

Adele Merlino, Ph.D.

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Professional Summary

A seasoned Educational Technologist, Instructional Designer, and Adjunct Professor with expertise in higher education, online learning, multimedia production, curriculum design, and academic research. Experienced in LMS administration, COIL virtual exchange, AI in education, faculty development, and cross-cultural pedagogy. Award-nominated media producer with extensive background in journalism, writing, and digital storytelling.

Skilled in LMS administration, accessibility standards, UDL, Quality Matters, virtual exchange, and faculty development. Proven background as an award-nominated media producer and writer with strong communication, leadership, and mentoring abilities.

Core Skills

- Instructional Design (ADDIE, Backward Design, QM, OSCQR)
- Online Learning: Hybrid, Hyflex, Asynchronous, Synchronous
- LMS Administration: Blackboard, Brightspace, Canvas
- Multimedia Production: Adobe CC, Figma, Canva, Articulate
- Faculty Training & Student Support
- Media & Journalism: Writing, Editing, Producing, Research
- Faculty Development, Student Success, Assessment
- Virtual Exchange: COIL+, Global Learning, Intercultural Competence
- Research, Assessment & Academic Writing
- Communications, Journalism & Media Production

Education

Ph.D., Higher Education Leadership for Changing Populations

Notre Dame of Maryland University 2023

Dissertation: Assessment of Intercultural Competence in COIL Virtual Exchange

M.S., Instructional Technology

Touro University 2014

Thesis: The Video Resume

B.A., Journalism/Communication

(Minor: English & Psychology)

Brooklyn College (CUNY)

Academic & Instructional Design Experience

Instructional Designer–Technologist / COIL Campus Coordinator

SUNY Maritime College, Throgs Neck, NY (2017–Present)

- Design and develop online, hybrid, and HyFlex courses using UDL, RSI, Quality Matters, and OSCQR standards.
- Lead SUNY COIL virtual exchange initiatives and train faculty in intercultural pedagogy.
- Manage LMS administration, including Blackboard, Brightspace, and Canvas.
- Create multimedia instructional assets: videos, animations, Articulate modules.
- Guide faculty on educational technology integration and best practices.
- Develop and deliver faculty workshops and consultations.
- Ensure accessibility compliance (ADA/Section 508) and universal design.

Adjunct Professor – Leadership, Freshman Experience

SUNY Maritime College, NY (2018–Present)

- Teach First-Year Experience courses, emphasizing leadership and student success.
- Integrated a collaborative online international learning (COIL) virtual exchange component to foster global learning and intercultural competence & communication.
- Advise students academically and support personal development.
- Deliver engaging lectures using active learning and digital tools.

Adjunct Professor – School of Communications & Media

Montclair State University, NJ (2025–Present)

- Developed and delivered engaging lectures in media production and communications, fostering a dynamic and collaborative learning environment that significantly increased student engagement and improved learning outcomes.
- Designed and implemented curriculum aligned with university standards and current industry practices, enriching academic experiences and contributing to higher student success and completion rates.
- Provided individualized mentorship and constructive feedback, supporting students' academic growth and professional development, which led to measurable improvements in overall student performance.

Adjunct Professor – Media Production & Broadcast Journalism

William Paterson University, Wayne, NJ (2012–Present)

- Developed and delivered engaging lectures in media production and communications, fostering a dynamic learning environment that increased student engagement and strengthened learning outcomes.
- Designed and implemented course curricula aligned with university standards and current industry trends, enhancing the overall learning experience and contributing to improved course completion rates.

- Provided individualized mentorship and constructive feedback, supporting students' academic and profess

Instructional Designer–Technologist (Video & Digital Media Specialist)

Hudson County Community College, Jersey City, NJ (2014–2017)

- Designed and developed engaging online courses using instructional design frameworks such as RSI, UDL, ADDIE, Backward Design, Bloom's Taxonomy, and Gagné's Nine Events of Instruction, resulting in increased student engagement and higher enrollment.
- Managed the institution's LMS platforms, including Blackboard and Canvas, ensuring seamless system operation and delivering technical support that contributed to improved learning outcomes.
- Created high-quality digital media assets, including video lectures, interactive activities, and assessments, enhancing the overall learning experience and driving higher course completion rates.

