English and Technical Communication Department Newsletter

Panoply 2017

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Greetings from the Department of English and Technical Communication! It’s a beautiful fall day in Rolla as I write this note. The leaves on the trees outside my window have turned and the temperatures are hovering in the low 70s. Fall is my favorite season, especially in Missouri, and I always think it gets a bad rap, even from my favorite poets who associate it with melancholy last gasps before the death of winter. Witness Elizabeth Barrett Browning’s “Come autumn’s scathe — come winter’s cold —/ Come change — and human fate!” (“The Autumn”) or Keats’s wonderful ode, “To Autumn,” with its “soft dying day” and “waifful choir” of mourning gnats. For me—as for many of us whose lives are ordered by the academic calendar—fall is a time of new beginnings.

After all these years, I still find great pleasure in buying new books, notebooks, and even pens. I am excited to look out at new sets of students in my classes, wondering who and what I will get to know this year. Some lucky fall semesters, such as this one, I get the joy of working with new colleagues as well. I am so pleased to introduce to all of our friends and alumni our newest faculty member, Sarah Hercula, whose profile you will find in these pages. Sarah comes to us from Illinois State, where she recently completed her PhD in applied linguistics. Her hire was part of our department’s number one strategic plan goal: to begin to address the needs of English language learners on campus as S&T becomes an increasingly internationalized university. Sarah is already hard at work learning about the particular needs of our students—and she’s doing it the old-fashioned way, by teaching English 1120 (first semester composition), geared toward international undergrads. She has already talked with our GTA’s and is planning a faculty seminar on making our courses more accessible to students. And she will be offering a new course on grammar in the spring. It’s already clear to me that Sarah is a great new asset to the department.

Sarah Hercula’s “Grammar” course, we have a new course for SP17 on “The Graphic Novel,” taught by the indefatigable Rachel Schneider. In early summer 2017, Eric Bryan and Anne Cotterill will be leading a student group to Iceland for three weeks. Besides hiking around volcanoes, photographing puffins, and enjoying the nightlife of Reykjavik, students will take two new courses: “Extreme Nature and the Supernatural in Iceland” (Dr. Bryan) and “The Icelandic Hero and Outlaw” (Dr. Cotterill).

In summer 2018, watch for Dan Reardon to lead a student group to the UK for a special version of his highly popular “Fantasy Literature” course. Besides coming up with new courses and teaching those that are familiar, faculty are busy with their own research projects. Drs. Malone, Dolan, and Brown have all been awarded research leaves this year to travel to archives and finish work on books and articles. And, of course, there is the normal business of presenting papers at conferences, submitting articles for publication, and keeping up with the new trends in our fields, not to mention all the work they do teaching and advising students.

I continue to be impressed by the industry of our students and faculty just as I am grateful for their collegiality and good will, traits that allow autumn in English & Tech Com to be a season of “mellow fruitfulness” (to return to Keats). Thank you for your continued interest and support of English & Tech Com. We’re also very interested in knowing how our friends and alums are faring, so please let us hear from you!

“I continue to be impressed by the industry of our students and faculty.”
Dr. Sarah Hercula, Assistant Professor of Applied Linguistics, is brand new to the Department of English and Technical Communication this year. She earned her B.A. in Secondary Education (English and mathematics) and M.A. in English with an emphasis in teaching from Western Michigan University. She received her Graduate Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) and Ph.D. in English Studies with an Emphasis in Linguistics from Illinois State University. Dr. Hercula’s research (and often teaching) centers on linguistic variation in English—the different ways people speak English across the country and across the world. As a socio- or applied linguist, Dr. Hercula is interested in issues of identity, perception, prestige, and stigmatization as well as the attitudes and ideologies that surround linguistic variation.

Her dissertation, “Teaching Stigmatized Englishes: Counteracting Linguistic Prejudice Using a Critical Pedagogical Approach to the Introductory Linguistics Course,” explores the curriculum she developed for teaching linguistics, which centers on the study of stigmatized varieties of English—like African American English and Chicano English. Dr. Hercula also teaches and researches in the areas of speaking and writing English as a second language and looks forward to the development of new resources and opportunities for culturally and linguistically diverse student populations on campus. Since arriving at S&T, Dr. Hercula has been hard at work teaching Exposition and Argumentation, a writing class geared toward nonnative speakers of English, and A Linguistic Study of Modern English. She is looking forward to piloting a new course in the spring 2017 semester: The Grammatical Structure of English.

