

Joe A. Wasserman

Department of Communication Studies, West Virginia University
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Education

- Ph.D.** West Virginia University June 2019 (anticipated)
Major: Communication Studies
Advisor: Dr. Alan K. Goodboy
Arlen G. & Louise Stone Swiger Fellow
- M.A.** West Virginia University June 2016
Major: Communication Studies
Thesis: *Board out of Your Mind: Mapping Players' Mental Models of Game Systems and Potentials for Systems-Thinking Instruction*
Advisor: Dr. Jaime Banks
- B.A.** Reed College May 2009
Major: Anthropology
Thesis: *Literacy, Meritocracy, and the National Assessment of Educational Progress: the Problem of Standardized Testing in America*

Academic Appointments

- Arlen G. & Louise Stone Swiger Fellow, West Virginia University Aug. 2016 – Present
Graduate Teaching Assistant, West Virginia University Aug. 2015 – June 2016

Research Interests

I am interested in cognitive, social, and affective processes underlying gameplay and interactive media. My research is currently focused on understanding the mechanisms through which individuals learn by playing games, such as mental models, and the influence of game modality—e.g., analog, digital—on these processes. Particular learning outcomes I am interested in include understanding complex systems, learning transfer, and systems thinking ability.

Publications

- Foley, K. F., & Wasserman, J. A. (2014). Are unexpected positive dipstick urine bilirubin results clinically significant? A retrospective review. *Laboratory Medicine*, 45, 59–61. doi:10.1309/lml85xx1qbercirm
- Wright, A., Ash, J. S., Erickson, J. L., Wasserman, J. A., Bunce, A., Stanescu, A., ... & Sittig, D. F. (2014). A qualitative study of the activities performed by people involved in clinical decision support: Recommended practices for success. *Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association*, 21, 464–472. doi:10.1136/amiajnl-2013-001771
- McMullen, C. K., Wasserman, J. A., Altschuler, A., Grant, M. L., Hornbrook, M. C., Liljestrang, P., ... & Krouse, R. S. (2011). Untreated peristomal skin complications among long-term colorectal cancer survivors with ostomies. *Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing*, 15, 644–650. doi:10.1188/11.cjon.644-650

Conference Participation

Wasserman, J. A., & Banks, J. (2016, November). *What's in a game? The subjective salience of the elements of a modern analog game*. Paper to be presented at the National Communication Association 102nd Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA.

Banks, J., Bowman, N. D., & **Wasserman, J. A.** (2016, November). *A bard in the hand: The role of materiality in player-character relationships*. Paper to be presented at the National Communication Association 102nd Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA. **Top paper, Games Studies Division**

Wasserman, J. A. (2016, November). *Materially mediated: Why games scholars should study analog games as media*. Poster to be presented at the Games Studies Division preconference at the National Communication Association 102nd Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA.

Wasserman, J. A. (2016, March). *Exploratory investigation of the content and form of mental models of game systems*. Poster presented at the 107th Annual Eastern Communication Association Convention, Baltimore, MD.

Wasserman, J. A. (2015, November). *Investigating players' mental models of game rules systems*. Poster presented at the Game Studies Division preconference at the National Communication Association 101st Annual Convention, Las Vegas, NV.

Ash, J. S., Sittig, D. F., McMullen, C. K., McCormack, J. L., Wright, A., Bunce, A., **Wasserman, J. A.**, ... & Middleton, B. (2011, October). *Studying the vendor perspective on clinical decision support*. Paper presented at the AMIA 2011 Annual Symposium, Washington, DC.

Invited Publications

Ash, J. S., Kilo, C. M., Shapiro, M., **Wasserman, J. A.**, McMullen, C., & Hersh, W. (2011). Roadmap for provision of safer healthcare information systems: Preventing e-iatrogenesis. In *Health IT and patient safety: Building safer systems for better care* (pp. 185-188). Washington, D.C.: National Academies Press.

Teaching Experience

Introduction to Computer-Mediated Communication (WVU: COMM 105)

Course provided an introduction to computer-mediated communication research and theory. Responsible for constructing lectures and classroom activities.

Graduate Coursework

Media Studies

Computer Mediated Communication	West Virginia University	Nicholas Bowman
Video Games as Communication	University of Erfurt, Germany	Jaime Banks
Entertainment Education	West Virginia University	Elizabeth Cohen
Effects of Entertainment Media	West Virginia University	Nicholas Bowman

Methods and Statistics

Multilevel Modeling	West Virginia University	Karen Rambo-Hernandez
Qualitative Research Methods	West Virginia University	Jaime Banks
Statistical Methods 2	West Virginia University	Paul Hernandez
Graduate Research Methods	West Virginia University	Keith Weber

Theory

Theory and Research in Persuasion	West Virginia University	Megan Dillow
Survey of Communication Theory	West Virginia University	Matthew Martin

Invited Lectures

Wasserman, J. A. (2016, November). *Video games and virtual worlds*. Carnegie Mellon University.

Wasserman, J. A. (2016, April). *Media and gender*. West Virginia University.

Professional Service

Eastern Communication Association
2016: Communication and Technology Interest Group panel respondent

National Communication Association
2016 – Present: Reviewer

University Service

Lab Manager, Interaction Lab (#ixlab)	West Virginia University	June 2016 – Present
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Community Service

Instructor of game-based enrichment	Learning Options	October 2016 – Present
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Membership in Professional Organizations

National Communication Association
2015 – Present: Member and Reviewer, Game Studies Division

Eastern Communication Association
2016 – Present: Member