

Ryan P. Shepherd

Northern Illinois University, Department of English
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Education

- Ph.D. Arizona State University**, Tempe, AZ September 2014
Rhetoric, Composition, & Linguistics
Committee: Elisabeth Gee (Chair), Shirley K Rose, Paul Kei Matsuda, and Alice Daer
Dissertation title: *Composing Facebook: Digital literacy and incoming writing transfer in first-year composition.*
- M.A. Indiana University**, Fort Wayne, IN February 2006
English Writing, Composition, & Rhetoric, and American Literature
- B.A. Indiana University**, Fort Wayne, IN May 2002
English Writing

Administrative Appointments

- Director of First-Year Composition** Fall 2022-Present
Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL
- Assistant Director of Writing Programs** Fall 2012-Spring 2014
Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

Academic Appointments

- Associate Professor of English** Fall 2022-Present
Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL
- Associate Professor of English** Fall 2021-Spring 2022
Ohio University, Athens, OH
- Assistant Professor of English** Fall 2016-Spring 2021
Ohio University, Athens, OH
- Visiting Assistant Professor of English** Fall 2015-Spring 2016
Ohio University, Athens, OH
- Postdoctoral Scholar of English** Fall 2014-Spring 2015
Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ
- Teaching Associate of English** Fall 2010-Summer 2014
Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ
- Faculty Associate of English** Summer 2011-Summer 2014
Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ
- Visiting Professor of English Education** Spring 2007-Spring 2010
Pusan National University, Busan, South Korea

Instructor of Business Management Pusan National University, Busan, South Korea	Spring 2008-Fall 2009
Instructor of the International Exchange and Education Pusan National University, Busan, South Korea	Fall 2005-Winter 2009
Visiting Professor of Practical English Pusan National University, Busan, South Korea	Fall 2005-Fall 2006
Graduate Aide of English Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne, Fort Wayne, IN	Fall 2002-Spring 2004
Consultant for the Writing Center Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne, Fort Wayne, IN	Fall 2002-Spring 2004

Publications

Edited Collections

Alexander, Kara Poe, Davis, Matthew, Mina, Lilian W., & Shepherd, Ryan P. (Eds). (2023). *Multimodal composing and writing transfer*. Utah State University Press.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- Shepherd, Ryan P., Ryerson, Rachael A., & Mauck, Courtney A. (2024). Scarier Than It Seems: Multimodal Composition in GTA Training. *WPA: Writing Program Administration*, 47(2), 103-128.
- Shepherd, Ryan P., Mauck, Courtney A., Barber, Christopher J., & Fletcher, Sue. (2021). Beyond osmosis: Developing teaching for transfer pedagogy for graduate classes in composition. *Composition Forum*, 46.
- Shepherd, Ryan P. (2020). Gaming Reddit's algorithm: r/the_donald and the rhetoric of sorting. *Computers and Composition*, 56, 1-14.
- Shepherd, Ryan P. (2020). What reddit has to teach us about discourse communities. *Kairos*, 24(2).
- Shepherd, Ryan P. (2018). The literacy of Facebook: SNS literacy practices and learning transfer in FYC. *Journal of Multimodal Rhetorics*, 2(2), 70-86.
- Shepherd, Ryan P. (2018). Digital writing, multimodality, and learning transfer: Crafting connections between composition and online composing. *Computers and Composition*, 48, 103-114.
- Shepherd, Ryan P. (2016). Men, women, and Web 2.0 writing: Gender difference in Facebook composing. *Computers and Composition* 39, 14-26.
- Shepherd, Ryan P., O'Meara, Katherine Daily, & Snyder, Sarah Elizabeth. (2016). Grammar agreements: Toward a more finely-tuned approach to corrective feedback. *Journal of Response to Writing*, 2(1), 43-57.
- Shepherd, Ryan P. (2015). FB in FYC: Facebook use among first-year composition students. *Computers and Composition*, 35, 86-107.
- Shepherd, Ryan P, & Goggin, Peter N. (2012). Reclaiming "old" literacies in the new literacy information age: The functional literacies of the mediated workstation. *Composition Studies*, 40(2), 66-91.

