

Brent Yergensen, Ph.D.

Professor and Chair, Department of Communication
The University of Texas at Tyler
Tyler, TX 75799
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Administrative Positions (10 years)

Chair, Department of Communication The University of Texas at Tyler	July 2022-present
Director of Evening Education Utah Tech University, Organizational Leadership Evening Program	Dec. 2017-April 2018
University Curriculum Chair Utah Tech University Office of the Provost	Aug. 2017-May 2018
Associate Dean, Division of Communication Utah Tech University	July 2015-Dec. 2017
Chair, Department of Communication Utah Tech University	May 2011-June 2015

Professional Appointments (15 years)

Professor of Communication The University of Texas at Tyler	2025-present
Associate Professor of Communication The University of Texas at Tyler (tenured)	2022-2025
Associate Professor of Communication BYU-Hawaii	2018-2022
Associate Professor of Communication Studies Utah Tech University (tenured)	2016-2018
Assistant Professor of Communication Studies Utah Tech University	2010-2016

Education

Doctor of Philosophy <i>University of Nebraska—Lincoln, Communication</i>	2011
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Dissertation: “Secular Salvation: Sacred Rhetorical Invention in the String Theory Movement”

Advisor: Ronald Lee, Committee: Kathleen Krone, Damien Pfister

Master of Arts 2006

Eastern Illinois University, Communication

Thesis: “Cinematic Scripture: The Structure and Usage of *The Lord of the Rings* as Equipment for Living”

Advisor: Shane Miller, Committee: Melanie Mills, Olaf Hoerschelmann

Bachelor of Science 2004

Idaho State University, Speech Communication

Certification 2015

Cornell University, Executive Leadership

Research

Refereed Journal Articles and Chapters (41)

Journal Articles Published and Forthcoming (31)

Yergensen, B. (2025). The futurologist’s priestly voice: Technology and the pursuit of immortality. *Mortality*, 30(1), 1-16. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13576275.2025.2496908>

Yergensen, B., & Britt, T. (2025). Social resistance, poetic individuality, and therapeutic defiance: Kahlil Gibran’s “Defeat” as Theodor Adorno’s negative dialectics. *Journal of Poetry Therapy*. (forthcoming)

Yergensen, B. (2025). Deliverance at the table: Culinary symbolism and Estherian transcendence over death contemporary film. *Journal of Religion, Film & Media*. (forthcoming)

Yergensen, B. (2025). Rhetorics of employee empowerment in *Ad Astra*: Scientific ambition and the familial costs of emotional labor. *Journal of Science & Popular Culture*. (forthcoming)

Yergensen, B. (2025). Shadow faith or organizational breakoff? Inflection points and the growing symbolic convergence of Latter-day Saint subculture. *Journal of Religion & Society* 27(1), 67-95. <https://cdr.creighton.edu/server/api/core/bitstreams/8c5efbfa-87d1-4c0f-b037-3ad6a76cdfa5/content>

Yergensen, B., & Britt, T. (2025). Technological advancement as the barometer

of death: Syllogistic and enthymematic rhetorics as discursive seriousness. *New Explorations: Studies in Culture & Communication*. (forthcoming)

Yergensen, B. (2025). A plot twist for angst: The Sermon on the Mount as resistance to anger culture. *The American Journal of Biblical Theology*. (forthcoming)

Yergensen, B. (2024). Popular narratology as the swivel of death's door: Rhetoric as transition and transcendence. *Communication Quarterly*, 72(3), 233-253. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01463373.2024.2325349> **(Lead article)**

Yergensen, B. (2024). Marginalizing mortality: The fight against death as the communicative cultural condition. *Review of Communication*, 24(4), 206-218. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15358593.2024.2370375>

Yergensen, B. (2024). Theodor Adorno's negative dialectics in digital theology: The visceral narratology of metaphor and personification. *Journal of Communication and Religion* 47(1), 5-20. **(Lead article)**

Yergensen, B. (2024). *The Batman* and the redemption of first responders: The culmination of a rhetoric of rescue during covid, Trump, and protest. *Northern Lights: Film and Media Studies Yearbook (Journal)*, 22(1), 27-43. https://doi.org/10.1386/nl_00046_1

Yergensen, B. (2024). The elusive killer in didactic cinema: Conceptualizing Munch-ian art and Adorno's negative dialectics in horror. *Canadian Review of American Studies*, 54(2), 133-152. <https://doi.org/10.3138/cras-2024-002>

