

# **APRIL N. WRIGHT**

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## **EDUCATION**

### **Ph.D., Communication Studies (Doctoral Candidate)**

Projected: May 2026

West Virginia University

Morgantown, WV

Areas of Emphasis: Positive Communication & Instructional Technology

### **M.A., Communication Studies**

May 2014

University of North Carolina Greensboro (UNCG)

Greensboro, NC

Foci: Computer Mediated Communication, Communication Pedagogy

### **B.A., Communication Studies, summa cum laude**

Dec 2009

University of North Carolina Greensboro

Greensboro, NC

Foci: Public Relations; Minor: Human Development & Family Studies

## **ADDITIONAL TRAINING**

### **GRADUATE CERTIFICATION**

Graduate Certificate in University Teaching

Projected: May 2026

West Virginia University (15 credit hours)

Morgantown, WV

### **PROFESSIONAL & INSTITUTIONAL CERTIFICATIONS**

AI Literacy Micro-Credential/Professional Certificate

Sep 2025

Alchemy (Nectar Inc.)

Online

Human Research Social & Behavioral Research Investigator (5-year)

Sep 2023

West Virginia University

Morgantown, WV

Effective College Instruction Professional Certificate

June 2023

ACUE: Association of College & University Educators

Greensboro, NC

Institutional Online Learning (Advanced Teaching Online)

Aug 2020

University of North Carolina Greensboro

Greensboro, NC

Institutional Online Teaching (Intermediate to Advanced Teaching Online)

Aug 2015

Guilford Technical Community College

Jamestown, NC

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Various organizations (GTCC, UNCG, etc.)

2014 - present



Communication Internship Course & Coordinator: face-to-face & online; ~10 students per semester; Canvas LMS

**ADJUNCT INSTRUCTOR**

**Spring 2019 - Fall 2019**

**English, Communications, & Humanities: Montgomery Community College Troy, NC**

Public Speaking: online; 25 students; Moodle LMS

Introduction to Communication: online; 25 students; Moodle LMS; *Created open access course template for college-wide use*

**ADJUNCT INSTRUCTOR**

**Fall 2018 - Spring 2020**

**Phillips School of Business: High Point University**

**High Point, NC**

2-4 sections per semester

Business Communication: face-to-face & online; 32 students; Speaking Intensive; Moodle LMS

**ADJUNCT INSTRUCTOR**

**Fall 2014 - Spring 2017**

**Communication & Languages: Guilford Technical Community College Jamestown, NC**

5/5 course load

Introduction to Communication: face-to-face, hybrid, & online; 25 students; Blackboard LMS

Interpersonal Communication: face-to-face & online; 25 students; Blackboard LMS

Public Speaking: face-to-face; 25 students; Speaking Intensive; Blackboard LMS

**ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT: ADDITIONAL DUTIES**

**COMM 104 LARGE LECTURE COORDINATOR**

**Summer 2025 - to present**

**Department of Communication Studies: West Virginia University Morgantown, WV**

- Mentor GTAs, faculty, & UTAs across multiple public communication sections, promoting consistency & instructor autonomy
- Create standardized course materials (assignments, rubrics, slides, exams, eCampus shells) aligned with program assessment goals
- Analyze student data & feedback to identify learning barriers & improve course design, academic integrity, & engagement
- Collaborate with librarians, accessibility staff, & advisors to deliver cross-functional, inclusive learning experiences
- Lead GTA orientation & provide ongoing pedagogical support through regular meetings
- Serve as liaison between instructors & department leadership to support program quality & communication
- Support UTA & student ambassador recruitment; ensure compliance with extra credit & alternative assignment policies
- Review & update course resources, coordinate with past course leads, & contribute to Eberly Edge implementation

## **ACADEMIC ADVISOR**

**Spring 2020 - Spring 2023**

### **Department of Communication Studies: UNCG**

**Greensboro, NC**

- Advised approximately 400 students on academic & career planning, helping them create personalized graduation plans & explore professional development opportunities
- Developed an online advising system during COVID-19, streamlining virtual support, which continued to be used after my departure
- Met with communication studies students to explain institutional policies, recommend courses, & align academic plans with their career goals
- Collaborated with faculty to support student retention & academic progress, & coordinated workshops & group advising sessions to promote success
- Managed advising software to track student progress & ensure timely follow-ups, while mentoring 2-4 peer advisors in their duties

## **INTERNSHIP COORDINATOR**

**Fall 2017 - Spring 2023**

### **Department of Communication Studies: UNCG**

**Greensboro, NC**

- Collaborated with subject-matter experts to create & revise policies that ensured academic integrity & program quality
- Coordinated ~85 internships: advised students, matched with appropriate sites, & maintained employer partnerships to support academic & professional growth
- Served as liaison between local organizations & the UNCG Communication Studies Department; conducted site visits to evaluate internship quality & compliance with academic standards
- Designed, built, & taught the internship course; developed & maintained the course website/LMS
- Conducted assessments & aligned content with program goals; enhanced accessibility with open-access resources
- Assessed program effectiveness using student feedback & outcome data; implemented improvements & maintained accurate records of placements, evaluations, & student progress.