Media Production & Journalism Experience

News Editor / Writer / Producer — WPIX 11 Tribune – New York City (2010–2012)

- Coordinated live and SAT shots for the Ten O'Clock News, effectively managing logistics and ensuring seamless broadcast execution, which increased overall operational efficiency.
- Field-produced breaking news and live events, capturing compelling footage and delivering timely, accurate coverage that strengthened viewer engagement.
- Wrote concise, informative news scripts for the newscast, crafting clear and engaging stories that improved the quality of coverage and contributed to increased viewer ratings.

News Editor / Field Producer / Writer — WWOR-TV FOX5 NY – New York City (1986–1993; 2008–2013)

- Coordinated live and SAT shots for The Ten O'Clock News, effectively managing logistics and ensuring seamless broadcast execution, resulting in a 90% increase in operational efficiency.
- Field-produced breaking news and major events, capturing compelling footage and delivering timely accurate coverage that strengthened viewer engagement.
- Wrote concise, informative news scripts for the newscast, crafting clear and engaging stories that effectively conveyed key information and contributed to improved viewer ratings.

Senior Producer–Editor–Writer — NYC Mayor's Office of Media & Entertainment – NYC (2001–2011)

- Produced award-winning shows for NYC TV and WNBC-TV.
- Created “City Scoop,” “Eat Out Time Out,” and “9.99.”
- Led production of live-to-tape award shows including NY Emmy Awards
- Produced, wrote, and directed a five-minute instructional video for the NYC Office of Emergency Management, contributing to NYC.gov’s public-facing content and improving community preparedness and awareness.

Creative Producer–Editor–Writer — DeSales Media, Diocese of Brooklyn–Queens
(2012–2014)

- Produced, wrote, and edited 13 episodes featuring ENG crews for the creative program Breaking Bread, a series spotlighting neighborhood restaurants, resulting in increased viewer engagement.
- Researched and scripted compelling story concepts, ensuring engaging content for the cooking and web-based half-hour programs, which contributed to higher viewer ratings.
- Field-directed production crews, ensuring high-quality footage and effective on-site storytelling, leading to notable improvements in both production quality and overall efficiency.

Professional TV Awards

- NY Emmy Nominations (2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2011)
- NY Emmy Award – Special Events Coverage (2010)
- Telly Awards (2008, 2009)
- Webby Award (2008)

Certifications

- D2L Brightspace, Blackboard, Canvas Certification
- Quality Matters Peer Reviewer

Academic Presentations, Research & Publications

ORCID

2025

- o Evaluator, BridgeUSA, Ukrainian Fellowship Programs with American Councils
- o SUNY CIT Abstract Reviewer

2024

- o International Virtual Exchange Conference, (IVEC) Presentation, *COIL+ OSCQR Standards*

- o Optimizing AI in Higher Education: SUNY FACT Guide, Second Edition (Co-Author)
[Link to book](#)
- o SUNY CIT Presentation, *Introducing the COIL+OSCQR Rubric*

2023

- o SUNY Technology Grant: *The COIL+OSCQR Standards* [The COIL+OQSCR Rubric](#)
- o International Virtual Exchange Conference, (IVEC) Presentation, *Introducing the SUNY COIL Rubric*
- o LatAm COIL Conference, *Presentation Flexibility, Quality, and Standards Matters: The SUNY COIL Rubric*

2022

- o SUNY CIT - White Paper Presentation, *Online Student Engagement Support Models*
- o NERA Dissertation Presentation, *Global Education: Virtually Abroad: Assessing U.S. Undergraduates in COIL Virtual Exchanges*

2021

- o NYC COIL Conference (SUNY & CUNY) Advanced track: *Refining COIL projects by learning from our mistakes*

2020

- o International Virtual Exchange Conference (IVEC) Presentation, *Assessing COIL*
- o Learning with Innovative Technology Conference, *Online Course Designs, User Experiences & Learning Outcomes*
- o National Distance Learning Week Online Course Designs, *UX/UI & Learning Outcomes*

Associations

- Writer's Guild of America (Member)
- National Academy of Arts & Sciences (Member)
- EDUCAUSE (Member)
- Online Learning Consortium (Member)

Languages

English — Native; **Italian** — Native / Distinguished; **Spanish** — Beginner