

# **MATTHEW S. THATCHER**

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## **HIGHER EDUCATION**

PhD, Communication Studies 5/2007  
The University of Iowa, Comprehensive examination areas: Interpersonal Theories of Discourse and Social Life; Persuasion and Health; Research Methods.

Dissertation Title: Reclaiming difference: A dialogic analysis of Alcoholics Anonymous. Dissertation Supervisor: Dr. Leslie Baxter, F. Wendell Miller Distinguished Professor, Department of Communication Studies, The University of Iowa.

MA, Communication Studies 5/2003  
The University of Iowa  
Examination areas: Narrative Analysis and Visual Rhetoric

BA, Rhetoric 5/2000  
The University of California, Berkeley  
Degree awarded with Honors and High Distinction

## **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

Coordinator, ASTATE ONLINE 2015-2023  
Communication Studies BA Degree

Assistant Professor, Arkansas State University 2008-Current  
Tenure Granted 5/2014  
Department of Communication

Assistant Professor, Ferris State University 2006-2008  
Department of Humanities

Associate Faculty, Kirkwood Community College 2004-2006

Associate Faculty, Shoreline College 2017-2018

## **HIGHER EDUCATION TEACHING**

### **Arkansas State University**

Communication Criticism  
Communication Theory  
Computer-Mediated Communication  
Conflict Resolution

Health Communication  
Human Communication Research Methods  
Intercultural Communication  
Introduction to Interpersonal Communication  
Interpersonal Communication  
Oral Communication (Intro to Communication)  
Organizational Communication  
Principles of Argumentation  
Principles of Persuasion

Graduate Seminar Communication Theory  
Graduate Seminar Computer-Mediated Communication  
Graduate Seminar Conflict Resolution  
Graduate Seminar Health Communication  
Graduate Seminar Intercultural Communication  
Graduate Seminar Interpersonal Communication  
Graduate Seminar Qualitative Research Methods  
Graduate Seminar Social Media and Strategic Communication

**Ferris State University, Big Rapids, MI**

Interpersonal Communication  
Health Communication  
Pharmacy - Clinical Communication  
Public Speaking  
Research Methods in Communication

**University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA**

Business and Professional Communication  
Communication and Conflict  
Core Concepts of Communication Studies  
Mass Media and American Democracy  
Persuasive Communication  
Rhetoric  
Theory and Practice of Argument

**Kirkwood Community College, Iowa City/Cedar Rapids, IA**

Introduction to Communication

**Shoreline College, Shoreline WA**

Interpersonal Communication

**TRAINING**

King County Dispute Resolution Center – Basic Mediation Course	7/2022
Pierce County Center for Dialogue and Resolution – Medication Practicum	10/2023-Present

## PUBLICATIONS

### Journal Articles

Baxter, L., Braithwaite, D., Koenig Kellas, J., LeClair-Underberg, C., Lamb, E., Routsong, T., & Thatcher, M. (2009). Empty ritual: Young-adult stepchildren's perception of the remarriage ceremony. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 26, 4, (467-487). Impact factor 1.287

Baxter, L., Foley, M., & Thatcher, M. (2008). Marginalizing difference in personal relationships: A dialogic analysis of how partners talk about difference. *Journal of Communication Studies*, 1, (33-55).

Koenig-Kellas, J., Baxter, L., Le-Clair-Underberg, Thatcher, M., C., Routsong, T., Braithwaite, D., & Normand, E. L. (2014). Narratively (re)framing stepfamily beginnings: The relationship between adult stepchildren's stepfamily origin stories and their perceptions of family. *Journal of Family Communication*, 14, (149-166).

Thatcher, M. (2006). Bakhtin applied: Employing dialogism to analyze the interplay of the ideologies of individualism and community within the discourse of Alcoholics Anonymous. *Journal of Applied Communication Research*, 34, 4, (349-367). Impact factor .680

Thatcher, M. (2011). "It's like a blend of everything": Negotiating the tension between the discourses of Christianity and Spiritual Pluralism in Alcoholics Anonymous. *Journal of Applied Communication Research*, 34, 4, (389-405). Impact factor .680

### Book Chapters

Havens, T., Bottando, E. & Thatcher, M. (2013). "Intra-European media imperialism: Hungarian program imports and the Television Without Frontiers Directive," in Timothy Havens, Aniko Imre, and Katalin Lustyik (ed.) *Popular Television in Eastern Europe During and Since Socialism*. New York: Routledge.

