

Curriculum Vita  
**Theresa M. Senft, Ph.D.**

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**Education**

- 2004                      Ph.D., New York University, Department of Performance Studies.  
  
                                    Dissertation title: *Camgirls: Webcams, LiveJournals, and the Personal as Political in the Age of the Global Brand.*
- 1997                      M.A., New York University. Department of Performance Studies.
- 1990                      B.A. State University of New York at Albany. Department of Political Science. Magna cum laude.

**Publications**

- Monographs                      *Camgirls: Celebrity & Community in the Age of Social Networks*. Revised dissertation. New York: Peter Lang Publishers: 2008.
- Reference Texts                      *History of the Internet: A Chronology, 1843-Present*. New York: ABC-CLIO Publications. Spring 1999. Co-authored text. Received American Library Association Award, Research Division
- Edited symposia                      *Sexuality & Cyberspace: Performing the Digital Body*. Special issue of *Women & Performance: A Journal of Feminist Theory*. New York University: Winter 1996. Includes critical Introduction and "Modem Butterfly, Revisited," co-written with Kaley Davis.
- Chapters                      "Four Rooms." In *The Grain of the Voice in Digital Media and Media Art*. Norie Neumark, ed. MIT Press, 2009.
- "Shockingly Tech-splicit: Orlan and the Politics of Shock in a Digital Age." In *Reload: Rethinking Women and Technology*. Mary Flanagan, ed. Cambridge: MIT Press, 2002.
- "Baud Girls and Cargo Cults" In *World Wide Web and Contemporary Theory*. Thomas Swiss and Andrew Herman, Eds. New York: Routledge, 2000.
- "Spare Parts." In *The Ends of Performance*. Peggy Phelan and Jill Lane, Eds. New York: New York University Press, 1997.

- Articles                    "Gayatri Spivak and the Dark Continent of French Feminism." In *Women and Performance: A Journal of Feminist Theory* 14, Spring 1995.
- "What's Love Got to Do With It? Reading Linda/Les and Annie Through Lacan." In *Women and Performance: A Journal of Feminist Theory* 11, Spring 1993.
- Encyclopedia entries    *Encyclopedia of New Media* (Steve Jones, ed., New York: Sage, 2003.)  
Contributed twenty articles to this project, including entries on:
- Minitel
  - Roseanne A. Stone
  - Telepresence
  - Donna Haraway
  - Video conferencing
  - Sherry Turkle
  - Obscenity
  - Webcam
  - Broadband
  - Internet relay chat (IRC)
  - Cathedral and the Bazaar
  - Comunitree
  - Cyborg Manifesto
  - Echo
  - Chat
  - Gender
  - Bulletin board system (BBS)
  - Cyborg
  - Emoticons
  - virtual communities

### **Publications in Preparation**

- Monographs    *Death on the Net: Suicide, Homicide and New Media Ethics*. Manuscript in preparation.
- Famous to Fifteen People: Micro-celebrity, the Web, and Cultural Politics*. Manuscript in preparation.
- Essays                    "From Personal Property to Speaking Citizen: Youth, Micro-celebrity, and Credit in an Attention Economy." For Harvard University's Berkman Center. Publius Series. Forthcoming, January 2010.
- Chapters                "Love in the Time of Snuff: Critical Internet Studies meets the 'Neda video.'" To appear in *New Visualities, New Technologies: The New Ecstasy of Communication*, Hille Koskela and J. Macgregor Wise. Blackwell. Forthcoming November 2010.

