

## STEPHANIE BROWN

### Visiting Instructor of Communication, Saint Louis University

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## EDUCATION

### Ph.D. Media and Communications

*December 2018*

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL

Minor Concentration: Gender and Women's Studies

*Dissertation title:* "Open Mic? Gender and the Meritocratic Myth of Authenticity in the Cultural Production of Stand-Up Comedy."

*Committee:* Angharad Valdivia (Chair), CL Cole, Cameron McCarthy, Julie Turnock

### M.A. Television, Radio, and Film

*May 2008*

S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications

Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

### B.A. English

*May 2007*

Indiana University, Bloomington, IN

Minor: Telecommunications

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## TEACHING

### Film Criticism

*Spring 2019*

#### Visiting Instructor, Saint Louis University

- Chose new textbook and updated and redesigned syllabus to integrate a focus on introductory film theory and history with the writing and interpreting of contemporary of film criticism.

### Digital Storytelling

*Spring 2019*

#### Visiting Instructor, Saint Louis University

- Taught upper-level seminar merging visual theory, digital media production, ethnographic methodology, and storytelling.

### Public Speaking

*Fall 2018*

#### Visiting Instructor, Saint Louis University

- Taught two sections of 20-students from across majors.
- Focus on confidence in preparation, writing, delivery, and self and peer assessment, critical analysis of speech rhetoric, and understanding fundamentals of oral communication theory.

### Media and Society

*Fall 2018-Spring 2019*

#### Visiting Instructor, Saint Louis University

- Taught three discussion-centered sections of 20-25 students.
- Adapted existing course syllabus to include the creation of an audio documentary group project focusing on student use of media on campus.
- Planned and executed a campus film screening in conjunction with unit on censorship and filmmaking.

## **Analysis of Popular Culture**

*Fall 2018*

**Visiting Assistant Professor**, Saint Louis University

- Adapted and updated syllabus and course website for 14-student, upper-level seminar for communication majors to focus on research practices and methodologies, collaboration, and project based learning.

## **Popular Culture**

*Fall 2017-Spring 2018*

**Instructor**, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

- Instructor of record for upper-level media studies course of 40 students.
- Redesigned website and syllabus from previous iteration of course to center student input, merge research with creative production, and give students more space in which to revise writing and master material in low stakes settings before being put into high stakes grading and testing situations.

## **Sex and Gender in Popular Media**

*Fall 2016 - Spring 2017*

**Instructor**, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

- Co-instructor of record for upper-level media studies class of 80 students cross listed in Gender and Women's Studies taken by a variety of majors from across the university.
- Chose textbook and designed innovative syllabus that stressed media practice in addition to gender, feminist and queer theory including several blog assignments and a final podcast group project.
- Utilized classroom technology and instructional web tools to meet student learning goals including iClicker, Blackboard, and Google Slides.

## **Sex and Gender in Popular Media (Online Course)**

*Summer 2016/Winter 2016*

**Teaching Assistant**, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

- Graded online message board discussions, quizzes, and weekly writing assignments for an online summer course.
- Maintained course web portal and fixed technical issues
- Wrote several lectures, assisted writing reading quizzes, communicated with students.

## **Introduction to Popular Film and Television**

*Spring 2016*

**Head Teaching Assistant**, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

- Led 3 discussion sections of introductory media studies course of 30 students each.
- Facilitated and helped guide fellow teaching assistants with little previous teaching experience with planning and executing weekly lesson plans.
- Clarified group projects, writing assignments, and class material with students through use of technology, additional media examples, and group discussion
- Drew on media production background to assist students with final video projects.

## **Popular Culture**

*Fall 2015*

**Instructor**, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

- Instructor of record for upper-level media studies course of 50 students.
- Chose textbook, designed syllabus and created web writing assignments to supplement tests and final research paper.
- Created website which contained all course information and a blog to which students contributed to throughout the semester.