**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH and TECHNICAL COMMUNICATION**

**Language Variation and English as a Second Language**

**Research Topics**
- English Language Variation
  - U.S. English dialects (African American English, Chicano English, and Appalachian English, among others)
  - Language ideologies and attitudes
  - Issues of identity, stigmatization, privilege, prejudice, and discrimination
- English Grammar (Morphology and Syntax)
  - Aspects of verbs and pronouns, among others
- Linguistics and TESOL Pedagogy
- English as a Second Language
  - Second language writing
  - Identity and motivation in second language learning
- Translingualism/New Approaches to World Englishes

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**Keywords**
- sociolinguistics, language variation, language ideologies, English grammar, translingualism, linguistics pedagogy, English as a second language, second language writing

**Significant Achievements**
- Outstanding University Graduate Student Teaching Award – Level 1 Doctoral. February 2015. Illinois State University.
Dr. Trent Brown appeared on C-Span2 as part of that channel’s BookTV programming in August of 2016 for a panel discussion on civil rights in connection with the Mississippi Book Festival. The panel discussion took place at the State Capitol Building in Jackson, Mississippi. Dr. Brown was there to discuss his introduction to a book by Hodding Carter Jr., titled *So the Heffners Left McComb*, a true story about how in 1964 a white family was driven out of town for simply having a conversation with civil rights workers at their home in McComb, Mississippi. For Dr. Brown, the story has personal roots. Dr. Brown was born in McComb, and he recalls how in the 1970s and 1980s there was no official recognition and little public discussion of the events surrounding the Heffners in the summer of 1964 — it just wasn’t something people wanted to talk about or remember. For Dr. Brown, the silencing of the story of the Heffners and how they were driven from McComb is emblematic of the many violent and bitter struggles which people endured during the civil rights era and have now all-too-often been forgotten, either on purpose or simply through the passing of years and the snuffing out of living memory. “Few cities in the state experienced such a sustained, intense period of violence during the civil rights movement of the 1960s as McComb did, and few places of comparable violent resistance in the entire South have until very recently made less of an effort to understand, reflect upon, or come to terms with that fact. In reprinting Carter’s book, as well as the others in the Civil Rights in Mississippi series, we hope to aid in the on-going dialogue in the state about the legacies of the 1960s.” Dr. Brown, in partnership with the University Press of Mississippi, has arranged for Hodding Carter Jr.’s *So the Heffners Left McComb* to be reprinted, along with a new introduction written by himself. It is Dr. Brown’s hope that the reprinted edition will be more widely read, used in classrooms, and will help a new generation of Americans to understand the very real pressures and dangers that ordinary people faced in those days from their neighbors and communities simply for being curious and asking questions.
I have been working as a technical writer with startups and multinational companies for the past five years, and want to establish my own technical writing practice someday. As a first step towards that dream, I came to Missouri S&T to pursue an M.S. in Technical Communication with the goal of learning all that I can about the field. I am currently in my third semester as a grad student and second semester teaching, and enjoying every moment of it.

I recently presented a paper at the IEEE PCS conference, and I am very grateful for all the support the department and university lent me. I now know I have made the perfect choice by coming to Missouri S&T.
In the Fall Semester of 2016, Mr. Razmus Kerwin’s Tech Com 2540 course, Layout and Design, partnered with the Dean of the College of Arts, Science, and Business, Dr. Stephen Roberts, on an experiential learning project. Layout and Design is a Technical Communication course focused on the theory and practice of creating print and electronic documents. The course uses the industry-standard software Adobe InDesign, and serves as an introduction to page layout, graphic design, and creating visual and textual compositions.

The project collaboration with the Dean’s office, creating an eight page folio for the Dean’s Leadership Council event, gave students an opportunity to create a deliverable that would actually be used in a real-world context. The deliverable, a full-color, eight-page, two sheet, saddle-stitch folio contained speaker and attendee biographies, a schedule of the two-day event, and a brief recap of the overall strategy of the CASB Deans office. The folio was used and referred to by attendees at the Dean’s Leadership Council during Homecoming Week of 2016. Mr. Kerwin, the TC 2540 instructor, reports that he “loves doing projects like this. It’s not only a great way to apply layout and design skills, but it also gives students a clear audience, topic, and purpose, as well as an element of reality. With an actual client and a real use context, it makes the project take on a life and vitality it might not otherwise have. It was also nice for students to meet the Dean in person when he visited our classroom to pitch the project to them.” The Dean’s office was pleased to be able to work with Mr. Kerwin, and involve students taking classes within a CASB department in an experiential learning project.