## Invited Talks and Conferences

- 2009            **Berkman Center, Harvard University Law School.** Autumn 2009. Invited speaker for Youth and Media Policy Working Group initiative, sponsored by MacArthur Foundation. Subject of talk: "What can we learn from youth engagement with celebrity?"
- Oxford Internet Institute.** Autumn 2009. Invited speaker for OII Forum on Relationships and the Internet. Subject of talk: "From intimate strangers to strange intimacies: theorizing encounters with the other online."
- University of Copenhagen.** Autumn 2009. Invited speaker for conference on 'Mediatization of Intimate Experiences.' Subject of talk: "New Media Romance in the time of Snuff: Thinking through the Media Martyrdom of Neda."
- Association of Internet Researchers:** Autumn 2009. Invited to speak at roundtable called "Being Difficult? Imagining the Futures of Internet Studies."
- 2007            **Telic Gallery, Los Angeles,** Fall 2007. Invited speaker for "Showing," an exhibition curated by Jordan Crandall. Speech topic: "Tele-ethicality in the age of networks."
- University of Ottawa Law School,** Ottawa, Canada, Fall 2007. Invited speaker for the "I-Perform" panel of conference titled "Revealed I: Privacy and Surveillance in a Digital Age." Speech topic: "YouTube Booty Dancing: A Meditation."
- 2006            **Jewish Funders Network.** Boulder, Colorado, Spring 2006. Speech topic for Annual Conference: "Youth, Judaism, and LiveJournal's 'WeirdJews' Conference: an informal ethnography."
- SITE Contemporary Art Museum,** Santa Fe, New Mexico. Invited speaker in conjunction with digital artist Kiki Soror.
- 2005            **Franklin University,** Lugano, Switzerland. Spring 2005. Caribbean Unbound Conference, Presentation topic: "Hair Braiding and the Performance of Island Identity: an Ethnography."
- 2004            **Computer Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW),** Chicago, Ill. Participant, Pre-Conference Workshop. Organized by Michele Chang, Elizabeth Goodman and Danah Boyd. Topic: Identity and Community
- 2003            **New York University Departments of Cinema Studies and Performance Studies,** Winter 2002. Invited speaker, *Liveness* Conference. Paper title: "World Wide Webcams, Live."

- 2002      **National Communication Association**, Fall 2002. Poster panel on “Mardi Gras and Communication: Issues of the Body, Sexuality and Public/Private spaces.” Presentation topic: “Throw me something, Mister: Webcammed sexual display and theories of carnival.”
- 2000      **Kunsten Festival des Arts**, Brussels Belgium, Spring 2000. Invited speaker for Junctions-Ver., multi-media conference sponsored by Constant VZW. Speech topic: "Women Webcammers."
- Modern Language Association**, San Francisco, Winter 1998. Paper title: "Four Rooms."
- 1998      **Duke University Dept. of English**, Fall 1998. Keynote speaker for conference entitled, “Discipline and Deviance: Technology and Gender for the Future.” Paper topic: "Orlan and the Trouble with Cyborgs."
- Freedom Forum, New York, NY**. Invited speaker. Topic: "Cyber-rights in the Digital Age." Guests: Mike Godwin, digital civil liberties attorney.
- Drake University**, Des Moines, Iowa, Fall 1998. Invited speaker, “World Wide Web: Metaphor, Myth, Magic” conference. Paper topic: "Baud Girls and Cargo Cults: Waiting for the New Media Money Gods."
- Rutgers University**, New Brunswick N.J. Invited speaker for “*Women and the Arts*” Conference. Paper topic: "Women Artists in New Media."
- ThunderGulch of New York with Gallery 21 (St. Petersburg, Russia)**. World Financial Center, New York, NY, as part of the joint U.S./Russian *Mythologies of Territory* Conference. Speech topic: "Cyberfeminism in an International Frame."

### Honors and Awards

- 2002      Paulette Goddard Fellowship. For promising dissertation research
- 1999      American Library Association Award, Research Division. For *History of the Internet: A Chronology, 1843-Present*.
- 1996      New York State Council for the Arts grant for *Sexuality & Cyberspace*.
- 1994      Outstanding Master's Thesis, N.Y.U.
- 1992      President's Service Award, for outstanding service to the New York University as Chief Archivist, Performance Studies
- 1991      Merit-Based five-year scholarship and graduate assistantship, New York University.

## Teaching Experience

2006-present *Senior Lecturer, Media Studies. University of East London, U.K.*

Led the following modules on the Docklands campus of this Grade 5 research and teaching university with a heavy cultural studies focus. Classes included:

- **Research Issues and Methods for Postgraduate Study (Spring 2009)**

Master's level seminar designed to introduce students to major methods employed by researchers in media and cultural studies. Lectures include use of discourse analysis, ideological frame critique, visual methods, performance analysis, interviewing techniques, ethnographic approaches and practice as research. Class concluded with drafting of thesis proposal. Fifteen students.

