

## Amy A. Ritchart

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College of Communication & Information Sciences  
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### EDUCATION

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<b>PhD</b>	Communication & Information Sciences, University of Alabama	2025
<b>MFA</b>	Creative Nonfiction, Murray State University	2019
<b>MA</b>	Mass Communication, Bowling Green State University	1994
<b>BS</b>	Journalism, Bowling Green State University	1992

### RESEARCH AREAS

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health communication and stigma, health and political communication, media coverage of health issues, health messaging, social and emerging media

### PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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- Cotter, K., **Ritchart, A.**, Kanthawala, S., De., A., Foyle, K. & Watson, T.X. (forthcoming). If you're reading this, it's meant for you: The algorithmic imaginary of algorithmic conspiratoriality. *Convergence*.
- Britt, R. K., & **Ritchart, A.** (forthcoming). Qualitative inquiry revealing Native Americans' perspectives on health campaign message strategies on organ donation willingness and promotion. *The Qualitative Report*.
- Ritchart, A.**, Britt, R., K., Kanthawala, S., Jannat, K. T., & Jones, N. (2024). Reporting during the COVID eras: Media attention and news framing through a large-scale computational analysis. In: *Proceedings of the 57th Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences*. Nominated for best paper out of the Mediated Conversation minitrack. <https://hdl.handle.net/10125/106715>
- Ritchart, A.**, & Britt, R. K. (2024). Pro-social framing and sentiment in U.S. broadcast networks' Instagram posts about the COVID-19 vaccine. In: *Proceedings of the 57th Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences*. <https://hdl.handle.net/10125/106846>
- Kanthawala, S., Cotter, K., **Ritchart, A.**, De, A., McAtee, H., Yun, C., & DeCook, J. (2023). Algorithmic conspiratoriality: Explicating its emergence, dimensions, and persuasibility. *New Media & Society*, 0(0). <https://doi.org/10.1177/14614448231217425>

### MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

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Britt, R. K., **Ritchart, A.**, & Kanthawala, S. (2024, revised and resubmitted). The state of mind

- and the state of tweets: A computational and linguistic analysis of messages from mental health organizations. *Journal of Medical Internet Research, Infodemiology*.
- Britt, R.K., Boman, C. D., **Ritchart, A.**, & VanDyke, M. S. (2024, revised and resubmitted). Exploring health disparities in water sanitation tweets: Environmental risk communication across at-risk regions and international contexts. *Journal of Risk Research*.

## MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

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- Ritchart, A.** & Martin, K. (2024, manuscript preparation). It's giving credibility: Reliability of credibility scales for health information consumption on prosumer video platforms.
- Ritchart, A.** & Britt, R. K. (2024, manuscript preparation). The Holocaust as a polarizing metaphor for emotion-laden political conversations on social media.
- Ritchart, A.** & Britt, R. K. (2024, manuscript preparation). Tis the damn season: A case study of Swifties and social support compared across social media.
- Kanthawala, S., **Ritchart, A.**, McAtee, H., De, A., & Cotter, K. (2024, manuscript preparation). My FYP, my identity: The role of algorithmic conspiratoriality in identity shaping.
- Britt, R. K., **Ritchart, A.**, & Chakraborty, A. R. (2024, manuscript preparation). Imagined audiences and organizational engagement on social media: Performing, curating, and organizing company culture through impression management on Twitter.
- Britt, R. K., Boman, C. D., **Ritchart, A.**, Britt, B., & VanDyke, M. S. (2024, Manuscript preparation). Communication 'shocks' in water contamination discourse: A network analysis on social media activity.

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS & CREATIVE WORK

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- Ritchart, A.** (2019). Reform Judaism in the digital age. In A. E. Grant, A. C. Sturgill, C. H. Chen, & D. A. Stout (Eds.), *Religion online: How digital technology is changing the way we worship and pray* (pp. 160–169). Praeger an Imprint of ABC-CLIO, LLC.
- Ritchart, A.** (Summer 2018). [Review of book *How Stevie nearly lost the war and other postwar stories*]. *New Madrid, XIII*(2), 126-128.
- Ritchart, A.** (2015). Heading home [Photograph]. Clarksville, TN: Downtown Artists Co-op.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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- Kanthawala, S., **Ritchart, A.**, McAtee, H., De, A., & Cotter, K. (2024, October). *My FYP, my identity: The role of algorithmic conspiratoriality in identity shaping*. [Paper presentation]. AoIR 2024, Sheffield, UK.
- Britt, R. K., Boman, C. D., **Ritchart, A.**, Britt, B., & VanDyke, M. S. (2024, June). *Communication 'shocks' in water contamination discourse: A network analysis on social media activity*. [Paper presentation]. 74th Annual ICA Conference, Gold Coast, Australia.
- Ritchart, A.** & Martin, K. (2024, April). *It's giving credibility: Reliability of credibility scales for health information consumption on prosumer video platforms*. [Poster presentation]. Kentucky Conference on Health Communication, Lexington, KY.
- Britt, R. K., **Ritchart, A.**, & Kanthawala, S. (2023, November). *The state of mind and the state of tweets: A computational and linguistic analysis of messages from mental health*

- organizations*. [Paper presentation]. National Communication Association in National Harbor, MD.
- Nichols, T. S., **Ritchart, A.**, Bernhardt, J., & Morris, J.R.. (2023, November). *Critical conversations: Disabilities and Higher Education – Teaching the Freedom to Ask*. [Panel presentation]. National Communication Association, National Harbor, MD.
- Kanthawala, S., Cotter, K., **Ritchart, A.**, De., A., McAtee, H., Yun, C., & DeCook, J. (2023, May 25-27). *Algorithmic conspiratoriality: Explicating its emergence, dimensions, and persuasibility*. [Paper presentation]. International Communication Association 2023: Reclaiming Authenticity in Communication, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. **Top paper Communication & Technology Division**
- Ritchart, A.** (2023, March 2-4). *Gaming the midterms: Exploring 2022 midterm election news game schema*. [Research-in-progress presentation]. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Southeast Colloquium, Murfreesboro, TN.
- Ritchart, A.**, Bernhardt, J., Morris, J.R., & Nichols, T. S. (2022, November). *Critical conversations: Exploring the legacy and impact of communication and disability issues*. [Panel presentation]. National Communication Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Ritchart, A.**, Jones, J.J., Nichols, T.S., & Morris, J. R. (2022, October). *Critical conversations: A snapshot of public memory, political communication, polarization, and social media*. [Roundtable presentation]. Popular Culture Association of the South, New Orleans, LA.
- Ritchart, A.** (2022, March). *Framing the COVID-19 vaccine: A content analysis of U.S. broadcast Media's Instagram posts*. [Paper presentation]. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Midwinter, Norman, OK.
- Ritchart, A.**, Nichols, T.S., & Morris, J. R. (2021, April). *Teaching diversity: Media literacy in the undergraduate core*. [Paper presentation]. Media Education Summit 2020, Leeds, England, (virtual).
- Ritchart, A.** (2020, August). *Women in podcasting: Making our space*. [Panel presentation]. Association of Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA, (virtual).
- Dunn, M., Nichols, T. S., & **Ritchart, A.** (2019, July). *Good grief, America — An exploration of grief as expressed in selected films, the media, and life*. [Paper presentation]. The International Organization of Social Sciences and Behavioral Research, Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada.
- Hicks-Goldston, C., & **Ritchart, A.** (2019, July). *Disinformation, fake news, and the new Knowledge Gap*. [Paper presentation]. The International Organization of Social Sciences and Behavioral Research, Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada.
- Ritchart, A.** (2019, March). *Modern epistolary exchange and key news coverage in #metoo and #timesup*. [Paper presentation]. The International Organization of Social Sciences and Behavioral Research, New Orleans, LA.
- Baron, R., Bullis, K., Chakrabarti, K., Dunn, M., Ellison, D., Heuston, K., Hicks-Goldston, C., Nichols, T. S., & **Ritchart, A.** (2019, February). *A decade of using service learning across a departmental curriculum: What worked*. [Panel presentation]. Tennessee Conference on Volunteerism and Service-Learning, Franklin, TN.

- Morris, J. R., Nichols, T. S., & **Ritchart, A.** (2018, September). *The use of social media during critical times*. [Panel presentation]. Tennessee Communication Association, Nashville, TN.
- Hicks-Goldston, C., **Ritchart, A.**, & Dunn, H. M. (2018, July). 'New progressives?' *Modern-day muckraking and unexpected voices*. [Paper presentation] The International Organization of Social Sciences and Behavioral Research, Boston, MA.
- Morris, J. R., & **Ritchart, A.** (2018, February). *Using YouTube channels to reach Generation Z for broadcast stations' news and programming*. [Panel presentation]. Broadcast Education Association, Las Vegas, NV.

## GRANTS

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- Ritchart, A.** & Britt, R. K. (2023, May). The Holocaust as a polarizing metaphor for emotion-laden political conversations on social media. AEJMC Collaborative Scholars. Grant. Total funds: \$2,000.00.
- Nichols, T. S., **Ritchart, A.**, & Ellison, D. (2019). *Speayker's Corner: The Podcast*. APSU Student Academic Success Initiative. Grant. Total funds: \$1,881.
- Ritchart, A.** (2018). AP Wire, AP Online Stylebook, and Rundown Creator. APSU Technology Access Fee. Grant. Total funds: \$7,000 (\$6,500 recurring each academic year).
- Ritchart, Amy A.** (March 2017). Mobile journalism. APSU Technology Accesses Fee. Grant. Total funds \$9,120.
- Ritchart, A.** & Morris, J. R. (2015). APSU news engagement conference. APSU Student Academic Success Initiative. Grant. Total funds: \$5,000.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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<b>Instructor</b> , University of Alabama Journalism and Creative Media	2021 to 2024
<b>Assistant Professor</b> , tenured, Austin Peay State University Communication	2014 to 2021
<b>Adjunct Professor</b> , Austin Peay State University Communication	2013 to 2014

