

Christopher A. Bail

Duke University
225 Gross Hall
Durham, NC 27708

Email: christopher.bail@duke.edu
Homepage: chrisbail.net
Threads: [@chris_bail_duke](https://twitter.com/chris_bail_duke)
Github: github.com/cbail

Academic Employment

Professor of Sociology, Computer Science, Political Science, and Public Policy, Duke University, 2019-

- *Director, Society-Centered AI Initiative at Duke*, 2024-
- *Founding Director, Summer Institutes in Computational Social Science*, 2017-
- *Founding Director, Duke Polarization Lab*, 2018-
- *Faculty, Masters in Interdisciplinary Data Science*, 2017-2020
- *Science Core Director, Duke Population Research Institute*, 2018-2020
- *Affiliate, Duke Network Analysis Center*, 2015-2020

Visiting Professor, Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques (Paris), 2024

Distinguished Visiting Scholar, Stanford University Graduate School of Business, 2023

Visiting Professor, University of Amsterdam, 2023

Visiting Professor, Venice International University, 2019-2020

Douglas and Ellen Lowey Associate Professor of Sociology and Public Policy, Duke University, 2016-2019

Assistant Professor of Sociology, Duke University, 2015-2016

Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2013-2015

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Scholar, University of Michigan, 2011-2013

Education

Ph.D. Sociology, Harvard University, 2003-2011

Visiting Scholar, London School of Economics and Political Science, 2008

Visiting Scholar, Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques (Paris), 2005

B.A. Government and French (Summa Cum Laude), Bowdoin College, 1998-2002

Distinctions

Global Trends Award (for "Simulating Social Media with Large Language Models"), 2024

Marschak Lecture, University of California, Los Angeles, 2024

Finalist, OpenAI Hackathon, South Park Commons, 2024

Nominated for Directorship of National Science Foundation's Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate, 2023

AISSR Distinguished Lecture, University of Amsterdam, 2023

John Armstrong Lecture in Media and Democracy, Furman College, 2023

Elected Member, Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society, 2022

Science Breakthrough of the Year Winner, Falling Walls Foundation, 2021

One of the Five Best Non-Fiction Books of the Year (for *Breaking the Social Media Prism*), Five Books, 2021

Distinguished Lecturer, National Science Foundation's Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate, 2021

Nominated for the Next Big Idea Club (for *Breaking the Social Media Prism*), 2021

Top 5% of Teachers at Duke, 2020

Paul Lazarsfeld Award, Political Communication Section, American Political Science Association (for "Exposure to Opposing Views can Increase Political Polarization: Evidence from a Large-Scale Field Experiment on Social Media"), 2019

Thomas Langford Lectureship Award, (for a Duke faculty member who embodies the highest values of scholarship, teaching, and collegiality), 2019

Guggenheim Fellow, 2018

Carnegie Fellow, 2017-2018

Elected Member, Sociological Research Association, 2018

Best Article Award, Communication, Information, Technologies, and Media Sociology Section, American Sociological Association (for "Channeling Hearts and Minds: Cognitive-Emotional Currents and Public Deliberation on Social Media"), 2018

Honorable Mention, Distinguished Contribution to Political Sociology Award, Political Sociology Section, American Sociological Association (for "Channeling Hearts and Minds: Cognitive-Emotional Currents and Public Deliberation on Social Media"), 2018

Outstanding Book Award, Association for Research on Non-Profit Organizations and Voluntary Action (for *Terrified: How Anti-Muslim Fringe Organizations Became Mainstream*), 2016

Distinguished Book Award, Religion Section, American Sociological Association (for *Terrified: How Anti-Muslim Fringe Organizations Became Mainstream*), 2016

Honorable Mention, Charles Tilly Award for Best Book, Collective Behavior and Social Movements Section, American Sociological Association (for *Terrified: How Anti-Muslim Fringe Organizations Became Mainstream*), 2016

Junior Theorist Award (for scholar less than 8 years post-PhD), Theory Section, American Sociological Association, 2015

Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Award, Political Sociology Section, American Sociological Association (for "The Fringe Effect: Civil Society Organizations and the Evolution of Media Discourse about Islam since the September 11th Attacks"), 2012

Best Published Article Award, Communication and Information Technologies Section, American Sociological Association (for "The Fringe Effect: Civil Society Organizations and the Evolution of Media Discourse about Islam since the September 11th Attacks"), 2012

Honorable Mention, Best Article Award, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (for "The Fringe Effect: Civil Society Organizations and the Evolution of Media Discourse about Islam since the September 11th Attacks"), 2012

Distinction on Oral Examination, Department of Sociology, Harvard University, 2006

Certificate of Excellence in Teaching, Derek Bok Center for Teaching, Harvard University, 2006

Distinction on PhD Qualifying Paper, Department of Sociology, Harvard University, 2005

Certificate of Excellence in Teaching, Derek Bok Center for Teaching, Harvard University, 2005

Philo Sherman Bennet Award for Best Senior Thesis, Department of Government, Bowdoin College, 2002

Phi Beta Kappa, Bowdoin College, 2002

Grants and Fellowships

External Research Support

John Templeton Foundation. "Can AI Agents Increase Open-Mindedness and Facilitate Productive Dialogue about Social Problems?" \$1,744,650 (2026-2029)

