



David Stephenson

Assistant Professor, School of Journalism and Media
University of Kentucky

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EDUCATION

Masters of Fine Arts in Film and Television Production, Asbury University, 2019

Masters of Communication Arts in Digital Storytelling, Asbury University, 2017

Bachelor of Arts in Photojournalism, Western Kentucky University, 1992

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, School of Journalism & Media, University of Kentucky, 2018 - Present

Lecturer, Dept. of Integrated Strategic Communications, University of Kentucky, 2014 - 2017

Director, Picture Kentucky Rural Photojournalism Workshop, 2009 - present

Faculty, UNC summer abroad, Living Galapagos, 2009

COURSES TAUGHT

JOU 367 Mobile Journalism

JOU 377 Drone Journalism

JOU 498 Advanced Multimedia

JAM 203 Camera and Video Fundamentals

JOU 532 Media Ethics

ISC 497 Intro to Short-Form Visual Narrative Storytelling for ISC

JOU 497 Picture Kentucky Rural Photojournalism Workshop

JOU 415 Picture Kentucky Publications, InDesign and Photo Layout

MAS 390/JOU 497 Virtual Reality Storytelling

MAS 322 Multimedia I

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Photojournalism and Multimedia Adviser, Kentucky Kernel, University of Kentucky, 2009 - Present

Freelance Multimedia Photojournalist & Filmmaker, Kentucky, 2009 - Present

Stringer, Associated Press, Kentucky, 2014 - 2017

Photojournalist, Lexington Herald-Leader, Lexington, Kentucky, 1997 - 2009

Photo Editor, Aurora Beacon News, Aurora, Illinois, 1995 - 1997

Photojournalist, Photo Editor, and Designer, Jackson Hole Guide, Jackson, Wyoming, 1993 - 1995

Photojournalist, Republican-American, Waterbury, Connecticut, 1992 - 1993

PROFESSIONAL PORTFOLIO & CREATIVE WORKS

Photojournalism, Multimedia, Film, and Documentary Portfolio: www.DavidStephenson.com

Instagram account with 30,000+ followers for “The Pigeon Photographer,” a passion celebrating the beauty and personality of racing pigeons through an iPhone. Featured by Apple’s Instagram account in 2018 and 2019: [@thepigeonphotographer](https://www.instagram.com/thepigeonphotographer)

Pigeon Beat: An award-winning episodic show featuring stories of pigeons and fanciers conceived, filmed, written and produced by David Stephenson: [Pigeon Beat on YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

David Stephenson on Vimeo: <https://vimeo.com/user1001987>

[Evo Pigeons](https://www.evo-pigeons.com), an Artificial Intelligence creative and NFT learning project

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL AWARDS AND HONORS

Communicator Awards, Award of Distinction, Cinematography 2021: Zero Energy Schools

Communicator Awards, Award of Distinction, Direct Marketing 2021: Zero Energy Schools

Telly Award (Silver) in the Non-broadcast biography category 2020: Keepers of the Fire

Communicator Awards, Award of Distinction, Long-Form category 2020: Pigeon Beat

Telly Award (Bronze), Branded Content, Non-Scripted Documentary category 2019: Pigeon Beat

Apple Instagram Spotlight, 2019: The Pigeon Photographer’s iPhone Photos

Apple Instagram Spotlight, 2018: The Pigeon Photographer’s iPhone Photos

Photographer of the Year Runner-up, Kentucky News Photographers Association, 2015

First Place Multimedia Story, Pictures of the Year International (POYi) competition, 2009

First Place Multimedia Story, Pictures of the Year International (POYi) competition, 2008

Kentucky Photographer of the Year, Kentucky News Photographers Association, 2008

Kentucky Photographer of the Year, Kentucky News Photographers Association, 2007

Sports Photographer of the Year, Kentucky News Photographers Association, 2007

National Headliners Award, Runner-up 2008

Casey Medal, Runner-up 2008

Robert F. Kennedy Award, Runner-up 2008

Pulitzer Prize Nominee, 2008

Eclipse Award, New York Racing Association, Multimedia Coverage of the Kentucky Derby, 2007

Regional Photographer of the Year, National Press Photographers Association, 2002

Regional Photographer of the Year, National Press Photographers Association, 1999

Fourth Place Hearst Photojournalism Championship, 1991

IMDB CREDITS

Drone Operator, *The Divinity School Murders*, 2019

Still Photographer, *Ghost in the Family*, 2018

Camera Operator, *Nazareth*, 2017

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS & PANELS

Stephenson, D., (2024), *Generative AI in Journalism*. Presented at Kentucky Press Association (KPA), Bowling Green, Ky.

