

CURRICULUM VITAE

Gregory H. Spencer

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Education:

Doctor of Philosophy, Rhetoric and Communication,
Emphasis: Rhetorical Theory and Criticism,
University of Oregon, 1985
Dissertation: "The Relationship Between Christian Conversion and the
Rhetoric of Malcolm Muggeridge."

Master of Science, Rhetoric and Communication,
Emphasis: Interpersonal Communication,
University of Oregon, 1979

Bachelor of Science, Speech Communication,
California State Polytechnic University San Luis Obispo, 1974
Graduated with Honors

Areas of Special Interest:

Media Ethics
Rhetorical Theory and Criticism
Religious Rhetoric

Experience:

1977-1980, Graduate Teaching Fellow, University of Oregon

1979, Instructor, Eugene Bible College

1986, Research Assistant for Dominic LaRusso, Professor, University of Oregon Speech Department

1986, Forensics Assistant for David Frank, Professor, University of Oregon Speech Department

1980-1987, Instructor, McKenzie Study Center, Eugene, Oregon

1987-1993, Assistant Professor of Communication Studies, Westmont College, Department Chair

1992, 1994, 1996, 2000 - Seminar instructor, Antioch University, Santa Barbara

1993-1999, Associate Professor of Communication Studies, Westmont College, Department Chair

1999-present, Professor of Communication Studies, Westmont College

2000, co-led Westmont Europe Mayterm

Committees and other professional work:

1978-1980, Speech Fundamentals Program, Review and Textbook Selection Committees

1979, Book editing assistant, Second edition, *Communication: The Essence of Group Synergy*,
John E. Baird, Jr. and Sanford B. Weinberg

1979-1980, Consulting Assistant, Glaser & Associates, State of Oregon Employment Division:
Interviewing Skills

1986-1987, Advisory Editor for Cultural Studies, *TSF Bulletin*

1989-1991, Christian College Consortium Committee: Teaching Values Project, Westmont Coordinator, also organized conference with Biola University.

Westmont College Committees: Academic Senate, Ethics Across the Curriculum (chair), Athletic, Student Life (chair), Faculty Secretary, Personnel, Image, Erasmus, Communication Institute, Admissions and Retention, Diversity, General Education, Institutional Research Board.

1996, Reviewer for *Questions of Communication* (2nd Ed.).

1994-1996, Task Force Member for *Communication Through the Eyes of Faith*.

1996-1999, Religious Speech Communication Association: Chair, Division of Mass Media/Media Forum.

1997-2005, Board member: Communication Ethics Conference.

2009-2011, Phi Kappa Phi President, Westmont Chapter

2008-2012, Department Chair, Communication Studies, Westmont College

Speaking Engagements, 1987-present:

Preaching

Camarillo Covenant Church, Camarillo, CA 1990

Montecito Covenant Church, Santa Barbara, CA 1988, 1991, 1992, 1993, 2003, 2005, 2008, 2012

Coastal Community Church, Santa Barbara, CA 1995

Bethany Baptist, Thousand Oaks, CA 1998, 2002.

Shoreline Community, Santa Barbara, 2012

Church Adult Education

"Living in a Media-dominated Age," (four sessions)

Montecito Covenant Church, 1995

El Montecito Presbyterian Church, 1995

"Faith and Film," Montecito Covenant Church, 2002

"The Quieter Virtues," Montecito Covenant Church (four sessions), 2007

"Awakening the Quieter Virtues," El Montecito Presbyterian, 2010

"Four Quieter Virtues," First Presbyterian, 2012

"Quieter Virtues," Samarkand Retirement Community, 2012

Conferences

"Leadership and Communication," Santa Barbara Leadership Council, 1988

"Discernment and the Media," Foothill Covenant Church, 1994

"Firstness Fades but Lastness Doesn't Last," Montecito Covenant Retreat, 1998

"Godspeed: Journeys of Faith," panelist, Santa Barbara Book and Authors Festival, 2004.

"Living the Quieter Virtues in a Noisy World," Quest Church Retreat, Seattle, 2008

"Awakening the Quieter Virtues," Retired Covenant Pastors Retreat, Santa Cruz, 2012

Westmont Addresses

"The Gospel as Tragedy, Comedy, and Fairytale," convocation, 1988.

"You are either a Philosopher or a Drug Addict," Freshman banquet, 1990.

"The Ethos of Niceness: Four Moral Choices," convocation, two-part series, 1990.

"Television and Parenting," Westmont in the Village, 1991.

"Become Like a Child, Put Away Childish Things," Baccalaureate, 1992.

"Is Dating Emotional Fornication?" convocation, 1992.

"The Golden String," Freshman Plenary Lecture, 1993.

"The Velveteen Rabbit Factor: Discernment and Images," two-part series, 1994.

"Rotten with Perfection: Kenneth Burke meets Thomas Merton," convocation, 1996.

- "Please Touch that Dial! Discernment, Courage and the Media," Homecoming lecture, 1996.
"Life to the Fullest: A View from the Rose," Senior Class Retreat, with Jane Higa, four sessions, 1998.
"Christian Vocation," Bay Area Alumni Gathering, 1998.
"MTV and Victoria's Secret: Sex Images and You," Student Life Alternative Chapel, 1998.
"Preparing for the Adventure," Senior Class Retreat, with Jane Higa, 1999.
"I'm investing in you: The Power of Metaphor," Westmont Alumni College, 2000.
"The Fear Factor in Education," Phi Kappa Phi Banquet, 2002.
"Interview with Ron Shelton," 2002.
"The Slaughter of Innocence: What Herod and Hollywood Have in Common," Denver and Minneapolis Alumni Events, 2002.
"Firstness Fades But Lastness Doesn't Last," Baccalaureate, May 2003.
"The Slaughter of Innocence: What Herod and Hollywood Have in Common," Westmont Chapel, September 2003.
"Looking Back, Looking Forward," Senior Class Retreat, with Jeff Schloss, 2004."
"Writing and Grace: Reading from *The Welkening*," Westmont Alumni Chapters: Pasadena, Chicago, Sacramento, Washington, D.C., 2004-2005.
"A Generous Conclusion," Baccalaureate, May 2009.
"Discernment," "Modesty," Westmont chapels September, 2010.
"Contentment in an Age of Excess," Westmont Downtown series, November, 2010.
"Discernment as a Quieter Virtue," Westmont Alumni events: Orange County, Sacramento, Phoenix, San Diego, 2011
"The Diminishing of Women in the Media," 2011

Other Addresses

- "Problems with Television," Anacapa School, 1993.
"The Rhetoric of Images," Regent University, 1994.
"A Christian View of the Life of the Mind," Houghton College, 1995.
"Emotional Fornication and Other Relationship Troubles," Hope International University, 1998.
"Discernment and the Media," UCSB InterVarsity Fellowship, 2002.
"The Rhetoric of Innocence," Pepperdine University, 2004.
"Discernment," "Modesty," Trinity Western Chapels, October, 2010
Ann Wharton Lecturer, "Communication and Virtue," Liberty University, 2012

Bibliography:

Book Reviews:

Reason and Imagination in C.S. Lewis, by Peter J. Schakel and *J.R.R. Tolkien: Myth, Morality and Religion* by Richard L. Purtill. *TSF Bulletin* April/May 1986: 26.

Towards A Christian Poetics by Michael Edwards. *TSF Bulletin* May/June 1987: 44.

The Living by Annie Dillard. *Christianity and Literature*, Winter, 1993: 368-370.

Articles:

"Ten Sure-Fire Ways To Have A Lousy Time In College." *His Magazine* January, 1986: 27-29.
Reprinted in *The Complete Campus Companion*, ed. Robert M. Kachur. Intervarsity Press: Downers Grove, IL, 1988: 20-24. Reprinted in *Campus Life* March, 1991: 16.

"Surrogate Mothering." Editorial. *Eugene Register Guard*, 13 February 1987: 10A.

"The Limits of Tolerance." Editorial. *Atlanta Journal/Constitution* 2 July 1989: D1, D5.

"Writing for Dr. Pagan." *Student Leadership Journal*, Fall 1990: 18-19.

"The Witness We Bear: The Sanctity of Truth and the News." *Radix* 19.4, 1990: 8-11, 25-27.

"This Mighty Warrior, Held Dear, Has Fallen." Editorial. *Santa Barbara News-Press*, 17 November 1991: A16.

"Response to John E. Phelan, Jr.'s 'Theology and Life: Expressing Our Faith Today.'" *Covenant Companion*, October 1992: 16.

"Unethical Ethos? Flannery O'Connor's *Wise Blood* in Word and Image." In *The Rhetoric of Film*, ed. Marc Newman. Dubuque, Iowa: Kendall/Hunt, 1994: 205-236.

"The Rhetoric of Malcolm Muggeridge's Gradual Christian Conversion." *Journal of Communication and Religion*, 18:2 (September, 1995) 55-64.

"Living in Community." Westmont Publication, 1996.

"Tabloid Journalism Will Resist Reform." Editorial, *Santa Barbara News-Press*, 20 September 1997: A21.

"Bodies without Souls: Pornography on the Internet." Westmont Publication, 1998.

"Fascist Fantasies: How Images Focus Our Desire for Control," Houghton College Institute for Integrated Studies website:
http://campus.houghton.edu/offices/acad_dean/Spencer96_Fascist_Fantasies.htm

"www.internetpornography.com," *Moody* (July/August 1999): 44-48.
Reprinted by *Australian Presbyterian*, "Net Cost," March 2000: 17-19.

"The Thrill of Despair and Other Ways Television Reframes Human Suffering," *Radix* 26:4, 1999: 4-7, 26-29.

"Ridicule, insults have power to wound soul." Editorial. *Santa Barbara News-Press*, 13 March 2001: A11.

"An Incarnational Guide to Communication: S.I.T. Before You Stand," *Radix* 29:4, 2002: 7-11.

"Christians among most ridiculed in the media." Editorial, *Santa Barbara News-Press*, 6 April 2003: G3.

"Hollywood, Herod, and the Slaughter of Innocence, *Boundless* webzine, March 2, 2006,
<http://www.boundless.org/2005/articles/a0001226.cfm>

"Obeying the Sadness of Alzheimer's," *Boundless* webzine, August 24, 2006,
<http://www.boundless.org/2005/articles/a0001337.cfm>

"Do You Like God?" *Boundless* webzine, April 5, 2007,
<http://www.boundless.org/2005/articles/a0001478.cfm>

"Authentic Phony" *Boundless* webzine, September 6, 2007,
<http://www.boundless.org/2005/articles/a0001571.cfm>

"Being Real is a Real Problem" *Boundless* webzine, September 20, 2007,
<http://www.boundless.org/2005/articles/a0001585.cfm>

"Real Presence and the Image Consciousness Fairy" *Boundless* webzine, September 27, 2007,
<http://www.boundless.org/2005/articles/a0001581.cfm>

"Wanted Now: Contentment" *Boundless* webzine, April 2, 2008,
<http://www.boundless.org/2005/articles/a0001716.cfm>

Books:

- A Heart For Truth: Taking Your Faith to College*, Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Book House, 1992.
Chapter excerpted: "Emotional Fornication," *New Attitude*, Vol. 2, No. 3: 20-25.
- The Welkening: A Three Dimensional Tale*, Monroe, La.: Howard Fiction, 2004.
- Guardian of the Veil: A Three Dimensional Tale*, Monroe, La.: Howard/Simon & Schuster, 2007.
- Awakening the Quieter Virtues*, Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 2010. (Spanish edition pending publication.)

Poetry:

- "Hanging in my Sleep," *The Cresset*, Vol. LXV, No. 6, May 2002: 14.
- "In Search of a Duck's Back," *The Cresset*, Vol. LXV, No. 6, May 2002: 31.
- "Odin Speaks to Me," *A New Song*, Vol. 7, No. 1, Winter 2002/2003: 16.
- "Mendicant Morning," *A New Song*, Vol. 7, No. 1, Winter 2002/2003: 17.
- "Confessions," *Anthology* (Contest Winners Issue), Vol. XI, Winter 2004: 8.
- "Dementia Road," <http://www.boundless.org/2005/articles/a0001337.cfm>

Paper Presentations:

- "Paraphrasing in Marital Dyads: A Quantitative Study," Fresno Communication Conference, Spring, 1978.
- "The Relationship Between Rhetoric and Ethics in Isocrates, Plato, and Aristotle," Northwest Communication Conference, April, 1979.
- "Cophantasia: The 'Reader' of Fiction as Rhetorical Critic," Western Speech Association, February, 1987.
- "The Rhetoric of Conversion in Malcolm Muggeridge," Speech Communication Association, November 1989.
- "Even the Stones Cry Out: The Decalogue and Media Ethics," Speech Communication Association, November 1990.
- "Graven Images and the Sanctity of Knowledge," Communication and Ethics Conference, Asuza Pacific University, March 1991.
- "Unethical Ethos? Flannery O'Connor's *Wise Blood* in Word and Image," Speech Communication Association, November 1991.
- "Walker Percy: Signposts in a Strange Land," Speech Communication Association, November 1992.
- "TVs Don't Dull People, People Dull People: The NRA Logic in *Redeeming Television*," Christianity and Communication Conference, Regent University, June 1993.
- "The Future of Corporate Communication Risk Management Examined Through a Matrix Model and Argumentation Paradigm," co-authored with David B. Newton, Westmont College, West Coast Conference on Corporate Communication, Chapman College, January 1994. Published in

conference proceedings.

"The Priority of Perception: A Biblical Ethic for an Image-dominated Society," Speech Communication Association, November, 1994.

"A Transformational Pedagogy," Santa Barbara Humanities Conference, April 1995.

"Everybody's Talking: Electronic Media and Free Speech," Santa Barbara City College, Media Panel, 1995.

"Teaching for Truth in a Postmodern Age." Speech Communication Association, November, 1995.

"Communication through the Eyes of Faith," Christianity and Communication Conference, Calvin College, June 1996.

"SIT Before You Stand: Incarnational Principles for Communication." Speech Communication Association, November, 1996.

"Fascist Fantasies: From Graven Images to Digital Images." National Communication Association, November 1997.

"The Thrill of Despair: How the Media Influence Perceptions of Suffering," National Communication Association, November 1998.

"The Welkening" (excerpts), "After Protecting Ugandan Choir Girls from Snarling Dogs on the Beach," Best Workshop Poem, Santa Barbara Writers Conference, June, 2002.

"The Rhetoric of Innocence in Film: Stories of Loss and Redemption," Image/Lilly Conference, November, 2003.

"Godspeed: Journeys of Faith," Santa Barbara Book and Authors Festival, September, 2004.

"*The Welkening*: How Fantasy Encourages Readers to Accept Otherness," conference on Christianity and Literature, January 28, 2005.

"Connecting Audiences with Authors: An Interview with Communication Scholars Who Have Written Fiction with Religious or Moral Themes," National Communication Association, November, 2006.

Professional Associations:

National Communication Association
Religious Speech Communication Association
Phi Kappa Phi

Honors:

Herbert Collins Scholarship, 1973
Phi Kappa Phi Lectureship, October 16, 1989
Teacher of the Year -- Social Sciences, Westmont, 1990
Westmont Faculty Development Grant, May 1991
Westmont Faculty Development Grant, May 1995
Westmont Faculty Development Grant, May 1997
Westmont Faculty Development Grant, May 1999
Houghton Institute for Integrated Studies: Competitive stipend, "Technology and American Culture," 1996.
Westmont Faculty Development Grant, May 2001
Westmont Faculty Development Grant, May 2005

Teacher of the Year, Humanities, Westmont College, 2007
Westmont Faculty Development Grant, May, 2007
Westmont Faculty Development Grant, May, 2011