## **COURSE DESIGN & WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT**

- Use AI-assisted authoring & analytics tools (Canvas Studio, Blackboard AI Design Assistant, Turnitin Draft Coach) for personalized & efficient assessment
- Created educational chatbot that interview students about interests, strengths, & preferences, then suggest possible career paths & roles to explore
- Apply instructional design models (ADDIE, Backward Design, Bloom's) to align objectives, assessments, & teaching strategies

- Develop interactive, gamified, & data-informed curriculum materials with measurable outcomes
- Manage LMS platforms (Canvas, Blackboard, Moodle) & create accessible, multimedia-rich websites that follow WCAG/ADA standards
- Design courses using Universal Design for Learning (UDL) & Quality Matters (QM) standards for accessibility & consistency
- Implement adaptive & competency-based learning pathways using LMS automation & third-party integrations (e.g., badges, mastery tracking)
- Collaborate with subject-matter experts (SMEs) to design, build, & update course websites & materials that align with learning objectives, accessibility standards, & institutional goals

## **TECHNOLOGY SKILLS**

**AI & Automation Programs:** Prompt engineering; AI-assisted content creation; automated feedback workflows; AI policy development; assessment design with AI tools (ChatGPT, Copilot, Gemini, Boodlebox, Notebook LM)

**Accessibility & QA:** Blackboard Ally, WAVE; captions, alt text, & color-contrast checks; WCAG 2.1 awareness

**Standards & Compliance:** FERPA; WCAG 2.1/ADA accessibility; LTI & SSO environments

**Video & Lecture Capture:** Panopto, Kaltura, Canvas Studio, OBS

**Assessment & Academic Integrity:** Turnitin, Respondus (LockDown/Monitor)

**Engagement & Social Annotation:** Perusall, Hypothesis, Slido, Kahoot, Padlet, PollEverywhere, Mural, discussion forums

**Analytics & Dashboards:** Canvas/New Analytics, Blackboard Analytics

**LMS Integrations:** Embedded external tools (e.g., Turnitin) via LTI with roster/grade passback; SSO environments.

**Credentials & Badging:** Canvas Credentials/Badgr, Blackboard Achievements

**Creative & Multimedia:** Adobe Creative Cloud (InDesign, Photoshop, Illustrator, Premiere, Firefly), Audacity, Canva

**Collaboration & Whiteboarding:** Slack, Teams, Zoom, Trello, Miro

**Surveys & Research:** Qualtrics, SurveyMonkey, Google Forms

**Productivity Suites:** Google Workspace (Docs, Sheets, Slides, Sites, Classroom) & Microsoft 365 (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook)

## **NON-ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT**

### **MARKETING ASSISTANT**

**April 2010 - July 2012**

#### **Guilford Technical Community College**

**Jamestown, NC**

- Managed photography, a 10,000+ image gallery, & designed marketing materials (ads, brochures, posters) using Adobe Creative Suite
- Led editorial planning for the college magazine, coordinated Cline Observatory marketing, & distributed content across multiple campuses via digital & print media

- Wrote & edited print, press, & web content following AP style, providing editorial support to 11 staff members
- Tracked media coverage, maintained records, & coordinated marketing logistics, including event setup
- Managed departmental records (travel, leave, media) for six staff members & served on diversity & student honors committees
- Mentored students, one-on-one to promote retention & success

**US NAVY, HOSPITAL CORPSMAN, EMS TRAINING COORDINATOR** **1999 - 2001**  
**Boone Clinic** **NAB Little Creek, VA**

- Developed, coordinated, & implemented tailored Education & Training programs for 50+ active duty staff, aligning content with performance goals & diverse learning styles
- Designed & conducted EMT B training exercises, including scenario creation, role-player recruitment, simulation oversight, & assessment of medical responses
- Conducted training needs analysis, aligning programs with organizational objectives to improve performance
- Provided coaching & mentorship to address learning gaps, maintaining & updating records to ensure regulatory compliance

