

## Biography for the Dixie State University Website

Erin Ortiz

I joined the Department of Media Studies at Dixie State University in August 2015. I am thrilled to join a department and university that places a high value on teaching. Teaching captures my academic passion and continues to serve as a central component in my research and everyday goals as a teacher-scholar.

My teaching interests span the field of communication; I teach courses in public relations, organizational communication, media and society, and ethics. I am a firm believer that enthusiasm for learning creates productive and creative classroom spaces, and I try to instill that passion for learning in all of my classes.

My research interests complement and supplement my teaching in a variety of ways. Specifically, I focus on how we use ethical/value-based language in our organizing efforts to achieve particular goals. For instance, I am interested in how “rights,” “transparency,” and “secrecy” function in multiple ways and in various kinds of human relationships and texts. I have published articles in academic journals, such as *Management Communication Quarterly* and *Organization*, and in various book chapters.

When I am not teaching or writing, I spend my free time hiking and cycling with my spouse and young daughter. We love exploring the Southern Utah region. I also enjoy reading popular fiction series books (my favorites include *Outlander*, *Harry Potter*, and *The Lord of the Rings*).

Ph.D., University of Utah, 2012

M.A., Duquesne University, 2006

B.A., SUNY-Plattsburgh, 2002

Areas of Specialty: Public Relations, Organizational Communication, Ethics