

Michael (Jake) Beck, Ph.D.
jakebeck@tamu.edu

Education

PhD in Communication Studies, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL.
Graduated December 2021.
Emphasis in Performance Studies.
Dissertation: "Game (Over) Life: Autoethnographic Performance of Video Games and Play."

M.S. in Communication Studies, University of North Texas. Denton, TX.
Graduation August 2014.
Emphasis in Performance Studies and Rhetoric
Thesis Title: "Shall We Play a Game?: The Performative Interactivity of Videogames"

B.S. in Speech Communication, Southern Illinois University. Carbondale, IL.
Graduation May 2011.
Emphasis in Performance Studies and Public Communication

A.A.S. in Theater, Sauk Valley Community College. Dixon, IL.
Graduation May 2009.

Teaching Experience

Lecturer, Texas A&M University, August 2022 – Present.

- Instructor of record, COMM 203, Public Speaking.
- Instructor of record, COMM 325, Persuasion.
- Instructor of record, COMM 325, Persuasion, Honors Course.
- Instructor of record, COMM 453, Video Games and Communication.
- Instructor of record, COMM 437, Visual Communication.
- Instructor of record, COMM 230, Comm and Tech Skills.
- Instructor of record, COMM 310, Communication Intervention.

MBA+ Coach, McCombs School of Business, University of Teas – Austin, 2021 – Present.

- Duties include coaching MBA students within the McCombs School of Business on areas related to job interview preparation, Communication Skills Management, Public Speaking skill development, and other Communication Studies centric topics related to career improvement and changes.

Adjunct Instructor, San Jacinto College – Central Campus, January 2020 – May 2022.

- Instructor of record, SPCH 1315, Public Speaking (Face to Face and Online)
- Instructor of record, SPCH 1321, Business and Professional Speech (Online)
- Instructor of record, SPCH 1318, Interpersonal Communication (Face to Face and Online)

Adjunct Instructor, University of Houston - Clear Lake, August 2019 – August 2022; Summer 2023.

- Instructor of record, WRIT 1301, Composition I

- Instructor of record, WRIT 1302, Composition II
- Instructor of record, WRIT 3307, Advanced Writing (Online)
- Instructor of record, COMM 3350, Visual Communication (Online)
- Instructor of record, COMM 3355, Communication Ethics
- Instructor of record, Writing for Humanities, Rhetoric and Pop Culture

Adjunct Instructor, San Jacinto College – South Campus, August 2019 – December 2019.

- Instructor of record, SPCH 1315, Public Speaking
- Instructor of record, SPCH 1321, Interpersonal Communication

Graduate Teaching Assistant. Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, August 2015 – May 2019.

- Instructor of record for CMST 101, Introduction to Oral Communication.
- Instructor of record for CMST 201, Performing Cultures
- Instructor of record for CMST 221, Advanced Public Speaking

Adjunct Instructor, North Central Texas College, January 2015 – May 2015.

- Instructor of Record for SPCH 1315, Public Speaking.

Adjunct Instructor, Tarrant County Community College, August 2014 - December 2014.

- Instructor of Record for SPCH 1311, Introduction to Speech Communication.

Adjunct Instructor, Brookhaven College, August 2014 - August 2015.

- Instructor of Record for SPCH 1311, Introduction to Speech Communication

Adjunct Instructor, Weatherford College, August 2013 - May 2015.

- Instructor of Record for SPCH 1311, Introduction to Speech Communication.
- Instructor of Record for SPCH 1315, Public Speaking.

Graduate Teaching Assistant. University of North Texas. August 2011- August 2013.

- Instructor of record for COMM 1010, Introduction to Communication Studies.
- Teaching Assistant for COMM 2060, Performance of Literature.
- Teaching Assistant for COMM 2040, Public Speaking.
- Teaching Assistant for COMM 3260, Storytelling.

Awards

Top Student Paper, Performance Studies Division, National Communication Association, Salt Lake City, November 2018.

Outstanding Performance by a Graduate Student. Department of Communication Studies. University of North Texas Denton, April 2013.

Outstanding Undergraduate Performance Award. Department of Speech Communication. Southern Illinois University Carbondale, May 2011.

Outstanding Undergraduate Performance Award. Department of Speech

Communication. Southern Illinois University Carbondale, May 2010.

Invited Guest Artist/Speaker

Storytelling in the Everyday and Professional Life. McCombs School of Business, Houston, TX.
January 13, 2024

Back to Basics: Understanding and Revisiting the Foundations of Public Speaking. McCombs School of Business. Seminar. October 2023.

Petit Jean Performance Festival, Invited Faculty Sponsor, University of Houston – Clear Lake, October 2023.

Interpersonal Communication and Career Changes. Shell Corporation. Webinar. September 2023.

Interpersonal Communication and Career Changes. McCombs School of Business. Webinar. June 2023.

The Art of Storytelling. McCombs School of Business, Houston, TX. January 7, 2023.

Invited Faculty Responder. UHCL Speech Showcase. University of Houston – Clear Lake, November 2022.

Petit Jean Performance Festival, Invited Faculty Sponsor, University of North Texas, October 2022.

Telling Your Story! Behavioral Interviewing and Storytelling. McCombs School of Business, Houston, TX. February 5, 2022.

Invited Faculty Responder. UHCL Speech Showcase. University of Houston – Clear Lake, Fall 2019.

Game (Over) Life. Performed and written by Jake Beck. Pierce Community College, Puyallup, WA. February 2019.

Game (Over) Life. Performed and written by Jake Beck. Bayou Theater, University of Houston – Clear Lake, TX. October 2017.

Conference Panel and Paper Reviewer

Conference Paper Reviewer. Communicating Diversity Conference, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX. May 2023.

Conference Paper and Panel Reviewer, Performance Studies Division for National Communication Association Conference, 2018 – Present.

Conference Paper Reviewer, Game Studies Division for National Communication Association Conference, 2017 – 2020.

Conference Panel Reviewer, Central States Communication Association Conference. Kansas City, MI. Spring 2013

Undergraduate Paper Reviewer. University of North Texas Communication Studies “New Voices, New Perspectives” Conference. Denton, TX. Spring 2013.

Undergraduate Paper reviewer. University of North Texas Communication Studies “NewVoices, New Perspectives” Conference. Denton, TX. Spring 2012.

Conference Presentations

Presenter, “Playful Constraints and Considerations in Autoethnographic Performance.” Contributed Papers in Performance Studies. Southern States Communication Association Conference, Frisco, TX. April 2024.

Panelist, “Always: A Jay Allison Tribute Panel.” Southern States Communication Association Conference, Frisco, TX. April 2024.

Panel Respondent, “Identities and Politics on Social Media.” Communicating Diversity Conference, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX. May 2023.

Panel Chair, “Identity Representation and Activism in Media.” Communicating Diversity Conference, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX. May 2023.

Presenter, Top Contributed Student Papers in Performance Studies, “At the Intersection of Performance Studies and Game Studies,” National Communication Association Conference, Salt Lake City, UT. November 2018.

Panel Participant, “Escape the Room: Performance at Play.” National Communication Association Conference, Salt Lake City, UT. November 2018.

Panel Participant. “...But You Don’t Look Sick: Using Performative Autoethnography to Address Mental Illness Stigma.” Southern States Communication Association Conference, Nashville, TN. April 2018.

Presenter, Contributed Performances: Dreams, Nightmares, Technology, and Identity, “The Pit(fall),” National Communication Association Conference, Dallas, TX, November 2017.

Presenter, Sweding’s Legacy, Sweding’s Relevance: Sweding the Big D, “Primest,” National Communication Association Conference, Dallas, TX, November 2017

Presenter, Top Student Performances in Performance Studies, “On my Long Journey Home”: Understanding Videogame Narratives through Evocative Autoethnography,” Southern States Communication Association Conference, Greenville, NC. April 2017

Panel Participant. “Troubling the Hero(ine): Anima, Animus, and Anime in PERSONA 4. UNT Comic Studies Conference, Denton, TX. March 2014.