Editorially-Reviewed Journal Articles, Book Chapters, and Bibliographies

- Shepherd, Ryan P. (2023). The other curriculum: Social media and its connection to university writing. In K. P. Alexander, M. Davis, L. W. Mina, & R. P. Shepherd (Eds.), *Multimodal composing and writing transfer* (pp. 125-141). Utah State University Press.
- Snead, Robin L., Alexander, Kara Poe, Davis, Matthew, Mina, Lilian W., & Shepherd, Ryan P. (2022). Rethinking transfer: The rise of *writing transfer* research across contexts. *WPA-CompPile Research Bibliographies*, 30.
- Shepherd, Ryan P., Johnson, David T., Fletcher, Sue, Mauck, Courtney A., & Barber, Christopher J. (2020). ENG 7980: Learning Transfer in *History and Theories of Composition*. *Composition Studies*, 48(1), 88-102.

Presentations

National Conference Presentations

Conference on College Composition and Communication

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| “Writing Transfer Beyond FYC” | April 2024 |
| “Justice Pedagogy Enacted” | February 2023 |
| “Multiperspectival Approaches to Researching Multimodality and Transfer” | March 2022 |
| “Multimodal Interventions and Activisms: Social Media, Transfer, and Pedagogy” | March 2022 |
| “Composing across Contexts: Multimodality and Transfer” | April 2021 |
| “The Hidden Curriculum: What Students Learn from Writing on Social Media in University” | March 2019 |
| “Transforming What We Know: Students' Social Media Use, Academic Writing, and Learning Transfer” | March 2018 |
| “Mini-Ethnographies of Online Spaces” (Digital Pedagogy Poster) | April 2016 |
| “Incoming Digital Writing Transfer: Using Non-Academic Online Writing to Engage with FYC” | March 2015 |
| “What’s on Your Mind: Composing Practices on Facebook” | March 2014 |
| “What Are We Doing: A Survey of First-Year Composition Students’ Use of Facebook” | March 2013 |

Computers and Writing

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| “The No-Cost Textbook Initiative: Creating a Flexible and Participatory Space for Accessible and Multimodal Materials” | June 2023 |
| “Challenges Across Modes and Culture: Multimodal Composition and Cultural Competencies with New Teaching Assistants” | May 2022 |
| “Preparing a New Generation: Digital Literacies in Graduate Education” | June 2019 |
| “What Reddit Can Teach Us about Discourse Communities” | May 2018 |
| “Re-Connecting Social Media and FYC: Transfer and Digital Writing” | June 2017 |
| “Writing Before College: Multimodality and Transfer” | May 2016 |
| “Incoming Digital Writing Transfer,” Computers and Writing | May 2015 |
| “Interrogating the Border of Gender on Facebook: An Examination of Users’ Rhetorical Processes and Performances,” Computers and Writing | June 2014 |
| “Taking L2 Writers Online: Teaching Online Ethnography to Second Language Writers” | June 2013 |

“Facebook Use Among First-Year Composition Students” May 2012

Council of Writing Program Administrators

“Student Voices Joining the Conversation: Cross-Disciplinary Collaborative Efforts to Support Multilingual First-Year Writers” July 2015

“How Do You Make Open Research Clear and Productive?” July 2014

“Show Me How This Works: Writing Program Visibility and Identity” July 2013

“Graduate Student Perspectives on Early WPA Mentoring” July 2013

“Taking First-Year Composition Outside,” COWPA July 2012

Symposium on Second Language Writing

“Multilingual Writers, Comp, and Grammar: Grammar Contracts in the First-Year Composition Classroom” October 2014

Invited Presentations

“Gaming Reddit: r/the_donald and the 2016 presidential election,” Digital Rhetoric/Digital Media in the Post-Truth Age Symposium March 2019

Regional Conference Presentations

“Writing Programs as a Site of Inquiry: A Seminar of Research Initiatives at ASU,” ASU Composition Conference March 2012

“Establishing Place in Blackboard,” Western States Rhetoric and Literacy Conference October 2011

Teaching Experience

Northern Illinois University

Graduate-Level

ENGL 629: History & Theories of Composition (1 section)

- An overview of the field of Composition Studies, including early and modern theories and practices.

