

TEACHING PORTFOLIO

BENJAMIN PINGEL

Communication Instructor

MARCH 8, 2016

ABOUT ME

I am a Communication instructor with some great, practical experience.

Hello. There are several things I'm passionate about- like teaching. Good communication. Design. Photography. My family. Music. Racquetball. And lasagna.

I have found my calling in the classroom- the sense of purpose I find there is overwhelming. I also enjoy creating things with a great message behind them.

My favorite part of teaching is seeing how these things I love impact the lives of my students time and time again.

PREPARED COURSES

These are a few courses I'm prepared to teach. That said, I enjoy learning new material and teaching it as well.

Interpersonal Communication
Group Dynamics
Public Speaking
Visual Communication
Photography
Online Media

EDUCATION

Masters of Arts in Communication and Leadership

EMPHASIS IN COLLEGE TEACHING

Gonzaga University Dec 2014 | 3.76 GPA

Thesis:

Website Development in Higher Education: Application of Social Presence Theory

Relevant Courses:

-Teaching & Pedagogy -Interpersonal Communication
-Servant Leadership -Intercultural Communication
-Research Methods -Organizational Communication

Bachelor of Arts in Communication

CLUSTERS IN WEB DESIGN & BUSINESS

Brigham Young University-Idaho April 2008 | 3.51 GPA

Relevant Courses:

-Web Design -HTML & CSS Coding
-PR Writing -Interpersonal Comm
-Group Dynamics -Public Speaking
-Advanced Visual Media

WORK EXPERIENCE

Visiting Faculty

Brigham Young University-Idaho

Sept '14-Present

Courses Taught:

-Comm130 Visual Media -Comm300 Digital Imaging
-Taught full teaching load in Communication Dept and mentored students
-Managed lab, TAs, and tutors for Visual courses in Fall 2014
-Assisted in redevelopment of Comm300 course and Department Website

Owner/Creative Director

DesignWire

Oct'12-Present

- Successfully built web & graphic design business from the ground up
- Worked with small business clients to determine their needs and develop strategic marketing plans
- Responsible for design and development of multiple concurrent projects
- Projects in Web design & development, photography, video production

KEY PROJECTS

GLF.LOCKER- *London, UK*

Website, app, & software design

PLANE TRUTH GOLF- *Chicago, IL*

Website, app, & software design

FAMILY: GOOD THINGS TO COME-

Rexburg, ID

Blog & website development, Social Media Marketing

PARAGON WEALTH- *Provo, UT*

Website design, Marketing material design & printing

EDWARDS LALONE TRAVEL-

Spokane, WA

Complete rebranding, marketing material design

MANUAL SOLUTIONS PHYSICAL

THERAPY- *Idaho Falls, ID*

Website development, Photography, Video Production

LITTLE SMILES PEDIATRIC DENTAL-

Post Falls, ID

Website development, Photography, Video Production, Marketing material design & printing

PROGRAM SKILLS

- Adobe Photoshop
- Adobe InDesign
- Adobe Illustrator
- Adobe Lightroom
- Adobe AfterEffects
- Adobe Premiere Pro
- Adobe Acrobat
- Microsoft PowerPoint
- Microsoft Word
- Microsoft Excel
- Microsoft Publisher
- Basic HTML/CSS
- Wordpress

WORK EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

Online Learning Coordinator

Brigham Young University-Idaho

Dec '13-Aug '14

- Coordinated communication across a large organization, including reports for the Academic Vice President
- Designed new websites for Online Learning and Curriculum Development, and developed a style guide for future marketing materials
- Coordinated multiple flows of projects, assisted managing dept personnel

Project Coordinator/Assistant Project Manager

Basso Construction

Mar '11-Dec '13

- Successfully coordinated schedules and budgets for over 15 highly visible projects ranging from budgets of \$50K to \$1.2M
- Designed and managed new company branding, including logo, website, business cards, and other marketing materials.

