

Courtney Bliss, PhD

Adjunct Faculty

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EDUCATION

Ph. D., American Culture Studies, Bowling Green State University, December 2026

Dissertation: "Metaculture and the Access It Creates: A "Hamilton" Case Study"

Committee Chair: Dr. Jeremy Wallach

Graduate Certificate, International/Intercultural Communication, School of Media and Communication, Bowling Green State University, May 2026

M.A., Popular Culture, Bowling Green State University, December 2017

Thesis: "Reframing Normal: The Inclusion of Deaf Culture in the X-Men Comic Books"

Committee Chair: Dr. Jeremy Wallach

Certificate, American Sign Language/Deaf Studies, Columbus State Community College, December 2013

B.A., Speech and Hearing Science, The Ohio State University, December 2005

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Marion Technical College

Cultural Literacy (Fall 2026, Spring 2026, Fall 2025). Adjunct Instructor.

- Selected additional readings to expand on the textbook.
- Connected topics in the class to the real world through examples, news, current events, and media.
- Created weekly Reflection assignments based on the topic and readings for the week.
- Created Discussion Boards for online sections to participate in twice a week, and for in-person sections to participate in when meeting in person is not possible.
- Graded reflections, discussion boards, writing assignments, and oral presentations.
- Created Brightspace courses for both online and in-person classes, breaking readings and assignments down by week.

Cultural and Ethnic Diversity (Spring 2025, Fall 2024, Spring 2024, Fall 2023, Spring 2023, Fall 2022). Adjunct Instructor.

- Selected readings in addition to the textbook.
- Connected topics in the class to the real world through examples, news, current events, and media.
- Created weekly Reflection assignments based on the topic and readings for the week.
- Created exams for each unit taught.

- Created Research Paper project.
- Created weekly video lectures and lesson plans for in-class discussion.
- Created discussion boards for online students in place of in-class discussion.
- Graded reflections, paper, and exams.
- Created Canvas site for the class, breaking down the work into weekly modules.

Introductory American Sign Language I (Fall 2026, Fall 2025). Adjunct Instructor.

- Converted curriculum from 16 weeks to 8 weeks, including:
 - Break workbook into assignments to prepare for class and homework after class
 - Created Brightspace LMS course breaking down preparation for each class, including links to videos of new vocabulary to supplement workbook
 - Organize lessons so ASL I curriculum can be covered completely in 8 weeks
- Teach fingerspelling, numbers, grammar, and vocabulary using a mix of spoken and written English and American Sign Language.
- Assign and check homework for each lesson taught in class
- Create, administer, and grade in class unit comprehension exams
- Create and grade online unit comprehension exams
- Grade production midterm and final stories and give feedback

Introductory American Sign Language II (Fall 2026, Fall 2025). Adjunct Instructor.

- Converted curriculum from 16 weeks to 8 weeks, including:
 - Break workbook into assignments to prepare for class and homework after class
 - Created Brightspace LMS course breaking down preparation for each class, including links to videos of new vocabulary to supplement workbook
 - Organize lessons so ASL II curriculum can be covered completely in 8 weeks
- Teach fingerspelling, numbers, grammar, and vocabulary using American Sign Language with spoken and written English as necessary.
- Assigned and checked homework for each lesson taught in class
- Create and grade online unit comprehension exams
- Grade production midterm and final stories and give feedback

Introductory American Sign Language I (Fall 2024, Spring 2024, Fall 2023, Spring 2023, Fall 2022). Adjunct Instructor.

- Created course for Marion Technical College, including:
 - Selected textbook.
 - Created curriculum.
 - Created Deaf History Paper assignment.
 - Created comprehension exams.
- Taught fingerspelling, numbers, grammar, vocabulary, and culture using a mix of English and American Sign Language.
- Assigned and checked homework for each lesson covered in class.
- Graded comprehension and production exams and papers.
 - Use rubrics provided by the textbook to grade production exams and give feedback so the students know what area of ASL they need to improve.

- Created Canvas template for the class.
- Create Canvas site for each semester based on template.

