

Curriculum vitae

Lana Medina, PhD
Assistant Professor of Journalism

College of Arts and Sciences
University of St. Thomas
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Pennsylvania State University – State College, PA

PhD in Mass Communication (2025)

Dissertation: *News at a Distance: Ethics and Corporate Ownership in the Digital Transformation of Local Television News*

Southern Utah University - Cedar City, UT

Master of Professional Communication (2020)

Thesis: *Partisan Preference - A Comprehensive Analysis of Immigration-based News Reporting through Media Framing*

University of Utah - Salt Lake City, UT

BA, Mass Communication (2010)

BA, History (2010)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of St. Thomas <i>Assistant Professor of Journalism</i>	St. Paul, Minnesota	2025-Current
Pennsylvania State University <i>Instructor-of-Record</i> <i>Research Assistant</i>	State College, Pennsylvania	2021-2025
Salt Lake Community College <i>Adjunct Instructor</i>	Salt Lake City, Utah	2021-2025
Southern Utah University <i>Teaching Assistant</i>	Cedar City, Utah	2020-2021

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles

Craig, D.A., Plaisance, P.L., Schauster, E., Roberts, C., Place, K., **Medina, L.**, Yetter, C., & Vardeman, C. (2026). Ethical Challenges and Moral Conation Capacities in Emerging Adults Moving into Media Industries. *Journal of Business Ethics*.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10551-026-06333-5>

- Plaisance, P. L., & **Medina, L.** (2026). The virtue of curiosity in media ethics and news literacy. *Ethical Space: International Journal of Communication Ethics*. 22(3/4)
<https://doi.org/10.21428/0af3f4c0.65aebd5d>
- Medina, L.** (accepted). The Sword and Shield of the Internet. *Communication Law and Policy Journal*.
- Cheng, Z., Durotoye, T., **Medina, L.** & Chadha, M. Algorithmic News Experience on TikTok: The Tension Between Journalistic Ideals and Engagement-Driven Logics. *Submitted to Social Media and Society*.
- Medina, L.** (2025). Moral Imagination in Journalistic Narratives: Embracing Visual Platforms. *Journal of Media Ethics*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23736992.2025.2538204>
- Cheng, Z., **Medina, L.**, Durotoye, T. & Chadha, M. (2025). News on TikTok through the lens of Quality Journalism: How TikTok Users Perceive News Values, Content, and Engagement. *Journalism Studies*. 26(13), 1594–1616.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/1461670X.2025.2559020>
- Medina, L.** (2025). Virtue Ethics and News Literacy: Toward collective flourishing in a digital age. Special Issue in the Journal of Media Ethics. 40(4), 219–234.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/23736992.2025.2580663>
- Medina, L.** (2024). “Fridays are Racist”: Evaluating Social Media Engagement from a Virtue Ethics Framework. *The International Journal of TechnoEthics*. 15 (1), 1-19.
<https://doi.org/10.4018/IJT.344025>
- Scheffauer, R., **Medina, L.**, & Gil de Zúñiga, H. (2024). Clarifying the Relationship Between Political Consumerism and Political Persuasion Over Time. *Political Research Quarterly*. 77(4). <https://doi.org/10.1177/10659129241266>
- Myrick, J.G., Chen, J., Jang, E., Norman, M., Liu, Y., **Medina, L.**, Blessing, J., Parkizkar, J. (2024). An Experimental test of the effects of Public Mockery of a Social Media Health Campaign: Implications for theory and health organizations’ social media strategies. *Health Communication*. 39(12), 2658–2670.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/10410236.2023.2282833>

Book Chapters

- Medina, L.**, & Young, M.C. (accepted). Amplify Utah: Enterprise Stories for Diverse and Underrepresented Communities. In Johnson-Young, E.A., Goldman, A.Y., & Romero Walker, A. *Collaborative Team-Based and Experiential Learning: A Path to Student Innovation in Communication*. Peter Lang.
- Medina, L.** (accepted). Temperance in the Attention Economy: Restraint or Amplification in Journalism. In Borden, S. & Codina, M. *Toward Flourishing: The Ethical Nexus of Journalism and Politics*. Peter Lang.

Book Reviews

- Medina, L.** (2025). The organization of journalism: Market models and practice in a fraying profession by Patrick Ferrucci. *Journal of Broadcasting & Electronic Media*.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/08838151.2025.2552371>
- Medina, L.** (2023). The Center Cannot Hold: Decolonial Possibility in the Collapse of a Tanzanian NGO by Jenna Hanchey. *Women’s Studies in Communication*.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/07491409.2023.2227002>

Medina, L. (2021) Community-Centered Journalism: Engaging People, Exploring Solutions, and Building Trust by Andrea Wenzel. *Mass Communication and Society*.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/15205436.2021.2010982>.

Projects in the Works

Medina, L., & Plaisance, P. (forthcoming). Virtuousness and the moral life of digital news outlets: Applications of organizational psychology to journalism ethics research.

Medina, L., Plaisance, P., & Xu, Jing. (forthcoming). From Coverage to Control: A Case Study of Sinclair “Must-Run” Election Content.

Medina, L., & Feng, Y. (forthcoming). Quick Summary of News: The Ethical and Economic Impacts of AI Overviews.

McDevitt, M., Knauf, C., & **Medina, L.** (forthcoming). Collaboration at Greater Risk: Scholars and Journalists in Authoritarian Climates.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

(Instructor of Record)

University of St. Thomas

DIMA/JOUR 111: Intro to Mass Media
Section 002: Enrollment: 13 students
Spring 2026

JOUR 200: Principles of Journalism
Enrollment: 14 students
Spring 2026

JOUR 270: Media Literacy
Enrollment: 25 students
Spring 2026

DIMA/JOUR 111: Intro to Mass Media
Section 002: Enrollment: 16 students
Section 004: Enrollment: 15 students
Fall 2025

The Pennsylvania State University

COMM413W: Media and the Public
Enrollment: 30 students
Spring 2025

COMM260W: News Writing
Enrollment: 25 students
Fall 2024

COMM409: Media Ethics
Enrollment: 34 students
Spring 2024

COMM280: Telecommunications
Enrollment: 89 students
Fall 2023

Salt Lake Community College

COMM1130: Introductory News Writing Summer 2023
Enrollment: 15 students

COMM1130: Introductory News Writing Summer 2022
Enrollment: 12 students

COMM1130: Introductory News Writing Summer 2021
Enrollment: 16 students

GUEST LECTURES

Introductory Journalism in *JOUR111*: October, 2025
Introduction to Emerging Media. Instructor: Greg Son

Source Credibility in Media Effects in *COMM 413W*: April, 2024
Media and the Public. Instructor: Timilehin Durotoye

Media Ethics in *COMM 380*: February, 2024
Telecommunication Management. Instructor: Linda Feltman

News Judgment and Accuracy in *COMM 168*: February, 2024
American Journalism. Instructor: James (Ford) Risley

Media and Audience Bias in *COMM 409*: September, 2023
Media Ethics. Instructor: Patrick Plaisance, PhD

News Consumption in *COMM 409*: March, 2023
Media Ethics. Instructor: Patrick Plaisance, PhD

Media Ethics in *COMM 380*: February, 2023
Telecommunication Management. Instructor: Linda Feltman

Ethics Theory in *COMM 409*: February, 2023
Media Ethics. Instructor: Patrick Plaisance, PhD

Journalism Interviewing in *COMM 420*: January, 2023
News Writing & Reporting. Instructor: James (Ford) Risley

Duty and Transparency in *COMM 409*: October, 2022
Media Ethics. Instructor: Patrick Plaisance, PhD

Ethnography and Observation in *COMM 260*: September, 2022
Research Methods in Advertising & Public Relations.
Instructor: Megan Norman

Ethnography and Observation in *COMM 260*:
Research Methods in Advertising & Public Relations.
Instructor: Mengqi (Maggie) Liao

September, 2022

Journalism Interviewing in *COMM 420*:
News Writing & Reporting. Instructor: Ahmed Al Rawi

September, 2022

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (selected)

- Medina, L., & Feng, Y.** Quick Summary of News: The Ethical and Economic Impacts of AI Overviews. Paper accepted for the Media Challenges to Digital Flourishing' conference in October 2026.
- Medina, L., Plaisance, P., & Xu, Jing..** From Coverage to Control: A Case Study of Sinclair "Must-Run" Election Content. Paper accepted for the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference in August 2026.
- Cheng, Z., **Medina, L.,** Durotoye, T. & Chadha, M. News on TikTok through the lens of Quality Journalism: How TikTok Users Perceive News Values, Content, and Engagement. Paper presented at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference in August 2025
- Medina, L.** *For the Sake of Engagement: The Modified Journalism Gatekeeper*. Paper presented at the International Communication Association conference in May 2025
- Medina, L.** *Journalism in Crisis: Pragmatic Objectivity Grounded in Moral Clarity*. Paper accepted at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference in August 2024. **Top Student Paper for the Carol Burnett Award.**
- Al-rawi, A., Durotoye, T., & **Medina, L.** *How much will you share? Exploring the Privacy Paradox and Information-Sharing Behavior*. Paper accepted at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference in August 2024
- Medina, L.** *Content for Engagement's Sake: The Algorithmic Gatekeeper*. Paper accepted at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference in August 2024
- Medina, L., & Plaisance, P.** *Virtuousness and the moral life of digital news outlets: Applications of organizational psychology to journalism ethics research*. Paper presented at the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics Conference in February 2024. **Clifford G. Christians Ethics Research Award.**
- Medina, L.** *Moral Imagination in Journalistic Narratives: A Question of Moral Obligation*. Paper presented at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference in August 2023. **Second Place Student Paper/Runner-up for the Carol Burnett Award.**
- Medina, L.** *'Trumpism' and the US Media: A Mixed Methods Analysis of the Midterm Election*. Paper presented at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference in August 2023
- Medina, L.** *"I hate him passionately": A Propaganda Analysis of Fox News January 6th Coverage and Dominion v. Fox Contradictions*. Paper presented at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference in August 2023