The winning entry that was selected to be professionally printed and used at the Dean’s Leadership Council. Created by Jasmina Mehanovic, an IST major and Technical Communication minor.
Technical Communication and Technology

Research Topics
- Technology Diffusion
  - Smart grid living
  - Agriculture and computer technology
  - Communicating innovation
- Game Studies
  - Player agency
  - Social media and co-creation
- History of technical communication
  - Genre history
  - The future of technical communication
- Medical technical communication
  - Informed consent and digital communication

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Funding
- Missouri S&T Innovation Grant, UMRB

Keywords
- Technology diffusion, history of technical communication, smart living, game studies, co-creation, innovation

Significant achievements

GTA Corner
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I am in my third semester of the MS program in Technical Communication. I am teaching ENG 3560 for the second time this fall. My current projects include developing a course on technical presentations for active duty members of the US Army and working with a member of the Engineering Management faculty to create digital course content and ebook chapters.

ENG 3560: Technical Writing
Technical Writing (LEC 3.0) is the theory and practice of writing technical papers and reports in the professions.
Dr. Kathryn Northcut, Professor of Technical Communication, has assumed the duties and responsibilities of Chair of the Missouri S&T Institutional Review Board. The Institutional Review Board, or IRB, oversees and approves all research that involves human participants at Missouri S&T.

The IRB’s institutional mandate is to ensure that all research conducted in connection with human participants is ethical and accountable, and that any risk to human beings has been carefully evaluated. Not only is such a review board a good idea; it’s a requirement of federal law. The Code of Federal Regulations, section 45 CFR 46, spells out the necessary minimum policies for the protection of human research participants. At a public R1 doctoral research university like Missouri S&T, the IRB is a necessary aspect of university compliance with federal law as well as an important safeguard for the integrity of research performed at S&T.

**Dr. Kathryn Northcut**  
Professor  
English and Tech Com

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**Dr. Northcut Named IRB Head**

**Visual Communication and Argumentation**

**Research Interests**
- Pedagogy of Technical Communication: What are best practices for teaching Tech Com?
- Visual Communication: How are arguments constituted visually?
- The profession: What counts as knowledge? What should count?

**Major Publications**
- *Scientific Communication: Practices, Theories, and Pedagogies*, co-edited with Han Yu, under review with publisher

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**Roles**
- Co-Director of Technical Communication Programs (BS, MS)  
- Chair, Institutional Review Board  
- Professor  
- Consultant (qualitative research; writing workshops)
Sigma Tau Delta is a nationwide English honors society serving university and college chapters and providing recognition for academic excellence in the study of English. Missouri S&T’s Alpha Gamma Mu chapter was established on campus in April 1993.

The Alpha Gamma Mu chapter is for English majors and minors and those interested in English language and literature; the chapter sponsors several events each semester. Members are invited to share their scholarly or creative work annually at a national conference. Caitlin Siehr is the current President, Jasmin Hill is the Vice-President, Patrick Coday is the Treasurer, and Riley Cronin and Taylor Schubert are contributing members.

For more information...

For information about membership and how you can join, please contact Dr. Kathryn Dolan at dolankc@mst.edu.

The Missouri University of Science and Technology Alumna and Woman Student of the Year Committee announced its 2016 award winners during a ceremony held on campus Oct. 17. This year the committee honored three women students and two alumnae who are dedicated to advancing the lives of women and committed to diversity. One of the alumnae is Tara Stone of Rolla, Missouri, a user interface design specialist in marketing and communications. She received the 2016 Alumna of the Year Gold Award. Stone holds a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science Degrees in Technical Communication from Missouri S&T. Before joining the marketing and communications department, she was an assistant director in the student success programs office.

As a Missouri S&T staff member since 2012, she has completed the Leadership Phelps County Program and the Innovative Thought Leadership: Entrepreneurship and Innovation Program. She is a recipient of the Achievement Medal for Civilian Service from the United States Army.

Tara Stone
User Interface Design Specialist
English & Tech Com Alumna

For more information...

