

Courtlyn Pippert, Ph.D.

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EDUCATION:

PhD in Communication Studies

May 2024

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Dissertation: “Channeling History: The History Channel and Popular Historical Knowledge in Understandings of U.S. National Identity.”

Committee: Michael Palm, chair; Barbara Friedman, China Medel, Kumi Silva, and Eric King Watts.

Areas of Expertise: media studies; digital media studies; cultural studies; technology studies; television studies; rhetorical studies; knowledge production; U.S. cultural politics; disinformation; popular culture; media history; and public memory.

MA in American Studies

May 2018

George Washington University

BA in Film & Media Arts and English

May 2014

University of Tampa

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS:

University of South Carolina Aiken

August 2025 – present

Assistant Professor of Communication & Emerging Media
Department of Communication & Emerging Media

Coker University

August 2024 – May 2025

Assistant Professor of Communication
Public Relations Program Coordinator
College of Humanities & Sciences

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

August 2018 – May 2024

Teaching Fellow, The Department of Communication

HONORS, AWARDS, AND RECOGNITION:

John Robert Bittner Fund in Literature, Popular Media, and Journalism	2024
Top Student Paper in American Studies, National Communication Association	2023
George Washington University's Dean's Fellowship Award	2016–2017

PUBLICATIONS:

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Pippert, Courtlyn, and Francesca Bolla Tripodi. 2025. "The 'Reality' of Living Off the Land
Television & New Media: <https://doi.org/10.1177/15274764251350272>.

Marwick, Alice, **Courtlyn Pippert**, Katherine Furl, and Elaine Schnabel. 2025.
"Shapeshifters & Starseeds: Identity, Epistemology, and Disinformation in
Conspiracy TikTok." *Social Media + Society* 11 (3):
<https://doi.org/10.1177/20563051251357483>.

Pippert, Courtlyn, Katherine Furl, and Alice Marwick. (2025). "True Believers,
Entertainers, and Skeptical Scholars: Claims and Frames on Conspiracy TikTok."
The Journal of Information Technology & Politics:
<https://doi.org/10.1080/19331681.2025.2458025>.

Schnabel, Elaine, and **Courtlyn Pippert**. (2024). "Countdown to the Apocalypse: The
Legitimization of White Christian Violence in Religious Programming on The
History Channel." *Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies*:
<https://doi.org/10.1080/14791420.2024.2410153>.

Shapiro, Aaron, **Courtlyn Pippert**, Jacob K. Smith, and Zari Taylor. (2024). "Patrons of
Commerce: Platform Power as Asymmetrical Reciprocity." *Information,
Communication & Society*: <https://doi.org/10.1080/1369118X.2024.2331753>.

Pippert, Courtlyn (2021). "The Founders in Public Memory: D.C.'s Monumental Core and
the Rhetorical Character of the George Mason Memorial" *Southern Journal of
Communication* 86 (1): 58–70.

Papers in Progress

Pippert, Courtlyn. (In Progress). "Algorithmic History: Algorithms, Genealogical
Research, and the Historical Archive." Planned venue: *Convergence*.

Pippert, Courtlyn. (In Progress). "This isn't Historically Accurate": *Drunk History*, the Carnavalesque, and the Function of Documentary Reenactment." Planned venue: *The Journal of Popular Culture*.

Pippert, Courtlyn, and Elaine Schnabel. (In Progress). "'Documenting' Christianity's Cultural Superiority: Adventure and Expertise in the History Channel's Religious Programming." Planned venue: *Critical Studies in Media Communication*.

Fowler, Lauren, and **Courtlyn Pippert.** (In Progress). "'Innocent Until Proven Satanic: The Media's Profile of the Criminal During the Satanic Panic'" Planned venue: *Critical Studies in Media Communication*.

Book Chapters

Pippert, Courtlyn. (Forthcoming). "History Out of Time: The Strategic Use of History in *The Andy Griffith Show*." In *Exploring Utopia and Nostalgia in The Andy Griffith Show: A Contemporary Analysis of a Classic TV Show*, edited by David Johnson and William Rapone. McFarland.

