

ROBERT MATEJ BEDNAR

Department of Communication Studies
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[Revised 5 September 2023]



Robert M. Bednar, *New Mexico State Highway 76 South, West of Cordova, New Mexico, February 2012*

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Affect Theory • American Studies • Automobility • Contemporary U.S. Cultural History • Critical Media Studies • Cultural Studies • Film Theory/Practice • Landscape & Built Environment • Material Culture • Critical Memory Studies • Tourism • Trauma Studies • Visual Communication • Visual Culture

EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin Ph. D. American Studies 1997
Dissertation: *Postmodern Vistas: Landscape, Photography, and Tourism in the Contemporary American West*

University of Texas at Austin M. A. American Studies 1991
Thesis: *Sam Shepard: Enacting the Mythic Frontier in Contemporary America*

Southwestern University B. A. (Magna Cum Laude) American Studies 1989
Capstone Thesis: *Postmodern Texans: Experimenting with the Image of Texas*

FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

Southwestern University, Georgetown, Texas
Professor of Communication Studies, 2021-present; Associate Professor of Communication Studies, 2005-2021; Chair of the Communication Studies Department, 2005-2010 and 2011-2013, 2020; Chair of the American Studies Program, 2000-2011; Assistant Professor of Communication Studies, 1999 to 2005; Instructor of English, 1995 to 1996

Texas Lutheran University, Seguin, Texas
Assistant Professor of English and Communication Studies, 1998 to 1999; Visiting Assistant Professor of English and Communication Studies, 1997 to 1998; Instructor of English and Communication Studies, 1996 to 1997

University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas
Assistant Instructor of American Studies, 1992 to 1994; Teaching Assistant for American Studies, 1991 to 1993

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Scholarly Book

Bednar, Robert M. 2020. *Road Scars: Place, Automobility, and Road Trauma* (London: Rowman & Littlefield). Part of the *Place, Memory, Affect* Series.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Bednar, Robert M. (currently available online; forthcoming in print 2024) "Roadside Media: Roadside Crash Shrines as Platforms for Communicating Across Time, Space, and Mortality in the Early 2000s United States," *Cultural and Social History* doi.org/10.1080/14780038.2023.2253720.

Bednar, Robert M. 2022. "Trauma Remains: The Material Afterlives of the 1989 Alton School Bus Crash," *Journal of Material Culture*, vol. 27, no. 4, pp. 414-431.

Bednar, Robert M. 2013. "Killing Memory: Roadside Memorials and the Necropolitics of Affect," *Cultural Politics* vol. 9, no. 3, pp. 337-356.

Bednar, Robert M. 2011. "Materialising Memory: The Public Lives of Roadside Crash Shrines," *Memory Connection*, vol. 1, no. 1, pp. 18-33. [Lead Article] Located at URL: <http://www.memoryconnection.org/article/materialising-memory-the-public-lives-of-roadside-crash-shrines-2/>

Peer-Reviewed Chapters in Edited Scholarly Books

Bednar, Robert M. 2015. "Placing Affect: Remembering Strangers at Roadside Crash Shrines," in Christine Berberich, Neil Campbell, and Robert Hudson (eds.), *Affective Landscapes in Literature, Art and Everyday Life: Memory, Place and the Senses* (Farnham, UK: Ashgate), pp. 49-67.

Bednar, Robert M. 2012. "Being Here, Looking There: Mediating Vistas in the National Parks of the Contemporary American West," in Thomas Patin (ed.), *Observation Points: The Visual Poetics of National Parks* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press), pp. 1-28.

Bednar, Robert M. 2011. "Denying Denial: Trauma, Memory, and Automobility at Roadside Car Crash Shrines" in Anne T. Demo and Bradford Vivian (eds.), *Rhetoric, Remembrance, and Visual Form: Sighting Memory* (London: Routledge Press), pp. 128-145.

Bednar, Robert M. 1996. "Searching for an Old Faithful America: National Park Tourism in the 1970s," In Elsebeth Harup (ed.), *The Lost Decade: America in the 1970s* (Aarhus, Denmark: University of Aarhus Press), pp. 53-78.

Invited Chapters in Edited Scholarly Books

Bednar, Robert M. 2016. "Teachable Space: When the Spaces Where We Teach Become the Spaces That We Teach," in Jonathan Silverman and Meghan Sweeney (eds.), *Remaking the American College Campus: Essays* (Jefferson, NC: McFarland), pp. 204-223.

Bednar, Robert M. 2011. "Making Space on the Side of the Road: Towards a Cultural Study of Roadside Car Crash Shrines," in Jonathan Silverman and Dean Rader (eds.), *The World is a Text: Writing, Reading, and Thinking About Culture and Its Contexts, 4th Edition* (Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Prentice Hall), pp. 222-234.

Bednar, Robert M. 2011. "How I Wrote This Essay," in Jonathan Silverman and Dean Rader (eds.), *The World is a Text: Writing, Reading, and Thinking About*

Culture and Its Contexts, 4th Edition (Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Prentice Hall), pp. 235-238.

