

**PHILIP N. MEYER**

**HOME** • 26 Hemlock Road • Hanover, NH 03755 • pmeyer6104@aol.com  
**WORK** • Vermont Law School • Chelsea Street • South Royalton, VT 05068  
(802) 831-1027 • pmeyer@vermontlaw.edu

---

**EMPLOYMENT**

---

- Professor of Law, Vermont Law School, 2007-present.
- Professor of Law and Director of Legal Writing, Vermont Law School, 1999-2007.
- Associate Professor of Law and Director of Legal Writing, Vermont Law School, 1992-1999.
- Adjunct Professor of Law, C.U.N.Y. School of Law, 1991-1992.
- Visiting Assistant Professor of Law, University of Connecticut School of Law, 1988-1991.
- Coordinator of Lawyering Skills Program, New York University School of Law, 1987-1988.
- Instructor, Lawyering Skills Program, New York University School of Law, 1985-1987.
- Instructor (Legal Skills and Civil Legal Clinic) University of Bridgeport School of Law, Bridgeport, CT, 1982-1984.
- Attorney, Slavitt, Connery & Vardamis, Norwalk, CT, 1981-1982.
- Instructor of Legal Writing, Vermont Law School, 1980-1981.
- Law Clerk, Office of the Vermont Defender General, Montpelier, VT, 1979-1980.

---

**LEGAL PUBLICATIONS**

---

**BOOKS**

**PHILIP N. MEYER, STORYTELLING FOR LAWYERS, (OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS 2014).**

**PHILIP N. MEYER (CO-AUTHOR WITH ANTHONY G. AMSTERDAM), MAKING OUR CLIENTS' STORIES HEARD: A GUIDE TO NARRATIVE STRATEGIES FOR APPELLATE AND POSTCONVICTION LAWYERS (ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE U.S. COURTS 2008 AND 2014).**

**PHILIP N. MEYER (CO-AUTHOR WITH PAPKE, HUANG, MENKEL-MEADOW, MILLER, ETC.), LAW AND POPULAR CULTURE: TEXT, NOTES, AND QUESTIONS (LEXIS/NEXIS – MATTHEW BENDER & CO.) (FIRST EDITION, 2007; SECOND EDITION 2012).**

**PHILIP N. MEYER, STORYTELLING FOR LAWYERS (CHINESE TRANSLATION), (OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS AND LAW PRESS OF CHINA/BEIJING, FORTHCOMING 2019).**

**ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS**

- “Law Students Go to the Movies: Using Popular Film to Teach Criminal Law to First-Year Law Students” (with Catlin Davis) Journal of Legal Education (forthcoming 2018).
- “Sounds of Silence: Uses of Silence in Oral Argument” American Bar Association Journal (forthcoming 2018)
- “Just Mercy Author Bryan Stevenson Tells Stories to Change the World,” American Bar Association Journal (May 2018)

