

Blake K. Beaver

Marion L. Brittain Postdoctoral Fellow, Writing and Communication Program, Georgia Institute of Technology

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RESEARCH INTERESTS:

Dr. Beaver's research focuses on 20th- and 21st-century American television, film, and literature, as well as the intermedial relationships between them. In his scholarship, Dr. Beaver studies how these media stage broader cultural perceptions of and social attitudes toward technology, the family, advertising, and aesthetics. In his current book project, *Residues of the Televisual Family: Dramas of Digital Dominance*, Dr. Beaver examines how contemporary family dramas on U.S. television reflexively represent media technologies, depicting the effects of television's decline and digital media's ascendance on the American family.

TEACHING INTERESTS:

Aligned with Dr. Beaver's research, his writing and communication courses focus on themes such as the fictional representation of advertising and dysfunctional families in contemporary television. His courses use these themes as case studies through which students can learn about and practice academic, creative, and professional communication genres.

EDUCATION:

Ph.D. in Literature, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, 2024

M.A. in Literature, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, 2022

M.A. in Humanities, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, 2016

A.B. in Modern Culture & Media, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, 2014

RECENT SCHOLARLY OUTPUT:

1. "Smartphone Anxiety: *Succession*'s Technological Allegories." *JCMS: Journal of Cinema and Media Studies* 64, no. 4 (2025): 1-24.
<https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/cj.2025.a967267>.
2. "The Kardashians, Live! Fabricating Liveness in the Sex-Tape-Derived Reality Series." *Television & New Media* 25, no. 7 (2024): 673–88.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/15274764231221764>.
3. "Howard L. Kaye, Freud as a Social and Cultural Theorist." *Psychoanalysis and History* 24, no. 1 (April 2022): 114–118. <https://doi-org.proxy.lib.duke.edu/10.3366/pah.2022.0416>.
4. "Feel-Sad TV: Sadness Pornography in Contemporary Serials." *disClosure: A Journal of Social Theory* 28 (December 2019): 1–12.
<https://doi.org/10.13023/disclosure.28.01>.