Yergensen, B. (2024). Media spectacle as political epistemology: The real-time construction of presidential impeachment. *New Explorations: Studies in Culture & Communication*, 4(2), 1-20. <https://doi.org/10.7202/1115376ar>

Yergensen, B. (2024). Robin Hood in a casino: Perfecting vigilante justice in *Ocean's* cinematic rhetoric in post 9/11 America. *Journal of Criminal Justice and Popular Culture*, 24(1), 55-71. <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5b0ee82df793927c77add8b6/t/65e3b9b43eb087584df7a102/1709423029207/Yergensen-Robin-Hood-in-a-Casino-JCJPC-24-1.pdf>

Yergensen, B. (2023). Sovereignty, Brexit, and *Dunkirk*: Winston Churchill's "Fight Them on the Beaches" speech as nationalist memory. *Film & History*, 53(1), 31-44. <https://doi.org/10.1353/flm.2023.a903046>

Yergensen, B. (2023). Resistive reviews and early cancel culture: Delegitimation

and *The Chronicles of Narnia*. *Atlantic Journal of Communication*, 32(5), 720-732. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15456870.2023.2226786>

Yergensen, B. (2023). The devil as doppelganger: Instinctual faith and the exhausted rant of evil in *Last Days in the Desert*. *Journal of Religion, Film & Media*, 9(1), 157-171. <https://doi.org/10.25364/05.9:2023.1.8>

Yergensen, B. (2023). Competition on the origins of life and the scientific oratory tradition: Polarizing evolution and its instinctual faith in *Prometheus*. *New Explorations: Studies in Culture & Communication*, 3(1), 1-23. <https://doi.org/10.7202/1097590ar>

Yergensen, B. (2023). The aesthetic pragmatism of M. Night Shyamalan: Rhetorical interludes as cinematic structure. *Americana: The Journal of American Popular Culture, 1900-Present*, 22(1). https://americanpopularculture.com/journal/articles/spring_2023/yergensen.htm

Yergensen, B., & Church, S. H. (2023). The rhetorical interlude in Alfonso Cuarón's *Gravity*: Suggesting a model for examining rhetorical discourse in film. *Dialogue: The Interdisciplinary Journal of Popular Culture and Pedagogy*, 10(1), 6-20. <http://journaldialogue.org/issues/v10-issue-1/the-rhetorical-interlude-in-alfonso-cuarons-gravity-suggesting-a-model-for-examining-rhetorical-discourse-in-film/> **(Lead article)**

Yergensen, B. (2023). The diversified senex of science and the digital turn: *Star Wars*, *The Matrix*, and the wisdom of Neil deGrasse Tyson. *The Northwest Journal of Communication*, 50(1), 137-164.

Yergensen, B. (2023). Ideological window dressing: Advertising Superman cinema for religious audience in post 9/11 America. *Utah Journal of Communication*, 1(1), 18-27. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7796439>

Yergensen, B. (2022). From sexuality to history: Dracula's means of control in Elizabeth Kostova's *The Historian*. *Studies in Popular Culture*, 44(1), 87-101. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/27204057>

Church, S. H., Halverson, A., & Yergensen, B. (2022). Music technologies and AirPods: Adorno as media ecologist. *Explorations in Media Ecology*, 21(2), 251-269. https://doi.org/10.1386/eme_00132_1

Yergensen, B., & Church, S. H. (2022). The rhetorical interlude as foreshadow

and strategy: *The 'Burbs* and defeating horror villains at the end of the Cold War. *Popular Culture Studies Journal*, 10(1), 278-294. <https://www.mpcaaca.org/pcsj-volume-10-number-1>

Yergensen, B. (2022). Enraptured by nature's fury in *The Day After Tomorrow*: Deleuze's movement-image and the George W. Bush era of global warming denial. *Journal of Visual Political Communication*, 8(1), 67-86. https://doi.org/10.1386/jvpc_00012_1

Yergensen, B. (2022). Coronation in physics: String theory and the pursuit of the Theory of Everything. *Journal of Religion & Society*, 24(1), 1-13. <https://cdr.creighton.edu/server/api/core/bitstreams/21ffc582-dc99-4d46-9310-a7780468bc0a/content>

