

# Dr. Aaron Michael Duncan

1872 W S Street  
Lincoln, NE 68526  
Cell 402-450-7830  
Aduncan3@unl.edu

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2005-Present**                    **Direct of Speech & Debate**  
**University of Nebraska-Lincoln Forensics Team**  
Lincoln, NE  
Directed a 40 member nationally ranked individual events and debate team. The 2013 team finished 7<sup>th</sup> in the nation at the American Forensics Association's national tournament. Since 2005 have coached 21 national finalists in eight different events and two national champions. Responsibilities include budgeting, individual coaching sessions with forensic students, supervision of four graduate assistant coaches, traveling with team regionally and nationally, hosting three annual forensics tournaments on campus, and researching and developing ideas for speech topics.
- 2015-Present**                    **Assistant Professor of Practice**  
**University of Nebraska-Lincoln Department of Communication Studies**  
Lincoln, NE  
Promoted to the rank of Assistant Professor of Practice and member of the graduate faculty. Additional duties include creating and directing the department's new basic course Comm 101. Leading large lectures and supervising graduate students who lead recitation sections.
- 2005-2014**                        **Lecturer**  
**University of Nebraska-Lincoln Department of Communication Studies**  
Lincoln, NE  
Courses taught for the department in the areas of theory of persuasion, directing forensics, public speaking, rhetoric and cultural studies, and an introductory communication survey course. Duties include the development of syllabi, course objectives, competencies, learning activities, lesson plans, and evaluation activities.
- 2009-Present**                    **Instructor Communication Studies**  
**Nebraska Wesleyan University – Advantage Program**  
**Lincoln, NE**  
Courses taught in the areas of persuasion and communication theory. Duties include helping to develop lesson plans, learning activities, test, syllabi, and grading course materials.
- 2003-2005**                        **Graduate Coaching Assistant**  
**Kansas State University Individual Events Team**  
Manhattan, KS  
Coach of a 20 member nationally-ranked individual-events team. Responsibilities included coaching sessions with forensic students, both one-on-one and in groups, traveled with team regionally and nationally, and researched and developed ideas for and about speech topics.
- 2003-2005**                        **Graduating Teaching Assistant**  
**Department of Speech Communication**  
**Kansas State University**  
Manhattan, KS

Instructor for the introductory public speaking course that focused on a decision-based approach to public speaking. The course emphasized message preparation, audience analysis, and presentation skills.

**2004**                                 **Graduate Research Assistant**  
**Kansas State University**  
Manhattan, KS  
Assisted communication faculty member Young-Ok Yum with research related the use of the internet and its impact on interpersonal communication. Responsibilities included conducting library research, organizing and analyzing data, and assisting in the application for a research grant.

**1999-2003**                           **Assistant Forensic Coach**  
**Lincoln East High School**  
Lincoln, NE  
Coached 60-person team in nine speech events and in Lincoln Douglas debate. Traveled with team to judge, coach, and help manage team.

## **EDUCATION**

**2011**                                 **Doctor of Philosophy**  
**University of Nebraska-Lincoln**, Lincoln, Nebraska  
Dissertation Title: Gambling with the American Dream: A Mythic Examination of the Rhetorical Construction of Gambling in America  
GPA: 4.0

**2005**                                 **Master of Arts in Speech**  
**Kansas State University**, Manhattan, Kansas  
Thesis Title: Do Negative Political Advertisements Create a Sleeper Effect?  
GPA: 4.0

**2003**                                 **Bachelor of Arts**  
**Nebraska Wesleyan University**, Lincoln, Nebraska  
Double Majors: Communication and Political Science  
Minor: Business Administration  
GPA: 3.98

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**2006-Present**                       **Organizer and Head Counselor**  
**Cornhusker Forensics Summer Institute**  
Created and hosted a summer camp for high school students on the campus of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Duties included the creation and distribution of camp recruiting materials, recruitment of staff, organization of facilities, supervision of campers, and planner of camp schedule. Also responsible for planning and conducting sessions on speech writing, research use, debate skills, and impromptu speaking.