Marketing Director/Location Manager

Thrifty Car Rental of Spokane

Jul '08- Dec '10

- Increased team productivity by 25% over 9 month period
- Coordinated and created marketing materials and programs
- Created and implemented sales associate training program, and instructed all new employees

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Earned Eagle Scout award, age 16
- Served mission for LDS Church, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2002- 2004
- Maintained fluency in written and spoken Portuguese
- Enjoy racquetball, photography, spending time with family, and playing piano/organ

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BENJAMIN PINGEL

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BENJAMIN PINGEL Teaching Portfolio

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Benjamin Pingel

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My first job out of college was in a business where the focus was all about how much money the owners were making; I hated every minute of it. Conversely, I have worked in academic environments where the focus is on helping students become better prepared for the future, and I felt great fulfillment in reaching out, teaching, and helping students.

I have found that the more I learn, the more I am driven to become a better person. Learning is a personal journey each of us make. I don't believe I can single-handedly change the world; I can, however, influence others to improve their lives through better education.

ASPIRATIONS, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

I'm largely drawn to teaching because of a love of learning and particularly helping others to learn. For example, I especially find that in the field of communication there is more to learn, improve, and build upon in applications in our daily lives. Even though I may have taught principles of immediacy six months ago, I benefit from revisiting the material and find new ways to put them into practice. No matter how well we think we understand basic principles of communication, the improvement of speaking and listening skills is a lifelong project (Vangelisti, Daly, & Freidrich, 1999, p. 9).

Whether I am teaching interpersonal communication, visual media, or something else altogether, I benefit from the material taught and can find application in my life. My goals for my students are similar; students should be able to walk away from my classroom with material that can be practically applied in their lives. Similarly, my students should be well prepared to succeed in their chosen careers. All teaching and mentoring should lead to the end result of students beginning successful careers in and service in their community.

METHODS

I believe interactive learning is key, and can be accomplished in several ways. First, each student has something valuable to contribute to the conversation, a unique perspective to add, and a need to share their ideas. There is great power in students teaching each other. I see this accomplished through a student trying out a new concept in front of the class, with the class assisting that student through the process. I see students teaching each other in group critiques and projects. I see students sharing their perspective and experiences in classroom discussions.

I also find that interactive learning takes on new- and important- meaning when learning new concepts. I can talk up front until I'm blue in the face, but until my students do it themselves they will not achieve full understanding of the concepts I'm teaching.

I believe there is a lot of power in projects- both on group and individual levels. My group dynamics instructor really pushed us to be creative and think outside of the box; this took us to a whole new level of experiences. For some projects and presentations, students should be given basic guidelines and then set free to be creative in accomplishing that task. Not only does this help the students to personalize their learning in a way meaningful to them, but quite often they will go above and beyond the requirements in these situations. Kolb (1984) explained that students learn better when the material is brought to a "real-life" application.

I also recognize the need for a relationship between students and teachers. In my own coursework, I found greater learning when I took the time to talk to my instructor. Now with my own students, I want to also be available to my students- in class, office hours, emails, or whatever other means I can find- so that they can feel support and gain greater understanding in their own learning process. As I take the time to learn students' names and then call them by name, I have found they respond well and become more committed to the things we study together in class.

STUDENT-CENTERED TEACHING

While education is about preparing students for careers, it is also about developing students into leaders. I believe education should be approached in edifying all aspects of the student's life- be it physical, spiritual, emotional, or intellectual. I have been in classes where the teacher simply dumps information into students' heads; it was a flurry of concepts, theories and ideas that could be tested, and nothing more. This field, however, reaches out to me as something that is about becoming someone more. The key to this education is professors who are interested in their students- not just on the surface, but with real intent. My goal is to become that professor, to be one who genuinely wants students to grow.

Within each class period, I like to choose 2-3 students who need a little more attention. I call on them a little more, and find ways to compliment them. I love watching them become more engaged in the discussion and the course overall. An important element to this is learning students' names, which I try to do by the second or third class period at the latest.

