

# David Ornelas

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**Ph.D. Student** | Texas Tech University | Department of English; Technical Communication and Rhetoric Program  
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## Education

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**Ph.D.** (2024 - Present): Technical Communication and Rhetoric, Department of English, Texas Tech University

**M.A.** (2023): Rhetoric and Writing Studies, Department of Rhetoric and Writing Studies, San Diego State University

**Specialization:** in Teaching of Writing

**Thesis:** *White Bodies, Muscles, and Abs: Digital & Visual Rhetoric Within Gay Center Media*

**M.A.** (2021): Liberal Arts and Sciences (MALAS), San Diego State University

**Exam Fields:** *Visual Media, World Literature, Power in the Writing Classroom*

**B.A.** (2017): Rhetoric and Writing Studies, Department of Rhetoric and Writing Studies, San Diego State University

## Certificates

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### Texas Tech University

#### Department of English

Teaching Technical Communication, 2026

Grants and Proposals, 2026

Book History and Digital Humanities, In Progress

#### Department of Women and Gender Studies

Women's and Gender Studies, In Progress

### San Diego State University

#### Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Women, Gender, and LGBTQ+ Studies, 2023

## Research and Teaching Emphasis

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Queer rhetoric studies, platform and visual rhetorics; digital rhetoric; technical and professional communication; AI; writing and composition studies;

## Academic Positions

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### San Diego State University (San Diego, CA)

Adjunct Professor, Department of Rhetoric and Writing Studies, 2024 - Present

Graduate Teaching Associate, Department of Rhetoric and Writing Studies, 2021 - 2023

Graduate Teaching Associate, Department of General Studies, 2022 - 2023

Graduate Student Assistant, History and English Department, 2019 - 2022

Writing Center, Tutor, 2020 - 2021

Writing Fellows Program, Department of Rhetoric and Writing Studies, 2019 - 2021

**California State University, San Marcos (San Marcos, CA)**

Adjunct Professor, Literature and Writing Studies Department, 2024 - Present

**University of California, San Diego (San Diego, CA)**

Lecturer, Analytical Writing Program, School of Arts and Humanities, 2024 - 2025

**Grossmont Community College (El Cajon, CA)**

Graduate Student Assistant, Department of History, 2019 - 2022

## Publications

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### Referred Journal Articles

**Ornelas, D.** Queer Silence, and Digital Spaces: An Interview with Dr. J. Logan Smilges. *Kairos: A Journal of Rhetoric, Technology, and Pedagogy*. **(Accepted; Forthcoming)**.

**Ornelas, D.** "The Emergence of Jamboard Usage as a Technical Communication Tool In a Covid-19 Classroom." In Tham, J., and Ponce, T (Eds.), Design and design thinking in technical and professional communication programs, Special issues of *Programmatic Perspectives*, 14(2). (2024).

- **Awarded the 2025 NCTE/CCCC Best Original Collection of Essays in Technical and Scientific Communication**

### Book Chapters

**Ornelas, D.**, Charting ethical and digital possibilities, An Interview with Dr. Gavin P. Johnson on the field's evolving landscape" In Silver, N., Wang Z., Tham, J (Eds). *Digital Decades Histories & Future of Computers and Composition*. WAC Clearinghouse (Perspectives on Writing Series); University Press of Colorado. **(Accepted with minor revisions)**.

**Ornelas D.**, "Queer Silence, Pandemic Teaching, and Mental Health: Challenging Obstacles Through Writing Studies" in Ruecker, T., Analeigh E., Horton, Osorio, S., and Locher, H (Eds), *Mental Health in Writing Programs: Breaking the Silence*. Utah State University Press. Edited Collection. **(Accepted Forthcoming)**.

### Book Reviews

**Ornelas, D.**, "What does the State Fear About Connection?" Review of "*Abolitionist Intimacies: Queer and Trans Migrants against the Deportation State*" by Eithne Luibhéid. *TSQ: Transgender Studies Quarterly*. **(Accepted; Forthcoming)**.

## Other Publications

### Book Chapters

Schaffer, J., Maher, L., Patel, M., **Ornelas, D.**, & Bippes, B. "Wait, am I being creepy? Awkward encounters and ethical reflexivity in early ethnographic work." In S. Schiffecker & M. Shpeer (Eds.), *Intercultural Encounters: Case Studies in Global Communication* (Open Educational Resource). Texas Tech University. **(Accepted; Forthcoming)**.

Wowak, E.\* “Change (Or the Lack Thereof)” *The Journal of Undergraduate Scholarship*. San Diego State University College of Arts and Letters. *Splice*. (2025).

