

Kristina Vera-Phillips, Ph.D.

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EXPERT AREAS

I investigate identity, power, and representation in news media and popular culture, focusing on how narratives shape public understanding of marginalized communities, social understanding, and equity.

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Journalism and Mass Communication - 2025

Arizona State University

Dissertation: Redefining a Fairness Framework:

How BIPOC Journalists Navigate Identity and Journalistic Culture in U.S. Broadcast Newsrooms

Committee: Dr. Dawn Gilpin (Chair), Dr. Bill Silcock, Dr. Leslie-Jean Thornton, Dr. Heewon Kim

Master of Science, Journalism - 2005

Medill School of Journalism, Northwestern University

Capstone Project: Medill News Magazine: Special on Washington, D.C. Jobs

Aired on WTTW Chicago - Dec. 2004

Bachelor of Arts, American Studies – 2000

University of California, Berkeley

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Southern Methodist University - Dallas, Texas

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

JOUR 4316: *Media Law and Ethics* - Fall 2025, Spring 2026

JOUR 3314 - *Writing Across Platforms: Video Storytelling* - April 2, 2026

JOUR 2312: *News Reporting: Ethical Decisions and Issues* - Oct. 2, 2025

Arizona State University - Phoenix, Arizona

FACULTY ASSOCIATE, INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD

MCO 426: *Digital Media Literacy II* - Summer 2024, Summer 2025 (online)

JMC 320/MCO 521: *News Producing* - Spring 2020 (hybrid), Spring 2021, Spring 2022, Spring 2024

JMC 306: *Sports Multimedia Journalism* - Spring 2023, Spring 2024

MCO 425: *Digital Media Literacy I* - Summer 2023 (online)

MCO 335: *Social Media Foundations* - Summer 2023 (online)

MCO 529: *Ethics and Diversity in Sports Journalism* - Fall 2023

JMC 115: *Diversity and Civility at Cronkite* - Fall 2023

MCO 502: *Graduate Multimedia Skills Bootcamp* - Fall 2020 (hybrid) - Fall 2021, Fall 2022

FACULTY ASSOCIATE - Carnegie-Knight News21: Phoenix Bureau - Summer 2022

FACULTY ASSOCIATE - Cronkite News: Phoenix Bureau - Spring 2021, Summer 2021, Fall 2021

GUEST LECTURER - MCO 544: *Accountability in Journalism* (October 20, 2022)

Butler University

GUEST LECTURER - GHS 212: *Asian Americas: Empire, Diaspora, and Identity in the Modern World* - (Oct. 23 & Oct. 24, 2024)

Chandler-Gilbert Community College

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR - FYE 103: *First Year Experience* - Fall 2023

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

GUEST LECTURER - J250 - *Journalism Ethics And Diversity* (March 7, 2022)

St. Petersburg State University – St. Petersburg, Russia

GUEST LECTURER - *American Broadcast News & Technology* (September 2010)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

GRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOW (FALL 2022)

Worked with the Media, Information, Data, and Society (MIDaS) Lab to study how Asian immigrants use media and digital platforms for political information. Recruited and interviewed Filipino immigrants and learned more about how respondents use news media and content from English and non-English sources.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT (SUMMER 2022)

Worked with the Objectivity in Journalism research project funded by the Stanton Foundation. Interviewed news leaders and working journalists about the journalism norm of objectivity. Researched changes in the news industry and the application of objectivity as an expectation and practice.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT (SUMMER 2021)

Interviewed participants for the Arizona Youth Identity Project. Studied how U.S.-born young adults in Arizona perceive their identity and status as Americans in the context of rapidly changing economic, demographic, and political conditions.

ACADEMIC HONORS AND AWARDS

2025 Telly Trend Report, Telly Awards

2025 Kopenhaver Center Fellowship

2025 Outstanding Graduate Award, Arizona State University

2025 Kappa Tau Alpha Honor Society

2025 Top Debut Paper, 1st Place, Multicultural Studies Division, Broadcast Education Association

2024 Top Student Paper, 2nd Place, Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division, Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

2024 Arizona State Graduate College Completion Fellowship

2024 Arizona State Graduate College Emeritus Faculty Fellowship

2023 Professor of Impact Award, Arizona State University

2023 Third Place, Student International Multimedia News Story Contest, International Communication Division, Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

2023 William E. Brigman Award for the Outstanding Graduate Student Paper, Popular Culture Association & American Culture Association

2022 AEJMC Diversity and Inclusion Career Development Fellowship

2021 Top Student Paper, 2nd Place, Minorities and Communication (MAC) Division,
Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

2021 Carolyn Stroman Award, Minorities and Communication (MAC) Division,
Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

PUBLICATIONS

Vera-Phillips, K. (2026). 'Don't Risk Your Life': How BIPOC Journalists Navigate Identity, Newsroom Routines, and Safety in U.S. Broadcast News. *Journalism and Media*, 7(1), 64.
<https://doi.org/10.3390/journalmedia7010064>

Vera-Phillips, K. (2026). Filipino Nurses, In Tait, J. (Ed.). In *Mosaic: Themes in Asian American Studies*. Gibbs Smith Education.