Stephenson, D., (2023), *Emerging Technologies: Pigeons, Pokemon, AI and NFTs*. Presented to Kentucky Career and Technical Education Conference, Louisville, Ky.

Stephenson, D., (2023), *The Language of Photojournalism*. Presented at Kentucky Intercollegiate Press Association (KIPA), Lexington, Ky

Stephenson, D., (2022), *Improving Your Photography and Video Skills with Smartphones*. Presented to the American Horse Publications conference (AHP), Lexington, Ky

Stephenson, D., (2022), *Emerging Technology in Journalism*. Presented at Kentucky Press Association (KPA) and Kentucky Intercollegiate Press Association (KIPA), Louisville, Ky

Stephenson, D., (2021), *Picture Kentucky Workshop: How to run a hands-on community photojournalism workshop*. Presented to the College of Communication and Information Dean's Leadership Counsel, Lexington, Ky

Stephenson, D., (2020), *Keeping Up With Your Passions*. Presented as a "Pop-up" mini-lecture for the College of Communication and Information, Lexington, Ky

Stephenson, D., (2019), *Emerging Technology in Journalism*. Presented at Kentucky High School Journalism Association (KHSJA), Lexington, Ky

Stephenson, D., (2018), *Journalistic Applications with Drones*. Moderated a panel at College Media Advisers, ACP/CMA National Media Convention, Louisville, Ky

Stephenson, D., (2018), *VR Storytelling for Beginners*. Presenter at College Media Advisers, ACP/CMA National Media Convention, Louisville, Ky

Stephenson, D., (2018), *VR Storytelling for Beginners*. Presenter and Contest Judge at Indiana News Photographer's Association Annual Seminar and Contest, Bloomington, In

Stephenson, D., (2018), *Emerging Technology in Journalism*. Presented at Kentucky High School Journalism Association (KHSJA), Louisville, Ky

Stephenson, D., (2015), *Photographing Birds and Pigeons*. Presented at Photoscenic Kentucky Workshop, Prestonsburg, Ky

Stephenson, D., (2014), *Social Media's Impact on Visual Storytelling*. Presenter and Contest Judge at Ohio News Photographer's Association Annual Seminar and Contest, Columbus, Oh

Stephenson, D., (2013), *Using Smartphones for Photos and Multimedia*. Presented to Kentucky Press Association, Louisville, Ky

Stephenson, D., (2013), *Using Smartphones for Photos and Multimedia*. Presented at Kentucky High School Journalism Association (KHSJA), Lexington, Ky

Stephenson, D., (2012), *Media Management for University Student Publications*. Presented at College Media Advisers, ACP/CMA National Media Convention, Chicago, Il

Stephenson, D., (2012), *Using DSLR cameras for Video*. Presented at College Media Advisers, ACP/CMA National Media Convention, Chicago, Il

Stephenson, D., (2012), *Smartphones for Visual Reporting*. Presented at College Media Advisers, ACP/CMA National Media Convention, Chicago, Il

Stephenson, D., (2012), *Photographing Birds and Pigeons*. Lexington Creative Camera Club, Lexington, Ky

Stephenson, D., (2011), *Using DSLR cameras for Video*. Presented at Kentucky High School Journalism Association (KHSJA), Lexington, Ky

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS & PANELS (CONT.)

- Stephenson, D., (2010), *Improving Your Photography*. Presented at Kentucky High School Journalism Association (KHSJA), Lexington, Ky
- Stephenson, D., (2010), *Photography, Audio Gathering, and Video Production for Rural Journalists*. Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues, Foothills in Focus, Lexington, Ky
- Stephenson, D., (2010), *A New Dawn*. Ohio University, School of Visual Communications NPPA Chapter, Athens, Oh
- Stephenson, D., (2009), *Using Canon DSLR Cameras for Video*. Presented by Canon USA, for the VII Photo Agency Photographers, Otis, Ma
- Stephenson, D., (2009), *Using DSLR cameras for Video*. Presented at College Media Advisers, ACP/CMA National Media Convention, Austin, Tx
- Stephenson, D., (2009), *An Introduction to Photo Blogging*. Presented at College Media Advisers, ACP/CMA National Media Convention, Austin, Tx
- Stephenson, D., (2010), *Using DSLR Cameras for Multimedia Storytelling*. Northern Short Course in Photojournalism, Newark, Nj
- Stephenson, D., (2009), *Photographing Birds and Pigeons*. Lexington Creative Camera Club, Lexington, Ky
- Ethics in Photojournalism, (2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013), Panel Member, Asbury University, Wilmore, Ky
- Stephenson, D., (2008), *A New Dawn*. Presenter and Contest Judge at Illinois News Photographer's Association Annual Seminar and Contest. Champaign, Il
- Stephenson, D., (2008), *A New Dawn*. Presenter and Contest Judge at Indiana News Photographer's Association Annual Seminar and Contest. Bloomington, In
- Stephenson, D., (2008), *A New Dawn*. Presenter and Contest Judge at Michigan News Photographer's Association Annual Seminar and Contest. Lansing, Mi