- Bednar, Robert M. 2009. "Roadside Memorials and the Public Health," in Sarah Earle, Caroline Bartholomew and Carol Komaromy (eds.), *Making Sense of Death, Dying and Bereavement: An Anthology* (Milton Keynes, UK: Open University Press), pp. 22-23.
- Bednar, Robert M. 2009. "Making Space on the Side of the Road: Towards a Cultural Study of Roadside Car Crash Shrines," in Jonathan Silverman and Dean Rader (eds.), *The World is a Text: Writing, Reading, and Thinking About Culture and Its Contexts, 3rd Edition* (Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Prentice Hall), pp. 497-508.
- Bednar, Robert M. 2006. "Caught Looking: Problems with Taking Pictures of People Taking Pictures at an Exhibition," in Jonathan Silverman and Dean Rader (eds.), *The World is a Text: Writing, Reading, and Thinking About Culture and Its Contexts 2nd Edition* (Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Prentice Hall), pp. 206-210.
- Bednar, Robert M. 2003. "Caught Looking: Problems with Taking Pictures of People Taking Pictures at an Exhibition," In Jonathan Silverman and Dean Rader (eds.), *The World is a Text: Writing, Reading, and Thinking About Culture and Its Contexts* (Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Prentice Hall), pp. 224-229.

Original Photographs Published in Scholarly Books

- Bednar, Robert M. 2012. "Zabriskie Point, Death Valley National Monument, California." Original photograph published as the frontispiece for Thomas Patin (ed.), *Observation Points: The Visual Poetics of National Parks* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press).
- Bednar, Robert M. 2010. "Please Don't Drink and Drive." Original photograph published in Erika Doss, *Memorial Mania: Public Feeling in America* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press) p. 86.
- Bednar, Robert M. 2006. "US Highway 285-North, South of Roswell, New Mexico, August 2003." Original photograph published as the cover photograph of Kathleen Garces-Foley (ed.), *Death and Religion in a Changing World*. Armonk, N.Y.: M.E. Sharpe.

Popular Media Publications Based on Scholarly Work

- Bednar, Robert M. 2013. "Roadside Memorials: A Search for Meaning," *Austin-American Statesman*, March 31, 2013.
- Bednar, Robert M. 2013. "Between the Windshield and the Rearview," *The End of Austin: An Exploration of Urban Identity in the Middle of Texas*, January 2013. Located at URL: <http://endofaustin.com/2013/01/10/between-the-windshield-and-the-rearview/>

ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PAPER PRESENTATIONS

- Bednar, Robert M. 2021. "Figuring the Cost of Automobility: Roadside Car Crash Shrines as the Materialization of Collective Trauma," T2M *Mobilities in Transition* Virtual Conference, based in Lisbon, Portugal, November 3-5.
- Bednar, Robert M. 2021. "Communicating with the Dead: Roadside Car Crash Shrines as Platforms for Bridging Time, Distance, and Mortality," *Distant Communications* Virtual Conference, hosted by Midlands4Cities and the Royal Historical Society (UK), July 21-22.
- Bednar, Robert M. 2020. "Trauma Remains: The Material Temporalities of Objects Placed

- at Roadside Crash Shrines," *Material Temporalities* Workshop, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, Göttingen, Germany, January 23–24.
- Bednar, Robert M. 2018. "Broken Things: The Material Temporalities of Objects Placed at Roadside Crash Shrines," American Anthropological Association Conference, San Jose, CA, November 14-18.
- Bednar, Robert M. 2018. "Colliding Authorities: The Cultural Politics of Roadside Memorialization in the Contemporary American Southwest," Western History Association Conference, San Antonio, TX, October 17-21.
- Bednar, Robert M. 2015. "Moving Pictures: Trauma, Affect, and Photography at Roadside Crash Shrines," *Affect, Images, & Digital Media* Conference, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, September 3-5.
- Bednar, Robert M. 2012. "Placing Memory: Remembering Ordinary Trauma at Roadside Crash Shrines," *Affective Landscapes* Conference, University of Derby, Derby, Great Britain, UK, May 25-26.
- Bednar, Robert M. 2012. "Remembering Road Trauma: The Lives of Roadside Crash Shrines in the American Southwest," Southwest/TX Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Annual Conference, Albuquerque, NM, February 8-11.
- Bednar, Robert M. 2010. "Materializing Memory: Space, Memory and Transference at Roadside Car Crash Shrines," *Contained Memory* Conference, Te Papa Tongarewa National Museum, Wellington, New Zealand, December 9-11.
- Bednar, Robert M. 2010. "Roadside Heterotopias: Space, Time, and Cultural Simultaneity at Roadside Car Crash Shrines," Southwest/TX Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Annual Conference, Albuquerque, NM, February 10-13.
- Bednar, Robert M. 2008. "Denying Denial: Visuality, Materiality, and Memory at Roadside Car Crash Shrines," *Visible Memories* Conference, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY, October 2-4.
- Bednar, Robert M. 2006. "Visualizing Space and Spatializing Vision: Theorizing Practices of Seeing, Knowing, Representing, and Being in Contemporary National Park Tourism," National Communication Association Conference, San Antonio, TX, November 19-21.
- Bednar, Robert M. 2006. "Touching Images: Towards a Visual/Material Cultural Study of Roadside Shrines," *TRANSVisual* Conference, University of Wisconsin Visual Culture Group, Madison, WI, October 17-19.
- Bednar, Robert M. 2006. "If You Meet the Buddha (and Superman, the Virgin, Teddy Bear, and Mom) On the Road...: Theorizing Translocal Signifying Practices at Roadside Car Crash Shrines in Texas and New Mexico," Rocky Mountain American Studies Association Conference, Albuquerque, NM, March 24-26.
- Bednar, Robert M. 2005. "Portals, Passages, and In-Between Spaces: Roadside Shrines in Contemporary Material and Visual Culture," Pacific Northwest American Studies Association Conference, Portland, Oregon, April 14-16.
- Bednar, Robert M. 2003. "Contested Sites of Violence and Belonging: Roadside Crosses in Contemporary Visual and Material Culture," American Studies Association Conference, Hartford, CT, October 17.
- Bednar, Robert M. 2002. "Thinking with Pictures: A Photographic Workshop For the Composition Classroom," South Central Modern Language Association Annual Conference, Austin, TX, November 1.
- Bednar, Robert M. 2001. "Mediating Vistas: Vision, Landscape, and the Embodiment of Spatial Practices in Contemporary Western American National Parks," American Studies Association Conference, Washington, DC, November 8-11.
- Bednar, Robert M. 2001. "Marking Territory: Constructing and Maintaining Boundaries Between Nature and Culture in the Western National Parks," Northeast American Studies Association Annual Conference, University of New Hampshire, Manchester, NH, April 28.