ENGL 629: Writing Transfer Theory & Practice (1 section)

- Learning transfer theory as applied to writing studies: theoretical approaches, research methods, and pedagogical applications.

ENGL 600: Internship in the College Teaching of English (3 sections)

- Theoretical and practical approaches to teaching writing at the university level. The course is designed for new graduate teaching assistants.

Ohio University

Graduate-Level

ENG 7980: History and Theories of Composition (2 sections)

- The major historical moments, historical theories, and current theories in the field of composition studies

ENG 7970: New Media Composition in English Studies (3 sections)

- Producing multimodal texts, creating multimodal projects for the composition classroom, and designing research studies in digital spaces

ENG 7800: Learning Transfer (1 section)

- In-depth exploration of learning transfer theory and applications to composition pedagogy

ENG 5900: Digital Literacies (7 sections)

- Theory and practice of digital literacies. Fully online for English Department Masters of English in Education

Undergraduate-Level

ENG 3860: Composing in New Media (4 sections)

- Course focused on creating and analyzing multimodal composition in digital spaces

ENG 3850: Writing about Culture and Society (3 sections)

- Course focused on various approaches to writing about culture

ENG 3080J: Writing & Rhetoric II (3 section)

- Course focused on digital literacies in practice; taught in online format

ENG 1510: Writing & Rhetoric I (6 sections)

- Part of “The Technological Human” university theme; course focused on literacy as a technology

Arizona State University

ENG 101: First-Year Composition (9 sections)

- Taught in face-to face, hybrid, and online versions

ENG 102: First-Year Composition (3 sections)

- Face-to-face and hybrid versions

ENG 107: First-Year Composition (1 section)

- Course designed for non-native English speakers

ENG 108: First-Year Composition (2 sections)

- Course designed for non-native English speakers

ENG 194/WPC 194: Academic Writing in English (10 sections)

- Special writing course for non-native English speakers majoring in business; curriculum developed as pilot program for the Department of English and School of Business

ENG 394: Online Ethnography and Passionate Affinity Spaces

- Special topics course for English majors; curriculum developed but not taught

WAC 101: Introduction to Academic Writing (1 section)

- Pre-ENG 101 course for students in need of extra writing help

WAC 107: Introduction to Academic Writing (3 section)

- Pre-ENG 107 course designed for non-native English speakers

Pusan National University

Graduate-Level

MBA Business English (2 sections)

- Graduate course focused on business writing and speaking

Undergraduate-Level

English Composition (6 sections)

- First-year writing for non-native speakers of English

Advanced English Composition (6 sections)

- Upper-level writing for non-native speakers of English

English Conversation (6 sections)

- Conversation for non-native speakers of English

Intermediate English Conversation (6 sections)

- Oral presentation and debate for non-native speakers of English

Advanced English Conversation (3 sections)

- Oral argument and debate for non-native speakers of English

English Reading Comprehension II (1 section)

- Reading comprehension and analysis for non-native speakers of English

Practical English I-V (16 sections)

- Sequence of five one-credit courses in English as a second language

Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne

ENG 131: Elementary Composition (5 sections)

