

Alyvia Walters, Ph.D.

Rutgers University School of Communication & Information
4 Huntington Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

(717) 856-3747
alyvia.walters@rutgers.edu

EDUCATION

- 2018-2024 **Ph.D. Communication, Information, and Media**
Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
Dissertation: *Child, Nation, and Emotion: Analyzing Children as Rhetorical Tools in Political Campaigns*
Advisors: Dr. Amy Jordan
 Dr. Chenjerai Kumanyika
- 2016-2018 **M.A. English**
Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.
Thesis: *Race, Language, and Performance: Rachel Jeantel, Testimonial Truth, and the George Zimmerman Trial*, passed with distinction
Advisors: Dr. Ricardo Ortiz
 Dr. Samantha Pinto
- 2011-2015 **B.A. English**
The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA
- 2011-2015 **B.S. Secondary English and Communications Education**
The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA
- 2011-2015 **Minor: Special Education**
The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2024-Present **Postdoctoral Research Associate: Rutgers University School of Communication and Information**
Department of Library and Information Science

Funded by National Science Foundation (NSF) Grant; Principal Investigator Shagun Jhaver, Ph.D.
- 2021-Present **Adjunct Instructor: Rutgers University School of Communication and Information**

Department of Journalism & Media Studies

Gender, Race, & Class in the Media (Fall 2024, Summer 2024, Spring 2024, Summer 2023, Fall 2022)

Introduction to Media (Spring 2024, Fall 2023, Spring 2023)

Media Ethics & Law (Summer 2022, Summer 2021)

Interdisciplinary Communication Studies

Leadership in Digital Contexts (Spring 2022, Fall 2021)

2019-2024 **Teaching Assistant: Rutgers University School of Communication and Information**

Department of Journalism & Media Studies

Gender, Race, & Class in the Media (Spring 2021, Fall 2020)

Writing for Media (Summer 2022)

Critical Issues in Sports Media (Fall 2020)

Introduction to Media (Fall 2020, Spring 2020, Fall 2019)

Media and Democracy – Study Abroad Course in Guatemala (Spring 2019)

Interdisciplinary Communication Studies

Leadership in Digital Contexts (Spring 2024, Fall 2023, Spring 2023, Fall 2022)

2018 **Adjunct Instructor: Georgetown University Department of English**

Writing and Culture (Summer 2018)

2016-2017 **Teaching Assistant: Georgetown University Department of English**

Writing and Culture (Fall 2017, Summer 2017, Fall 2016, Summer 2016)

PUBLICATIONS

Walters, A., & Marchi, R. (under review). “Twitter, anti-immigrant discourse, and the violence and potentialities of public mourning online.”

Walters, A., Ammari, T., Garimella, K., & Jhaver, S. (2024). “Online knowledge production in polarized political memes: The case of critical race theory.” *New Media & Society*.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/14614448241252591>

Walters, A. (2024). “These parents, themselves, are using these children as pawns”: The politicization of childhood at the U.S.-Mexico border. *International Journal of Communication*, 18. <https://communities.ijoc.org/index.php/ijoc/article/view/20425>

Jordan, A., & **Walters, A.** (2022). Children and advertising policies in the U.S. and beyond. In Lemish, D. (ed.), *Routledge international handbook of children, adolescents, and media* (2nd ed., pp. 441-449). Routledge.

Katz, V., Jordan, A., **Walters, A.**, & Laliberte, L. (2021). *Left to their own devices: How college students manage remote learning during the COVID19 pandemic & how faculty can improve it*. Medium. <https://medium.com/left-to-their-own-devices>

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Hosamane, S., Jhaver, S., & **Walters, A.** (in progress). “Studying the current state of user-enacted moderation features on social media through the experience of users with visual impairments.”

Walters, A., & Jhaver, S. (in progress). “Should the powerful be moderated? Social media users’ perspectives on harmful politician speech.”

Walters, A., Sargent, S., Jhaver, S., & Ammari, T. (in progress). “Offline racism and online harm: Investigating racially insensitive social media users’ framings of content moderation.”

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

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| 2018, 2023 | Department of Journalism and Media Studies Ph.D. Fellowship, Rutgers University School of Communication and Information |
| 2022 | Dissertation Research Grant, Rutgers University School of Communication and Information |
| 2022 | National Communication Association Travel Grant 2022, National Communication Association |
| 2022 | Cultural Studies Association Travel Grant 2022, Cultural Studies Association |
| 2021 | Eagleton Institute of Politics Graduate Fellowship, Eagleton Institute of Politics |
| 2018-23 | Graduate Student Travel Grant, Rutgers University School of Communication and Information |
| 2016, 17 | Community Scholars Program Fellowship, Georgetown University Center for Multicultural Equity and Access |