Introductory American Sign Language II (Spring 2024, Fall 2023, Spring 2023). Adjunct Instructor.

- Created course for Marion Technical College, including:
 - Selected textbook.
 - Created curriculum.
 - Created Deaf Culture Paper assignment.
 - Created comprehension exams.
- Taught additional fingerspelling, numbers, vocabulary, and culture using a mix of English and American Sign Language, with an increased emphasis on American Sign Language
- Assigned and checked homework for each lesson covered in class.
- Graded comprehension and production exams and papers.
 - Use rubrics provided by the textbook to grade production exams and give feedback so the students know what area of ASL they need to improve.
- Created Canvas template for the class.
- Create Canvas site for each semester based on template.

Intermediate American Sign Language (Spring 2024). Adjunct Instructor.

- Created course for Marion Technical College, including:
 - Selected textbook.
 - Created curriculum.
 - Created comprehension exams.
- Taught additional vocabulary and culture using a mix of English and American Sign Language, with an emphasis on American Sign Language
- Assigned and checked homework for each lesson covered in class.
- Graded comprehension and production exams and papers.
 - Use rubrics provided by the textbook to grade production exams and give feedback so the students know what area of ASL they need to improve.
- Created Canvas template for the class.
- Create Canvas site for each semester based on template.

Oral Communication (Fall 2022). Adjunct Instructor.

- Taught class based on template provided using recommended textbook and speech types and templates.
- Created lesson plans and PowerPoints for weekly in-class lectures and discussion.
- Graded speeches given in class and submitted on Canvas, providing feedback in addition to the grade so the students could improve their public speaking skills.
- Modified existing rubric for grading speeches to give more nuanced feedback for the students.
- Graded final exam and quizzes on each speech style.
- Personalized the Canvas template for the class to this semester's class.

Bowling Green State University

Cultural Pluralism in the United States (Spring 2021, Fall 2020, Summer 2020, Spring 2020, Fall 2019). Graduate Instructor of Record.

- Selected readings for the class.
- Created the schedule for the semester.
- Connected topics in the class to the real world through examples, news, current events, and media.
- Create, grade, and give feedback for assignments including Critical Responses based on the readings, midterm exam, final exam, and research paper bringing media and Cultural Pluralism together.
- Create and maintain Canvas site for each semester.
- Restructured the class for an 8-week summer online semester.
- Restructured assignments for teaching the course asynchronously online for Fall 2020.
- Created video lectures for Fall 2020.
- Modified the class for teaching the class synchronously online for Spring 2021 using Canvas for assignments and a Discord server for lectures and class discussions.
- Meet with students and reply to students' electronic correspondence to further their understanding of the topics covered in the course.

Introduction to Popular Culture (Spring 2018, Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2016). Graduate Instructor of Record.

- Following guidelines set for the course:
 - Set schedule for most of the class.
 - Chose readings from selection provided.
 - Created and administered exams.
 - Created lectures that taught the topics and encouraged discussion about them in class.
 - Create and grade Reading Reflection assignment.
- Gave students feedback on final paper topic and the first draft of their paper.
- Graded exams, assignments, and final paper.
- Met with students to further their understanding of Popular Culture studies.
- Maintained Canvas sites for each semester.

Introduction to Popular Culture (Fall 2015). Graduate Teaching Assistant.

- Attended twice weekly lectures providing assistance to professor.
- Led two recitation sections in discussion based on the week's lectures:
 - Discussing the topics and clarifying information as necessary
 - Administering quizzes periodically
- Assist in administering exams, and grading exams for students in my recitation sections.

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles

- 2022 “What Did You Think About...?": The Metaculture of Fandom. *The Journal of Fandom Studies*, 10.2-3.
- 2019 “From B-Boys to Broadway: Activism and Directed Change in Hip-Hop.” *Asia Pacific Media Educator*, 29.2.
- 2019 Gajjala, Radhika, and ACS 7700 [including Bliss, C.]. “New Digital Worlds: Postcolonial Digital Humanities in Theory, Praxis, and Pedagogy”. *South Asian Review*.

