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# Laughton M. Messmer

## EDUCATION

### *Masters of Arts*

Communication with emphasis in Radio, Television, and Film,  
Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN  
August 1999

### *Bachelor of Arts*

Communication  
Truman State University  
Kirksville, MO  
May 1997

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

*Lecture Council liaison*, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN, August 2008  
– Present. In charge of calling and running monthly meetings of all Speech lecturers to address any concerns or queries and report back to the Director of Speech.

*Director and coach of Forensics team*, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN, August 2004 – Present. Responsible for monitoring debate team. Planning tournaments, work shopping, judging and traveling to debate tournaments are all duties.

*Coordinator for ProComm Group*, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN, August 2004 – 2007. Responsible for scheduling, conducting, monitoring and reviewing mock interviews to aid in professional communication of students.

*Instructor*, Speech 1300, 2300, 2320, 2956, and SOAA 4357/5357, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN, August 2000 – Present. Responsible for five sections of communication classes including, General Speech, Public Speaking, Argumentation and Debate and Nonverbal Communication.

*Adjunct Instructor, Speech 1300, 2300*, Northeast State Technical Community College. Blountville, TN, August 2000 – Present. Responsible to teach, evaluate and assist students in a basic public speaking class for a semester. Sections included: Ethics, Listening, Analyzing the Audience, Researching, and Delivery

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)**

*Adjunct Instructor*, Communication 101, Ivy Technical State College, Terre Haute, IN, January 2000 – July 2000. Responsible to teach, evaluate and assist students in a basic public speaking class for a semester. Sections included: Ethics, Listening, Analyzing the Audience, Researching, and Delivery

*Adjunct Instructor*, Communication 101, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN, August 1999 – 2000. Responsible to teach, evaluate, and assist 50 students in two sections of basic hybrid communication course for four semesters. Sections included: Theories and Models, Intrapersonal, Interpersonal, Small Group, Mass, and Nonverbal Communication, Listening Skills and Public Speaking

*Assistant Director of Communication 101*, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN, August 1999 – 2000. Responsible in aiding Director of Communication 101 in classroom visitations for teaching assistants, syllabus updating, as well as numerous other tasks involving curriculum issues and teaching methods for new instructors.

*Performance Instructor*, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN, July 1999. Responsible for advising 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholar recipients. Duties included work shopping and guiding short plays and performance activities for students.

*Committee member*, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN, August 1999 – 2000. Involved in improving the Communication 101 curriculum. Responsibilities include structuring an experimental portion of Communication 101, gathering data, work shopping with students, and preparing a report for the Lilly Project Grant program.

*Graduate Teaching Assistant*, Communication 101, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN, September 1997 – 1999. Responsible to teach, evaluate, and assist 50 students in two sections of basic hybrid communication course for four semesters. Sections included: Theories and Models, Intrapersonal, Interpersonal, Small Group, Mass, and Nonverbal Communication, Listening Skills and Public Speaking.

*Tutor*, Communication 101, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN, from January 1998 – May 1998. Responsible to assist students enrolled in Communication 101 with homework, speeches, and communication apprehension.

**TEACHING INTERESTS**

Basic Course  
Nonverbal Communication  
Film Theory  
Mass Communication  
Journalism  
Public Speaking

Professional Communication  
Popular Culture

**RELEVANT COURSEWORK**

Nature of Communication Inquiry	Women and Minorities in the Media
Communication Literature: Radio, TV, and Film	Methodological Research/Creativity
Instructional Problems in Speech Communication	Seminar: TV Drama
History of U.S. Broadcasting	Advanced Broadcast Film Writing
Special Problems in Broadcasting	Hitchcock Films
Science Fiction Films	Creative Project: Screenplay

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

*Disk Jockey*, WISU, Terre Haute, IN, September 1998 – 2000. Responsible for preparing and presenting music, commercials, public service announcements and news/weather for the Weekend Jazz and Blues show and the Afternoon Jazz and Blues show.

*Entertainment and Music Critic*, Indiana Statesman, Terre Haute, IN, September 1998 – 2000. Responsible for writing, interviewing, and editing of film and music reviews as well as other stories for the entertainment section of newspaper.

*Publisher*, The Monitor, Kirksville, MO, September 1997 – May 1998. Responsible for the overall production of an independent bi-weekly newspaper including financing, and distribution.

*Editor-in-Chief*, The Monitor, Kirksville, MO, September 1997- May 1998. Responsible for assigning stories, setting deadlines, and monitoring the overall content of the newspaper.

*Layout Editor*, The Monitor, Kirksville, MO, September 1997 – May 1998. Responsible for the design of multiple pages and photograph placement

*Ad Designer*, The Monitor, Kirksville, MO, September 1997- May 1998. Responsible for creating advertisements for various businesses and configuring them into the newspaper layout.

*Writer*, The Monitor, Kirksville, MO, September 1997 – May 1998. Responsible for reporting and writing various stories ranging from local news to national events. Also responsible for music reviews and editorials.

*Disk Jockey*, Promotion Producer, KNEU, Kirksville, MO, September 1996 – May 1998. Responsible for preparing and presenting music, commercials, public service announcements and news/weather for a specialty ska show. Also responsible for the format of the show.

**WORK EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)**

*Promotion Producer*, KNEU, Kirksville, MO, September 1996 – May 1998. Responsible for promotional events for the station, including give-aways, contests, and press releases.

*Reporter*, Truman TV, Kirksville, MO, September 1996 – May 1998. Responsible for taping and editing packages for a weekly magazine television show.

*Camera Operator*, Truman TV, Kirksville, MO, September 1996 – May 1998. Responsible for working cameras and running editing boards for weekly television show.

*Part-time Producer*, Truman TV, Kirksville, MO, September 1996 – May 1998. Responsible for overall production of weekly television show including assigning stories, writing script, and directing.

*Reporter*, Network News, Fenton, MO, May 1992 – December 1993. Responsible for covering local human-interest stories and researching for the trivia section of the newspaper.

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Argumentation and Debate  
Communication Education  
Nonverbal Communication  
Silent film era of cinema  
Mass Communication  
Zine Culture  
Science fiction cinema  
Professional Communication  
Crisis Communication  
Popular Culture

**RESEARCH PROJECTS**

“Orson Welles: The King of Panic”

“Critiquing the Critic: A Closer Look at Criticism, Sociological Perspective, and Sociolinguistics”

“We Are Not Alone: A Study on the Effects of Media and Their Influence on Paranormal Beliefs”

“They’re Probably Watching Me: *Psycho* as the Cinema Spectator”

“The Chase Is On: A Comparison of Two Styles of Cinematography”

“The Death of the Great Stone Face: A Critical Analysis of Buster Keaton in Silent & Sound Film”

“Film Noir, the Future and Tough Cops: A Study of *Blade Runner* and *The Maltese Falcon*”

**COMPUTER SKILLS**

*Programs:* Microsoft Office, Internet Mail, Pegasus Mail, Blackboard, Desire 2 Learn, Wordperfect 5.1, Claris Works, iWorks, Adobe Photoshop, and Scriptware

*World Wide Web:* Internet Explorer, Netscape Navigator, Opera, Safari, Mozilla, and Firefox

*Operating Systems:* Windows 3.1x/95/98/05, Mac OS 8.0/8.5/9/X

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Society of Professional Journalists

International Press Association

Alpha Tau Omega

Phi Kappa Phi

Lambda Delta Alpha

Tennessee Communication Association

