

Matthew deTar
Associate Professor
School of Communication Studies · Ohio University
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EDUCATION

Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

Program in Rhetoric and Public Culture, Department of Communication Studies

PhD, August 2012.

Dissertation: “Figures of Nationalist Discourse: Atatürk, the Military, Religion, and the Minority in Modern Turkey.” (Dilip Gaonkar, Chair.)

MA, December 2007.

Thesis: “Negotiating Difference: Lyotard and the Act of State Doctrine.” (Robert Hariman, Chair.)

University of California at Berkeley, Berkeley, CA

Major in Rhetoric; Minor in French

BA with Honors, December 2003.

Thesis Title: “Roland Barthes and the Myths of the War on Terror.”

EXPERIENCE

Ohio University, School of Communication Studies

Associate Professor

August 2023–Present

Assistant Professor

August 2017–August 2023

Willamette University, Civic Communication and Media Department

Visiting Assistant Professor

August 2015–May 2017

Whitman College, Rhetoric Studies Department

Visiting Assistant Professor

August 2012–May 2015

Northwestern University, Department of Communication Studies

Graduate Teaching Assistant

September 2006–June 2012

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

Matthew deTar, *Figures That Speak: The Vocabulary of Turkish Nationalism* (Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University Press, 2022).

PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

Matthew deTar and Erik Johnson, “The Long Speech: Rhetorical Abundance in Circulation,” *Rhetoric Society Quarterly* v. 53, no. 4 (2023), 581-595.

Matthew deTar, "Why 'Anticolonial' International Rhetorical Studies?" *Rhetoric & Public Affairs* v. 24, no. 1-2 (2021), 191–206.

Matthew deTar, "A Confluence of Margins," *Departures in Critical Qualitative Research* v. 8, no. 2 (2019), 8–16.

Matthew deTar, "Nationalism, Rhetoric, and Discursive Form," *Journal of Contemporary Thought* v. 44 (Winter 2016), p. 15–26 [accepted December 2017].

Matthew deTar, "Absence of the Present: The Reburial of Adnan Menderes and the Condition of Possibility of Public Memory in Turkey," *Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies* v.13, no. 1 (2016), 93–108.

Matthew deTar, "National Identity After Communism: Hungary's Statue Park," *Advances in the History of Rhetoric* v. 18, suppl. 1 (2015), S135–S152.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Matthew deTar, "The Invention of Race in Turkey," in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Race, Ethnicity, and Communication*, ed. Sudeshna Roy (Oxford University Press, 2022).

Matthew deTar, "Teaching Argumentation and Advocacy," in *Teaching Communication, Vol. 2: Teaching Communication Studies* (Cognella Publishing, 2024).

Matthew deTar, "Decolonizing Rhetorical History," in *Reframing Rhetorical History: Cases, Theories, and Methodologies*, ed. Kathleen J. Turner and Jason Edward Black (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2022), 192–211.

Matthew deTar, "Representation from the Margins: Brexit, Turkey, and the Idea of 'Europe,'" in *Voices in Middle Eastern and North African Communication and Cultural Studies: Thinking Transnationally*, ed. Haneen S. Ghabra, Fatima Zahrae Chrfi Alaoui, Shadee Abdi, Bernadette Marie Calafell. (New York: Peter Lang, 2020), 91–103.

INVITED BOOK CHAPTERS

Matthew deTar, "Figures of Nationalist Speech in Atatürk's *Great Speech*," in *History, Politics, and Foreign Policy in Turkey*, ed. Kılıç Buğra Kanat, Kadir Üstün, and Nuh Yılmaz (Ankara: SETA Foundation, 2012), 5–25.

INVITED ARTICLES

Matthew deTar, "La forma de la contingencia: teoría política de lo particular" [translation of "The Form of Contingency: Political Theory and the Particular"], translated by Carlos Fernando Alvarado Duque, *Revista Escribanía* 19, no. 1 (June 2021), 43–50.

BOOK REVIEWS

Matthew deTar, Review of *Building Modern Turkey: State, Space, and Ideology in the Early Republic*, by Zeynep Kezer, *International Journal of Turkish Studies* v. 22, no. 1-2 (Fall 2016), 156–159.

Matthew deTar, Review of *Cloning Terror: The War of Images, 9/11 to the Present*, by W.J.T. Mitchell, *Quarterly Journal of Speech* v.100, no.1 (February 2014), 134–138.