GRANTS

- 2019 Gary Burns Graduate Student Travel Grant, Midwest Popular Culture Association

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Conferences Organized

- 2026 Popular Arts Conference, Atlanta, GA, 3-7 September. Organizing Committee member and volunteer at the conference.
- 2025 Popular Arts Conference, Atlanta, GA, 28 August – 1 September. Organizing Committee member and volunteer at the conference.
- 2021 Wayne Pop 2021: Disruptions, Gaps, Transitions, and Leaps (DGTL), Wayne State University, 24-26 September. Conference planning committee and volunteer.
- 2017 Ray Browne Conference on Cultural and Critical Studies, Bowling Green State University, April. Conference organizer.

Research Presented

- 2026 “The True Product of *American Idol*: The Metaculture Behind Creating Fandoms.” Popular Culture Association Conference, 8-11 April.
- 2024 “Infinite Diversity in Infinite Combinations: *Star Trek*’s Incorporation of Disability in its Vision for the Future.” Popular Arts Conference, Atlanta, GA, 30 August – 2 September.
- 2024 “Oracle: The Glitch in the System.” The Comic Studies Society Annual Conference, virtual, 24-28 June 2024.
- 2023 “The Metacultural Impact of the Original Cast Album: A *Hamilton* Case Study.” Original Cast Recordings: Art, Artefact, Analysis, virtual, 5-6 September.
- 2022 “Musicking at *Hamilton*: Bringing the Concert to the Theatre.” Midwest Popular Culture Association Conference, 14-16 October.

- 2022 "Tomorrow There'll Be More of Us: The intersection of theater and hip-hop cultures at *Hamilton*." Comics and Popular Arts Conference, September 1-5.
- 2021 "'Men can be divas, right?': The modern-day male diva." Midwest Popular Culture Association Conference, 7-10 October.
- 2021 "'What do you think about last night's episode?': The Metaculture of Fandom." Popular Culture Association Conference, 2-5 June.
- 2020 "From B-Boys to Broadway: Directed Change and Activism in Hip-Hop." Midwest Popular Culture Association Conference, 2-4 October.
- 2020 "From B-Boys to Broadway: Directed Change and Activism in Hip-Hop." Popular Culture Association Conference, 15-18 April, *cancelled due to COVID-19.
- 2019 "'Who Tells **My** Story?': The enduring conversation about race on Broadway." Midwest Popular Culture Association Conference, 10-13 October.
- 2019 "SuperTropes: Finding the difference between Narrative Prosthesis and Introduction to Disability in Marvel Comics." Comics and Popular Arts Conference, 29 August – 2 September.
- 2019 "From All-Knowing to Erased: Oracle's Representation and Erasure of Disability in Comic Books," *Batman in Popular Culture Conference*, Bowling Green State University, 12-13 April.
- 2019 "Remixing the Revolution: How *Hamilton* tells the story of the Founding of America," 2019 Pop Culture Consortium Conference, Wayne State University, 1-3 March.
- 2018 "Is *Hamilton* Authentic (insert genre here)?" Midwest Popular Culture Association Conference, October.
- 2018 "Penny Rolle: Medusa Laughing at the Patriarchy." Comics and Popular Arts Conference, 31 August – 3 September.
- 2018 "Reframing Normal: Colonization of the Deaf and the Mutant." Chicago Disability Studies Conference, University of Chicago, April.
- 2018 "It Started With a School: The Use of Geography in Deaf and Mutant Culture," Ray Browne Conference on Cultural and Critical Studies, BGSU, April.
- 2018 "Bitch, Please!: Flipping (Off) Tradition (and Patriarchy)." 2018 Pop Culture Consortium Conference, Wayne State University, February; Popular Culture Association Conference, 28-31 March.
- 2017 "The Day of the Doctor: A *Doctor Who* case study." Midwest Popular Culture Association Conference, October.

