

John Banister

Department of Communication Studies
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EDUCATION

University of Georgia	Athens, Georgia
Ph.D. Communication Studies	2021
Area of Specialization: Legal Argumentation	
Dissertation: <i>Defending Judicial Authority: Legitimation Argument Strategies of the Robert's Court</i>	

Iowa State University	Ames, Iowa
M.A. Rhetoric and Composition	2015
Area of Specialization: Classical Rhetoric	
Thesis: <i>Epideictic Memories of War: Reconceiving the Classical Funeral Oration as Exigence-driven discourse</i>	

B.A. Speech Communication	2011
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Georgia	Athens, Georgia
Limited-term Lecturer	2022 – Present
Department of Communication Studies	

Instructor of Record	2015 – 2020
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Future Faculty Fellow	2018 – 2019
Center for Teaching and Learning	

Iowa State University	Ames, Iowa
Graduate Teaching Assistant	2013 – 2015
Department of English	

TEACHING INTERESTS

Active learning; presentational skills; team-based learning; classical rhetorical pedagogies; democratic classrooms; debate pedagogies

COURSES TAUGHT

University of Georgia

COMM 1100/1110, Public Speaking (multiple modalities)
COMM 1500, Interpersonal Communication (multiple modalities)
COMM 2200, Rhetoric & Society (online)
COMM 2400, Oral Decision Making (face-to-face)
COMM 3200, Business and Professional Communication (face-to-face)
COMM 3310, Freedom of Speech (face-to-face)
COMM 3300, Rhetorical Criticism (face-to-face)

Iowa State University

SPCM 212, Fundamentals of Public Speaking (face-to-face)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Argumentation; First Amendment studies; legal studies; the U.S. Supreme Court; classical rhetorical theory; public speaking pedagogy

SCHOLARSHIP

Peer Reviewed Essays

Banister, J. (2023). Judicious invention: Flexible application of judicial doctrine in the Roberts Court's voting rights jurisprudence. *Communication Quarterly* 71(1), 21–41. doi: 10.1080/01463373.2022.2100268

Banister, J (2022). On performativity and compelled commercial speech: Toward a workable standard. *Communication Law Review* 22(1), 74–103.

Banister, J. (2021). The dissociations of John Roberts: *National Federation of Independent Business v. Sebelius* and the discontents of judicial supremacy. *Argumentation and Advocacy* 57(2), 123–139. doi: 10.1080/10511431.2021.1897275

Banister, J. (2020). Narrativizing the surge: From quagmire to counterinsurgency in Iraq. *Western Journal of Communication* 84(5), 568–585. doi: 10.1080/10570314.2020.1738021

Banister, J. (2014). Special occasion speaking. In L. Lefebvre (Ed.) *A speechmaker's reference*. Boston, MA: Pearson Custom Publishing.

Work in Progress

“Appeasing Christian schools: The Roberts Court, religious equality, and democratic community” (Article under review)

Competitively Selected Conference Papers

- Banister, J. (2024). "Legislating Obscenity: Normalizing Exceptions to Academic Freedom in Georgia's Public Schools." A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southern States Communication Association. Frisco, TX.
- Banister, J. (2023). "Debate in the Introductory Course: Invention and Audience in an Age of Post-Truth." A paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association. National Harbor, MD.
- Banister, J. (2022). "On performativity and compelled commercial speech: toward a workable standard." A paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association. New Orleans, LA.
- Banister, J. (2021). Textualism, the universal audience, and inventional constraints in the Roberts Court's voting rights jurisprudence. A paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association. Seattle, WA.
- Banister, J. (2021). Reflections on judicial authority: Legitimation controversies and *Dignitas* at the Supreme Court. A paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association. Seattle, WA.
- Banister, J. (2020). From Obamacare to SCOTUSCare: Chief Justice John Roberts' dissociations in *National Federation of Independent Business v. Sebelius*. A paper accepted for presentation at the annual meeting of the Southern States Communication Association. Frisco, TX. ***Conference cancelled due to COVID 19*
- Banister, J. (2018). Antilogies and sophistic method: Protagoras, Antisthenes, and the strong case for rhetoric." A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southern States Communication Association. Nashville, TN, April 2018.
- Banister, J. (2018). The pedagogical utility of the Toulmin model in the 21st century." A paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association. Dallas, TX.
- Banister, J. (2018). Dissent and transnational solidarity in independent hip-hop. A paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association. Dallas, TX.
- Banister, J. (2017). In search of the private: Rereading Hannah Arendt in the social networking age. A paper presented at the biennial AFA/NCA Alta Conference on Argumentation. Alta, UT, July 2017.
- Banister, J. (2017). Narrativizing the Iraq surge: A rhetorical history. A paper presented at the annual meeting of the annual meeting of the Southern States Communication Association Annual Convention. Greenville, SC.

