As a researcher I attempt to better understand how developments in technology and its increased integration into our daily lives impact our writing and communication practices. Specifically, I explore the gap between theory in digital rhetoric and practice, where practice can be applying the knowledge explored in scholarship in composition classroom practices. My primary goal is to take the wealth of knowledge of scholarship theories and concepts in addition to my own research and apply them within the classroom.

In my dissertation “Rethinking Multimodality in First-Year Composition: Applying Theories of Digital Rhetoric, Procedural Rhetoric and Electracy to Multimodal Assignments​” I research how multimodal composition assignments are implemented in first-year composition curriculum. I identify digital multimodal composition as one area of digital composition that most closely aligns itself with theories in digital rhetoric, procedural rhetoric and electracy, which allowed me to investigate how the field of rhetoric and composition applies theories. As multimodal composition practices become more commonplace in first-year composition curriculum it is important to push the practice by applying concepts and ideas available to us under the vast umbrella of digital rhetoric.

* Add specific scholars → place your research in their realm
* Specifics about dissertation research
* Number of participants
* Grounded approach to analysis
* Goals as researcher, the who am I question →

The focus of my research is to how explore how first-year composition curriculum use multimodal or multimedia composition as a means to apply the majority of theoretical work in digital rhetoric, procedural rhetoric and electracy. Technological advancements continue to alter and/or create new ways of communication, and pedagogy regarding multimodality. My experience in the classroom influences my approach to research as I attempt to bridge the gap between theory and practice. Scholarship in digital rhetoric and digital humanities explore our relationship with technology and its influence on communication and writing practices in our daily lives. After reading scholarly works that address interfaces, networks, and \_\_\_\_\_\_ I found myself thinking about how to incorporate these concepts and theories into practice. (Need to share the info. Test the info, etc?)

Address your dissertation  how your dissertation influenced your conference presentations  talk about Tumblr as an example  talk about how you’re taking multimodality into a “new area”/contributing to the field (the so what? Of your dissertation)

take the wealth of knowledge/theories and apply it within the classroom