

Evan R. Jones, PhD
Full-time Lecturer, Appalachian State University
Curriculum Vitae

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AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Rhetoric, cultural studies, technology, spatial studies (architecture, infrastructure, accessibility, mobility, housing and building policy, adaptive reuse, phenomenology of space and place, critical infrastructural studies), public memory, media theory, public-facing communication, argumentation, media production.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Rhetoric of space and place, non-standard housing practices and movements, structural and emotional abandonment of marginalized communities, critical making and self-directed technical interventions, ruination of the built environment, design (as theory, practice, and pedagogy), open source intelligence, place-hacking, anti-human trafficking.

EDUCATION

Aug. 2017 / July 2024	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill PhD, Department of Communication Dissertation: Abandonment in Reverse: The Container Experience and Adaptive Reuse in Placemaking Advisor: V. William Balthrop Committee Members: Carole Blair (Communication), Lawrence Grossberg (Communication), Christian Lentz (Geography), John Pickles (Geography)
Jan. 2011 / Jan. 2012	University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California Master of Communication Management
May 2000 / May 2004	Toronto Metropolitan University, Toronto, Ontario (Formerly Ryerson University) Bachelor of Fine Arts (Image Arts: Film)

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

May 2024	Dissertation Completion Fellowship University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
August 2017	Doctoral Merit Assistantship University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
August 2011	Annenberg Program for Online Communities Scholarship University of Southern California
March 2004	Jack Kuper Film Award Ryerson University

February 2003 **Kodak Film Grant**
Ryerson University

February 2003 **Bursary Award**
Ryerson University

AWARD NOMINATIONS

Winter 2021 **Summer Research Fellowship**
Competitive departmental nomination

Fall 2023 **Off-Campus Research Fellowship**
College-level nomination

PUBLICATIONS

2025 Chapter: ***Haikyo, The Wild, and the Mediation of Material Decay on Instagram***. In D. Moscato & P. Duncan (Eds.), *The Wild: Image, Industry, and Technology*. Bloomsbury.

2025 Chapter: **“Today I Found a Rotting Experimental Prison in the Woods”: CHYDARU, UNC, and Re-Assessing Ruins of the Past for the Sake of the Present**. In A. Woods (Ed.), *Relics of modernity: Theorizing rhetorics and performances of ruins*. Bloomsbury.

March 2025 Essay: **All Roads Lead to Ruin: Acknowledging (and Addressing) Infrastructural Neglect**
The Bulletin of Technology & Public Life.
<https://citap.pubpub.org/pub/infrastructure/release/1>

February 2023 Media Gallery: **Seasonal Ruins: The Transformative Potential of Hidden “Dead” Structures**
In Media Res.
<https://tinyurl.com/ybvff8pff>

Fall 2022 Book Review: **Cheap Talk and the Politics of Communication**.
Public, 33(66), 197-199.

March 2022 Essay: **Break Everything ASAP: Reclaiming Electronic Pedagogy**
Viewfinder no 119.
<https://learningonscreen.ac.uk/viewfinder/articles/break-everything-asap-reclaiming-electronic-pedagogy/>

April 2021 Book Review: **Action at a Distance**. *European Journal of Communication*, 36(2), 209–210.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0267323121999877>

February 2021 Chapter: **Teaching with (and Through) Black Panther**. In S.C. Howard (Ed.), *Why Wakanda matters: What Black Panther reveals about psychology, identity, and communication*. BenBella Books.

In Review **Article: Covid, Poverty, Death, Dignity: NYC's Hart Island Cemetery and the Public Ethics of Posthumous Care**

In Review **Article: Startup / Closedown: Broadcast Nostalgia, Amateur Archivism, and the Cataloging of Japanese TV Operation Notices**

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)

November 2023 **Am I Free to be Myself? Self-monitoring Ideas, Ideologies & Identities in the Classroom**
109th Annual National Communication Association Convention,
Baltimore, Maryland

May 2023 **Type It Like You Talk It: A Beginner-Friendly Introduction to Making Small Machines with Microcontrollers and CircuitPython**
Cultural Studies Association Conference
George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia

April 2023 **Spring UNC MakerFest**
Accessibility Technology Demonstration

April 2022 **Covid, Death, Dignity: NYC's Hart Island Cemetery and the Ethics of Caring for the Dead**
Annual Transatlantic Workshop in Practical Philosophy (Virtual Presentation)

November 2022 **The Message of Wakanda: Influencing Our PLACE in the World**
108th National Communication Association Convention,
New Orleans, Louisiana

February 2022 **Brighter Darkness: LED Streetlights, Public Infrastructure, and Technical Landscapes**
Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers
(Virtual Presentation)

December 2021 **Re-assessing Ruins of the Past for the Sake of the Future**
AIMS — Antiquity in Media Studies (Virtual Presentation)

November 2021 **Buying Nuclear Time: The Constitutive Rhetoric of Shinzo Abe's September 3, 2017 Statement**
107th Annual National Communication Association Convention
Seattle, Washington (Virtual Presentation)