**US NAVY, HOSPITAL CORPSMAN, EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT** **1997 - 2000**  
**Boone Clinic** **NAB Little Creek, VA**

- Delivered training on lifesaving skills, emergency vehicle operations, & non-emergency subjects such as suturing, as primary EMT Paramedic
- Provided emergency care under high pressure, administering BLS & ACLS as needed, & monitoring vital signs to assess patient condition, & other medical duties as required both in the ED & on the ambulance

**CONFERENCES/PRESENTATIONS**

**Wright, A. N.** (2026, accepted). *The Golden Feed: Co-Creating a Class Code of Ethics in the Digital Age*. Great Ideas for Teaching Students submitted for presentation at the annual meeting of the Eastern Communication Association, Pittsburgh, PA.

**Wright, A. N.** (2026, accepted). *Roundtable: Stories of GTA Emergence: Early Moments That Shape Teaching Identity* Panel submitted for presentation at the annual meeting of the Eastern Communication Association, Pittsburgh, PA.

Myers, S. A., Adejumo, A., Beer, N. J., Mba, A. N. U., Witkowski, M., & **Wright, A. N.** (2026, accepted). *Using rhetorical/relational goal theory to explore the moderating effect of instructor communication on student interest and engagement*. Top Papers in Instructional Communication, submitted for presentation at the annual meeting of the Eastern Communication Association, Pittsburgh, PA.

- Wright, A. N.** (2025, August). *Practicing compassionate communication: Tools for connection & conflict mediation*. Workshop created & presented to new & returning Resident Assistants, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV.
- Colonna, S., Warfford, A., Wicker, C., & **Wright, A. N.** (2022, May). *Lightning round: Student engagement*. Presenter at ADAPT 2022: Teaching in Transformative Times, UNCG, Greensboro, NC.
- Wright, A. N.**, Cuny, K., & Salah, A. (2022, March). *Giving students a do-over: Speaking center as support for re-doing unsatisfactory presentations*. Panel Chair & presenter at National Association of Communication Centers: 21st Excellence at the Center Conference, UNCG, Greensboro, NC.
- McCall, J., **Wright, A. N.**, Southard, J.M., & Williams, T.L. (2019, September). *Millennials, Generation Z, & beyond: Negotiating online education generation by generation*. Panel Presented at Sustainability: 2019 Annual Conference, Carolinas Communication Association, Hilton Head, SC.
- Eriksen, J. E., Hollingsworth, S. E., & **Wright, A. N.** (2013). *Bride or bridezilla: Celebration or commodity*. Presented at Positive Communication Graduate Student Symposia, 2013, in Greenville, NC.
- Wright, A. N.**, Wood, K. E., Hollingsworth, S. E., Eriksen, J. E., Hosack, J. T., Sutton, C. & Olson, L. (2013). *Breast is not always best: A communicative analysis of the master narrative*. Presented at the Carolinas Communication Association (CCA) Conference 2013: Communication & Civility in Traditional & Technological Contexts in Charlotte, NC.

## **AWARDS, HONORS, & ASSOCIATIONS**

### Awards & Honors

- WVU Patricia Kearney Doctoral Student Teaching Award (2025)
- WVU Renee Kisner Graduate Student Collegiality Award (2025)
- Advisor of the Year Award (2021)
- \$1000 Open Education Resource Grant (2021)
- Graduated with Honors (summa cum laude)

### Honor Societies

- Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society
- Lambda Pi Eta National Honor Society

### Professional Associations

- National Communication Association
- Eastern Communication Association
- Carolinas Communication Association

## **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

WVU Comm Studies Graduate Student Association, Treasurer  
 WVU Fall Undergraduate Seminar, Oral Presentation Judge

2024 - Present  
 2024

Carolinas Communication Association Planning Committee	2022 - 2023
Carolinas Communication Association Journal Peer Reviewer	2021 - 2023
College of Arts & Sciences Connects Graduate Student Mentor	2021 - 2023
Communication Studies Department Academic Advisor	2020 - 2023
College Conduct Team Member	2018 - 2023
State Employees Combined Campaign Representative	2018 - 2021
Communication Studies Department Internship Coordinator	2017 - 2023
Communication Studies Department Christmas Giving Committee	2015 - 2023

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Food Not Bombs, Morgantown Mutual Aid Society Volunteer	2024 - present
Volunteer Cook FUMC	2018 - 2023
Randolph Youth Theater Company Board Member	2014 - 2020
Boy Scouts of America Assistant Scoutmaster	2009 - 2012
Girl Scouts of America	2011 - 2013