REFERENCES

Kolb, D. A. (1984). *Experiential learning: Experience as the source of learning and development*. New Jersey: Prentice-Hall.

PREPARED COURSES

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I am prepared and especially interested in teaching the following courses, among others:

INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION

GROUP DYNAMICS

PUBLIC SPEAKING

VISUAL MEDIA

WEB DESIGN

PHOTOGRAPHY

Other areas of interest include:

ORGANIZATIONAL COMMUNICATION

INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION

SERVANT LEADERSHIP

PUBLIC RELATIONS

REFERENCES

BENJAMIN PINGEL

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The following are professional references who can attest to my qualifications:

ROBYN BERGSTROM

Faculty, Brigham Young University-Idaho

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JOEL JUDKINS

Faculty, Brigham Young University-Idaho

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ROB STEWART

Online Operations Director, Brigham Young University-Idaho

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MIKE CANNON

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INSTRUCTOR/COURSE RATINGS: FALL 2015

Overall Instructor Rating

Course	AVERAGE	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Exceptional
TOTAL				2	6	4	32	51
Your Average		Department Average			College Average		University Average	
6.30 **		5.86			5.87		5.85	

Note: *** = above 90 %tile; ** = between 30 %tile and 90 %tile; * = between 10 %tile and 30 %tile; blank = below 10 %tile.

Assessment is based on data from 1997-2003 course evaluation data.

Overall Course Rating

Course	AVERAGE	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Exceptional
TOTAL		2	1	2	6	12	41	29
Your Average		Department Average			College Average		University Average	
5.86 **		5.51			5.33		5.37	

Note: *** = above 90 %tile; ** = between 30 %tile and 90 %tile; * = between 10 %tile and 30 %tile; blank = below 10 %tile.

Assessment is based on data from 1997-2003 course evaluation data.

QUALITATIVE EVALUATIONS: FALL 2015

As this is a sample, a full PDF is available upon request.

Professor Pingel was very good at clearly stating expectations for the class and assignments. He also made himself very available for any type of assistance I needed throughout the semester.

I really liked how genuine Professor Pingel was. He made the course less scary. I learned a lot from this course.

Prof. Pingel is a very positive and enthusiastic instructor. He really shows his love for this type of work and wants others to love it as well.

He showed us examples from how he applies these things in his life and how we can do the same.

Professor Pingel showed a great enthusiasm for all of his student's work and dedication, as well as offering positive feedback and insight.

Professor Pingel knew his stuff. He knew what he was talking about, and you could see the passion he had behind Visual Media. I was grateful to him for sharing his insight on Visual Media in this class and sharing what he was passionate about. He was helpful, respectful, and spent a lot of time answering questions we may have had about our projects.

March 5, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of Ben Pingel who is applying for a position in your department. For the past three years, I have worked with him in both the Online department and as a temporary faculty member in the Communication department. I feel that I can serve as a valid reference for him.

Ben has taught several courses in our Communication Department. He adapts well to many situations, and has excellent ratings for each of these courses. He worked with me in co-teaching Group Dynamics when I was the Dean of the College. I have observed Ben's teaching and have found he relates well with students, and he has the ability to communicate difficult concepts in a clear and concise manner. He pushes his students to reach his high expectations but carefully nurtures them to perform. Not only is he adept at obtaining information but he also communicates that information well.

Ben is not afraid of hard work. He puts his heart and soul into all the things that he does. Ben has been an asset to our department, college and to the University in a number of ways. He finds solutions to problems on a regular basis and simplifies the operation.

I recommend him highly for this opportunity. Feel free to contact me for any further information.