Pippert, Courtlyn. (2023). "Netflix as an Authoritative Arbiter of Credible Documentary Content: The Redefinition of Documentary in the Streaming Era." In *Streaming Wars*, edited by Arienne Ferchaud and Jennifer Proffitt, 157–169. Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003335641>.

Book Reviews

Pippert, Courtlyn. (2023). "Hunter Hargraves, *Uncomfortable Television*." *European Journal of American Studies* 18 (3). <https://journals.openedition.org/ejas/20524>.

Other Publications

Pippert, Courtlyn. (Forthcoming). "Patriarchy," "White Supremacy," "Post-Feminism," "Popular Feminism," and "Girl Power." In *Feminism and Feminist Movements in America: An Encyclopedia of Ideals and Activism*, edited by Sarah Kornfield. Bloomsbury.

Pippert, Courtlyn. (2014). "Massively Masculine Online Games: The Endless Cycle of Sexism in Video Games." *Splice Journal of Communication, Arts & Culture*.

PRESENTATIONS:

Schnabel, Elaine, and **Courtlyn Pippert**. (Nov. 2025). "Ancient Astronaut Theology: Revealing the God Trick in Popularized Conspiracy Theory." Southern Criminal Justice Association 2025. Rhetorical and Communication Theory Division: National Communication Association (NCA) 111th Annual Convention.

Fowler, Lauren, and **Courtlyn Pippert**. (Sept. 2025). "Innocent Until Proven Satanic: The Media's Profile of the Criminal During the Satanic Panic." Southern Criminal Justice Association 2025.

Pippert, Courtlyn. (Nov. 2023). "U.S. History as White Male Fantasy: Historical Authority, the History Channel, and the Reinvention of Popular Historical Knowledge as 'Factual Entertainment.'" Top Papers in the American Studies Division: National Communication (NCA) Association 109th Annual Convention.

Pippert, Courtlyn. (Nov. 2023). "'The Fellowship of the Dig': Reality TV and Rendering Hegemonic Masculinity Harmless via Utopian Fantasies of Isolation in *The Curse of Oak Island*." Feminist and Gender Studies Division: National Communication Association (NCA) 109th Annual Convention.

Pippert, Courtlyn. (April 2023). "'Made Every Day': The History Channel, National Identity, and the Ideal American Subject." SCMS Annual Conference.

Pippert, Courtlyn. (Nov. 2022). "Algorithmic History: Algorithms, Genealogical Research, and the Historical Archive. Critical and Cultural Studies Division: National Communication Association (NCA) 108th Annual Convention.

Pippert, Courtlyn. (April 2022). Chair, "Mediated Data: Digital Histories, Collective Memory, and Algorithmic Curation." Society of Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS) Annual Conference.

Pippert, Courtlyn. (April 2022). "Netflix, Documentary, and the Algorithmic Leveling of Credibility in the Streaming Archive." Society of Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS) Annual Conference.

Pippert, Courtlyn. (April 2022). "The Founders are a Joke: Founders Chic, Comedy, and How We Talk About History." Popular History in American Culture Area: Popular Culture Association (PCA) Annual Conference.

Pippert, Courtlyn. (June 2021). "Dazed and Confused: Examining the Lives of Those Left Behind in Recent Time Travel Television." Science Fiction and Fantasy Area: Popular Culture Association (PCA) Annual Conference.

Pippert, Courtlyn. (April 2021). "Platforms, Community, and the Case of Amazon's Kindle Store." Mass Communication Division: Southern States Communication Association (SSCA) 91st Annual Convention.

Pippert, Courtlyn. (November 2020). "'This isn't Historically Accurate': Drunk History, the Carnavalesque, and the Function of Documentary Reenactment." Top Student Paper in the Mass Communication Division: National Communication Association (NCA) 106th Annual Convention.

