

Lisa Wells Jacobson

Curriculum Vitae

Stephen C. Hall Building, 215 Bobby Dodd Way NW, Atlanta, GA, 30332

404-894-515 • lisawj@gatech.edu

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley

PhD, Dept. of Film & Media, August 2022.

Dissertation: “Spy Craft: Seriality, *The Americans*, and Digital Ambivalence.”

Committee: Mark Sandberg (chair), Anton Kaes, Deniz Göktürk.

University of California, Berkeley

MA, Dept. of Film & Media, 2015.

MA, Dept. of Rhetoric, 2013.

Leiden University

MA (Cum Laude), Study of Art and Literature, 2011.

Brown University

AB (with Honors, Magna Cum Laude), Depts. of Comparative Literature and German Studies, 2006.

Studies Abroad: University of Tübingen, Germany, Spring 2005; Herzen University, Russia, Summer 2004.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Georgia Institute of Technology

Marion L. Brittain Postdoctoral Fellow, School of Literature, Media, and Communication, 2023–present.

RESEARCH

Book Project

“Spy Craft TV: Reimagining the Cold War for the Digital Age”

Summary: I investigate how contemporary serial television writes history, specifically how spy thrillers dramatize ambivalence with the digitally networked present via the Cold War craft of hands-on, analog espionage.

Status: I am adapting the dissertation into a manuscript to propose for publication.

Peer-Reviewed Articles and Chapters

“Walkman Time Machine,” *New Review of Film and Television Studies* 22, no. 2 (2024): 577–601. doi: [10.1080/17400309.2024.2349493](https://doi.org/10.1080/17400309.2024.2349493).

“Narrative Realism and Television,” co-authored with Chloë Kitzinger, in *The Oxford Handbook of Global Realisms*, edited by Katherine Bowers and Margarita Vaysman (online edition, Oxford UP, May 22, 2024). doi: [10.1093/oxfordhb/9780197610640.013.13](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780197610640.013.13).

Edited Dossier

“Experiments in Ungrading in North American Classrooms,” co-edited with Jennifer Blaylock, *Journal of Cinema and Media Studies Teaching Media Dossier* 64 (Spring 2025),

no. 2 (“[Critical Reflections on Ungrading](#)”) and no. 3 (“[Creative Applications of Ungrading](#)”).

In Preparation

“*Squid Game: The Challenge as Globally Accented TV*” (journal article in progress).

Online Publication

“Walkman: Space-Time Machine?” *New Review of Film & Television Studies Blog*, July 2024, <https://nrftsjournal.org/walkman-space-time-machine/>.

Book Reviews

“Review: *The Channeled Image: Art and Media Politics after Television* by Erica Levin,” *Film Quarterly* 76, no. 4 (2023): 111–112. doi: [10.1525/fq.2023.76.4.111](https://doi.org/10.1525/fq.2023.76.4.111).

“Review: *The Use and Abuse of Cinema: German Legacies from the Weimar Era to the Present* by Eric Rentschler,” *Film Quarterly* 69, no. 4 (2016): 135–137. doi: [10.1525/fq.2016.69.4.135](https://doi.org/10.1525/fq.2016.69.4.135).

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

Provost Teaching and Learning Initiative Grant “Integrating AI Literacy into GT Writing and Communication Courses” (proposal co-author, \$15,000 awarded), Georgia Tech Center for Teaching and Learning, 2024–2025.

Course Instructor Opinion Survey Honor Roll, Georgia Tech Center for Teaching and Learning and Office of Academic Effectiveness, Spring 2024.

Art of Writing Seminar Development Grant (\$5,000), UC Berkeley Townsend Center for the Humanities, 2020.

Graduate Student Instructor Orientation Workshop Leader Honorarium (\$300), UC Berkeley GSI Teaching & Resource Center, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 & 2021.

Daniel E. Koshland, Jr. Graduate Student Fellowship in the Art of Teaching Writing (\$2,000), Art of Writing Program, UC Berkeley Townsend Center for the Humanities, 2017.

Max Kade Summer Research Fellowship (\$1,000), UC Berkeley Dept. of German, 2017.

Getting into Graduate School Mentorship Program Honorarium (\$1,000), UC Berkeley Office of Graduate Diversity, 2016–2017.

Doctoral Completion Fellowship (\$18,000 and tuition remission), UC Berkeley, 2016–2017.

Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award (\$250), UC Berkeley Graduate Division, 2016.

Telluride Student Symposium Stipend, Telluride Film Festival, 2014.

Trans-Atlantic Summer Institute in European Studies Fellowship (\$3,000), University of Minnesota, 2013.

Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Grant, Germany, 2006–2007.

Phi Beta Kappa, Brown University, 2005.

INVITED TALKS

“‘Pick and Shovel’ Spy Craft,” Illinois Institute of Technology, August 6, 2025.

“Cinema Roundtable: 1999: The Year that Changed the Movies and TV,” University of Georgia, March 22, 2024.

“*Frame By Frame*: Materialism and Labor,” Leiden University (online), May 22, 2023.

