

MARK A. E. WILLIAMS, PH.D.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Speech Communication, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge,
Louisiana. December 2001.

Dissertation -- *Some Technical Vocabulary Of Rhetorical Invention In The Treatise Of Anonymous Seguerianus, Hermogenes' On Stasis, And Book Three Of The [Pseudo]-Hermogenic Work On Invention.* Pages: 370.

M.A. Speech Communication, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge,
Louisiana. May 1992.

Thesis -- *Psyche's Lamp: Dame Rhetoric And The Demonstrable. A Consideration Of The Relationship Between Ethical Assumptions And Modern Persuasion.* Pages: 190.

B.A. English, Oral Roberts University, Tulsa, Oklahoma, May 1983.

Graduating Thesis -- *E. A. Robinson: The End Of An Era.*

EMPLOYMENT

Associate Professor, Communication Studies, California State University,
Sacramento. August 2009 - present.

Assistant Professor, Communication Studies, California State University,
Sacramento. August 2003 - August 2009.

Adjunct Instructor, Southeastern Louisiana University, Hammond, Louisiana.

August 1993 - December 1994 (Full time: 5/5 teaching load).

January 1995 - May 1995 (Part time).

Graduate Assistant Instructor, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge,
Louisiana. 1989 - 1997.

Instructor, Law Enforcement Training Institute of Louisiana, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
January 1990 - October 1992.

AWARDS & HONORS

Invitation: Centre for Mediaeval and Renaissance Studies,

Oxford, England. Summer, 2012. The CMRS hosts a summer seminar which is by invitation only (one may apply for an invitation) and limited to 20 participants, world wide. The 2012 topic is "Rhetoric in the 21st Century."

General Education Award. Academic Affairs, The Compass Project and ASI Award for innovation and excellence in offering GE curriculum. November 2010.

Teacher of the Year, Honors Faculty Award. AY 2007 - 2008.

Award determined by the vote of the students in the Honors Program.

Teacher of the Year, Honors Faculty Award. AY 2006 - 2007.

Award determined by the vote of the students in the Honors Program.

Faculty Senate Advising Initiative. Awarded two year grant (together with John Williams). For AY 2005-06 and 2006-07.

Robert Bostrom Young Scholar Award. 2002 recipient for the paper "Does Burke Transcend Transcendence? Burke, Violence, And A Call For Un-Enlightened Scholarship."

Grant, Thesaurus Linguae Graecae. Financial consideration granted for dissertation research by the *Thesaurus Linguae Graecae Project*, University of California, Irvine, 1999.

Research Fellow, *L'Ecole Biblique*, Jerusalem, Israel 1998 and 1999.

Worked at the L'Ecole as part of my dissertation research.

Doctoral dissertation nominated for Outstanding Graduate

Dissertation Award, 2001.

Master's thesis nominated for Outstanding Graduate Thesis Award, 1992.

TEACHING

- Associate Professor
- Served as a member of the undergraduate Honors Faculty
- Teaching both undergraduate and graduate courses.

Select courses:

Graduate Seminar in Criticism

Survey of major methods of rhetorical criticism, their underlying theory, application, and arenas of operation.

Janis in Bi-focals: Ancient Style and Contemporary Politics

Graduate Topics Seminar that employed classical visions of style to contemporary political discourse. Participants formed a panel and presented their results at Western States Communication Conference the following year.

Ideas of Audience

Graduate Topics Seminar that traced the concept of audience from Marx through the Henry Jenkins and John Fiske focusing on the development of postmodern constructs of audience.

Introduction to Qualitative Methods

Graduate level examination of qualitative research methods including ethnographic research, in-depth interviewing, focus groups. Data gathering and reporting; discussions of academic voice, questions of aesthetics, special forms of the qualitative literature review.

Introduction to Graduate Studies

Examination of scholarly reading and writing, the quality and demands of graduate level work, the relationship of theory and method; the scope and coherence of the Communication Field.

Systems and Theories of Rhetoric

An historical survey of rhetorical theory and practice from the Classical to the Postmodern world views.

Communication and Religion

Survey of rhetorical structures and strategies intended to frame the unspeakable. Scope and significance of religious discourse in contemporary society. Taught as an upper division undergraduate course and graduate seminar.

Public Speaking

Freshman introduction to the structures and strategies of presenting and analyzing informative and persuasive formal discourse.

Honors Public Speaking

Introduction to the structures, methods, strategies of public discourse with an emphasis on informal reasoning, contextual meaning, significance and history of public discourse in a democratic situation.