- Bednar, Robert M. 2000. "What it Means to Say 'It Looks Like Texas': Tourist Photography and the Visual Culture of Texas and the American West," Texas State Historical Association Annual Conference, Austin, Texas, March 4.
- Bednar, Robert M. 1999. "The Imperial Viewfinder: Nineteenth Century Discourses of Place-Making and the Visual Culture of Tourism in Yellowstone and Yosemite National Parks," American Studies Association Annual Conference, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, October 29.
- Bednar, Robert M. 1999. "Occupied Territory: Landscape, Tourist Photography, and the Visual Culture of Monument Valley," International Communication Association Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA, May 31.
- Bednar, Robert M. 1998. "Seen Through the Lens of Empire: The Visual Rhetoric of Exploration, Empire, and Tourism in Nineteenth Century 'First Photographs' of American Western Landscapes," Modern Language Association Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA, December 29.
- Bednar, Robert M. 1998. "Mediating Places: Contemporary Tourist Photographic Practices and the Visual Culture of Place in the American Western Public Lands," *Representing Place* Conference, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ, November 5.
- Bednar, Robert M. 1997. "Snapshot Semiotics: Tourism, Cultural Studies, and the Visual Culture of the Contemporary American West," *Futures of American Studies* Summer Institute, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, August 14.
- Bednar, Robert M. 1994. "The Postmodern West: Writers Adrift in the Land of Images," Western History Association Annual Conference, Albuquerque, NM, October 21.
- Bednar, Robert M. 1994. "Imagining the Contemporary Western Landscape," Southwestern Historical Association Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX, April 2.
- Bednar, Robert M. 1993. "Contemporary Landscape Photography of the American West: Towards a Tourist Aesthetic," Art History Graduate Symposium, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, March 6.
- Bednar, Robert M. 1992. "Tommo Paints a Cultural Self-Portrait: Melville's *Typee* and the Subversion of Exoticist Ethnography" *Reclaiming New Worlds* Columbian Quincentennial Symposium, Austin, TX, October 30.
- Bednar, Robert M. 1992. "Contemporary Western Landscape Photography: Towards a Touristic Aesthetic," Third Annual Front Range Symposium in the History of Art: New Directions in the History of Art, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, September 18.
- Bednar, Robert M. 1992. "Sam Shepard and the Holographic West," American Civilization Colloquium, University of Texas, Austin, TX, March 27.
- Bednar, Robert M. 1992. "Sam Shepard: Enacting the Mythic Frontier in Contemporary America," Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Association Annual Conference, Amarillo, TX, February 6.

INVITED PROFESSIONAL APPEARANCES

Public Lectures

- "Roadside Shrines and Cultural Trauma," Associated Colleges of the South (ACS) Virtual Convocation Series, October 6, 2020. Recorded. Located at URL: <https://vimeo.com/472349544>
- "Melancholy Remains: Encountering Images, Objects, and Spaces of Trauma," Keynote address, 26th annual Symposium About Language and Society—Austin (SALSA)-- Culture, Space & Identity," University of Texas, Austin, TX, April 20, 2018.