**February 2015**                       **Moderator**  
**Veterans Coming Home**  
Participated as the moderator and host for panel of veterans who have come home. The panel was put through grant from Americorp and the Student Veterans Association. Panel members discussed the challenges of readjusting to civilian life and integrating back into school.

- Fall 2013, 2014**      **Debate Moderator and Co-Host**  
**British Debate Series**  
 Served as a co-host and moderated the debate between the British National Debate Team and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Debate Team. Helped to organize, promote, and host the debate on campus which drew an audience of over 1,000 students, staff, and community members. The debates were part of the Thompson Forum lecture series held at the Lied Center for the Performing Arts and broadcast live on NETV.
- September 2014**      **Invited Feature Speaker**  
**Nebraska Association of Trial Attorneys**  
 Was invited to speak at the Annual Meeting of the Nebraska Association of Trial Attorneys on the subject of how to improve public speaking and persuasion skills. In addition to speaking at the meeting I prepared materials for distribution to association members and answer questions on related to public speaking and persuasion.
- Summer 2014**      **Invited Lecturer**  
**Xi'an Jiaotong University, Xi'an China**  
 Was invited by the American Exchange Center and Xi'an Jiaotong University to lecture on public speaking and debate. Gave two public speeches about speech and debate, lectured in six public speaking classes, served as adjudicator and master of questions for all campus public speaking contest, and served as co-host and respondent for a public debate between University of Nebraska students and students from Xi'an Jiaotong University.
- Spring 2014**      **Invited Speaker and Debate Moderator**  
**Lincoln Credit Association**  
 Served as co-organizer and moderator the debate between members of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for the Lincoln Credit Associations Annual Conference. The purpose of the debates was to educate credit association members about the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.
- Summer 2013**      **Anglo Instructor**  
**Diverbo Englischhausen**  
 Baden-Wurttemberg, German  
 Served as a volunteer instructor for the Englischhausen program in the Baden-Wurttemberg region of Germany. Worked one on one and in groups with German professionals looking to improve their conversational English. Helped German students to improve their grammar and public speaking skills.
- Winter 2013**      **Motivational Speaker for University of Nebraska-Lincoln Softball Team**  
 Gave a motivational for the university's softball team entitled, "Secrets for Success in Competition and Life." The speech reflected on my experiences and lessons learned during my time as a successful coach and competitor in speech and debate.
- 2004**      **Speaker for The People Speak: America's Role in the World**  
**Institute for Civic Discourse and Democracy**  
 Manhattan, KS  
 Featured debater in public debates in the fall of 2004 centered on the issues of American foreign policy and global security. Helped lead and foster public discourse and discussion after the debates.

2004

**Speech Writer**  
**Kansas State Alumni Foundation**  
Manhattan, KS

Prepared speech for the Kansas State Alumni Foundation to be given to Kansas State's largest financial donors. Worked with the foundation staff to analyze audience and draft a speech focusing on reasons to support Kansas State University.

## SCHOLARSHIP

### Book

Duncan, A. (2015). *Gambling with the Myth of the American Dream*. New York, Routledge.

### Journal Articles (All Publications Are in Refereed Journals)

Duncan, A. (2014). An Antidosis for a Forensics Life: An Isocratic Defense of Modern Practices of Competitive Forensics. *National Forensics Journal*.

Duncan, A.. (2014). Reimagining the Self-Made Man: Myth, Risk, and the Pokerization of America. *Western Journal of Communication*, 78, 39-57.

Arellano, A. & Duncan, A. (2013). Performance, Dialogue, and Debriefing: Examining Frank Ocean's Coming Out. *Teaching Media*, 1, 1-36.

Duncan, A. (2012). Does "Coming to Jesus" do more harm than good? Exploring the psychological capital of forensics Competitors. Forum. *The Forensic of Pi Kappa Delta*, 95, 31-36.

### Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

Duncan, A. (2014) A Change of Scenery: The Southern, the Western, and evolution the Frontier Myth, In J. Perlich, & D. Whitt (Eds). *Modern Mythology in Popular Culture*. Jefferson, NC: McFarland.