Thatcher, M. (2016) "The role of self-disclosure in the social construction of understandings of alcoholism and mental health within talk between members of Alcoholics Anonymous," in Michele O'Reilly and Jessica Lester (ed.) *The Palmgrave Handbook of Adult Mental Health*. Basingstoke, Hampshire: Palmgrave Macmillan.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

(2024) When We Care More About helping Others than our Silos:  
Creating Caring Connection in Moving Beyond Monologic Approaches to Recovery from Alcoholism. Interpersonal Communication and Communication Theory Interest Group, Northwest Communication Association Conference,

- (2014) Teaching communication theory at the MA level. Instructional Division, National Communication Association Conference, Chicago, IL.
- (2014) The social construction of identity. Communication as Social Construction Interest Group, National Communication Association Conference, Chicago, IL.
- (2013) Resisting assimilation: The constitutive rhetoric of the Native American Indian General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous. Rhetorical Theory Interest Group, National Communication Association Conference, Washington DC.
- (2013) Beyond the Board: Using synchronous web-conferencing for course engagement in online learning. Southern States Communication Association Conference, Louisville, KY.
- (2012) Don't Tell Your Mother: Narratives of men in relationship with food addicted women. National Communication Association Conference, Orlando, FL.
- (2012) Understanding intercultural health encounters: A coordinated management of meaning process. Applied Communication Interest Group, Southern States Communication Association, San Antonio, TX.
- (2011) Giving voice to the dialogic paradigm. Rhetoric and Communication Theory Interest Group, National Communication Association Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- (2010) Bridging Akron, Cleveland, and New York: Addressing spiritual tensions in the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous. Religious Communication Interest Group, National Communication Association Conference, San Francisco, CA.
- (2009) "what would the shroomery backbone be without ripper:" A dialogic analysis of discursive tensions in online social support. Health Communication Interest Group, National Communication Association Conference, Chicago, IL.
- (2009) Koenig-Kellas, J., Baxter, L., Braithwaite, D., Le-Clair-Underberg, C., Rousong, T., Thatcher, M. & Normand, E. Narratively (re)framing stepfamily beginnings: The relationship between adult stepchildren's stepfamily origin stories and their perceptions of family. Central States Communication Association Conference, St. Louis, MO. (**Top Four Paper**)
- (2007) Baxter, L. Braithwaite, D. Koenig Kellas, J. LeClair Underwood, C. Lamb. E. Routsong, T. & Thatcher, M. Empty ritual: Young-adult stepchildren's perception of the remarriage ceremony. Family Communication Interest Group. National Communication Association, Chicago, IL.
- (2007) Doing difference in A.A.: A Bakhtinian discourse analysis considering the interplay of social languages related to spirituality among members of A.A. Rhetorical and

- Communication Theory Interest Group. National Communication Association, Chicago, IL.
- (2006) Baxter, L., Foley, M. & Thatcher, M. Disciplining difference in personal relationships: The sideward glance in partner talk about difference. Interpersonal Communication Interest Group, National Communication Association Conference, San Antonio, TX.
- (2005) Words and numbers: Considering the debate regarding quantitative and qualitative evidence with respect to persuasion and health. Health Communication Interest Group, National Communication Association Conference, Boston, MA.
- (2005) Multivocal objectives for reducing the negative effects of hazardous drinking in collegiate populations. Health Communication Interest Group, Central States Communication Association Conference, Kansas City, MO.
- (2005) The third space of voice: Multivocal understandings of author, text and audience. Rhetorical Theory Interest Group, Western States Communication Association, San Francisco, CA.
- (2004) Individualism and community: The dance of social languages within the discourse of Alcoholics Anonymous. Panel: Bakhtin Applied, National Communication Association, Chicago, IL.
- (2004) Slippery places: Situating the discourse of Alcoholics Anonymous within the field of health communication. (**Top Student Paper**) Health Communication Interest Group, Western States Communication Association, Albuquerque, NM.
- (2002) The emplotment of origin as illustrated in the text, *Alcoholics Anonymous*. Rhetoric Interest Group of Student Section, National Communication Conference, New Orleans, LA.

### **Invited Presentations**

- (2010) Intergenerational Communication. Arkansas Division of Child Services, Riverside, AR.
- (2008) Using Second Life as a teaching tool. Interactive Teaching and Technology Conference, Arkansas State University, State University, AR.
- (2007) What does it mean to be a communication scholar? Lambda Pi Eta Induction Ceremony, Ferris State University, Big Rapids, MI.

