

Andrew Sachs

Adjunct Assistant Professor

Profile

Classically trained Rhetorician and Communication Generalist with over forty years of experience whose teaching is informed by a variety of disciplines and practices including Rhetorical Theory and Criticism, Argumentation Theory, European and American Public Address, Comparative Literature, English Composition, Political Campaign Communication, Theatre Arts, Newspaper and Radio Journalism and Business Communication.

Contact

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Skills

Creative mindset, lesson planning, writing, speaking, and diplomacy skills make me adept at working with a variety of students to prepare them for professional success. Knowledge of various educational philosophies and experience in professional consultancy, public service and business roles promote the best overall experience of students and enhance the educational offerings of this institution.

Education

Ph.D. Rhetoric, University of Wisconsin-Madison

1986—1992

Dissertation: The Imperial Style of Henry Cabot Lodge

Master of Arts in Communication, University at Memphis

1984—1986

Graduated summa cum laude.

Bachelor of Arts, University of Alabama at Birmingham

1980—1982

Graduated with high honors.

Recent Employment History

Adjunct Assistant Professor of Communication, full time, SUNY Buffalo

2002—2025

Mission

- Designing and implementing an inspiring curriculum that effectively introduces students to the world of COM 326 Public Speaking and COM 300 Written Communication
- Adapting to diverse student profiles while contributing to the department's mission:

To understand and improve human communication.

- Assembling a **Success Team** of Teaching Assistants (150 plus so far), eight per semester who dedicate themselves to supporting student success in all courses.
- Supervising students on Independent Study projects (100 plus so far); two per semester
- Writing letters of reference (over 200 so far) for inspired students seeking acceptance to law school, graduate programs, private research institutions, foreign study programs, internships and jobs primarily in communication and media.
- Mentoring students with emotional and academic issues so that they can be successful too.
- Improving the literacy level, critical thinking, and rhetorical skill of students through training in formal speaking and writing.
- Helping students write over 15,000 expository essays and deliver over 15,000 public speeches.
- Grading and evaluating over 30,000 expository essays and public speeches.
- Challenging students to think critically and productively about the ethical, philosophical, and practical implications of new media and Artificial Intelligence systems.

Courses

Public Speaking COM 326, SUNY Buffalo

Written Communication COM 326, SUNY Buffalo

Independent Study COM 499, SUNY Buffalo

Instructional Assistantships COM 495, SUNY Buffalo

Teaching Load

Four courses required per semester. At my discretion I also supervise up to four additional Independent Studies and eight Instructional Assistant positions.

Extra-Curricular Activities, Community Service, and Consultancy

Union Representative, UUP, Department of Communication

Mary Cassata Scholarship Award Committee, Department of Communication

Creative Director, Red Barn Playhouse and Theatre, Washington Island, WI

Best Director Award of 2013, debut. Theater Association of New York State

Of Mice and Men, by John Steinbeck

List of Business Consultancies available upon request

Chairperson, Editorial Committee, Washington Island Observer Newspaper

The Observer serves a rural community dominated by a radically conservative majority. However, as Editorial Chair for the past five years, I have sought to curate a liberal, progressive viewpoint that is open to all. In so doing, much to my surprise, both subscriptions and reader editorials have increased 30% during my tenure.

As both rhetorician and news editor, I share my experience with my students in Public Speaking and Written Communication. I help them see the classroom as a microcosm of the outside world. That is, like a newspaper, their work in class is always editorial and rhetorical too. If done according to sound principles of research-based formal speaking

and writing and the art of rhetoric, we can distinguish truth from falsehood, be open to different views and persuade others of our own.

Tennis Coach and USTA Certified Teaching Professional

As a former professional tennis player, I have long enjoyed playing and helping others learn to play. Before I became a full-time faculty member for SUNY Buffalo, I was a part-time adjunct and served as assistant coach for both the men's and women's team. I am most proud that as women's assistant coach, in 2003, I helped procure not only SUNY Buffalo's first tennis MAC championship, but our school's **first ever** MAC team championship of **any** sport.

References

Available upon request