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Assistant Professor, Graphic Design
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I. EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE

Education

- 2016 *Northern Illinois University—Master of Fine Arts, M.F.A.—Visual Communication*
School of Art & Design—College of Visual of Performing Arts—DeKalb, IL
- 2009 *International Study—Design & Architecture: Italy, Switzerland & Spain*
Northern Illinois University—Study Abroad Summer Intensive
School of Art & Design, College of Visual of Performing Arts—DeKalb, IL
- 2006 *Northern Illinois University—Bachelor of Arts, B.A.—History*
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
Minor—Studio Art—Visual Communication
School of Art & Design—College of Visual of Performing Arts—DeKalb, IL

Academic Appointments

- 2019– *Assistant Professor—Graphic Design*
University of Nebraska Omaha—Omaha, NE
Graphic Design Concentration—Studio Art Department
School of the Arts—College of Communication, Fine Arts & Media
- 2012–19 *Full-Time Instructor—Visual Communication*
Northern Illinois University—DeKalb, IL
Visual Communication Department—Design & Media Arts Division
School of Art & Design—College of Visual of Performing Arts
- 2017 *Adjunct Instructor—Graphic Design*
College of DuPage—Glen Ellyn, IL
Graphic Design Department—Arts, Communications & Hospitality Division
- 2011 *Adjunct Instructor—Visual Communication*
Northern Illinois University—DeKalb, IL
Visual Communication Department—Design & Media Arts Division
School of Art & Design—College of Visual of Performing Arts
- 2010 *Adjunct Instructor—Visual Communication*
Northern Illinois University—DeKalb, IL
Visual Communication Department—Design & Media Arts Division
School of Art & Design—College of Visual of Performing Arts
- 2009 *Adjunct Instructor—Visual Communication*
Northern Illinois University—DeKalb, IL
Visual Communication Department—Design & Media Arts Division
School of Art & Design—College of Visual of Performing Arts

Professional & Studio Experience

- 2012– *Principal & Creative Director—Heart Giants—Batavia, IL*
Founder and owner of multi-disciplinary design studio working with small business and not-for-profit clients. As principal designer, lead all aspects of project development: client intake, research, strategy, design, art-direction, production, project management and execution.

SELECT CLIENTS—Center for New Community, GlobeMed, Leap Year Project, Made by We, National Suicide Prevention Hotline, Woman Made Gallery, Youth Build
- 2011–12 *Designer & Front-End Developer—Tilt Shift—Chicago, IL*
Founder and partner of a multi-disciplinary design studio working with socially-conscious clients. As one of four in a small collaborative studio, duties included: client intake, strategy, design, production, project management and execution. Worked across all web and UI projects as sole Front-End Developer.

Professional & Studio Experience (continued)

- 2007-11 *Designer—Illinois Association of School Business Officials—DeKalb, IL*
In-house designer concerned with creation and coordination of all collateral materials, web material and online content. Responsible for creation of various motion/video projects for online and environmental presentation. Art Director of association magazine along with multiple print responsibilities.
- 2005-07 *Associate Design Editor—Sun-Times News Group, Beacon News—Aurora, IL*
Design-Editor/Art-Director of daily sports section, supplemental content presentations and weekly multi-regional advertorial sections across six publications.

II. TEACHING

Courses Taught: University of Nebraska Omaha

- ART 4530 *Art Internship*
Tutored internship with local arts or design institutions that introduce students to working as an apprentice within a defined studio practice. Students gain pre-professional experiences and skills that increase awareness and practices within their field of study.
- ART 4170 *Graphic Design Studio*
An advanced, capstone course where students work individually and in teams to design thesis research projects, create professional portfolios, present work to the public and complete client projects for on and off-campus organizations.
- ART 3130 *Graphic Design I*
Students in this course focus on the essential elements of Graphic Design as a discipline and practice. Students learn tools, terminology and theory related to Graphic Design as a professional and artistic practice. Students learn conceptualization skills, digital/analog composition skills, an articulated design process and the relationship between the designer and their social/historical context.
- ART 2300 *Web Design*
Students gain an introduction to basic web design skills and topics, with an emphasis on interaction, functionality and usability principles by exploring how visual communication is created and presented in a Web-based environment.