Argumentation

Introduction to critical thinking in formal and informal settings; syllogistic and enthymematic reasoning; structural issues.

RESEARCH

- Rhetorical Criticism, Theory
- Communication and Religion
- History of Rhetoric
- Five Peer Reviewed Publications
- Two Publications in Peer Review Process
- Invited Book Review, In Process
- One Textbook
- 20+ Conference Presentations
- Professional Development: Latin Studies in Wells, England, 2011

Publications

Projects in Process:

Williams, Mark A. E. (2012). "Review: Habermas on Religion." Invited review for *Journal of Communication and Religion*.

Williams, Mark A. E. and Gillespie, Ryan. (2012). "Etching the Air." Under Peer Review at present.

Schreiner, Meagan, Mark A. E. Williams, S. David Zuckerman. (2012). "Inspirations and Limitations." Under Peer Review at present.

Past Publications:

Williams, Mark A. E. & Gillespie, R. (2011). "Why Reasons Resonate: Style and the Hermogenic System of Nondiscursive Argument." In R. Rowland (ed.), *Reasoned Argument: Selected Papers from the 16th Biennial AFA/ NCA Conference on Argumentation* (pp 198-205). Washington, D.C.: National Communication Association.

Williams, Mark A. E. (2010). *Well-behaved Words: The Art of Learning Exactly What You Want to Say, and Teaching Your Words to Say Exactly That*. GRT Publishing (Dubuque: Iowa).

Williams, Mark A. E. (2006). "Weaving Phaedrus: the Warp and Woof of Rhetoric and the Southern Gentleman." *Louisiana Journal of Communication*, 7, pp. 61-69.

Williams, Mark A. E. (2004) "Antipodal Metaphor: Ethical Transference in the Cultural (Re)Negotiation of Meaning, and Some Rhetorical Artifacts from Bultmann's Demythologization." *Journal of Communication and Religion*, 27, pp. 169-186.

Williams, Mark A. E. (2003) "Arguing With Style: How Persuasion And The Enthymeme Work Together in *On Invention*, Book 3." *Southern Communication Journal*, 68, pp.136-151.

Williams, Mark A. E. (1992) "C. S. Lewis: The Last Modern Man." *Faith and Culture* II, vi.

Conference Presentations

Williams, Mark A. E. & Gillespie, R. (July, 2011). "Why Reasons Resonate: Style and the Hermogenic System of Nondiscursive Argument." Competitive paper presented at the American Forensic Association's Annual Conference in Alta, Utah.

Williams, Mark A. E. (November, 2011). "Seeing Silence: Style, Cinema, and Transcendence." Panel paper presented at the National Communication Association's annual conference in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Williams, Mark A. E. (2011) "Voiceless: Strategies for Confronting the Transcendent." Competitive panel on critical and practical methods for exploring rhetorical claims about the transcendent; chosen as a Conference Theme Panel: National Communication Association's annual meeting. New Orleans, Louisiana.

Williams, Mark A. E. (November, 2010). Short Course Lecturer: "Creating Hybrid Lessons: Pedagogical and Technical Issues." Presented at the National Communication Association Short Course entitled *Building Bridges: Teaching Oral Communication Using Hybrid Podcasting*. San Francisco, California.

- Williams, Mark A. E. (July, 2009). "Old Wine in New Skins: The Obama Style."
Competitive paper presented at the World Communication Association's Biennial Conference held in Maynooth, Ireland.
- Williams, Mark A. E. (November, 2008). "A Short Rope and a High Limb: What Epideictic Rhetoric Teaches us about the Nexus of Rhetorical Reason, Human Emotion, and the Nondiscursive."
Competitive paper presented at the National Communication Association's annual conference. San Diego, California.
- Williams, Mark A. E. (November, 2007). "Pedagogy, Methodology, Violence, and God: Substance and Sentimentality in Religious Discourse."
Panel paper presented at the National Communication Association's annual conference. Chicago, Illinois.
- Williams, Mark A. E. and Ryan Gillespie. (May, 2007). "(Re)creating the Grammar of the New Communication: Hermogenes of Tarsus on the 'Networked, Hybrid, and Convergent' Communicative Everpresent."
Competitive paper presented at the annual conference of the International Communication Association. San Francisco, California, USA.
- Williams, Mark A. E. and Ryan Gillespie. (March, 2007). "The Best View in Town: Hermogenes on Visual Rhetoric."
Competitive paper presented at the annual conference of the Southern States Communication Association. Louisville, Kentucky.
- Williams, Mark A. E. (November, 2006). "Greek Schools of Rhetoric and their Influence on the Development of Christian Faith: The *Logos* Test."
Competitive paper accepted for presentation at the National Communication Association's annual conference. (Paper not presented because of cuts to travel funding).
- Williams, Mark A. E. (May, 2005). "Weaving Phaedrus: The Warp And Woof Of The Southern Gentleman."
Panel paper presented at the annual conference of the Southern States Communication Association. Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Williams, Mark A. E. (May, 2005). *Invited Panelist*. "Southern Hospitality As Pedagogy."

