

MEDIA THEORIST

Themes: Media & human destiny • utopias in art, media, technology, and culture • experimental theory and technology.
Method: My projects embrace an “arts and sciences” approach to creatively and critically theorize the intersection of media, philosophy, culture, and technology, all of which shape human destiny around the world.

EDUCATION

Doctorate of Philosophy The University of Texas at Austin — 1995

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

20+ years experience; wide variety of theory; strong teaching evaluations; courses popular with students; class sizes from 10 – 240.

2002—Present TEMPLE UNIVERSITY, Philadelphia

2011—Present Associate Professor for Instruction, Dept. of Media Studies and Production.

2009—Present Faculty Teaching Mentor, School of Media and Communications.

2002—2011 Assistant Professor, Dept. of Broadcasting, Telecommunications, & Mass Media (old department name)

1994-2001 SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY, Dallas

Assistant Professor, Meadows School for the Arts

GRADUATE COURSES

Post-Millennial Media & Culture
Communication Theory

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

Media and Society *Media, Culture, and the End of the World*
Utopia in Media and Culture *Intro to Media Theory*

SELECT PROJECTS • BOOKS, ESSAYS, FILM, NON-PROFIT, STUDY AWAY PROGRAM**EDITOR • TEXT ANTHOLOGY**

Media Environments, 2nd Edition, San Diego, Cognella Publishing, 2015

- This text anthology combines movies with texts to critique media and society.
- Contributors include: Stephen Hawking, Carl Sagan, Naomi Wolf, Rebecca MacKinnon, Neil Postman, Hillary Rodham Clinton, Douglas Rushkoff, Julian Assange, Neil deGrasse Tyson, Jan Fernback, Douglas Kellner, Glenn Greenwald, and many others.

DIRECTOR • ARCOSANTI STUDY AWAY PROGRAM

- Co-created with Patrick Murphy (Associate Dean, Temple) a study away program at Arcosanti, the famed eco-city in central Arizona. Temple students will study media, technology, ecological theory. Program begins in Spring 2016.

AUTHOR • RECENT ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

- “Space Junk and the Second Event: The Cosmic Meaning of the Zombie Apocalypse” — in *The Thinking Dead: What the Zombie Apocalypse Means*, ed. Murali Balaji, Roman & Littlefield/Lexington Books, 2013.
- “Black Holes in the Information Galaxies” — in *The Unconnected: Social Justice, Participation and Engagement in the Information Society*, Paul M. A. Baker, Jarice Hanson, and Jeremy Hunsinger, eds., Peter Lang 2013.
- “Yearning to be the Center of Everything, When We are the Center of Nothing” — in *Telematics and Informatics*, special edition on Facebook, 2013.

FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT

The Center for Media and Destiny, a 501(c)(3) non-profit think tank. www.mediaanddestiny.org

AUTHOR • BOOK OF CRITICAL CULTURAL THEORY

The End of the World — Again, Philadelphia, The Center for Media and Destiny, 2012.

- This book explains why the apocalypse meme replicates across media, science, and culture.
- Featured in 2013 radio interview produced by Wisconsin Public Radio and distributed by Public Radio International.

AUTHOR • EXPERIMENTAL BOOK

Slugging Nothing: Fighting the Future in Fight Club, Theory Vortex Experiments (2008).

- Reached #1 in “Criticism” section of Amazon Kindle, January 31, 2010.
- Featured in 2013 radio interview produced by Wisconsin Public Radio and distributed by Public Radio International.

AUTHOR OF TEXT FOR ART/PHOTOGRAPHY BOOK

Peter Granser, *Signs* (Stuttgart: Hatje Cantz & Chicago Museum of Contemporary Photography, 2008)

Photography by Peter Granser, Text by Barry Vacker, Forward by Karen Irvine.

- Featured in numerous exhibitions, including sites in Chicago, Hamburg, Houston, Lianzhou, Stuttgart, New York City.

DIRECTOR AND WRITER • EXPERIMENTAL DOCUMENTARY FILM

Space Times Square (2007) spacetimesquare.net

International Award: 2010 John Culkin Award for Outstanding Praxis in the Field of Media Ecology, Media Ecology Assoc.

- The film played in many festivals in cities around the world: Brussels, Paris, Hamburg, Beijing, New York, Dallas, Philadelphia, etc.