- **Digital Media Cultures (Spring 2008, 2007, 2006).**

Year Three seminar of 35 students devoted to critical issues in new media. Topics include the 'Web 2.0' debate, the wane of aura in a digital age, the legalities of remix culture, hyper-reality and the ethics of game culture, the internet as new public/counter-public sphere, and the role of self-branding in social networking online.

- **Preparing New Media Dissertations & Projects (Spring 2008, 2007)**

Year Two lecture/seminar designed for to 40 help students in Interactive, Multimedia and Games Design departments to write dissertations (6,000 words) and new media research projects. Wrote workbook that included sections on brainstorming objects for research, designing, research questions, and locating appropriate theoretical lenses for analysis.

- **Media, Culture & Identity (Autumn 2009, 2008, and 2007)**

Year Two lecture/seminar of 100 students intended to build on Media with a focus on issues of representation of self and other. Authors read include Erving Goffman, Jacques Lacan, Michel Foucault, Stuart Hall, Laura Mulvey, Kath Woodward, Edward Said, Marshall McLuhan, Jean Baudrillard, Donna Haraway, and Sherry Turkle. Special sections added to help students theorize the performance of identity in new media and corporate venues. Managed one visiting lecturer delivering post-lecture seminars.

- **Identity, Race & Difference (Spring 2006)**

Year One seminar of 40 students designed to introduce major theoretical issues

in race and postcolonial studies. Writers read included Stuart Hall, Kobena Mercer, Edward Said, Ella Shohat, Homi Bhaba, Kath Woodward, Gayatri Spivak, and Richard Dyer.

- **Media Meanings (Spring 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006)**

Year One lecture/seminar designed to introduce 200 students from Media, New Media and Film studies to major theoretical arguments in the field. Lectures cover semiotics, Marxism, theories of ideology and discourse, psychoanalysis, feminist theory, postmodern and postcolonial critiques of media. Managed three visiting lecturers responsible for running post-lecture seminars of twenty students each.

- **Study & Critical Skills for Media (Fall 2006, Spring 2007, Fall 2008)**

Self-designed Foundation class for 200 Year 1 students in departments of Media, Communication, Interactive/Multimedia and Computer Games Design. Students provided introductory lectures on themes of “Media as Message,” “Discourse and Power,” and “Consumption and Convergence,” as well as skills lessons on close reading, outlining, précis writing, basics of quantitative analysis, abstract writing, drafting academic essays, assessing scholarly versus popular sources, online research techniques for media students, grammar and language usage, and the editing process. Developed 100 page workbook for students’ in-seminar use, and supervised three visiting lecturers who led seminars.

2004-2006

*Visiting Assistant Professor of Communication, University of the Virgin Islands.*  
Taught the following courses on the St. Thomas campus of this land grant HBCU:

- **Public Speaking.** Updated this required course to include PowerPoint training, audio and video recording of speeches, and code-switching exercises for 25 students with West Indian accents. Students required to research, outline and deliver both academic lectures and persuasive speeches on selected topics in Communication Studies. Course site available at <http://www.terrisenft.net/classes/publicspeaking>

- **Team Communication and Conference Techniques.** Self-designed seminar focused on communities of practice in which six students researched, designed, publicized and staged a half-day conference devoted to student concerns at the University of the Virgin Islands. Course site available at <http://www.terrisenft.net/classes/conftechniques/>

- **Reporting I/II.** Self-designed undergraduate seminar in which ten students of

mixed levels researched, and wrote print and radio pieces about the Caribbean. Course site available at <http://www.terrisenft.net/classes/reporting/>

2003 *Adjunct Assistant Professor of Communications, Interactive Telecommunications Program, Tisch School of the Arts, New York University. Fall. Course taught:*

**Subcultures in Cyberspace.** Self-designed seminar for ten graduate students. Course site available at <http://www.terrisenft.net/classes/subcultures/>