Panel presented at the annual conference of the Southern States Communication Association. Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Williams, Mark A. E. (May, 2005). "Infinitely Rhetorical: The Use of The Boundless from Gorgias to Anselm."

Competitive paper presented at the annual conference of the Southern States Communication Association. Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Williams, Mark A. E. (November, 2004). Short Course Lecturer: "Smooth Speaking and Unconventional Invention: Surprising Lessons from Some Old School Masters."

Presented at the National Communication Association Short Course entitled *Back to the Future: An Exploration of Public Communication Pedagogy, Past and Present, with Inventive Applications for the Future*. Chicago, IL.

Williams, Mark A. E. (November, 2003). "A Good Point, Beautifully Made: How Invention Adopted Style In The Era Of The Roman Empire."

Competitive paper presented at the annual conference of the American Society for the History of Rhetoric. Miami Beach, FL.

Williams, Mark A. E. (April, 2003). *Invited Paper*: "Call Me What Instrument You Will: Antithesis As A Glimpse Of The Way Style And Argument Were Minted Together In The Classical Mind."

Papers in Honor of Dr. Harold Mixon. Annual meeting of the Southern Communication Association. Birmingham, AL.

Williams, Mark A. E. (April, 2003). *Invited Panelist*: "Why Study The History of Rhetoric?"

Panel discussion at the annual meeting of the Southern Communication Association. Birmingham, AL.

Williams, Mark A. E. (February, 2003). "Says Who? The Inter-Subcultural Battle For An Authorizing Stage As Persuasive Strategy and Form."

Competitive paper presented at the annual meeting of the Western Communication Association. Salt Lake City, UT.

- Williams, Mark A. E. (2002). "[Pseudo]-Hermogenes: Communication In Action Under Some Peculiar Constraints."
Competitive paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Williams, Mark A. E. (2002: *Recipient of the 2002 Bostrom Award*) "Does Burke Transcend Transcendence? Burke, Violence, And A Call For Un-Enlightened Scholarship."
Competitive paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Communication Association. Salem, NC.
- Williams, Mark A. E. & Mixon, Harold. (2002) "Don't Do As I Say: Some Inconsistencies In The Theory Of Invention As It Was Taught In Some Greek Schools Of The Empire."
Competitive paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Communication Association. Salem, NC.
- Williams, Mark A. E. (1997) "Antipodal Metaphor In The Historical Jesus Movement."
Competitive paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Communication Association. Savannah, GA.
- Williams, Mark A. E. (1996) "Silver Snuff Box Rhetoric, And Perfumed Handkerchief Morals: The Challenge Of Linguistic Definitions, Extreme Exigencies, and Self-referential Critique For Rhetoricians Holding To Negotiated Truths."
Competitive paper presented at the Speech Communication Association National Conference. San Diego, CA.
- Williams, Mark A. (1991) "Modern Apologetics In A Postmodern World."
Competitive paper presented at the Conference on Christianity and Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Culture. Sponsored by the Editorial Board of *Faith and Culture*, Baton Rouge, LA.

SERVICE

The Field

- ***Elected Offices***

Elected Councilor, Executive Committee of the Religious Communication Association, 2008-2011.

Elected Second Vice President, Religious Communication Association, 2011. Four Year Progressive Office (Second VP, 2011-12; Vice President, 2012-13; President, 2013-14; Immediate Past President, 2014-15).

- ***Peer Review Panels and Roles***

Coordinator for the Religious Communication Association's Dissertation of the Year Award, 2010-2011.

Coordinator for the Religious Communication Association's Dissertation of the Year Award, 2009-2010.

Coordinator for the Religious Communication Association's Best Student Paper of the Year Award, 2008-2009.

Reviewer, submissions for the *Journal of Communication and Religion*, 2009, 2011.

Reviewer for competitive papers submitted to the Religious Communication Association, in preparation for NCA annual convention. 2003 - present.

Respondent to Top Student Paper Awards, Religious Communication Association, 2010 & 2011.