Yergensen, B. (2021). Pursuing a rational religion: Vernacular science rhetoric as the link between humanity and God in Enlightenment Europe. *The Northwest Journal of Communication*, 49(1), 9-34. (**Lead article**)

Yergensen, B. (2021). The Holy Grail of physics: Division and unification in the string theory movement. *The Midwest Quarterly*, 63(1), 24-36. <https://go.gale.com/ps/i.do?p=LitRC&u=anon~7af1415f&id=GALE%7CA681143229&v=2.1&it=r&sid=bookmark-LitRC&asid=b3d4571e>

Yergensen, B. (2007). The rhetorical interlude: Examining key film speeches in cultural/historical context. *Journal of the Communication, Speech & Theatre Association of North Dakota*, 20(1), 21-29.

Yergensen, B. (2006). Cultural interpretations of fantasy film: *The Lord of the Rings* as Christian 'equipment for living.' *Ohio Communication Journal*, 44(1), 151-171.

Journal Articles Under Review (8)

Yergensen, B. The Final Girl as cinematic Red Riding Hood: Culinary weapons, evil's end, and surviving Trump culture. Manuscript submitted to *Comparative American Studies An International Journal*.

Yergensen, B. Death, racial violence, and communal trauma: Emmett Till's open casket as actionable rhetoric and negative dialectics. Manuscript submitted to *International Review of Sociology*.

Yergensen, B. Rhetorical leadership and the Western civilization survival

impulse: Occidental literature and *Beowulf* oratory as response to death. Manuscript submitted to *Clio: A Journal of Literature, History, and the Philosophy of History*. (under Revise and Resubmit)

Yergensen, B. Arthurian sacrificial meaning in the western legacy: Death and Rhetorical leadership in Pericles' funeral oration. Manuscript submitted to *ANQ: Quarterly Journal of Short Articles, Notes and Reviews*.

Yergensen, B. Enticement, demons, and deliverance: Goethe and American transcendence. Manuscript submitted to *International Journal of Humanities and Arts*.

Yergensen, B. Reconnecting critical theory with its suffering origins: Adorno, Auschwitz, and Maslow in Pedagogical Practice. Manuscript submitted to *Practice: Contemporary Issues in Practitioner Education*.

Yergensen, B. The sixth sense and innate wisdom: Clinical value in Rupert Brooke's "There's Wisdom in Women." Manuscript submitted to *Journal of Journal of Humanistic Psychology*.

Yergensen, B. Kitchens and dressing rooms, knives and courtrooms: Contemporary serendipitous symbolism and public resonance in horror. Manuscript submitted to *Bright Lights Film Journal*.

Book Chapters (2)

Yergensen, B (2015). The need for communicative wisdom in an age of workplace democracy. In K. Vaidya (Ed.) *Communication for the curious: Why study communication?* Canberra: Curious Academic Publishing.

Yergensen, B. (2009). Exploring science as salvation in apocalyptic films. In K. Hart, & A. Holba (Eds.), *Media and the apocalypse* (pp. 153-166). New York: Peter Lang Publishing.

Grants/Grant Administration

Beebe, A., Yergensen, B., Gustafson, E, Boch, G., and Kelly, M. (2025). AI Writing, Technology, and Ethics. Proposal for interdisciplinary certificate program in Artificial Intelligence writing and community symposium. The University of Texas at Tyler, \$7,500 (awarded).

Britt, T. (2024). Media and Communication Research Laboratory (internal grant for software to measure biological and unconscious behavior during media exposure). The University of Texas at Tyler, \$17,000 (not awarded).

Britt, T. (2021). Media and Communication Research Laboratory. The University of Texas at Tyler, \$40,000 (awarded). Administration of student projects and curriculum in coordination with the MCR Lab.

Yergensen, B. (2020). National Endowment for the Humanities Media & Technology Fellowship Panelist. Designation of \$4.6 million in awards.

Published Poetry

Yergensen, B. (2026). The autumn breeze of 97. *Poetry Pacific* (forthcoming May 2026).