“Exhuming the Cold War: Analog Spy Craft in *The Americans*,” Rowan University, March 23, 2023.

“Spy Craft: Analog Espionage in *The Americans*,” Reed College, April 4, 2022.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Research Paper Presentations

“Individualism, Collectivity, and Connectivity in *The Americans*,” NECS: European Network for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference, Lisbon, Portugal, June 21, 2025.

“*Squid Game*: The Challenge as Globally Accented TV,” Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, April 6, 2025.

“Exploding Narratives of Racism in Recent European Cold War TV,” German Studies Association Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA, September 28, 2024.

“Slough-ing Downing: *Slow Horses*’ Analog Methodologies for a Digital World,” Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference, Boston, MA, March 15, 2024.

“An Occasionally True Story,” Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference (online), April 1, 2022.

“The Spy Who Learned to Love Me: Marriage as Spycraft in *The Americans*,” Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference (online), March 19, 2021.

“Renegotiating Cold War Ideology and Identification in *The Americans*,” Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference, Denver, CO, April 3, 2020. (Conference cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic.)

“Imagining the Cold War Otherwise,” Seminar Position Paper, Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference, Seattle, WA, March 17, 2019.

“The Cold War, Rebooted,” Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference, Seattle, WA, March 15, 2019.

“Listen to This: The Shared Walkman in Current Television Spy Thrillers,” NECS: European Network for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference, Paris, France, June 29, 2017.

“From Nazi to Stasi: The Return of History as Television,” Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA, March 30, 2016.

“Touching Time: Documentary Reenactment in *Auschwitz* and *The Act of Killing*,” Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference, Montréal, QC, March 28, 2015.

“The Grand Finales,” Berkeley Conference on Film and Media: Serialities 1915/2015, UC Berkeley, February 27, 2015.

“Schlock and Awe: Uwe Boll’s *Auschwitz* and the Holocaust Film Industry,” Modern Language Association Annual Conference, Vancouver, BC, January 9, 2015.

“Europe in Transit: Representations of Migrant Identity in a Changing Europe,” Leiden University Institute for Cultural Disciplines Conference, Netherlands, January 28, 2011.

Workshop Presentations

Co-Presenter and Organizer, “Comedy and Critique in Satire TV,” International Society for Humor Studies Annual Conference, Oakland, CA, July 2, 2015.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate Course Designer and Instructor of Record

Georgia Tech

“Technical Communication,” Fall 2025, Spring 2026 (three sections per semester).

23-student upper-level seminar on technical and professional communication, including information design, job material preparation, and multimodal presentations.

“On TV,” Fall 2023, Spring 2025 (three sections per semester, one in the Honors Program).

15-student first-year multimodal communication seminar on the rhetoric of television, from historical broadcast to global streaming and transmedia storytelling.

“Imagining the End,” Spring 2024, Fall 2024 (three sections per semester).

20-student introductory multimodal writing, communication, and research seminar on visions of the apocalypse in film and television narratives.

UC Berkeley Dept. of Film & Media

“The End,” Fall 2019.

17-student introductory writing seminar on film and television depictions of the end of the world.

“Film and Media Cultures,” Summer 2016.

55-student required introductory lecture course on film and media theory.

Undergraduate Course Designer and Co-Instructor of Record

UC Berkeley Dept. of Film & Media

“Advanced Film Writing: Words and Moving Image,” Fall 2020 (online) and Fall 2021 (in person).

20-student upper-level seminar supporting student writing about film across academic and non-academic genres.

“Drawn Together: Crafted Worlds of Animation,” Spring 2021 (online).

34-student introductory writing and research seminar on animation world-building, from cel animation to digital rendering.

“TV After TV,” Spring 2019.

34-student introductory writing and research seminar on the medium specificity of television, historically and today.

“Alternative Realities,” Fall 2017.

34-student introductory writing and research seminar on immersive media’s potential for creating alternative worlds through genre.

“‘You Must Remember This’: Memory and Media,” Spring 2015.

34-student introductory writing and research seminar on individual and collective memory across media.

“Technologies of Time,” Fall 2014.

34-student introductory writing and research seminar on time-based media’s relationship to history, duration, and temporality.

UC Berkeley Dept. of Rhetoric

“New Media Histories,” Spring 2016.

34-student introductory writing and research seminar on historical and theoretical approaches to media’s newness.

Undergraduate Screenwriting Instructor

UC Berkeley Dept. of Film & Media

“TV Writing,” Fall 2020 (online) and Fall 2021 (in person).

12-student television screenwriting seminar co-led with J. Mira Kopell as mock-showrunner for students writing speculative seasons of an existing TV series.

Graduate and Undergraduate Language Instructor

UC Berkeley Dept. of German

“Elementary German 1,” Fall 2013 and Summer 2014.

20-student introductory language immersion course (sole instructor).

“Elementary German 2,” Spring 2014.

20-student second-semester language immersion course (sole instructor).

Teaching Assistant

UC Berkeley Dept. of Film & Media

“Film Noir: German Exile Filmmakers in Hollywood,” Spring 2017.