## TEACHING AREAS

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news writing and reporting, multimedia journalism, feature writing, health communication, media and society, research methods, media ethics, women and mass media

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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<b>Freelance Journalist</b> <i>It's Whatever</i> Columnist/Strategic Communication Projects	2007 to 2014
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<b>The Leaf-Chronicle</b> Morning Editor, Enterprise Reporter	2002 to 2007
<b>Enterprise Ledger</b> Assistant News Editor, City Reporter, County Reporter	1993 to 1994

## FELLOWSHIPS

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**Graduate Council Fellow**, University of Alabama Graduate School 2024-2025

**Phifer Fellow Fund**, Department of Journalism and Creative Media, The University of Alabama 2023-2024

- Conducts research with Dr. Rebecca K. Britt examining vaccine coverage in rural areas using social media data and sentiment analysis.

**Funded Grant Research Assistant**, Department of Journalism and Creative Media, College of Communication & Information Sciences 2023-2024

- Sole graduate student funded out of project working with lead PI Dr. Rebecca K. Britt; included in all aspects of the project including publications and future grant applications.
  - Britt, R. K., VanDyke, M. S., & Terry, L. (2023). Addressing water contamination threats using entropy and network theory via capacity building: Utilizing big data to develop an architecture for engineering and the social sciences. Alabama Water Institute. Innovation Grant. Total funds: \$23,089. [Ritchart, A. as funded GRA].

**Funded Fellow**, Yad Vashem International School for Holocaust Studies Summer Seminar for Jewish Educators, Jerusalem, Israel

- Fully funded Yad Vashem Educators International Fellow for Holocaust/antisemitism studies, Jerusalem, Israel, from June 20-29, 2015. Studied the Holocaust, the history of antisemitism and modern antisemitism at Yad Vashem's International Education Center with 25 other educators/scholars from the United States, Israel, and Australia. This fellowship lead to an APSU COMM 3410 Communication Research Methods and Data Analysis class-wide research project in newspaper coverage with the U.S. Holocaust Museum's History Unfolded project.

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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**Knox Hagood Award** 2023  
College of Communication & Information Sciences, University of Alabama

**Innovative Professor Award** 2018  
Department of Communication, Austin Peay State University

<b><i>Leaf-Chronicle</i> Readers' Choice: Favorite Professor</b>	2018
<b>First Place Investigative Reporting</b> Tennessee Press Association	2007
<b>HOPE Award for Diversity Reporting</b> Hispanic Organization for Progress & Education, Clarksville, Tenn.	2007
<b>First Place Education Reporting</b> Tennessee Press Association	2007
<b>First Place Public Service Journalism</b> Edward J. Meeman Foundation for Public Service Journalism	2006
<b>Excellence in Education Reporting, Single Feature Article</b> Tennessee School Board Association	2005

## **DISCIPLINARY AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

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<b>Graduate Student Reviewer</b>	
AEJMC National Convention	2024
National Communication Association Conference	2024
AEJMC National Convention	2023
National Communication Association Conference	2022
<b>Panel Moderator</b>	
AEJMC Southeast Colloquium	2023
<b>Adviser</b>	
<i>The Monocle Magazine</i> , Austin Peay State University	2020 to 2021
APSU News, Austin Peay State University	2019 to 2020
APSU Society of Professional Journalists Student Chapter	2016 to 2020
<b>Committee Member</b>	
University Library, Austin Peay State University	2019 to 2021
Curriculum Committee, APSU Department of Communication	2017 to 2021
Scholarship Committee, APSU Department of Communication	2015 to 2021
Student Learning Outcomes Committee, APSU Department of Communication	2017 to 2018
Woodward Library Society Board, Austin Peay State University	2016 to 2018
<b>Full Spectrum Learning Faculty Mentor</b>	2018 to 2021
Austin Peay State University	
<b>Living-Learning Community Coordinator</b>	2016 to 2020
Austin Peay State University	

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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<b>Social Networks &amp; NodeXL Pro – A Few Clicks to Insights</b> Social Media Research Foundation Summer School	2023
<b>Certified Online-Course Peer Reviewer</b> Quality Matters	2019 - 2023
<b>Applying the QM Rubric (APPQMR)</b> Quality Matters	2018
<b>Faculty Development Fellowship</b> Austin Peay State University	2016
<b>Instructional Training</b> Multimedia: Camtasia Advanced	2015
APSU Center for Extended & Distance Education	
D2L I & II: Quizzes, Surveys, and Rubrics	2015
APSU Center for Extended & Distance Education	
Making your course ADA Compliant	2015
APSU Center for Extended & Distance Education	

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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**Programming:** Python and R — data cleaning and preprocessing (quanteda, NLTK), network analysis, sentiment analysis (TextBlob, VADER), topic modeling, collecting data via APIs, scraping online data

**Data warehouses:** Sprinklr (tweets, newspaper stories), CrowdTangle (Facebook, Instagram)