

STEVEN JOHN THOMPSON

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Keywords/Research Fields

chaos & fractals • convergence • cybernetics • cybersemiotics • ethics • iconics • informatics design • journalism • media studies • net governance and policy • new media • online behavior • peace studies • rhetorics • science, technology and society • semiotics • social networks • technical communication • virtuality • word & image

Education

Clemson University

PhD Rhetorics, Communication, and Information Design 2010

Dissertation “Rhetorics of Iconics: New Media Informatics, Terrorism, and Cybersemiotics”

Indiana University

MS Media Arts and Science, *School of Informatics, New Media Program* 2004

The Pennsylvania State University

BA Media Studies, with High Distinction and Honors in Media Studies, *International Focus* 1997

BA Integrative Arts, with High Distinction and Honors in Media Studies, *New Media Concentration* 1997

Certificate Minor in Science, Technology and Society (STS), *College of Engineering* 1997

AA Letters, Arts and Sciences 1988

The University of Manchester, United Kingdom

Certificate The Mass Media in Britain 1995

Academic Experience

Adjunct Associate Professor University of Maryland University College *Department of Communication Studies & Professional Writing* Adelphi MD 2012-Present

Online instructor for courses in Communication Studies, Journalism, Speech, and Professional Writing.

Visiting Assistant Professor Towson University *College of Liberal Arts* Towson MD 2010-11

ENGL 317 (Hybrid): *Writing for Business and Industry*, three sections.

ENGL 318 (Online): *Advanced Informational Writing*, two sections.

PRWR 623 (Online): *Technical Writing and Information Design*, three graduate seminars.

PRWR 625 (Hybrid): *Design, Layout and Production*, two graduate seminars.

Instructor of Record Clemson University *College of Architecture, Arts and Humanities* Clemson SC 2006-10

COMM 107 (Online): *Media Representations of Science & Technology*, one semester. One section.

COMM 150L: *Introduction to Human Communication*, four semesters. Ten total lab sections.

COMM 250: *Public Speaking*, two semesters. Four total sections.

ENGL 314: *Technical Writing*, two semesters. Four total sections.

Instructor Platt College *Design Department* San Diego CA 2005-06

DES 101: *Design Basics*, five terms. Non-electronic studio fundamentals. Principles and iterative processes of graphic design. Brainstorming, idea development in various media, perspective, line art technique, color theory.
IW 104: *Introduction to Web Design*, three terms. Studio for Website creation using Macromedia MX Suite.

Research Scholar *School of New Media* Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis IN 2003-04

Proposed research methods, procedures, and analyses of usability for redesign of health informatics Website.

Adjunct Faculty Education America *Associate Degree Program in Internet Information Systems* San Diego CA 2002

IIS 250: *Internet Information Systems*, one term. HTML, JavaScript, and CSS.

Adjunct Faculty University of Phoenix *B.S. in Information Technology Program, Web Track* Southern CA 1999-02

WEB 350: *Internet Applications*, one term. Origin, history, and structure of the Internet.

WEB 410: *Web Programming I*, three terms. Basic HTML and JavaScript.

WEB 420: *Web Programming II*, three terms. Advanced JavaScript.

WEB 430: *Web Programming III*, one term. JAVA programming language.

WEB 445: *Network Administration*, two terms. Basic network, Internet server setup.

WEB 450: *Special Topics*, two terms. Internet e-commerce, privacy, and security.

Instructor Learning Tree University Thousand Oaks CA 1998

D1E74: *Creating Web Pages with HTML*, three terms.

Invited Lectures

Guest Lecturer Towson University (2010) ENGL 463: *Semiotics: The Study of Signs*.

Peer Reviewerships

Abstract Reviewer (2011) Second European Communication Research and Education Association (ECREA) Journalism Studies Section of 26th International Communication Conference, Pamplona.

Referee (2010-11) *Theory, Culture & Society*. Sage Publications.

Referee (2008-09) *New Media & Society*. Sage Publications.

Associate Editor (2008) *Design Principles & Practices: An International Journal*, Vol. 2, 2008. Common Ground.

