

MARGOT SUSCA, PH.D.

CURRICULUM VITA

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RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Journalism and Society | Corporate Media Ownership and Democracy | Mass Media and Culture | Reporting | Journalism Ethics | Civic Engagement and Journalism

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. The Florida State University
Tallahassee, Florida
April 2012
- Doctorate Major: Mass Communication
 - Dissertation Title: "Why We Still Fight: Adolescents, Virtual War, and the Government-Gaming Nexus"
- M.S. Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism
New York, New York
May 2002
- Thesis Title: "Time's Up: Struggling in the New Age of Welfare"
- B.A. University of Massachusetts at Amherst
Amherst, Massachusetts
May 2000
- Double Major: Journalism and Political Science
 - Concentration: International Relations

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Proffitt, J.M., & Susca, M.A. (2015). [A Shield to Legitimize Virtually Any Content](#): Tracking the video game lobby's political economic power. *Communication, Culture & Critique*.

Susca, M.A. (2012). Why we still fight: Adolescents, America's Army and the Government-Gaming Nexus. *Global Media Journal*, 20(12) [online].

Susca, M.A., & Proffitt, J.M. (2011). Patently offensive: What *Pacifica* tells us about regulating broadcast violence*. *Free Speech Yearbook*, 45, 81-94.

*accepted without revision

NON-REFEREED WORK

Susca, M.A. (2017, December). [Disney's potential 21st Century Fox merger continues troubling trend of media consolidation](#). The Conversation. Viewed 16,039 times. *Run by Salon and Business Insider Italia*.

Susca, M.A. (2017, November). [Here's why your local TV is about to get worse](#). The Conversation. Viewed 37,926 times. *Run by Salon and The Honolulu Advertiser*.

Susca, M.A. (2017, June). [From the Pentagon Papers to Trump](#): How the government gained the upper hand against leakers. Viewed 25,927 times. *Run by The New Republic*.

Susca, M. A. (2014). [Violent virtual games and the consequences for real war*](#). E-International Relations Journal.

*invited submission

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

American University
School of Communication
Professorial Lecturer
2013 to Present

- Developed curricula, lesson plans and syllabi for the following courses:
 - Research Design (COMM 620)
 - Boot Camp for Journalists (COMM 624)
 - Contemporary Media Issues (COMM 538)
 - Children, Youth and Digital Culture (COMM 415/615)
 - Journalism Ethics (COMM 409)
 - Digital Skills (COMM 305)
 - Writing for Comm (COMM 200)
 - Understanding Media (COMM 100)
 - Fight Club: U.S. War and Peace (CORE 107)
 - Reporting (COMM 320)

Florida State University
College of Communication and Information
Lead Instructor/Adjunct Professor
2008 to 2013

- Developed curricula, lesson plans and syllabi for the following courses:
 - Writing for the Electronic Media (RTV 3101)
 - Mass Media and Society (MMC 4602)
 - Media Ethics (MMC 4203)
 - Introduction to Mass Media (MMC 2000)
 - Public Speaking (SPC 2608)

Florida A&M University
School of Journalism & Graphic Communication
Adjunct Professor
2012 to 2013

- Developed curricula, lesson plans and syllabi for the following courses:
 - Reporting and Writing I (JOU 2100)
 - Reporting and Writing II (JOU 3101)
 - Language Skills for Media Professionals (JOU 1005)

REFEREED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Susca, M. A. (2015, August). A Critical Legal Study of Minors' Sex and Violence Media Access Rights Five Decades After *Ginsberg v. New York*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, San Francisco, Calif.

Susca, M. A. (2015, August). "Here we go again": Seven Decades of Debate But Still No Agreement Over How to Define "Violence." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, San Francisco, Calif.

Susca, M. A. (2014, August). "I Kill Czerveniens: Adolescent Video Game Users as a Commodity Audience for War." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, Montreal, Canada.

Susca, M. A. (2013, November). *The Fox Is Inside the Henhouse: How the Corporate Video Game Industry Fooled the U.S. Supreme Court and Why It Matters*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Union for Democratic Communication, San Francisco, Calif.

Proffitt, J. M., and Susca, M. A. (2012, May). *Follow the money: The Entertainment Software Association attack on video game regulation*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the International Communication Association, Phoenix, AZ.

Susca, M. A. (2012, May). *Fragweisers, Butcher Battalions, and Elite Contract Killers: Analyzing online comments of America's Army video game players*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Union for Democratic Communication, Tallahassee, FL.

Susca, M. A. (2012, May). *From Sam's Stationery to Grand Theft Auto: Does Ginsberg v. New York have a place in contemporary media policy?* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Union for Democratic Communication, Tallahassee, FL.

