

# Megan Poole

Department of English  
University of Louisville  
315 Bingham Hall, Louisville, KY 40292  
[megan.poole@louisville.edu](mailto:megan.poole@louisville.edu)  
[meganrpoole.com](http://meganrpoole.com)

## EDUCATION

---

Ph.D. English, Penn State University, 2020

M.A. English, Texas Christian University, 2016

*Graduate Certificate:* New Media Composing and Teaching

B.A. English, *summa cum laude*, McNeese State University, 2014

*Minor:* Secondary Education

## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

---

Assistant Professor (2020-present), Department of English, University of Louisville

Graduate Teaching Assistant (2016-2020), Department of English, The Pennsylvania State University

Graduate Writing Associate & Writing Tutor (2014-2016), W. L. Adams Center for Writing, Texas Christian University

Graduate Teaching Assistant (2014-2016), Department of English, Texas Christian University

## PUBLICATIONS

---

### Articles

Poole, Megan. "Witnessing the Open Semiosis: A Method for Rhetorical Listening Beyond the Human." *Rhetoric Society Quarterly*, forthcoming.

Poole, Megan. "Neuroaesthetics of Visual Invention: The Drawings of Santiago Ramón y Cajal in *The Beautiful Brain*." *Visual Communication Quarterly*, vol. 29, no. 2, 2022, pp. 75-86. [doi:10.1080/15551393.2022.2059761](https://doi.org/10.1080/15551393.2022.2059761)

Poole, Megan. "A Woman's Optics: Margaret Cavendish, Sensory Mimesis, and Early Modern Rhetorics of Science." *Journal for the History of Rhetoric*, vol. 24, no. 2, 2021, pp. 195-222. [doi:10.1080/26878003.2021.1929246](https://doi.org/10.1080/26878003.2021.1929246)

Poole, Megan. "Orientation: Seeing and Sensing Rhetorically." *Western Journal of Communication*, vol. 84, no. 5, 2020, pp. 604-622. [doi:10.1080/10570314.2020.1760341](https://doi.org/10.1080/10570314.2020.1760341)

Hawhee, Debra, and Megan Poole. "Kenneth Burke at the MoMA: A Viewer's Theory." *Quarterly Journal of Speech*, vol. 105, no. 4, 2019, pp. 418-440. [doi:10.1080/00335630.2019.1657237](https://doi.org/10.1080/00335630.2019.1657237)

## Shorter Refereed Pieces and Reviews

Poole, Megan, and Kristi McClary King. "Technical Writing for the Health and Fitness Professional." *American College of Sport Medicine's (ACSM) Health & Fitness Journal*, vol. 26, no. 2, 2022.

Poole, Megan. "Viewing Writing Tutorials as Stories." *Writing Lab Newsletter*, vol. 42, no. 1-2, 2018.

Poole, Megan. "The Role of the Rhetorician in Sacrifice Zones." Review of *Pedaling the Sacrifice Zone: Teaching, Writing, and Living above the Marcellus Shale*, by Jimmy Guignard. *KB Journal*, vol. 13, no. 1, 2017.

Poole, Megan. Review of *Optical Impersonality: Science, Images, and Literary Modernism*, by Christina Walter. *Twentieth Century Literature*, vol. 62, no. 3, 2016.

## Manuscripts in Progress

Poole, Megan. *Technical Beauty: How Aesthetics Changes Science's Rhetoric*. Under advance contract at The University of Chicago Press.

Poole, Megan, and Kathleen Criner, Jessica Julian, Catherine Schanie, and MarLee Yow. "When the First Rhetoric You Hear is New Materialist: How Students Experience the Matter of Rhetoric." 6,269 words, under review.

## AWARDS, HONORS, AND GRANTS

---

2022 Health Equity Grant (\$100,000), PI with Shavonnie Carthens, UofL Health Equity Innovation Hub.

Gheens Foundation Mini Grant (\$3,000), PI with Scott Gunter, UofL Office of Community Engagement.

