

CURRICULUM VITAE
For
ROBERT BRITTEN

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, Journalism, University of Missouri, Columbia, August 2008.
Dissertation: Images and place in constructing the memory of 9/11.
Advisor: Prof. C. Zoe Smith

Master of Arts, Journalism, University of Missouri, Columbia, May 2004.
Thesis: Reception analysis of how newspaper readers read maps in the news.
Advisor: Prof. Jan Colbert

Visual Journalism Fellow, The Poynter Institute, St. Petersburg, FL, 6/03 – 7/03
Advisor: George Rorick

Bachelor of Arts, English, Allegheny College, Meadville, PA, May 2000.
Senior comprehensive project: Comparison and analysis of film versions of Shakespeare's *Richard III*.
Advisor: Prof. James C. Bulman

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

News visuals (information graphics, design, photographs) and their use and history; journalistic use and portrayal of place; social media and online journalism; critical, cultural and rhetorical studies.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor, J210 (Visual Communication), J319 (Copy editing and make-up), VisJ 321/J493E (Media Design), J489 (Media Ethics), J493A (Blogging and Interactive Journalism), J593A (Information Graphics), J620 (Advanced Journalism Writing and Research), West Virginia University, 8/08-Present.

Co-instructor (spring semester 2008) with Prof. Stephanie Craft, Journalism 8092: Qualitative Research Methods, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, 1/08-5/08.

Co-instructor with Prof. C. Zoe Smith, Journalism 8092: Photography in Society, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, 8/07-12/07

Led discussion, with Dr. Smith, in a weekly graduate-level photography seminar on topics of war, celebrity, death, 9/11, and regional photography. Read and graded weekly student responses and term papers. Frequently presented on my own visual communication research as part of instruction.

Instructor, Journalism 7150: Using Information Graphics (online course), University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, 2005-2007 (fall semesters only)

Instructed and led online work and discussions for 15-18 student course on using and teaching information graphics. Prepared weekly readings and questions and provided individual responses for each student.

Graphics Editor/Instructor, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, 8/05 - 8/06.

In twice-weekly classes, instructed students on effective use, reporting and design of information graphics. Planned lectures that illustrated different types of graphics and their applications as well as industry developments and notable people in the field. Moderated critiques of student and professional graphics. Discussed history of graphics and newsroom structure, and linked instruction to graphics use in current news events such as Hurricane Katrina and election season.

Interactive Graphics Editor/Instructor, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, 1/06 - 5/06.

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Conceived, developed and taught independent study on interactive graphics. Instructed students in principles of interactivity as well as Flash skills courses. Oversaw student production of multiple interactive graphics published on Missouriian news site. Presented course work with students at semester-end session.

Editorial Director, *Vox* magazine, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, 5/05 - 8/05.

In addition to overseeing daily operations of the magazine, served as instructor for student editors. Planned twice-weekly lectures and assigned and graded magazine planning projects. Discussed new developments in the industry and necessary skills. Debated word choice, grammar, style, and visual use with students.

Teaching Assistant, Advanced Magazine Design, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, 1/04 – 5/04 and 1/05 – 5/05.

Led weekly critiques of students' progressing and published work. Assigned and graded projects with instructor. Assisted in lab and technical sessions. Prof. Jan Colbert, Department of Journalism.

Design Director, *Vox* magazine, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, 1/04 – 5/04.

Established and enforced weekly deadlines for staff of student designers. Brainstormed, helped arrange photo shoots, offered teaching sessions outside of class hours. Coordinated design with other departments. Advocated role of creative staff in the magazine's structure. Prof. Jan Colbert, Department of Journalism.

Research Assistant, Harte Chair of Journalism, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, 9/02 – 5/04.

Collected responses and prepared findings from a series of interviews with copy editors and educators in that area to the end of determining interest in and feasibility of a copy editor in residence position; examined web page effectiveness and usefulness of web-based teaching methods. Prof. Judy Bolch, Department of Journalism.

SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

Britten, B. & Smith, C. Z. (2010). Acquiring Taste: Graham Nash and the Evolution of the Photography Collection. *Visual Communication Quarterly*, 17, 1-15.

Britten, B. (2010). Picturing Terror: Visual and Verbal Rhetoric in The 9/11 Report Graphic Adaptation. *International Journal of Comic Art*, 12, 355-369.

PRESENTATIONS

Remembering 9/11 through Photos in Anniversary Editions of Impact Site Newspapers. Presented at 2010 AEJMC annual conference, Denver.