Susca, M. A. (2012, April). *The Army wants you(th): Representations of the Real Heroes and their links to military recruitment*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Pop Culture Association/American Culture Association, Boston, MA.

Susca, M. A., & Cox, N. B. (2011, November). *Social constructionism and the spectacle of children: The case of Balloon Boy*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, New Orleans, LA.

Susca, M. A. (2011, May). *Playing an educational first-person shooter game and priming aggression: An experimental study*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the International Communication Association, Boston, MA.

Susca, M. A. (2010, October). *Going Dutch: How the U.S. could learn from the Netherlands' media ratings system but won't*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of The Union for Democratic Communication, State College, PA.

Susca, M. A. (2010, May). *Teaching violence? An examination of first-person shooter games used in education*. Paper presented at the e-Youth conference, sponsored by the University Centre Saint-Ignatius Antwerp and the University of Antwerp, Antwerp, Belgium.

Susca, M. A., & Cox, N. B. (2010, April). *Up, up, and away: Balloon Boy, reality television, and the discourse of spectacle*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association, St. Louis, MO.

Susca, M. A. (2009, August). *The shark became a vegetarian: Regulating children's television in a digital world**. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, Boston, MA.

*Top student competitive paper: Cultural and Critical Studies Division

Susca, M. A. (2009, May). *Colonizing kids: A political economy approach to how Disney dominates the child*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Union for Democratic Communication, Buffalo, NY.

Susca, M. A., Creasy, C. P., Davenport, J. D., Debes, J. A., & Schmidt, E. L. (2008, November).

Going guerilla: Exploring the relationship between media consumption, covert marketing tactics, and attitude toward the ad. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, San Diego, CA.

SERVICE TO THE SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION and AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

2016-Present

- AU Core Council
- Ethical Reasoning Committee

2019-Present

- PhD Steering Committee
- Complex Problems Fellow

2014-Present

- Program Director, M.A. Journalism and Digital Storytelling

2015-2016

- General Education Committee
- Study Abroad Committee
- Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Term Faculty

2014-2015

- Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Term Faculty
- Journalism Undergraduate Curriculum Sub-committee

2013-2014

- Accreditation Self-study Committee
- Journalism Undergraduate Curriculum Sub-committee
- Faculty Search Committee

SERVICE TO PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

2015- 2016

- Journal Article Reviewer, *Communication, Culture & Critique*; *Global Media Journal*

GUEST LECTURES AND COLLOQUIA PRESENTATIONS

2016

- Differences in regulating sex and violence in the U.S.

2013

- Target Acquired: The U.S. Army and Video Game Recruitment

2012

- Media Ethics in Breaking News Reporting: Old-Fashioned Ethics, New Technology
- Understanding the National Television Violence Study

2011

- Regulating Children's Media: Intersections of Free Speech and the Public Interest
- Shoot This, Buy That: Propaganda in Film and Video Games
- Taming the Diss: The Road(s) from ABD to Ph.D.

2010

- "Gary Robinson Died Hungry": Media Ethics in Crime Reporting
- Political Economy of Media: A Beginner's Guide
- Up, Up, and Away: Studying Balloon Boy Through a Critical Qualitative Lens
- Understanding the National Television Violence Study
- Doing Effective Communications Research
- Regulating Children's Media: Intersections of Free Speech and the Public Interest

2009

- Police Line Do Not Cross: Ethics of Photojournalism
- Doing Effective Communications Research
- Regulating Children's Media: Intersections of Free Speech and the Public Interest

AWARDS AND HONORS

2014

- American University School of Communication Faculty Research Grant (\$3,000)

2012

- The Florida State University Doctoral Research Assistant Award

2011

- The Florida State University College of Communication and Information, Doctoral Poster Competition, Second Place (\$300)
- Karl and Madira Bickel Scholarship (\$3,500)

2010

- University of Antwerp (Belgium) Travel Grant (200€)
- Karl and Madira Bickel Scholarship (\$10,000)

2009

- James W. Carey Award, Top Student Paper, Cultural and Critical Studies Division, Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication
- Karl and Madira Bickel Scholarship (\$10,000)

2008

- Society of Professional Journalists, Sunshine State Award, Third Place, Education Reporting

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Reporter

*Scripps Treasure Coast
Newspapers*
Fort Pierce, Florida
November 2003-July 2007

Reporter

Journal Inquirer
Manchester, Connecticut
June 2002-November 2003

Public Information Coordinator

USDA Rural Development
Amherst, Massachusetts
June 1999-July 2001