Referee (2008) *Technical Communication: Virtual Worlds SE. Journal of the Society for Technical Communication*.

Publications

Thompson, S. J. Ed. (2012). "Nano-Cyberwarfare and Counterterrorism: Threat, Attack, Resistance, and Survival Technology Issues." Hershey, PA : IGI Pub. (Forthcoming)

Thompson, S. J. (2010). "Iconics: Icon Evolution in Digitality." *TripleC - Cognition, Communication, Co-operation: Open Access Journal for a Global Sustainable Information Society*, Vol. 8, No. 2, 2010.

Thompson, S. J. (2006). "Fearful Symmetries." *Artiencina*, Portfolio, Ano II, Numero 4. Agosto-Outubro.

Thompson, S. J. (2003). "Crash Landing." *Genesis*, Volume xxxiv, Spring, 2003.

Thompson, S. J. (2003). "Spilt Milk." *Genesis*, Volume xxxiv, Spring, 2003.

Thompson, S. J. (1996). "Internet Connectivity: Addiction and Dependency Study." *Penn State McNair Journal*.

Book Reviews

Thompson, S. J. (2012) *Understanding Digital Culture* by Vince Miller. *Media, War & Conflict*. (Forthcoming)

Thompson, S. J. (2012). *Critical Terms for Media Studies* by W.J.T. Mitchell and Mark B.N. Hansen, Eds. *Invisible Culture: An Electronic Journal for Visual Culture*. (Forthcoming)

Thompson, S. J. (2008). *The Handbook of Visual Communication: Theory, Methods, and Media* by Ken Smith, Sandra Moriarty, Gretchen Barbatsis, and Keith Kenney. *Business Communication Quarterly*, 2008; 71: 518-520. DOI: 10.1177/1080569908321862.

Conference Panels

Moderator Moderated panel on Media and Information Literacy Education at First International Forum on Media and Information Literacy, Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Fes-Sais of Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University, Fez, Kingdom of Morocco (2011).

Moderator Moderated seven presentation panels at ED-MEDIA--World Conference on Educational Multimedia, Hypermedia & Telecommunications, Vienna University of Technology, Vienna, Austria (2008).

Conference Presentations

"Decoding the Darknet: Cybermorality, Protection of Tor, and the Infiltration of Lolita City," London, UK, 2012. The Sex and Technology theme of the Onscenity Conference, co-hosted by the Onscenity Research Network, the School of Arts and the School of Social Sciences at Brunel University.

"Netizen Policy Control: Considerations for Rules of Engagement in Cyberspace," Wales, UK, 2011. The 6th International Conference in Interpretive Policy Analysis: Discursive Spaces, Politics, Practices and Power, Panel 20 on Globalizing Technology and Innovation Policies: Interpretative and Critical Approaches. Sponsored by the Centre for Business Relationships, Accountability, Sustainability and Society, Society of the Economic and Social Research Council, and the Sustainable Places Research Institute, Cardiff University.

Keynote Plenary Speaker "Endless Empowerment and Existence: From Virtual Literacy to Online Permanence in Presence," Fez, Morocco, 2011. The First International Forum on Media and Information Literacy. Organized by Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University Faculty of Medicine with UNESCO, ISESCO, ABEGS, and UNAOC. Sponsored by Laboratory of Discourse, Creativity and Society: Perception and Implications at the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Fes-Sais of Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University.

"From Cold War to Cyberwar: Conflict and Strategy in the Global War of Icons," Barcelona, Spain, 2011. McLuhan Galaxy, Understanding Media, Today International Conference. Organized by the Internet Interdisciplinary Institute (IN3), Universitat Oberta de Catalunya and the Faculty of Communication, and Universitat Pompeu Fabra with collaboration of Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona (CCCB).

"Controlling Cyberspace: Mediatizing the Digital Archive for Freedom of Expression," Bremen, Germany, 2011. Mediatized Worlds: Culture and Society in a Media Age Conference. Sponsored by Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) Priority Program 1505, University of Bremen.

