

WILLIAM HOMESTEAD
williamhhomestead@gmail.com

EDUCATION

M.F.A., Creative Writing
Goddard College, Plainfield, VT, January 2013
Thesis: “Not Till We Are Lost: Education, Communication, and Spiritual Transformation”

M.A., Communication Studies
University of Montana, Missoula, MT, May 2007
Thesis: “An Ecology of Communication: Response and Responsibility in an Age of Ecocrisis”

M.S., Environmental Studies
University of Montana, Missoula, MT, May 2002
Thesis: “A Call to Spirit: A Personal Meditation on Education, Environmental Ethics, and Activism”
Honors: Bertha Morton Scholarship, University of Montana, Fall 2001
Environmental Writing Institute, University of Montana, Spring 2000

B.A., Communication Studies, minor in English
Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, May 1985

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

New England College (2005-2024)
Associate Professor, Department of Communication Studies

Bridges to Learning: General Education, LAS 1000
This two-credit course provides first year students with the academic and social tools they need to succeed at college.

Finding your Voice, Changing the World: General Education, LAS 1110
This course explores what it means to be a human being while introducing students to the liberal arts tradition.

Oral Communication: CO 1110
This course introduces the basics of public speaking, including research, outlining, and delivery. Students are encouraged to choose topics that elicit their passions, allowing them to discover and express their individual voices.

Introduction to Communication Studies: CO 1010

This introductory course explores interpersonal theory, emotional intelligence, dialogic ethics and the art of conversation, cultural studies, mediation practices, and public speaking.

Introduction to Creative Writing: CW 1100

This course is a writing workshop that exposes students to three genres of creative writing: fiction, non-fiction and poetry, differentiating them by their compositional elements.

Introduction to Sports Communication: CO 1150

This introductory course explores the many links between communication and sports—sports writing, broadcasting, PR, advertising, film, and argumentation—providing an overview of critical study and professional opportunities in the sports communication field.

The Rights of Nature: General Education 1990

This course introduces students to the history of rights and environmental ethics. Students explore the tension between the instrumental use of nature and the intrinsic rights of diverse forms of nature to exist and flourish.

GreeNEC: General Education 1990

This course explores the worldwide movement to “green” college campuses. Students work on greening New England College by developing and participating in a creative project to support sustainability efforts on campus.

Survey of American Literature: EN 1930

This course surveys the works of major writers of literature and literary movements in America, as well as previously unrecognized voices that have shaped American literature and culture.

Interpersonal Communication: CO 2020

This course takes an in-depth look at the learned skill of interpersonal communication, critically investigating the myriad attributes of thoughtful conversations, relationships, and the socio-cultural communities within which we dwell.

Introduction to Journalism/Writing for the Web: CO 2120

This course introduces students to the history of journalism and the practice of news writing, news features, and opinion writing. Students create a portfolio of newspaper writings, with relevant work submitted to the college newspaper.

Religion and Philosophy: PA 3110

This course introduces students to the beliefs and practices of the major world religions. It considers how these religions have answered the fundamental questions of human existence and whether these explanations have value today and for the future.

Journalism: Feature Writing Workshop: CO 3120

In this upper-level course, students read, critique, and write feature-length articles, honing their skills in a comfortable, yet discerning, writing workshop.

Journalism: Investigative Reporting: CO 3130

This upper-level course surveys seminal examples of investigative journalism as well as the reporting tools needed to expose injustice and the abuse of power.

Advertising: History and Criticism: CO 3320

Students consider the ways in which advertising developed and continues to develop in relation to global consumerism and mass media technologies and in response to social criticism. Students learn to deconstruct advertising images and copy, and construct their own ads, spoof ads, and public service announcements.

Principles of Public Relations: CO 3340

This course explores the history, ethics, and principles of public relations. Students create a portfolio of PR writings for their own small business or nonprofit and work in groups doing PR work for a campus organization.

Public Relations Case Studies: CO 3360

This course surveys seminal public relations case studies. Students practice PR for an on-campus organization and write their own case studies.

Freedom of Speech: CO 3410

This course surveys the history and evolution of the ideal and practice of free speech. A special emphasis is placed on exploring freedom in relation to power, social inequality, and circumstance. Students also explore seminal court cases and ethical dilemmas that have shaped our views of freedom of the press.

The Voice of Nature: CO 3420

This course explores the interplay among rational, mythic, aesthetic, and spiritual communicative experience. Students study the communicative practices of diverse cultures and participate in experiential activities. Topics discussed include hunter-gatherer life, Buddhism, Native American spirituality, animal rights, and ecopsychology.

Organizational Communication and Negotiation: CO 4250

This course provides an overview of effective communication in a wide array of organizational settings. Emphasis is placed on human resource planning, working in groups and teams, conflict and behavior management, dealing with diversity, leadership, and other communication issues as well as negotiation strategies and tools.