## Under Review and In Progress

### Books

**Ornelas, D.**, Rice, R., Cole, R., Maher, L. *Writing Grants, Building Care: A Community Centered Approach*. Open Educational Resource Book. *WAC Clearinghouse*. (In Progress).

### Journal Articles

**Ornelas, D.**, “Sorting Desire: Queer Worldmaking, Visibility, and the Gay Male Body.” *QED A Journal in GLBTQ Worldmaking*. (In Progress).

### Book Chapters

**Ornelas, D.**, Wilkosz, G. “Queer Rhetorics and Alienation Through Digital Literacies Writing in The Classroom.” *Queer (Im)Possibilities in Rhetoric and Writing Studies: Honoring and Extending the Work of Jonathan Alexander and Jacqueline Rhodes*. In Faris, M., Flores, W (Eds), (Submitted; Under Review)

### Book Reviews

**Ornelas, D.**, Review of Reading, Writing, and Queer Survival: Affects, Mattering, and Literacies across Appalachia (Appalachian Futures: Black, Native, and Queer Voices). *enculturation. A Journal of Rhetoric, Writing, and Culture*. (Submitted; Under Review).

**Ornelas, D.** Review of Minor Troubles: Racial Figurations of Youth Sexuality and Childhood’s Queerness. *Peitho: Journal of the Coalition of Feminist Scholars in the History of Rhetoric & Composition*. (Submitted; Under Review).

**Ornelas, D.** A review of *Writing to Learn In Teams: A Collaborative Writing Playbook For Students Across the Curriculum*. *Kairos: A Journal of Rhetoric, Technology, and Pedagogy*. (In Progress).

(\*Denotes mentored/worked with undergraduate student)

## Awards & Fellowships

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### National

National Council of Teachers of English/Conference on College, Composition & Communication (NCTE/CCCC)

- Best Original Collection of Essays in Technical & Scientific Communication, 2025.

### Regional

Texas Tech University

- TTU Stotzer TCRH Scholarship, 2026 - 2027
- J.T. and Margaret Talkington Graduate Fellowship, 2024 - 2028

San Diego State University

- Graduate University Scholarship/Grant, 2019 - 2022
- Undergraduate University Scholarship/Grant, 2012 - 2017

## Presentations and Workshops

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### Presentations

- “Queer Writing in the Age of AI: Examining Representation and Writing Experience in Generative Language Tools” *Modern Language Association (MLA)*. Los Angeles, CA. Special Session Panel. Accepted. 2027.
- “Professional Judgment in AI-Integrated Simulation Exercises: An Assessment Framework for Business Communication” *Association for Business Communication (ABC)*. Baltimore, Maryland. Panel. (Virtual). Accepted. 2026.
- “Writing Grants, Building Care: Enacting Rhetoric in Nonprofit Funding Work” *Applied Rhetoric Collaborative Symposium (ARCS)*. Panel. (Virtual). 2026.
- “AI Grant Writing, Community Knowledge: Rhetorical Implications and Practice and Pedagogy” *Association of Teachers of Technical Writing (ATTW)*. University of Texas, El Paso, Texas. Panel. (Virtual). 2026.
- “Queer User-Ability: Investigating GenAI’s Impact on Queer Voices in Composition” *Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC)*. Cleveland, Ohio. Co-Presenter. (Virtual). 2026.
- “Queer (Im)Possibilities in Rhetoric and Writing Studies: A Roundtable Extending the Work of Jonathan Alexander and Jacqueline Rhodes” *Computers & Writing Conference (C&W)*. Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas. (Roundtable)(Hybrid). 2024.
- “Exclusion of Queer Abundance in Societies Conventional Teaching Within University Curricula” *Conference on College, Composition and Communication (CCCC)*. Queer Caucus. Spokane, Washington. (Standing Panel)(Virtual). 2024.
- “Queer Theory and Rhetoric Implementation in Youth School Curriculum” *Feminisms and Rhetoric Conference (FemRhet)*. Atlanta, Georgia. (Virtual). 2023.
- “Subtrative Schooling: Providing and Examining Hope for Cultural Ethnic Studies” *Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC)*. Chicago, Illinois. (Virtual). 2023.
- “Creating Equitable Classrooms: Inclusivity, Trauma-Informed Pedagogy, and Labor-Based Grading” *National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)*. Anaheim, California. (Panel). 2022.
- “False Body Images Analysis of Preconceived Notions and Digital Rhetoric Within Gay Male Dating Apps” *20th Biennial Conference of the Rhetoric Society of America (RSA)*. Baltimore, Maryland. (Virtual). 2022.