“Iconics: The Symbiotic Structure of Icon, Media, and Terror in Cyberspace,” London, UK, 2010. Global Media and the ‘War on Terror’ International Conference. Organized by Communication and Media Research Institute (CAMRI) of the University of Westminster, London, in collaboration with the Department of Media and Communications, Goldsmiths, University of London.

“Event Iconics: Terrorism Rhetorics, New Media Informatics, and Virtual Warfare,” Dublin, Ireland, 2010. Terrorism and New Media: Building a Research Network International Conference. Convened by the International Communication Working Group of the British International Studies Association (BISA) in partnership with the Centre for International Studies, School of Law & Government, Dublin City University.

“The New Global War on Words and Images: Citizenship, Free Speech, Journalism, and Sharia Laws,” Boulder, CO, 2010. The 2010 Center for Media, Religion and Culture (CMRC) Conference: Islam and the Media, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Colorado-Boulder. Co-sponsored by Intersections of the Collegiate Church of New York, the Estlow Center for Journalism and New Media at the University of Denver, and the Multicultural Mosaic Foundation.

“New Media in Convergence: Channeling Iconic Media Influence and Impact,” Washington, DC, 2009. The 2009 Annual Meeting of the Society for Social Studies of Science (4S), Fairfax, VA.

“Masking Visual Persistence in Media Warfare: Digitality, Icon Value, and Iconic Storage,” Belfast, Northern Ireland, 2009. Coloquios Internationales Sobre Conflicto Y Agresion (CICA) and Society for Terrorism Research (STR) International Conference on Political Violence and Collective Aggression: Considering the Past, Imagining the Future, co-organized by the Social and Policy Research Institute at University of Ulster.

“Evolution of McLuhan’s Icon War: Symbolism and Symbiosis of Terrorism in Media Warfare,” Basel, Switzerland, 2009. Eikones Summer School, NCCR Iconic Criticism, Seminar 3 on *Possessed Pictures and Images: From Magic Icons to Animation in Painting, Photography, and Cinema* at University of Basel.

“Recursive/Relaxative/Redemptive: Poiesis of Fractal Art in Techne of New Media,” Tel Aviv, Israel, 2009. Expertise: Media Specificity and Interdisciplinarity International Conference, Yolanda and David Katz Faculty of the Arts at Tel Aviv University.

“Memorable Media Representation: Collusion and Terrorism in Iconic Media Messaging,” New Orleans, LA, 2009. Joint Conference of National Popular Culture and American Culture Associations.

“Shut Up or Die: The *Jyllands-Posten* Cartoons, Media Behaviorism, and Systemic Defiance,” Zakopane, Poland, 2008. Coloquios Internationales Sobre Conflicto Y Agresion (CICA) and Society for Terrorism Research (STR) International Conference on Aggression, Terrorism, and Human Rights co-organized by the Polish Association of Social Psychology (PASP), Institute of Psychology at Jagiellonian University.

“New Media Quicritiques: Pedagogical Practices in Visual Thinking and Group Collaboration,” Vienna, Austria, 2008. Best Practices Session at ED-MEDIA--World Conference on Educational Multimedia, Hypermedia & Telecommunications, Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE) at Vienna University of Technology.

“Recognizing Rhetoriconics: The Strategic Positioning of Rhetorics for Iconic Media,” New Orleans, LA, 2008. Research Network Forum Pre-conference of 2008 Conference on College Composition and Communication.

“Romancing the Bone: Access, Intimacy, and the Grammatologies of Craigslist.org,” San Francisco, CA, 2008. Internet Culture Area of Conference of National Popular Culture and American Culture Associations.

“Caught in the Middle: Between Terrorist Media and Psychosis,” Manhattan, KS, 2008. The 17th Annual Cultural Studies Conference: Extremism and the Excluded Middle at Kansas State University.

“Information Design Finally Defined: The Art, Science, and Technology of Rhetorical Diligence in Media Discourse for Schematic Evidence of Cognitive Structures in Representational Display,” Miami, FL, 2008. The Second International Conference on Design Principles & Practices at University of Miami Conference Center.