RESEARCH WORKS

- Stephenson, D., Kim, Y. S., & Engstrom, E. *Quality Television as Visual Literacy Tool: Analyzing Production Elements of Hulu's The Handmaid's Tale*. Journal of Media Education, Vol 12, Number 2, April 2021.
- Engstrom, E., Stephenson, D., & Kim. Y. S. *Portrayal of American Civil Religion in Hulu's The Handmaid's Tale*. Journal of Media and Religion. Vol. 21, Number 2, 2022.

TEXTBOOK REFERENCES

- Engstrom, E., & Stephenson, D. Audio video journalism. In V. Filak (Editor), *Convergent journalism: An introduction* (4th ed.). Routledge.
- Kenneth Kobre, (2023). *Videojournalism: Multimedia Storytelling, Second Edition*, Chapter topic: *An Unforgettable Character: The Turtle Man, an interview with David Stephenson*. Chapter/section topic: Virtual Reality and 360-degree video storytelling for journalists by David Stephenson
- Kenneth Kobre, (2012). *Videojournalism: Multimedia Storytelling*, Chapter topic: *An Unforgettable Character: an interview with David Stephenson*
- Brooke Barnett, David Copeland, Harlen Makemson, Phillip Motley (2011). *An Introduction to Visual Theory and Practice in the Digital Age*, Chapter Topic: *Finding Great Characters for Your Stories, an interview with David Stephenson*

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

Stephenson, D. (2023, August). *Picture Kentucky: Immersive Photojournalism and Book Design and Layout Workshops*. Innovations in Teaching competition presentation, AEJMC Vis Comm Division, Washington, D.C.

Stephenson, D. (2021, August). *Teaching for Results: Raising the Profile of Your Student Media*. AEJMC Conference, Co-Presenter and Panelist, Moderated by Dr. Erika Engstrom

Stephenson, D. (2019, August). *Hot topics on using emerging tech tools in a participatory society: Visual journalism now*. AEJMC Conference, Co-Presenter and Panelist, Moderated by Deborah Chung with co-panelists Mickey Osterreicher, J. Lee Williams, John Pavlik. Toronto, Canada

ACADEMIC AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Faculty Teaching Excellence Award nominee, College of Communication and Information, University of Kentucky, 2023

Faculty Teaching Excellence Award nominee, College of Communication and Information, University of Kentucky, 2022

Faculty Teaching Excellence Award recipient, College of Communication and Information, University of Kentucky, 2018

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Judge, 2024 BEA Festival of Media Arts Student Documentary Competition

Member, National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences - Ohio Valley Chapter (NATAS) Student Activities Committee, 2024

Presenter, *Teaching Drones for Journalists and Filmmakers*, Kentucky Can Campaign closing ceremony, University of Kentucky, 2023.

Faculty Council member, representing the School of Journalism and Media in the College of Communication and Information, Fall 2022 - Fall 2024

Member, JAM Cluster Faculty Search Committee, 2023

Photojournalism & Multimedia Adviser, Kentucky Kernel, 2014 - present

Member, University of Kentucky Administrative Regulation 6:2 Appeals Board, 2021-22

Convener/chair, JAM curriculum ad-hoc committee, 2019 - present

Facilitator, \$23,000 of Sony mirrorless cameras and lenses for JAM School students

Member, MAS Faculty Search Committee, 2022

Judge, University of Kentucky First Amendment Center Spelling Bee, 2019, 2020

Member, College of Communication and Information Strategic Plan Committee, 2020

Member, JAM scholarship committee, 2019

Member, JAM Finance and Facility committee, 2019 - Present

Member, JAM diversity committee, 2019

Coordinator, UK JAM School Film Series, 2018, 2019, 2020

Coordinator, Sam Abell Photojournalism Workshop, University of Kentucky, 2018

Member, Kentucky Kernel Adviser Search Committee, 2018

Member, ISC Faculty Search Committee, 2018

Instructor, University of Kentucky Robinson Scholars: *Nature photography in the field*. 2015

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Judge, Oklahoma Press Association's Better Newspaper Contest, Photo & Digital categories 2022

Judge, Wedding Photojournalist Association and Artist Guild Quarterly Photo Contest: January, 2019, June, 2019, August, 2019, October, 2019, January, 2020, August 3, 2020, September 14, 2020, December 2020, January 2021, April, 2021, September 2021, October 2021, December 2021, October 2022, August, 2022, July 2022, June 2022, March 2022, June 2022, July 2022, August 2022, October 2022, January 2023, February 2023, July 2023, September 2023, January 2024.