Courses Taught: Northern Illinois University

- ART 490 *Independent Research*
Advanced students explore independently defined topics and create self-initiated solutions related to an individually structured design process.
- ARTD 412 *Advanced Visual Communication II*
Students explore the design of content-rich and interactive publishing systems through the development of an editorial perspective and interdisciplinary campaigns.
- ARTD 411 *Advanced Visual Communication I*
Students explore visual identity and branding issues with a focus on organizational goals, strategic positioning and multi-platform implementation.
- ARTD 405 *Professional Practices in Design*
Students gain insight into being a working practitioner: client relationships, financial/legal issues, professional responsibilities and other associated industry matters.
- ARTD 319 *Interaction Design II*
Students expand experience with interaction, functionality and usability principles by designing solutions for content management systems and mobile platforms.
- ARTD 318 *Interaction Design I*
Students gain experience with interaction, functionality and usability principles by exploring how communication is created and presented in a Web-based environment.
- ARTD 311 *Intermediate Visual Communication I*
Students explore typography, imagery and design process through an introduction to visual/corporate identity, branding and related communication design issues.
- ARTS 205 *Fundamentals of Graphic Design*
Students explore typographic terminology, formal relationships and design process with a focus on concept, craft and presentation.

Courses Taught: Northern Illinois University (continued)

- ARTD 212 *Image in Visual Communication (formerly Type & Image)*
 Students study type and image relationships with an emphasis on conceptual presentation as symbolic or representational narrative through singular or sequential formats.
- ARTD 211 *Typography*
 Students explore the use of type within composition to further knowledge of terminology, typesetting standards, legibility and formal structure.
- ARTD 201 *Introduction to Visual Communication*
 Students are introduced to graphic design in historical/contemporary contexts. Students explore design process with a focus on typographic and compositional structures.
- ART 102 *2-D Foundation Design*
 Students explore design elements and formal principles through the study of space, composition and application within digital and analog media.

Courses Taught: College of DuPage

- GRDSN 2206 *Web/Interactive Design 2*
 Students plan and develop interactive design concepts for use on the Web and mobile interface platforms using industry-standard tools and techniques.

Courses Taught: Historical Record

Course No.	Course title	Institution	Semester
ART 3130	Graphic Design I	UNO	Fall 2020
ART 4170	Graphic Design Studio	UNO	Fall 2020
ART 4530	Art Internship	UNO	Fall 2020
ART 2300	Web Design	UNO	Summer 2020
ART 3130	Graphic Design I	UNO	Spring 2020
ART 4170	Graphic Design Studio	UNO	Spring 2020
ART 3130	Graphic Design I	UNO	Fall 2019
ART 4170	Graphic Design Studio	UNO	Fall 2019
ARTD 319	Interaction Design II	NIU	Spring 2019
ARTD 212	Image in Visual Communication (formerly Type & Image)	NIU	Spring 2019
ARTD 212	Introduction to Visual Communication	NIU	Spring 2019
ARTD 411	Advanced Visual Communication I	NIU	Fall 2018
ARTD 201	Introduction to Visual Communication	NIU	Fall 2018
ARTD 319	Interaction Design II	NIU	Spring 2018
ARTD 212	Type & Image	NIU	Spring 2018
ART 490	Independent Research	NIU	Fall 2017
ARTD 311	Intermediate Visual Communication I	NIU	Fall 2017
ARTD 201	Introduction to Visual Communication	NIU	Fall 2017
ART 102	2-D Foundation Design	NIU	Fall 2017
GRDSN 2206	Web / Interactive Design 2	COD	Spring 2017
ARTD 319	Interaction Design II	NIU	Spring 2017
ARTD 212	Type & Image	NIU	Spring 2017
ARTD 311	Intermediate Visual Communication I	NIU	Fall 2016
ARTS 215	Fundamentals of Graphic Design	NIU	Fall 2016
ARTD 201	Introduction to Visual Communication	NIU	Fall 2016
ARTD 490	Independent Research	NIU	Spring 2016

Courses Taught: Historical Record (continued)

