

John T Sherrill

sherrilj@purdue.edu | www.johnTsherrill.com

Education

PhD in English | Rhetoric & Composition degree expected Spring 2019
Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Primary Area: Professional and Technical Writing/Communication
Secondary Area: Rhetoric, Technology, and Digital Writing

Dissertation

DIY Feminism in Post-Industrial Spaces

Michael Salvo (chair), Samantha Blackmon, Bradley Dilger, Kristin Arola

MA in English | Rhetoric & Composition Fall 2014

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Thesis

Makers: Technical Communication in Post-Industrial Participatory
Communities

BS in Scientific & Technical Communication cum laude Spring 2012

Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI

Awards and Honors

Research

Crouse Graduate Student Emergent Scholar 2018 \$5,000

Association of Teachers of Technical Writing (ATTW) 2018

Graduate Research Award (one of three students nationally) \$750

Purdue Research Foundation (PRF) Summer Grant 2017 \$3,300

ACM SIGDOC Graduate Student Research Competition 2016

3rd Place Winner (of 5 second round competitors) \$200

Best Poster Design 2015 ENGL 625 Empirical Research in Writing

Teaching

Quintilian Award Spring 2018 (top 10% of instructor evaluations)

Dean's Award (Instructor, Honorable Mention) 2012 "Multimedia
Projects" Introductory Composition at Purdue Showcase

Travel

PROMISE Award for International Travel 2017 \$1,300

Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Advanced Collaboratory
(HASTAC) Scholars Fellowship 2011–2012 \$300

Teaching Experience

Instructor of Record Fall 2012–Fall 2018

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Technical Writing ENGL 421 (8 sections)

Students learn to rhetorically analyze and design effective technical documents, are introduced to foundational theories in the field, and

learn research and design skills as well as usability principles.

Site study and research poster | instructional guide and usability assessment | technical description poster | résumé and cover letter

Business Writing ENGL 420 (1 section)

Students learn to rhetorically analyze and design effective business documents for a range of workplace contexts.

Résumé and cover letter | research report on workplace issues | infographic and recommendation report

First-Year Composition ENGL 106 (9 sections)

Students learn foundational rhetorical principles and academic writing and research practices through digital technologies and print media.

Rhetorical analysis | digital fabrication (combining writing and 3D printing) | Instructable | class wiki

Past assignments: Literacy narrative | discourse community analysis | poster

Teaching Assistant Spring 2012

Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI

Introduction to Web Design HU 3650 (1 section)

Collaboratively revised the course (selected a new textbook, revised assignments, and created activities) with Dr. Wendy K. Z. Anderson. Lectured three class sessions, facilitated lab activities, responded to student discussion posts, developed course web site using Drupal, and held office hours for 20 upper-division students.

Rhetorical analysis | personal web page | client web site

International Research Experience

Digital Fabrication and Culture in Dubai Summer 2018

Home to the world's first 3D printed office building, I observed how digital fabrication fits into Dubai's future and visited culturally significant sites. Did background research at the Dubai Museum and the Louvre Abu Dhabi, observed ABB YuMi robots and laser engravers produce custom cosmetics and consumer goods, and interviewed a local engineer about the design of the city.

Professional Writing Abroad: Post-Industrial Scotland Summer 2014

Interviewed local Scottish makers about their work and conducted site studies of Scottish makerspaces for my thesis. Attended the Paris Maker Faire 2014 to observe international technical communication and local cultural practices within maker communities.

Publications and Presentations

Journal Articles

Salvo, Michael J., Sherrill, John T. **Participation's Changing Role in Postindustrial Work.** Proposal accepted June 2018.

Sherrill, John T. 2017. **Gender, technology, and narratives in DIY instructions.** In *Proceedings of the 35th ACM International Conference on the Design of Communication (SIGDOC '17)*. ACM, New York, NY, USA, Article 9, 8 pages. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3121113.3121214>

Van Epps, A. S., Huston, D., **Sherrill, J.**, Alvar, A. and Bowen, A. 2015. **How 3D Printers Support Teaching in Engineering, Technology, and Beyond.** *Bulletin of the Association for Information Science and Technology* 42(1). 5 pages. <https://goo.gl/ytNe8o> (awaiting DOI correction).

- Presentations**
- “DIY Feminism in Post-Industrial Spaces.”** *Association of Teachers of Technical Writing*. Kansas City, KS. 14 Mar. 2018
 - “3D Printing a Trojan Horse (full of writing).”** *Computers and Writing Conference*. Findlay, OH. 3 June. 2017
 - “How These Work: 3D Printed Interactive Lights.”** *MatchBOX Maker Showcase / INX3 Pitch Night*. Lafayette, IN. 18 May. 2017
 - “From ‘Why?’ to ‘How?’: Navigating Feminism in ENGL 421.”** *Professional Writing Showcase Ignite Session*. West Lafayette, IN. 13 April. 2017
 - “Do I Really Need Safety Glasses for This Class?”** *Conference on College Composition and Communication*. Portland, OR. 17 Mar. 2017
 - “Representing Marginalized Makers through 3D Printing and Instructables.”** *Cincinnati Mini Maker Faire*. Cincinnati, OH. 8 Oct. 2016
 - “Stitching Community: Quilt Crafting as a Construction of Technology, Meaning Making, and Digital Life.”** *Cultural Rhetorics Conference*. Lansing, MI. 1 Oct. 2016
 - “Teaching Documentation Through 3D Printing and Instructables.”** *Association for Computing Machinery’s Special Interest Group (SIG) on the Design of Communication (DOC) Conference*. Silver Spring, MD. 23 Sept. 2016
doi 10.1145/2987592.2987652
 - “How to Cite Your Robot: Critical Consciousness in Material Composing.”** *Conference on College Composition and Communication*. Tampa, FL. 21 Mar. 2015

“Rhetorical Objects: 3D Modeling and Printing in Composition.”

