

Kirsti K. Cole

[email me](#) · kirstikcole.com

North Carolina State University · Raleigh, NC

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Professor of English; Co-Director, Campus Writing & Speaking Program

2023–present

North Carolina State University · Raleigh, NC

- ▶ Lead faculty development in writing-enriched curricula; graduate instruction in rhetoric, composition theory, multimodal composition, and writing program administration
- ▶ Co-direct signature programs: RED-ACI, Writing Wolves, Wolfpack 14-Day Writing Challenge
- ▶ CWSP received the **2024 AWAC Exemplary WAC Program Award**

Professor of English

2018–2023

Minnesota State University (Assistant Professor 2008; Associate Professor 2013)

- ▶ Graduate and undergraduate teaching in rhetoric, composition theory, literary theory, and gender studies
- ▶ Director, Writing Across the Curriculum (2013–2016): designed cross-campus writing assessment, established WAC Committee, facilitated professional development

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in English (Rhetoric, Composition, and Literature)

2008

Arizona State University

Graduate Certificate – Medical Writing and Editing

2021

University of Chicago

Graduate Certificate – Gender and Women’s Studies

2008

Arizona State University

B.A. in English, magna cum laude

2001

University of Montana, Missoula

RESEARCH AREAS

Institutional Literacy & Writing Program Studies · Feminist & Critical Rhetorical Theory · Digital & Multimodal Rhetorics · Ethical AI Integration · Academic Labor & Governance · Health & Medical Humanities · Communication of Science & Medicine

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Cole, Kirsti. The Glitch Curriculum: How Universities Read Themselves in the AI Moment. Under consideration with JHUP.

Bivens, Kristin and Kirsti Cole, Eds. Bad Ideas about Scientific Writing. Under consideration with WAC Clearinghouse.

Cole, Kirsti, Holly Hassel, and Joanne Giordano. A Faculty Guidebook for Effective Shared Governance and Service in Higher Education. Routledge, 2023.

Edited Collections

Cole, Kirsti and Sarah Henderson Lee, Eds. Reimagining Graduate Education in Writing Studies: Sustainable, Equitable, and Inclusive Approaches. Routledge, 2026.

Cole, Kirsti and Valerie Renegar, Eds. Refiguring Motherhood Beyond Biology. Routledge, 2023.

Cole, Kirsti and Holly Hassel, Eds. Transformations: Change Work Across Writing Programs, Pedagogies, and Practices. Utah State University Press, 2021.

Cole, Kirsti and Holly Hassel, Eds. Academic Labor Beyond the Classroom: Working for Our Values. Routledge, 2019.

Cole, Kirsti and Holly Hassel, Eds. *Surviving Sexism in Academia: Strategies for Feminist Leadership*. Routledge, 2017.

Cole, Kirsti, Ed. *Feminist Challenges or Feminist Rhetorics?: Locations, Scholarship, and Discourse*. Cambridge Scholars Press, 2014.

Guest-Edited Special Issues

Cole, Kirsti and Holly Hassel, Guest Eds. "When Words Become Work." *Composition Studies*, Special Digital Issue. Forthcoming Summer 2026.

Anson, Chris and Kirsti Cole, Guest Eds. "Empirical Studies of Writing and Generative AI." *Journal of Writing Research*, Special Issue 17.3. February 2026. <https://www.jowr.org/jowr/issue/view/168>

Refereed Articles (Selected)

Cole, Kirsti. "AI Literacy Is Not One Thing: Conceptual, Structural, and Operative Levels for Higher Education Governance." *Pedagogies*. Forthcoming 2026.

Cole, Kirsti and Chris Anson. "The Labor of Strategic Translation." *College Composition and Communication*. Forthcoming Fall 2026.

Cole, Kirsti, Sarah Felber, Holly Hassel, et al. "Strategic Friction: Writing and Literacy Programs and the Acceleration Imperative." *WPA Journal*. Forthcoming.

Cole, Kirsti and Valerie R. Renegar. "Discursive Archetypes: Kamala Harris and Repositioning Stepmotherhood." *Peitho*. Forthcoming Fall 2026.

Cole, Kirsti. "Cyborg Composing and Posthuman Research Methods." *TextGenEd Continuing Experiments*. August 2026.