Yergensen, B. (2025). A beautiful haunting. *Academy of the Heart and Mind*.
https://academyoftheheartandmind.com/2025/01/18/a-beautiful-haunting/?fbclid=IwY2xjawH8jWtleHRuA2FlbQIxMQABHZjef2_LeBOmrRz6nkyA2rivn1q5a--gTkGwrCFCMLDgS7ROR42ghvODtg_aem_avB3OPSyRrbyMKiO3qJEMA

Yergensen, B. (2025). Stories change paths. *Bewildering Stories*, 23(1077).
http://www.bewilderingstories.com/issue1077/stories_change_paths.html?fbclid=IwY2xjawIEmjJleHRuA2FlbQIxMQABHTjIB47_w-JyuGfJpoWYTSs83m0hi3535MYZlppEEokLiee3MHzisV09BQ_aem_wmiVdcWQLdhvilmQ6xjS6A

Yergensen, B. The final parable. Submitted to *Spirit Fire Review*.

Yergensen, B. Timestamps. Submitted to *Poetry Pacific*.

Awards and Recognitions

<i>Career Champion Award Nominee</i>	Spring 2025
UT-Tyler recognition for efforts to advance the career readiness of students	
<i>Faculty Recognition Award</i>	Spring 2020
BYU-Hawaii Faculty of Arts & Letters for excellence in teaching and service	
<i>Distinguished Service Award</i>	2018
Utah Tech University—competitive, annual campus-wide award (awarded in 2018 for excellence in changes implemented while chairing the Provost's Office University Curriculum Committee)	

<i>Teacher of the Year</i>	2015-16
Utah Tech University Division of Communication	
<i>Fundraising Second Miler Award</i>	2013
Boy Scouts of America award for fundraising leadership	
<i>Teacher of the Year Finalist</i>	2010-11
Utah Tech University annual campus-wide competition	
<i>Top Paper</i>	2011
Association for the Rhetoric of Science and Technology, National Communication Association	
<i>Recognition for Contributions to Students</i>	2009
University of Nebraska—Lincoln Teaching Council and UNL Parents' Association	
<i>2nd Place, Martin Luther King Jr. Day Essay</i>	2008
University of Nebraska—Lincoln campus-wide competition	
<i>Favorite Professor Luncheon Recognition</i>	2005
Eastern Illinois University Student Affairs	
<i>Top 3 Student Paper</i>	2005
Media Studies Division, Central States Communication Association Conference	
<i>Distinguished Graduate Student Award</i>	2005
Eastern Illinois University Graduate School	
<i>Outstanding Graduate Student Award</i>	2005
Eastern Illinois University Department of Communication	

Highlighted Service

Graduate Thesis and Project Committees

Jennifer Worley	Spring 2025
“Murder on Music Row: A Narrative Analysis of Mass-Mediated Country”	
Department of Communication	

Pamelia Adams Summer 2024

“An Ethnographic Reflection on the Rhetoric of
Martin Luther King, Jr.”
Department of Communication

Jhonniee Meeks Spring 2024

“Enhancing Graduate Employability through Work-
Integrated Learning: Practical Strategies and Best
Practices”
Department of Communication

Mark Griffin Spring 2024

“Inoculant to Influence: Kenneth Burke and Walter
Fisher’s Rhetorical Theories as a Framework for
Engaging in Forms of Critical Citizenship”
Department of English

Kelley Connor Fall 2023

“Artificial Intelligence in Departments of
Communication”
Department of Communication

Campus

Tenure and Promotion Review Committee Fall 2025

UT-Tyler School of Performing Arts

Post-Tenure Review Committee Fall 2025

UT-Tyler Department of Literature and Languages

Patriot Premiere Showcase Representative Spring 2025

UT-Tyler College of Arts and Sciences
representative for Patriot Premiere Showcase, April
2025.