Sincerely,



Robyn Bergstrom PhD
Professor of Communication
Brigham Young University-Idaho

March 9, 2016

Hiring Committee,

I have known Ben Pingel over the last few years. I have worked with him in various capacities. Ben and I worked closely together as administrators within Online Learning at BYU-Idaho where he worked closely with the managing director. Similarly, Ben developed a website that a colleague and I use for a business.

In each capacity Ben has demonstrated high energy, a strong work ethic, and great aptitude. With regard to Online Learning, among other responsibilities, Ben helped orchestrate a large departmental move from one part of campus building to another. He demonstrated an attention to detail and excellent communication skills during this project. Similarly, Ben played a key role in organizing our large annual online instructor conference. This planning required a lot of work, organization, and coordination with many departments and individuals. Ben did an excellent job with this role!

Similarly, Ben has developed and maintained a beautiful and functional website for our business. He has demonstrated aptitude, creativity, and promptness as he has worked closely with us regarding this site. He has also helped us design our eBooks and again has shown great skill.

Even more importantly, as a person, I have been impressed with Ben's character! He is honest, trustworthy, kind, and has a fun personality. As an HR professional who has hired countless individuals, I genuinely believe that Ben Pingel would be a valuable hire for your organization and I wholeheartedly recommend him.

Best,

Robert Stewart

Director of Online Operations

March 8, 2016

Dear Hiring Committee,

I am honored that Ben Pingel trusts my judgment in his skills and abilities as he is applying for a full-time faculty position at your department.

I have known Ben for the past three years. He began working in the Communication Department as a temporary one-year hire (that turned into two years) teaching COMM 300 Digital Imaging and COMM 130 Visual Media. In the course of three years, Ben has touched the lives of literally hundreds of students who can look back on their learning experience as positive. Below are a few comments from Ben's teacher evaluations I would love to share with you so you can see the caliber of teacher he is:

"Professor Pingel was not only a very caring instructor, but he truly desired for his students to succeed and took so much time to help me. He made all of the assignments clear, gave great feedback, and inspired me to work hard. I gained a stronger love and passion for graphic design through this course - enough to make it my emphasis. He is a greater instructor and you can easily tell he loves what he does and wants the same for his students."

"Professor Pingel did great at making us feel comfortable and when we had design critiques he never belittled us or made us feel like we weren't good. He was very encouraging and made me feel excited about the course. I knew I could ask questions and ask for help whenever I needed. I loved this class!"

"Professor Pingel is a wonderful teacher, and generous helper. He helps to explain things much better than the I-learn course pages can. The main thing I liked about this class was the opportunity to learn how to use the Adobe programs."

"I really like the personality of the teacher. He was there to help us learn, and to help us learn in any way that he could. It was great to be able to know Professor Pingel, as well as be able to see what I could learn."

From Rate My Professor (<http://www.ratemyprofessors.com/ShowRatings.jsp?tid=1990340>)

"Professor Pingel is a GREAT teacher. There is nothing bad to say about Professor Pingel. Yes the class is hard. You're in college. If you have to take this from anyone TAKE IT FROM HIM. He is so caring and passionate. I got an A in the class. Just do your work and meet with him and you can get a good grade."

"Professor Pingel is a good guy who knows his stuff. His approach to hands on learning is fantastic. It's fair grading and he has all the answers you need. I believe there are not many teachers who teach this class, but he does a stellar job. You may have to justify your creative decisions, but he is a willing listener. Great teacher."

I could just end with the phrase "Enough said...." but I believe you should find out for yourself. Ben will build and lift your department and teach and engage your students with the best learning environment possible.

I would personally trust Ben Pingel to teach my own college student. Ben is professional in every way and is good at what he does. I believe Ben will excel as a full-time faculty member when given the opportunity. I know his student evaluations reflect his teaching well. Students love his classes and the way he teaches. Hiring Ben as a full-time faculty member at your department would be a huge investment and you will not be disappointed.

If you have questions or need further clarification regarding Ben, please contact me. I would love to talk about Ben more.

Sincerely,



Delaina Scholes
Communication Department