

Madeline Bruegger

Department of Rhetoric and Writing - University of Texas at Austin
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Research Interests

Environmental Rhetoric
Rhetorical Field Methods
Affect & Rhetorical Theory

Community Based Research
Technical Communication
Multimodal & Arts-Based Pedagogy

Education

2023-Present University of Texas at Austin

PhD Candidate - Rhetoric and Writing

Working Dissertation Title: "Conditioning Community: Heat, Thermopower, and the Rhetorics of Climate and Social Change"

Committee: Dr. Casey Boyle (Chair), Dr. Scott Graham, and Dr. Annie Hill

2023 University of Maine (Orono)

MA in English (Writing Studies Concentration)

Outstanding Graduate Portfolio

Thesis: "Navigating the Kaleidoscope of Object(ive)s: A User-Experience Approach to Cultural-Historical Activity Theory"

Committee: Dr. Heather Falconer (Chair), Dr. Ryan Dippre, and Dr. Kathryn Swacha

2020 Benedictine College

BA in English

BA in Journalism & Mass Communications

Magna cum laude

Publications

Forthcoming Bruegger, M. (2026). Touching Grass through Grassroots Activisms [Book Review of *Grassroots Activisms: Public Rhetorics in Localized Contexts* edited by Lisa L. Phillips, Sarah Warren-Riley, and Julie Collins Bates]. *Rhetoric Society Quarterly*.

Forthcoming Graham, S., **Bruegger, M.**, Baker, C. (2026) Pathological and Anatomical Repository Training Networks (PART Net): A Database for the Study of Medical Museum History. *Historical Methods: A Journal of Quantitative and Interdisciplinary History*.

Under Review Bruegger, M. (2026). "Rhetorical Exogeny: How Climate Change Conditions Rhetorical Exigency"

In Progress Bruegger, M. (2026). "A Slow(er) Rhetoric through Slow Media: Zine-Making After Disaster"

In Progress Bruegger, M. (2026) Sensing Disgust [Book Review of *Sensory Rhetorics: Sensation, Persuasion, and the Politics of Feeling* edited by Steph Ceraso and Jonathan W. Stone]. *Rhetoric of Public Address*.

Conference & Workshop Presentations

2026

Bruegger, M. (2026, October 23-25). Towards a Coalitional Curatorial Practice [Individual Paper]. Society for the Study of Affect Conference, Vancouver, CA. (*forthcoming*)

Bruegger, M. (2026, October 23-25). Breaking the Ice: The Dawn of Cooling (In)convenience Technologies [Individual Paper]. Society for the Study of Affect Conference, Vancouver, CA. (*forthcoming*)

Bruegger, M, Wintermeier, T., Sackey, D., Schneider, H. (2026, May 24). Sensing In/Dignity in Rhetorical Environments [Panel Presentation]. Rhetoric Society of America Conference, Portland, OR.

Bruegger, M. (2026, April 3). Community Cartography: Teaching Critical Mapping with Felt [Workshop Facilitator]. Digital Writing and Research Lab, Austin, TX.

Bruegger, M, Gunnells, A. (2026, February-April). DIY Pedagogy Workshops: Multimodality, Rhetoric, and Writing [Workshop Facilitator]. Digital Writing and Research Lab, Austin, TX.

2025

Bruegger, M. Poole, M., Graham, S. (2025, November 10). Grad Student Guide to Getting Grants & Fellowships [Panel Presentation]. Department of Rhetoric and Writing, Austin, TX.

Bruegger, M. (2025, June 2-5). Interrogating the Role of the Rhetoric of Science in a Post-Truth, Partisan World [Seminar Participant]. Rhetoric Society of America Institute, Cincinnati, OH. USA.

Bruegger, M. (2025, May 15-18). Thermal Witnessing Walks: Estranging the Labor of Trees in Cool Corridors [Individual Presentation]. Computers and Writing, Athens, GA. USA.

Bruegger, M., Gunnells, A., & Baker, C. (2025, June 2). Reading With/Out AI [Workshop Facilitator]. Computers and Writing, Athens, GA. USA.

Bruegger, M. (2025, February-April). Care(ful) Grading Workshop [Workshop Participant]. Department of Rhetoric and Writing at the University of Texas, Austin, TX. USA.

Bruegger, M. (2025, February 24-18). Connecting Students to Climate Research: Workshop with UT-City Climate CoLab [Invited Workshop Participant]. Planet Texas 2050, Austin, TX. USA.

Bruegger, M. (2025, February 19). Repulsive Animals: Rhetorics of Repulsivity, Disgust, and Desire [Individual Presentation]. Department of Rhetoric and Writing Lab, Austin, TX. USA.

2024

Bruegger, M., Gunnells, A., Turner, S., Baker, C., & Boyle, C. (2024, October 23). Reading

and Research Machines: A Pedagogy Roundtable [Roundtable Presentation]. Conference on College Composition and Communication Fall Virtual Institute, Online. USA.

Bruegger, M. (2024, July). Inclusive Course Design Institute [Institute Participant]. Center for Teaching and Learning at the University of Texas, Austin, TX. USA.