Panel Participant. “Digital Music Deconstruct”. Top Performance Studies Panel, Participant. Southern States Communication Association Conference. Louisville, KY. April 2013.

- Panel Participant. "Under (taking) Direction. Moving from External to Internal Directions" University of North Texas Communication Studies "New Voices, New Perspectives" Conference. Denton, TX. Spring 2013.
- Panel Participant. "The Ongoing Customs, Challenges, and Changes of Southern Communication: Disciplinary History through a New Lens". Southern States Communication Association Conference. San Antonio, TX. Spring 2012.
- Panel Participant. "Extra Lives: Finding Agency in Video Games." Keynote Performance Panel. University of North Texas Communication Studies "New Voices, New Perspectives" Conference. Denton, TX. Spring 2012.
- Panel Participant. "Talk(ing) Back: Pedagogical Reflections on Staging Sundown in Southern Illinois". Southern States Communication Association Conference. Little Rock, AR. Spring 2011.

Performance Scholarship

- Dr. Dystopia*. Performer. Written by cast. Co-directed with Caleb McKinley-Portee. Marion Kleinau Theatre, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Nov – Dec 2017.
- Stardust Chicken*. Performer. Directed by Craig Gingrich-Philbrook. Marion Kleinau Theatre, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, May 2017.
- Body Maps*. Performer. Directed by Tim Miller. Marion Kleinau Theatre, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, November 2016.
- Game (Over) Life*. Performer. Written by Jake Beck. Co-directed with Alex Davenport Marion Kleinau Theatre, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Sept – Oct 2016.
- The Pit(fall)*. Performer. Written by Jake Beck. Graduate Performance Spotlight Hour. Marion Kleinau Theatre, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, September 2015.
- Shall We Play a Game?* Performer. Written by Jake Beck. Co-directed by Jake Beck and Joanna Lugo. UNT Communication Studies Black Box. Denton, TX. February 2013
- Sundown In Southern Illinois*. Performer. Written and directed by Elena Esquibel. Marion Kleinau Theatre, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, October 2010. Petit Jean Performance Festival. Petit Jean State Park, AR. October 2010.
- The Amnesiac's Diary*. Performer. Written and directed by Susannah Bunny LeBaron. Marion Kleinau Theatre, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, April 2010.
- A Memory, A Monologue, A Rant, and A Prayer*. Directed by Elena Esquibel. "Conversations With My Son." Performer with Heather Roman. Written by Susan Miller. Marion Kleinau Theatre. Southern Illinois University Carbondale, March 2010.
- The Penelopiad*. Performer. Written by Margaret Atwood. Direct by Elyse Pineau.

Marion Kleinau Theatre, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, January 2010.

The Euphio Question. Performer. Written by Kurt Vonnegut Jr. Directed by Jason Hedrick. Jerry Weston Mathis Theatre. Sauk Valley Community College, April 2009. Petit Jean Performance Festival, Petit Jean State Park, AR, April 2009.

Requested Technical Theatre Work

Our Man. Performed by Goat in the Road Theatre Company. Audio and Technical Assistance. Marion Kleinau Theatre. Carbondale, IL. June 2016.

4 Films. Written and directed by Jason Hedrick. Lighting Board Operator. Marion Kleinau Theatre. Carbondale, IL. April 2016.

Menagerie. Written and directed by Dr. Justin Trudeau and Joanna Lugo. Technical Video Director. UNT Communication Studies Black Box. Denton, TX. November 2015.

Big Tex is Burning. Written and directed by Dr. Justin Trudeau and Dr. Holley Vaughn. Technical Director. UNT Communication Studies Black Box. Denton, TX. April 2014.

Drty Girls. Technical Video Director. Written by Joanna Lugo. UNT Communication Studies Black Box. Denton, TX. February 2014.

Mise-en-Scène of Desire. Written and directed by Lindsay Greer. Technical Director. Marion Kleinau Theatre, May 2010.