Schwartzman, R. & Cole, K. "A Modest Futurist Manifesto for Reimagining Communication Centers in a Critical AI Landscape." *Communication Center Journal* 11(1). 2026.

Cole, Kirsti, Biven Alexander, Wil Carr, Brody McCurdy, Bethany Van Scooter. "Reflective Multimodal Feedback Practices in Human and AI Writing Contexts." *TextGenEd Continuing Experiments*. August 2025.

Renegar, Valerie R. and Kirsti Cole. "'Evil is Part of the Territory': Inventing the Stepmother in Self-Help Books." *Women's Studies in Communication*. 2019.

Bivens, Kristin, Kirsti Cole, and Leah Hellig. "The Activist Syllabus as Technical Communication." *Technical Communication Quarterly*. 2019.

Cole, Kirsti. "'It's Like She's Eager to be Verbally Abused': Twitter, Trolls, and (En)gendering Disciplinary Rhetoric." *Feminist Media Studies* 15.2. 2015.

Webb, Patricia, Kirsti Cole, and Thomas Skeen. "Feminist Social Projects: Building Bridges between Communities and Universities." *College English* 69.3. 2007.

Refereed Book Chapters (Selected)

Cole & Van Scooter. "Navigating Visibility Matrices: Institutional Literacy and Contingent Labor in Writing Programs." In *Precarious Pedagogies*. U of Colorado Press, forthcoming Fall 2026.

Cole & Van Scooter. "Running on Coffee, Guilt, and Calendar Reminders: Neurodivergent Academic Motherhood Across Career Stages." In *Narratives of Persistence and Survival*. Lexington Books, forthcoming Fall 2026.

Anson, Chris, and Kirsti Cole. "Writing With AI Requires Human Rhetorical Agency." In *Bad Ideas about AI and Writing*. WAC Clearinghouse, May 2026. <https://wacclearinghouse.org/books/perspectives/bad/>

Cole & Henderson Lee. "Creating Collaborative Conditions." In *Reimagining Graduate Education in Writing Studies*. Routledge, 2026.

Cole & Wagner. "Crisis Pregnancy Centers: Digital Rhetoric, Misinformation, and Trust." In *Trust under Threat*. Waxmann Verlag GmbH, 2024.

Moreland, Lee, and Cole. "(E)merging Expertise: Multivocal, Multimodal Preparation of Graduate Teaching Assistants." In *Professionalizing Multimodal Composition*. USUP, 2023.

Bivens, Cole, and Koerber. "Activism by Accuracy: Women's Health and Hormonal Birth Control." In *Women's Health Advocacy*. Routledge, 2020.

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Keynotes and Workshops

- ▶ Writing in the Machine's Shadow: Ethics and equity in agentic AI. **Invited Presentation**, Ethics and Agentic AI Symposium at NC State. Raleigh, NC. May 2026.
- ▶ Building Sustainable WEC Programs: Institutional Ethnography as Strategic Tool. **Invited Keynote** (with Schwartzman), Write@UGA Conference. Athens, GA. February 2026.
- ▶ Practical Tools to Cultivate Writing in Your Context. **Invited Workshop** (with Schwartzman), Write@UGA Conference. Athens, GA. February 2026.
- ▶ Writing with, not for, AI. **Invited Workshop**, IWCA Summer Institute, UDLAP. Cholula, Mexico. June 2025.
- ▶ AI, Ethics, Industry, and Academia (with Boinodiris & Smith). Grand Challenges Scholars Program Annual Meeting, NC State. February 2025.
- ▶ Keynote: "Where Do We Go From Here? Two Decades of the Feminist Workshop." CCCC Feminist Workshop. Indianapolis, IN. 2014.
- ▶ Keynote: "20 Years of Feminist Work(shop)." CCCC Feminist Workshop. Atlanta, GA. 2011.