Kwon, H., Vera-Phillips, K., Moon, Y. E., Shao, C., & Xu, W. W. (2026). Credible, but Not for Me: Immigrant Folk Theories of News Trust in Chinese, Korean, and Filipino Communities in the US. *Journalism Practice*, 20(1), 235–255. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17512786.2024.2340526>

Vera-Phillips, K. (2025). "Control Room Challenge." *Teaching Journalism and Mass Communication* 15–1.

Vera-Phillips, K. (2025), I Would Rather Die: Postcolonial Analysis of Rebellion Speeches in Star Wars: Andor. *J Pop Cult*, 58: 267-273. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jpcu.70003>

Estrada, E., Vera-Phillips, K., Flores-Gonzales, N., Romanello, B., Pasco, M., & Roque, A. (2024). "Symbolic Appropriation of the U.S. Flag: Findings from a Photovoice Study." *American Behavioral Scientist*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0002764224128426>

Vera-Phillips, K. (2022). Southwest, Filipina/x/o Americans in the. In *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Filipina/x/o American Studies* (Vol. 2, pp. 898-900). SAGE Publications, Inc.,
<https://doi.org/10.4135/9781071828960>

Vera-Phillips, K. (2026) Diversity Chapter (In Press), In Green, S., Lodato, M., Silcock, B.W., & Schwalbe, C. (Eds.). In *News Now: Visual Storytelling in the Digital Age* (2nd ed.). Routledge. (Forthcoming)

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Vera-Phillips, K. (2026, May 4). *"Beyond the Byline: Who Leads the Story? Identity, power, and representation in media and the classroom."* Asian American, and Pacific Islander Voices in Higher Education Symposium in Dallas, TX.

Vera-Phillips, K. (2026, April 11). *"An Army of Datas: Star Trek Textual Analysis Explores Bias and Power In Speech Freedoms for Marginalized Communities."* Popular Culture Association Conference in Atlanta, GA.

Vera-Phillips (2025, April 7). *"So Many Uncomfortable Spaces: A Qualitative Study On How BIPOC Journalists Navigate Identity and Expectations In American Broadcast Newsrooms."* Broadcast Education Association Annual Convention (BEA), Las Vegas

Vera-Phillips (2024, August 11). *"Producing Inclusive Narratives: Strength of Weak Ties Framework to Empower Marginalized Voices in Broadcast News."* 107th annual Conference of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC), Philadelphia

Vera-Phillips (2024, August 8). News Producing: Control Room Challenge. *Graduate Teaching Excellence Panel*. 107th annual Conference of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC), Philadelphia

Kwon, K.H., Vera-Phillips, K., Moon, Y.E., Shao, C., Xu, W.W. (2023, August 7) *"But Not for Me: Asian Immigrants' (Mis)Trust in News."* Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication National Conference in Washington, D.C.

Vera-Phillips, K. (2023, May 28). *"Colonizing News Media: How framing can be a postcolonial tool for institutional power."* International Communication Association Conference in Toronto, Canada.

Vera-Phillips, K. (2023, April 5). *"I Would Rather Die: Postcolonial Analysis of Rebellion Speeches in Star Wars: Andor."* Popular Culture Association Conference in San Antonio, TX.

Vera-Phillips, K. (2022, August 4). *"Critical Objectivity: Analytical Framework Explains How Journalism Norm Defines Race and Validates White America."* Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication National Conference in Detroit

Estrada, E., Vera-Phillips, K., Tellez, M., & Romanello, B. (2022, August 6). *"Symbolic Appropriation of The U.S. Flag: A Photovoice Study on Arizona Youth Identity."* American Sociological Association Annual Meeting in Los Angeles

Vera-Phillips, K. (2022, February 22). *"A War on Watchdogs: Rappler, ABS-CBN, & Free Speech Repression in the Philippines."* Cronkite Research Symposium in Phoenix

Vera-Phillips, K. (2021, October 8). *"What It Means To Be Free: Androids Explore Next Frontier of Speech Freedom."* Midwest Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Conference in Minneapolis

Vera-Phillips, K. (2021, August 6). *"The Framing of Other: How Framing Can Be a Postcolonial Tool for Institutional Power."* Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication National Conference (Virtual)

Vera-Phillips, K. (2021, March 5). *"Prescription for Change: Postcolonial Search For Filipino Nurses in American Medical Shows."* Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Midwinter Conference (Virtual)

RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL PANELS

Panel Member, "DEI Under Scrutiny: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in an AI Society." Broadcast Education Association Annual Convention (BEA), in Las Vegas on April 19, 2026.