2021 Community Partners Grant (\$250,000), PI with Keisha Dorsey, Eboni Cochran, Angela Renfro, Abigail Koenig, and Shavonnie Carthens, The Humana Foundation.

**Judy Segal Top Paper Award**, “Getting the Listening in Louisville: Environmental Justice in and Around Rubbertown,” with Abigail Koenig and Shavonnie Carthens, Rhetoric of Health and Medicine Symposium.

**RSA Dissertation Award**, Rhetoric Society of America.

**Faculty Fellowship**, Commonwealth Center for the Humanities and Society, University of Louisville.

**2020 Harold K. Schilling Dean’s Graduate Scholarship**, The Graduate School, Penn State University.

**PhD Excellence in Teaching Award**, Department of English, Penn State University.

**2019 Predoctoral Fellowship**, Center for Humanities and Information, Penn State University.

**2018 Superior Teaching and Research Award**, College of the Liberal Arts, Penn State University.

## **PUBLIC WRITING & ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP**

---

**Environmental Health Literacy Project**, 2021-present. Literacy project designed around making the science of air pollution more accessible to citizens—in coordination with Councilwoman Keisha Dorsey (Metro Council District 3), Rubbertown Emergency Action (REACT), Dr. Abigail Koenig (College of Business), and Shavonnie Carthens, J.D. (Brandeis School of Law).

**Author**, “Pillars of Salt in the Marsh.” *64 Parishes*, 2023. Cover story on how climate change alters coastal marsh environments for wildlife in Cameron Parish, Louisiana.

**Author**, “[A City Worth Saving](#).” *64 Parishes*, 2021. Cover story on net-out migration in Southwest Louisiana following the 2020 hurricane season.

**Author**, “[The Limits of Grit](#).” *64 Parishes*, 2020. Editorial on the impact of the 2020 hurricane season on Southwest Louisiana residents.

**Editor**, “[The Rhetoric of the Civil Rights Movement](#),” 2017. Digital repository of artifacts associated with the Civil Rights Movements, compiled through the collaborative effort of students in Professor Jack Selzer’s rhetoric and civil rights courses.

**Designer of Digital Archive**, “[The Forgotten Among Us](#),” 2015. A website created, coded, and designed to feature archival materials previously inaccessible to local history projects on slavery in Southwest Louisiana.

# PRESENTATIONS

---

## Conferences

- “Classroom + Community: University of Louisville Students Serve as ‘Air Justice’ Change Agents.” North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE). Virtual. 2022.
- “The Role of Aesthetics in ‘New Science.’” The Association for Rhetoric of Science, Technology, and Medicine (ARSTM) Pre-Conference. New Orleans, Louisiana. 2022.
- “Francis Bacon, Suzanne Langer, and the ‘Idols’ of Science.” Conference of the International Society for the History of Rhetoric (ISHR). Nijmegen, Netherlands. 2022.
- “The Problem of ‘Beauty’ in Evolutionary Biology” on “Pedagogies of Sight: A Pan-Historiographic Look at Science’s Shifting Vision” Panel. Rhetoric Society of America (RSA). Baltimore, MA. 2022.
- “Getting the Listening’ in Louisville: Public Health Literacy and Environmental Justice in and around Rubbertown.” Rhetoric of Health and Medicine Symposium. Virtual. 2021.
- “The Need for Humble Beginnings: Supporting an Anti-Racist Agenda as a White Woman.” Conference on Community Writing. Virtual. 2021.
- “The Haptics of Making: Multiple Literacies in the Technical Writing Classroom.” Association of Teachers of Technical Writing Conference (ATTW). Virtual. 2021.
- “Mentoring as Welcoming, Wanting, and Working: A Roundtable.” Rhetoric Society of America (RSA). Portland, OR. 2020 (conference cancelled).
- “Tinkering with Technical Communication.” Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC). Pittsburgh, PA. 2019.
- “Visual/Verbal Counteraction: An Approach to Images in Technical Communication.” Association of Teachers of Technical Writing Conference (ATTW). Pittsburgh, PA. 2019.
- “Complex Communication: DIY Feminism Meets WPA Work.” Feminisms and Rhetorics Conference. Harrisonburg, VA. 2019.
- “A Woman’s Optics: Margaret Cavendish and the Rhetorical Work of Re-Envisioning Objectivity.” ISHR. New Orleans, LA. 2019.
- “Diffraction as a Methodological Intervention.” Rhetoric Society of America Conference. Minneapolis, MN. 2018.
- “Learning to Feel Time: Using *Kairos* as Disruption of the Digital.” Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC). Kansas City, MO. 2018.