**Media Literacy***Fall 2013 – Spring 2015***Instructor**, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

- Instructor of record for intro level media studies course of 15-25 students.
- Invigorated outdated syllabus with new readings and assignments, and subsequently revised course each semester to strengthen pedagogical aims taking into consideration student feedback and effectiveness of teaching strategies.

**Introduction to Popular Film and Television***Summer 2014***Instructor**, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

- Instructor of record for intensive four -week summer course of 30 students.
- Redesigned semester syllabus and video production project to adhere to time constraints of summer course.

**Introduction to Popular Film and Television***Fall 2012- Spring 2013***Teaching Assistant**, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

- Graded 100 students weekly writing assignments and final projects in an entry level course of 300 students.
- Met once a week with professor and teaching assistants to plan assignments, class projects, and tests.

**The Wire: A Case Study***Spring 2008***Teaching Assistant**, Syracuse University

- Graded assignments, took attendance, helped lead discussion in an upper-level television studies course that examined social, cultural, and political issues through the lens of HBO's *The Wire*.

**Advanced Filmmaking***Spring 2008***Teaching Assistant**, Syracuse University

- Graded assignments, took attendance, assisted in producing student projects in senior capstone class in which students wrote, shot, and edited a short film.
- Planned and facilitated film festival showcasing students' final projects.

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**MENTORSHIP and TRAINING****Graduate Mentor,****Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program***Fall 2016 – Spring 2018*

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

- Guided undergraduate student apprentices through their own research project related to my dissertation work.
- Prepared and oversaw apprentices' final research presentations at the University's Undergraduate Research Symposium at the close of the semester.
- Completed university mentorship certificate program, including over six hours of student-centered mentoring workshops and bi-weekly progress check-ins.

**Graduate Teacher Certificate***Spring 2018***Center for Innovation in Teaching & Learning**

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

- Earned certificate through the CITL designed to develop graduate student teaching skills and reflective practice.
- Attended over 10 hours of teaching workshops, participated in a teaching assistant

pedagogy reading group, collected and used informal early feedback and end-of-year feedback, was observed teaching by CITL consultants, and participated in graduate assistant teacher orientation.

**Participant, Writing Across the Curriculum Seminar**

*Spring 2017*

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

- Attended 2-day workshop aimed at strengthening writing instruction in undergraduate courses throughout the university.
- Workshopped assignments, read and discussed scholarship on rubric and assignment design, and learned best practices in commenting on and evaluating writing.
- Nominated by head of my department to participate.

**Writing Partner, Education Justice Project**

*Fall 2013 – Spring 2015*

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

- Provided writing assistance and instructional support 8-10 evenings per semester to students taking University of Illinois courses at Danville Correctional Center.
- Trained in best practices in teaching and evaluating writing through the Writing Center.
- Worked with diverse, non-traditional students with wide ranging educational backgrounds, ages, and skill levels.

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**PUBLICATIONS**

**“Millennial fandom and the failures of ‘Switched at Birth’s sexual assault education campaign,”** *Transformative Works and Cultures*, 26. March 2018.

<http://journal.transformativeworks.org/index.php/twc/article/view/1138>

**“TV Critics and Taste Culture, Or Why Everyone Ignored Oxygen’s *Funny Girls*,”** *Flow Journal* 23.05. 27 March 2017.

<http://www.flowjournal.org/2017/03/why-everyone-ignored-funny-girls/>

**““Post-Truth, Satire, and Postmodern Critique,”** *In Media Res*. 31. Jan

2017. <http://mediacommons.futureofthebook.org/imr/2017/01/28/post-truth-satire-and-postmodern-critique>

**“That’s Not Funny! Cultural Capital and Comedic Critique,”** *In Media Res*. 6 June

2016. <http://mediacommons.futureofthebook.org/imr/2016/06/06/s-not-funny-cultural-capital-and-comedic-critique>

**Book Review,** *Women and Comedy: History, Theory, Practice*, edited by Peter Dickinson, Anne Higgins, Paul Matthew St. Pierre, Diana Solomon, and Sean Zwagerman. *Studies in American Humor*. Fall 2016.