### External Workshops

- Ornelas, D.**, Joy and Resistance: The Future of Joy and Kill-Joy Enactment CCCC Conference 2027 Feminist Workshop. “Against Shame: Queer Latinx Joy as Feminist Refusal.” *Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC)*. Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Accepted. 2027.

### Internal Workshops

- Ornelas, D.** May Seminar, Workshop. “Grants in a Donor-Driven Landscape” Technical Communication and Rhetoric Program within the Department of English at Texas Tech University (TTU). Workshop Speaker. May 2026.

**Ornelas, D.** Rhetoric of America Society Student Chapter, Board of Directors of Rachael McIntosh, Meeting and Workshop. Technical Communication and Rhetoric Program within the Department of English at Texas Tech University (TTU). Host and Organizer. Online Session. May 2026.

**Ornelas D.** Raider Rhetoric Society Student Chapter (RRS) First Annual Meeting and Workshop. Technical Communication and Rhetoric Program within the Department of English at Texas Tech University (TTU). Host and Organizer. Online Session. April 2026.

## University Teaching

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### Instructor of Record

**San Diego State University (San Diego, CA), 2024 - Present**

- RWS100: Rhetoric of Written Argument
- RWS200: Rhetoric of Written Argument in Context

**California State University, San Marcos (San Marcos, CA), 2024 - Present**

- GEW101A: Writing as Critical Inquiry
- GEW101B: Writing as Rhetorical Act

**University of California, San Diego (San Diego, CA), 2024 - 2025**

- AWP4A: Analytical Writing and Academic English A
- AWP4B: Analytical Writing and Academic English B
- AWP10R: Language and Learning in the American Academy

### Graduate Teaching Associate, Instructor of Record

**San Diego State University (San Diego, CA), 2021 - 2023**

- RWS100: Rhetoric of Written Argument
- RWS200: Rhetoric of Written Argument in Context

**San Diego State University, Department of General Studies (San Diego, CA), 2022 - 2023**

- GENS100C: University Seminar: Living Learning Community, San Diego

### Graduate Teaching Assistant & Additional Teaching Experience

**San Diego State University (San Diego, CA), 2019 - 2022**

- ENGL157: Comics and History
- ENGL220: Introduction to Literature
- HIST100: World History
- HIST109: American History to Reconstruction
- HIST445: California History
- Writing Fellows Program, Graduate Student Assistant/Mentor

**Grossmont Community College (El Cajon, CA), 2019 - 2022**

- HIST101: Modern World History
- HIST109: Modern American History

## Service

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## National Service to the Field

### Manuscript Reviewer

- *East-Central Writing Centers (ECWCA)*, 2025
- *Writing Spaces: Readings on Writing*, 2025
- *Transgender Studies Quarterly*, 2024

### Conference Proposal Reviewer

- American Educational Research Association Conference (AERA), 2025 - Present
- National Council of Teachers of English Conference (NCTE), 2025 - Present
- Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC), 2025 - Present
- National Women's Studies Association Conference (NWSA), 2024 - 2025
- Feminisms and Rhetorics Conference (FemRhet), 2024
- ACM Special Interest Group for Design of Communication Conference (SIGDOC), 2024
- Rhetoric Society of America (RSA), 2023
- Student Affairs Administrators Higher Education Conference (NASPA), 2022

### Conference Proposal Coach

- Conference Proposal Coach - NCTE/CCCC, 2024 - Present

## Department Service

### Texas Tech University

- President - Texas Tech Raider Rhetoric Society, Student Chapter, 2024 - Present

### San Diego State University

- Vice President - Rhetoric Society of America, Student Chapter

## Professional & Research Experience

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### Professional Experience

**Grant Writer, La Maestra Community Health Centers**, 2023 - 2024

Non-Profit Organization (San Diego, CA)

**Grant Writer, The Worldview Project**, 2015 - 2016

Non-Profit Organization (San Diego, CA)

### Research Experience

**Editorial Research Associate, San Diego State University Press**, 2019 - 2021

San Diego State University (San Diego, CA)

## Memberships

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Modern Language Association (MLA)

Association of Teachers of Technical Writing (ATTW)

Feminisms and Rhetoric (FemRhet)

Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC)

National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)

Rhetoric Society of America (RSA)

## Design and Technology

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### Advanced

- Canva
- Word
- PowerPoint
- Excel
- Piktochart

### Intermediate

- HTML
- CSS
- GitHub

## Languages

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English - Fluent

Spanish - Intermediate Working Proficiency