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2024 Natarajan, N., Walters, A., & Weinstein, C. (2024, October 18-20). *Beyond the plagiarism/honesty binary in the classroom: Perspectives from student-instructors at the Rutgers School of Communication and Information*. [Panel presentation]. New York State Communication Association 2024 Convention, Callicoon, NY, United States.
- 2024 Walters, A. (2024, August 8-11). *"I'm Sick of woke indoctrination masquerading as education": Race-Based "indoctrination" in education as Republican campaign strategy*. [Poster presentation]. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2024 Convention, Philadelphia, PA, United States.
- 2024 Walters, A. (2024, June 6-9). *From parental rights to progressive indoctrination: Conservative child-saving as a tool of white nationalism in the 2022 Senate campaigns*. [Conference presentation]. Visions of Racial Justice and Childhood: Inequalities, Identities, Politics, Relationalities and Representations, Camden, NJ, United States.
- 2023 Walters, A. (2023, June 1-4). *Constructing K-12 schools as sites of fear and oppression: An investigation of childhood, politics, and nation-building on the political right*. [Conference presentation]. Cultural Studies Association (CSA) 2023 Convention, Fairfax, VA, United States.
- 2023 Walters, A. (2023, May 25-29). *Analyzing the deployment of child-centered imagery in political campaigns: An investigation of childhood, politics, and nation-building* [Conference escalator session]. International Communication Association (ICA) 2023 Convention, Toronto, ON, Canada.
- 2022 Walters, A. & Marchi, R. (2022, November 17-20). *From local tragedy to national news: Twitter, anti-immigrant discourse, and the politicization of public mourning online* [Conference presentation]. National Communication Association (NCA) 2022 Convention, New Orleans, LA, United States.
- 2022 Walters, A. (2022, June 2-4). *"Think of the children" and other tales: Child-Centered care as moralizing claim to American exceptionalism* [Conference presentation]. Cultural Studies Association (CSA) 2022 Convention, Chicago, IL, United States.
- 2021 Walters, A. (2021, October 7-9). *Childhood and youth studies caucus: Shaping and reshaping colonized, racialized, and criminalized childhoods* [Discussion panel]. American Studies Association (ASA) 2021 Convention, Virtual meeting.

- 2021 Walters, A. (2021, June 10-12). *“These parents, themselves, are using these children as pawns”*: *The politicization of childhood at the U.S.-Mexico border* [Conference presentation]. Cultural Studies Association (CSA) 2021 Convention, Virtual meeting.
- 2021 Walters, A. (2021, May 27-31). *The “trace” of Black maternal grief: Theorizing the photojournalistic coverage of Black maternal grief through Michael Brown’s mother* [Conference presentation]. International Communication Association (ICA) 2021 Convention, Virtual meeting.
- 2020 Walters, A. (2020, August 6-9). *Modern mourning: The violence and potentialities of public grief online* [Conference presentation]. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2020 Convention, Virtual meeting.
- 2020 Walters, A. (2020). *Listening to family separation: News, sound, and childhood at the U.S.-Mexico border* [Conference presentation]. Cultural Studies Association (CSA) 2020 Convention, Virtual Meeting, *Presentation Cancelled Due to COVID-19*.
- 2019 Walters, A. (2019, March 7-9). *Public rhetorics of childhood: Mediated constructions of youth and innocence along the U.S. color line* [Conference presentation]. American Anthropology Association (AAA): Anthropology of Children and Youth Interest Group (ACYIG) 2019 Convention, Camden, NJ, United States.
- 2019 Walters, A. (2019, March 1-2). *Modernizing grief: The violence and potentialities of public grieving after politicized tragedy* [Conference presentation]. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2019 Midwinter Conference, Norman, OK, United States.
- 2017 Walters, A. (2017, September). *Talk about talk: Metadiscursive media coverage of the George Zimmerman trial* [Conference presentation]. English Consortium Conference, Washington D.C., United States.
- 2017 Walters, A. (2017, April 29). *Breaking the silence: Productive politics in English classrooms* [Poster presentation]. Professional Development School Teacher Inquiry Conference 2017, State College, PA, United States.
- 2017 Walters, A. (2017, April). *Legitimizing Clare Kendry: Anti-Anti-Normativity and desire in Nella Larsen’s Passing* [Conference presentation]. Georgetown English Graduate Student Association Conference, Washington, D.C., United States.
- 2015 Walters, A. (2015, May). *Contracting ownership: Shifting student perspectives of writing* [Conference presentation]. Professional Development School Teacher Inquiry Conference 2015, State College, PA, United States.