For information about membership and how you can join, please contact Dr. Kathryn Dolan at dolankc@mst.edu.
Drs. Eric Bryan and Anne Cotterill are organizing a three-week summer study program for 2017 that will be based in Iceland’s national capital, Reykjavik, but includes travel to sites of cultural, geological, and archaeological interest around the island. They will introduce students to Iceland through two courses emphasizing the country’s characteristic intersection of land and imagination.

Not only does this study-abroad experience offer students the opportunity to visit one of the most unique places on earth, but it also earns students six hours of upper level Humanities credits, as well as their experiential learning requirement. The first two weeks will be spent in Reykjavik where students will enjoy a mixture of modern and medieval Iceland, visiting the National Museum of Iceland, the Reykjavik Maritime Museum, the archaeological Settlement Exhibition, and Viðey (a spectacular island nature preserve), and go whale-watching and horseback riding. For the third week, the group will tour the dramatic Icelandic countryside, important in sagas and folklore. The tour includes the bathing pool of the great medieval poet-historian Snorri Sturlason; Snæfellsnes Glacier; the farmstead of Erik the Red; Akureyri, Iceland’s second city dominating the north; thermal heated natural baths; and the glacier lagoon at the edge of Europe’s largest ice cap.

For more information on fees, courses, and the application process: go to studyabroad.mst.edu

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Meet the Faculty

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH and TECHNICAL COMMUNICATION

Mythology, Folklore, and Language of the Medieval World

Research Topics

• Scandinavian Folklore and Mythology
  - Reception of Old Norse mythology and beliefs
  - Convergence of Christian orthodoxy and folk belief
• Historical Pragmatics
  - Study of verbal aggression in medieval vernacular texts
  - Old Norse, Middle High German, Old English
  - History of the English Language
• Medieval Conversion and Christianization
  - Study of the development of belief in the North
  - Lay responses to church institutions
• Paleography
  - Examination of medieval manuscripts

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Keywords
• Old Norse; Icelandic myth and folklore; medieval manuscripts; Christianization; Norse paganism; historical pragmatics

Significant achievements
• American-Scandinavian Foundation Grant
• UM Research Board Grant
• Fulbright Research Grant

Research in Iceland, 2012

Dr. Eric Bryan
Associate Professor
English

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND TECHNICAL COMMUNICATION

Early Modern British Literature and Culture

Research Topics

• Seventeenth-Century Literature and Climate
• The Thematics of Cold
• Early Modern Arctic Exploration
• Political-Cultural Relations of Early Modern England and Scandinavia
• John Dryden and Restoration Culture

Keywords
Climate history; Royal Society; Little Ice Age; Cold North; Winter and War; John Dryden; Willem Barentsz; Thomas James; Shakespeare

Funding
UM Research Board Grant, 2014.

Recognitions/Significant Achievements


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Dr. Anne Cotterill
Associate Professor
English

Missouri University of Science and Technology
Panoply 2017
The reason I became an English professor is because I found Jane Austen when I was 13. After devouring all of her novels, I wanted to read her favorites: Samuel Richardson’s *Pamela*, Maria Edgeworth’s *Belinda*, and Fanny Burney’s *Evelina*. I even wrote a book report in tenth grade on Burney’s novel *Cecilia* (which is over 900 pages long). I became so fascinated with the eighteenth century that I went to grad school at the University of Texas, Austin to write my dissertation on eighteenth-century British literature.

However, while working on my Ph.D., I became fascinated with the concept of genre. (Genre refers to different kinds of literature, like novels, epic poems, and mystery novels.) I wrote my dissertation about one specific genre—the eighteenth-century literary print fragment—but I taught several classes focused on specific genres. Teaching romance novels and musical theater was fun for me and my students, but it also let us discuss what different genres allow writers to do. I also learned a lot about multimodal composition while working in UT’s Digital Writing and Research Lab, and I enjoyed helping students create argumentative videos, eBooks, and podcasts in my classes. Genre has really come to define my approach to teaching. I like framing the writing that students do in terms of genre and adapting to genres. If you figure out what makes a successful email to a professor, say, you can read different lab reports to see what goes into a good lab report. I see learning genre as a skill: the more you learn to adapt your writing to the situation you’re writing in, the better a writer you’ll be.

