

John T Sherrill

Education

PhD in English | Rhetoric & Composition August 2019

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Primary Area: Professional and Technical Writing/Communication

Secondary Area: Rhetoric, Technology, and Digital Writing

Dissertation

DIY Feminism in Post-Industrial Spaces

Michael Salvo (chair), Samantha Blackmon, Bradley Dilger, Kristin Arola

MA in English | Rhetoric & Composition December 2014

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Thesis

Makers: Technical Communication in Post-Industrial Participatory Communities

BS in Scientific & Technical Communication cum laude April 2012

Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI

Awards and Honors

Research

Transformative Educational Experience (TEE) Grant 2022 \$13,500

“Teaching Entrepreneurial Writing for Engineering Excellence in Qatar”

Emerging Scholar Award 2022 \$500

Sixteenth International Conference on Design Principles & Practices

Crouse Graduate Student Emergent Scholar 2018 \$5,000

Association of Teachers of Technical Writing (ATTW) 2018

Graduate Research Award (one of three students nationally) \$750

Purdue Research Foundation (PRF) Summer Grant 2017 \$3,300

ACM SIGDOC Graduate Student Research Competition 2016

3rd Place Winner (of 5 second round competitors) \$200

Best Poster Design 2015 ENGL 625 Empirical Research in Writing

Teaching

Quintilian Award Spring 2018 (top 10% of instructor evaluations)

Dean’s Award (Instructor, Honorable Mention) 2012 “Multimedia Projects” Introductory Composition at Purdue Showcase

Travel

PROMISE Award for International Travel 2017 \$1,300

Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Advanced Collaboratory (HASTAC) Scholars Fellowship 2011–2012 \$300

Service

Conservation District Conservation Grant 2025

\$841

Academic Appointments

Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI, USA

Visiting Assistant Teaching Professor Fall 2025–Present

Composition UN 1015 3 sections

Teaching Assistant Spring 2012

Introduction to Web Design HU 3650 1 section

Qatar University, Doha, Qatar

Assistant Professor of Professional Writing Fall 2019–Fall 2023

Professional Writing ENGL 230 16 sections total | 7 remote

Essay Writing II ENGL 153 5 sections total | 2 remote

Essay Writing I ENGL 150 6 sections total | 2 remote

Focal Point to Writing Lab Fall 2020–Fall 2023

Coordinated with the lab's Section Head and Senior English Writing Specialist to develop workshops for students, draft and update syllabus statements, and maintain open communication between the department and Writing Lab.

Writing Curriculum Coordinator Fall 2020–Spring 2023

Coordinated with writing faculty to ensure consistency across 4 writing courses and alignment with university standards. Maintained a repository of writing assignments and supplemental materials. Reviewed course equivalencies as needed for transfer students.

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, USA

Instructor of Record Fall 2012–Spring 2019

Technical Writing ENGL 421 10 sections

Business Writing ENGL 420 2 sections

First-Year Composition ENGL 106 9 sections

Professional Writing Program Assistant Director of Technology

Summer 2016–Summer 2018

Administered 80 course web sites, the Purdue Professional Writing Program web site, Introductory Composition at Purdue web site, and 4 other program web sites using Drupal and WordPress. Coordinated with program administrators, staff, and instructors to create, maintain, and update the web sites, and to migrate from Drupal to WordPress. Managed 7 email lists. Trained a new Assistant Director over 4 weeks. Reviewed applications for Professional Writing program instructors.

Web Content Writer

College of Liberal Arts Dean's Office, Fall 2014

Researched and reported how Liberal Arts faculty and students use emerging digital technologies in their research. Collaborated with the
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Associate Dean, Web Developer, and Photographer for the college to publish the stories to the College web site.