“Iraconics: Positing Media Iconics and Semiotics as Weapons on Western Consciousness,” Miraflores de la Sierra, Spain, 2007. Coloquios Internacionales Sobre Conflicto Y Agresion (CICA) and Society for Terrorism Research (STR) Conference on Interdisciplinary Analyses of Aggression & Terrorism at University of Madrid.

“Bastard Media: New Media, Obscenity, and Public Access,” Iowa City, IA, 2007. Obermann Center for Advanced Studies Humanities Symposium at The University of Iowa.

“Internet Connectivity: Addiction and Dependency Study,” Buffalo, NY and University Park, PA, 1996. Ronald McNair Conferences at State University of New York (SUNY) and The Pennsylvania State University.

Conference Proceedings

Thompson, S. J. (2009). “Broadband Instantaneity: The Globalization of Media Messaging as Digital Weaponry.” In Proceedings of The good, the bad and the challenging : the user and the future of information and communication technologies : a transdisciplinary conference, Copenhagen, Denmark, 13th – 15th May 2009 : conference proceedings/organized by Cost Action 298 Participation in the Broadband Society : editors Bartolomeo Sapio ... [et al.]. – (Vol. II, p. 638). Koper : ABS Center, Slovenia, 2009.

Thompson, S. J. (2008). “New Media Quicritiques: Pedagogical Practices in Visual Thinking and Group Collaboration.” In Proceedings of World Conference on Educational Multimedia, Hypermedia and Telecommunications 2008 (p. 2741) Chesapeake VA AACE.

Academic Honors

Member The Phi Beta Kappa Society

Scholar McNair Scholars Program

Scholar University Scholars Program, The Pennsylvania State University (1994-97)

Scholar (Alternate) Fulbright Scholar Program (1997) *Designated Alternate to Canada*

Class Marshal *College of Arts and Architecture* The Pennsylvania State University (Summer 1997)

Class Marshal *College of Communication* The Pennsylvania State University (1996) *Honor declined*

Outstanding Research Exhibit *Undergraduate Research Fair* The Pennsylvania State University (1996) *Ethics of CU-SeeMe Technology* poster

Attachment *British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC)* White City, London, U.K. (1995) *Panorama* television show

Applications and Grants

Course Developer Towson University (2010). “Post-Bacc Certificate in Technical Writing” Project (Grant 5030300). Development of PRWR625: *Design, Layout and Production* for Summer 2011 Online, \$2,500. *By Proxy*

Primary Investigator Thompson, S. J., Fishman, T., & Moquin, B. (2007). “The GED Widgee.” HASTAC MacArthur Innovation Award, \$100,000. *Application Only*

Primary Investigator Thompson, S. J. (2007). "Wisdom as a Weapon: Waging War, Warding Off Destruction, and Global Media." University of Chicago Arête Initiative Award, \$100,000. *Application Only*

Awards and Scholarships

Centre for International Studies, School of Law & Government, Dublin City University Travel Grant (2010)
College of Architecture, Arts & Humanities Graduate Teaching Assistantship, Clemson University (2006-10)
Graduate Student Government Professional Enrichment Grant, Clemson University (Fall 2009)
Graduate Student Government Professional Enrichment Grant, Clemson University (Summer 2009)
Graduate Student Government Professional Enrichment Grant, Clemson University (Fall 2006)
School of Informatics Department of New Media Research Scholarship, Indiana University (2003-04)
Seaver College Communication Division Graduate Assistantship, Pepperdine University (1997)
General Trustees Merit Scholarship, The Pennsylvania State University (1996)
Bayard Kunkle Scholarship, The Pennsylvania State University (1996)
Ronald McNair Scholars Program Summer Research Stipend, The Pennsylvania State University (1996)
International Undergraduate Education Award, The Pennsylvania State University (1995)
Charles M. Meredith, Sr. Scholarship, School of Communications, The Pennsylvania State University (1995)
Proctor Scholarship, The Pennsylvania State University (1995)
Alumni School of Communications Award, The Pennsylvania State University (1994)
Class of 22 Scholarship Award, The Pennsylvania State University (1994)
Class of 34 Scholarship Award, The Pennsylvania State University (1994)
General Trustees Merit Scholarship, The Pennsylvania State University (1994)
Proctor Scholarship, The Pennsylvania State University (1994)

