Hunched and Harried: The Value of Mobile Device Distraction

Ethan Tussey, Assistant Professor of Film and Media, Georgia State University

Wednesday, March 7
3:00 PM, 2135 SSMS Building

This talk will describe how mobile devices make our in-between moments valuable to media companies while also providing a sense of control and connection. Just as television reoriented our relationship with domestic spaces, mobile devices have taken over the interstitial spaces of our everyday lives. Tussey argues that these in-between moments have created a procrastination economy, an opportunity for entertainment companies to create products, apps, platforms, subscription services, micropayments, and interactive opportunities that monetize our distractions.

Ethan Tussey (Ph.D. University of California – Santa Barbara, 2012) is an Assistant Professor of Film and Media at Georgia State University. His work explores the relationship between the entertainment industry and the digitally empowered public. His book, The Procrastination Economy: The Big Business of Downtime, has been published recently by NYU Press.