University Core Curriculum Committee

UT-Tyler Office of the Provost

Fall 2024-present

Search Chair, Literature and Languages Department Chair

UT-Tyler College of Arts and Sciences

Summer 2024

Degree Completion BAAS Advisory Committee

UT Tyler Office of the Provost

Summer 2024-present

Fellow, Quality Enhancement Plan UT-Tyler Office of the Provost	Fall 2023-Spr. 2025
Search Committee Member Art Department Chair Search Committee, UT-Tyler	Spring 2024
Faculty Trainer Rank and Promotion Interfolio Software, UT-Tyler Chairs' Council	June 2023
Provosts' Office Interfolio Migration Taskforce UT-Tyler consolidation and migration of tenure and rank evaluation systems into Interfolio software	Jan. 2023-June 2023
Presenter , UT-Tyler Graduate School Recruitment UT-Tyler Communication M.A. Production Presenter	June 2023
UT-Tyler Chairs' Council UT-Tyler monthly chairs' meeting dedicated to faculty, student, and staff leadership needs.	August 2022-present
University Council UT-Tyler monthly executive meeting dedicated to university events, data, and upcoming events.	August 2022-present
Tenure and Promotion Review Committee UT-Tyler College of Arts and Sciences	August 2022-present
Riter Professorship Evaluation Committee UT-Tyler College of Arts & Sciences	Fall 2023
Curriculum Evaluation Committee UT-Tyler Quality Enhancement Plan College of Arts and Sciences	Fall 2023-Spr. 2024
Assessment Committee UT-Tyler Department of Communication	Fall 2022-present
Recorded Presenter UT-Tyler First Generation Student Media Campaign	November 2022
Colloquium Presenter	September 8, 2022

UT-Tyler Department of Communication Research
Colloquium, “Theodor Adorno's Negative
Dialectics and Horror Aesthetic: Unsettling Endings
as Cinematic Quality.”

Presenter, Freshmen Orientation July 29, 2022
UT-Tyler College of Arts

Presenter, Freshman Orientation July 22, 2022
UT-Tyler College of Arts and Sciences

Pedagogy Trainer March 2022
BYU-Hawaii Center for Learning and Teaching,
“Reactive Simulation Learning: Turing Your
Classroom into a Courtroom, and the Case of
Propaganda in Simpleville.”

Reviewer, Undergraduate Research Proposal Winter 2022
BYU-Hawaii College of Arts & Letters

Moderator, Research Conference March 31, 2022
BYU-Hawaii Undergraduate Panel, “Representing
Culture: Narrative Depictions of Cultural Identity.”

Internship Coordinator May 2018-June 2022
BYU-Hawaii Communication, Media and Culture
Program

Panelist, National Endowment for the Humanities May-June 2020
Media & Technology Fellowships Area, evaluation
and designation of \$4.6 million in research grants

Search Committee Member Spring-Winter 2021
BYU-Hawaii Library Faculty

Asia Pacific Conference Committee Fall 2018-Spr. 2020
BYU-Hawaii Arts and Letters Campus
Representative

Discipline

Reviewer Summer 2025-present

Communication Quarterly

Reviewer <i>Journal of Religion, Film, and Media</i>	Summer 2023-present
Journal Editorial Board <i>New Explorations: Studies in Communication & Culture</i>	March 2023-present
Journal Editorial Board <i>Utah Journal of Communication</i>	March 2023-present
Reviewer <i>Northwest Journal of Communication</i>	June 2018-present

Community

Speaker, East Texas Leadership Summit “Understanding and Using Artificial Intelligence: Challenges and Opportunities,” Tyler, TX.	April 19, 2024
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Podcast Guest UT Tyler Radio/KVUT Podcast Guest, “Understanding the Potential Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Communication and Media,” https://kvut.org/130875/2023/07/28/brent-yergensen-understanding-the-potential-impact-of-ai-on-communication-and-media/ .	July 28, 2023
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Podcast Guest BYU-Hawaii Student Podcast, DT Talks episode, “Get to Know Your Professor,” https://www.buzzsprout.com/1132784/episodes/6025180	October 22, 2020
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Youth Sports Coach Coached youth baseball, basketball, and football in Ivins, UT, focusing on skill development, teamwork, and sportsmanship.	2010-2015
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Conference Presentations (34)

(Papers marked with an * were competitively selected)

*Yergensen, B. (2023, April). *Sovereignty, Brexit, and Dunkirk: Winston*

Churchill's "Fight Them on the Beaches" speech as public memory.
Popular Culture Association Communication & Digital Culture Area, San Antonio.

*Yergensen, B. (2022, April). *Competition on the origins of life and the American scientific oratory tradition: Hypermasculine evolution and instinctual faith in Prometheus.* Popular Culture Association Religion and Culture Area, Virtual.

*Yergensen, B. (2020, February). *Keen on the killer: The 'Burbs and interlude as warning.* Southwest Popular/American Culture Association, Albuquerque.

Yergensen, B. (2020, February). Panelist, *The Shining, on its 40th anniversary.* Southwest Popular/American Culture Association, Albuquerque.

*Church, S. H., Yergensen, B., & Granata, P. (2019, June). *Music and AirPods: Adorno as media ecologist.* Media Ecology Association, Toronto.