Ohl, J. & Duncan, A. (2012). Taking Aim at Street Harassment: Gender Performances of Hegemonic Masculinity in the First-Person Shooter Game *Hey Baby*. In G. Voorhees, J. Call, & K. Whitlock (Eds). *Guns, Grenades and Grunts: The First Person Shooter Games*. New York: Continuum.

### Journal Manuscripts in Progress

Duncan, A. The Rhetoric of Orthodoxy and Heresy: An Examination of Lenin's writing in *What is to be Done?* *Journal of Communication and Religion*.

### Publication in Popular Media

Duncan, A. The US won the World Cup – not the Women's World Cup. *The Conversation*.  
<https://theconversation.com/the-us-won-the-world-cup-not-the-womens-world-cup-44403>

Duncan, A. (06/08/2015). The World Series of Poker's Colossus event and America's obsession with risk. *The Conversation*. <https://theconversation.com/the-world-series-of-pokers-colossus-event-and-americas-obsession-with-risk-42658>  
Republished (06/09/2015). Going bust: American's are gambling away their money because they can't protect it. *Quartz*. <http://qz.com/422459/americans-are-gambling-away-their-money-because-they-cant-protect-it/>

## Conference Presentations

- Duncan, A. & Bonander, A. (2015). Playing with Someone Else's Chips: This Could Be Really Great... Convincing Students to Gamble with Event and Performance Choices. Paper to be presented at the National Communication Association's Annual meeting, Las Vegas, NV.
- Duncan, A. (2015). Teaching Media Quarterly: Cultivating Dynamic Pedagogy through Open Access Lesson Plan Publishing. Discussion panel participant at National Communication Association's Annual meeting, Las Vegas, NV.
- Duncan, A. & Carter, J. (2014). Mining the Medium: Benefits and Potential Pitfalls to the Utilization of YouTube by Forensics Organizations. Paper was presented at the National Communication Association's Annual meeting, Chicago, IL.
- Duncan, A. (2014). Speaking Up in the Middle Kingdom: Reflections on Coaching and Teaching Forensics in China. Discussion panel participant at National Communication Association's Annual meeting, Chicago, IL.
- Duncan, A. (2013) *Nasty, Brutish, and Short: Examining the Hunger Games as Post-modern Re-imagining of the Work of Thomas Hobbes*. Paper was presented at the National Communication Association's Annual meeting, Washington D.C.
- Duncan, A. (2013). *Translating a Competition Rhetorical Criticism into a Publishable Rhetorical Criticism: A Case Study Explanation of the Essay Taking Aim at Sexual Harassment*. Paper was presented at the National Communication Association's Annual meeting, Washington D.C.
- Duncan, A. & Syrek, A. (2012). *Spreading the Gospel of Forensics to Create COMMunity: Targeting Traditional and Non-traditional Populations for Involvement in Forensics*. Paper was presented at the National Communication Association's Annual meeting, Orlando, FL.
- Duncan, A. (2012). *Creating Community in Forensics: Roundtable Discussion with DOFs*. Paper was presented at the National Communication Association's Annual meeting, Orlando, FL.
- Duncan, A. & Brown, C. (2011, November). *When the Student Surpasses the Teacher: How Changes in Power and Status Impact the Mentoring Relationship*. Paper was presented at the National Communication Association's Annual meeting, New Orleans, LA.
- Ronnau, A. & Duncan, A. (2011, November). *My Mentor Only Texts Me: Technological Determinism and Dialogic Theory applied to Mentoring Relationships*. Paper was presented at the National Communication Association's Annual meeting, New Orleans, LA.
- Duncan, A. (2010, November). *Does 'Coming to Jesus' Do More Harm Than Good? Exploring the Psychological Capital of Forensics Competitors*. Paper was presented at the National Communication Association's Annual meeting, San Francisco, CA.
- Duncan, A. (2009, November). *There's a New Sheriff in Town: Challenges Faced by Coaches Encountering an Existing Team Culture*. Paper was presented at the National Communication Association's Annual meeting, Chicago, Illinois.
- Duncan, A. (2008, November). *Abolish or Recontextualization: New York City's Ban on the N-word*. Paper was presented at the National Communication Association's Annual meeting, San Diego, California.
- Duncan, A. (2007, November). *The Rhetoric of Orthodoxy and Heresy: An Examination of Lenin's writing in What is to be Done?* Paper was presented at the National Communication Association's Annual meeting, Chicago, Illinois.

