

TRAVIS R. MERCHANT-KNUDSEN

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EDUCATION

North Carolina State University Ph.D. Student in Communication, Rhetoric, and Digital Media (CRDM) <i>Fourth-Year Candidate</i>	Current
North Carolina State University Graduate Certificate in Digital Humanities	May 2023
North Carolina State University M.A., English with Concentration in Film Studies Thesis: "Bodies and Visuals Unbound to Time: Embracing Sensations of Spectacle and Narrative in <i>Mandy</i> and <i>Climax</i> "	May 2020
University of North Carolina Wilmington B.A., Film Studies; B.A., English Literature Honors Thesis: "Filming Letters: Dialogism and Paratextuality in Sofia Coppola and Spike Jonze Films"	May 2016

SERVICE EXPERIENCE

<i>Intellect Press</i> Member of Editorial Board – <i>Film International</i> Assist editor(s) in decisions; review submitted manuscripts; advise on journal policy and scope; identify topics for special issues; and promote the journal to their colleagues and peers for submissions and reading	2024 – Current
Image Editor – <i>Film International</i> Source, select, and place images within articles for four issues a year; provide minor copy-editing for review articles; writing articles for the journal and website; and reviewing working proofs.	2017 – 2023
Member of Editorial Board – <i>Film Matters 7.1</i> Read essays and reviews as part of the peer-review process, recommended, or denied publication, and learned the process of being a part of an Editorial Board through this internship at UNCW	Spring 2015
<i>North Carolina State University</i> Co-Organizer of Annual CRDM Symposium Organized the 2022 CRDM Symposium, titled "Infrastructures and/as Colonialism" with two faculty members and two students. My responsibilities were creating the visuals and video for the symposium, aiding in the selection of panels, and coordinating tech support on the dates of the symposium	Oct 2021 – March 2022
Committee Member of Triangle Film Salon Graduate Symposium Organized the inaugural TFS on a committee of two faculty members and four students in collaboration with UNC-Chapel Hill. UNC hosted while NCSU students and faculty aided with selections and organization of schedule for this edition	Oct 2021 – March 2022

*Austin Film Festival***Member of Short Film Selection Committee**

Screened submitted short films, compiled notes on each film, and either recommended or denied placement in the festival

May 2019 – Oct 2021

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

*North Carolina State University***COM and ENG Instructor of Record – Various Classes**

Developed a syllabus and course structure, created examinations and writing assignments, and administered grades. Online and In-person. Classes: COM 110: Public Speaking, ENG 321: Survey of Rhetorical Theory, ENG 282: Introduction to Film, ENG/COM 395: Rhetoric and Digital Media: Animating Queer Rhetoric, COM 267: Electronic Media Writing: Theory and Practice, ENG 374: Film History Since 1940

Fall 2021 – Current

GTI Instructor of Record – American Culture in Moving Images

Developed a syllabus and structure for the Global Training Initiative Program at NCSU to teach international students American Culture by utilizing films, historical documents, and reflection assignments

Spring 2024 – Current

ENG Instructor of Record – ENG 282: Introduction to Film

Developed a syllabus and course structure, created examinations and writing assignments, and administered grades and attendance. Smoothly transitioned to online in Spring 2020

Fall 2019 – Spring 2020

Teaching Assistant

Assisted with the course and lead sections with Dr. Andrew Johnston in ENG 282: Introduction to Film on Soviet montage and documentary; Assisted with the course and lead sections with Dr. Marsha Gordon on Charlie Chaplin and Soviet montage in ENG 364: Film History to 1940

Fall 2018 – Spring 2019

*Wake Technical Community College***Adjunct Instructor**

Aid students on their writing for the Tutoring and Learning Center; created videos on grammar, introductions, conclusions, and for the ILC YouTube channel

Fall 2016 – Current

Eagle Start Instructor of ENG 002

Taught two sections of ENG 002 – Transition English as a part of the Eagle Start Program, an accelerated summer program that prepares students for entering college classes and writing

Summer 2022

*University of North Carolina Wilmington***Writing Tutor**

Aid students of various subjects with writing essays and focused grammar, organization, outlining, introductions, and conclusions.

Fall 2015 – Spring 2016

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- “Parting Words: Viewing films one image at a time; or, remembering Hannah Frank (1984–2017)” *Film International* 20.4 **September 2023**
- “The Intrusive, Necessary Labor of Archivists in the Face of Change” La Giornate del Cinema Muto | Pordenone Silent Film Festival | Prize Winner **Winter 2022**
- “Filmed Love Letters: The Dialogism and Intertextuality of *Lost in Translation* and *Her*” *Cultural Intertexts* vol. 11 **Winter 2021**
- “Painting a Collaborative Gaze: Tactility and the Myth in Portrait of a Lady on Fire” co-authored with Susie Hedley *Film International* 19.2 **June 2021**
- “‘Lost Inside Empire’: Self-Orientalization in the Animation and Sounds of Hayao Miyazaki’s *The Wind Rises*” *Southeast Asian Review of English* 57.1 **July 2020**
- “Uncomfortable Laughter: Revisiting *Funny Games* (1997) on Criterion” *Film International* 18.1 **Winter 2020**
- “Through the Haze: Fidelity of Adaptation in Paul Thomas Anderson’s *Inherent Vice*” *Language, Literature, and Interdisciplinary Studies* 2.4 **Summer 2019**
- “*Force Majeure*: A Dramatic, Humorous Dissection of Family” *Film Matters* 7.2 **September 2016**
- “The Censorship of Art After Death: Looking at Stanley Kubrick’s History with Censorship” *Film Matters* 6.3 **December 2015**