Judge, PNA (Pennsylvania News Association) Keystone Media Awards, 2020

Pre-Judge, National Press Photographers Association Best of Photojournalism contest, 2019

Faculty, National Press Photographers Association Multimedia Immersion, Syracuse, 2018

Officer, Kentucky News Photographers Association (KNPA). I served in various roles as an officer or chair for KNPA from 2012-2017

Member, Professional Advisory Committee, Western Kentucky University, 2013

Judge, Lexington Creative Camera Club Annual Print Competition, 2011, 2014

Faculty, College Media Advisers (CMA/CICM) Story Project, Louisville (2010)

Faculty, National Press Photographers Association Multimedia Immersion, Las Vegas, 2009

Coach and volunteer, Picture Kentucky Photojournalism Workshop, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008

Picture Editing Coach, Mountain Workshop Lebanon, Western Kentucky University, 2004

Picture Editing Coach, Mountain Workshop Bardstown, Western Kentucky University, 2003

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Presenter, Governor's School for the Arts (GSA) in the field drone flight demonstration for film and photo students, July 23, 2023

Presenter, Governor's School for the Arts (GSA) in the field drone flight demonstration for film and photo students, July 20 and July 25, 2022

Scoring judge for Skills USA short film contest, Frederick Douglas Academy of Technology, March 2022.

Presenter, Governor's School for the Arts (GSA) in the field drone flight demonstration for film and photo students, July 2021

Collaborator/Cinematographer/Drone operator, Centre Dance multimedia performance, 2021

Member, Frederick Douglas Academy of Technology Advisory Committee, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022

Presenter, Governor's School for the Arts (GSA) in the field drone flight demonstration for film and photo students, July 1, 2019

Presenter, Frederick Douglas Academy of Technology, Oct. 11, 2019: *Narrative storytelling technique in short-form visual storytelling*

Collaborator, Centre Dance multimedia performance, 2019

Instructor, 4-H National Resource and Environmental Sciences (NRES) Academy, 2011: Outdoor photography for 4-H science students

MEDIA APPEARANCES

Lexington Herald-Leader: "[The picture that captured the unlikely friendship of Joe B. Hall and Denny Crum](#)", by Mark Story, May 12, 2023

Campus Voices: "Artificial Intelligence and Deepfakes in the Media", WRFL, Oct. 19, 2022

Bowman's Friends Podcast: [Faculty Spotlight](#). Hosted by Julia Price, April, 2022

UK Now, "[Get to Know Your Professors at UK](#)." Story and video, Oct 14, 2021.

Campus Voices: "Virtual Reality & Augmented Reality in Entertainment and Education ", WRFL, Nov 14, 2018

UK Now, "[University of Kentucky Journalism Students Are Taking to the Sky to Learn from a Bird's Eye View](#)." Jan. 22, 2019.

UK Now, "[School of Journalism and Media Professor Takes Telly Award](#)" May, 2019.

Featured in Kentucky Life, KET Emmy-Award-winning segment "The Pigeon Photographer" 2016

UK Now, "[Meet Kentucky's Famous Pigeon Photographer, UK's David Stephenson](#)" July, 2016.

National Press Photographers Association News Photographer Magazine (2008). *A New Dawn*: Cover Story and Profile on David Stephenson's Three-Year Documentary Project

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

"Do things, Tell People: The Power of Personal Branding and Social Media Storytelling," by Hamza Khan, Alltech One Conference, May, 2022

"Not Just a One-Trick Pony: 10 Great Social Media Strategies," by Rhea Freeman, Alltech One Conference, May, 2022

Mental Health First Aid certification, National Council for Mental Wellness, April 2022

"The Future of Storytelling: Technology and Knowledge Creation in The New York Times Newsroom," webinar hosted by the Center for Research Libraries, Jan., 2022

Part 107 Licensed drone pilot since 2018, recurrent certification as of July 2022

"Creating Space for Dialogue," workshop by the Crossroads Civic Engagement Center at the University of Alabama, 2021

Drone Leadership Summit, New York City, 2019

Drone School for Journalists, Poynter Institute, 2017

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ORGANIZATIONS

National Press Photographers Association; 1991-present

Kentucky News Photographers Association; 1991-present

AEJMC, VISCOMM; 2018-present

College Media Advisers; 2009-2012

Lees McRae College (NC), Board of Advisors; 2008-2010