

GREGORY H. SPENCER
CURRICULUM VITAE

955 La Paz Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93108

805-565-6195
spencer@westmont.edu

Education:

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

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

Teaching Experience:

- 2000, co-led Westmont Europe Mayterm
- 1999-present, Professor of Communication Studies, Westmont College
- 1993-1999, Associate Professor of Communication Studies, Westmont College, Department Chair
- 1992, 1994, 1996, 2000 - Seminar instructor, Antioch University, Santa Barbara
- 1987-1993, Assistant Professor of Communication Studies, Westmont College, Department Chair
- 1980-1987, Instructor, McKenzie Study Center, Eugene, Oregon
- 1986, Forensics Assistant for David Frank, Professor, University of Oregon Speech Department
- 1986, Research Assistant for Dominic LaRusso, Professor, University of Oregon Speech Department
- 1979, Instructor, Eugene Bible College
- 1977-1980, Graduate Teaching Fellow, University of Oregon

Publications:

Books:

Reframing the Soul: How Words Transform Our Faith. Abilene, TX: Leafwood Press, 2018.

Awakening the Quieter Virtues, Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 2010.

Spanish edition: *Cómo despertar las virtudes silenciosas*, Columbia: CLC International, 2014.

Guardian of the Veil: A Three Dimensional Tale, Monroe, La.: Howard/Simon & Schuster, 2007.

The Welkening: A Three Dimensional Tale, Monroe, La.: Howard Fiction, 2004.

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.

Articles:

"Time is Up and Space is Down," *Journal of Spiritual Formation & Soul Care*, 10: 1 (2017) 105-113.

"Trouville from the Heights" in *Barbizon, Realism, and Impressionism in France*, Santa Barbara, CA: Westmont Ridley-Tree Museum, 2016:22-26.

"Smoke Damage," *Stories from the Santa Barbara Tea Fire*, Silver Dollar Press, pending publication.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"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

- "Bodies without Souls: Pornography on the Internet." Westmont Publication, 1998.
- "Tabloid Journalism Will Resist Reform." Editorial, *Santa Barbara News-Press*, 20 September 1997: A21.
- "Living in Community." Westmont Publication, 1996.
- "The Rhetoric of Malcolm Muggeridge's Gradual Christian Conversion." *Journal of Communication and Religion*, 18:2 (September, 1995) 55-64.
- "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.
- "Response to John E. Phelan, Jr.'s 'Theology and Life: Expressing Our Faith Today.'" *Covenant Companion*, October 1992: 16.
- "This Mighty Warrior, Held Dear, Has Fallen." Editorial. *Santa Barbara News-Press*, 17 November 1991: A16.
- "The Witness We Bear: The Sanctity of Truth and the News." *Radix* 19.4, 1990: 8-11, 25-27.
- "Writing for Dr. Pagan." *Student Leadership Journal*, Fall 1990: 18-19.
- "The Limits of Tolerance." Editorial. *Atlanta Journal/Constitution* 2 July 1989: D1, D5.
- "Surrogate Mothering." Editorial. *Eugene Register Guard*, 13 February 1987: 10A.
- "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.

Poetry:

- "The Beginning of the Road of Ice," "Morning Tapestries," "Another way to worship is to praise a lake," "Dementia Road," "Bracing Back," "Diamond Mercies," "Isaiah Says," "I'm grateful for days," "Terra Squeaka," "The Summer of My Gathering Mortality," "Crowning Up on the Cane," "Sometimes I know why the light is there," "In Search of a Duck's Back?" "Preemptive Kindness," "Coffee Break," "The Rhetoric of Spring," "Griefing," "A Yellow Advent," in *Reframing the Soul: How Words Transform Our Faith*. Abilene, TX: Leafwood Press, 2018.
- "Like his, confessions," *Between Midnight and Dawn: A Literary Guide for Lent, Holy Week. and Eastertide*. Compiled by Sarah Arthur, Brewster, Mass.: Paraclete Press, 2016: 49.
- "Blood in the Snow," *Between Midnight and Dawn: A Literary Guide for Lent, Holy Week. and Eastertide*. Compiled by Sarah Arthur, Brewster, Mass.: Paraclete Press, 2016: 18.
- "Everyone wants to be Mary Oliver," *LummoX*, Number Four, 2015: 162.
- "What I Found in the Pot," *Radix*, Vol. 38, No. 3, 2015: 19.
- "Preemptive Kindness," *The Penwood Review*, Volume 18, No. 2, Fall 2014: 29.
- "The Summer of My Gathering Mortality," *Windhover: A Journal of Christian Literature*, Vol. 17, Spring 2013: 58.

“On the news of Connie’s near-passing,” *Windhover: A Journal of Christian Literature*, Vol. 17, Spring 2013: 44.

“Dementia Road,” <http://www.boundless.org/2005/articles/a0001337.cfm>

“Confessions,” *Anthology* (Contest Winners Issue), Vol. XI, Winter 2004: 8.

“Mendicant Morning,” *A New Song*, Vol. 7, No. 1, Winter 2002/2003: 17.

“Odin Speaks to Me,” *A New Song*, Vol. 7, No. 1, Winter 2002/2003: 16.

“In Search of a Duck’s Back,” *The Cresset*, Vol. LXV, No. 6, May 2002: 31.

“Hanging in my Sleep,” *The Cresset*, Vol. LXV, No. 6, May 2002: 14.

Book Reviews:

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

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

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.

Paper Presentations:

“Boomer Boy in the Sixties,” Popular Culture Association, April, 2019.

“Rhetorical Proprioception: Framing and our Four Life Tasks,” National Communication Association, November, 2015.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- "SIT Before You Stand: Incarnational Principles for Communication." Speech Communication Association, November, 1996.
- "Communication through the Eyes of Faith," Christianity and Communication Conference, Calvin College, June 1996.
- "Teaching for Truth in a Postmodern Age." Speech Communication Association, November, 1995.
- "Everybody's Talking: Electronic Media and Free Speech," Santa Barbara City College, Media Panel, 1995.
- "A Transformational Pedagogy," Santa Barbara Humanities Conference, April 1995.
- "The Priority of Perception: A Biblical Ethic for an Image-dominated Society," Speech Communication Association, November, 1994.
- "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.
- "TVs Don't Dull People, People Dull People: The NRA Logic in *Redeeming Television*," Christianity and Communication Conference, Regent University, June 1993.
- "Walker Percy: Signposts in a Strange Land," Speech Communication Association, November 1992.
- "Unethical Ethos? Flannery O'Connor's *Wise Blood* in Word and Image," Speech Communication Association, November 1991.
- "Graven Images and the Sanctity of Knowledge," Communication and Ethics Conference, Asuza Pacific University, March 1991.
- "Even the Stones Cry Out: The Decalogue and Media Ethics," Speech Communication Association, November 1990.
- "The Rhetoric of Conversion in Malcolm Muggeridge," Speech Communication Association, November 1989.
- "Cophantasia: The 'Reader' of Fiction as Rhetorical Critic," Western Speech Association, February, 1987.
- "The Relationship Between Rhetoric and Ethics in Isocrates, Plato, and Aristotle," Northwest Communication Conference, April, 1979.
- "Paraphrasing in Marital Dyads: A Quantitative Study," Fresno Communication Conference, Spring, 1978.

Speaking Engagements, 1987-present:

Conferences

- “Two Tough Communication Issues for the Church,” APU MDiv Student Retreat, 2016.
- “Awakening the Quieter Virtues,” Retired Covenant Pastors Retreat, Santa Cruz, 2012.
- “Living the Quieter Virtues in a Noisy World,” Quest Church Retreat, Seattle, 2008.
- “Godspeed: Journeys of Faith,” panelist, Santa Barbara Book and Authors Festival, 2004.
- “Firstness Fades but Lastness Doesn’t Last,” Montecito Covenant Retreat, 1998.
- “Discernment and the Media,” Foothill Covenant Church, 1994.
- “Leadership and Communication,” Santa Barbara Leadership Council, 1988.

Westmont Addresses

- “Reframing our Memories,” Westmont Chapel, 2018.
- “Reframing the Soul,” Westmont Homecoming, 2017.
- “Wading with (David) Brooks into Virtuous Waters,” Westmont Downtown Lecture, 2016.
- “The Diminishing of Women in the Media,” 2011.
- “Discernment as a Quieter Virtue,” Westmont Alumni events: Orange County, Sacramento, Phoenix, San Diego, 2011.
- “Contentment in an Age of Excess,” Westmont Downtown series, November, 2010.
- “Discernment,” “Modesty,” Westmont chapels September, 2010.
- “A Generous Conclusion,” Baccalaureate, May 2009.
- “Writing and Grace: Reading from *The Welkening*,” Westmont Alumni Chapters: Pasadena, Chicago, Sacramento, Washington, D.C., 2004-2005.
- “Looking Back, Looking Forward,” Senior Class Retreat, with Jeff Schloss, 2004.”
- “The Slaughter of Innocence: What Herod and Hollywood Have in Common,” Westmont Chapel, September 2003.
- “Firstness Fades But Lastness Doesn’t Last,” Baccalaureate, May 2003.
- “The Slaughter of Innocence: What Herod and Hollywood Have in Common,” Denver and Minneapolis Alumni Events, 2002.
- “Interview with Ron Shelton,” 2002.
- “The Fear Factor in Education,” Phi Kappa Phi Banquet, 2002.
- “I’m investing in you: The Power of Metaphor,” Westmont Alumni College, 2000.
- “Preparing for the Adventure,” Senior Class Retreat, with Jane Higa, 1999.
- “MTV and Victoria’s Secret: Sex Images and You,” Student Life Alternative Chapel, 1998.
- “Christian Vocation,” Bay Area Alumni Gathering, 1998.
- “Life to the Fullest: A View from the Rose,” Senior Class Retreat, with Jane Higa, four sessions, 1998.
- “Please Touch that Dial! Discernment, Courage and the Media,” Homecoming lecture, 1996.
- “Rotten with Perfection: Kenneth Burke meets Thomas Merton,” convocation, 1996.
- “The Velveteen Rabbit Factor: Discernment and Images,” two-part series, 1994.
- “The Golden String,” Freshman Plenary Lecture, 1993.
- “Is Dating Emotional Fornication?” convocation, 1992.
- “Become Like a Child, Put Away Childish Things,” Baccalaureate, 1992.
- “Television and Parenting,” Westmont in the Village, 1991.
- “The Ethos of Niceness: Four Moral Choices,” convocation, two-part series, 1990.
- “You are Either a Philosopher or a Drug Addict,” Freshman banquet, 1990.
- “The Gospel as Tragedy, Comedy, and Fairytale,” convocation, 1988.

Other Addresses

- “The Extraordinary Ordinary,” Four-part preaching series, Montecito Covenant Church, July, 2019.
- “Time is Up and Space is Down,” Cosmopolitan Club, Santa Barbara, 2016.
- “Frame-work as Faith-work,” Samarkand Founders Lecture Series, 2013.
- “Communication and Virtue,” Ann Wharton Lecturer, Liberty University, 2012.

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

Committees and Other Professional Work:

- 2016 – 2019, elected member to Faculty Council, Westmont College
- 2014-present, Christianity and Communication Studies Network, Editorial Board Member
- 2008-2012, Department Chair, Communication Studies, Westmont College
- 2009-2011, Phi Kappa Phi President, Westmont Chapter
- 1997-2005, Board member: Communication Ethics Conference.
- 1996-1999, Religious Speech Communication Association: Chair, Division of Mass Media/Media Forum.
- 1994-1996, Task Force Member for *Communication Through the Eyes of Faith*.
- 1996, Reviewer for *Questions of Communication* (2nd Ed.).
- Athletic, Student Life (chair), Faculty Secretary, Personnel, Image, Erasmus, Communication Institute, Admissions and Retention, Diversity, General Education, Institutional Research Board.
- Westmont College Committees: Academic Senate, Ethics Across the Curriculum (chair),
- 1989-1991, Christian College Consortium Committee: Teaching Values Project, Westmont Coordinator, also organized conference with Biola University.
- 1986-1987, Advisory Editor for Cultural Studies, *TSF Bulletin*
- 1979-1980, Consulting Assistant, Glaser & Associates, State of Oregon Employment Division: Interviewing Skills
- 1979, Book editing assistant, Second edition, *Communication: The Essence of Group Synergy*, John E. Baird, Jr. and Sanford B. Weinberg
- 1978-1980, Speech Fundamentals Program, Review and Textbook Selection Committees

Honors:

- Western Speech Communication Association Master Teacher Award, 2018
- Westmont Faculty Development Grant, 1991, 1995, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2005, 2007, 2011, 2016, 2019
- Teacher of the Year, Westmont College, 1990, 2007
- Houghton Institute Integrated Studies Competitive stipend, “Technology and American Culture,” 1996
- Phi Kappa Phi Lectureship, October 16, 1989
- Herbert Collins Scholarship, 1973