Conference on College Composition and Communication Computer Connection. Indianapolis, IN. 20 Mar. 2014

“User–Centered, User–Produced: How Users Redefine Cultural Identities via Browser Extension.”

Conference on College Composition and Communication. St. Louis, MO. 22 Mar. 2012

**Digital
Production**

DIY Survey Box

Designed and fabricated an electronic survey interface to study user experience in makerspaces, classrooms, writing labs, and other educational spaces using an Arduino and open source hardware. Will publish instructions by 2019.

MS Word Diagnostic Macros

Belcher Diagnostic Macro

Automated the “Belcher Diagnostic Test” from Wendy L. Belcher’s *Writing Your Journal Article in Twelve Weeks*. Helps writers improve sentence structure and saves hours over the manual diagnostic process.

Résumé Diagnostic Macro

Currently debugging a macro similar to the Belcher Diagnostic for improving résumé drafts. My goal is to partially automate feedback on student résumé drafts and save 2–4 hours of grading time per class.

Digital Fabrication

Designed and fabricated multiple 3D printed and electronic projects using Arduino and a Raspberry Pi.

**Professional
Experience**

Professional Writing Program Assistant Director of Technology

Purdue University, Summer 2016–Summer 2018

Administered 80 course web sites, the Purdue Professional Writing Program web site, Introductory Composition at Purdue web site, and 4 other program web sites using Drupal and WordPress. Coordinated with program administrators, staff, and instructors to create, maintain, and update the web sites, and to migrate from Drupal to WordPress. Managed 7 email lists. Trained a new Assistant Director over 4 weeks. Reviewed applications for Professional Writing program instructors.

Web Content Writer

Purdue University College of Liberal Arts Dean’s Office, Fall 2014

Researched and reported how Liberal Arts faculty and students use emerging digital technologies in their research. Collaborated with the Associate Dean, Web Developer, and Photographer for the college to publish the stories to the College web site.

Sarah Sargent Paine Historical Research Center (SSPHRC) Grant Writing Consultant

Michigan Technological University, Spring 2011

Collaboratively wrote a grant proposal following the Michigan Common Grant Application on behalf of the SSPHRC with 3 students (unfunded).

Web Marketing Intern

InetSolution, Inc., Utica, MI. 2007–2008

Collaboratively designed and developed, updated, bug tested, and maintained web sites for small businesses, Credit Unions, and NPOs.

Service and Volunteer Work

Co–Founder of Academic Makers Facebook Group Fall 2013–Present

Moderate discussion among over 200 academics interested in Making as an academic subject and pedagogical practice.

Volunteer Photographer for Purdue Professional Writing Showcase

Spring 2018

Photographed approximately 20 presenters with their posters, award recipients, and attendees throughout the five–hour event.

Host–A–Boiler Program Host Fall 2016

Hosted an international graduate student for a meal over winter break.

ESL Conversation Partners Fall 2011

Engaged in weekly conversations with a Chinese ESL student as cultural exchange and language practice.

Mind Trekkers Fall 2011

Educated K–12 students about the physical properties of matter via hands–on physics demonstrations.

Pennies for Peace Fall 2008

Educated elementary students about the Central Asia Institute. Students raised \$214.92 towards building schools in Pakistan.

Professional Affiliations

Association of Teachers of Technical Writing (ATTW)

Canadian Communication Association (CCA/ACC)

Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC)

Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Advanced Collaboratory (HASTAC)

National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)

Society for Technical Communication (STC)

Special Interest Group on Design of Communication of the

Association for Computing Machinery (ACM SIGDOC)

**Graduate
Coursework**

Professional Writing

Professional Writing Theory	Michael Salvo
Postindustrial Rhetoric (Study Abroad)	Michael Salvo
HCI Usability Testing (Michigan Tech)	Robert Pastel
WAC & Learning Transfer	Bradley Dilger
Medical and Environmental Writing	Richard Johnson–Sheehan

Digital Technology

Rhetoric, Games, and Play	Samantha Blackmon
Computers, Language, and Rhetoric	Samantha Blackmon
Rhetoric, Technology, and Games History	Nathan Johnson
Sp. Topics in New Media (Michigan Tech)	Wendy K. Z. Anderson

Methods

Feminism, Hackers, and Craft	Samantha Blackmon
Empirical Research in Writing	Patricia Sullivan
Cultural Rhetoric, Stories, and Narrative	Patricia Sullivan
Quantitative Research	April Ginther

Rhetoric and Composition

Composition Theory	Kendall Leon
Classical Rhetoric	Richard Johnson–Sheehan
Modern Rhetoric	Patricia Sullivan
Postmodernism	Michael Salvo