**British Literature and Multimodal Composition**

- British literature of the 1700s
- Print culture
- History of the book in the 1700s
- Multimodal composition
- Contemporary popular culture, including the graphic novel and the American musical
- Genre

**Keywords**
- Eighteenth century; book history; fragment; genre; print culture; popular culture; multimodal composition

**Significant Achievements**
- Member, UM Faculty Scholars Program, 2016-2017
- Co-winner, John Lovas Memorial Weblog Award, 2010.
I joined the department in Fall 2015 as a technical communication master’s student and GTA of the department. This is my second semester teaching English 3560 Technical Writing. Before starting the program, I studied Economics at Missouri S&T, and worked at Southwinds, Missouri S&T’s literary and arts magazine, annually publishes creative writing, along with photography and other visual art submitted by students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Contributions include poetry, short fiction, creative nonfiction, photographs, and drawings about everything from Star Wars, music, and molecules to love, loss, and the beauty of nature.

The Southwinds staff and contributors represent the full range of academic interests across campus—from all areas of engineering and the sciences, as well as the humanities—and the expanded staff this year are working hard to provide an outlet for creativity on campus. In the fall of 2016 led by club president Hadley Bjerke, Southwinds sponsored a creative arts contest and awarded prizes to Owen Smith for his poem, “10 Angstroms Apart,” to Alexandra Boeckman for her stunning photo of fog, and to Ross Reed for his short story “Big Pharma.” These winning contributions will appear in the upcoming Spring 2017 issue. Other club officers for the current academic year include Julia White, vice-president; Logan Rodriguez, secretary; and Jessica Clark, treasurer.

Southwinds has been especially fortunate in receiving financial support in 2016-2017. For the fourth year in a row, the magazine has gratefully obtained funds to help with layout and printing from the University’s Student Activity Finance Board, part of Student Life. This spring, in addition, Southwinds received an unexpected and most generous gift of $1,000 from the new Advisory Council of the S&T Dean of Arts, Sciences, and Business, Dr. Stephen P. Roberts. The club is most grateful for the Advisory Council’s support for Southwinds’ mission to celebrate the wide and international range of talented literary voices and artistic vision on this campus.

To learn more about Southwinds, please visit the website at http://southwinds.mst.edu or follow the magazine on Facebook. To submit material for an upcoming issue, express interest in joining the staff, or receive a copy of the latest or a past issue, please write to swinds@mst.edu or to the faculty advisor, Dr. Anne Cotterill, at cotteril@mst.edu. All copies of Southwinds are distributed free of charge.

I am studying different social media strategies from Korean and American companies for my thesis under Dr. Malone, with the funding received from the Association for Business Communication.
2016 was a year of real change for the offices in our department. A large remodeling effort took place in the front portion of the suite, carried out by University Physical Facility Services, giving the entrance a much-needed facelift.

The remodel included constructing a new partition, redoing some areas of the ceiling, and painting in most of the offices. The front desk area, typically staffed by student workers, is now much more contemporary and professional looking.

A few space reallocations have been made as well. Linda Sands, our hardworking Business Support Specialist, now has a nicer and larger office in a less hectic location. The department library and conference room is now the office of Dr. Swenson, our department Chair, and there is a new meeting room across from the front desk for use by anyone in the department, students or faculty. It compliments the new student lounge and free library area just outside the department.

Additionally, the department got a new water fountain with a bottle refill station, and a new copy machine and printer. In fact, the newsletter you’re holding right now was printed on the new machine—it’s a very nice machine, capable of a wide variety of print jobs!

Our department plays an important role on campus by providing necessary courses to all S&T students, and both students and faculty agree that it’s nice to have the department furnishings upgraded to reflect the fact that E&TC is an important part of the overall campus.
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH & TECHNICAL COMMUNICATION

Overlapping Magisteria: Rhetoric, Religion, and Science

Research Topics

• STEM Students & Writing Self-Efficacy
  – My educational research focuses on techniques that encourage STEM students’ self-confidence in the writing classroom.

• Rhetoric in the Sciences
  – My most recent research has explored the use of figurative language in science writing, particularly the use of personification in the description of natural phenomena.

• Conversations in Religion & Culture
  – My ongoing research examines conversations regarding religion and culture, including religious symbology in protests, ecclesiastical language in popular culture, and the rhetorical divides between scientism and theology.