Reviewer for competitive papers submitted to the American Society for the History of Rhetoric division of Southern Communication Association, in preparation for the SCA annual convention. March, 2005 & March 2006.

- ***Memberships and Scholarly Organizations***

Life Member, Religious Communication Association.

Member, National Communication Association. 2003 - present.

Chaired numerous sessions at NCA.

Member, International Association for the History of Rhetoric. 2004 - present.

Member, American Society for the History of Rhetoric. 2003 - present.

The Communication Studies Department

- ***Positions***

Graduate Coordinator, 2008-2010.

Grade Appeals Coordinator for Communication Studies. AY 2006-07.

Coordinator and Supervisor of COMS 002 (Introduction to Argumentation)
Teaching Associates. AY 2005-06; 2006-07; 2007-08.

Coordinator, Coms 4, 2009 - present.

- ***Committees***

Assessment Committee, 2009-2012.

Graduate Committee. AY 2003-04; 2004-05; 2005-06 (*Alternate: filling in for Mark Stoner during Sabbatical*); 2006-07; 2007-08; 2008-10 (coordinator).

Member, Teaching Associate Selection Committee. Fall 2005; Spring 2006; Fall 2006, Spring 2007.

Chair, Teaching Associate Selection Committee, Spring 2007.

Grade Appeals Coordinator for Communication Studies. AY 2006-07.

Member, Departmental Executive Committee. AY 2005-06, 2008-09

Chair of Academic Affairs Committee. AY 2005-06.

Assessment Committee. AY 2005.

Ad hoc committee on retreat follow-up for Communication Studies
Departmental retreat, Spring, 2004.

Ad hoc committee on retreat planning for Communication Studies
Departmental retreat, Fall, 2003

- ***Graduate Program***

Director, seven completed theses:

Paul Keisow, 2004; Susan MacFarland, 2005; Ryan Gillespie, 2007;
Jeanette Davidson, 2008; Andrea Terry, 2009; Miles Cochran, 2010;
Miles Coleman, 2011

Director, four M.A. Students successfully prepared for Comprehensive
Examinations: Josiah Kitonga, Erica Taylor, Shannon Hunter, Wallace
Stewart

Presently directing five M. A. Students, two pursuing theses, two pursuing
comps, one undecided.

Coordinator and Supervisor of COMS 002 (Introduction to Argumentation)
Teaching Associates. AY 2005-06; 2006-07; 2007-08.

Summer seminars taught to incoming Graduate Teaching Associates for
COMS 002 (Introduction to Argumentation). Summer 2005; Summer
2006; Summer 2007.

Director of four COMS 299s, (Graduate Level Independent Study) on the
intersection of Communication and Religion. Fall, 2007.

Director of COMS 299, (Graduate Level Independent Study) on Kenneth
Burke and the Rhetorical Responses to Hurricane Katrina. Spring, 2006.

Director of seven COMS 299s, (Graduate Level Independent Study) on the Methods of Rhetorical Criticism. Fall, 2006.

Director of one COMS 299, (Graduate Level Independent Study) on Hermogenes' Theories of Style. Spring, 2007.

- ***Other Departmental***

Major curricular revision to Coms 4, resulting in dramatically increased efficiencies and financial savings. 2008 - present.

Designed Communication and Religion Course, 2007.

Director of two COMS 199s (Undergraduate Independent Study) on the History and Development of Rhetorical Theory, Greece to Postmodernism. Fall, 2006.

Designed Honors Public Speaking Course, 2005.

Director of COMS 199, (Undergraduate Independent Study) on Rhetoric in the Enlightenment. Spring 2004.

The California State University, Sacramento

Faculty Senate, 2006-2008.

Honors Faculty, 2006-2008.

Program Review Committee: History Department, 2006-2007.

Program Review Committee: Humanities and Religious Studies Department, 2008-2009.

Beyond California State University, Sacramento

Taught day-long seminar, Public Speaking for Religious Educators, Diocese of Stockton. 2011.

Taught “An Introduction to the Latin Language” course for the Bella Vista Middle School, Tracy, California. 2011.

Taught day-long seminar, Public Speaking for Religious Educators, Diocese of Stockton. 2009.

Invited Guest Speaker, Department of Physics and Astronomy Colloquium, California State University, San Diego. Paper Entitled “Looking through the Æther: Science, Rhetoric, Magic, and Clear Thinking in the Mediæval and Modern Mind.” October 12, 2007.

Facilitator & Communication Consultant for initial meeting of the Canterbury Board and Campus Lutheran Church Board to discuss merger processes for university chaplaincy programs, Stanford University. October 2003.