Course No.	Course title	Institution	Semester
ARTD 412	Advanced Visual Communication II	NIU	Spring 2016
ARTD 319	Interaction Design II	NIU	Spring 2016
ARTD 211	Typography	NIU	Spring 2016
ARTD 405	Professional Practices in Design	NIU	Fall 2015
ARTD 318	Interaction Design I	NIU	Fall 2015
ARTD 201	Introduction to Visual Communication	NIU	Fall 2015
ARTD 412	Advanced Visual Communication II	NIU	Spring 2015
ARTD 212	Type & Image	NIU	Spring 2015
ARTD 411	Advanced Visual Communication I	NIU	Fall 2014
ARTD 201	Introduction to Visual Communication	NIU	Fall 2014
ARTD 212	Type & Image	NIU	Spring 2014
ARTD 201	Introduction to Visual Communication	NIU	Fall 2013
ARTD 212	Type & Image	NIU	Spring 2013
ARTD 311	Intermediate Visual Communication I	NIU	Fall 2012
ARTD 201	Introduction to Visual Communication	NIU	Fall 2012
ARTS 215	Fundamentals of Graphic Design	NIU	Spring 2011
ARTD 212	Type & Image	NIU	Spring 2011
ARTS 215	Fundamentals of Graphic Design	NIU	Spring 2010
ARTD 212	Type & Image	NIU	Spring 2010
ARTS 215	Fundamentals of Graphic Design	NIU	Spring 2009

Workshops & Teaching Beyond the Classroom

INVITED & EXTERNAL WORKSHOPS

2020 *Start with an -ISM: Using Visual Rhetoric as Social and Cultural Discourse*—REGIONAL
Northern Illinois University—School of Art & Design—DeKalb, IL
Feb 11

Risograph printing workshop exploring visual rhetoric and activist production techniques. This hands-on workshop engages participants to position their ideological perspectives as actionable communication. Participants review historical examples to understand oppressive ideology and cultural -isms. Participants then produce original messages that provoke dialogue or action.

INTERNAL WORKSHOPS

2018 *Exploring STEAM through Digital Arts*—INSTITUTIONAL
Northern Illinois University—School of Art & Design—DeKalb, IL
Jul 21–26

Summer workshop with middle-school students that explored visual storytelling. Students used digital tools to present personal narratives, emotions and cultural themes. Students explored digital photography and video-editing techniques to create conceptual narratives. Students created works that explored cultural perception, cyber-bullying and human acts of kindness.

2017 *American Art & Design Education Program*—INSTITUTIONAL
Northern Illinois University—School of Art & Design—DeKalb, IL
Jun 23–27

Administered in conjunction with Xi'an University of Technology, Xi'an, China. This workshop explored the use of visual communication in presenting cultural narrative, allowing Chinese participants working in an American context to create works that conceptually presented their culture to an American audience, specifically Chicago, IL.

III. SCHOLARSHIP

Publications

- 2020 Johnathon Strube, Reviewed by (2020) *Design Justice: Community-Led Practices to Build the World We Need*, Design and Culture, DOI: 10.1080/17547075.2020.1831294
<https://www.tandfonline.com...10.1080/17547075.2020.1831294>

Presentations

- 2020 *The User Experience of Research Presentations: Leveraging the Design Process as a Framework for Constructing User-Centered Solutions to the Design of Research Presentations*—PEER-REVIEWED, NATIONAL
International Design Engineering Technical Conferences
& Computers and Information in Engineering Conference
The American Society of Mechanical Engineers—St. Louis, MO
Aug 16–19
Delivered online as result of Covid-19 pandemic
- 2020 *Digital Roundtable Moderator: #roundtables-research*
SHIFT: AIGA DEC Virtual Summit—AIGA Design Educator’s Community
educators.aiga.org/shift-2020
Aug 3–7
- 2020 *The Kids are Alright with Voting: A Case Study in Using Mobile Devices as Ethnographic Research Tools*—PEER-REVIEWED, NATIONAL
UCDA Design Education Summit: Human-Centered
Drake University—Des Moines, IA
Jul 1
Delivered online as result of Covid-19 pandemic: www.ucda.com/designeducationsummit/
- 2018 *Poster As Social Discourse*—PEER-REVIEWED, NATIONAL
UCDA Design Education Summit: Good Design Works
Youngstown State University—Youngstown, OH
May 21–22
- 2018 *Making Thoughts*
Design Inspiration Weekend: NEXT—Society of Typographic Arts—Chicago, IL
Jan 12–14
- 2017 *Creating a Rigorous Graphic Design Foundation Course: Preparing Diverse First Year Visual Communication Students for Success*—PEER-REVIEWED, NATIONAL
UCDA Design Education Summit: Hand and Machine
Kutztown University—Kutztown, PA
May 22–24
- 2012 *Branding and Entrepreneurship Panel Discussion with Firebelly University*
Debbie Millman’s Masters in Branding Class—School of Visual Arts—New York, NY
Mar 30
- #### Grants Received & Funded Research
- 2020 *High Tech Grant*—\$9,000.00—PEER-REVIEWED, INSTITUTIONAL
College of Communication, Fine Arts & Media—University of Nebraska Omaha—Omaha, NE
Submitted: Dec 2019 / Awarded: Feb 2020
- 2020 *Open Educational Resource Grant*—\$2,500.00—PEER-REVIEWED, INSTITUTIONAL
Criss Library—University of Nebraska Omaha—Omaha, NE
Submitted: Jan 2020 / Awarded: Feb 2020
Teaching grant awarded for the creation, development and inclusion of Affordable Content and Open Educational Resource materials for an *Introduction to Graphic Design* course.
- #### Interviews: Digital
- 2018 *Design.Edu Today Podcast: “Adding Social Context to Interactive Design Courses” with Anne Berry, Cleveland State University & Johnathon Strube, Northern Illinois University*
UCDA Design Education Summit: Good Design Works
Youngstown State University—Youngstown, OH
May 21–22
Invited by Gary Ronzanc to discuss teaching interactive design projects with socially-focused content, with further discussion on the role of interactive mediums in our current culture.