“Neurobiology, Introspection, and the Recurrence of the Platonic Ideas.” Society of Literature, Society, and the Arts (SLSA). Tempe, AZ. 2017.

“The Science of P.D. Ouspensky and Burke’s Notion of the Universe.” Kenneth Burke Society Conference. East Stroudsburg, PA. 2017.

“Augmented, Virtual, and Visual Reality Through a Feminist Lens.” Learning to See Systems Graduate STS Workshop. Urbana-Champaign, IL. 2017.

“A Second Look at Merleau-Ponty: Refocusing Ong’s Rhetorical Theory Through the Science of Sight.” The Western States Rhetoric and Literacy Conference. Tempe, AZ. 2015.

## **Invited Talks**

“Why Environmental Health Needs Coalition” with Shavonnie Carthens. Health Care Ethics Speaker Series, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY. 2022.

“Law Students as Air Justice Investigators” with Shavonnie Carthens, Taylor Reese, Jackson Doughty, and Gabriella Wirasakti. Kentucky Climate Consortium, virtual. 2022.

“Classroom + Community: The Work of Air Justice” with Shavonnie Carthens. Geographic and Environmental Sciences Seminar Series, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY. 2022.

“Defining Air Justice” with Keisha Dorsey. Louisville Sierra Club, virtual. 2022.

“Why Is It So Hard to Talk about Climate Change?” with Claude Stephens, Eco-Reps Sustainability Roundtable, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY. 2022.

“Sensing the Field: Engaging Affect in Rhetorical Fieldwork.” Commonwealth Center for Humanities and Society Symposium, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY. 2022.

“What’s at Stake? A Conversation on Culture and the Changing Coast.” Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, virtual. 2022.

“Context & Coalition.” Community Engagement Symposium, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY. 2022.

“How Nature’s Beauty Changes Science.” Library U Fast Class, Louisville Free Public Library, Louisville, KY. 2022.

“Listening to Whale Songs: Rhetorics and Aesthetics of Science.” Composition Conversations, Weber State University, virtual, 2022.

“Approaches to Teaching Technical and Professional Communication.” Technical and Professional Communication Graduate Course, Old Dominion University, virtual, 2021.

## WORKSHOPS & INSTITUTES

---

**Rhetoric Society of America Seminar:** “Poiesies of the Future: The Transdisciplinarity of Climate Change, Migration, and Land-Based Ethics” (Ralph Cintron, Michelle Hall Kells, and Donnie J. Sackey), State College, PA. May 2023.

**Rhetoric Society of America Workshop:** “The Art and Practice of Grant Writing” (S. Scott Graham, Debra Hawhee, and Dave Tell), State College, PA. May 2023.

**Rhetoric Society of America Workshop:** “The Futures of New Materialism” (Byron Hawk, Diane Keeling, and Thomas Rickert), virtual. June 2021.

**Rhetoric Society of America Mini-Institute:** “Future Directions of Visual Rhetoric” (Cara Finnegan and Laurie Gries), Portland, OR. May 2020 (conference cancelled).

**Seminar on Teaching for New Faculty.** Office of the Provost and the Delphi Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Louisville, August 2020-May 2021.

