

Mark Stoner, Ph. D.
Brief Professional Biography

My undergraduate degree is from Penn State in English Education (1976). After four years of teaching high school English, I completed an M. A. in Communication Theory at the Ohio State University and began teaching full-time at Mount Vernon Nazarene University in 1981. **In 1985 I received the President's Award for Excellence in Teaching at MVNU.** During my tenure at MVNU, I completed the Ph. D. at OSU (1987) with a major in rhetorical criticism and a minor in organizational communication.

In 1989 I moved to California State University, Sacramento as Associate Professor of Communication Studies. At CSUS I have developed the area of instructional communication in our graduate program. **In 1996 I received the Outstanding Teacher Award (Arts and Letters).** I have also been deeply involved with the development of our Teaching Associate program which selects and trains qualified graduate students to teach stand-alone sections of our basic course, as well as public speaking and argumentation courses. I have continued my work in rhetorical criticism and recently published, with Sally Perkins (2005), [*Making sense of messages: A critical apprenticeship in rhetorical criticism*](#), Boston: Allyn & Bacon. In 2007, I received the [Western States Communication Association Master Teacher award](#).

In 1998 I chaired a faculty committee to create a professional, campus-wide [Center for Teaching and Learning](#). Working with both the faculty senate and the VP for Academic Affairs, this committee was able to secure a budget, space and a director position. The CTL has become a central player in the academic life of the university through its specific programs and services and through its collaborative work with a broad spectrum of programs across campus that benefit from pedagogical training and support. Presently, I serve as the assistant director.

Throughout my career, my teaching has been strengthened by collateral work as consultant and trainer for corporations, government agencies and universities locally, nationally and internationally. This work has helped me greatly in developing my teaching skills as well as developing new and more sophisticated content relative to instructional communication (and communication across the curriculum), interpersonal communication, organizational communication and rhetorical studies.

I continue to work at developing my teaching as well doing research in the areas of mediated instruction, principles of instructional systems, mentoring and rhetorical criticism.

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