Panel Member, "Research that Matters to Practice (2025) at the Page Thought Leadership and Future of The Profession Summit at Texas Tech (DFW Campus) in Irving, Texas, on September 27, 2025.

Panel Member, "Pro to Prof: Navigating Academia as a Second (or Third) Career" (2025) at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication National Conference in San Francisco, CA on August 8, 2025.

Panel Organizer, "Representation Matters: Strategies for Elevating Authentic Voices in News Media." (2025) at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication National Conference in San Francisco, CA on August 7, 2025.

Panel Member, "The Challenges of Neutrality in Broadcast Journalism." (2024) Virtual event with the Northwestern Alumni Association on December 4, 2024.

Panel Member, "Should It Be This Hard? Survival Mechanisms, Productivity Hacks, and Managing Mental Health in Academia." (2024) Virtual event with the AEJMC Commission on Graduate Education on November 12, 2024.

Panel Organizer, "Navigating News Media: Insights for Business Leaders and Community Organizers." (2024) at the Asian Corporate & Entrepreneur Leaders Conference in Phoenix, AZ, on August 24, 2024.

Panel Member, “Building Bridges and Sharing the Spotlight: How Media Outlets Gain Trust and Share Stories of Historically Marginalized Communities.” (2024) At the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication National Conference in Philadelphia, PA on August 10, 2024.

Panel Member, “Fighting Misinformation Through Digital Forensics in the Classroom and Newsroom.” (2024) International Communication Association Conference in Gold Coast, Australia, on June 21, 2024.

Panel Member, “Implementing Diversity in the J-School Newsroom.” (2023) At the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication National Conference in Washington, D.C. on August 8, 2023.

Panel Member, “Preparing Newsrooms for the Next Generation.” (2023) At the Asian American Journalists Association Conference in Washington, D.C., on July 21, 2023.

Panel Member, “Disinformation, Polarization, and Propaganda in the Digital Asia Diasporas.” (2023) At the International Communication Association Conference in Toronto, Canada, on May 29, 2023.

Panel Member, “Developing Pathways for Career Growth” (2023) Webinar for the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication National on January 24, 2023.

Panel Organizer, “Shapeshifting Your Journalism Experience: Careers in Freelancing, Teaching & More.” (2022) At the Asian American Journalists Association Conference in Los Angeles, CA on July 29, 2022.

Panel Organizer, “Ready for Primetime: Sharing the Power of Your Personal Story.” (2021) At the Asian Corporate & Entrepreneur Leaders Conference in Scottsdale, AZ on Oct 23, 2021.

SERVICE

Vice Head & Programs Chair, Broadcast & Mobile Journalism Division, Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC)

Communications Co-Chair, Commission on Graduate Education (AEJMC)

Judge, 2026. Broadcast Education Association, the Festival of Media Arts, Television Long Feature category

Reviewer, 2026. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) Southeast Colloquium, Broadcast & Mobile Journalism Division & Commission on Graduate Education

Reviewer, 2025. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) National Conference, Broadcast & Mobile Journalism Division & Commission on the Status of Women

Judge, 2025. Delaware Press Association (DPA) Professional Communications Contest

Judge, 2025. Broadcast Education Association, the Festival of Media Arts, Television Long Feature category

Reviewer, 2025. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) Southeast Colloquium, Broadcast & Mobile Journalism Division & Commission on Graduate Education

Reviewer, 2024. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) Broadcast & Mobile Journalism Division & Commission on Graduate Education

Reviewer, 2024. International Communication Association Conference (ICA) Popular Media & Culture Division

Reviewer, 2023. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) Newspaper and Online News Division

Reviewer, 2023. International Communication Association Conference (ICA) Journalism Studies Division

Judge, 2023. James Beard Foundation Journalism Awards

Reviewer, 2022. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) Commission on the Status of Women

Judge, 2020. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) Research Prize for Professional Relevance

Judge, 2020. James Beard Foundation Journalism Awards

Judge, 2019. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) Research Prize for Professional Relevance

JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

Capital Public Radio - Sacramento, CA

INTERACTIVE PRODUCER (SUMMER 2020)

Manage CapRadio social media channels. Write and publish breaking news stories. Work with reporters and hosts to produce stories for capradio.org. Publish daily show pages for talk show Insight and weekly music blogs for CapRadio's classical music station.

KPBS NEWS – San Diego, CA

SENIOR TELEVISION NEWS PRODUCER (FEBRUARY 2016 - JUNE 2019)

Managed news content and editorial direction for KPBS Evening Edition and KPBS Roundtable.

Supervised producers, video journalists, and anchors who produce news content for shows. Collaborated with newsroom managers on daily news stories for all KPBS platforms: television, radio, and digital. Wrote web stories based on TV news interviews and segments. Edited web stories produced by producers and anchors. Managed production of news series, live remote shows, and news specials, including “California Counts – Race for Senate,” a live, statewide debate featuring five candidates who competed for Sen. Barbara Boxer’s seat.

SENIOR NEWS PRODUCER (FEBRUARY 2015 - FEBRUARY 2016)

Managed team of producers, hosts, and anchors to produce interview segments and news content for Midday Edition, a daily radio talk show on San Diego’s NPR station, and Evening Edition, a nightly news show on KPBS TV.

NBC NEWS – San Jose, CA

NEWS PRODUCER (OCTOBER 2013 TO JANUARY 2015)

Produced the weekend edition of NBC Bay Area News at 5. Managed live reporting crews and content producers. Worked with platform managers, assignment desk editors, and web producers to ensure NBC Bay Area has complete news coverage on air and online. Produced Olympic Zone shows ahead of NBC primetime coverage of 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics.

CBS NEWS – San Francisco, CA

NEWS PRODUCER (APRIL 2011 TO OCTOBER 2013)

Produced KPIX 5 News This Morning, KPIX 5 News at Noon, and the weekend morning edition of KPIX 5 News. Managed video editors and news writers for weekend morning shows.

PATCH.COM – Newark, CA

NEWARK PATCH EDITOR (NOV. 2010 TO APRIL 2011)

Launched the first hyperlocal news site that covered crime, politics, schools, businesses, and community issues in Newark, Calif. Produced web videos and wrote news stories. Supervised and edited freelance reporters and photographers. Managed Newark news budget.

KXTV News10 - Sacramento, CA

MULTIMEDIA PRODUCER (FEB. 2010 TO NOV. 2010)

Produced, shot, and edited stories for news10.net. Produced News10 Good Morning and News10 at 6. Wrote news stories, edited news video, and created photo slideshows with CNN video, digital photo files, and viewers’ pictures. Cultivated News10’s connection with Sacramento’s online community by blogging about local bloggers and tweeters.

KCRA 3 News - Sacramento, CA

NEWS PRODUCER (DEC. 2007 TO DEC. 2009)

Produced KCRA 3 Reports from 7 to 9 AM, KCRA 3 Reports at Noon, and the weekend morning edition of KCRA 3 Reports. Wrote and published local news stories and news links on kcra.com. Promoted our news show online and connected with viewers on social networks.

49 ABC News, KTKA - Topeka, Kansas

NEWS PRODUCER (NOV. 2005 TO NOV. 2007)

Produced 49 News at 10:00 and Good Morning Kansas. Managed live shots on breaking news and election results. Produced and published award-winning webcast, "49 News Now." Wrote and published breaking news stories on ktka.com.

MENTORING EXPERIENCE

PBS NEWSHOUR STUDENT REPORTING LABS ACADEMY– Arlington, VA

MENTOR (JUNE 2019)

NPR NEXT GENERATION RADIO FELLOWSHIP– Fullerton, CA

EDITOR (JANUARY 2019)

ASIAN AMERICAN JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION (AAJA) VOICES

FACULTY MENTOR (2017-2019)

JOURNALISM HONORS AND AWARDS

2018 Asian American Journalists Association: Member of the Year

2018 San Diego Press Club: 1st Place: Television/Online Video, Community Service/Public Affairs Report - "KPBS Evening Edition Series: A Police Shooting: The Death of Alfred Olango"

2018 San Diego Press Club: 1st Place: Television/Online Video, Writing News

2017 Society of Professional Journalists: 1st Place, News Special - "California Counts: Race for the Senate"

2016 Emmy Award Winner: "Evening Edition Special - Remembering The Fall of Saigon"

2016 WGBH/CPB/The Partnership: Next Generation Leadership Fellowship

2015 Society of Professional Journalists: Reggie Stuart Diversity Management Fellowship

2011 APTRA Mark Twain Award: "Best Coverage of an Ongoing Story"

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

Broadcast Education Association

International Communication Association

Popular Culture Association

Asian American Journalists Association

Vice President of Journalism Programs (2020-2023)

Society of Professional Journalists

LICENSES & CERTIFICATIONS

Arizona State Online, EdPlus. Master Class for Teaching Online, 2023

Center for Teaching, Learning, and Assessment at Chandler-Gilbert Community College. EIMM Base Camp Completer, 2024

Solutions Journalism Network. Train the Trainers Program Certification, 2025