- 2017 “The Super Problem with the Supercrip?” Comics and Popular Arts Conference, September.
- 2017 “Hawkeye’s Magic Ears: From Narrative Prosthesis to Representation.” Ray Browne Conference on Cultural and Critical Studies, BGSU, April.
- 2017 “Down the Rabbit Hole: My descent into *Hamilton* fandom.” Audiences, Fandoms, and Reception: A Kino Club 313 Conference, Wayne State University, February.
- 2017 “Are Mutants Deaf?: The Similarities Between Deaf Culture and the Mutants of the X-Men Comics.” Comics and Popular Arts Conference, September.
- 2016 “Webcomics: Modern Day Folklore.” Ray Browne Conference on Cultural and Critical Studies, BGSU, March.
- 2016 “National Association of the Deaf: Are They Feminists?” Ray Browne Conference on Cultural and Critical Studies, BGSU, March.
- 2016 “Are Mutants Deaf?: Social Disability in the *X-Men* comics,” Popular Culture Association Conference, March.

Session Chair

- 2025 “Challenging the Mainstream: Marginalized Identities in Comics.” Popular Arts Conference, Atlanta, GA, 28 August – 1 September.
- 2025 “Animating Identities: Gender & Disability in Animation.” Popular Arts Conference, Atlanta, GA, 28 August – 1 September.
- 2024 “Queering Bodies, Glitching Forms” panel. The Comics Studies Society Annual Conference, virtual, 24-28 June.
- 2021 “FanC IX: Metacultures of Fandom” panel. Popular Culture Association Conference, 2-5 June.
- 2020 “Professional Collectors”, The Ray Browne Conference for Popular Culture Studies, Bowling Green State University, 6-7 March.
- 2018 “Music II” panel, Midwest Popular Culture Association Conference, October.
- 2018 “Ethnic Studies in Literature” panel, Ray Browne Conference on Cultural and Critical Studies, BGSU, April.

Panelist

- 2025 “The Challenge of Diversity in the MCU’s Age of Retrenchment.” Popular Arts Conference, Atlanta, GA, 28 August – 1 September.
- 2025 “Introduction to Comic Studies and Pop Culture Scholarship.” Popular Arts Conference, Atlanta, GA, 28 August – 1 September.

- 2020 “Pop Culture Pedagogy Roundtable.” WaynePop 2020, Wayne State University, 25-26 September.
- 2020 “Professional Collectors” (roundtable), The Ray Browne Conference for Popular Culture Studies, Bowling Green State University, 6-7 March.

CAMPUS PRESENTATIONS

- 2017 “Reframing Normal: The Inclusion of Deaf Culture in the X-Men Comic Books.” Popular Culture Colloquium Series, BGSU, 27 April.
- 2016 “National Association of the Deaf: Are They Feminists?” The Women’s Center at BGSU, December.

ASSISTANTSHIPS

- August 2018 - May 2019 Graduate Assistant, The Writing Center, BGSU
- July 2016 - August 2016 Research Assistant, Dr. Jeremy Wallach and Dr. Angela Nelson,

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- Executive-at-Large, Culture Club, BGSU. August 2018 – May 2019.
- Subject Tutor, The Learning Commons, BGSU. May 2018 – December 2018.
- Advisor, Undergraduate Advising and Academic Services, BGSU. May 2016 – July 2016.
- President, Popular Culture Scholars Association, BGSU. Fall 2016- Spring 2017.
- Webmaster, Popular Culture Scholars Association, BGSU. Fall 2015 –Spring 2017.

NONACADEMIC WORK

- 2019 “Down the Rabbit Hole: My Descent into *Hamilton* fandom.” BroadwayCon 2019, 11-13 January.

LANGUAGES

- American Sign Language, fluent

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

- 2016 The Comics Studies Society, Founding Member
- 2016 Golden Key International Honour Society
- 2016 The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

- 2016 Midwest Popular Culture Association
- 2016 National Association of the Deaf
- 2016 Popular Culture Association, Member
- 2015 Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society

REFERENCES

Jeremy Wallach, Ph.D., Professor
jeremyw@bgsu.edu

Andrew Hand, Ph.D., Director of Arts & Science
handa@mtc.edu

Matthew Hollander, Ph.D., Sociology Faculty
hollanderm@mtc.edu