- First-year writing in face-to-face format

Pagoda Adult Language Institute

Speaking Listening Expression (Levels 1-3) & Advanced Debate

- Sequence of four courses in English as a second language

Service

Organizational and Field Service

Editorial Board, Computers & Composition	2024-2025
Nominating Committee Chair, Council of Writing Program Administrators	2023-2025
George Mason University Office of Research, Innovation, and Economic Impact	2023
Research Funding Proposal Reviewer	
Judge, <i>Computers and Composition Ellen Nold Award</i>	2019, 2022
Nominating Committee Member, Council of Writing Program Administrators	2021-2022
Mentorship Committee, Writing Programs Administrator Graduate Organization	2014-2015
Elections Committee, Writing Programs Administrators Graduate Organization	2014-2015
Travel Grant Reviewer, Writing Programs Administrators Graduate Organization	2014-2015

Manuscript Review

<i>Computers & Composition</i>	2016-2025
<i>Composition Studies</i>	2020-2024
<i>WPA: Writing Program Administration</i>	2024
<i>College English</i>	2022
<i>Written Communication</i>	2022
<i>Computers & Writing Proceedings</i>	2022
University of Michigan Press	2021
<i>Business and Professional Communication Quarterly</i>	2021
<i>Computers & Composition Online</i>	2020
Special Issue of the <i>Journal of Global Literacies, Technologies, and Emerging Pedagogies</i>	2020

<i>Digital Ethics</i> (edited collection)	2018
<i>Pedagogy</i>	2017

Conference Service

Discussion Leader and Workshop Mentor, Computers & Writing Conference Graduate Research Network	2015-2023
Discussion Leader, Research Network Forum at the Conference for College Composition and Communication	2019
Proposal Reviewer, Computers & Writing Conference	2013-2019, 2025
Proposal Reviewer, Western States Rhetoric and Literacy Conference	2015
Assistant Chair, Western States Rhetoric and Literacy Conference	2011

University Service

Ohio University

First Year Council	2021-2022
University Curriculum Council Program Review Committee	2021-2022
Reimagining General Education Advisory Group	2019-2020
Written Communication Faculty Learning Community	2018-2020
Maker Space Steering Committee	2016-2017

College Service

Ohio University, College of Arts and Sciences

Technology & Society Theme Committee	2015-2019
CAS Computer Lab Committee	2016-2019

Departmental Service

Northern Illinois University, English Department

Department Council	2022-2025
First-Year Composition Committee (Chair)	2022-2025
Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Anti-Racism Committee	2022-2025
Hiring Committee, Second Language Writing TT Position (Chair)	2024-2025

Ohio University, English Department

Graduate Rhetoric & Composition Committee	2016-2022
Composition Committee	2016-2022
Graduate Placement Committee (Chair)	2020-2022
Promotion and Tenure Review Committee	2020-2022
Diversity & Equity Committee	2021-2022
Undergraduate Placement and Alumni Outreach Committee	2021-2022
Undergraduate Committee	2021-2022
Outstanding MA Essay Award Committee	2021-2022
Tenure Track Evaluation Metrics Committee	2021-2022
Administrative Committee	2017-2020
Online Teaching Committee	2018-2020

Group III Evaluation Committee	2019-2020
Undergraduate Committee	2018-2019
Online Best Practices Committee (Chair)	2017-2018
Graduate Committee	2017-2018
Graduate Placement Committee	2016-2017
Computer Coordinators Committee	2015-2017
Group II Rhetoric & Composition Search Committee	2016-2017
Post-Doc Selection Committee	2015-2016

Arizona State University, Department of English and Writing Programs

Writing Programs Grievance Committee	2012-2014
Peer Mentor, Graduate Scholars of English Association	2012-2014
Writing Programs Newsletter, Content Contributor	2011-2013
Writing Programs Special Sections Committee	2012-2013
Writing Programs Values Statement Committee	2012
Writing Programs Committee, TA Representative	2011
Writing Programs TA Survey Subcommittee	2011
Writing Programs Communication and Visibility Ad Hoc Committee	2011

Pusan National University, International Exchange and Education Center

English Conversation Committee, Chair	2006
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Local Invited Presentations and Workshops

Northern Illinois University, Teaching and Learning Exchange (TALE)