Publications and Presentations

Books

Salvo, Michael J. & **Sherrill, John T.** 2025. *Artificial Infrastructures*. The WAC Clearinghouse; University Press of Colorado.
<https://wac.colostate.edu/books/practice/artificial/>

Refereed Journal Articles and Conference Proceedings

Salvo, Michael J. & **Sherrill, John T.** 2024. A research ensemble of humans, machines, and algorithms: Future designs of research and scholarly communication. *Proceedings of the 42nd ACM International Conference on Design of Communication*, pp. 178–181. ACM Digital Library, <https://doi.org/10.1145/3641237.3691666>

Sherrill, John T. & Liddle, Daniel. 2023. Analyzing YouTube Content: Methodological Considerations for Technical Communication Research. *SIGDOC '23: The 41st ACM International Conference on Design of Communication Proceedings*, Association for Computing Machinery, 2023, pp. 18-25. ACM Digital Library, <https://doi.org/10.1145/3615335.3623005>

Sherrill, John T. & Salvo, Michael J. 2022. Automated Infrastructures: Participation's Changing Role in Postindustrial Work. *Communication Design Quarterly (CDQ)*, vol. 10, no. 2, Sept. 2022, pp. 22–31, <https://doi.org/10.1145/3507857.3507860>.

Sherrill, John T. & Salvo, Michael J. Distant Collaborations: Designing for Australia, Ireland, Qatar, and the USA. *2022 IEEE International Professional Communication Conference (ProComm) Proceedings*, IEEE Press, 2022, pp. 154–59. ACM Digital Library, <https://doi.org/10.1109/ProComm53155.2022.00031>.

Sherrill, John T. Mapping Storytelling on Etsy.com as Hyper-differentiation Strategy. *SIGDOC '22: The 40th ACM International Conference on Design of Communication Proceedings*, Association for Computing Machinery, 2022, pp. 63–68, <https://doi.org/10.1145/3513130.3558979>.

Sherrill, John T. 2019. A DIY Electronic Survey Device for Studying User Experience. *Kairos: A Journal of Rhetoric, Technology, Pedagogy*, 24(2). https://praxis.technorhetoric.net/tiki-index.php?page=PraxisWiki%3A_%3ADIY+Survey+Device

Sherrill, John T. Gender, technology, and narratives in DIY instructions. In *Proceedings of the 35th ACM International Conference on the Design of Communication* (SIGDOC '17). ACM, New York, NY, USA, Article 9, 8 pages. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3121113.3121214>

Van Epps, A. S., Huston, D., **Sherrill, J.**, Alvar, A. and Bowen, A. 2015. How 3D Printers Support Teaching in Engineering, Technology, and Beyond. *Bulletin of the Association for Information Science and Technology* 42(1). 5 pages. <https://doi.org/10.1002/bul2.2015.1720420107>

Book Chapters

Sherrill, John T. 2025. "Tactical Tech Comm and Failures in Crowdsourcing Mass Production." In H. A. Sarat-St. Peter & M. Kimball (Eds.) *Tactical Approaches to Technical Communication*. (pp. 109-124). SUNY Press. <https://doi.org/10.2307/jj.29248391.10>

Sherrill, John T. 2020. "Hiring, Training, Designing, and Hosting: A Case Study of an Inclusive Library Makerspace." In M. Melo & J. Nichols (Eds.) *Re-making the Library Makerspace: Critical Theories, Reflections, and Practices*, (pp. 265–282). Library Juice Press. <https://litwinbooks.com/books/re-making-the-library-makerspace/>

Select Presentations

"Beyond Perceptions: Surveying Student Experiences with Responsible AI Use in Writing Courses." *Artificial Intelligence and the Teaching of Technical Communication Online Symposium*. Utah Valley University. 20 Mar. 2024

"Conceptualizing Parametric Writing with AI: From Command Line to GUI" *Conference on College Composition and Communication*. Chicago, Illinois. Presented remotely. 18 Feb. 2023. <https://youtu.be/O-a--g-hctk>

"Postindustrial Participation: Designing Architectures of Experience." *Sixteenth International Conference on Design Principles and Practices*. Newcastle, Australia. Online due to pandemic. 19 Jan. 2022.