April 2021 **An Agoraphobic Topophilia: Re-Assessing Spatial Interaction During COVID-19**
Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers (Virtual Presentation)

November 2019 **Putting Destruction on "Repeat" - The Many Lives, Deaths, and Rebirths of Tokyo**

November 2018 105th Annual National Communication Association Convention,
Baltimore, Maryland

November 2018 **Black Panther: A Fan's Perspective**
104th Annual National Communication Association Convention,
Salt Lake City, Utah

November 2018 **Communication at Play in Urban Design and Planning** (Respondent)
104th Annual National Communication Association Convention,
Salt Lake City, Utah

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

Communication as a Social Process
Introduction to Argumentation and Debate
Introduction to Media Production
Introduction to Interpersonal and Organizational Communication
Rhetoric and Public Issues

Graduate Teaching Assistant Positions

IDST 118: Fake News, Real Science (Dis/Misinformation)
Introduction to Critical Theory
Introduction to Gender Communication
Introduction to Interpersonal and Organizational Communication
Introduction to Media Production
Introduction to Media History/Theory/Criticism
Rhetoric and Public Issues
Terrorism and Political Violence
The Southern Experience in Rhetoric

EXTRA-DEPARTMENTAL GRADUATE EXPERIENCE AND SERVICE

November 2025 Reviewer, National Communication Association (Economics,
Communication, and Society Division, Great Ideas for Teaching Students
(G.I.F.T.S), Kenneth Burke Society, Rhetorical and Communication
Theory Division)

May 2024 – Present Makerspace Coordinator, Cultural Studies Association Conference (Staff)

August 2022 – May 2023 Pedagogy Co-Chair, Communication Department Graduate Students
Association

August 2022 – Present The Center for Information, Technology, and Public Life (CITAP)
Student Affiliate

June 2022 – Present Data Transcriptionist, Odum Institute (Hourly position)

Fall 2020 – Present Parr Center for Ethics Graduate Fellow (Non-compensated)

Spring 2019 Buckley Public Service Scholars Graduate Assistant (Stipend)
 Fall 2017 – Fall 2023 Office for Undergraduate Research Graduate Assistant (Hourly position)

PROFESSIONALLY-RELATED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS (Fan Studies, Online Communities, Production, Media Theory)

August 2025 **Abandoned Japan: Urban Exploration, Haikyo, and More**
 Otakon, Washington DC 2025

December 2024 **It's Time To Go: A Broke-ish Fan's Guide to Visiting Japan**
 Anime Weekend Atlanta 2024

Fright Night at The Anime Grindhouse: Exploring the Shared Lineage(s) of Anime, Horror, and Exploitation
 Anime Weekend Atlanta 2024

December 2015 **Starting From Scratch: The Basics of Building An Online Community**
 Mozilla Teach The Web Talks (Virtual Presentation)

November 2015 **Full STEAM Ahead: Lessons Learned From a Library Coding Camp**
 Young Adult Library Services Association Symposium, Portland, Oregon

October 2015 **Lessons from Camp Minecraft**
 Mozilla Festival, London, England

July 2013 **Artifacts of Sound: Sound Effects and Their Impact on Fan and Genre Communities**
 Anime Expo, Los Angeles, California

July 2012 **Anime and Journalism: Writing About Anime**
 (Organizer, Chair)
 Anime Expo, Los Angeles, California

February 2012 **Animation and Journalism**
 Anime Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California

May 2004 **Animation and Academia**
 Anime Central, Chicago Illinois

SOFTWARE, DIGITAL COMMUNITY, AND GAMING PROJECTS

2014 **Pursuiter.com Video Lecture Series**
 Host, production

2014 **Homago.com Online Educational Video Series**
 Host, production

2013 **E3: The Game**
 Concept Supervisor for Gamer Talent.com

2012 **Starship Troopers: Invasion – Mobile Infantry (Mobile Game)**
 Quality Assurance, Testing, Public relations

2012 **Daqri Augmented Reality Research**
Application Testing, Research reports

2011 **Scoutline Mobile Application**
Quality Assurance, UX testing

SELECTED PRESS APPEARANCES

97.9 WCHL (Chapelboro.com) – Feb. 19, 2024

“On Air Today: ‘Today I Found a Rotting Experimental Prison in the Woods’”

<https://chapelboro.com/the-aaron-keck-show/on-air-today/on-air-today-today-i-found-a-rotting-experimental-prison-in-the-woods>

The Daily Tar Heel - Jan. 11, 2023

“‘We’re All Rethinking Normal’: Community Members Respond to Optional Mask-Wearing”

dailytarheel.com/article/2023/01/city-covid-rsv-update-2023

In Media Res: A Mediacommons Podcast - Dec. 4, 2023

“IMR Death Positive Media”

<https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/anthony-dannar/episodes/IMR-Death-Positive-Media-e2cpjnv>