

# The Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Houston presents...

## The CIVE 6111 Graduate Seminar Series

### Telling the technical story

**Chad Wilson, Ph.D.**

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Cullen College of Engineering  
University of Houston

**Friday, March 9, 2018**

2:45PM-3:45PM

Classroom Business Building (CBB) Room 106

#### **Abstract**

This presentation analyzes journal article conventions to see how they tell their technical stories. First, we will review the introduction, methodology, results, and discussion (IMRaD) sections of typical journal articles. Then we will relate the IMRaD conventions to storytelling methods such as Randy Olson's "and, but, therefore" method; Joseph Campbell's the hero's journey; and the situation, complication, resolution method. Along the way, we will examine published civil engineering journal articles to see how professionals use those methods to tell their technical stories.

#### **Bio**

Chad Wilson is the Director of Technical Communications for the College of Engineering where he works for the Dean's Office directing all sections of the undergraduate course ENGI 2304: Technical Communications for Engineers. His BA is in technical writing, and his PhD is in 19th Century British Literature. His current research interests revolve around popular culture, and he is currently researching how the television version of Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale* and Ernest Cline's novel, *Ready Player One*, anticipated our current political climate.