GRANTS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

Summer Research Grant, Center for Religion, Law, and Democracy at Willamette University, 2016

Dissertation Writing Grant, The Institute of Turkish Studies, 2011-2012

“Top Student Papers in Rhetorical Theory,” Panel Selection, National Communication Association, 2010

Keyman Modern Turkish Studies Research Grant, Roberta Buffet Center for Comparative and International Studies, Northwestern University, 2009-2010

Graduate Research Grant, The Graduate School, Northwestern University, 2009

Graduate Research Ignition Grant, School of Communication, Northwestern University, 2009-2010

Summer Language Grant, The Graduate School, Northwestern University, 2009

Gerard A. Hauser Graduate Scholarship, Rhetoric Society of America, 2008

Laureate, James L. Golden Outstanding Student Essay, National Communication Association, 2007

COURSES TAUGHT

Ohio University

Assistant and Associate Professor

Graduate Courses

Graduate Seminar in Rhetorical Theory, COMS 8300, Fall 2021, Fall 2023

#RhetoricSoWhite: Rethinking Rhetorical Practice, COMS 8390, Spring 2020

Graduate Seminar in Rhetorical Criticism, COMS 8340, Fall 2018, Fall 2020, Fall 2022

Communication Historiography Methods, COMS 7320, Spring 2023

Narrative Approaches to Rhetorical Criticism (team taught course), COMS 7340, Spring 2019

Undergraduate Courses

Climate Crisis, Communication, and Politics, COMS 4800, Spring 2024

Introduction to Public Advocacy, COMS 3600, Spring 2021, Fall 2021

Representation and Post-Truth, POCO 4010, Spring 2021, Spring 2023

Representation and Post-Truth in Turkey and the Middle East, POCO 4010, Spring 2020

Style, Rhetoric, Representation, COMS 4800, Fall 2019, Spring 2022

Rhetorical Style and Representation in Populism, COMS 4800, Fall 2018, Spring 2019

Populism, Communication, Media, POCO 4010, Spring 2018, Spring 2019

Rhetorical Inquiry and Criticism, COMS 3620, Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Fall 2023, Spring 2024

Willamette University

Visiting Assistant Professor

Visual Rhetoric in the Print Age, CCM 241, Fall 2016, Spring 2017

Social Movements in the Age of Leaderless Protest, CCM 243, Fall 2015, Spring 2016
Language, Activism, and Rhetoric in Human Rights, CCM 360, Spring 2016
Public Speaking, CCM 101, Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2016, Spring 2017

Whitman College

Visiting Assistant Professor

Rhetorical Criticism, Rhetoric Studies 387, Fall 2012; Fall 2013
Advanced Rhetorical Criticism, Rhetoric Studies 487, Fall 2014
Visual Rhetoric, Rhetoric Studies 277, Fall 2013; Fall 2014
Rhetoric, Politics, and Post-Modernity, Rhetoric Studies 378, Spring 2013, Spring 2015
Classical Rhetoric, Rhetoric Studies 330/Classics 371, Spring 2015
Rhetoric and National Identity, Rhetoric Studies 278/Politics 200, Spring 2014
Language, Rhetoric, and the Question of Human Rights, Rhetoric Studies 377/Politics 400, Spring 2014
Language and Argument in the War on Terror, Rhetoric Studies 377, Fall 2012
Fundamentals of Public Address, Rhetoric Studies 110, Fall 2012; Spring 2013; Fall 2013; Fall 2014

Northwestern University

Primary Instructor

Public Speaking, Fall 2006; Winter 2007; Spring 2007; Spring 2008

Teaching Assistant

Law of the Creative Process, Prof. Rick Morris, Spring 2012
Principles of Rhetorical Criticism, Prof. Angela Ray, Spring 2011
Theories of Argumentation, Prof. David Zarefsky and others, Winter 2008; Spring 2010; Fall 2010
Contemporary Problems in Freedom of Speech, Prof. Jason deSanto, Fall 2007
Rhetoric, Democracy, and Globalization, Prof. Dilip Gaonkar, Winter 2007
Global Culture and Communication, Master's of Science in Communication Program, Prof. Dilip Gaonkar, Fall 2006; Fall 2007
Theories of Ethics, Northwestern University School of Law, Prof. Charles Taylor, Winter 2007

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Ethnicity, Nationalism, and Public Speech; Collective Identity; Public Memory; Political Constitution; Circulation and Cultural Theory; Communication and Cultural Difference; Representation and the Limits of Discourse; Philosophy of History; Human Rights Theory

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Rhetorical Analysis in the Anthropocene: Reflections on Conceptual Futures,” Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Convention, May 2024.