*Yergensen, B. (2017, April). Evil's desire: Dracula, Lacan, and rationality in postmodern culture. *Popular Culture Association Vampire in Literature, Culture, and Film Division.* San Diego, CA.

*Yergensen, B. (2016, November). Negative dialectics, the currant bush, and mediated theology as non-representation. *Latter-day Saint Media Studies Symposium*, Laie, HI.

*Yergensen, B. (2016, March). Complicating the hero's quest: Father's absence and aid in the supernatural television drama. *Popular Culture Association Men and Men's Studies Division*, Seattle, WA.

*Yergensen, B. (2014, April). Understanding vernacular science through the Plato-Aristotle debate: The case of invention and translation. *Northwest Communication Association Rhetorical Theory and Criticism Division*, Coeur d'Alene, ID.

*Yergensen, B. (2014, April). Creating the political conscience: Extending Murray Edelman's ideas on the nature of political news. *Northwest Communication Association Media Studies Division*, Coeur d'Alene, ID.

Yergensen, B. (2013, February). Adorno's Negative Dialectics: His purpose and

method. *Western States Communication Association Communication Theory and Research Division*. Reno, NV.

- *Yergensen, B. (2011, November). The holy grail of physics: String theory and the pursuit of unification. *National Communication Association Association for the Rhetoric of Science and Technology*, New Orleans, LA. **Top Paper**
- *Yergensen, B. (2011, February). Emphasizing division, establishing guilt: Creating the symptom in the string theory movement. *Western States Communication Association Rhetoric and Public Address Interest Group*. Monterey, CA.
- *Yergensen, B. (2009, November). Popularization of science and the string theory movement. *National Communication Association Research in Progress Round Table*. Chicago, IL.
- *Yergensen, B. (2009, April). Environmental rapture: Deleuze's movement-image amidst environmentalism's prophesied catastrophe. *Central States Communication Association Graduate Caucus*. St. Louis, MO.
- *Yergensen, B. (2009, April). "The question of Burke's ethics" revisited: Burkean Marxism and the critique of materiality. *Central States Communication Association Kenneth Burke Society*, St. Louis, MO.
- *Yergensen, B. (2009, April). The international council for science [union]: A case study of the organizational communication of globalizing science. *Central States Communication Association Organizational and Professional Communication Division*, St. Louis, MO.
- *Yergensen, B. (2008, November). Scientizing criticism: The "abuse of casuistry" and contradictory organizational discourses of the childcare action project. *Association for the Rhetoric of Science and Technology*, San Diego, CA.
- *Yergensen, B. (2008, November). "Rational religion": Popular science literature as the cognitive link between mankind and God in enlightenment Europe. *American Society for the History of Rhetoric Symposium*. San Diego, CA.
- *Yergensen, B. (2008, January). The Hero is But Welcome on Troubled [Minds]':

Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Philosophy and the Challenge of Mental Transformation. *University of Nebraska—Lincoln Martin Luther King Essay Contest*. Lincoln, NE.

*Yergensen, B. (2007, November). I have an epiphany! The sexist structure of problem solving heroes in Shyamalan's plot twisting supernatural thrillers. *National Communication Association Semiotics Division*, Chicago, IL.

Yergensen, B. (2007, November). Cinematic scripture: Ethical crisis in using fantasy as equipment for militant ideology. *National Communication Association Kenneth Burke Society*, Chicago, IL.

Yergensen, B. (2007, November). Christian window dressing: Advertising secular movies for the religious audience. *National Communication Association American Studies Division*, Chicago, IL.

*Yergensen, B. (2006, November). The wise old man: Diversifying the archetype in science fiction. *National Communication Association Association for Psychoanalysis*. San Antonio, TX.

*Yergensen, B. (2006, April). The holistic hero: The new rhetoric of heroism found in *Spider-Man 2*. *Central States Communication Association Media Studies Competitive Paper Division*, Indianapolis, IN.

*Yergensen, B. (2006, April). 'Ringin' America, Iraq, and terrorists: Using Burke to discover equipment for (argu)ing. *Central States Communication Association Kenneth Burke Society Competitive Paper Division*, Indianapolis, IN.

*Yergensen, B. (2006, April). New mediums in researching the sublime and the fascination of horror film. *Central States Communication Association Rhetorical Theory and Criticism Division*, Indianapolis, IN.

