

Frank Stec

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Professional Experience

Associate Teaching Professor/Lecturer, 2014 to Present

The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Communication Arts and Sciences

- Served as stand-alone instructor and lab assistant three online and several in-house classes, from introductory courses (CAS 100) to advanced special topics (CAS 478).
- Interact with undergraduates on a daily basis, many within their first years. Thus, I engage students to work through topics and ideas that inspire them, and sometimes I have helped them decide upon a major.
- Give students critical thinking skills that will help them in their future careers, but also help them to be part of a better, more engaged citizenry.
- Typical student reviews of my teaching include, “Frank Stec did a get job encouraging all of us to make the speeches about something we care about and have passion for while pushing us to do our best in a fun, enjoyable manor.”
- Developed World Campus version of CAS 301-Introduction to Rhetorical Theory.
 - Taking the course from concept to final product broadened my experience with e-education, and taught me how to translate in-person lectures and assignment instructions for online students.
 - In the process, I completed my Foundations for Online Teaching certificate, which provided me with a better understanding of course creation and the support available to our online students.

Cycling Club Faculty Advisor, 2016 to Present

- Assisted student leaders in their efforts to secure funding and certification to participate in regional conference for cycling.
- Guided club through a sudden and difficult leadership abdication and removal process.
- Advised club to double number of community events to broaden the reach of the club and improve relations with non-college cyclists.

Communication Arts and Sciences Department Undergraduate Studies Committee, August 2020-Current

- Advised department on adoption of new classes
- Aided those proposing new classes how to improve the applications and address any concerns.
- Advised department on adoption of integrated undergraduate/graduate programs involving CAS and an MA in Public Policy.

Communication Arts and Sciences Department Technology Committee, August 2017-August 2020

- Improved functionality of the department website, fixing broken links, correcting contact information, encouraging faculty to keep their site updated.
- Fielded concerns over technology use in classes, including helping students gain access to recording equipment for their speeches
- Encouraged a more proactive approach to promoting teaching faculty and graduate students in their teaching and scholarly successes.

President of Arnold-Ebbitt Interdisciplinary Rhetoricians, 2011-2012

- Expanded the graduate student-organized rhetoric conference to include five universities
- Increased networking opportunities for graduate students looking to collaborate and gain feedback on academic writing.
- Secured funding nearly \$3,000 in funding for event to cover space rental for event, as well as flight, hotel, and honorarium for keynote speaker.
- I was responsible to keeping organized panel schedule for the 65 participants, as well as keep track of the money spent and received.

Road Race Director for Penn State Cycling Club, 2010-2012

- Drafted proposal and presentation to secure a road race at Penn State to Eastern Collegiate Cycling Conference (ECCC).
- Rebuilt relationship with Black Moshannon State Park after previous event discouraged the park from hosting events by the cycling club.
- Planned and coordinated the road race, which included contacting surrounding townships, Black Moshannon State Park, Penn State club sports office, race officials, medical services, hotels and 30 collegiate teams in the northeast U.S.

Education

- **PhD. The Pennsylvania State University, 2014**
Department of Communication Arts and Sciences
Specialties: Rhetoric Criticism and Theory, War Rhetoric, Democratic Theory
- **M.A. University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 2009**
Department of Communication
- **B.A. University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 2004**
Department of Political Science
- **B.S. University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 2004**
Department of Media Studies, With Honors

RESEARCH

Publications

Jeremy Engels, John Minbiole, Tiara Good, William Saas, and Frank Stec, “Rhetorical Criticism as the Art of Questioning What We Take for Granted: An Inquiry into the “American Dream,” in *The Routledge Handbook on Rhetoric and Power* (Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon ; New York, NY :Routledge), *expected Spring 2025*.

Frank J. Stec, “Bringing Attention to the Human Costs of War: Democratic Deliberation and Anti-War Numbers,” *Southern Communication Journal*, 81, no. 5: 271–288.

Conference Papers and Presentations

“Deliberating with/in Secret: Twilight Deliberation and Barack Obama's National Security Policy,” Rhetoric Society of America, Minneapolis, May 2018.

“Bringing Attention to the Human Costs of War: Democratic Deliberation and Anti-War Numbers,” National Communication Association, Philadelphia, November 2016.

“Making Drone Victims Count: The Bureau for Investigative Journalism’s Counting Toward a Deliberative End,” Rhetoric Society of America, Atlanta, May 2016.

“Carl Sandburg’s “War Poems (1914-1915)”: Irony and Numbers, Judgment and Action,” Rhetoric Society of America, Atlanta, May 2016.

“Resolved: That U.S.-Based Deliberation over Drone Policy is Overly Focused on the Targeting of U.S. Citizens,” Debate Panel, Rhetoric Society of America, Atlanta, May 2016.

“Numerical Rhetorics in the Bush and Obama Administrations’ ‘War on Terror,’” National Communication Association, Chicago, November 2014.

"What’s in a Number, or the Rhetorical Markers of Numerical Education in Democracy?" Rhetoric Society of America, San Antonio, May 2014.

“The Biopolitical Work of the Civil War’s Fallen Soldiers,” National Communication Association, Washington, D.C., November 2013.

“The Rhetorical Nature of Numbers in War,” National Communication Association, War Rhetoric Pre-Conference, Washington, D.C., November 2013.

“Exceptional Proficiency, or the Perfecting of Military Strikes through Drones,” National Communication Association, Washington, D.C., November 2013.

“States of Exception: The Practical and Moral Elements Counting the War Dead.” National Communication Association, Orlando, November 2012.

“War Deaths: Who Counts?” Rhetoric Society of America, Philadelphia, May 2012.

“Reclaiming Social Knowledge: This American Life Making the Economic Crisis Matter.” Rhetoric Society of America, Philadelphia, May 2012.

“Roundtable: Starting And Maintaining A Rhetoric Society Of America Student Chapter.” Rhetoric Society of America, Philadelphia, May 2012.

“The More They Changed, The More He Stayed The Same: How Lyndon Johnson's Material Act Of Renunciation Changes Our Reception Of The Speech.” National Communication Association, New Orleans, November 2011.

“Lyndon Johnson’s Liberalism in the Great Society: Constructing an Engaged American Public.” Rhetoric Society of America, Minneapolis, May 2010.

“The Making of Reality TV Eco-Terrorists: The Spectacle of Whale Wars as Social Movement Rhetoric.” Rhetoric Society of America, Minneapolis, May 2010.

“Human Rights Go Global: Constituting Human Rights in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.” National Communication Association, San Diego, November 2008.

“LBJ’s American Problem: Using Moral Appeals to Introduce the Voting Rights Act of 1965.” Undergraduate Communication Honors Conference, Greencastle, IN., March 2005.

AWARDS

Graduate Student Semester Residency. 2014

Spring

Penn State University. Institute for the Arts and Humanities (IAH)

One course teaching release (\$4,000). The purpose of this grant is to reduce the teaching responsibilities of graduate students whose dissertations exhibit special promise in line with the research mission of the IAH.

**Humanities Initiative Dissertation Grant
2013**

Spring

Penn State University. College of Liberal Arts. One course teaching release (\$4,000). The purpose of this grant is to reduce the teaching responsibilities of graduate students working on their dissertation.

Sparks Fellowship

Fall 2009

The Pennsylvania State University
One course teaching release (\$4,000)

List of Teachers Ranked Excellent by Their Students

Fall 2007-Spring 2009*

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

*All semesters eligible

Elizabeth Winter Young Summer Fellowship

Summer 2008

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign