

Alexandra Parr Balam

Doctoral Candidate & Fellow

University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, Department of Communication

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Post-Secondary Education

Ph.D. in Communication, anticipated May 2025

University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee

Dissertation: Toward a Scalar Rhetoric: (Re)Racializing Subjectivity through Mobility

Committee Chair: Leslie J. Harris

Committee Members: Sara C. VanderHaagen, Tiffany Lewis, Derek G. Handley, Lia Wolock

GPA: 3.96

M.A. in Communication, May 2021

Graduate Certificate in Rhetorical Leadership

University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee

Master's Portfolio Chair: Leslie J. Harris

GPA: 3.93

B.A. in Communication Studies, December 2018

University Honors Program Thesis: Feminist Narrative and *Lemonade*

Thesis Advisor: Colene Lind

B.A. in Modern Languages: Spanish, December 2018

Minor in Leadership Studies, December 2018

Kansas State University

University Honors Program, summa cum laude

GPA: 4.00

Other Certifications

Inclusive Teaching Toward Justice Program, Summer 2024

University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning

Certificate in Accessibility Training for Instructors, Summer 2024

University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning

Certificate in Online and Blended Teaching, Fall 2020

University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning

Teaching English as a Foreign Language Certificate, June 2017

ICEP TEFL

Coursework and Teaching Practicum

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Balaram, Alexandra Parr. "Rhetorical Altermobilities: A Framework for the Study of Discourse, Mobility, and Resistance." *Southern Communication Journal*, 88 no. 4 (2023): 366-378.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/1041794X.2022.2147212>

Book Reviews

Balaram, Alexandra Parr. "Lewis, Tiffany. Uprising: How Women Used the US West to Win the Right to Vote." *Women's Studies in Communication* 46, no. 3 (2023): 339-341.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/07491409.2023.2227000>.

Works in Progress

forthcoming Balaram, Alexandra Parr & Leslie J. Harris, "Variegated Mobility: The Racialized Mobile Imagination in *Gonzales v. Williams*," Special Issue: Routing Racialized Capitalism in Mobility/Immobility, ed. Kellie D. Hay, *Communication & Critical Cultural Studies*

Balaram, Alexandra Parr, "Rhetorics of Scale: Remembering Race, Mobility, and Agency at America's Black Holocaust Museum." Original draft presented at Central States Communication Association Annual Conference, winning Top Paper, Top Student Paper, and Top Inclusive Scholarship Paper for the Activism, Communication Ethics, and Social Justice Interest Group. Currently revising for journal submission.

Balaram, Alexandra Parr, "(Re)Mapping Agency: Rethinking Rhetorics of Race and Mobility." Original draft accepted for competitive presentation at the Rhetoric Society of America's Biennial Conference. Revising for journal submission.

Balaram, Alexandra Parr, *Toward a Scalar Rhetoric: (Re)Racializing Subjectivity through Mobility*. Dissertation manuscript in progress.

Awards and Honors

Distinguished Graduate Student Fellowship, recognizes and supports the most academically excellent graduate students, Graduate School, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, Fall 2024-Spring 2025

Renee A. Meyers Award, given to a graduate student with demonstrated excellence in research, teaching and service, Department of Communication, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, Spring 2024

Melvin H. Miller Award – Research, recognizes the top Ph.D. student for research excellence, Department of Communication, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, Spring 2024

Service Recognition Award, recognizes service contributions to the department, university, profession, and/or community, Department of Communication, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, Spring 2024

“Top Paper,” “Remembering to Liberate: Race, Mobility, and Agency at America’s Black Holocaust Museum,” Activism, Communication Ethics, and Social Justice Interest Group, Central States Communication Association Annual Convention (2023)

“Top Student Paper,” “Remembering to Liberate: Race, Mobility, and Agency at America’s Black Holocaust Museum,” Activism, Communication Ethics, and Social Justice Interest Group, Central States Communication Association Annual Convention (2023)

“Top Inclusive Scholarship Paper,” “Remembering to Liberate: Race, Mobility, and Agency at America’s Black Holocaust Museum,” Activism, Communication Ethics, and Social Justice Interest Group, Central States Communication Association Annual Convention (2023)

James L. Golden Outstanding Student Essay in Rhetoric, “Rhetorical Altermobilities: Proposing a Framework for the Study of Discourse, Mobility and Resistance,” National Communication Association (2021)

Cooper Award for Excellence in Graduate Student Teaching, M.A., Central States Communication Association (2021)

Chancellor’s Graduate Student Award, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, 2019 and 2021

Communication Student Support Award, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, 2019

Conference Presentations

Competitive Individual Papers

“Health-Mobility-Power: The Mobile Logics of Freedom” Association for the Rhetoric of Science, Technology, and Medicine, National Communication Association Annual Convention, National Harbor, MD, November 2023.

“Remembering to Liberate: Race, Mobility, and Agency at America’s Black Holocaust Museum (Top Paper, Top Student Paper, and Top Inclusive Scholarship Paper)” Activism, Communication Ethics, and Social Justice Interest Group, Central States Communication Association Annual Conference, Saint Louis, MO, March/April 2023.

“Constitutive Memory: Donald Trump’s Remarks at Mount Rushmore.” Rhetorical Theory and Criticism Interest Group, Central States Communication Association Annual Conference, Saint Louis, MO, March/April 2023.

“Redefining Place for Liberation: The Strategic Function of Placemaking in the ‘Letter from Birmingham Jail’” Public Address Division, National Communication Association Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA, November 2022.

“Rhetorical Altermobilities: Proposing a Framework for the Study of Discourse, Mobility, and Resistance” Public Address Division, National Communication Association Annual Convention, Seattle, WA, November 2021.

Competitive Panels

“Mapping Black Citizenship: Reimagining Race and Nation Through Topography & Mobility,” in “Mobility, Immobility, & Citizenship,” Critical & Cultural Studies Division, National Communication Association Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA, November 2024.

“(Re)Mapping Agential Black Mobility” in “Un/Just Mobilities: Rhetorics of Racial Mobility,” Rhetorical Theory, Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Conference, Denver, CO, May 2024.

“Freedom to Teach and Learn: Resisting Education Censorship Bills,” Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) Council, National Communication Association Annual Convention, National Harbor, MD, November 2023.

“The Counter-Rhetoric of Whiteness: Rhetorical Tactics of Anti-Critical Race Theory Discourse” Activism and Social Justice Division, National Communication Association Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA, November 2022.

Post-Secondary Teaching Experience

Instructor of Record

COMMUN 402: Gender and Communication

Responsible for planning course readings and content, writing syllabus, writing assignment instructions and rubrics, providing in-class instruction, grading all assignments, and other duties associated with designing and instructing a course.

In-person instruction

Spring 2024 (1 section, 15 students)

Fall 2023 (2 sections, 41 students total)

Online, asynchronous

Spring 2024 (1 section, 22 students)

COMMUN 335: Critical Analysis of Communication

Responsible for planning course readings and content, writing syllabus, writing assignment instructions and rubrics, adhering to GER-requirements, providing in-class instruction, grading all assignments, and other duties associated with designing and instructing a course.

In-person instruction

Spring 2023 (22 students)

Fall 2022 (16 students)

COMMUN 103: Public Speaking

Responsible for planning course schedule, designing all assignments apart from the three required speeches, writing syllabus, adhering to GER-requirements, providing instruction, grading all assignments, and other duties associated with designing and instructing a course.

In-person instruction

Spring 2023 (18 students)

Fall 2022 (20 students)

Online, asynchronous

Summer 2024 (20 students)

Summer 2022 (23 students)

Fall 2021 (22 students)

Spring 2021 (2 sections, 44 students total)

Fall 2020 (2 sections, 42 students total)

Summer 2020 (21 students)

TA-Grader**JAMS 113: Internet Culture**

Responsible for grading all assignments, leaving instructive feedback, answering student questions, and otherwise serving as liaison between senior instructor and students.

Online, asynchronous

Spring 2022 (88 students)

Fall 2021 (84 students)

COMMUN 103: Public Speaking (instructor of record for lab sections)

Responsible for implementing lesson plans provided by faculty for large lecture, grading all assignments, leaving instructive feedback, answering student questions, and otherwise serving as liaison between faculty instructor and students.

In-person, lab sections

Spring 2020 (3 labs, 66 students total)

Fall 2019 (3 labs, 66 students total)

Guest Lectures*Graduate Courses:*

ENGLISH 712: Theories in Public Rhetorics and Community Engagement: Rhetoric and Place, "Place and the Rhetoric of Mobility," Derek G. Handley, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, Spring 2024.

Undergraduate Courses:

COMMUN 362: Argumentation and Debate, "Spheres of Argumentation," Jillian Schemenauer, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, April 26, 2023.

COMMUN 473: African American Public Discourse, "Black Power, The Black Panther Party, and Prison Reform," Sara C. VanderHaagen, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, April 24, 2023.

Service

National

Award Committee, Student Section, National Communication Association
2024

Panel Chair, “Regarding Public Address in Spaces & Places,” Public Address Division,
National Communication Association
2024

Reviewer, Rhetorical and Communication Theory Division, National Communication
Association
2024

Reviewer, Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Conference
2023

Reviewer, Public Address Division, National Communication Association
2023

Reviewer, Caucus on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Concerns, National
Communication Association
2023

Reviewer, Graduate Student Caucus, National Communication Association
2022

Regional

Vice Chair, Rhetorical Theory and Criticism Interest Group, Central States Communication
Association
April 2024-Present

Reviewer, Third Reviewer Student Program, *Communication Studies (CSCA)*
Fall 2024-Present

Secretary, Rhetorical Theory and Criticism Interest Group, Central States Communication
Association
April 2023-April 2024

Panel Chair, Top Papers in Rhetorical Theory and Criticism, Rhetorical Theory and Criticism
Interest Group, Central States Communication Association
April 2024

Reviewer, Rhetorical Theory and Criticism Interest Group, Central States Communication
Association
2023

Reviewer, Activism, Communication Ethics and Social Justice Interest Group, Central States
Communication Association
2023

Institutional

Awards Committee Representative, Communication Graduate Student Council, University
of Wisconsin – Milwaukee

May 2024 - Present
President, Communication Graduate Student Council, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee
 May 2023- May 2024
Vice President, Communication Graduate Student Council, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee
 May 2022-May 2023
Faculty Committee Liaison (Ph.D.), Communication Graduate Student Council and Department of Communication, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee
 September 2021-May 2022
Faculty Committee Liaison (M.A.), Communication Graduate Student Council and Department of Communication, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee
 September 2020 – May 2021
Peer Mentor, Department of Communication, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee
 2020-2021
Judge, Public Speaking Showcase, Department of Communication and Office of the Provost, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee
 Spring 2020

Work Experience

August 2024 – Present	Fellow , Distinguished Graduate Student Fellowship, Graduate School, <i>University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee</i>
August 2019 – August 2024	Graduate Teaching Assistant , <i>University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee</i> (Instructor of Record)
January-May 2019	Substitute Teacher , <i>Ferguson-Florissant School District</i> Developed and executed lesson plans for high school Spanish levels 1-5, including AP Spanish. Executed lesson plans for a variety of other courses.
June 2017	Instructor , TEFL Practicum, <i>Vallarta International Academy</i> Developed and executed lesson plans for beginner, intermediate, and advanced EFL students
June 2017	Instructor , TEFL Practicum, <i>Colegio Juana de Asbaje</i> Developed and executed lesson plans for beginner level EFL students
August 2016-May 2017	Resident Assistant , <i>Kansas State University</i> – Housing & Dining Developed educational and social programs for housing residents, responded to crises, and served as point of contact for student support and liaison between resident students and resident administration.
August 2016-December 2018	Administrative Assistant , <i>Kansas State University</i> – New Student Services
August 2015-May 2016	Administrative Assistant , <i>Kansas State University</i> – Office of the Vice President for Student Life

Membership in Professional Organizations

National Communication Association

Rhetoric Society of America

Central States Communication Association

Organization for Feminist Research on Gender and Communication (Previously: Organization for Research on Women and Communication)

Sigma Delta Pi (Epsilon Xi)

Phi Beta Kappa

Phi Kappa Phi

References

Dr. Leslie J. Harris, Professor, Department of Communication, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, harrisl@uwm.edu

Dr. Sara C. VanderHaagen, Associate Professor, Department of Communication, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, vanderha@uwm.edu

Dr. Derek G. Handley, Assistant Professor, Department of English, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, handledg@uwm.edu

Dr. John Jordan, Associate Professor, Department of Communication, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, jjordan@uwm.edu