Bruegger, M., Morin, D., Hoeckel, M., & Mupotsa, M. (2024, April 3-6). "A Capsule of Memories:" Abundances of Social Media Sites as User Archive [Panel Presentation]. Conference on College Composition and Communication, Spokane, WA. USA.

Bruegger, M. (2024, January-April). Accessibility Institute [Institute Participant]. Department of Rhetoric and Writing at the University of Texas, Austin, TX. USA.

2023 Bruegger, M. (2023, October 26-28). Framing ΛΗΠΙΑ: A Triangulated Case Study Tracing a Transnational User's Captioning Activity on Instagram [Poster Presentation]. Special Interest Group on the Design of Communication, Graduate Student Research Competition, Orlando, FL. USA.

Bruegger, M., Morin, D., & Jones, A. (2023, February 14-17). Re-envisioning Witte and Pierce's Semiotics through a Contemporary Field Theory [Panel]. Conference on College Composition and Communication, Chicago, IL. USA.

Bruegger, M. (2023, February 14-17). We the People: A Case Study in Advanced Voting Ballot Application Design [Individual Presentation]. Conference on College Composition and Communication, Chicago, IL. USA.

Bruegger, M. (2021, April 22). We the People: A Case Study in Advanced Voting Ballot Application Design [Paper Presentation]. University of Maine Graduate Student Symposium, Orono, ME. USA.

Fellowships, Grants, & Awards

2026 Elevate Austin, Austin Arts, Culture, Music and Entertainment; Application submitted by TÁPI Studios (\$40,000)

Publication Fellowship; UT Department of Rhetoric and Writing (\$6,000)

2025 Planet TX 2050 Student Research Project; UT-City Climate CoLab (\$10,000)

Professional Development Award; Humanities Institute (\$500)

John Slatin Prize for Electronic Media in Education (>\$500)

2024 Graduate School Recruitment Fellowship (\$5,000)

2023 Graduate School Recruitment Fellowship (\$5,000)

Teaching Experience

University of Texas at Austin

- 2026 Spring** Teaching Assistant; RHE 368C: Writing Center Internship
- 2025 Fall** Lead Instructor; RHE 306: Rhetoric and Writing - Digital Wellness
- Teaching Assistant; RHE 306: Rhetoric and Writing - Social Media
Texas Prison Education Initiative
- 2024-2025** Lead Instructor; RHE 309J: Rhetoric of Curation
- 2024 Fall** Research Instructor; Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program
- 2023-2024** Lead Instructor; RHE 306: Rhetoric and Writing - AI & Automation

University of Maine (Orono)

- 2021-2023** Lead Instructor; ENG 101: English Composition

Research and Leadership Experience

- 2026** Assistant Program Coordinator; University Writing Center
- 2025-2026** Assistant Program Coordinator; Digital Writing and Research Lab
- 2025** Senior Student Associate; AVAnnotate, Lead Researcher: Dr. Tanya Clement
- 2024-2025** Research Assistant; Lead Researcher: Dr. Scott Graham

Service to University

University of Texas at Austin

- 2025** Lower Division Curriculum Committee Member; Department of Rhetoric & Writing
- Curriculum Planning Committee Member; Texas Prison Education Initiative
- Section Editor; *E3W Review of Books*
- 2023-2025** First Year Rhetoric and Writing Forum Member; Department of Rhetoric & Writing
- Graduate Search Advisory Committee Member; Department of Rhetoric & Writing

University of Maine (Orono)

- 2023** Portfolio Review Committee Member; Dept. of English
ENG 101/106 'Stretch' Portfolio Review Committee Member; Dept. of English
- 2022-2023** Senator; Graduate Student Government

Selected Graduate Coursework

RHE 391: Environmental Rhetoric (*with Dr. Megan Poole*)
ANT 394M: Experimental Ethnography (*with Dr. Craig Campbell and Dr. Marina Peterson*)
RHE 391: Rhetoric and Aesthetics (*with Dr. Casey Boyle*)
RHE 382: Rhetoric and Writing Theory (*with Dr. Annie Hill*)
RHE 391: Cultural Historical Activity Theory (*with Dr. Clay Spinuzzi*)
RHE 381: Research Methods (*with Dr. Scott Graham*)
RHE 391: Rhetorical Theory and Ethics (*with Dr. Diane Davis*)
ENG 395M: Environmental Humanities (*with Dr. Heather Houser*)
RHE 391: Civic Engagement & Community-Engaged Pedagogies (*with Dr. Donnie Sackey*)
ENG 579: Theories of Composing (*with Dr. Dylan Dryer*)
ENG 518: Writing throughout the Lifespan (*with Dr. Ryan Dippre*)
ENG 518: Professional and Technical Writing (*with Dr. Heather Falconer*)

Skills

Software: NVivo, [Atlas.ti](#), ELAN, Shorthand, Adobe Creative Suite
Coding Languages: R, Python
Oral Languages: English (Native), Spanish (Conversational), French (Conversational)
Fabrication: bookbinding, zine-making, paper-making, embroidery, sewing, beading, and metalwork

Memberships

National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)
Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC)
Rhetoric Society of America (RSA)
Association of Teachers of Technical Writing (ATTW)
Society for the Study of Affect (SSA)