Duncan, A. (2006, November). *Quantitative Analysis of Parent's of High School Forensicators Knowledge of College Forensics*. Paper was presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, San Antonio, Texas.

Duncan, A., & Wolff, J. (2005, April). *Public Speakers Teaching Public Speaking: Using Forensic Coaching Members in the Classroom*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Central States Communication Association, Kansas City, MO.

Duncan, A., & Wolff, J. (2004, November). *The Impact of Modality on Retention and Comprehension of Current Events Information*. Paper was named to the Top Students Paper Panel at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Chicago, Illinois.

## **AWARDS AND RECOGNITION**

**2013, 2015** *UNL Parents' Association's Award for Contributions to Students*, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Teaching Council and the Parents Association

**2014** *Larry Schnoor District IV Distinguished Service Award*, District IV of the American Forensics Association-National Individual Events Tournament.

**2013** *Bruce Kendall Award for Excellence in Teaching*, Department of Communication Studies, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

**2012** *James V. Griesen Award for Exemplary Service to Students*, Office of the Chancellor, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

**2012** *Joe Black Award for Outstanding Service to the Forensics Community*, Speech Unlimited, Kansas State University

**2008** Nominee for *Outstanding Student Organization Advisor*, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

**2003** *All American Team Member* American Forensics Association National Individual Events Tournament (AFA-NIET)

*Kevin Heineman Student Service Award* AFA District Four

3<sup>rd</sup> Place After Dinner Speaking AFA-NIET

4<sup>th</sup> Place Extemporaneous Speaking AFA-NIET

4<sup>th</sup> Place Impromptu Speaking AFA-NIET

6<sup>th</sup> Place Interstate Oratory Nationals

8<sup>th</sup> Place Individual Sweepstakes AFA-NIET

Qualified seven events for AFA-NIET

**2002** 6<sup>th</sup> Place Extemporaneous Speaking AFA-NIET  
Semi-finalist Impromptu Speaking AFA-NIET

**2001** Quarter-finalist Impromptu Speaking AFA-NIET  
Quarter-finalist Extemporaneous Speaking AFA-NIET

**2000** 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Impromptu Speaking AFA-NIET  
Quarter-finalist After Dinner Speaking AFA-NIET

## **SERVICE**

**2015-Present**

**Speaker & Gavel Editorial Board Member**

Speaker & Gavel is the Journal of the Delta Sigma Rho-Tau Kappa Alpha Forensics Honorary. Served as board member and reviewer for the journal.

- 2015-Present**                    **American Forensics Association Alumni Engagement Committee (Chair)**  
Directed and coordinated efforts to increase alumni involvement, connection, and engagement with the AFA-NIET.
- 2015-Present**                    **National Forensics Association Technology and Youtube Committee (Chair)**  
Directed and coordinated efforts to launch youtube channel for NFA
- 2015-Present**                    **Department of Communication Undergraduate Curriculum Committee**  
Participated in the development and review of department undergraduate curriculum
- 2014-Present**                    **Conference Reviewer for National Communication Association's Argumentation and Forensics Division**  
Reviewed submitted papers and panel proposals submitted to the American Forensics Association division of the National Communication Association for presentation at its annual convention.
- 2013-Present**                    **Member of Board of Trustees of the American Forensics Association-National Individual Events Tournament**
- 2009-Present**                    **American Forensics Association Finance Committee (Chair 2010-2011)**  
Appointed by the President of American Forensics Associations to serve on the organization's finance committee. Elected by members of the committee to serve as chair for a one year term. The committee is tasked with overseeing the finance of a large national organization to which over 100 university and colleges are members.
- 2005-Present**                    **Tournament Staff for the American Forensics Associations National Individual Events Tournament**  
Served as co-director of the extemporaneous speaking preparation room. Duties included judging and evaluation of individual speech events, writing and distribution of extemporaneous questions, as well monitoring and enforcing of organizational rules.
- 2005-Present**                    **Department of Communication Studies Graduate Committee**  
Ad hoc advisor focusing on identifying high quality graduate students with forensics experience
- 2009-2011**                        **President of Nebraska Intercollegiate Forensics Association**  
Elected to serve as president and chief spokesman for college forensics in the state of Nebraska. Organized state meetings and planned the annual state tournament.
- 2005**                                **Assistant Host for the American Forensics Association-National Individual Events Tournament Kansas State University 2005 AFA-NIET tournament.**  
As a member of the host coaching staff helped to coordinate the recruiting of judges, food, and the other many people necessary to run a successful national tournament.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