Banister, J. (2015). Demosthenes' epideictic advocacy: Rethinking the classical funeral oration as exigence-driven discourse" A paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association. Las Vegas, NV.

Banister, J. (2014). Apuleius' Apologia and the aesthetic end of rhetoric. A paper presented at the Central States Communication Association Annual Convention. Minneapolis, MN.

Conference Panel Involvement

Discussant – Communication and Freedom: Dialogues with Ukraine, Taiwan, and U.S. Officials. A preconference event hosted in conjunction with the annual meeting of the National Communication Association. National Harbor, MD. November 2023.

Respondent – “Top Papers in Freedom of Expression.” A panel of competitively selected papers presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association. National Harbor, MD. November 2023.

Panelist – “Finding PLACE after Debate: What debaters do after debate ends.” A presentation at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association. New Orleans, LA, November 2022.

Chair – “Gendered Expectations: Opportunities and Challenges in the Public Speaking Classroom” A presentation at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association. Las Vegas, NV, November 2015.

Panelist – “Eyes, Ears, and Mouths: Engaging Past Theory after a Paradigm Shift.” A forum presentation at the annual meeting of the American Folklore Society. Long Beach, CA, October 2015.

Panelist – “Converging for Collaboration: Theory, pedagogy, and practice of collaborative learning strategies in communication classrooms” A discussion presentation at Central States Communication Association Annual Convention. Madison, WI.

Invited Writing and Presentations on Teaching

Banister, J. (2023). “Debate in the Introductory Course: Invention and Audience in an Age of Post-Truth,” A Presentation to the Department of Communication Studies’ colloquium series, September 25, 2023.

Banister, J. (2019). Surviving your first year as a teaching assistant,” *GRADTeach Magazine* 23, 3–4.

- “Strategies for Efficient Grading.” A breakout workshop facilitated at University of Georgia’s New TA/LA orientation (co-led with K.C. Jones and Jeffrey Robert). Athens, GA August 2018.
- “Choosing an adviser and making the most of coursework: some tradeoffs” A guest lecture presented to a gathering of COMM 8020. Athens, GA. October 2017 & October 2018.
- “Teaching online as a graduate student: Some reflections” A guest lecture presented to a gathering of COMM 8010. Athens, GA. October 2017.
- “Making the most of your speech communication degree” A panel presentation to graduating students in the B.A. program in Speech Communication. Ames, IA, May 2015.
- “Speaking at Special Occasions” A lecture presented to two large lecturing gatherings of Speech Communication 212, Ames, IA, November 2014.
- "Presenting at Conferences as a Graduate Student." A symposium presentation for graduate students in the Department of English on successful research presentation at professional conferences. Ames, IA. October 2014.

SERVICE

Academic Service

Editorial Board Member

- *Communication Law Review* (2021–)

Convention Planner and Chair

- Freedom of Speech Division, Southern States Communication Association (2023–2026)

Division Secretary

- Communication and Law Division, National Communication Association (2022—2024)

Ad Hoc Manuscript Reviewer

- *Law, Culture, and the Humanities* (2025)
- *Communication and Democracy* (2023)
- National Communication Association, Various Divisions and Interest Groups (2016–2024)
- *Southern Communication Journal* (2017–2019)
- Southern States Communication Association, Multiple Divisions and Interest Groups (2017–)

Teaching Mentoring as Future Faculty Fellow 2018 – 2019

- New TA/LA Orientation, Organizer and Breakout Leader
- Facilitator, Mid-semester Formative Evaluations and New TA Coaching

President, Communication Studies Graduate Forum 2016 – 2017

- Represented graduate students at faculty meetings; organized of social and professional development programs for current and prospective graduate students; assisted in recruitment of graduate students and faculty

Military Service

Support Operations Officer for Transportation April 2023 – Present
110th Combat Support Sustainment Battalion, Tifton, GA

Company Executive Officer September 2021 – April 2023
277th Support Maintenance Company, Kennesaw, GA

Maintenance Platoon Leader June 2020 – September 2021
277th Support Maintenance Company, Kennesaw, GA

Commissioned Officer Candidate October 2019 – May 2020
3-11 Infantry Regiment, Fort Benning, GA

AWARDS

Army Commendation Medal (2025)

U.S. Department of Defense Overseas Service Ribbon (2025)

James Madison Prize for Outstanding Research in First Amendment Studies, Southern States Communication Association (2023)

Top Faculty Paper, National Communication Association, Argumentation and Forensics Division (2021)

Osborne Research Fellowship, University of Georgia (2020 – 2021)

Dr. Lawrence W. Hugenberg Top Student Paper Award, National Communication Association, Basic Course Division (2017)

Top Panel, Central States Communication Association, Communication Education Division (2015)

Teaching Excellence Award, Iowa State University (2015)