- “Evoking Jurors’ Sympathetic Imagination is Key for Lawyer Storytellers,” American Bar Association Journal (February 2018).
- “How Serendipity, Star Wars, Sunstein and Constitutional Law Intersect,” American Bar Association Journal (December 2017).
- “Alas Poor Atticus! Trials Are Supposed to be All About Winning,” American Bar Association (August 2017).
- “Alternative Facts and the Law: Is Justice a Reality,” American Bar Association Journal (June 2017).
- “As Most-Cited Songwriter, Bob Dylan Brings Complex Poetry to Court Opinions,” American Bar Association Journal (April 2017).
- “Using Subtext to Guide Jurors to Recognize What A Trial is Really All About,” American Bar Association Journal (January 2017).
- “Lawyer Storytellers Break Free From the Clock to Deliver Persuasive Arguments,” American Bar Association Journal (November 2016)
- “Don’t Underestimate the Value of Comedy in the Courtroom,” American Bar Association Journal (September 2016).
- “What Hamilton Teaches Lawyers About Framing a Story,” American Bar Association Journal (August 2016).
- “What Adele and Taylor Swift Can Teach You About Finding Justice,” American Bar Association Journal (June 2016).
- “Solving Mysteries: Lawyers Play Detective in Legal Writing,” American Bar Association Journal (May 2016).
- “Images Can Be Powerful Storytelling Tools,” American Bar Association Journal (February 2016).
- “A Behavioral Economist’s Work Offers Lessons for Legal Storytellers About Judgment and Decision-Making,” American Bar Association Journal (January 2016).
- “Savvy Trial Lawyers Use the Art of Simulation to Help Jurors Perceive Witnesses’ Stories,” American Bar Association Journal (June 2015).
- “How Trials Are More Like Plot-Driven Movies Than Character-Driven Novels – and Why This Matters on Appeal,” American Bar Association Journal (August 2015).
- “Going Beyond the Evidence: A Skilled Lawyer Uses Narrative Persuasion to Deliver a Story to the Jury in a Complex Criminal Case,” American Bar Association Journal, February (2015).
- “Telling Unfinished Stories: How Lawyers Can Craft a Case Narrative to Speak to Jurists and Jurors Interest in Writing the Ending,” American Bar Association Journal, January (2015).
- “How to Shape Your Legal Storytelling,” American Bar Association Journal, October (2014).
- “Stealing Stories from the Movies,” American Bar Association Journal, August (2014).
- “A Law Practice Story,” Legal Studies Forum Vol. XXXV, No. 1, (2011)
- “Revisiting L.A. Law,” a chapter in “The Good, The Bad & The Ugly: Lawyers on Television” (Michael Asimow, Editor), A.B.A. Book Publishers (2009)

- “Are the Characters in A Death Penalty Brief Like the Characters in a Movie?” 32 Vermont Law Review 877 (2008)
- “Retelling the Darkest Story: Mystery, Suspense and Detectives in a Brief Written on Behalf of a Condemned Inmate,” 58 Mercer Law Review 665 (2007).
- “Desperate for Love”: Cinematic Influences Upon a Defendant’s Closing Argument To A Jury, (18 Vermont Law Review 721) reprinted in *Popular Culture and Law: International Library of Essays in Law and Society* (Sherwin and Sarat, editors), Ashgate Press (2006).
- “Adaptation: What Attorneys Representing Condemned Inmates Might Learn From Popular Storytellers About Narrative Persuasion,” in *Law and Popular Culture*, Oxford University Press (2005).
- “F. Lee Bailey,” entry in *Yale Biographical Dictionary of American Law*, Yale University Press (2009).
- “Using Films as Visual Texts in the First Year Criminal Law Course,” 28 Vermont Law Review 895 (2004).
- “The Darkness Visible: Litigation Stories and Lawrence Joseph’s Lawyerland,” 53 Syracuse Law Review 1311 (2003).
- “Making the Narrative Move: Observations Based Upon Reading Gerry Spence’s Closing Argument in *The Estate of Karen Silkwood v. Kerr-McGee, Inc.*,” 9 Clinical Law Review 229 (2002).
- “Why A Jury Trial Is More Like A Movie Than a Novel,” 28 Journal of Law and Society 133 (2001) (reprinted in *Law and Film* Oxford/Blackwell 2001).
- “Criminality, Obsessive Compulsion & Aesthetic Rage in ‘Straight Time,’” 25 Legal Studies Forum 441 (2001).
- “Voluntary Acts,” 24 Legal Studies Forum 369 (2000).
- “Desperate For Love III: Rethinking Closing Arguments as Stories,” 50 South Carolina Law Review 715 (1999).
- “Introduction to Symposium: Legal Writing, Narrative, and the Law,” 20 Legal Studies Forum 1 (1996).
- “The Frog Explodes: A Legal Writing Teacher’s Dream,” 20 Legal Studies Forum 137 (1996).
- “Desperate For Love 2: Further Reflections on the Interpenetration of Legal and Popular Storytelling in Closing Arguments to a Jury in A Complex Criminal Case,” Symposium -- Images of Law in the Visual Media, 30 University of San Francisco Law Review 931 (1996).
- “Confessions of a Legal Writing Teacher,” 46 Journal of Legal Education 27 (March 1996).
- “The Pathology of Practice,” a short story about practice, Symposium: Race, Gender, Power, and the Public Interest: Perspectives on Professionalism, 8 St. Thomas Law Review 215 (1995).