**Authoritative Texts and Their Reception Interdisciplinary Research School:** “Rhetorical Practices and Analysis” (Line Cecilie Engh and Hugo Lundhaug), The Norwegian Institute, Athens. March 2019.

**Rhetoric Society of America Summer Institute:** “Rhetoric and Civic Life” Workshop (Debra Hawhee), University of Indiana, Bloomington. June 2017.

**Rhetoric Society of America Summer Institute:** “Rhetoric and New Materialisms” Seminar (Diane Davis and Thomas Rickert), University of Indiana, Bloomington. June 2017.

**Digital Humanities Summer Institute:** “Palpability and Wearable Computing” (Jessica Rajko, Eileen Standley, and Stjepan Rajko), University of Victoria. June 2016.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

---

### University of Louisville

**Honors 436/446: Talking to Animals, Listening to Nature**

*Community Partners:* Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest, Idlewild Butterfly Farm, Louisville Nature Center.

**English 480: Digital Storytelling**

*Community Partners:* Louisville Metro Council District 3, REACT

**English 407: Writing for Social Change**

*Community Partners:* Louisville Metro Council District 3

English 405: Edit, Design, Advocate

*Community Partners:* Louisville Metro Council District 3, REACT

English 310: Introduction to Public and Professional Writing

*Community Partners:* American Printing House for the Blind, Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest, Collaboration for Teaching and Learning, I Would Rather Be Reading, OneWest

English 303: Science and Technical Writing

*Community Partners:* Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest, *Courier-Journal*

## **Penn State University**

English 418: Advanced Technical Writing and Editing

*Community Partners:* Optical Heritage Museum

English 202C: Technical Writing

English 15: Introduction to Rhetoric and Composition

## **ADVISING & THESIS COMMITTEES**

---

Liz Soule, SLA Committee Member (2022)

Aubrie Cox, SLA Committee Member (2021)

Tristan DeWitt, MA Thesis Reader (2021)

Allison LaRoy, Undergraduate Honors Thesis Reader (2020-2021)

## **SERVICE**

---

### **Profession**

Manuscript Reviewer, *Philosophies*, 2021.

Conference Proposal Reviewer, Rhetoric Society of America, 2021.

Panel Moderator, Association of Teachers of Technical Writing Conference, virtual, 2021.

## University

Showcase of Engaged Scholarship at UofL: Graduate School Community Engagement Academy, October 2022.

Web Improvement Project: Content Focus Group with Information Technology Services, August 2022.

Social Justice Series Speaking Event Organizer: “Trauma Awareness in Data Visualization” co-sponsored by the Commonwealth Center for the Humanities and Society, Technical/Professional Writing Interest Group, Department of English, and Department of Geographic and Environmental Sciences, March 2022.

Scholarship Interviewer, Browns Fellow Program, Honors College, 2022.

Faculty Affiliate, Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research, 2020-present.

Faculty Advisor, HerCampus (Recognized Student Organization), 2021-2022.

Social Justice Series Speaking Event Organizer: “Anti-Racist Practices in Corporate Settings,” co-sponsored by the Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research, Black and Brown Honors Society, Commonwealth Center for the Humanities and Society, Technical/Professional Writing Interest Group, and WGST Social Justice Series, February 2021.

Social Media Coaching Circle Presentation: “Taking a Rhetorical Approach to Social Media,” co-presentation with Frank Kelderman, January 2021.

## College of Arts & Sciences

Humanities Professional Development Presentation, “‘Okay, I have my degree, now what?’: Advice for Navigating the Humanities Job Market,” co-presentation with Katie Kleinkopf, March 2021.

## Department of English

Technology & Social Media Committee, 2021-2022.

Job Placement Committee, 2020-2022.

Graduate Reading Group in Technical/Professional Writing, 2020-2022.

## AFFILIATIONS

---

Association of Teachers of Technical Writing  
International Society for the History of Rhetoric  
Rhetoric Society of America  
Women in Technical Communication