- "Diversity and Disagreement," Panelist, Panel Discussion for MLK Day of Service, The Griffin School, Austin, TX, January 15, 2018.
- "Remembering Strangers: Roadside Shrines and Public Memory," Public Lecture, Querencia Community Lecture Series, Austin, TX, January 30, 2014.
- "Roadside Shrines and Public Memory," Public Lecture, University of Texas LAMP (Learning Activities for Mature People), Austin, TX, October 15, 2013.
- "Placing Affect: Remembering Ordinary Trauma at Roadside Crash Shrines," Public Lecture, *The Long Hand: Writing and Inscription* Lecture Series, hosted by the Department of Anthropology, University of Texas, Austin, TX, November 5, 2012.
- "Remembering Strangers: The Public Lives of Road Trauma Shrines," Public Lecture, Psychoanalytic Institute of Northern California, San Francisco, CA, April 14, 2012.
- "Designing Memory/Spaces: Roadside Crash Shrines and Everyday Design," Public Lecture, *Visual and Critical Studies Forum*, California College of the Arts, San Francisco, CA, April 11, 2012.
- "Road Scars: Trauma, Memory, and Automobility at Roadside Car Crash Shrines," Public Lecture hosted by the Department of Communication Studies, University of Texas, Austin, TX, October 13, 2009.
- Moderator/Breakout Group Facilitator, Teen Media Conference/Taos Talking Picture Film Festival, Taos, NM, April 5-8, 2001
- Moderator/Breakout Group Facilitator, Teen Media Conference/Taos Talking Picture Film Festival, Taos, NM, April 13-16, 2000
- "Images of the Contemporary American West," Public Lecture, American West Lecture Series, Concordia University, Austin, TX, April 25, 1996.

Academic Conference Panel Leadership

- "Reality TV: Reframing Televisual Space," (Panel Chair and Respondent). American Studies Association Annual Conference, Washington, DC, November 3, 2005.
- "Challenging Traditional Categories," (Panel Chair and Respondent). Pacific Northwest American Studies Association Annual Conference, Portland, OR, April 15, 2005.
- "Animating Whiteness: Stalking the Invisible Ethnicity," (Panel Chair and Respondent). American Studies Association Annual Conference, Houston, TX, November 16, 2002.
- "Mediating Landscapes in Postwar America: On the Road and in the Home," (Panel Chair and Respondent). American Society of Environmental History, Denver, CO, March 20-23, 2002.

Exhibitions of Photographs and Writing

- "Places of Loss: Marking Memory in the Public Sphere," Exhibition of Original Photographs, Psychoanalytic Institute of Northern California, Bush Street Lobby, San Francisco, California, April 14-28, 2012.
- Making Space on the Side of the Road: Towards a Cultural Study of Roadside Car Crash Memorials*, website first posted February 2004
(URL: www.southwestern.edu/~bednarb/roadsidememorials)
- Snapshot Semiotics*, website first posted December 1997
(URL: www.southwestern.edu/~bednarb/snapshotsemiotics)

Media Interviews

- "Grab Your Popcorn: Hutto is Set to Open its First Movie Theater Next Year," a radio news story and web article by Kailey Hunt, *KUT News*, January 26, 2023. (Interview Source)
- The Taking*, a feature-length documentary film by Alexandre O. Phillipe about Monument

- Valley, premiering Fall 2021 (Interview source). The film has appeared at multiple film festivals beginning Fall 2021, including BFI London Film Festival, Fantastic Fest Austin, Film Fest Gent, New Zealand International Film Festival, Mar de Plata Film Festival, Sitges Film Festival, and Thessaloniki Film Festival
- "Welcome to the College Presidency. Oh, the House Is On Fire," an article by Jack Stripling, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, April 25, 2020. (Interview Source)
- "The iPhone Has Objectified Our Faces," an article by Caroline Haskins, *VICE Motherboard*, June 27, 2017; located at: https://motherboard.vice.com/en_us/article/mbj8z4/the-iphone-has-objectified-our-faces (Interview source)
- "Sympathy vs. Safety: Highway Officials Deem Memorials a Hazard," an article by J. Harry Jones, *San Diego Union-Tribune*, April 1, 2007 (Interview source)
- "Jon Stewart and Political Satire," a segment for the Modern Language Association program *What's the Word?* Distributed through National Public Radio. Recorded February 1, 2007; broadcast fall 2007; located at: http://www.mla.org/radio_show_233 (Sole Interview source)
- "Roadside Memorials: A Legal, Emotional Fight," a top story feature broadcast on *CBS-11 Dallas/Ft. Worth News*, November 17, 2005; located at: http://cbs11tv.com/topstories/local_story_321111211.html (Interview source)
- "Roadside Crosses," A documentary feature story broadcast on *Religion & Ethics Newsweekly*, a national PBS program, February 27, 2005. (Sole Interview source)

Media Use of Original Photographs

- The Taking*, by Alexandre O. Phillipe, a feature-length documentary film about Monument Valley, (the film features several of my original photographs of tourist infrastructures and photography practices at the Monument Valley Tribal Park Visitor Center; these photos play on screen accompanying portions of my extensive interview with the director about the visual culture of Monument Valley).
- Thomas Patin, "Planning a Summer of Memorial Day weekend Trip? These beautiful, significant national destinations are primed to spark the intellectually curious adventurer in you," University of Minnesota Press Blog, May 24, 2012. Located at: <http://www.umnpressblog.com/2012/05/window.html> (This blog features three of my original photographs of National Park tourist practices)
- Resting Places*. Directed by Melissa Villanuevo. Flagler Productions, 2007. (This documentary film about roadside memorials, which has appeared at a number of film festival venues and is narrated by Liam Neeson, features a montage of 26 of my original photographs of roadside shrines)

Expert Witness Testimony

- Michael Kleinman, Scott Wade, and John "Furly" Travis v. City of San Marcos, 2008* a First Amendment case heard in U.S. District Court involving an art car displayed at the Planet K subculture store in San Marcos, TX, August 5, 2008 (Expert Witness for the Plaintiffs; testified in Deposition and at Trial regarding visual/material communication and contemporary U.S. car culture; after an appeal at the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, the case was referred to the Supreme Court, which denied hearing the case)

Southwestern University Public Lectures, Panels, and Performances

- Breakout Group Leader, "Building a Liberal Arts Community Next to Southwestern," Small-Group Discussion for Board of Visitors Meeting, October 27, 2023

Presenter, "The Evolution of Tactical Planning at Southwestern," a presentation for Board of Visitors Meeting, April 30, 2021

Panelist, "Realizing Southwestern's Strategic Vision and Direction," Panel Discussion for Board of Visitors Meeting, October 18, 2019

Panelist, Midterm Election Analysis Dialogue, Panel Discussion about talking about politics in a productive way, November 13, 2018

Panelist, *HAZE* documentary film Panel Discussion for Southwestern students during National Hazing Prevention Week, September 24, 2018

Workshop Leader, "Student Success Roadmaps and Pathway Documents," Southwestern Fall Faculty Conference, August 23, 2018

Panelist, "Free Speech at Southwestern" Panel Discussion for Board of Trustees Meeting, February 1, 2018

Panelist, "Free Speech at Southwestern" Panel Discussion for Board of Visitors Meeting, October 20, 2017

"When Your Life is a 'Paideia Moment': The Pleasures and Perils of Interdisciplinary Scholarly and Creative Work," *Conversations About Our Scholarly and Creative Lives* Lecture Series, October 17, 2017

"Moving Pictures: The Lives of Photographs of the Dead at Roadside Car Crash Shrines," *Representations* Lecture Series, January 24, 2017

Faculty Advisor and Organizer, Student Q & A Panel for the Shilling Lecture by Scott Simon, March 25, 2014

Panelist and Organizer, "Journalism in the Age of Social Media," a Pre-Lecture Event for the Shilling Lecture by Scott Simon, March 6, 2014

Reader, *The Holocaust Cantata*, Directed by Kenny Sheppard, Southwestern University, Georgetown, TX, November 23, 2013.

Panelist, Panel Discussion of *Rebirth* (2011), a documentary about the ongoing presence of trauma in the lives of victims and families of victims of the 9/11 World Trade Center attacks, Southwestern University, Georgetown, TX, September 1, 2011

Panelist, Central Texas Café Culture donor recognition event, Georgetown, TX November 5, 2010

"Roadside America: Cars, Car Culture, and Automobility," Southwestern University Road Scholars Presentation, Marble Falls, TX, September 30, 2010

"Roadside America: Cars, Car Culture, and Automobility," Southwestern University Road Scholars Presentation, Dallas, TX, September 27, 2009

"Touching Images: The Lives of Photographs at Roadside Car Crash Shrines," Southwestern Brown Working Papers Talk, March 27, 2008

"Making Space on the Side of the Road: Towards A Cultural Study of Roadside Car Crash Memorials," Southwestern Brown Working Papers Talk, April 14, 2004

"Roadside Memorials: Violence and Belonging in the Contemporary U.S.," Faculty Forum, September 23, 2003

"Reading Between the Lines (And Pictures): The Semiotics of Advertising," Senior University Short Course, Georgetown, TX, June 13, 2002

"Scenery: More Than Meets the Eye," Senior University Short Course, Georgetown, TX, June 15, 2001

<p>CURRENT and ONGOING PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY</p>

Scholarly Press Editorial Work:

Journal of American Studies, ad hoc journal article reviewer

Journal of Communication Inquiry, ad hoc journal article reviewer
Memory Studies, ad hoc journal article reviewer
Routledge Press, book proposal reviewer for books in Place/Memory Studies,
Visual/Material Culture, and Architecture/Design
Rowman & Littlefield, book proposal reviewer for books in *Place, Memory, Affect* Series and
Visual/Material Culture
Sage Publications, ad hoc book proposal reviewer for books in Visual Communication, Visual
Culture, and Film Studies

Ongoing Web Development:

Placing Memory, an interactive digital story map of remembering and forgetting at
Southwestern, centered on student research, writing, and photography. First posted
September 2023.

(URL: <https://placingmemory.southwestern.edu>)

Bob Bednar @ Southwestern University, Comprehensive website under ongoing
development as a resource for students in my courses and as a forum for exhibiting
student work; first posted August, 1999 (URL: www.southwestern.edu/~bednarb)

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, and AWARDS

Placing Memory Project, Project Director, Funded by NetVUE/CIC Institutional Saga Grant
2022-2024

Jesse E. Purdy Excellence in Research & Creative Works Award, 2021

Southwestern University Senior Faculty Sabbatical (Competitive Award), 2016

Southwestern Competitive Faculty Development Grants, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2014-15

Southwestern University Senior Faculty Sabbatical (Competitive Award), 2007

Southwestern University Faculty Development Travel Grants, 2010-2011, 2011-2012,
2012-2013, 2013-2014, 2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2016-2107, 2017-2018, 2018-
2019, 2019-2020

Southwestern University Cullen Faculty Development Grants, 2000-2001, 2001-2002,
2002-2003, 2003-4, 2004-5, 2005-6, 2006-7, 2007-8, 2009-10 [award
discontinued]

Southwestern University Abercrombie Travel Grants, 1999-2000, 2000-2001, 2001-2002,
2002-2003, 2003-4, 2004-5, 2005-6, 2006-7, 2007-8, 2008-9 [award discontinued]

Texas Lutheran University Competitive Professional Development Awards, 1997 and 1998

University of Texas Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award, Honorable Mention, 1997

University of Texas Graduate Continuing Fellowship, 1994 to 1995

University of Arizona Competitive Conference Travel Grant, 1993

University of Texas Competitive Professional Development Awards, 1992 and 1993

Buffalo Bill Historical Center, Institute for Western American Studies, Summer Fellowship,
1991

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Anthropological Association

American Association of University Professors

American Studies Association

Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Association

DETAILS of PROFESSIONAL WORK at SOUTHWESTERN

TEACHING

Regular Classroom Courses (alphabetical order)

Advanced-Entry Seminar: Roadside America

(Fall 2018)

Advanced Mass Communication

(Fall 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2005)

Communication Studies Capstone Research Seminar

(Spring 2010, Fall 2011, Spring 2013, Fall 2014, Spring 2016, Spring 2017, Spring 2018--2 sections, Spring 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Spring 2022)

Communication & Memory

(Spring 2014, Spring 2015, Spring 2016, Spring 2018, Fall 2019, Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Fall 2023—2 sections)

Communication, Technology & Culture

(Spring 2000, 2001, 2003, 2005, Fall 2006)

Critical/Cultural Communication Studies

(Fall 2013, Spring 2017—2 sections each semester)

Critical/Cultural Research Methods

(Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2022, Spring 2023)

English Composition

(Spring 1995, Fall 1995, Spring 1996)

Film Studies

(May 2001, Spring 2002, May 2002, May 2003, Spring 2004, May 2004, May 2005, May 2006, May 2007, Fall 2008, May 2010, June 2012, May 2014, May 2018, Summer 2023)

First Year Seminar: Roadside America

(Fall 2002, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2021)

Gender, Race, & Class in Media

(Fall 2000, Fall 2002)

Journalism

(Fall 1999, June 2000, Fall 2000, June 2001, Fall 2001, June 2002, Fall 2002, June 2003, Fall 2003, June 2004, June 2005, Fall 2005, June 2006, Fall 2006, June 2007, Spring 2008, June 2008, Spring 2009, May 2012, June 2013, June 2014, June 2016, June 2017, June 2018, June 2019, Summer 2020, Summer 2021, Summer 2022)

Mass Communication

(Spring 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007—2 sections each semester)

Media & Culture

(Fall 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021—2 sections each semester)

Organizational Communication

(Fall 1999, 2001, 2003)

Paideia Seminar: Media Activism

(Fall 2010-Spring 2013, 3-year cohort)

Road Movies

(Summer 2009, Summer 2011, Summer 2013, Summer 2015, Summer 2016, Summer 2017, Summer 2019)

Visual Communication

(Fall 2006, Spring 2008, Spring 2009, Spring 2010, Spring 2011, Spring 2012,
Spring 2013, Spring 2014, Spring 2015)
Visual/Material Communication
(Spring 2019, Fall 2020, Spring 2023)
Writing Culture: Topics in Communication and Memory
(Spring 2010)

Directed Independent Studies/Tutorials (alphabetical order)

Advanced Organizational Communication (Summer 2002)
Alternative Food Cultures of the U.S. (Spring 2010)
ARGH: Community TV for SU (Fall 2000—four students)
Brand Promotion Through Mass Media (Summer 2003)
British Tabloid Media (Spring 2000)
Car Culture, Suburbia, and the New Urbanism (Fall 2009)
Caribbean/American Studies (Summer 2003)
Chinese Internet Culture (Summer 2001)
Cold War and Abstract Expressionism (Fall 2008)
Comics & Graphic Communication (Spring 2000)
Communication in Accounting (Spring 2005)
Contemporary Chinese Culture (Summer 2011)
Contemporary Native American Literature/Culture (Spring 2008)
Corporate Community Relations (Summer 2004)
Critical Media Literacy (Spring 2001)
Designing Modern Communications (Summer 2013)
Documentary Video Production (Summer 2001)
Documentary Nonfiction Writing (Summer 2002)
Documenting Immigration Experiences (Summer 2003)
Documenting the Theatre Rehearsal Process (Spring 2002)
Feminism and Youth Culture (Summer 2014)
Film Genre and Gender (Fall 2010)
Film Production (Spring 2007—2 students; Summer 2010; Spring 2011)
Feature Journalism Writing (Spring 2001)
Feature Writing (Spring 2005)
Global Advertising and Marketing (Summer 2003)
Gangsters & Gangrene: 1930s America (Spring 2007)
Gendered Communication in Organizations (Spring 2007)
History of Teaching History (Fall 2009)
How Hollywood Works (Summer 2010)
Image and Aura (Summer 2010)
Images of Poverty (Summer 2000)
Images of Texas (Fall 2008)
Images of the American Housewife (Summer 2001)
Interactive Communications (Spring 2007)
Introduction to CommStudies Tutorial (Summer 2013)
Journalism (Spring 2000, Summer 2007)
Journalism Tutorial (Summer 2008; Summer 2010)
Landscape and Power (Summer 2010)
Latin American Media (Spring 2000)
Media & Culture (Fall 2011)
Media, Culture & Identity (Summer 2001, Spring 2007)
Megachurches in the US (Fall 2006)
New Media and Gaming (Summer 2010)
No Child Taught History (Spring 2010)

Nonfiction Narrative (Spring 2001)
 Nonfiction Narrative and the Blogosphere (Spring 2013)
 Placing Memory (Fall 2023—2 students)
 Political Communication (Spring 2002)
 Propaganda & Media Activism (Summer 2018)
 Public History (Fall 2009)
 Public Relations (Summer 2003)
 Realist Fiction (Summer 2012)
 Realist Fiction II (Summer 2013)
 Reflections of Prison Nation (Fall 2018)
 Social Journalism (Summer 2002)
 Social Media Marketing (Summer 2015)
 SonyStyle Stores: A Cultural Study (Spring 2007)
 Sports and Media (Spring 2005)
 Southwestern and Methodism (Summer 2023)
 Teaching Multicultural History (Spring 2010)
 Teen Girl Media/Culture (Summer 2014)
 TV Analysis & Criticism (Spring 2001)
 TV and Cultural Studies (Spring 2000)
 Television and Youth Culture (Spring 2003)
 Travel Writing (Spring 2003)
 Video Production (Spring 2001, Spring 2002, Spring 2006, Spring 2007, Spring 2011)
 Visual Communication (Fall 1999)
 Visual Culture (Spring 2001)
 Web Series Production (Spring 2016)

Supervised Honors Theses

Katie Mead, "Howling Coyote: The Trickster in Ginsberg" (Fall 2010-Spring 2011)
 Elizabeth Knox, "The Culture of Deafness" (Fall 2006-Spring 2007)
 Brodie Reynolds, "Queering the Small Town" (Fall 2005-Spring 2006)
 Barrett Michael, "On Digital Video: The Aesthetics and Cultural Implications of a Nascent Medium" (Fall 2004-Spring 2005)
 Scott Rocher, "Taking AIM: The Net Generation" (Fall 2003-Spring 2004)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Internal Professional Development Grant Projects

2018 Advising Initiative Fellowship: Departmental Roadmaps/Pathways
 2014-2015 *Road Scars* Summer Research/Writing Project
 2011-2012 Research funding for writing "Transforming Broken Things: Crash Debris, Trauma, and Memory at Roadside Car Crash Shrines."
 2010-2011 Supplementary Travel Funding to present "Materializing Memory: Space, Memory and Transference at Roadside Car Crash Shrines " at the *Contained Memory* Conference, Wellington, New Zealand, December 9-11, 2010
 2007-8 "Crossing Over: A Transcultural Analysis of Roadside Car Crash Shrines in the U.S./Mexico Borderlands" (Research Project)
 2006-7 "Making Space on the Side of the Road: A Cultural Study of Roadside Car Crash Memorials in the American Southwest, Phase III" (Research Project)
 2004-5 "Making Space on the Side of the Road: A Cultural Study of Roadside Car Crash Memorials in the American Southwest" (Research Project)

2003-4 "Car Crash Crosses in Contemporary American Material and Visual Culture"
(Research Project)
2002-3 "American Visual Culture" (Course Development Project)
2001-2 "Documenting Central Texas" (Course Development Project)
2000-2001 "Communication Studies Capstone Seminar" (Course Development Project)

SERVICE

Current Service to the Southwestern University Community

Faculty Advisor to *The Megaphone*, 2000-present
Director, *Placing Memory Project*, 2023-present
Land Acknowledgement Working Group, fall 2023
Sexual Misconduct Hearing Board, 2014-2015; 2017-2021; 2022-present
Lavender Spaces Affiliate, 2018-present
Academic Advisor (between 10-30 Advisees a semester), 1999-present

