

# Wendy K. Smith, PhD.

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**Award winning filmmaker and educator with extensive teaching experience.**

*A visionary leader with a demonstrated passion for curriculum development  
Expertise from working in the industry in Europe and in the USA.*

## SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- History of building outstanding student rapport; has organized and clarified large amounts of information for students and motivated them outside their comfort zone.
- Commitment to cultural diversity, equity, and inclusion by building a diverse and inclusive community that supports students and teachers of all backgrounds.
- Mentoring students in film, video, communication, production, writing, research and building the non-fiction narrative. Explores diverse methodologies and develops instruction for a multitude of institutions both workshop-based and in academic settings.
- Established research and writing background, authored, and published approximately 35 articles and literary pieces in English and French in academic, business, and literary journals.
- Experienced documentary filmmaker who has conducted video/film presentations at colleges, institutions, and conferences.

## EDUCATION

**Ph.D. – Documentary Film Studies, summa cum laude**, University of Paris X, Nanterre, France  
Ph.D. Dissertation: *The Genesis of the Portrait: From Cave Art through Contemporary Film Portraits: A Case Study* (English title translation) – 400 pages.

**M.S. – Communication: Television, Film, Radio**, Newhouse School of Public Communications, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY  
*Authored and published about 35 articles in English and French in academic, business, and literary journals. Complete list available at <https://wendysmith.com/writer/business-writing/>*

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Rochester Institute of Technology, Communication Department**, Rochester, NY. 2021

- Teaching Film aesthetic and history class using online and group exercises, screenings, and lecture, incorporating aesthetic, social and technical issues.

**Film Studies Program in English Department**, SUNY at Brockport, Brockport, NY 2019-2020

- Taught Documentary Film class using online and group exercises, screenings and lecture, incorporating aesthetic, social and technical issues. Invited contemporary guest speakers for well received demonstrations.

**Monroe Community College, Visual and Performing Arts Department,  
Health and Physical Education Department**, Rochester, NY 2012-2020

- Taught Digital Video & Audio; organized and implemented structured computer lab training. Taught communication, stress management and wellness skills to diverse community college population of 35 students with substantial life issues.

**Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Geneva, NY**

2011-2013

- Taught Documentary Film History and Production using lecture, group exercises and screenings, incorporating theoretical, ethical and technical issues within a historical context. Students in undergraduate production class went on to renowned graduate film departments and many got their films into film festivals.

**Duke University Center for Documentary Studies (CDS), Durham, NC**

2010-2011, 2013-2015

- Developed workshops for filmmakers and professionals in certificate program focused on documentary camera techniques. Feedback directly from participants and director was resoundingly positive. Received excellent response from those working at PBS and the former assistant to Michael Moore as well.

**OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**

- Postproduction consultant, (2009, 2012), “The Last Experiment,” a social documentary that grapples with how one community deals with the challenges of global climate change.
- Directed, shot, edited, and produced films & videos from concept to distribution, including film currently in circulation in Europe (2000-2020).
- Honorable Mention, “Home Sweet Home”, which was honored at the *Lily Guernesey International Film and Video Festival* 2000 along with “How does your Garden Grow?” in 2003. For complete screening list, see <http://www.wendysmith.com/filmmaker/filmography/>
- Received *French government and NYS Regional Arts Council grants* and co-distribution (2007, 2008, and 2012).
- Conceived, shot, and produced “Perry in His Garden” shown at the *International Film Market, Cannes* and the *Cinema du Reel* in Paris, France.

**ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- Director & Editor at Syracuse University Summer Sessions.
- Video Production Trainer for Buffalo Cable Access Media, Buffalo, NY.
- Freelance Video Editor for United Nations Development Program.
- Video Technician for WTN News/ABC, New York, NY.