*Yergensen, B. (2005, April). Samwise Gamgee's structure and word choice in *The Two Towers*. *Central States Communication Association Media Studies Division*, Kansas City, MO. **Top 3 Student Paper**

*Yergensen, B. (2005, April). *A Beautiful Mind*, dramatism, and relationships. *Central States Communication Association Kenneth Burke Division*, Kansas City, MO.

- *Yergensen, B. (2005, April). Effective lecturing in the communication classroom. *Central States Communication Association Communication Education Division*, Kansas City, MO.
- *Yergensen, B. Jesuit education and the rhetorical tradition. Paper accepted at the *2004 American Society for the History of Rhetoric Conference*, Chicago, IL.
- *Yergensen, B. (2004, April). A look at the rhetoric of Adolf Hitler through the lens of Ciceronian style. *Northwest Communication Association Rhetorical Theory and Criticism Division*, Coeur D' Alene, ID.
- *Yergensen, B. (2004, April). To be or not to be? That is America's question. *Northwest Communication Association Rhetorical Theory and Criticism Division*, Coeur D' Alene, ID.
- *Yergensen, B. (2003, April). The Jesuits and their contribution to rhetorical theory. *Northwest Communication Association Rhetorical Theory and Criticism Division*, Coeur D' Alene, ID.

Teaching Experience

(UTT=UT-Tyler, BYUH=BYU-Hawaii, UTU=Utah Tech University, UNL=University of Nebraska-Lincoln, EIU=Eastern Illinois University)

Communication Praxis Courses

Public Speaking (UTT, UTU, EIU)

Practice in speech analysis, planning, and delivery techniques.

Business and Professional Communication (UNL)

Practice speaking in business settings with focus on negotiation, interaction, and public presentation skills.

Persuasion (UTU)

Practice using classical and contemporary persuasion techniques for professional presentations.

Fundamentals of Human Communication (UTT, UNL)

Practice communicating clearly and professionally in business, public, and interpersonal settings.

Critical Thinking and Communication (UTU)

Application and analysis of debate and argumentation techniques.

Voice and Civility in Public Discourse (UTU)

Practice advocating in an ethical and effective manner on social issues.

Communication Principles of Mentorship (UTU)

Study and practice of interpersonal leadership, coaching, and decision-making techniques.

Leadership and High Performance Teams (UTU)

Practice directing organizations with focus on collaborative planning and personnel motivation techniques.

Communication and Conflict (BYUH, UTU)

Exercise in mediating, brainstorming, and applying resolution techniques in conflicting situations.

Organizational Communication (BYUH)

Exercises in navigating organizational dynamics, problem solving, and representing organizations.

Interpersonal Communication (UTU)

Practice applying effective interpersonal sensitivity and listening skills.

Small Group Communication (UTU)

Practice participating in group development, team culture, and professional problem solving.

Communication and Culture Courses

Introduction to Communication (UTT, UNL)

Introduction to Communication disciplines and theories.

Organizational Communication (graduate level, UTT)

Graduate level survey of Organizational Communication theory and research.

Communication Research Methods (graduate level, UTT)

Graduate level exploration of social scientific and interpretive research methods.

Issues in Global Communication (BYUH)

Exploration of global media, and economic and cultural conflicts.

Communication and Popular Culture (BYUH)

Study of social and critical theories applied to popular culture.

Intercultural Communication (UTU)

Study of cultural traditions, communication styles, and histories.

Media and Society (BYUH, UTU)

Overview of media history, technological developments, and effects on society.

Introduction to Public Discourse (UNL)

Study of key figures and events in oratorical history.

Rhetoric and Public Communication (UTU)

Exploration of the history, theories, and role of rhetoric in culture.

Rhetorical Analysis (UTU)

The study and application of rhetorical analysis theories in contemporary media.

Communication and Contemporary Public Discourse (UTU)

Study of contemporary issues focusing on journalistic and narrative styles of media coverage.

Senior Seminar (BYUH, UTU)

Student-chosen capstone projects in applied and research contexts.

Communication Research (UTU)

Study of the paradigms and theorists in the history of the Communication discipline.

Directed Study: Social Theory (UTU)

Study of European philosophy in historical and contemporary communication contexts, with particular focus on the Frankfurt and Birmingham schools, and postmodernism.