- "Desperate For Love: Analysis of a Defendant's Closing Argument to a Jury," 18 Vermont Law Review 721 (1994).
- "Will You Please Be Quiet, Please: Lawyers Learning to Listen to Stories," (Introduction to Law and Storytelling Symposium Issue), 18 Vermont Law Review 567 (1994).
- "Visual Literacy and the Legal Culture: Reading Film as Text in the Law School Setting," 17 The Legal Studies Forum 73 (1993).
- "Fingers Pointing at the Moon: New Perspectives on Teaching Legal Writing and Analysis," 25 Connecticut Law Review 777 (1993).
- "Law Students Go to the Movies," 24 Connecticut Law Review 893 (1992).
- "Convicts, Criminals, Prisoners, & Outlaws: A Course in Popular Storytelling," 42 Journal of Legal Education 129 (1992).
- "The Failure of Traditional Law Schools," Sunday Edition, New York Times, Sept. 1990.

---

#### PRESENTATIONS

---

- "Law Students Go to the Movies: Using Film Clips to Teach First Year Law Students Criminal Law to First Year Law Students," AALS Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, January 6, 2018.
- "Basic Narrative Theory" and "Writing Style in Death Penalty Briefs," Plenary Presentations, The Narrative Persuasion Institute, Cornell Law School, July 22-24, 2016.
- "Storytelling for The Plaintiffs' Employment Lawyer," plenary presentation, National Employment Lawyers Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, June 26, 2015.
- "Storytelling for Lawyers," "Justice and Injustice: The Consequences of Storytelling in the Courtroom," University of California, Irvine School of Law, January 24, 2015.
- "In Introduction to Basic Narrative Theory" and "Writing Style and Stylistic Choices in Appellate, Post-Conviction Briefs and in Mitigation Narratives," Plenary Presentations, The Narrative Persuasion Institute, Cornell Law School, September 5-7, 2014.
- "Lawyers as Storytellers," Vermont Bar Association, Literature and the Law Conference, June 15, 2012.
- "Why L.A. Law Still Matters," Symposium, Channeling Justice: Television and the Legal Profession, Stanford Law School, Stanford Center on the Legal Profession, May 6, 2011.
- "Mitigation Narratives," Plenary Opening Session, Eighth National Seminar on the Development and Integration of Mitigation Evidence, Habeas Assistance and Training Counsel Project, Chicago, Illinois, March 31, 2011.
- Excerpts from a book by Amsterdam and Meyer, "Making Our Clients' Stories Heard," Vermont Law School Symposium on Capital Punishment, February 11, 2011.