Keywords

• Rhetoric, Writing, Composition, Science, Religion

Recognitions/Significant achievements

• Upcoming Presentations:
  – “Dismantling the Magisteria: How an education in Rhetoric can heal social and disciplinary divides” (NeMLA 2017)
  – “Mindfulness, Writing, and the STEM Student” (NeMLA 2017)

• Recent Publication:
  – “Reimagining the Stacks: Classroom Technology and Library Collaboration for Writing in the Disciplines” Journal of Student Success in Writing (2015); co-authored by Daniel Reardon

Funding

• CERTI mini-grant
• Missouri S&T eFellows

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DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND TECHNICAL COMMUNICATION

Educational Research

Primary Research Topics

• Teaching Reading and Writing
• Writing Program Administration
• Reading and Writing Assessment
• Educational Development

Secondary Research Topics

• Popular Media
• Digital Games Theory

Keywords

• Teaching Reading and Writing, Writing Program Administration, Webb DOK, Hess CRM, Writing Assessment

Recognitions/Significant achievements


• 2013, 2015 eFellow
• 2012 Faculty Teaching Award

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Southwinds Holds Creative Arts Showcase

Southwinds, the creative society behind S&T’s literary and arts magazine, in conjunction with Professor Luce Myers of the Arts, Languages and Psychology department, held an Arts Showcase in November of 2016.

The Arts Showcase was open to all S&T students, as well as faculty, staff, and alumni. The event took place at the Havener Center in November, and primarily featured creative writing (fiction, non-fiction, and poetry), photos, and original art (painting, drawing, sculpting, pottery, and woodworking). The Arts Showcase was a great opportunity for creatively minded students to share and display their work, and meet others who share an enthusiasm for the arts, all while enjoying some refreshments and stimulating conversation.

The night was by all accounts a success: there were many interesting, unusual, and thought-provoking pieces on display. In addition to static displays of visual art, there were also live readings of fiction, non-fiction, and poetry. As a group, the members of Southwinds were very pleased to be able to put on an event like the Arts Showcase, and they would like to extend a sincere “thank you” to everyone who attended the event and made it a success!

Plans are in the works for another Creative Arts Showcase in 2017, so if you’re perhaps a bit of an artist, you’ll want to keep an active hand on your craft and an eye out for more information, soon to be coming from official department channels.

Answer the call!

When your phone rings, answer the call!

The Miner Phonathon starts February 1st. Our Missouri S&T Student Representatives will be calling to take your donations to support our students, department, and the university.

(573) 341-6376 or email at annualgiving@mst.edu

Answer the call!
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH and TECHNICAL COMMUNICATION
Food Studies, the Environment, and 19th-Century U.S. Literature

Research Topics
- Dinner Stories
  - Food animals and environmental impacts in 19th-century
  - Key authors: Upton Sinclair, Henry David Thoreau, Charles
    Chesnutt, Sarah Winnemucca, Washington Irving
- Whiskey
  - Cultural history of whiskey in U.S. culture
  - From federal period through 21st century
  - Key authors: Mark Twain, George Washington
- Granola
  - Cultural history of rebel food
  - Compare food revolution centered in Battle Creek, MI in the
    19th century with the counterculture movement of the 1960s
  - Key authors: J.H. Kellogg, Mary Baker Eddy, T.C. Boyle

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Funding
UM Research Board Grant, Fall 2016

Keywords
- Environmental Criticism, Globalization, Food Studies, 19th-
  century U.S. Literature

Significant Achievements
- Beyond the Fruited Plain (2014) won the Faulkner Publication
  Assistance Award from University of Nebraska Press
- NEH Summer Institute: "Extending the Land Ethic," sustainability
  studies, 2016
- "Diet and Vegetarianism," book chapter forthcoming from
  Cambridge UP, Thoreau in Context

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH and TECHNICAL COMMUNICATION
American Literature and Popular Culture

Research Topics
- American popular culture in the 1920s
- Portrayals of African American women in the 1920s
- Portrayals of the flapper figure in American literature
- National Prohibition in 1920s American culture
- Contemporary American literature, especially Richard Russo

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Keywords
- American 1920s; National Prohibition; flappers; Jazz Age; F.
  Scott Fitzgerald; Harlem Renaissance; Richard Russo

Significant Achievements
- "Prohibition," American Literature in Transition: The 1920s,
- Drowne, Kathleen. Understanding Richard Russo.
  Columbus: University of South Carolina Press, 2014.
- UM Research Board Grant, 2011.
- Research Fellowship, W.E.B. DuBois Institute for African and
  African American Research, Harvard University, 2009.
Q&A With Alumna Misty Adams

Misty Adams
Lead Technical Writer & Editor
Tech Com Alumna

What have you been up to since you graduated?