“Helping Students Think Through Writing Choices”	September 2024
“Effective Collaborative Activities”	November 2023
“Crafting Multimodal English Assignments”	October 2022

Northern Illinois University, Other Presentations

“Strategies to Transform Writing Activities with AI Integration,” ETRA Faculty Professional Development	May 2024
“English in the Age of AI,” Department of English	November 2023
“Artificial Intelligence in Education,” Center for Innovative Teaching & Learning	February 2023

Ohio University, ENG 7770: Colloquium on the Profession of English

“Career Placement, Including Alt-Ac”	February 2022
“Dossier Preparation for Doctoral Programs and the Job Search”	February 2021
“Defending your Work”	April 2020
“Understanding and Navigating the Academic Job Search”	September 2015

Ohio University, ENG 5950: Introduction to Graduate Studies in English

“Opportunities and Avenues for Professional Development”	September 2019
“Computers and Composition”	October 2015
“Digital Literacies and Multimodality”	November 2015

Ohio University, Online Best Practices Workshops

“Troubleshooting Online Classes”	April 2018
“Connecting Students”	April 2018

"Teaching Composition Online"	November 2017
"Translating Face-to-Face to Online"	October 2017

Ohio University, Other Presentations

"Text Appeal: Digital Storytelling & Emoji," TEDx	October 2015
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Arizona State University, Various Classes

"Digital Literacies," ENG 556: Theories of Literacy	September 2018
"Technology in the L2 Composition Classroom," ENG 525: Teaching L2 Writing	November 2013
"Writing a Literature Review," ENG 500: Rhetoric and Composition Research Methods	October 2013
"Writing a Literature Review," ENG 500: Rhetoric and Composition Research Methods	October 2012
"Submitting to IRB," ENG 654: Digital Literacies and Social Media	September 2012
"Writing a Literature Review," ENG 500: Rhetoric and Composition Research Methods	October 2011

Arizona State University, Graduate Scholars of English Workshops

"From ABD to PhD"	November 2014
"Life After Coursework"	November 2013
"Funding for Conferences"	October 2013
"Preparing for Conferences"	September 2011

Arizona State University, Writing Programs Workshops

"Social Media in Online and Hybrid Classes"	November 2013
"Online Peer Review"	October 2013

Arizona State University, Other Presentations

"Using Digication," Demofest	November 2013
"Preparing a Proposal for Computers and Writing," RSA@ASU Workshop	November 2012

Pusan National University, Center for Teaching and Learning

"Putting your Paper Together"	May 2009
"Miscommunications in English"	April 2008

Other Institutions

"Research Methods," ENG 7260: Research in Rhetoric and Writing, Bowling Green State University	November 2017
"Research About/With Digital Technologies," ENGL 894: Digital Writing Research, Old Dominion University	October 2015

Mentoring Roles

Doctoral Dissertation Chair**Northern Illinois University**

Bartholomew Binski (co-chair with David Gunkel), <i>Untitled dissertation on political rhetoric.</i>	2027
Melina Baer, <i>Untitled dissertation on the history of FYC abolition</i>	2026

Hayley Neiling (co-chair with Jessica Reyman), <i>Untitled dissertation on LGBTQ+ narratives online</i>	2026
Brandie Booker, <i>Untitled dissertation on the rhetoric of doulas</i>	2026
John Paul Dela Rosa, <i>Untitled dissertation on social media disinformation</i>	2026
Michael Dufresne, <i>Untitled dissertation on online learning</i>	2025

Ohio University

Courtney Mauck, <i>"Tap to Add a Snap!": What Snapchat Can Teach Us About Critical Digital Literacy in First-Year Writing</i>	2022
Garrett Cummins, <i>Single Yet Multiple: Analyzing a Single Data Visualization in Three Online Contexts</i>	2022
Quang Ly, <i>A Learning Entanglement: The Crossing Points in Which Business Students Oscillate Between Cooperative Writing and Collaborative Writing in a High-Stake Group Project</i>	2021