- Plenary Presentations, “Persuasion Institute: Advanced Training Program for Postconviction Litigators, Cornell Law School, September 11-13, 2009.
- “How Legal Rhetoric Shapes The Law,” Symposium Presentation, American University, Washington College of Law, November 2, 2007.
- “The Courtroom Trial in American Popular Culture,” Law and Popular Culture Symposium, Marquette University School of Law, November 1, 2007.
- “Visual and Narrative Persuasion in Complex Closing Arguments to Juries,” Loyola Los Angeles Law School,” October 13, 2007.
- Core Faculty, Persuasion Institute: Advanced Training Program Workshop in Narrative Construction for Postconviction Litigators, plenary presentations on “Casting, Characters and Scene,” and “Writing the Story,” Cornell Law School, September 28-30, 2007.
- “When Worlds Collide: Exploring Inter-Relationships and Collaboration Between Clinicians and Legal Writing Teachers in Teaching and Scholarship,” Program Moderator and Presenter, AALS Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning & Research, AALS Annual Meeting, Jan. 4, 2007.
- “What Every Lawyer Needs to Know About Narrative,” (Teaching Narrative Skills to Enhance Advocacy), Brooklyn Law School Symposium on Legal Writing, February 17, 2006.
- “Using Film as Visual Hypotheticals in Criminal Law,” AALS Section on Law and the Humanities, AALS Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., January 6, 2006.
- “An Analysis of Plotting in Leopold’s Locked Room,” and “Style and Techniques of Narrative Composition,” plenary presentations, Narrative Persuasion Institute: Advanced Training Program in Narrative Construction for Post-conviction Litigators, Philadelphia, Pa., September 23-25, 2005.
- “Plotting,” a chapter from a manuscript-in-progress by Amsterdam and Meyer, UCLA/IALS Sixth International Clinical Conference, Lake Arrowhead, October 29, 2005.
- “Using Narrative Theory & Psychological Theory in Advocacy on Behalf of Condemned Inmates,” Theoretical Perspectives on the Death Penalty, International Academy of Law and Mental Health, University of Paris Medical School, July 2005.
- “Narrative Persuasion,” AALS (Association of American Law Schools) Annual Meeting, Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning & Research, San Francisco, Ca., January 7, 2005.
- “Portrayal of Attorneys in Popular Culture and Mass Media,” Polestino Trial Advocacy Institute, St. John’s University School of Law, September 28, 2004.
- “Plot Structure in High Noon,” and “Writing the Story - Voice, Perspective, Techniques of Prose Composition,” (plenary presentations on plotting and style) Narrative Persuasion Institute: Advanced Training Program Workshop in Narrative Construction for Post-conviction Litigators, Philadelphia, Pa., September 17-19, 2004.
- “Using Films as Visual Texts in the First Year Criminal Law Course,” AALS Annual Meeting, Section on Law & Humanities, Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 3, 2004.

- “Adaptation: What Attorneys Representing Condemned Inmates Might Learn from Popular Storytellers About Narrative Persuasion,” International Symposium on Law and Popular Culture, University College London Faculty of Law, July 1, 2003.
- “Making the Story Good & Making the Story Work,” and “Narrative Elaboration in Post-Conviction Relief Practice on Behalf of Condemned Inmates,” Narrative Persuasion Institute Planning Session, New York University School of Law Clinical Law Center, May 15-17, 2003.
- “Making the Narrative Move: Observations Based Upon Reading Gerry Spence’s Closing Argument in *The Estate of Karen Silkwood v. Kerr McGee*,” Association for the Study of Law, Culture & the Humanities, Cardozo School of Law, March 8, 2003.
- “The Darkness Visible: Litigation Stories and Lawrence Joseph’s Lawyerland,” Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, Section on Law and the Humanities, Washington, D.C., January 5, 2003.
- “The Psychology of Closing Arguments,” XXVII International Congress of Law and Mental Health, International Academy of Law and Mental Health, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands, July 8, 2002.
- “Teaching Artifacts from Law and Popular Culture on Display,” Association for the Study of Law, Culture and the Humanities, Annual Meeting, University of Pennsylvania School of Law, March 9, 2002.
- “Moving Beyond the Argument: Effective Use of Narrative in Closing Arguments,” U.C.L.A. School of Law / University of London Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Fifth International Conference on Problem Solving in Clinical Legal Education, November 11, 2001.
- “Trial Attorney as Hero or Narrative Trickster,” “Law and Media Panel,” Columbia University School of Law, May 6, 2000.
- “Literary Interpretations of Closing Arguments,” American Popular Cultural Association, April 22, 2000.
- “Popular Cultural Influences Upon Closing Arguments in Notorious Cases,” Working Group on Law, Culture and the Humanities, Wake Forest University School of Law, March, 1999.
- “Law and Narrative,” Faculty Colloquium, New College, Oxford, October 1999.
- “Critical Reasoning: Reading, Writing and Thinking,” Mini-Workshop, Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, January 9, 1999.
- “Converting Arguments Into Stories: An Interdisciplinary Perspective,” Working Group on Law, Culture and the Humanities, Georgetown Law School, March 28, 1998.
- “Closing Arguments: Converting Inferential Arguments into Narratives,” U.C.L.A. School of Law and Institute for Advanced Studies, 4th International Clinical Conference, October 25, 1997.
- “Legal Writing Scholarship,” plenary session, Association of Legal Writing Directors (July 1997).
- “Writing to Learn: Uses of Introspective Narrative,” Presenter, Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning & Research (January 6, 1997).