Memberships

Association for the Rhetoric of Science and Technology (ARST)
European Association for the Study of Science and Technology (EASST)
Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Advanced Collaboratory (HASTAC)
The New Media Consortium (NMC)
Rhetoric Society of America (RSA)
Schweizer Informatik Gesellschaft (Swiss Informatics Society) (SI)

Service/Volunteer

International

Director *Vapiary.com* (2011-Present)
Test Pilot Alpha Group Usability Feedback on NMC.org website. *New Media Consortium (NMC)* (2011)
Virtual Advisors Group *Humanities, Arts, Science and Technology Advanced Collaboratory (HASTAC)* (2011)
Informal Drafting Committee *Draft Declaration for Forum on Media and Information Literacy* (2011)
Online Senior Editor *The Cutting Edge News* (2008-09)
Research Editor *Feature Group, Inc.* (2008-09)
Pirelli International Open Panel of Experts Judge *12th Edition of the Pirelli International Award* (2008)

Clemson University

Tournament Judge *Pride of the Palmetto* (NFA/NPDA) forensics tournament (2009)
Preliminary Round Judge *Tiger Speakout* speech competitions (2008-09)
Preliminary Round Judge *Comm 250 Public Speaking* speech competitions (2006-09)

Preliminary Round Judge *Clemson Cup* speech competitions (2006-07)
Committee Member *College of Architecture, Arts & Humanities Basic Courses Committee* (2006-07)
Committee Member *Department of Communication Studies Visual Support Subcommittee* (2006-07)
Community Member *Teaching With Technology Community* (2006-07)

Professional New Media Experience

Principal *W8R.COM* (dba *Media Informatics* and formerly *Manic Media LLC*) San Diego CA (1995-Present)
Owner of Internet design, development and consulting firm providing custom creative design, multimedia applications, research, and technical analysis. CMS, CSS, and related aspects of Web-based media projects.

Webmaster 2 *San Diego City Schools* San Diego CA (2004-05)
Lead contractor on team for Web management and design responsibilities of metropolitan school district.

Creative Project Manager *Web Associates* San Luis Obispo CA (1998-99)
Integrator for B2C creative and technical projects. Conceived, designed, and designated development of HP printer Web sites. Provided senior design support to junior designers on Apple, Lucent, related client projects.

Director of Web Development *Pepperdine University* Malibu CA (1997-98)
Designed, developed, and directed multimedia CD-ROM e-portfolios. NT4 Server network administration.

Sr. Programmer/Analyst *Northrop Grumman Corporation* Pico Rivera CA (1997)
Design administration, consulting, and Web graphics development as contractor through Chipton-Ross.

Webmaster *WP SX-TV3* University Park PA (1996-98)
Designed, developed, and administrated Web site for PBS media client's *WeatherWorld* program.

Professional Media Experience

Staff Reporter *The News-Item* Shamokin PA (1991-92)
Daily news coverage, feature articles, op-ed pieces, interviews of academic, government, and civic leaders.

Administrative Services Manager *Hershey-Philbin Associates* Harrisburg PA (1987-89)
Office manager and eventual PR manager with major market advertising firm for Fortune 500 clients.

Broadcast Producer *WMSP, Market Square Broadcasting Company* Harrisburg PA (1987-89)
Major market on-air producer/talent for originally-conceived classical music program, *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik*.

Broadcaster *WGCB, Red Lion Broadcasting Company* Red Lion PA (1986-87)
On-air talent for radio and TV commercials, promos, PSAs, broadcast studio ops, SONY VHS editing.

Broadcaster *WPGM, Montrose Broadcasting Company* Danville PA (1982-85)
Afternoon, evening drive for AM/FM radio station. Studio ops, news writing, and AP/UPI wire rewrites.