Doctoral Dissertation Reader

Northern Illinois University

Rachel Kurasz, <i>You Know I've Learned Something Today: South Park and Dialectical Rhetoric</i>	2025
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Ohio University

Marwan Almuhaysh, <i>Exploring EFL Writing Strategies in Saudi Arabia: Are We Teaching Students What They Need?</i>	2024
Jill M. T. Manoukian, <i>International Students from Distressed Locations: Perceived Needs, Resources and Teacher Awareness</i>	2023
Sarah Beach, <i>Big mood: Ambient suffering and depression memes</i>	2021
Sean Whelan, <i>Bridging the Gap: Transfer Theory and Video Games in the Writing Classroom</i>	2020
David Johnson, <i>Cultural Competencies, Racial Literacy, and Composition: Applying Antiracist Frameworks in First- and Third-Year Writing</i>	2020
Yavanna Brownlee, <i>Decolonizing Composition and Rhetorics Programs: An Indigenous Rhetorics Model for Implementing Concepts of Relationship and Integrating Marginalized Rhetorics</i>	2018
Samuel Stinson, <i>Writing with Video Games</i>	2018

Master's Capstone Chair

Northern Illinois University

Masuma Akter, <i>Untitled capstone on writing in students' majors</i>	2025
Samira Rajabalipour, <i>Untitled capstone on social media analysis</i>	2025
Nick Shumaker, <i>"Clarifying Conventions: Rhetorical Genre Charts as a Tool for FYC Students"</i>	2024
Rachel Martin, <i>"Next-Gen Composition: Maximizing Interaction and Communication with ChatGPT in FYC"</i>	2024

Ohio University

Jennifer Whitfield, <i>"AP English and Writing Transfer: Bridging Gaps Between High School and College Contexts"</i>	2023
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Navin Bhatt, "Barriers of Knowledge Transfer in the Cross-Cultural Semiotic Domain"	2023
Kennedy Jones, "Teaching for Transfer: A Strategy for Dual Enrollment Student Success"	2020
Christopher Barber, "Virtue Across Contexts: The Compatibility of a Virtue Ethics Composition Pedagogy with Writing Transfer Theory"	2019
Jordan Williams, "Writing for the Professions: The Role of Transfer in Student Preparedness for Writing in the Workforce"	2018
Spencer Smith, <i>To Build Maps of Writing and Critical Consciousness: Transfer in Writing Studies & Critical Pedagogy</i>	2017

Additional Professional Development

Summer Workshop , Council of Writing Program Administrators	2023
Conversations on Diversity and Equity Workshops , Northern Illinois University	2023
Faculty Academy for Cultural Competence and Equity , Northern Illinois University	2022-2023
Inclusive Teaching in Higher Education Endorsement , Ohio College Teaching Consortium	2022
Bruning Teaching Academy , Ohio University	2019-2020
Dartmouth Summer Seminar for Composition Research , Dartmouth College	2019
Digital Media and Composition (DMAC) Institute , Ohio State University	2016

Honors and Awards

Johndan Johnson-Eilola Distinguished Book Award, Honorable Mention , Computers & Composition	2024
Faculty Development Award , Ohio University	Spring 2019
Exemplary Professional ePortfolio Award , Celebration of Writing in Digital Spaces, Arizona State University Writing Programs	Spring 2014
Graduate Education Travel Award , Department of English, Arizona State University	February 2014
WPA-GO Travel Grant Award , CWPA Conference	July 2013
GRN Travel Grant Award , Computers and Writing Conference	2011-2013
WPA-GO Travel Grant Award , CCCC	March 2013
Graduate Scholars of English Association Travel Grant Award , Arizona State University	Spring 2012
Favorite Visiting Professor , Pusan National University	Spring 2009
Honors Certificate , Indiana University	2002
Psi Iota Xi Fiction Award	2001