

# DR. LESLIE HAHNER

COMMUNICATION STRATEGIST



## CONTACT

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## SKILLS

Research Project Direction	● ● ● ● ●
Strategic Communication	● ● ● ● ●
Digital Strategy/Messaging	● ● ● ● ●
Defense Innovation	● ● ● ● ●
R/Python/Data Visualization	● ● ● ● ●
Disciplined Teleworker	● ● ● ● ●

## EXPERTISE

- Disinformation Resistance
- Influence and Narrative Strategies
- Information Operations
- Strategic Communication
- Digital Network Weaponization
- Impacts of Disinformation on NatSec
- Curricula and Program Design
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging Program Implementation
- Counter-Radicalization Strategy

## SERVICE

- Waco Diaper Bank Board Member
- Advisor on the President's Diversity Council
- Volunteer for the Women's March
- Develop curricula in counter-disinformation for local nonprofits
- Chair of 12 person Bias Response Team
- Women and Gender Studies Advisory Board

## PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

I am an award-winning researcher, teacher, and analyst with a keen grasp of disinformation and communication impacts. I am also a consultant and am often requested by-name. I am passionate about providing clients with actionable communication and influence strategies that understand the changing character of geopolitical competition.

## EXPERIENCE

### Professor

#### Baylor University | August 2008 - Present

- Senior Faculty member responsible for designing and teaching undergraduate and graduate courses on disinformation and visual communication
- Authored over 20 articles and delivered 50 presentations on strategic influence
- Lead researcher on strategic communication research projects
- Graduate program director in charge of over 30 students
- Lead researcher on multimillion dollar grant funding digital influence research

### Consultant

#### 2015-PRESENT

- Developed the Digital Defenders Program for the Women's March Organization
- Served as expert and strategic advisor for organizations on how digital media impact organizational, political and communication strategies
- Provide expert analysis to U.S. House of Representatives on how visual strategies influence and radicalize individuals and groups
- Created teaching resources on digital influence strategies

## EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

### The University of Iowa

#### PhD Communication | December 2005

Degree in Communication  
Expertise in rhetoric/strategic communication/visual communication

## AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- Winans & Wichelns Memorial Award for Distinguished Scholarship
- Hochmuth Nichols Award for Outstanding Scholarship
- Diane S. Hope Book of the Year
- Finalist, University-Wide Educator of the Year Contest
- Educator of the Year, Lambda Pi Eta
- Most caring and effective educator during the Covid-19 pandemic

## FEATURED IN

- *The Washington Post*
- *The Atlantic*
- *Chicago Tribune*
- *Patheos*
- *Houston Chronicle*
- *USA Today*
- *Salon.com*
- *Kansas City Star*
- Brut Media
- New Books Network
- Cable Street
- The Conversation