

Ulises A. Mejias, Ed.D.

10 Lanigan Hall, SUNY Oswego
Oswego, NY 13126-3599
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(315) 312-3525

Teaching Areas

New Media Theory and Application
Media Economics
Philosophy of Technology
Network Theory
Technoculture Studies

Research Interests

My work focuses on the use of the network as a model for organizing social realities through information and communication technologies. I theorize the epistemological exclusivity engendered by networks which results in nodes being capable of recognizing only other nodes. I argue that the network imposes a nodocentric filter on the social, so that only elements that can be mapped onto the network (the nodes) are rendered as real. This model is then used to institute a paradigm of progress and development in which those elements outside the network can acquire meaning only by becoming part of the network. In this context, I am interested in exploring how the paranodal—the space between nodes—becomes an important site for disidentification from the network, correcting the nodocentric tendencies of the network and providing alternative models of subjectivation.

Education

2003 - 2007, *Teachers College, Columbia University*, New York, New York
Doctor of Education: Communication, Computing and Technology in Education
Dissertation title: *Networked Proximity: ICTs and the mediation of nearness*

1997 - 1999, *Ithaca College*, Ithaca, New York
Master of Science: Organizational Communication, Learning and Design
GPA 3.9, Academic Achievement Award

1990 - 1994, *Ithaca College*, Ithaca, New York
Bachelor of Fine Arts: Film, Photography and Visual Arts
Best Documentary Award, 1993 and 1994
GPA 3.7, Magna Cum Laude

Teaching Experience

State University of New York, College at Oswego, Oswego, New York
Assistant Professor, Communication Studies Department
Fall 2007 to present

- Courses taught: New Media; Media Economics; Experimental Video
- Currently working on designing a new graduate program in Integrated Media

Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, New York
Adjunct Instructor, Department of Communication, Computing and Technology in Education
Fall 2005

- Taught graduate seminar on Social Software Affordances.

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- Course focused on use of Blogs, Wikis, RSS and other forms of Social Software, as well as a critical analysis of their affordances.

Other Professional Experience

Cornell University, Ithaca, New York

Consultant, Academic Technologies and Media Services

November 2005 to August 2007

- Managed various Faculty Innovation in Teaching projects.
- Conducted research on learning technologies and suggested implementations.
- Provided Instructional Design support.
- Conducted formal evaluation of projects.

eCornell (www.ecornell.com), Ithaca, New York

Director, Learning Systems Design

December 2001 to October 2004

- Invented the Learning Molecules model for the design and production of learning systems. This model, along with the ancillary technologies created to support it, helped reduce eCornell's production time by half, and resulted in better working relationships with SMEs and production teams.
- Provided leadership and training to members of the Learning Systems Group.
- As a member of the upper management team, participated in decisions about the direction of the company.

Learning Designer

May 2001 to Dec. 2001

- Collaborated with various Cornell faculty in the production of 17 courses in Human Resources, Hospitality Management, and Finance.
- Hired and trained other Learning Designers and support staff.

Manager, Digital Video Production Group

June 2000 to May 2001

Cornell University, Department of Theatre, Film and Dance, Ithaca, New York

Teaching Assistant

August 1998 to June 2000

Ithaca College, Ithaca, New York

Graduate Research Assistant

August 1997 to May 1999

- Editorial Assistant for *A Festschrift in Honor of Erik Barnow* (Patricia Zimmermann and Ruth Bradley, eds., *Wide Angle*, 1998, Volume 20, No. 2).
- Curatorial Assistant for the 17th and the 18th annual Women Direct series (Spring 1998 & 1999).
- Curatorial Assistant for the 1997 Flaherty International Film Seminar (Fall 1997).

Course and Program Development

- Collaborated in the design of an Integrated Media MA, SUNY Oswego, Fall 2007 to present.
- Developed *BRC-450: Friend Request Denied: Social Networks and the Web (Seminar)* for Spring 2008, SUNY Oswego.

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- Developed *BRC-450: Experimental Video (Seminar)* for Fall 2007, SUNY Oswego.
- Developed *MSTU-5510: Social Software Affordances (Seminar)* for Fall 2005, Teachers College, Columbia University.