Instructor: Prof. Anton Kaes

“History of Film: Silent Era,” Fall 2016.

Instructor: Prof. Anne Nesbet

“Film and Media Cultures,” Fall 2015.

Instructor: Prof. Damon Young

“Documentary and Other Non-Fiction Film,” Summer 2015.

Instructor: Dr. Jennifer Blaylock

PEDAGOGICAL PREPARATION

Workshop Leader and Designer

“Making Writing Matter in the Media Studies Classroom,” Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference (accepted), Chicago, IL, March 27, 2026.

“Centering the Margins in the First-Year Classroom,” Margins Symposium for World Englishes Committee, Georgia Tech, Atlanta, GA, April 25, 2025.

“Evaluating Effective Teaching for the Job Market, the Classroom, and Beyond,” Critical Media Pedagogies Scholarly Interest Group of the Society for Cinema and Media Studies, November 15, 2024 (online).

“Experiments in (Un)Grading: Alternative Grading Practices for New and Seasoned (Un)Graders,” Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference, Denver, CO, April 13, 2023.

“Working with Student Writing,” UC Berkeley GSI Teaching & Resource Center, 2019 (in person), and 2020, 2021 & 2022 (online).

“Designing a Writing-Based Course,” UC Berkeley Art of Writing Program, Summer 2021 (online).

“Humanities Discipline Cluster Workshop,” UC Berkeley GSI Teaching & Resource Center, 2016, 2017, 2018 & 2019 (in person), 2020 & 2021 (online).

Roundtable Panelist

“Using Digital Tools in the Media Studies Classroom,” Critical Media Pedagogies Scholarly Interest Group of the Society for Cinema and Media Studies, February 29, 2024 (online).

“Teaching and Evaluating Student Writing,” UC Berkeley Integrative Biology Graduate Teaching Colloquium, 2017 & 2018.

Seminar Participant

“Professional and Technical Communication Postdoctoral Seminar,” Georgia Tech Writing and Communication Program, Fall 2025.

“Digital Pedagogy,” Georgia Tech Writing and Communication Program, Fall 2023.

“Foreign Language Pedagogy I & II,” UC Berkeley Dept. of German, Fall 2013 & Spring 2014.

SERVICE

Service To Profession

Steering Committee Member, Critical Media Pedagogies Scholarly Interest Group of the Society for Cinema and Media Studies, 2024–present.

Award Committee Reviewer, SCMS Television SIG, 2025.

Peer Reviewer, *Journal of the Fantastic in the Arts*, 2024–present.

Peer Reviewer, *Science Fiction Film and Television*, 2024–present.

Editorial Board Member and Reviewer, *TRANSIT* Journal, UC Berkeley Dept. of German, 2012–2019.

Departmental and University Service

Executive Committee Member, Georgia Tech Writing and Communication Program, 2025–2026.

Executive Committee Member, Georgia Tech School of Literature, Media, and Communication, 2024–2025.

Writing Program Advisory Committee Member, Georgia Tech Writing and Communication Program, 2024–2025.

Hiring Committee Member for the Marion L. Britton Postdoctoral Fellowship, Georgia Tech Writing and Communication Program, 2024–2025.

Invited Panelist, Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts New Faculty Orientation, Georgia Tech, Fall 2024.

Grants Committee Member, Georgia Tech Writing and Communication Program, 2023–present.

Graduate Representative to Faculty, UC Berkeley Dept. of Film & Media, 2015–2016.

Conference Organization

Co-Organizer, “& Media” Film & Media Graduate Student Conference, UC Berkeley, September 22–24, 2016.

Graduate Student Volunteer Coordinator, “Serialities 1915/2015” Berkeley Conference on Film and Media, UC Berkeley, February 26–28, 2015.

Mentorship

CREATE-X “Idea to Prototype” Undergraduate Startup Team Faculty Mentor, Georgia Tech, Fall 2024 and Spring 2025.

Reading and Composition Graduate Student Instructor Peer Mentor, UC Berkeley Dept. of Film & Media, 2020.

Getting into Graduate School Program Mentor, UC Berkeley Office of Graduate Diversity, 2016–2017.

ACADEMIC ORGANIZATIONS

Conference on College Composition & Communication (2021–present)
NECS – European Network for Cinema and Media Studies (2017–present)
Society for Cinema and Media Studies (2015–present)
German Studies Association (2024–2025)
Modern Language Association (2014–2025)

LANGUAGES

German: Near Native
Dutch: Intermediate, Reading Proficiency
Russian: Intermediate
French: Basic

REFERENCES

Mark Sandberg
Prof. Emeritus of Film & Media and Scandinavian Studies, UC Berkeley

Anton Kaes
Prof. Emeritus of Film & Media and German Studies, UC Berkeley

Melissa Ianetta
Prof. and Exec. Director of Writing and Communication Program, Georgia Tech

Deniz Göktürk
Prof. of German Studies, UC Berkeley

Ramona Naddaff
Prof. of Rhetoric and Director of Art of Writing Program, UC Berkeley