Selected Conference Presentations

- ▶ The Burkean Skeleton Key: Strategic Canonicity in Precarious Times (with Renegar). *Rhetoric in a Precarious World*. Ghent, Belgium. July 2026.
- ▶ Building AI-Informed Communication Pathways: A Practical Framework for Scaffolded Instruction from First-Year to Capstone (with Qaqish and Allard). ASEE. Charlotte, NC. June 2026.
- ▶ The Weight of Stigma (with Renegar). WSCA Convention. San Diego, CA. February 2026.
- ▶ Writing, Research, and Resilience (with Lee, Moreland, Turner). IWAC Conference. Fort Collins, CO. July 2025.

- ▶ Revitalizing Writing Enriched Curriculum (with Schwartzman). IWAC Conference. Fort Collins, CO. July 2025.
- ▶ Where Policy Meets Position (with Hassel). CCCC. Baltimore, MD. April 2025.
- ▶ Writing in the Age of AI. NC State University Research Symposium. March 2025.
- ▶ Out with the Old: Reconstructing Cognitive Models of Writing when AI Intervenes (with Anson). ways2write/EARLI SIG Writing. Paris, France. June 2024.
- ▶ Digital Collaboration: Modeling Writing and Editing Practices through Horizontal Mentoring (with Renegar & Sowards). NKRF9. Copenhagen, Denmark. October 2024.

GRANTS AND FUNDING

Awarded

OASIS Teaching Innovation Grant 2026
NC State University · \$1400

CHASS Wellness Grant 2024
North Carolina State University · \$3,000

Faculty Research Grant 2020, 2012
Minnesota State University · \$5,000

Nadine B. Andreas Scholar Award 2015
Minnesota State University · \$9,000

Arts and Humanities Research Grant 2013, 2014, 2015
Minnesota State University · \$2,500/year

Pending

- ▶ NC State Foundation Grant: “The AI Writing Studio” (with Van Scooter, co-PI). \$25,000. Submitted April 2026.
- ▶ EiF Program: Enhancing Communication in Engineering Education (with Cheng & Schwartzman). Submitted July 2025.

In Development

- ▶ NSF Professional Formation of Engineers (PFE): Validating and Scaling AI-Informed Communication Pedagogy (with Allard & Qaqish)
- ▶ DELTA Exploratory Grant: AI Ethics in Culturally Responsive STEM Literacy (with Schwartzman, Berube, Watson)

SERVICE

Service to the Profession

- ▶ Elected Member, MLA AI and Research Working Group (2025–present)
- ▶ Co-Author, AWAC Statement on AI Writing Tools in WAC Settings (2025)
- ▶ External Tenure and Promotion Reviews – seven institutions
- ▶ Consulting Workshops, IsolereBio Workplace Communication Series – 5 workshops (June–September 2025)
- ▶ Peer Reviewer, **Peitho**, **Composition Studies** (ongoing)
- ▶ Member, Editorial and Reviews Board, **Peitho** (2016–present)
- ▶ Member, Reviews Board, **Composition Studies** (2010–present)
- ▶ Member, Editorial Board, Undergraduate Journal of Service Learning and Community-Based Research (2012–present)
- ▶ Chair, 2011 International Conference on Feminisms and Rhetorics, Mankato, MN

Service to the University

- ▶ Evaluation of Teaching Committee, NC State University (2024–2026)
- ▶ ISI Faculty Workshop Development – writing, AI integration, disciplinary communication (2025–present)
- ▶ Workshop Facilitator: “AI Tools to Enhance Classroom Practices,” Engineering New Faculty Orientation. August 2025.
- ▶ Arts and Humanities Unit Representative, IFO, Minnesota State University (2018–2022)
- ▶ President, President’s Commission on the Status of Women, Minnesota State University (2015–2017)

Service to the Department

- ▶ PTR Committee Chair, NC State English Department (AY 2025–26)
- ▶ Research, Tenure & Promotion Committee Member (ongoing)
- ▶ CRDM Program Committee Member (ongoing)
- ▶ Faculty Mentors’ Retreat Co-Organizer (November 2024)

AWARDS AND HONORS

- ▶ **AWAC 2024 Exemplary Enduring WAC Program** – Campus Writing & Speaking Program, NC State
- ▶ Nominee, Winifred Bryan Horner Outstanding Book Award, Coalition of Feminist Scholars in the History of Rhetoric and Composition (2018)
- ▶ Arts and Humanities Research Grant Recipient, Minnesota State University (2013, 2014, 2015)

References available upon request