- Interviews: Print**
- 2017 *Design for Good*
Frank Magazine, Vol. 6., Columbia College, Chicago, IL, (March 2017): p. 8:11–13. Mar 2017
- Awards & Honors**
- 2020 *Design Incubation Fellowship—Design Incubation—PEER-REVIEWED, NATIONAL*
St. John's University—New York, NY
Jun 4–Jun 6
Awarded mentor fellowship for written research project with emphasis on editing for peer review and project specific publishing options.
- 2019 *Show. Nebraska—Gold, Professional—PEER-REVIEWED, REGIONAL*
AIGA, The Professional Association for Design—Nebraska Chapter—Omaha, NE
Nov 23
Show. Nebraska is AIGA Nebraska's annual, juried design competition. Awarded top honor in 'Print/Traditional Methods' category for *BENT* promotional poster.
- 2012 *Invited Designer, Tomorrow Labs—Stories of Change Impact Lab—NATIONAL*
Tomorrow Partners, Sundance Institute, Skoll Foundation—Berkeley, CA
Apr 30–May 4
Filmmakers and social entrepreneurs worked with designers to accelerate storytelling and technology solutions. This week-long, immersive design charrette culminated with presentations aimed at seed funding to extend the stories in innovative and meaningful ways.
- 2011–12 *Fellowship, Firebelly University—PEER-REVIEWED, NATIONAL*
Firebelly Design—Chicago, IL
Sep 5–May 31
A real world alternative to an MBA, this nine-month intensive entrepreneurial incubator brought together five designers, with a social awareness, from across the country to start and run a design studio; support a not-for-profit; and develop social enterprise opportunities.
- 2010 *Camper, Camp Firebelly—PEER-REVIEWED, NATIONAL*
Firebelly Design—Chicago, IL
Jun 21–Jun 30
An intensive apprenticeship program bringing together 10 designers from around the country to learn and create work for two Chicago not-for-profit organizations within 10 days. Collaborated on research, concept, design and production. Completed work included print materials and hand-crafted products.
- 2009 *Assistant & Collaborator—REGIONAL*
Moving Design, Thirst—Chicago, IL
Jan 19–May 15
Served Thirst Design for their initial expression of Moving Design, a collaborative project working leading initiatives that inspire change through the power of design. Coordinated communication and remote lectures for student projects and feedback
- Exhibitions**
- 2017–18 *NIU Biennial School of Art Faculty Exhibition*
NIU Art Museum—Northern Illinois University—DeKalb, IL
Nov 16–Feb 23
- 2016 *Get Out the Vote Poster Initiative*
Online Archive & Exhibition—AIGA, The Professional Association for Design—New York, NY
aiga.org/vote
- 2016 *Assemblage of Meaning: MFA Thesis Exhibition*
Gallery 215—Northern Illinois University, School of Art & Design—DeKalb, IL
Apr 07–11
- 2009 *Prelude: Northern Illinois University MFA Group Exhibition*
Pleasant Street Gallery—Northern Illinois University, School of Art & Design—DeKalb, IL
Apr 13–May 8
- 2008 *Lodz International Design Festival*
International Art Center—Lodz, Poland
Oct 10–25