**Book Review,** *Digital Labor: The Internet as Factory and Playground*, edited by Trebor Scholz. *Transformative Works and Cultures*. Vol 15 (2014).

**Forthcoming Publications**

**Book Review,** *Transgressive Humor of American Women Writers*, edited by Sabrina Fuchs Abrams. *Studies in American Humor*. Forthcoming Spring 2019.

“Podcast,” *Encyclopaedia of Gender, Media and Communication*. Edited by Karen Ross. Wiley-Blackwell. Forthcoming Winter 2019.

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## CONFERENCE and WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

“Open Mic? Gender, Gatekeeping and Labor in Local Stand-Up Comedy Production.” Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference. Seattle, WA, March 2019.

“Stand-Up Comedy Open Mics and Sexual Harassment in Local Production Cultures.” Rethinking Labor Histories and Production Cultures in #MeToo and #TimesUp HollywoodRoundtable. FLOW Television Conference. University of Texas, Austin, TX, September 2018.

Comedians, Transmedia Performance, and the Evolution of American Mass Media, *Panel Chair*, Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Toronto, Canada, March 2018.

“#HashtagWars: The Humor of Social TV on Comedy Central’s @Midnight” Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Toronto, Canada, March 2018.

“Performing Vulnerability in ‘Dark Basements Full of Angry Men’: Female Stand-Up Comics, Objectification and Bodily Autonomy,” The Aesthetics and Ethics of Stand-up Comedy Conference, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, April 2017.

“Screening Sexual Assault on *Switched At Birth*: Network Branding and the Cultural Work of Teen Dramas,” Console-ing Passions Feminist Media Studies Conference, Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana, June 2016.

“The Pleasures and Perils of Humor Scholarship,” *Workshop Participant*, Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Atlanta GA, March 2016.

“Gendered Taste Cultures and Comedic Distinction: Or Why Nobody watched Oxygen’s *Funny Girls*,” Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Atlanta, GA, March 2016.

#SixSeasonsAndAMovie: *Community* and/as Television’s Past, Present and Future, *Panel Chair*, Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Montreal, Canada, March 2015.

“Critical Film Studies: *Community* as Pop Culture Pedagogy,” Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Montreal, Canada, March 2015.

Graduate Student Teaching: Politics and Practical Advice, *Workshop Participant*, Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Montreal, Canada, March 2015

Constructing, Deconstructing, Reconstructing: Mental Disorders, the Self, and Identity, *Roundtable Participant*, National Communication Association Conference, Chicago, IL, November 2014

**“Points!: How Comedy Central’s @Midnight Is Winning Television Late-Night Through Social Media Fan Engagement,”** Film and History Conference. University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, October 2014

**Reconsidering Formal Analysis** *Roundtable Participant and Convener*, FLOW Television Conference. University of Texas, Austin, TX, September 2014.

**“It’s OK, Some of my Best Friends are Comedians: The Rape Joke Debate, Authority, and Feminist Comedic Credibility.”** Console-ing Passions Feminist Media Studies Conference, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, April 2014.

**“ ‘A Waiting Room that Doesn’t Suck: Negotiations of Agency, Authenticity, and Community in *The Mental Illness Happy Hour* Podcast,”** Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference. Seattle, WA, March 2014

**“Mockupy Wallstreet: *The Daily Show*, Social Activism, and The Limits of Mainstream Political Satire,”** The Union for Democratic Communications Conference. University of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, October 2013.

**“ ‘It’s My Way ‘Til Payday,’ Audience and Excess and on *30 Rock*’s ‘Queen of Jordan,’”** Reality Gender/vision: A Conference on Sexuality and Gender on Reality. Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, April 2013.

**“Mockupy Wallstreet: Protest, Dissent, and The Limits of Mainstream Satire,”** Neoliberalism 2.0: Technologies, Power, and Resistance Across Border. University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL, April 2013.