Since graduating with a Masters degree in Technical Communication in 2013, I spent a year as a Technical Communication Specialist Intern at Brewer Science, Inc. When the Brewer internship ended, I worked with Wells Fargo Home Mortgage via Experis US. This year, after completing the Experis contract, I moved to Dayton, OH for a job with L-3 WLink Simulation and Training. L-3 provides advanced simulation systems, training services, and aircraft contractor logistics support for both U.S. and international military services. In my case, I’m the lead technical writer and editor on a 10-year project attached to the 711th Human Effectiveness Directorate under the Air Force Research Laboratory at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, OH. Here, I work with cognitive psychologists, game designers, computer engineers, pilot SMEs, and others as they create better, faster, more effective tools for Live, Virtual, and Constructive (LVC) training for the Air Force Warfighter and other entities.

How has your study of Technical Communication helped to position you for these jobs?

I think the most important thing I’ve taken away from the Technical Communication coursework, aside from the practical skills, is knowing WHERE TO LOOK. Not sure about usage? Look it up. Syntax seems off? Look it up. Someone disagrees with how you formatted something? You can provide them the evidence to back up your decision. Yes, Google knows, but YOU have to determine the credibility and accuracy of the answer you’re reading.

Master of Science in Technical Communication

The technical communication graduate program provides a comprehensive curriculum that enhances written, oral and visual communication skills. It also develops highly trained technical communicators who facilitate technology transfer between technical experts and the users of technology.

For more information, contact Dr. David Wright at wrightmd@mst.edu

Words of wisdom for current E&TC students?

Keep your textbooks especially Rude’s Technical Editing and your APA style guide. Keep a library in your workspace for handy reference, and a quick-ref for whatever version of Word (or Excel, or whatever apps) you frequently use.

For example, I have both a Merriam-Webster’s dictionary and thesaurus within arm’s reach at all times, as well as Rude’s book. Finally, ASK QUESTIONS. If you’re ever uncertain about what your boss wants in a deliverable, ASK for clarification!
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH and TECHNICAL COMMUNICATION

Technical Communication

Research Topics

• History of technical communication as a profession, academic discipline, and practice
• Technical editing, especially in international contexts
• Classical and neoclassical rhetorical theory as applied to technical and business communication
• Technical communication pedagogy

Keywords

• Technical communication, professionalization, editing for reuse, intercultural communication, special topics of invention

Significant Achievements

• S&T Faculty Excellence Award (for research, teaching, and service), 2012
• CCCC/NCTE Technical and Scientific Communication Award for Best Article Reporting Historical Research, 2012
• UM Research Board Grant for Technical Communication in World War II, 2016

Contact Information:

Dr. Ed Malone
Professor of English and Technical Communication
College of Arts, Sciences, and Business
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Phone: (573) 341-4311

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH and TECHNICAL COMMUNICATION

Victorian Literature and Medicine

Research Topics

• Victorian Literature and Culture
• The British Novel
• Women’s Cultural History
• Literature and Medicine
• Cognitive Literary Studies

Keywords

• Victorian novel; women and medicine; neurodiversity; autism studies; early women doctors; literature and science

Recognitions/Significant achievements


Contact Information

Kristine Swenson
Professor and Chair, English and Tech Com
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573.341.4684

Dr. Kristine Swenson
Professor and Chair
English and Tech Com
Starting a career in technical communication can be challenging and confusing. The Society for Technical Communication (STC) is the professional organization that helps students and practitioners succeed as technical communicators.

The Missouri S&T STC Student Chapter was chartered in 2012 in order to promote professional development opportunities for S&T students in technical communication. The student chapter can offer assistance with career planning and professionalization. Ms. Amruta Ranade is the President of the Missouri S&T chapter. She was an active member of the STC India Chapter before she moved to the United States. Ms. YeonKyang Lee is the Vice President. Ms. Mariah Covington is the Secretary and Treasurer. The STC 2017 membership season is now open, and students can join at only $75. For more information, visit stc.org.

GTACorner

Ms. Lorisa Bratch
llb9r3@mst.edu

I joined the Technical Communication program as a graduate student in August 2016. I am teaching my very first section of English 3560: Technical Writing this spring. I decided to pursue a master’s degree in technical communication here at Missouri S&T to prepare me for a career that combines both my love of science and my love of writing.