Panelist on “Just Rhetorical History: Challenging ‘The Canon’ through Decolonial Pedagogy,” panel presentation at Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Convention, May 2024.

“Decolonizing Rhetorical History,” panel presentation on “How Rhetorical History Contributes to an Appreciation of PLACE,” National Communication Association Annual Conference, November 2022.

Interview on *Figures That Speak: The Vocabulary of Turkish Nationalism*, spotlight panel on “New Books in the History of Rhetoric,” National Communication Association Annual Conference, November 2022.

“‘The Border’ as Rhetorical Figure: Notes toward a Stylistics of US Nationalism,” Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Convention, May 2022.

“Representation from the Margins: Brexit, Turkey, and the Idea of ‘Europe,’” International Communication Association Annual Conference, May 2022.

“Populism and ‘Europe’ in France and Turkey,” part of a panel discussion entitled “Negotiating Identity and Transnationalism: Middle Eastern and North African Critical Intercultural Communication,” accepted to National Communication Association Annual Convention, November 2020 [panel discussion cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic].

“The Mirror of the Minority and the Possibility of Free Expression,” accepted to the International Rhetoric Workshop, July 2020 [workshop cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic].

“Leveraging Desire,” accepted to the Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Convention, May 2020 [convention cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic].

“The Form of Contingency: Political Theory and the Particular,” presented at “Communication in the Americas IV” Conference at Universidad de Manizales, Colombia, February 2020.

“FETÖ: Brief History of an Acronym,” Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, November 2019.

“The Possibilities of a Postcolonial Rhetorical History,” presented at the “Doing Rhetorical History” Seminar, National Communication Association Annual Convention, November 2018.

“The Long Speech: Mass Address and Rhetorical Abundance,” co-authored with Erik Johnson, Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Convention, May 2018.

“Liminal Representations: Brexit, Turkey, and the Idea of Europe,” Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Convention, May 2018.

“Reflections of the Liminal: The Figure of Europe in Turkey’s EEC and EU Membership Processes,” International Rhetoric Workshop, Uppsala, Sweden, August 2016.

“The Idea of ‘Europe’ in the Turkish Political Imagination,” Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Convention, May 2016.

“Representation, Inscription, and the Conditions of Possibility of Public Memory,” National Communication Association Annual Convention, November 2015.

“Islam and the Production of Authority in American Media Coverage of the Arab Spring,” National Communication Association Annual Convention, November 2014.

“Goals of a Rhetoric Curriculum at Liberal Arts Colleges,” Chair and Organizer, National Communication Association Annual Convention, November 2014.

- “The Idea of ‘The Minority’ in Turkey and the Trial of Orhan Pamuk,” Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Conference, May 2014.
- “Conceptual Histories of the Collective: ‘The Population,’” National Communication Association Annual Conference, November 2013.
- “Governmentality and the Structure of ‘Islamophobia’ in Turkey,” Conference on Islam, Political Islam, and Islamophobia, University of Indiana, Bloomington, March 2013.
- “Governmental Rationality and the Limits of Revolutionary Nationalism in Turkey,” National Communication Association Annual Conference, November 2012.
- “The Military in the Discourse of Turkish National Identity,” Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Conference, May 2012.
- “The Limits of Religious Rights Discourse: The EU in Domestic Turkish Politics,” Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Conference, May 2012.
- “Nationalism, Rhetoric, and the Structure of Voice,” National Communication Association Annual Conference, November 2011.
- “Diversity and Global Learning in the Communications Classroom,” National Communication Association Annual Conference, November 2011
- “Figures of Nationalist Speech in Atatürk’s *Great Speech*,” SETA Foundation’s Young Scholars on Turkey Conference, Washington, DC, April 2011.
- “Beyond Demystification: Talal Asad’s Anthropology of Concepts,” National Communication Association Annual Conference, November 2010.
- “Rhetoric and Nationalist Theory: Mustafa Kemal Atatürk’s *Nutuk*,” Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Conference, May 2010.
- “Contingency and Rhetorical Criticism,” Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Conference, May 2010.
- “The Ground of Law: Ineloquence in the ‘Final Emancipation Proclamation,’ January 1, 1863,” Central States Communication Association Annual Convention, April 2009.
- “A Political Philosophy in Progress: Lincoln in Springfield, 1838 and 1858,” Western States Communication Association Annual Convention, February 2009.
- “Charland, Lyotard and the Possibilities of a Postmodern Prudence,” National Communication Association Annual Convention, November 2008.
- “National Identity After Communism: Hungary’s Statue Park,” Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Conference, May 2008.
- “Lyotard and the Act of State Doctrine,” The Promise of Reason: The New Rhetoric after 50 Years at The University of Oregon, May 2008.