Publications & Presentations

Mejias, U. (2007, October 9). *Symposium on network critique with Ulises Mejias and Warren Sack*. Presented (by invitation) at the Graduate School of Journalism, Columbia University, New York.

Mejias, U. (2007, June 29). *Hyperlocality and the tyranny of nodes*. Presented at the New Network Theory Conference, Institute of Network Cultures, Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis and Media Studies, University of Amsterdam. Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Mejias, U. (2007, June 23). *Networks, virtuality, and social realities*. Presented at the European Computing and Philosophy Conference, University of Twente. Enschede, The Netherlands.

Mejias, U. (2007, March 26 & 28). *Gaming meme forum*. Presented (by invitation) at the Finger Lakes Environmental Film Festival. Ithaca College, Ithaca, New York.

Mejias, U. (2007, February 28). *Networked participation: Wisdom of crowds or stupidity of masses?* Presented (by invitation) at Floating Points 4: Participatory Media. Emerson College, Boston, Massachusetts.

Mejias, U. (2006, October 24). *Agent Smith goes to Washington: Agency and control in social media*. Presented online at the New Media Consortium Online Conference on The Impact of Digital Media.

Mejias, U. (2006, July 20). *Social media and the networked public sphere*. Presented online at Innovate Live.

Mejias, U. (2006). Teaching social software with social software. *Innovate: Journal of Online Education*, (2) 5 (June/July 2006).

Mejias, U. (2005). A nomad's guide to learning and social software, *The Knowledge Tree*, Edition 7, November 2005. Accessed on October 10, 2006 from http://www.flexiblelearning.net.au/knowledgetree/edition07/html/la_mejias.html

Mejias, U. (2005, June 29). *The Internet and moral development*. Presented (by invitation) at the Yogyakarta Society for Science and Religion. Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

Mejias, U. (2005, April 8). *Telepistemology, combat robots, and human Pacman*. Presented (by invitation) at the Occupied Spaces Symposium. Ithaca College, Ithaca, New York.

Mejias, U. (2005). Re-approaching nearness: Online communication and its place in praxis. *First Monday* (10) 3. Accessed on April 10, 2006 from http://firstmonday.org/issues/issue10_3/mejias/index.html

Mejias, U. and Shoemaker, D. (2005, February 3). *Approaches to online learning design: Metaphors, processes, and metrics*. Presented at ASTD TechKnowledge 2005. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Mejias, U. and Shoemaker, D. (2004, November 15 & 16). *Approaches to online learning design: Metrics, metaphors, and processes*. Presented at TechLearn 2004. New York, New York.

Mejias, U. (2004, September 1). *Online discourse: past, present and future*. Presented at the 16th Annual Instructional Technology Institute Conference. Utah State University, Logan, Utah.

Mejias, U. (2002, November 24). *Sustainable Communicational Realities and online learning: The construction and application of knowledge in virtuality*. Presented at the National Communication Association Conference. New Orleans, Louisiana.

Mejias, U. (1999). Sustainable Communicational Realities in the age of virtuality. *Critical Studies in Media Communication*, (18) 2, 211-228.

Mejias, U., Li, H. & McIntosh, S. (1999). Computer technology and the changing perception of literacy. *Literacy Practitioner*, (5) 2, 9-11.

Mejias, U. (1999, November 4). *The technologizing of communication*. Presented at the National Communication Association Conference. Chicago, Illinois.

Community Service

Southern Tier Advocacy & Mitigation Project (S.T.A.M.P.)

Member, Board of Directors

September 2007 to present

S.T.A.M.P. was established in 2005 in response to the frequency with which young people are referred to juvenile and adult court systems. S.T.A.M.P. challenges criminalization and incarceration by encouraging self-respect, empowerment, leadership, and self-determination among young people, adults, and families most affected by criminal justice and environmental policies which disregard individual needs, erode community assets, and undermine planet security.

Center for Religion, Ethics and Social Policy (CRESP)

Member, Board of Directors

October 1999 to September 2000

CRESP is a nonsectarian, action-based educational organization with its roots in religious tradition, spirituality and ethical thought. Its mission is to seek the active participation of concerned individuals at Cornell, in Ithaca, and beyond in fostering vital and caring communities to provide a foundation for a world of peace, mutual understanding, and respect for all life.

References

Available upon request.