Outside of school, I enjoy reading, cooking, and watching shows while I cuddle with my cat.
I am a graduate student from Kirtipur, Nepal. Before coming to S&T, I completed my undergraduate and graduate degrees in chemistry from Tribhuvan University in Nepal. I worked for two years as an undergraduate chemistry lab instructor, and for a year I also worked as a lab assistant under the government of Nepal.

Before studying for a master’s degree in technical communication, I had the opportunity to teach chemistry and mathematics for various coaching centers. I taught at the coaching centers in Nepal for about a year.
**Meet the Faculty**

**Prof. Kelly Tate**
Assistant Teaching Professor
Introductory Composition Coordinator

**Teaching Topics of Interest**
- Composition
- Creative Nonfiction Writing
- Poetry and Short Stories
- Contemporary American Literature

**Creative Writing Topics/Forms of Interest**
- Children and Adolescents
- the Midwest
- Flash Fiction and
- Creative Nonfiction essays

**Keywords**
• Creative Writing, Creative Nonfiction Writing, Prose, Contemporary American Literature, Composition, Online Learning

**Recognitions/Significant Achievements**
• Faculty Achievement Award, 2012
• “Tiny Tiles” Cave Region Review, Fall 2014
• “Quiet House at Night” Art Amiss, Fall 2007 Chapbook

**Teaching and writing are separate, but serve/feed one another in so many ways. Writing travels the world inward, teaching, the road out – helping OTHERS move inward. It is an honor to be with others in the spirit of writing and encouragement.” – poet Naomi Shihab Nye**

**Kelly Tate**
Assistant Teaching Professor
Introductory Composition Coordinator
English and Technical Communication
tatekj@mst.edu

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**Composition and Creative Writing**

**Classes**
- Fiction Writing and Creative Writing
- 20th Century American Literature
- Exposition and Argumentation
- Research Writing
- American Detective and Crime Fiction

**Contact Information:**

**Mathew Goldberg**
Associate Teaching Professor
Department of English and Technical Communication
College of Arts, Sciences, and Business
Email: goldbergmr@mst.edu

**Keywords**
• Composition; fiction; creative writing; detective; noir

**Significant Achievements**
• “Perfect Practice Makes Perfect,” Story Quarterly, Fall 2011
• “Friedman in the Dark,” The Atlantic for Kindle, October 2010
• “Entropy,” American Short Fiction, Fall 2008
• “Graceland,” Shenandoah, Fall 2008

**Prof. Mathew Goldberg**
Associate Teaching Professor
English and Tech Com
Dr. Eric Bryan received the 2015-2016 Outstanding Teaching Award. Dr. Bryan teaches courses on linguistics, early British literature, myth and folklore, the Bible as literature, and fantasy literature.

Dr. Daniel Reardon received the 2015-2016 Outstanding Teaching Award, and the 2016-2017 Faculty Achievement Award. Dr. Reardon teaches courses in writing and research, science fiction, fantasy literature, and the teaching of reading and writing.

Professor Kelly Tate received the 2016 Faculty Achievement Award. Professor Tate teaches Exposition and argumentation, American Literature II, and a variety of creative writing courses.
SCHOLARSHIPS
The English and Technical Communication Alumni Endowed Scholarship........Kayleigh Rogers
The English and Technical Communication Alumni Endowed Scholarship........Hannah Ramsey
The Jack K. and Mary K. Boyd Memorial Scholarship........................................Amra Mehanovic
The Larry Paul Vonalt and Elizabeth Cummings Vonalt Endowed Scholarship.....Taylor Schubert
The Larry Paul Vonalt and Elizabeth Cummings Vonalt Endowed Scholarship.....Kathryn Curran
The Marylou W. Legsdin English Scholarship..........................................................Tori Ramsey
The Pogue Endowed Scholarship in English..........................................................Jeanette Mentz
The Prewett Liberal Arts Scholarship....................................................................Hannah Ramsey
The Winona Clark and J. Kent Roberts Endowed Scholarship in English...........Kassi Talak

DEAN’S LIST CERTIFICATES
Lacy Bell
Kathryn Curran
Nicholas Force
Joshua Graham
Sarah Griffith
Natalie Light
Ruth Pratt
Tori Ramsey
Kayleigh Rogers
Kimberly Runge
Taylor Schubert
Kassi Talak
Katherine Upchurch
Alexandra Womack

GRADUATE
Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award.......................................................Mariah Thomas