Past Service to the SU Community (alphabetical order)

Academic Advising Syllabus Working Group, 2018
Academic Affairs Council (Social Sciences Division Representative), 2003-2007
Academic Affairs Council Curriculum Review Summer Working Group, 2003
Academic Standards Committee (Social Sciences Division Representative), 2000-2002
American Studies Program Chair, 2000-2011
Catalog Review Committee, Humanities Division Representative, 2013-2014
Classes Without Quizzes instructor, February 2008, September 2012
Communication Studies Department Chair, 2005-2010, 2011-2013, Fall 2020
Communication Studies Search Committee Chair 2023-2024
Communication Studies Search Committee Chair 2011-2012
Communication Studies Search Committee Chair 2005-2006 (2 tenure-track positions)
Communication Studies Search Committee Chair 2002-2003 (2 tenure-track positions)
Communication Search Committee Member, 1999-2000, 2000-2001, 2002-2003, 2005-2006, 2008-2009, 2011-2012, 2017-2018, 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2023-2024
Donor Appreciation Lecture: "Café Culture," November 2010
Faculty Advisor to SU Justice Project, 2014-2017
Faculty Advisor to Independent Filmmakers Club, 2008-2010
Faculty Advisor to *ARGH-TV*, 2000-2002
Faculty Advisor to SU Radio, 2015-2017
Faculty Advisor to SU Photography Club, 2013-2017
Faculty Affairs Council (Social Sciences Division Representative), Spring 2003
Faculty Handbook Advisory Committee, Humanities Division Representative, 2011-2015
Fellowships Committee, 2009-2010
Financial Vitality Task Force—University Relations, 2013
First-Year Seminar Instructor, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2021
First Year Seminar Committee, 2008-2009
Inauguration Print, Publicity, & Positioning Committee, 2001
Independent Major Advisor for:
Barrett Michael, "Media Studies"; Brad Mathis, "Film Studies"; Kassie Juenke, "Visual Media"; Christina Woodworth, "Film Studies"
Judge, Intercultural Learning Student Photography Competition, 2012-2019
Paideia Professor, 2010-2019
Paideia Cluster Co-Coordinator, "Situating Place" Cluster, 2014-2019
Paideia Seminar Professor, "Media Activism" 3-year Cohort, 2010-2013

Perspectives on Knowledge Committee, 2000-2007
Presidential Search Advisory Committee, 2019-2020
Road Scholars Presenter, September 2009, September 2010
SACS Publication Subcommittee, 2000-2002
Senior University Short Course instructor, 2001, 2002
Shared Governance Task-Force, spring 2020
Situating Place Paideia Cluster Co-Coordinator, 2014-2019
Situating Place Paideia Cluster faculty member, Situating Place 1.0 2014-2018
Situating Place Paideia Cluster faculty member, Situating Place 2.0 2015-2019
Social Sciences Division Secretary, 2000-2003
SPROG summer academic advisor, 2013-2020
Strategic Planning and Budget Committee (Humanities Area Representative) 2015-2016
Strategic Planning Committee (Humanities Rep and Chair), 2018-2020, 2020-2022
Student Activities Communication Task Force Committee, 1999
Student Media Editorial Board, (Social Sciences Division Representative), 2002-2006
Student Media Editorial Board, (Humanities Division Representative), 2007-2011
Tactical Planning Task Force, Co-Chair (with President Laura Trombley), 2020-2021

Service to the Central Texas Community

AHB Community School, Austin, Texas, Board of Directors Chair, 2009-2012
AHB Community School, Austin, Texas, Board of Directors member, 2008-2013
AHB Community School, Austin, Texas, Volunteer Youth Media Instructor, Fall 2007
Hancock Recreation Center, Austin, Texas, Youth Soccer Coach, Spring 2010-Fall 2012
Latina Mami, Austin, Texas, Volunteer, Fall 2005 (organized and constructed storage and distribution infrastructure for donated clothes, toys, and furnishings for Hurricane Katrina victims)
North Austin Soccer Alliance, Austin, Texas, Spring 2013, Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2014, Spring 2015 (Division IV and III Co-Ed Youth Soccer Coach); National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) Level 2 Certification
Soulforce, Austin, Texas, Summer 2008 (served as a Lead Negotiator in the *American Family Outing* direct action, which advocated for inclusion of LGBTQ families at US megachurches such as Saddleback Church in CA and Lakewood Church in TX)
Trinity United Methodist Church, Trustees (member Fall 2007-2014)
Trinity United Methodist Church, Children's Nurture Team member, 2003-2007
Windsor Park Neighborhood Association, Austin, Texas, Newsletter Distributor, 2019-present
Women's Advocacy Project, Austin, Texas, Volunteer, 1996-2001 (handled regular maintenance for facilities infrastructure for this legal nonprofit focused on connecting domestic violence victims to legal advice and representation), 2000 Volunteer of the Year

[Last Revised 5 September, 2023]