2000 *Adjunct Instructor, Undergraduate Drama Program, Tisch School of the Arts, New York University, Fall. Course taught:*

**Acting, Technology and Reality.** Self-designed seminar course of 35 students. Syllabus available at <http://www.terrisenft.net/classes/actreal/>

1999 *Adjunct Instructor, Program of Art and Design Education, Pratt Institute, Spring.*

**Autobiography in Art.** Co-produced syllabus and team-taught studio class of fifteen students.

1990 *Teaching Assistant, University of New Orleans Department of Drama, Fall. Graduate Student Assistant Teacher for course:*

**Movement for Actors.** Studio of ten students, focused on Feldenkreis Technique.

### **Academic Advising**

2002-2004 *Advising Team, Gallatin School of Individualized Study, New York University.*

The Gallatin School specializes in interdisciplinary liberal arts education by allowing its 1200 students to choose among all the courses at NYU to create self-designed majors called "Concentrations." N.Y.U. Gallatin also has a mandate to integrate "ancient" Western and non-Western texts (written before 1650) into contemporary paths of study.

Working as a bridge between administration, faculty and students, the four-person Advising Team conducted tutorials on the foundations of interdisciplinary education, helped students choose courses in their Concentration and assisted in locating ancient texts appropriate to student interests. The Advising Team also prepared students Colloquium, a two-hour oral exam addressing a topic designed by the student, and expected to span twenty ancient and contemporary texts. Resource materials for students are available at <http://www.terrisenft.net/students/>

2002-2004 *Academic Supervisor of Internships, Gallatin School, New York University:*

Responded to internship journals and analytical essays from students engaged in production-based internships at MTV Networks, The Jane Pauley Show, Lizzie Grubman Public Relations, and ABC Networks.

### **Editorial Experience**

1993-Present *Freelance Journalist*

- Writer of feature articles on digital lifestyle for the *New York Times*, *Village Voice*, *Nerve*, and others.
- Wrote weekly column on digital culture for Prodigy Internet users from 1998-1999.
- Complete list of publications is available at [www.terrisenft.net/writing](http://www.terrisenft.net/writing)

1995-1998 *Board of Editors, Women & Performance: A Journal of Feminist Theory.*

As Editor in Chief, responsibilities included soliciting writers, editing copy, and implementing grant-writing and advertising campaign to offset costs, and designing print layout now adopted by *Women & Performance* as standard "look" for the journal. As Managing Editor, responsibilities included writing budgets, keeping author communications flowing, copy-editing and maintaining production schedules.

### **Curatorial Experience**

1996 *Digital Art Guest Curator, P.S. 122, New York, N.Y. October*  
Curated four performance pieces entitled, "Sexuality & Cyberspace" for Virtual Culture series, co-sponsored by Echo Communications and the Whitney Museum of Art.

### **Press**

1999-Present Regularly interviewed regarding internet studies and online culture for *The New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education* and others.

2005 Featured in and consulted for documentary film, "Camgirls" (Aerlyn Weismann, director.) W Network, airdate February 2005.

2003 Featured in 21C television broadcast, "Watch Me Generation." CTV Network, airdate 3 January 2003.

- 2001            Featured in *Lingua Franca* Magazine, February 2001. See Scott McLemee's article, "I am a Camera." Available online at <http://www.mclemee.com/id36.html>
- 2000            Guest speaker, National Public Radio's Diane Rehm Show, October 2000. Topic: Webcams and Surveillance Culture.

### **University and Community Service**

- 2009            Programme Leader, Media Studies, University of East London.
- 2005            Faculty Advisor, Communication Club, University of the Virgin Islands.
- Faculty Advisor, First Annual Student Issues Conference, University of the Virgin Islands.
- 1991            Chief Archivist, Performance Studies, New York University. Two-year position. Awarded NYU President's Service Award in 1992.

### **Professional Associations**

Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR), member  
Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), member  
Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE), member  
Modern Language Association (MLA), member  
College Art Association (CAA), member  
National Communication Association (NCA), member  
International Communication Association (ICA), member  
Performance Studies International (PSI), member

## References

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