discourse in the University, April 2016

Faculty Liaison, Graduate Student Association, UNC Department of Communication Studies, 2015-2016

Social Chair, Graduate Student Association, UNC Department of Communication Studies, 2014-2015

Participant in Baylor Debate’s Public Debate events against the Japanese and British National Debate Teams, 2007, 2008.

## Disciplinary

Chair, “Race, Raciality, and Racism,” Rhetorical and Communication Theory Division, National Communication Association Conference, November 2015

Reviewer, Critical and Cultural Studies Division, National Communication Association Conference, April 2015

Reviewer, Public Address Division, National Communication Association Conference, April 2015

Reviewer, Cross Examination Debate Association Division, National Communication Association Conference, April 2014

Reviewer, Rhetorical Theory Division, National Communication Association Conference, March 2013

# Memberships

National Communication Association, 2011-Present

Rhetoric Society of America, 2013-Present

Southern States Communication Association, 2014-Present