Non-Peer Reviewed Publications

- “Possibilities of Post-Cinema: Discorrelated Images by Shane Denson” *Film International* (Book Review) **April 2021**
- “Intimate, Disappearing Environments: The Philadelphia Environmental Film Festival 2020” *Film International* (Film Festival Review) **February 2021**
- “Humans, Nature, and Moving Images – *The Work of Terrence Malick: Time-Based Ecocinema* by Gabriella Blasi” *Film International* (Book Review) **July 2020**
- “Transnational Identities in the Dramatically Tense *Synonyms*” *Film International* (Film Review) **November 2019**
- “Staying in the Present: Brendan Meyer and Sam McCarthy on *All These Small Moments*” *Film International* (Film Review and Interview) **January 2019**
- “A Life of Contradictions: Trine Dyrholm on *Nico, 1988*” *Film International* (Interview) **August 2018**
- “Illuminating the Bipartisan Problem: Kimberly Reed on *Dark Money*” *Film International* (Interview) **July 2018**
- “Metafictional Examination: *The Workshop*” *Film International* (Film Review) **April 2018**
- “Deceit and Inconsistency: *The China Hustle*” *Film International* (Film Review) **March 2018**

PRESENTATIONS

"Recycling Dead Animals and Bug Carcasses in Stop-Motion and Abstract Animations" Society for Animation Studies Conference 35: Animating Change	July 2024
"Indexable Trans Films, and Losing/Finding the Self in <i>We're All Going to the World's Fair</i> " Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference	March 2024
"Flickering Raw Materials from Histories and Labor in Avant-Garde Films of Jodie Mack" Triangle Film Salon: Mind Bending	March 2024
"Coffee & Viz: AI Image Generation and its View of Gender" North Carolina State University Libraries, Teaching and Visualization Lab at Hunt Library	September 2023
"A Rhetoric of Idle Animation: Idleness and Ambience in Open-World Video Game Environments" Society for Animation Studies Conference 34: The Animated Environment	June 2023
"Bodies Unbound to Time: Embracing Sensations of Spectacle and Narrative in Climax" Triangle Film Salon: Bodies, Bodies, Bodies	March 2023
"Animated Abstractions Unbound to Time: Sensations of Spectacle and Narrative in Mandy" Society for Animation Studies Conference 33: Animation Unlocked	June 2022
"Archive 0.333 – A Gamic Consideration of Archival Access" Midwest Interdisciplinary Graduate Conference: Access	May 2022
"Paper Becoming Digital: Don Hertzfeldt's Adaptation to the Digital Medium" Triangle Film Salon Graduate Conference at UNC-Chapel Hill	March 2022
"Surviving Through Disconnected Patience: Procedural and Ambient Rhetoric in <i>Death Stranding</i> " Carolina Rhetoric Conference: Rhetoric(s) for Survival	February 2022
"'Wake Up, Get Up, Get Out into the New Environment': The Speculative Reality of <i>Persona 5</i> " Society for Animation Studies Conference 32: Animate Energies	June 2021
"A Repetitive, Unsettling Suburban Hallway: Embodied Gothic Horror in P.T." NCSU Association of English Graduate Students Conference	March 2020 [Cancelled]
"Embodied Existential Horror: Gothic and Cosmic Horror in <i>Bloodborne</i> " NCSU Association of English Graduate Students Conference	March 2019
"Tension Building the Dream: <i>Montage of a Dream Deferred</i> and Soviet Montage" NCSU Graduate Student Research Symposium	March 2019
"Gazing Through the Haze: Looking at the Adaptation of <i>Inherent Vice</i> " Visions Film Festival and Conference	March 2017
"A Letter to a Resurgence: Looking at <i>Dear Zachary</i> and New-Wave Cinema Verité" Visions Film Festival and Conference	April 2016

FELLOWSHIPS

*Stanford-Leuphana Summer Academy***Edition: “Art, Technology, and the Problem of Acceleration”****June 2024**

Meeting of interdisciplinary Ph.D. candidates and professors from Stanford University and Leuphana University to discuss research on Acceleration; I presented “Visual Ambience, Digital Images, and Against Acceleration with Respite and Reprieve”

*Le Giornate Del Cinema Muto***Member of the Collegium****October 2020 – 2021**

Attended daily meetings to discuss preservation, issues of representation, and use of music; screened various silent films, interviews, and masterclasses; and wrote an award-winning essay about the labor of silent cinema archivists in the face of AI upscaling

*Full Frame Film Festival***Full Frame Fellow****April 2019**

Attended various documentary premieres, attended workshops and discussions with documentary filmmakers, and engaged with fellow documentary scholars throughout the weekend of the film festival

AWARDS

CRDM Student Association Travel Award

April 2024

To aid in traveling to present “Recycling Dead Animals and Bug Carcasses” at SAS 35

Emru Townsend Award

June 2023

In recognition of the presentation “A Rhetoric of Idle Animation” at SAS 34

NCSU Graduate School Summer Fellowship

June 2023

“Financially supports doctoral students who are making excellent degree progress, received less than \$23k in financial support from NC State during the school year, and who do not have a Summer appointment.”

Le Giornate Del Cinema Muto Collegium Essay Prize

October 2022

In recognition of the essay “The Intrusive, Necessary Labor of Archivists in the Face of Change”

ORGANIZATIONS

Society for Animation Studies (SAS)

2020 – Current

Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS)

2023 – Current**LANGUAGES**

English – Native Language

Spanish – Read, write, and speak with good proficiency