### **GRANTS AND AWARDS**

**Faculty Research Grant**  
 Arkansas State University  
 Award Amount - \$3000

2012-13

<b>Online Smoking Cessation Program Grant</b> Arkansas Department of Health Award Amount - \$50,000	2011-12
<b>Faculty Award for Research</b> College of Communications Arkansas State University	5/2011
<b>Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship</b> Faculty Mentor – Student Elizabeth Snow Award Amount - \$4000	11/2010
<b>Top Student Paper - Health Communication Interest Group</b> Western States Communication Association Conference	2/2004

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

Arkansas State University

### **Department Service**

<b>Coordinator, AOS BA Degree Program</b>	2015-2023
<b>Chair, Curriculum Committee,</b>	2011-2015
<b>Member, Curriculum Committee,</b>	2011-present
<b>Member, Assessment Committee,</b>	2015-present
<b>Chair, Research Funding Committee,</b>	2009-2015
<b>Program Review Committee,</b>	2009
<b>Library Acquisitions Representative,</b>	2008/2009

### **College Service**

<b>Assessment Committee</b>	2009-2010
<b>Chair, College Undergraduate Curriculum Council,</b>	2011- 2015
<b>Dean Search Committee Member, College of Communications,</b>	2012

### **University Service**

<b>ASTATE ONLINE Advisory Council,</b>	2015-2023
<b>University Assessment Council,</b>	2009-2013
<b>Undergraduate Curriculum Council,</b>	2011-2015
<b>University Research Awards Committee,</b>	2008-2015
<b>Strategic Planning Participant,</b>	2010/2011
<b>Judge, Create@STATE Research Symposium,</b>	2011/2013

### **Graduate Thesis Chair**

*Russell Lott – completed August 2010*  
*William Hinson – completed May 2012*  
*Micheal Gray – completed February 2013*

## Ferris State University

### Department Service

**Chair, Scholarship Committee**, Department of Humanities, 2006-2007  
**Curriculum Committee Member**, Department of Humanities, 2006-2007  
**Faculty Search Committee Member**, Department of Humanities, Fall 2006

### University Service

**Communications Officer: Strategic Planning and Resources Committee**, 2008  
**Center for Teaching Advisory Committee**, 2007-2008  
**Social Norms Committee Member**, 2008  
**Judge: Spaghetti Bridge Competition**, 2007-2008  
**Judge: Lambda Pi Eta Speech Competition**, 2006

## University of Iowa

### Department Service

**Graduate Student Advisory Committee Member**, Communication Studies, 2004-2006  
**Graduate Student Mentor**, Department of Communication Studies, 2004-2005  
**Faculty Search Committee Member**, Health Communication Faculty, Department of Communication Studies, 2004-2005

## ORGANIZATIONAL SERVICE

### Regional Service

**Publications Committee**, Southern States Communication Association, present member  
**Paper Reviewer**, Applied Communication Interest Group of the Southern States Communication Association, 2011

### National Service

**Chair, Nominating Committee, Communication as Social Construction Interest Group, National Communication Association**, 2011-2012  
**Treasurer, Communication as Social Construction Interest Group, National Communication Association**, 2012-2015  
**Nominating Committee, National Communication Association**, 2014  
**Legislative Assembly: National Communication Association**, 2014  
**Manuscript Reviewer**: Qualitative Health Research, 5 articles reviewed 2010/2015. Journal of Applied Communication Research 2 articles reviewed 2011/2012. Journal of Social and Personal Relationships, 2 articles reviewed 2012/2014.  
**Paper Reviewer**: Health Communication Interest Group. 96<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the National Communication Association, New Orleans, LA, 2011  
**Paper Reviewer**: Health Communication Interest Group. 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the National Communication Association: Chicago, IL, 2009  
**Paper Reviewer**: Health Communication Interest Group. 93<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the National Communication Association: San Diego, CA, 2008  
**Paper Reviewer**: Health Communication Interest Group. 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the National Communication Association: Chicago, IL. 2007

**Paper Reviewer:** Student Section; 90<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the National Communication Association: Chicago, IL. 2004

**Paper Reviewer:** Student Section; 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the National Communication Association: Miami, FL. 2003

#### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

**Volunteer Mediator**

Center for Dialogue and Resolution, Tacoma, WA  
October 2023/Present

#### **CORPORATE COMMUNICATION EXPERIENCE**

**Provider Communications Coordinator**

Aetna / US Health Care, San Ramon, CA  
August 98 / June 99

**Commercial Account Manager**

Health Net, Woodland Hills, CA  
November 94 / August 97

**Commercial Account Manager**

CareAmerica, Woodland Hills, CA  
October 91 / November 94