The Blog Journalism Class: Teaching Students to Make Toys into Tools (panelist and panel originator), part of Bringing in the Audience: Social Media and New Connections in Magazines and the News Classroom. Presented at 2010 AEJMC annual conference, Denver.

The Face of What Came After: Memorialization of September 11 in News Images and the Shanksville Site. Presented at The Visual Communication Conference, Jackson Hole, WY, June 2009.

Finding the Iconic through the Comic in Photoshop Phriday. Presented at The Visual Communication Conference, Portland, OR, June 2010.

The Role of Private Collectors in the Photographic Record. With Prof. C. Zoe Smith, School of Journalism, University of Missouri. Presented at 2008 AEJMC annual conference, Chicago.

Taking it Seriously: Pentadic Analysis of the Feb. 1, 2007, Boston Bomb Scare Press Conference. Presented at the Midwestern Pop Culture Association annual conference, Kansas City, MO, October, 2007.

"Accessible to all": A Cluster-Agon Approach to The 9/11 Report Graphic Adaptation. Presented at The Visual Communication Conference, Estes Park, CO, June 2007.

Postmodernism in Sitcoms or a Postmodern Sitcom? Fragmentation of the Form in *Seinfeld*, *Arrested*

Development, and *The Office*. Presented at the Midwestern Pop Culture Association annual conference, Indianapolis, IN, October, 2006.

A Reception Analysis of Reader Responses to Maps in the News (unpublished master's project). Advisor: Prof. Jan Colbert, Department of Journalism.

PROFESSIONAL CHRONOLOGY

Graphics Editor/Instructor, *Missourian*, Columbia, MO, 8/05 - 8/06.

In addition to instructing the infographics class, managed daily newsroom operations of a graphics staff of approximately 12 students; projects included both daily and long-term work. Added interactive student graphics into online news product. Organized staff structure, deadlines, and graphics request submission process. Revised existing stylebook to better incorporate with the news page. Managed shift of department and newsroom as a whole to a new illustration program. Several students earned design awards for their work in the class. Actively participated in all newsroom editorial and planning meetings.

Designer, *Farm Journal*, Mexico, MO, 10/04 - 3/05.

Designed all pages for a national agriculture magazine. Created graphics and illustrations for content. Prepared and sent pages to printer for publication.

Graphics Intern, *Seattle Times*, Seattle, WA, 6/04 – 8/04.

Created both daily and long-term graphics as a full-time member of staff. Conducted own reporting and research on larger projects and wrote body copy. Developed illustration skills.

Design Director/Designer, *Vox* magazine, Columbia, MO, 1/03 – 5/04.

Designed magazine features and departments. Created illustrations and graphics. Volunteered as designer during summer of 2003. Work experience led to position as design director in winter 2004.

Information Graphics Reporter, *Missourian*, Columbia, MO, 9/02 – 12/02.

Researched and reported information graphics for a daily newspaper. Produced several display and feature graphics, in addition to daily charts and maps.

Page Designer, *Meadville Tribune*, Meadville, PA, 12/01 – 6/02.

Designed pages and special sections for a daily newspaper. In addition to daily duties, designed weekly automotive and television special sections, several tabloid sections and the annual progress edition.

Reporter/Page Designer, *The Record-Argus*, Greenville, PA, 8/00 – 12/01.

Covered several beats for a rural daily newspaper, with main specializations in education and city and township government. Promoted to weekend editor position, with job responsibilities expanded to include page design.

Freelance Writer, various organizations, 7/00 – 5/02.

Researched and wrote stories on horticulture, college alumni profiles, and music and movie reviews.

Editorial Assistant, *Allegheny* magazine, Meadville, PA, 5/00 – 8/00.

Wrote several features for a semiannual alumni magazine. Edited and maintained "Classnotes" section of short alumni updates.

Editorial Assistant, *Journal of Chemical Education*, Book Review Section, Meadville, PA, 1/97 – 5/00.

Assisted in editing and management of book reviews for a monthly journal. Wrote several reviews of chemical education texts. Created and maintained database of contributing writers and enforced deadlines.

ORGANIZATIONS AND AFFILIATIONS

- Kappa Tau Alpha, journalism honorary society
- Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC); member of Visual Communication and Newspaper divisions

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- International Communication Association (ICA); member of Visual Communication, Popular Communication and Journalism Studies divisions
- Society for News Design (SND)
- Midwestern Pop Culture Association

HONORS AND AWARDS

- First place, Michigan State University Student Society for News Design competition, April 2004
- Honorable mention, University of Missouri Student Society for News Design competition, 2004
- Academic High Honors (4.0 GPA), University of Missouri, May 2004.