- “Specters of Economic Determinism: A Postcolonial Analysis of Benedict Anderson,” Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, April 2008.
- “Between Two Aristocracies: Tocqueville’s Political Vocabulary,” Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, April 2008.
- “It’s All Just an Act: A Postmodern Method of Emotion Analysis,” National Communication Association Annual Convention, November 2007.
- “Figure and Partiality: Language and Reality in Adorno and de Man,” National Communication Association Annual Convention, November 2007.
- “Correcting a ‘Terrible Lie’: An Alternative to Combined Materialist/Idealist Approaches to Rhetoric in *Crime and Punishment*,” National Communication Association Annual Convention, November 2006.
- “The Politics of Woman: Constructing Political Identity Through the Lacanian Subject,” National Communication Association Annual Convention, November 2006.

SERVICE EXPERIENCE

Disciplinary Service: Academic Journals

- Editorial Board Member, *Quarterly Journal of Speech*
- Editorial Board Member, *Rhetoric Society Quarterly*
- Editorial Board Member, *Southern Journal of Communication*
- Ad-hoc Reviewer, *Rhetoric Society Quarterly*, 2022
- Ad-hoc Reviewer, *Turkish Studies*, 2020
- Ad-hoc Reviewer, *Southern Journal of Communication*, 2020
- Ad-hoc Reviewer, *Journal of International and Intercultural Communication*, 2020
- Ad-hoc Reviewer, *Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies*, 2016

Disciplinary Service: Conferences

- Respondent, Rhetorical and Communication Theory Division, National Communication Association Annual Conference, panel on “Rhetorics of Digital Practices in India: PLACE, Memory, and Policy,” 2022
- Reviewer, Rhetorical and Communication Theory Division, National Communication Association Annual Conference, 2013–2022, 2024
- Reviewer, American Society for the History of Rhetoric, National Communication Association Annual Conference, 2022, 2024
- Reviewer, Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Conference, 2022–present
- Reviewer, Public Address Division, National Communication Association Annual Conference, 2013–2019, 2024
- Reviewer, Critical/Cultural Studies Division, National Communication Association Annual Conference, 2016–2017

University Service

- Scripps College of Communication Diversity Committee, 2023-2024
- Faculty Senator, Scripps College of Communication, Ohio University, 2022–present
- Professional Relations Committee, Faculty Senate, Ohio University, 2022–present
- Faculty Consultant, Open OHIO Program, Spring 2020

Departmental Service

- Assessment Committee, School of Communication Studies, Ohio University, 2017–2019, 2020–present
- Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access, and Social Justice Committee, School of Communication Studies, Ohio University, 2020–present; Chair, 2023-2024
- Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, School of Communication Studies, Ohio University, 2017–2021
- Graduate Committee, School of Communication Studies, Ohio University, 2019–2020, 2023-2024
- Director Evaluation Committee, Chair, 2023-2024

Invited Lectures and Panels

- Panelist for Roundtable on Publishing, Public Address Conference, University of Texas at Austin, September 24, 2024.
- Chair, Panel on “Public Space, Affect, and Art,” featuring plenary speaker Caitlin Bruce, and respondents Christa Olson and Karriann Soto Vega. Public Address Conference, University of Kansas, October 14, 2022.
- Matthew deTar, “Mass Mediated Populism after the 2016 Failed Coup in Turkey,” Faculty Colloquium Talk at Willamette University, October 14, 2016
- Matthew deTar, “The Idea of ‘The Minority’ in Turkey and the Trial of Orhan Pamuk,” Scholarship Talk at TKE fraternity, Whitman College, April 28, 2014
- Respondent to Maurice Charland, “Notes Toward a Theory of Democratic Mood,” Lecture sponsored by the Rhetoric and Public Culture Program, Department of Communication Studies, Northwestern University, May 2007