"DIY Feminism in Post-Industrial Spaces." *Association of Teachers of Technical Writing*. Kansas City, KS. 14 Mar. 2018

"Representing Marginalized Makers through 3D Printing and Instructables." *Cincinnati Mini Maker Faire*. Cincinnati, OH. 8 Oct. 2016

"Stitching Community: Quilt Crafting as a Construction of Technology, Meaning Making, and Digital Life." *Cultural Rhetorics Conference*. Lansing, MI. 1 Oct. 2016

Invited Talks **Alumni Pedagogy Panel Series.** Purdue Professional Writing Program.
Ryan Murphy, Purdue University, USA. 22 Apr. 2021

“‘Pay for the Printer,’ 3D Printing and Technical Communication for Creative Writers.” Invited guest lecture. Creative Writing: Writing Dystopia (80+ undergraduate students). Dr. Tehmina Pirzada, Lahore School of Economics, Pakistan. 18 Mar. 2019

“DIY Communities, Post-Industrial Labor, and Lessig’s *Free Culture*.” Invited guest lecture. Computers in Language and Rhetoric (6 graduate students). Dr. Michael Salvo, Purdue University, USA. 18 Feb. 2019

Service and Volunteer Work

Institutional **Qatar University**
Student Success Committee Fall 2022–Fall 2023
Planned workshops and events to help students succeed within their concentration (Linguistics or Literature).

Planning, Facilities, and Budget Committee Fall 2022–Fall 2023
Reviewed department budget and helped prepare quarterly reports of department’s needs.

Recruitment Committee Fall 2020–Spring 2022
Drafted job ad for a position in Professional Writing. Participated in review process and interviews for three positions within the Department of English Literature and Linguistics. Reviewed applications for Teaching Assistant positions from local Qataris.

Annual Appraisal Review Committee Spring 2021
Reviewed annual performance reports for writing faculty.

Capstone Assessment Fall 2020
Reviewed capstone projects to ensure faculty advisor evaluations reliably aligned with program learning outcomes for written communication.

Curriculum and Quality Enhancement Committee Fall 2019
Assisted in preparing reports for external program review. Revised course learning outcomes for 4 writing courses.

Purdue University
Volunteer Photographer for Purdue Professional Writing Showcase
Spring 2018
Photographed approximately 20 presenters with their posters, award recipients, and attendees throughout the five-hour event.

Field	Association for Writing Across the Curriculum's Mentoring Committee Volunteer Mentor Summer 2025	
	Co-Founder of Academic Makers Facebook Group Fall 2013–Present Moderate discussion among over 200 academics interested in Making as an academic subject and pedagogical practice.	
Community	Conservation District Manistee River Cleanup Summer 2025	
	AuSable Inclusion Center Spring 2024 Provided labor to renovate a building to be used as a community center that offers resources to those in need with a focus on marginalized groups.	
	Pride Lafayette OUTfest Volunteer Fall 2017 Assisted with setup for OUTfest 2017, Lafayette's main Pride event. Approximately 1,000–2,000 people attended the event.	
	Host-A-Boiler Program Host Fall 2016 Hosted an international graduate student for a meal over winter break.	
Professional Affiliations	Association for Computers and the Humanities (ACH) Association of Teachers of Technical Writing (ATTW) Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Advanced Collaboratory (HASTAC) National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Special Interest Group on Design of Communication of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM SIGDOC)	
Graduate Coursework	Professional Writing	Professional Writing Theory Michael Salvo Postindustrial Rhetoric (Study Abroad) Michael Salvo HCI Usability Testing (Michigan Tech) Robert Pastel WAC & Learning Transfer Bradley Dilger Medical and Environmental Writing Richard Johnson–Sheehan
	Digital Technology	Rhetoric, Games, and Play Samantha Blackmon Computers, Language, and Rhetoric Samantha Blackmon Rhetoric, Technology, and Games History Nathan Johnson Sp. Topics in New Media (Michigan Tech) Wendy K. Z. Anderson

Methods

Feminism, Hackers, and Craft	Samantha Blackmon
Empirical Research in Writing	Patricia Sullivan
Cultural Rhetoric, Stories, and Narrative	Patricia Sullivan
Quantitative Research	April Ginther

Rhetoric and Composition

Composition Theory	Kendall Leon
Classical Rhetoric	Richard Johnson–Sheehan
Modern Rhetoric	Patricia Sullivan
Postmodernism	Michael Salvo

Media Production & Software

2D Design

InDesign
Photoshop
Illustrator

Scripting and Markup

Python (basic web scraping)
HTML 5 & CSS 3
XML (basic)
Arduino code

Screencasting/Video Editing

TechSmith Camtasia
DaVinci Resolve

Coding & Data Analysis

MAXQDA

Photography

Off-camera flash
Constant lighting
Capture One
Adobe Lightroom

3D Modeling and Printing

Autodesk Fusion 360
Simplify3D