Professional Experience (Part-Time 1982-92)

Evaluator *CTB McGraw-Hill* Indianapolis IN
Legal Assistant *Eckert, Seamans, Cherin & Mellott* Harrisburg PA

Broadcaster *WHGB (MOYL) Scott Broadcasting Company* Harrisburg PA
Broadcaster *WTSL (Oldies) MJR Media, Inc.* Shamokin PA
Broadcaster *WKBO (CNN Headline News) Dame Media Inc.* Harrisburg PA
Broadcaster *WYGL (Country) Sunair Communications, Inc.* Selinsgrove PA
Feature Writer/Stringer *The Patriot/Sunday Patriot-News* Harrisburg PA

Proficiency Certifications

Academic/Professional

Certificate Cyberterrorism – Security *Center for Security and Emergency Management* (2011)

Certificate Faculty Certification *University of Phoenix* (1999)

Permit Radio Telephone Operators *FCC* (1982)

Software/Hardware

Certificate - Master Flash 4 *Brainbench* (2000)

Certificate - Master Fireworks 3 *Brainbench* (2000)

Certificate - Master Computer Fundamentals (Win 95/98) *Brainbench* (2000)

Certificates HTML 4.0 and HTML 3.2 *Brainbench* (2000)

Certificate Computer Industry Knowledge *Brainbench* (2000)

Certificate Internet Concepts *Brainbench* (2000)

Certificate WWW Concepts *Brainbench* (2000)

Exhibitions and Awards

Fractal Art

Sales Exhibitions: Corner Coffee, Modpod, Out Word Bound Books, and Sirens, Indianapolis IN (2003-04)

Mixed Media

Digital Art, Pattee Library, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park PA (1996)

Photography

One-Man Show, Claire de Lune, North Park, San Diego CA (2005)

“*Triptychs*” Pattee Library, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park PA (1994)

“*Triptychs*” One-Man Show, Public Libraries: Mount Carmel Area and Shamokin Area PA (1991)

First Place “*On Bended Knee*” Bloomsburg State Fair, Bloomsburg PA (1991)

Second Place “*Victoria*” Bloomsburg State Fair, Bloomsburg PA (1991)

Best of Show “*On Bended Knee*” 25th Annual Juried Art Exhibition, Trinity Church, Camp Hill PA (1990)

Performance

Agents

Bowman Agency, Lancaster PA | Cosden Agency, Los Angeles CA | Helen Wells Agency, Carmel IN

Film/Television

Actor - On-camera *Commercial* Adelphia Media, Los Angeles CA (2006)

Extra *Commercial* Thomas Productions, Carmel IN (2004)

Actor - On-camera *Commercial* Jerome’s Furniture Stores, San Diego CA (2002)

Extra - On-camera *Cable Network TV Series: Air America*, Ojai CA (1998)

Actor - On-camera *Commercial* Boscov's Department Stores, Harrisburg PA (1988)
Extra - On-camera *Commercial* Weis Markets, Harrisburg PA (1988)

Print

Model *Magazine Ad* Dick Spahr Photography, Carmel IN (2003)
Hand Model *Magazine Ad* C-Lab/Electronic Musician, Lancaster PA (1989)
Hand Model *Magazine Ad* JR Donnelley, Harrisburg PA (1989)
Hand/Portrait Model *Stock Photography* Seitz & Seitz Studios, Harrisburg PA (1988-89)
Corporate Model *Company Ads* Kemp Company, Lancaster PA (1987-89)

Stage

Actor - Roles *Charles Play Paris Allen* and *Carltoni Play L.A. Brood* Frontline Theater, San Diego CA (2005)
Actor - Role *Photographer Play The Balcony* Playhouse Theater, State College PA (1976)
Actor - Role *Ensemble Play Unruly Children* Pavilion Theater, State College PA (1976)

Video

Spokesman - On-camera *Speaking Role Corporate Video* Giant Foods, Harrisburg PA (1989)
Spokesman - On-camera *Role and Voiceover Corporate Video* JP Lilley Video, Harrisburg PA (1988)
Voiceover/Narrator *Non-profit Video* Susquehanna Legal Services, Sunbury PA (1986)

Training

Actor TV Actor's Institute of America (AIA), Burbank CA (2000) *Commercial/Casting Director Workshops*
Actor The Pennsylvania State University, University Park PA (1975-76) *Undergraduate Theater Major*