Senior Seminar: CO 4420

This course is designed to prepare students for life after college. Students interpret contemporary social issues in relation to who they are and what they have to offer to others in their personal, work, and community lives, as well as in their roles as citizens of the world. A special emphasis is placed on intrapersonal communication, self-knowledge, leadership, listening, and life path.

Practical Experience: The NewEnglander: CO 4750

Students write, edit, and design six editions of *The NewEnglander*, New England College's newspaper.

University of Montana (Fall 2004-Spring 2005)

Teaching Assistant, Department of Communication Studies

Introduction to Public Speaking: Communication 111 (2 sections per semester)

This course introduces students to the conceptual knowledge and practical skills needed for effective public speaking.

University of Montana (Fall 2001)

Teaching Assistant, Department of Environmental Studies

Nature and Society: Environmental Studies 167

This survey lecture course introduces students to the relations between nature and society from Greek times to the present. Duties include grading three essay exams and holding weekly office hours for one hundred students.

Rutgers University (Spring 2000)

Adjunct Instructor, Department of Communication

Public Speaking: Communication 382

This upper-level public speaking course includes practice in composition, delivery, and criticism of informative and persuasive speeches. A special emphasis is placed on multicultural issues as they pertain to speaking style, argumentation, and audience analysis.

Purdue University (Fall 1992-Spring 1999)

Adjunct Instructor, Department of Communication

Introduction to Communication: Communication 114 (3-6 sections per semester)

This introduction to communication study includes interpersonal theory, ethics, language and meaning, nonverbal communication, perception, cultural studies, and public speaking. The course requires both individual and small group work in designing and presenting four speeches, including a final persuasive speech on a current social issue.

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

Not Till We Are Lost: Thoreau, Climate Crisis, and Education. Macon, Georgia: Mercer University Press, November 2024.

The Active Soul: Emerson and Thoreau on Reform and Civil Disobedience. Forthcoming from Mercer University Press in May 2025.

An Ecology of Communication: Response and Responsibility in an Age of Ecocrisis, Lanham, Maryland: Lexington Books, 2021.

The Path of My Soul: Journey to the Center of Self. Denver: Acropolis Books, 1999.

A Birth Year: Poems (completed manuscript).

Book Anthologies:

“Call of the Wild,” *Rooted and Resilient: Stories of Nature’s Role in Emotional Healing*. April 2023.

“The Language that All Things Speak: Thoreau and the Voice of Nature,” *Voice and Environmental Communication*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2014.

“Field Note: Red-breasted Nuthatch.” *Field Notes from the Montana Natural History Center*. Missoula, MT: Montana Natural History Center, 2016.

Journal Editor:

Guest Editor, Special Edition on “Educating for Ecological Sustainability.” *Ometeca* 14/15, 2010.

Journal Articles:

“Communicative Praxis in an Age of Ecocrisis.” *Ometeca* 14/15, 2010.

"An Ecology of Communication." *Ometeca* 7, 2003: 17-30.

“Practicing an Ecological Ethos: On Living Sciencepoetry.” *Ometeca* 5 & 6, 2002: 315-324.

“La Practica de un Ethos Ecologico: Sobre el Vivir de Acuerdo con la Cienciapoesia” translated in *Rafael Catala: del Circula Cuadrado a la Cienciapoesia*. Luis A Jimenez, ed. Bellvue, WA: Ventura One, 1994: 103-117.

Online:

“Listening to Melville with an Equal Eye.” *Analectica Hermeneutica*, Vol. 15.2., January 2025.

Rusnak, Jared. Review of *An Ecology of Communication: Response and Responsibility in an Age of Ecocrisis*, by William Homested. *Analecta Hermeneutica*, Vol. 15.1, December 2023.

“Robin Wall Kimmerer and Deep Listening: Practicing an Ecology of Communication.” *About Place Journal*, Special Issue: The More-Than-Human World, September 2023.

“Whither Wildness.” Ad Hoc Monadnock (Monadnock Writers’ Group Web site). Feb. 2011. <http://www.adhocmonadnock.org/CurrentIssueTOC.html>

Guest Columns:

“University Missing Opportunity to Show Far-Ranging Ethical Vision,” Guest Column, *Missoulian*, 25 October 2002.

“Make the Wabash River Healthy Again,” Guest Column, *Lafayette Journal and Courier*, 14 May 1999.

“Our River is Our Responsibility,” Guest Column, *Lafayette Journal and Courier*, 25 February 1999.

“Genuine Dialogue Needed in Wabash River Debate,” Guest Column, *Lafayette Journal and Courier*, 15 September 1998.

“Let the Sciences and the Humanities Meet,” Guest Column, *Lafayette Journal and Courier*, with R. Eric Ramsey, 25 June 1993.

PRESENTATIONS

Academic Conferences:

“The Far Side of Complexity: Thoreau, Resilience, and Simple Riches” The Thoreau Society, Concord, MA, July 2024.

