Emerging through new forms of electronic communication within a company, it has proven to be a rich framework for looking at the role of genres in workplace interactions. A study by Orlikowski and Yates (1994), for example, uses Genre Theory to analyze the role of genres which serve as a platform for both creating an understanding based on shared expectations and also shaping the social context.

**Application of Genre Theory.** Because RGS connects genres directly to the situations in which they are used, it has proven to be a rich framework for looking at the role of genres in workplace interactions. While the book examines various traditions that have shaped the field's understanding of and approaches to genre, what connects these various approaches is a commitment to the idea that genres reflect and coordinate social ways of knowing and acting in the world and thus provide valuable means of researching how texts function in various contexts and teaching students how to act meaningfully in multiple contexts.
The book presents a critical overview of the rich body of scholarship that has informed a "genre turn" in Rhetoric and Composition, including a range of interdisciplinary perspectives from rhetorical theory, applied linguistics, sociology, philosophy, cognitive psychology, and literary theory. Since part of what defines a genre is its placement within a system of genre relations within and between activity systems, genres cannot be defined or taught only through their formal features (103).