2015-2016

Participant, Peer Review of Teaching program. Sponsored by  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

**MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

- Phi Kappa Phi National Honorary
- Who's Who in America's College and Universities
- National Communication Association
- American Forensics Association
- Pi Kappa Delta Honorary Forensics Fraternity
- Lamda Pi Eta Communication Honorary
- Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science Honorary
- Blue Key Honorary Society
- Order of Omega Greek Honorary
- Nebraska Intercollegiate Forensics Association



## **UNDERGRADUATE COURSES TAUGHT**

### **Communication in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

This course is designed to provide students with an introductory understanding of the discipline of communication studies through a problem centered learning approach. This course provides students with an understanding of communication theory and how that theory can be applied to solve everyday problems we face in our public, professional, and private lives by teaching students how to advocate, negotiate, and relate.

### **Theory of Persuasion**

This course provided a comprehensive view of persuasion by analyzing how persuasion operates at both an interpersonal and societal level. Students focus on the process of persuasion in many different areas including: films, advertising, friend and family interactions, news media, rhetoric, social networking, and social movements. Students participate in a semester long project to create a persuasive public service campaign to benefit their local community.

### **Rhetoric of Sports and Games**

This course is designed to provide an understanding of rhetorical theory and practice viewed through the lens of sports. By understanding how rhetoric operates in cultural spaces, students will recognize the components and processes of rhetoric, which operate in public discourse and mass mediated culture. These areas are discussed through theory, and practice. Using the research methodologies learned in the course students write three major papers utilizing the research methods of rhetorical analysis, ethnographic observation, and cultural criticism.

### **Popular Culture**

This class focuses on cultural theories and rhetorical perspectives, with the objective of being able to use them as critical lenses to analyze popular culture artifacts. The rhetorical perspective is represented in are intended to help students conduct an original rhetorical criticism of an artifact of popular culture at the conclusion of the semester.

### **Fundamentals of Human Communication**

This was an introductory survey course for communication studies. The course focused on three primary areas of communication: public speaking, interpersonal communication, and small group communication. As part of the course students give three speeches, write two papers, and take three exams.

### **Public Speaking**

The course taught students fundamental and advanced techniques of public speaking. In addition to presentational skill the class also focused on argumentation, reasoning, and critical thinking.

### **Oral Interpretation of Literature**

This course should broaden student's liberal arts perspective; it will make them a better audience member and a more effective teacher in the broad sense of the word. Students in the course study, analyze, and perform three types of literature throughout the course of the semester. Performances allow them to show case their understanding of the literature, their ability to control and express their emotions, and to practice the techniques of oral performance.

### **Business and Professional Speaking**

This course combines public speaking with aspects of organizational, small group, and interpersonal communication. Students learn how to give effective public presentations as well as learn theories and interpersonal concepts concerning communication in the workplace.

### **Directing Forensics**

A senior level course in communication studies focused on the challenges of managing and directing a team. Although the specific context of the class was directing a forensics team the course addressed a wide variety of topics related to management and coaching. Topic areas of the course included psychological capital, organizational behavior, building team cohesion, and crafting motivating messages.