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## SERVICE AND VOLUNTEER WORK

### Scholarly Interest Group Representative

*Summer 2017-present*

Humor and Comedy Studies SIG, Society for Cinema and Media Studies

- Nominated and elected by the members of the group to serve for a two-year term representing and advocating for the interests of our members.
- Created and run SIG website (<https://scmscomedysig.wixsite.com/main>), and run social media accounts including Facebook and Twitter.
- Assist in planning for yearly SIG meeting and SIG outing during the SCMS conference and in judging annual graduate student essay prize.

### Doctoral Cohort Representative

*Fall 2015-Spring 2016*

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

- Represented my doctoral cohort at department meetings and served as a liaison between department heads and my classmates.
- Helped plan annual mini-workshop for department and graduate students.

### Research Coordinator, Education Justice Project

*Spring 2015*

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

- Served as a coordinator for group conducting and sharing research in conjunction with EJP, an organization working to build a model college-in-prison program that demonstrates the positive impacts of higher education upon incarcerated people, their families, the communities.

- Coordinated meetings of the EJP Research Group, updated EJP research policy, assembled and led committee to disperse travel grants.

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## INVITED TALKS

- Public Lecture**, “Open Mic? Gender, Labor, and Gatekeeping in Stand-up Comedy.” *March 25, 2019*  
 Communication and Media Studies Speaker Series  
 Washington College
- Student Seminar Lecture**, “Dissecting the Frog: Identity and Comedic Taste.” *March 25, 2019*  
 Communication and Media Studies Speaker Series  
 Washington College
- Guest Lecture**, “Authenticity, Gender, and Stand-Up Comedy” *Oct 10, 2018*  
 Department of Gender and Women’s Studies Brown-Bag Lunch Series  
 Saint Louis University
- Panelist**, “Moving Past Scandal: What’s Next in Combating Sexual Harassment In The Film and Media Industries?” *April 28, 2018*  
 Illinifest Film Festival  
 College of Media  
 University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
- Guest Speaker**, “What’s Up DOCC? Feminism and Technology” *October 9, 2013*  
 Teaching with Technology Brown Bag  
 The Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning  
 University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

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## AWARDS

- Graduate Student Leadership Award** *Spring 2018*  
 University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
- College of Media Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching** *Spring 2018*  
 University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
- Haas Dissertation Fellowship** *Spring 2016*  
 University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
- List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent** *Fall 2014, Spring 2015*  
 University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign *Spring 2016, Fall 2017*  
*Spring 2018*
- Summer Research Fellowship** *2014- 2017*  
 Institute of Communications Research  
 University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
- Conference Travel Award** *2013-2018*  
 Institute of Communications Research  
 University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

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## **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**

### **Co-Founder, Girls Amplified**

*Fall 2014-Present*

- Collaborated with a partner to design and pilot an after-school program for high school girls focused on theater, storytelling, performance, and media literacy.
- Conduct local outreach to partner with teachers and schools to run pilot programs.

### **Producer, Aca-Media Podcast**

*Spring 2016 – Present*

- Assist with the production of monthly podcast produced by the Society for Cinema and Media Studies, covering research in the field and issues in college teaching.

### **Founder, Broad Comedy**

*Fall 2016-Spring 2018*

- Co-Produce and perform in a bi-weekly stand-up comedy and spoken word open mic whose mission is to increase the diversity of comics in the Champaign-Urbana area.

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## **RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE**

### **Lead Instructor, Web Design and YouTube Producers**

*Summer 2017*

Camp Galileo, Winnetka, IL

### **Agents' and President's Assistant**

*Fall 2009 - Spring 2011*

Vox Inc, Los Angeles, CA

### **Producers' Assistant**

*Spring - Summer 2009*

Sam Hurwitz Productions, Los Angeles, CA

### **Artist Liaison**

*Summer - Fall 2008*

The New York Television Festival, New York, NY

### **Television Columnist, "Home Viewer."**

*Fall 2007 - Spring 2008*

*Table Hopping*, Syracuse, NY

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