GUEST LECTURES

- 2020-24 *Media Theory*, Rutgers University: Spring 2024, Fall 2023, Spring 2023, Fall 2022, Spring 2022, Fall 2021, Spring 2021, Fall 2020, Spring 2020
- 2021 *Racialization of Latinx in Media*, Rutgers University: Spring 2021
- 2020 *Racism, Sexism, and Homophobia in Sports*, Rutgers University: Fall 2020
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RESEARCH INVOLVEMENT

Rutgers University

- 2024-25 Research Assistant: assistant to Dr. Melissa Aronczyk on publication of her book project, journalistic work investigating history of environmental public relations
- 2023-24 Graduate Research Assistant: assistant in Rutgers' Social Computing Lab, qualitative coding and analysis of memes on Critical Race Theory
- 2022 Graduate Research Assistant: assistant to Dr. Dafna Lemish on publication of her edited collection on children, adolescents, and media
- 2021 Graduate Research Assistant: assistant to Drs. Itzhak Yanovitsky and Matthew Weber's Active Surveillance of Policy Ecosystems and Networks (ASPEN) Project, qualitatively coded news and website data which cited research on youth suicide and prevention in New Jersey
- 2020 Graduate Research Assistant: assistant to Drs. Amy Jordan and Vikki Katz, analyzed over 5,000 qualitative survey data points on holistic impacts of COVID-19 on undergraduate students worldwide
- 2019 Graduate Research Assistant: assistant to Dr. Khadijah White, performed copyediting duties on manuscripts and preliminary research on the corporatization of social movements
- 2019 Graduate Research Assistant: assistant to Dr. Amy Jordan, gathered data on children's educational and informational television programming available on broadcast media

Georgetown University

2018 Graduate Research Assistant: assistant to Dr. Eva Rosen, copyedited and conducted research as needed for her book project on housing vouchers in Baltimore

SERVICE

2024-25 WebSci Conference Program Committee person
2024 Reviewer for *Cyberpsychology* journal
2024 Rutgers First-Year Interest Group Seminars (FIGS) Faculty Mentor
2023-2024 Reviewer for the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference (AEJMC)
2021-24 Mentorship of PhD Teaching Assistants, Rutgers University
2023 Reviewer for the Association for Computing Machinery Computer-Human Interaction Conference (ACM CHI)
2022-23 Reviewer for the International Communication Association Conference (ICA)
2022-23 Mentorship of Undergraduate Research Assistant, Rutgers University
2019-23 PhD Peer Mentor, Rutgers University
2019-23 Student volunteer for doctoral program recruitment events, Rutgers University
2019-20 Doctoral Student Association Treasurer, Rutgers University
2017-18 Community Scholars Program Academic Director Search Committee Member, Georgetown University
2017-18 English Graduate Student Association Treasurer, Georgetown University

HONORS & AWARDS

2021 Eagleton Institute of Politics Governor's Executive Award, Eagleton Institute of Politics
2021 Media Studies Ph.D. Outstanding Teaching Assistant of the Year, Rutgers University School of Communication and Information
2020 AEJMC Critical and Cultural Studies Division Top Student Paper 2020 Runner-Up, Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication
2019 Media Studies Ph.D. Continuing Student of the Year: 2018-2019, Rutgers University School of Communication and Information

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & OUTREACH

2017-18 Golden Rule High School Tutoring Program Founder, Golden Rule Affordable Housing Complex, Washington, DC

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2023-24 Ph.D. Program Assistant, Rutgers University School of Communication & Information

2021 New Jersey State Government Office of New Americans Fellow, Department of Human Services, Trenton, NJ

2018 Department of State Office of Curation Intern, United States Department of State, Washington, DC

2017-18 Center for Multicultural Equity and Access Program Assistant, Georgetown University, Washington, DC

2016-18 Substitute Teacher, DC Public School System, Washington, DC

2016-18 Substitute Teacher, Arlington Public Schools, Arlington, VA

2015-16 High School English Teacher, Central Dauphin High School, Harrisburg, PA

2014-15 Professional Development School Teaching Intern, State College Area High School, State College, PA

2013-14 Summer Teaching Intern, Central Dauphin School District, Harrisburg, PA

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC)

Cultural Studies Association (CSA)

International Communication Association (ICA)

National Association for Media Literacy Education (NAMLE)

National Communication Association (NCA)

CERTIFICATIONS

2015 Pennsylvania Teaching Certification: Communications, Instructional I; Grades 7-12

2015 Pennsylvania Teaching Certification: English, Instructional I; Grades 7-12

REFERENCES

Amy Jordan, Professor

Rutgers University, Department of Journalism and Media Studies

4 Huntington Street

New Brunswick, NJ 08901

a.jordan@rutgers.edu

Shagun Jhaver, Assistant Professor

Rutgers University, Department of Library and Information Science

4 Huntington Street

New Brunswick, NJ 08901

sj917@comminfo.rutgers.edu

Regina Marchi, Professor

Rutgers University, Department of Journalism and Media Studies

4 Huntington Street

New Brunswick, NJ 08901

rmarchi@rutgers.edu