Exhibitions: Curatorial

- 2016-17 *Latino Oral History Project Poster Exhibition*
Gallery 214—Northern Illinois University, School of Art & Design—DeKalb, IL
Oct 11–Oct 15
Center for Latino & Latin American Studies—Northern Illinois University—DeKalb, IL
Oct 18–May 13

IV. SERVICE

Professional Organizations

- 2020– Member, SECAC, formerly Southeastern College Art Conference
2018– Member, CAA, College Art Association of America
2016– Member, UCDA, University & College Designer Association
2015– Member, STA, Society of Typographic Arts
2014– Member, Design Museum of Chicago
2008– Member, AIGA, The Professional Association for Design

Service to the Profession

- LEADERSHIP IN AIGA, THE PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR DESIGN
2020– *Director of Education*
AIGA, The Professional Association for Design—Nebraska Chapter—Omaha, NE
- 2020– *Design Teaching Resource Contributor*
Online Project Archive—AIGA, The Professional Association for Design—New York, NY
teachingresource.aiga.org
Projects Contributed:
Social Pastiche, Apr 10
- 2012 *AIGA Mentor Group Leader*
AIGA, The Professional Association for Design—Chicago Chapter—Chicago, IL
- LEADERSHIP IN DESIGN INCUBATION, RESEARCH IN COMMUNICATION DESIGN
2020– *Design Incubation Writing Group Coordinator*
Design Incubation, Research in Communication Design—New York, NY
- LEADERSHIP IN STA, THE SOCIETY OF TYPOGRAPHIC ARTS
2017-19 *Executive Board Officer—Treasurer*
STA, The Society of Typographic Arts—Chicago, IL
- PEER REVIEWER OF CONFERENCE SUBMISSIONS
2019 *UCDA Design Education Summit: Collaborate—Peer Review Panel*
East Tennessee State University—Johnson City, TN
May 20–21
- 2018 *Chicago Design Week: Design In Motion Proposal Review Committee*
AIGA, The Professional Association for Design—Chicago Chapter—Chicago, IL
Oct 27–Nov 3
- DESIGN COMPETITION PANELS, ROUNDTABLES & JURIES
2020 *Invited Professional Mentor & Roundtable Guest*
Meet the Pros—AAF, American Advertising Federation Omaha—Omaha, NE
Feb 17
- 2017 *Invited Design Judge*
IPRA/IAPD Conference, Agency Showcase—Chicago, IL
Jan 25–27
- 2016 *Invited Design Judge*
IPRA/IAPD Conference, Agency Showcase—Chicago, IL
Jan 27–29

Service to University Nebraska Omaha

- 2020 SERVICE TO THE COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION, FINE ARTS, AND MEDIA
Member, Search Committee
Instructor, Art—Art & Art History—School of the Arts
- 2019- SERVICE TO THE SCHOOL OF THE ARTS
Academic Advisor
Graphic Design Concentration—Art & Art History—School of the Arts
Advise students enrolled in Graphic Design Concentration with course planning, degree requirements and overall execution of a successful degree path.
- 2019- *High-Tech Committee Member*
Art & Art History—School of the Arts—College of Communication, Fine Arts and Media
Serve college-level committee responsible for reviewing proposals, administering funds and supporting the technology needs of faculty-led research and pedagogical methods.
- 2019- SERVICE TO THE GRAPHIC DESIGN CONCENTRATION
AIGA–UNO Student Chapter Faculty Advisor
Lead students in understanding the value of professional development and participation in their peer-network relative to the context of AIGA, The Professional Association for Design.
- Service to Northern Illinois University**
- 2015-19 SERVICE TO THE SCHOOL OF ART & DESIGN
Visual Communication Portfolio Review and Academic Selection Committee
Evaluate and interview potential candidates for admittance into the NIU Visual Communication program by assessing their contemporary and cultural awareness of design; their prior exposure to design fundamentals; and their desired academic and professional goals.
- 2012-19 SERVICE TO THE VISUAL COMMUNICATION PROGRAM
Visual Communication Senior Project Panel and Capstone Review Committee
Review and assess the student outcomes relative to final and comprehensive study presented in accordance with degree requirements to achieve a B.F.A. in Visual Communication.