Pippert, Courtlyn. (November 2019). "Survival in Public Memory: The Failure of the George Mason Memorial's Rhetorical Character." Public Address Division: National Communication Association (NCA) 105th Annual Convention.

Pippert, Courtlyn. (April 2014) "The Evolution of Sherlock Holmes." University of Tampa's Board of Directors Research Panel.

INVITED TALKS:

Pippert, Courtlyn. 2024. "The History Channel and Popular Historical Knowledge." Invited Guest Lecture. MEJO 851: Textual Analysis. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, SC. November 11, 2024.

Pippert, Courtlyn. 2023. "Hegemonic Masculinities." Invited Guest Lecture. COMM/WGST 224: Gender, Culture, & Communication. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, SC. February 2, 2023.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

USC Aiken (2025–present) | Department of Communication and Emerging Media

Courses Taught:

COMM A241: Public Speaking

COMM A320: Research Methods in Communication

COMM A351: Computer-Mediated Communication

COMM A352: Media and Culture

COMM A376: Visual Communication I

Coker University (2024–2025) | The College of Humanities and Sciences

Courses Taught:

COM 101: Speech Communication

COM 305: Strategies of Persuasion

COM 370: Writing for the Media

COM 340: Popular Culture

University of North Carolina (2020–2024) | Department of Communication

Courses Taught:

COMM 113: Public Speaking

COMM 140: Intro to Media History, Theory, & Criticism

COMM 223: Small Groups Communication

COMM 312: Persuasion

COMM 450: Media & Popular Culture

Courses Assisted:

COMM 120: Intro to Interpersonal & Organizational Communication

COMM 130: Intro to Media Production

COMM/PWAD 335: Terrorism & Political Violence

George Washington University (2017–2018) | Department of American Studies

Courses Assisted:

AMST 2100: Early American Cultural History

AMST 2620: Minds and Machines: The History of Computers, Artificial Intelligence, and Robots

UNIVERSITY SERVICE:

University of South Carolina Aiken

Search Committee Member, Dep. of Communication and Emerging Media 2025–2026

Coker University

Program Coordinator of the Public Relations program 2024–2025

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Communication Studies Graduate Student Association,
Networking and Electronic Resource Director, Co-Chair 2020–2021

Communication Studies Graduate Student Association, Treasurer 2019–2020

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE:

<i>Surveillance & Society</i> , Editorial Assistant	2020–present
National Communication Association (NCA), American Studies Division, Graduate Student Representative	2023–2024
<i>Southern Communication Journal</i> , Reviewer	2021
Feminism Here and Now Conference, Committee Member	2019
Head Editor, <i>University of Tampa's Wordsmith Awards</i>	2012–2014

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

The National Kidney Foundation Serving the Alleghenies, Social Media and Community Outreach	2013–2014
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INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE:

Marketing Communications Associate , Aerotech Inc.—Pittsburgh, PA	2014–2017
Assisted in the development and production of promotional materials including emails and social media; consulted with various staff and outside vendors to design, maintain, and troubleshoot multiple websites.	

PRODUCTION EXPERIENCE:

University of Tampa; Tampa, FL

Camera Operator, *Life after Life*, 2019, Screened at the 21st Sarasota Film Festival.
<https://filmfreeway.com/LifeAfterLife-documentary>.

Director, *The Write Way: The Importance of Teaching Writing at the College Level*, 2014,
Screened at the University of Tampa's Black Box Film Festival, 2014.

Director, *In Search of Silence*, 2013, Screened at the University of Tampa's Black
Box Film Festival, 2013.

Bethel Park Public Access Television; Bethel Park, PA

Editor, *Around Town: Bethel Park School District Music Department*, 2013

Director and Editor, *The Book Nook: Bedtime Stories*, 2013

Co-Director and Editor, *Mayor Morton: A Retrospective*, 2013

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

National Communication Association (NCA)

Popular Culture Association (PCA)

Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS)