

Ryan David Briggs

Department of Radio-Television-Film
Moody College of Communication
University of Texas at Austin
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Education

University of Texas at Austin

Ph.D., Radio-Television-Film, 2021–present

Dissertation: “The Canary in the Hollywood Coal Mine: Mid-Range Movie Death and the Decline of the Film Business” (expected defense date April 2027)

Co-advisors: Dr. Thomas Schatz and Dr. Alisa Perren

M.A., Radio-Television-Film, 2021

Loyola Marymount University

B.A., Screenwriting, 2015

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

“Pulp Fiction in the Press: 1990s Film Culture Writing and the Creation of Influence.” *South Central Review* 41, no. 2 (Summer 2024): 16–31. doi: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/scr.2024.a932706>.

“A Tale of Two Indies: Amazon Studios and A24 in the Streaming Age.” *The Velvet Light Trap* 90 (Fall 2022): 3–16. <https://muse.jhu.edu/article/862280>.

In Progress

“Hollywood’s Disappearing Middle Ground: Film Industry Decline from 2005 to 2010”

- Asked to revise and resubmit to *Media Industries*

Other Publications (non-refereed)

“Austin’s Indie Limits.” *Roadmap to the Texas Media Industries: The Passage of the 2025 Film Incentive and Beyond*. October 2025, pp. 30–33.

<https://moody.utexas.edu/media/roadmap-texas-media-industries>.

“Introduction.” *The Velvet Light Trap* 95 (Spring 2025): 1–3. doi: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/vlt.00002>. (Co-authored with Paxton Haven)

“‘Life Is Business and Business Is Life’: *The Big Shot with Bethenny* and the Social Factory.” *Flow Journal*. August 10, 2021. <https://www.flowjournal.org/2021/08/life-is-business-and-business-is-life/>.

Book Reviews

“Book Review: Loock, Kathleen. *Hollywood Remaking: How Film Remakes, Sequels, and Franchises Shape Industry and Culture* (Oakland: University of California Press, 2024)”, *International Journal of Communication* 19 (2025).

“Book Review: Melnick, Ross. *Hollywood’s Embassies: How Movie Theaters Projected American Power Around the World* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2022)”, *Media Industries* 10, no. 2 (2024). doi: <https://doi.org/10.3998/mij.4774>.

Conference Presentations

Panels Organized

Co-Chair, “Blurred Lines: Evolving Approaches to Studying US Film and Television Industries,” Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference. Chicago, IL. March 26–29, 2026.

- Panel sponsored by SCMS Media Industries Scholarly Interest Group

Papers Presented

“How Hollywood Became Inhospitable to Mid-Budget Movies,” Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference. Chicago, IL. March 26–29, 2026.

“‘Auteur Cinema under a Tentpole’: *Joker* and the Calculated Mid-Budget Blockbuster,” Hollywood Conference. Los Angeles, CA, July 17–20, 2025.

Round Table Participant, “Evaluating the Post-*Pulp* Cinematic Landscape,” Special round table: “*Pulp Fiction* Turns 30,” Celebrating Special Issue of *South Central Review*, South Central Modern Language Association Conference. New Orleans, LA. September 19–21, 2024.

“The Demise of the Mid-Budget Movie: Understanding a Hollywood Discourse,” Media Industries Conference. London, UK. April 16–19, 2024.

“Circulating *Bamboozled*: Repertory Cinema and the Creation of Value,” Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference. Boston, MA. March 14–17, 2024.

Teaching Experience

Instructor of Record

University of Texas at Austin

RTF 306: Introduction to World Cinema History (in-person)

- Fall 2025, Fall 2026
 - 250 lower- and upper-division non-major undergraduate students
 - Supervised eight graduate student teaching assistants
 - Course fulfills the Visual and Performing Arts Core Curriculum Requirement

RTF 302D: History of Media Industries (synchronous online)

- Summer 2025
 - Five lower-division undergraduate students
 - Course required for RTF majors

RTF 308: Development of Film and Media (in-person)

- Fall 2023, Spring 2024
 - 65 lower-division students
 - Supervised two graduate student teaching assistant
 - Course required for RTF majors

Teaching Assistant

University of Texas at Austin

History of American Television

- Spring 2025, Spring 2026

Archival Storytelling (Hybrid production/studies)

- Spring 2025

Business of Hollywood

- Fall 2024

Streaming Media

- Fall 2024

Development of Film and Media

- Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Spring 2023
- Facilitated two discussion sections each semester, each with 25 lower-division undergraduate students
- Course required for RTF majors

Media & Society

- Fall 2021

- Facilitated two discussion sections, each with 25 lower-division undergraduate students
- Course required for RTF majors

Global Hollywood

- Spring 2021

Introduction to Global Media

- Spring 2020, Fall 2020

Media Franchising: Pokemon

- Spring 2020

Guest Lectures

- “Niche Streaming: FilmStruck and the Cinema Specific Model,” Streaming Media, 11/01/2024
- “Understanding Media Ownership,” Media & Society, 9/14/2021
- “‘Not Yet the Post-Imperialist Era’: Herbert Schiller, Globalization, and Ongoing Media Imperialism,” Introduction to Global Media, 2/14/2020

Classroom Invitations

2/10/2026 — CINE 301-02: Critical Debates in Film and Media, California State University, Long Beach

- Discussed authored article “A Tale of Two Indies: Amazon Studios and A24 in the Streaming Age” with undergraduate students

11/18/2025 — RTF 398T Supervised Teaching in RTF/Pedagogy, University of Texas at Austin

- Part of a panel of graduate student instructors discussing pedagogy with first- and second-year PhD students

Service

Editorial

- *The Velvet Light Trap*
 - Co-Lead Editor — Issue 95: “Media Values,” 2023–2025
 - Secretary, Editorial Board — Issue 93, 2022–2023
 - Member, Editorial Collective — 2020–2022
- *Flow Journal*
 - Co-Managing Editor — Volume 31, 2024–2025
 - Senior Editor — 2022–2024
 - Column Editor — 2020–2022

Journal Article Referee

- *Popular Communication*, 2025

Research

- Fellow, Center for Entertainment and Media Industries, University of Texas at Austin, 2021–2025
- Research tasks for various scholars:
 - Allison Perlman, archival research at the Harry Ransom Center, August 2026
 - Daniel Herbert, fieldwork taking photographs at Waterloo Records in Austin, TX, October 2025
 - Dana Polan, archival research at the Harry Ransom Center, April 2022

Departmental

- RTF Industry Relations Graduate Assistant, 2026–present
- RTF Department Self-Study Graduate Assistant, 2026
- Radio-Television-Film Department Representative, University of Texas at Austin Graduate Student Assembly, 2020–2021

Awards Bodies

- Peabody Awards Screening Committee Member - Social Video, 2025

Awards

- Roderick P. Hart Student Achievement Award - Moody College of Communication (2026)
- Outstanding Service to the Department - University of Texas at Austin, Dept. of Radio-Television-Film (2025)
- Outstanding Assistant Instructor - University of Texas at Austin, Dept. of Radio-Television-Film (2024)
- Outstanding Service to the Field - University of Texas at Austin, Dept. of Radio-Television-Film (2024)