“Thoreau and Philosophy as a Way of Life,” Society for the Advancement for American Philosophy,” Boston, MA, March 2024.

“Thoreau and Biophilia,” The Thoreau Society, Concord, MA, July 2023.

“Robin Wall Kimmerer and Deep Listening: Practicing an Ecology of Communication,” International Environmental Communication Association, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA, June 2023.

“Thoreau Writ Large: Living with Principle in the Anthropocene,” The Thoreau Society, Concord, MA, July 2022.

“Sympathy with Intelligence: Thoreau’s Scientific Practice,” The Thoreau Society, Concord, MA, July 2019.

“An Ecology of Communication: Response and Responsibility in an Age of Ecocrisis,” International Environmental Communication Association, Vancouver, BC, June 2019.

“Communicative Praxis in an Age of Ecocrisis,” Ometeca Institute, St. Petersburg, Florida, Summer 2008.

“Eco-religious Experience, Mythopoetic Metanarrative, and Environmental Education,” Ometeca Institute, Cumana, Venezuela, Summer 2000.

“An Ecology of Communication,” Ometeca Institute, New Brunswick, New Jersey, Summer 1996.

“Towards a Critical Ecocentrism: Liberating the Sensuous Imagination,” Ometeca Institute, San Ramon, Costa Rica, Summer 1994.

“Practicing an Ecological Ethos: On Living Sciencepoetry,” Ometeca Institute, Puebla, Mexico, Summer 1993.

Public Lectures:

“Education in the Age of Global Warming,” Teaching Collaborative, New England College, April 2019.

“Educating for Ecological Sustainability,” Faculty Lecture Series, New England College, October 2009.

“An Ecology of Communication,” Writer’s Series, Antioch New England Graduate, July 2007.

“Intelligence and Contemplation,” Science and Theology Forum, Wesley Foundation, Purdue University, November 1999.

“Spirituality, Wilderness, and Activism,” Wilderness Week Celebration, Purdue University, October 1999.

“Environmental Education and Self-Knowledge,” Earth Week Celebration, Purdue University, April 1999.

“Spirituality and Ethics,” Science and Theology Forum, Wesley Foundation, Purdue University, April 1999.

“Ecopsychology,” Counseling and Psychological Services Department, Purdue University, February 1999.

“Eco-Religious Experience,” Environmental Action Student Organization, Purdue University, February 1999.

“Environmental Ethics and University Education,” Science and Theology Forum, Wesley Foundation, Purdue University, September 1998.

“Earth Wisdom,” Science and Theology Forum, Wesley Foundation, Purdue University, March 1998.

“Biophilia: Ecology and Love,” Environmental Action Student Organization, Purdue University, February 1997.

“Callings,” Science and Theology Forum, Wesley Foundation, Purdue University, October 1996.

“Ecology and Spirituality,” Ometeca Institute, Spring Lecture Series, Casa Ometeca at Rutgers University, April 1996.

“The Expressions of Ecocentrism,” Environmental Action Student Organization, Purdue University, October 1994.

“Student Activism and Spiritual Ecology,” Environmental Action Student Organization, Purdue University, October 1993.

“Deep Ecology: A Critical Introduction,” Tribe Ecological Group, Purdue University, February 1993.

CONFERENCES ATTENDED

International Environmental Communication Association, “ReMEDIAing the Wild” (virtual attendance), June 2021.

The Thoreau Society, “Thoreau and Diversity,” Online, July 2021.

National Communication Association (NCA), “Communication at the Crossroads,” Seattle, WA, November 2021.

International Environmental Communication Association, “Bridging Divides: Spaces of Scholarship and Practice in Environmental Communication,” University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, June 2015.

International Environmental Communication Association, “Democracy, Borders, and Public/Political Engagement: Challenges for Environmental Communication, University of Leicester, UK (virtual attendance), June 2017.

The Thoreau Society, “Thoreau's Ecological and Cultural Vision for a Tolerable Future,” Concord, MA, July 2018.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

International Environmental Communication Association, 2015-2024

The Thoreau Society, 2016-2024

National Communication Association, Environmental Communication Division, 2020-2024

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Advisor, The NewEnglander, Student Newspaper & Website, New England College, 2007-2021.

Faculty Welfare Committee, Chairperson, New England College, 2020-21

Faculty Evaluation Committee, New England College, 2018-2019

Curriculum Committee, New England College, 2017-2018

President's Climate Committee, New England College, 2012-2020

General Education Committee, New England College, 2010-2012

Sustainability Task Force, New England College, 2010-2020

Conference Assistant, Ometeca Institute Working Session, St. Petersburg, FL, 2008.

Organizer and Discussion Leader, Environmental Discussion Group, Wesley Foundation, Purdue University, 1997-1998.

Conference Assistant, Ometeca Institute Working Session, Rutgers University, 1996.

Assistant Editor, Ometeca Journal, 1994-1995.