- “An Untitled Work-in-Progress,” Clausen Lecturer, Clausen Lecture & Presentation Series, Western New England School of Law (September 19, 1996).
- “The Blurred Boundary Between Law and Popular Culture,” Symposium: Picturing Justice: Images of Law and Lawyers in the Visual Media, University of San Francisco School of Law (March 23, 1996).
- “Desperate for Love II: Further Reflections Upon Closing Arguments to a Jury in a Complex Criminal Case,” Dartmouth College, Faculty Colloquium, (February 1, 1996).
- "The Place of Narrative," Panel Moderator, Section on Legal Writing and Reasoning, Annual Meeting, Association of American Law Schools, San Antonio, (January 1996).
- "Law, Class, & Film," Panel Chair and presenter, "Class and Identity: The Politics of Class and the Construction of Identity," Critical Legal Studies Network Conference, Georgetown Law Center and American University School of Law (March 11, 1995).
- "Analysis of A Defendant's Closing Argument to A Jury," Law and Storytelling Conference, Vermont Law School (November 4, 1993).
- "Teaching Legal Analysis," Presentation, Section on Legal Writing and Reasoning, AALS Annual Meeting (January 6, 1993).

---



---

#### **JOURNAL SYMPOSIA (EDITOR AND/OR PRIMARY ORGANIZER)**

---



---

- “Law in Film, Film in Law,” 28 Vermont Law Review (2004) (articles from the Section on Law and the Humanities of the AALS in 2004).
- Guest Editor, "Symposium: Legal Writing, Narrative & The Law," 20 Legal Studies Forum (1996).
- "Lawyers as Storytellers," 18 Vermont Law Review (1994).

---



---

#### **EDITORIAL BOARDS AND AALS POSITIONS**

---



---

- Chair, Section of Law and the Humanities, AALS, 2005-2006.
- Program Chair, Section of Law and the Humanities, AALS, 2004-2005.
- Associate Editor, Legal Studies Forum, 1996-1998.

---



---

#### **COURSES TAUGHT**

---



---

Criminal Law • Torts • Writing in Criminal Law • Capital Punishment • Lawyering Skills  
Law & Literature and Law & Popular Culture • Trial Advocacy • Civil Legal Clinic

---



---

#### **AWARDS**

---



---

- Richard Brooks Faculty Scholarship Award, 2014.
- Selected as Graduation Banquet Speaker and Awarded Citation for Teaching Excellence, University of Connecticut School of Law, 1990.
- Mary Roberts Rinehart Foundation Grant in Fiction, 1977.
- Published writer of short stories.

---

---

**EDUCATION**

---

---

LL.M., 1985, Columbia University School of Law.  
J.D., 1980, Vermont Law School.  
M.F.A., 1973, The Writers' Workshop at The University of Iowa.  
B.A., 1971, Brandeis University.

---

---

**BAR ADMISSIONS**

---

---

Connecticut, 1980 • Federal District Court, Connecticut, 1980.