Durotoye, T., Al-Rawi, A. & **Medina, L.** *How Much Will You Share? Exploring Information Privacy Concerns, Information-Sharing, and Perceived Control of Information*. Paper presented at the International Communication Conference in May 2023

Scheffauer, R., **Medina, L.** & Gil de Zuniga, H. *Political Consumerism*. Paper presented at the International Communication Conference in May 2023

Medina, L. *The Virtue of Curiosity in Media Ethics and News Literacy*. Paper presented at the Jubilee Centre's 11th annual conference: Character and Virtues in Professional Practice in January 2023

Medina, L. *Have we Got News for You: Exemplification in Social Media News*. Paper presented at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference in August 2022

Medina, L. *Reconsidering Social Media Engagement from a Virtue Ethics Framework*. Paper presented at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference in August 2022

AWARDS AND GRANTS

Medina, L. (May, 2026). Artificial Intelligence, Information, and Trust: How AI Can Help Us, and What to Watch For. Speaking engagement for the Vital Aging Network in Roseville, MN.

Medina, L. (April, 2026). Protecting yourself from Misinformation: What to know and how to spot it. Speaking engagement for the League of Women Voters - Lake Minnetonka-Plymouth in Wayzata, MN.

AWARDS AND GRANTS

- Penn State Davis Ethics Outstanding Dissertation Award (2026): \$1,000.
- Don Davis Program in Ethical Leadership Scholarship Grant (2024): \$4,271.
- Top Student Paper, Carol Burnett Award (2024), Association for Education in Journalism & Mass Communication: \$350.
- Excellence in Communications Doctoral Award (2023-2024), Penn State Bellisario College of Communication: \$630.
- Donald P. Bellisario College of Communications Dissertation Grant (2024): \$750.
- Clifford G. Christians Ethics Research Award (2024), Association for Practical and Professional Ethics: \$250.
- Excellence in Communications Doctoral Award (2022-2023), Penn State Bellisario College of Communication: \$1,261.
- Second Place/Runner-Up, Carol Burnett Award (2023), Association for Education in Journalism & Mass Communication: \$350.
- Top Debut Paper in Media Studies (2020), Western States Communication Association. \$50
- Overall Outstanding MAPC Student (2020), Southern Utah University Department of Master of Professional Communication
- Rocky Mountain Regional Emmy Award – Feature News Report Category: 85-year-old bagger (2017), National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences.
- Gold Award, Best Weekend 10 pm Newscast (2014), Utah Broadcasters Association.
- Platinum Award, Best Weekend 10 pm Newscast (2013), Utah Broadcasters Association.
- Third Place, Mark of Excellence Award (2007), Utah Society of Professional Journalists.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE AND SERVICE

- Research Chair, Media Ethics Division, AEJMC, 2025-2026
- PF&R Chair, Media Ethics Division, AEJMC, 2023-2025
- Graduate Student Representative, Academic Integrity Committee, 2022-2023
- Vice President, Graduate Students in Communication, 2022-2023

NON-ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Channel Op Park City, UT 2017-2018

Communications Director

- Developed press releases and communications - internal and external - for Channel Op and several associated brands.
- Researched clients' needs and advanced connections with national media to negotiate marketing and PR efforts.

KUTV Salt Lake City, UT 2010-2017

Producer

- Researched and wrote content for a targeted television audience.
- Collaborated with a sales team to implement complex live news events involving client coverage.
- Organized long-term projects with managers involving several newscasts.

Deseret News Salt Lake City, UT 2009-2010

Reporter

- Researched and wrote news articles for science, health, and technology.

Standard Examiner Ogden, UT 2008

Reporter

- Researched and wrote news articles for science, technology, education, crime, courts and other industries.