

Kristen M. Einertson

Department of Communication Studies
University of St. Thomas
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Education

Doctor of Philosophy 2024

University of Minnesota—Twin Cities (UMN), Minneapolis, MN

Communication Studies (Rhetoric)

“Traveling the Road of Baltic Independence: The Joint Baltic American

National Committee and US Foreign Policy Rhetorics During the Late Cold War”

Advisors: Dr. Atilla Hallsby and Dr. Zornitsa Keremidchieva

Committee: Dr. Ronald W. Greene, Dr. Elaine Tyler May

Bachelor of Arts

Luther College, Decorah, IA 2018

Communication Studies, Music, Philosophy

Academic Appointments

Adjunct Professor of Communication Studies, *University of St. Thomas*, St. Paul, MN 2023–Present

Writing Consultant for Graduate Students, *Concordia Seminary*, St. Louis, MO 2021–Present

Graduate Instructor, *University of Minnesota*, Minneapolis, MN 2019–2024

Honors, Fellowships, & Awards

University of St. Thomas Study Abroad New Course Development Grant 2025–2027

****Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute Postdoctoral Fellow** 2025–2026

University of Minnesota Scott, Jensen, and Campbell Graduate Fellowship in Rhetoric 2024

"Bea Kind" Departmental Citizenship Award 2024

International Chapter of the P.E.O. Scholar Award 2023–2024

Finalist for ACLS/Mellon Dissertation Innovation Fellowship 2023–2024

University of Minnesota Graduate Student Scholarship Award 2023

University of Minnesota Arle and Bill Haeberle Scholarship 2023

****The Wilson Center Cold War Archives Research Fellowship** 2022–2023

****National Communication Association Benson-Campbell Dissertation Award** 2022

University of Minnesota College of Liberal Arts Dissertation Proposal Development Program 2022

American Latvian Association Graduate Fellowship in Latvian American Studies Spring 2022

University of Minnesota Graduate Scholar Fellow in Communication Studies 2021

University of Minnesota Communication Studies Graduate Fellowship 2021

Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship in International Studies 2020–2021

University of Minnesota Graduate Scholar Fellow in Communication Studies 2020

American Latvian Association Graduate Fellowship in Latvian American Studies Fall 2020

****Fulbright English Teaching Assistant, U.S. Department of State** 2018–2019

McElroy Fellowship Alternate	2018
Callista and Newt Gingrich Scholarship Recipient	2017–2018
National Merit Scholar	2014–2018

Publications

Published Journal Articles

Einertson, Kristen. “Between Faith & Fate: The Significance of Liturgical Rhetoric in the Context of the Russo-Ukrainian War.” *Journal of Communication & Religion* 47, no. 3 (Forthcoming 2025): 64–82.

Einertson, Kristen. “The ‘Keys’ to Unlocking Eastern European (neo)Nazism: The Search for Narrative Refuge.” *Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies* 22, no. 2 (2025): 199-219. [doi:10.1080/14791420.2025.2503814](https://doi.org/10.1080/14791420.2025.2503814).

Einertson, Kristen. “The Latvian KGB Cheka Archive: A Transnational Scene of Invention.” *Argumentation & Advocacy* 60, no. 3-4 (2025): 281–297. [doi:10.1080/10511431.2025.2463176](https://doi.org/10.1080/10511431.2025.2463176).

Einertson, Kristen. “Rippling Influence: The Rhetorical Legacy of the Joint Baltic American National Committee in Shaping U.S. Foreign Policy.” *Society & Economy* (Forthcoming 2026).

Book Review. Einertson, Kristen. *Beyond the Cold War: Presidential Rhetoric in Central and Eastern Europe*. Edited by Rebecca M. Townsend. *Rhetoric and Public Affairs* (Forthcoming 2025).

Book Review. Einertson, Kristen. *Digital Authoritarianism in the Making: Repression and Resistance on the Russian Internet*. Edited by Francoise Daucé, Benjamin Loveluck and Francesca Musiani. *Critical Studies in Media Communication* (Forthcoming 2026).

Journal Articles Under Review

Einertson, Kristen and Christian Einertson. “Justifying a Theological Defense: How Patriarch Kirill Laid the Foundation for *Jus Ad Bellum* in the Russo-Ukrainian War.” Under Review. *Rhetoric and Public Affairs*.

Book Chapters

Einertson, Kristen. “The Return of the Secret: The Protocols of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, Baltic Independence, and US Foreign Policy Rhetoric in the late 1980s.” In *Reassessing Foreign Policy Rhetorics in the Global Era: Concepts and Case Studies*, edited by Allison Prasch and Sara L. McKinnon. East Lansing, MI: Michigan State University Press, 2024. <https://doi.org/10.14321/jj.18908616.9>.

Einertson, Kristen. “Transmission Across the East-West Divide: Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty’s Cold War Broadcasting at Home and Abroad.” In *The Palgrave Handbook of Non-State Actors in East-West Relations*, edited by Péter Marton, Gry Thomasen, Csaba Békés, and András Rácz. London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2024.

Teaching Experience

Course Developer and Director, COMM 105 Northern Lights and Nobel Laureates: Intercultural Communication in Norway, Study Abroad Program—*University of St. Thomas*, St. Paul, MN, 2027.

Adjunct Professor of Communication Studies, *University of St. Thomas*, St. Paul, MN

COMM 100 Public Speaking: Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Spring 2025

Leadership & Service

American Society of the History of Rhetoric's Special Projects Coordinator	2025–Present
American Society of the History of Rhetoric Steering Committee	2025–Present
University of St. Thomas Fulbright Review Committee	2025–Present
National Communication Association, Public Address Division New Horizons Award Selection Committee	2024–2025
National Communication Association American Society for the History of Rhetoric Conference Reviewer	2024–2025
National Communication Association Communication Association of Eurasian Researchers Conference Reviewer	2024–2025
National Communication Association Russian Communication Association Conference Reviewer	2024–2025
Rhetoric Society of America Conference Reviewer	2023, 2025
UMN Communication Studies Graduate Committee Fellowship and Grants Archive Coordinator	2024
UMN Communication Studies Graduate Student CV Writing Workshop Coordinator	2024
UMN Communication Studies PhD Program Admitted Students' Day Speaker	2024
UMN College of Liberal Arts Motley Exemplary Teaching Award Selection Committee	2023–2024
UMN Communication Studies Graduate Committee Member, Minneapolis, MN	2023–2024
UMN Communication Studies Governance Council Member, Minneapolis, MN	2023–2024
UMN Communication Studies Graduate Student Secretary, Minneapolis, MN	2022–2024
National Communication Association Public Address Division Conference Reviewer	2023
The Council of Graduate Students Grant Reviewer, Minneapolis, MN	2021–2022
UMN Communication Studies Undergrad Committee Member, Minneapolis, MN	2019–2020
Representative to The Council of Graduate Students, Minneapolis, MN	2019–2020
Research Assistant for the <i>Baltic Security Strategy Project</i> , Rīga, Latvia	2018–2019
Assistant Director and Writer for <i>Latvia Weekly</i> News Aggregator, Rīga, Latvia	2018–2019
ESU Latvia Public Speaking Competition Coordinator, Rīga, Latvia	2018–2019

Research Presentations

"Resistance to Removal: Pushback on the Office of Special Investigation Cases during the Reagan Administration." Age of Reagan Conference, Simi Valley, California.	July 2025
"Tips & Tricks for Navigating the Archive/s." First Friday Forum Series for the American Society of the History of Rhetoric, Online.	March 2025
"Suspicion, Suspect, and Surveillance: The Role of Secrecy in US-Baltic-Russian Relations from the Cold War until Now." Invited Public Lecture at the University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN.	February 2025
"(Dis)Regarding Power: Rhetorical Historiography as Critical Praxis." American Society for the History of Rhetoric at the National Communication Association Conference, New Orleans, LA.	November 2024

<p>“Reassessing Foreign Policy Rhetoric in the Global Era.” American Society for the History of Rhetoric at the National Communication Association Conference, New Orleans, LA.</p>	<p>November 2024</p>
<p>“Would the Real Slovak Lutherans Please Stand Up? Lutheran Conflict within Cold War Czechoslovakian Radio Free Europe Programming.” Rhetoric Society of America Conference, Denver, CO.</p>	<p>May 2024</p>
<p>“Latvia’s ‘Keys’ to Displacing History: A Reckoning with Eastern-European Jewish Refuge.” UW-Madison Rhetoric Society of America Student Chapter Symposium, Madison, WI.</p>	<p>April 2024</p>
<p>“A Late-Cold-War Rhetorical Cartography: Mapping the Joint Baltic American National Committee.” Midwest Winter Workshop, Madison, WI.</p>	<p>February 2024</p>
<p>“The Keys” to Memory: Reconstructing Latvia’s Past.” International and Intercultural Communication Division at the National Communication Association Conference, National Harbor, MD.</p>	<p>November 2023</p>
<p>“Suspicious of Secrecy: The Joint Baltic American National Committee’s Resistance to the Sonnenfeldt Doctrine and the OSI Cases of the 1970s-1980s.” 13th Annual International Student Conference of the Cold War History Research Center, Budapest, Hungary.</p>	<p>June 2023</p>
<p>“The Ukrainian Orthodox Church <i>Embodies</i> the Russo-Ukrainian War.” Religious Communication Association Division at the National Communication Association Conference, New Orleans, LA.</p>	<p>November 2022</p>
<p>“Latvia’s ‘Keys’ to History.” Rhetoric Society of America (RSA) Spring Symposium 2022, hosted by the UW Madison Graduate Student RSA Chapter, Madison, WI.</p>	<p>April 2022</p>
<p>“The Return of the Secret in the Baltic Soviet Socialist Republics.” Immigration History Research Center American Latvian Association Fellow Presentation, Minneapolis, MN.</p>	<p>March 2022</p>
<p>“The Latvian KGB Cheka Archive: A Transnational Scene of Invention.” Russian Communication Association Division at the National Communication Association Conference, Seattle, WA. *Top Student Paper Award</p>	<p>November 2021</p>
<p>“The Subversion of Democracy: Advertising in the Aftermath of the 2016 Russian Disinformation Campaign.” Political Communication Division at the National Communication Association Conference, Seattle, WA.</p>	<p>November 2021</p>

“The Return of the Secret: The Protocols of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, the Baltic Independence Movement, and the U.S. Foreign Policy Rhetoric in the late 1980s.” Reassessing Foreign Policy Rhetorics in the Global Era Preconference at the National Communication Association Conference, Seattle, WA.	November 2021
“How We Survived Communism: The Užupian Constitution.” Communication Association of Eurasian Researchers Division at the National Communication Association Conference, Indianapolis, IN.	November 2020
“Preparing New Grantees for Fulbright in Latvia.” Eurasian Fulbright Pre-Departure Orientation by the US State Department, Lawrence, KA.	July 2019
“Whistleblowing in Emerging Democracies.” University of Latvia’s 18th International Research Conference, Rīga, Latvia.	May 2019
“European Governmental Responses to Disinformation.” EU-US Young Leaders Seminar, Brussels, Belgium.	April 2019
“The Influence of Anti-Western Campaigns in Latvia.” The Berlin Seminar, Berlin, Germany.	March 2019
“Developing Media Literacy Programs in Post-Soviet States.” Media Literacy Conference, Kyiv, Ukraine.	November 2018
“The 2019 Initiatives of the Baltic Security Strategy Project.” The Rīga Conference, Rīga, Latvia.	September 2018
“Media Literacy and Russian Disinformation in Latvia.” Eurasian Fulbright Pre-Departure Orientation by the US State Department, Washington, D.C.	July 2018

Travel Grants

University of Minnesota Council of Graduate Students Conference Grant	Spring 2024
Rhetoric Society of America Janice Lauer Fund for Graduate Student Support	Spring 2024
University of Minnesota Council of Graduate Students Conference Grant	Fall 2022
University of Minnesota Research, Creative, and Travel Grant	Summer 2022
University of Minnesota Research, Creative, and Travel Grant	Summer 2021

Professional Development

Teaching Today’s Tommies	January 2025
Mental Health Advocate Training	Summer 2024
Teaching with Collaborative Writing	Summer 2024
Teaching Assistant and Postdoc Professional Development Program	Summer 2024
Teaching in Globally Diverse Classrooms	Spring 2024
Academic Integrity at UMN	Summer 2023

University of St. Thomas Writing Across the Curriculum Seminar	January 2024
University of Minnesota Writing Enriched Seminar	Fall 2021
University of Minnesota Liberal Arts Technologies and Innovation Services Foundations of Online Teaching Course	Summer 2021
University of Minnesota Writing Enriched Seminar	Fall 2019, Spring 2021

Professional Society Memberships

National Communication Association	American Society for the History of Rhetoric
Rhetoric Society of America	Lambda Pi Eta Honor Society

Service & Study Abroad

Norway: research and teaching, 2026–2027
Hungary: research, 2023
Latvia: research, service, and teaching, 2018–2019
Belgium: research and education, 2019
Germany: research and education, 2019
Ukraine: research and education, 2018
Tanzania: research, service, and education, 2017
United Kingdom: research, service, and education, 2015
Greece: research, service, and education, 2015

Languages

Latvian: *Rīga Stradiņš University* and Private Instruction, intermediate level.
Russian: *Rīga Stradiņš University* and the *University of Minnesota*, intermediate level.

Ecclesial Activity

Web Content

Co-Creator of *All the Household*, <https://allthehousehold.com/>.

Publications

Einertson, Kristen. “Tradition: Handing Down the Light to the Next Generation.” *Grapho* (2022): 13–18.

Einertson, Kristen and Tessa Muench. “Life in the Church Year Series—Epiphany Traditions: King Cake & House Blessing.” *The Lutheran Witness* (January 2025): 22.

Einertson, Kristen and Tessa Muench. “Life in the Church Year Series—Candlemas: Candles, Crepes and Compline.” *The Lutheran Witness* (February 2025): 22.

Einertson, Kristen and Tessa Muench. “Life in the Church Year Series—Three Disciplines & Pretzels.” *The Lutheran Witness* (March 2025): 22–23.

Einertson, Kristen and Tessa Muench. “Life in the Church Year Series—Holy Triduum: Hot Cross Buns.” *The Lutheran Witness* (April 2025): 22.

Einertson, Kristen and Tessa Muench. "Life in the Church Year Series—Eastertide: Lamb Cake and Ascension Picnicking." *The Lutheran Witness* (May 2025): 15.

Einertson, Kristen and Tessa Muench. "Life in the Church Year Series—Two Saints of Summer: J.S. Bach Kugelhopf." *The Lutheran Witness* (June/July 2025): 15.

Einertson, Kristen and Tessa Muench. "Life in the Church Year Series—St. Mary Lavender Cookies and Gardens." *The Lutheran Witness* (August 2025): 14.

Einertson, Kristen and Tessa Muench. "Life in the Church Year Series—Holy Cross Day & St. Michael and All Angels: Home Altars and Blackberry Crumble." *The Lutheran Witness* (September 2025): 16.

Presentations

"Liturgical Living within the Christian Life: A Lutheran Vision of Beauty." November 2025
Seminary Wives Association, St. Louis, MO.

"Lutheran Liturgical Living as Beautifying the Christian Life." October 2025
Central Illinois Pastors' Wives Retreat, Cantrall, IL.

"Life Together Throughout the Church's Year" September 2025
Go First! MN South District Conference

"In the Beauty of Holiness." March 2025
Our Savior Lutheran Church Ladies Retreat, Mankato, MN.

"The Household's Christian Calendar." January 2025
Wittenberg Academy National Lutheran School Week Colloquium, Online.

"The Christian Calendar and Historic Christian Tradition." April 2024
Abounding Joy Lutheran Church Table Talks, St. Cloud, MN.

Media Appearances

Einertson, Kristen. "Restoring Christian Habits in the Household." On the Line Podcast. October 7, 2024.
<https://podcasts.apple.com/se/podcast/dr-kristen-einertson-restoring-christian-habits-in/id1714165166?i=1000672035199>.

Einertson, Kristen. "Livin' La Vida Liturgica: A Grapho Interview with Kristen Einertson." Back to the Sources Podcast. November 23, 2022. https://scholar.csl.edu/back_to_sources/12/.

Einertson, Kristen. "Living Liturgically." Issues, Etc. (interview). February 2, 2022.
<https://issuesetc.org/2022/02/02/0332-living-liturgically-kristen-einertson-2-2-22/>

Einertson, Kristen and Tessa Muench. "Home is a Monastery." Ordinary Time Podcast. September 18, 2021.
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/home-is-a-monastery/id1550620818?i=1000535868663>.