

# Andrew Kulak

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Virginia Polytechnic Institute &  
State University  
Department of English (MC0112)

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## Profile

Versatile skill set combining proven communication and leadership abilities with technological proficiencies in digital content strategy and cybersecurity. Award-winning technical communication and digital rhetoric researcher, writer, and presenter. Self-motivated, curious, and quick learner.

## Education

**Doctor of Philosophy, Rhetoric and writing** May 2019 (expected)  
**Human centered design certificate**

Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia, 4.0/4.0

**Master of Arts, English** May 2014

Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia, 4.0/4.0

**Bachelor of Arts, Classics** January 2010

University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana, 3.6/4.0

## Key Technical Skills

Content Strategy	Security	Communication
HTML/CSS/JavaScript	Linux CLEs and virtualization	Apple and Windows office suites
PHP and MySQL	Python and Bash scripting	Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator
GitHub Flavored Markdown	WireShark network analysis	R and Tableau data visualization
WordPress and DokuWiki	GDB debugging and reversing	Human-centered design methods

## Experience

**Graduate Assistant** August 2012–Present  
Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia

- Design and teach original in-person and online upper-level technical writing courses to more than 40 junior and senior science and technology students each semester as instructor of record
- Coordinate website update for Center for Rhetoric in Society using WordPress framework with custom HTML, CSS, and PHP components; maintain Apache/PHP/MySQL stack test server
- Test and validate WordPress install for Center for Applied Technologies in the Humanities website; update various project sites to ensure compliance with current PHP specifications

- Prototype and iterate WordPress website for VT Stories online oral histories project; consult on technical issues and collaborate on publications and grant proposals for the project
- Manage independent research program focusing on technical communication, digital rhetoric, and design; publish articles and posters and present work and lead workshops at regional, national, and international conferences
- Maintain active membership in Virginia Tech Cybersecurity Club and serve as panelist for cases referred to the Graduate Honor System

**Freelance Technical Copyeditor**  
ApexCoVantage, Herndon, Virginia

August 2014–December 2016

- Copyedited five full-length technical manuscripts for Taylor & Francis Group publishers
- Maintained knowledge of multiple technical styles including American Psychological Association and Chicago Manual of Style; formatted citations and references
- Prepared manuscripts for typesetting and publication using Microsoft Word styles and worked remotely with project managers and authors to address corrections and queries

**Operations Intern**  
Providge Consulting, Arlington, Virginia

May 2014–August 2014

- Supported director of operations in coordinating with project managers leading large-scale information technology projects for organizations including New York University and CapitalOne
- Drafted and edited content for technical materials including reports, proposals, and sell sheets using Google Drive, Microsoft Office, and Citrix workspaces in agile team setting
- Researched IT security issues and published blog posts on risks to computers running Windows and guides to patching and updating

## Recent Conference Presentations

“Rhetoric and experience architecture.” Given at Council for Programs in Technical and Scientific Communication Annual Conference, Savannah, Ga. 5 October 2017. Workshop co-leader.

“Preserving Spaces of Wonder in an Age of Surveillance: Getting Started with Digital Cryptography.” Given at Computers & Writing, Findlay, Oh. 4 June 2017. Workshop leader.

“Techné/logical: Redrawing Usability Boundaries in Digital and Physical Spaces.” Given at Computers & Writing, Findlay, Oh. 3 June 2017. Panelist.

## Organizations and Awards

Recipient of full teaching and research assistantships at Virginia Tech	Fall 2012–Present
Member of Golden Key International Honour Society	Spring 2013–Present
Member of Phi Kappa Phi interdisciplinary honor society	Fall 2017–Present
Member of Iota Delta Rho interdisciplinary research honor society	Spring 2018–Present
Recipient of SANS CyberStart 2017 cybersecurity scholarship	October 2017
Bronze Poster Presentation, Virginia Tech GSA Research Symposium	March 2016