Lectures and Workshops Organized

- Workshop Co-Organizer, Harout Ekmanian, O'Donnell Visiting Professor in Global Studies, Whitman College, November 2014
- Lecture and Workshop Organizer, Dilip Gaonkar, “Crowds, Riots, and the Politics of Disorder,” Whitman College, September 2014
- Co-Coordinator of Operations, Center for Global Culture and Communication, Northwestern University, July 2007–June 2012
- Workshop Organizer, “Workshop on Voice, Violence, and Democracy,” sponsored by the Difficult Dialogues Project at Northwestern University, June 2008
- Lecture Organizer, John McGowan, “Liberalism as Secular Comedy,” sponsored by the Center for Global Culture and Communication, Northwestern University, October 2007

GRADUATE COMMITTEES

PhD Committees, Ohio University

Ritika Popli, Communication Studies, PhD Committee Co-Chair with Devika Chawla, defended Spring 2024

Jennifer Woolley Barone, Communication Studies, PhD Committee Chair, defended Spring 2024

Sabiha Mahbuba, Communication Studies, PhD Committee Chair, current

Reedwan Habib, Communication Studies, PhD Committee Chair, current

Prathana D., Communication Studies, PhD Committee Member, current

Rayna Batool, Communication Studies, PhD Committee Member, current

Brandon Mock, Communication Studies, PhD Committee Member, current

Sophia Kolenko, Communication Studies, PhD Committee Member, current

Jeremy Murphy, Communication Studies, PhD Committee Member, current

Dominic Asitanga, Communication Studies, PhD Committee Member, current

Michael Dolapo Oyedokun, Communication Studies, PhD Committee Member, current

Suleyman Gurbanov, Mass Communication, PhD Committee Member, current

Jill Manoukian, English, PhD Committee Member, defended Fall 2023

MA Committees, Ohio University

Kendall Hotmer, MA Committee Member, 2019

Jennifer Pendleton, MA Committee Member, 2018

Brenda Dickerson, MA Committee Member, 2018

Karina Rosso, MA Committee Member, 2018

Alyssa Burns, MA Committee Member, 2017

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

“Impact of ChatGPT and AI on Teaching and Learning,” Workshop, Spotlight on Learning Conference, Ohio University, April 25, 2023.

Orhan Kocatas, MA, and Min Lun (Alan) Wu, PhD, “The Role of Artificial Intelligence in Education: Instructional Technology Faculty Perspectives,” Lecture, Spotlight on Learning Conference, Ohio University, April 26, 2023.

Inclusive Pedagogy Workshop, Ohio University, August 16, 2022.

“Precarious Economies” Working Group, Rhetoric Society of America Project in Power, Place, and Publics, “Rhetorical Cartographies of the UNR Campus Master Plan,” Reno, NV, May 2019.

Faculty Seminar on “Communicating with Taboo Topics,” led by Mark P. Orbe, National Communication Association Institute for Faculty Development, Denison University, July 23-29, 2018.

Faculty Seminar on “Inventing a Rhetoric of (Black) Suffering,” led by Eric King Watts, National Communication Association Institute for Faculty Development, Denison University, July 23-29, 2018.

Orientalism, Photography, and Human Zoos: A Cross-Disciplinary Conversation with the Adnan Charara Collection, Cross-Disciplinary Learning and Teaching Initiative Working Group, Whitman College, Spring 2015.

Planning a Course for Significant Learning, Course Design Workshop, Whitman College, May 2015.

Global Studies Summer Faculty Development and Course Enhancement Workshop, Whitman College, August 2013.

“The Possibility and Limits of Human Rights Discourse” Workshop, Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Summer Institute, 2011.

Graduate Teaching Certificate Program, Searle Center for Teaching Excellence, Northwestern University, 2010-2011.

“Rhetoric, Nationalism, Post-Nationalism” Workshop, Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Summer Institute, 2009.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Rhetoric Society of America, Member
National Communication Association, Member
Middle East Studies Association, Member

REFERENCES

Devika Chawla, Communication Studies, Ohio University
chawla@ohio.edu · (740) 591-5733
Laura Black, Communication Studies, Ohio University
blackl1@ohio.edu · (740) 593-4690
Dilip Gaonkar, Communication Studies, Northwestern University
d-gaonkar@northwestern.edu · (847) 491-5853
Elizabeth Shakman Hurd, Political Science, Northwestern University
eshurd@northwestern.edu · (847) 467-5412
Lisa Corrigan, Communication, University of Arkansas
lcorriga@uark.edu · (479) 575-5272
Elyse Semerdjian, History, Whitman College
semerdve@whitman.edu · (509) 522-4428
Cindy Richards, Civic Communication and Media, Willamette University
crichard@willamette.edu · (503) 370-6745