Templeton World Charity Foundation. "Tech for Open Minds: Training and Research Institutes to Incubate New Solutions to Polarization" \$1,313,397 (2025-2028)

Russell Sage Foundation. "Enhancing the infrastructure of the American Voices Project, an experimental public-use platform for collecting qualitative data." (Co-Investigator with David Grusky, Kathy Edin, and Corey Fields) \$200,000, 2025

United States Army Research Office. "Randomized Controlled Trials to Examine the Impact of Generative AI on Public Trust" (Co-Investigator with Alexander Volfovsky and Sunshine Hillygus), \$4,060,000, 2024-2027

National Science Foundation, "A Cross-National Study to Promote Democratic Dialogue on Social Media using Generative Artificial Intelligence" (Principal Investigator \$200,000), 2024

Templeton World Charity Foundation, "Training the Next Generation of Polarization Scholars" (Principal Investigator \$260,000), 2024

Project Liberty Fellow, "Redesigning Social Media to Incentivize Prosocial Behavior," \$70,000, 2024

National Science Foundation, "The Computational Social Science Network (CS2N)" (Principal Investigator with Duncan Watts \$425,000), 2023

John F. Templeton Foundation, "Can Social Media Promote Intellectual Humility?" (Principal Investigator with Sunshine Hillygus and Alexander Volfovsky \$1,856,673), 2023-2026

Google Jigsaw, "Social Media and Political Polarization" (Principal Investigator \$200,000), 2022

Twitter Health, "Incentivizing Positive Behaviors on Social Media" (Principal Investigator \$75,000), 2022

Russell Sage Foundation "The Summer Institute in Computational Social Science, 2022" (Principal Investigator \$175,000), 2022

Social Science Research Council "Summer Institutes in Computational Social Science, 2022" (Principal Investigator \$40,000, 2022

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation "The Summer Institutes in Computational Social Science, 2020-2023" 2019 (Principal Investigator with Matthew J. Salganik \$496,004)

Russell Sage Foundation "The Summer Institute in Computational Social Science, 2021" (Co-Principal Investigator with Matthew J. Salganik \$175,000)

Russell Sage Foundation "The Summer Institute in Computational Social Science, 2020" (Co-Principal Investigator with Matthew J. Salganik \$175,000)

Facebook Research Awards, "The Summer Institutes in Computational Social Science, 2020" (Co-Principal Investigator with Matthew J. Salganik \$100,000)

Social Science Research Council, "The Summer Institutes in Computational Social Science, (Co-Principal Investigator with Matthew J. Salganik 2020 \$30,000)

Facebook Foundational Research Awards, "Ideological Distance, Identity Cues, and Affective Political Polarization," (Principal Investigator with Alexander Volfovsky, \$150,000)

National Science Foundation, "Reproducible Visual Analysis of Multivariate Networks" 2018-2021 (Consultant, with Miriah Meyer, Alexander Lex, Bryan Jones, Luke Harmon, Jeff Baumes, and Curtis Lisle, \$1,899,694)

Sloan Foundation, "Expanding the Summer Institutes in Computational Social Science Worldwide", 2018 (Principal Investigator with Matthew J. Salganik \$385,631)

National Science Foundation, "A Mixed-Method Field Experiment Designed to Disrupt Social Media Echo Cham-

bers", 2018 (Principal Investigator \$224,000)

Russell Sage Foundation, "Summer Institute in Computational Social Science, 2018." (Co-Principal Investigator, with Matthew J. Salganik \$150,000)

Russell Sage Foundation, "Political Polarization, Social Media Echo Chambers, and American Public Opinion about Inequality, Race, and Immigration." 2017 (Co-Principal Investigator, with Mary Beth Fallin Hunzaker \$49,299)

National Institutes of Health, "Duke Population Research Institute P2C Grant," 2017-2019 (Co-Principal Investigator, with M. Giovanna Merli and James Moody \$1,031,829)

Carnegie Foundation, "Countering Violent Extremism on Social Media via Computational Social Science." 2017 (Principal Investigator \$200,000)

Russell Sage Foundation, "Summer Institute in Computational Social Science, 2017." (Co-Principal Investigator, with Matthew J. Salganik \$150,000)

National Science Foundation, "Civil Society Organizations, Social Media, and Public Attention" 2015 (Principal Investigator, \$143,989)

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, "Examining the role of culture in public understanding of Autism Spectrum Disorders," 2014 (Principal Investigator, \$20,000)

Amazon Education Research Grant, "Using Computational Methods to Study the Viral Spread of Social Media Messages," 2014 (Principal Investigator, \$10,000)

Google Maps Engine Grant, Google, 2013 (Paid in Computing Resources)

Dissertation Improvement Grant, National Science Foundation, 2009 (\$10,000)

National Science Foundation Integrated Graduate Education and Research Training Dissertation Grant, 2004-2008 (\$30,000)

German Marshall Fund Fellowship, U.S. Council for European Studies, 2005 (\$6,000)

Dissertation Fellowship, Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy, 2008 (\$5,000)

Internal Research Support

Duke Interdisciplinary Programs and Strategic Initiatives, "Integrated Graduate Education Collaborative in Society-Centered-AI" (Principal Investigator, \$2,435,000)

Duke Polarization Lab, Provost's "Together Duke" Initiative, (Principal Investigator, \$259,000)

Duke Bass Connections (with James Moody and Greg Appelbaum), "Scientific Social Network Analysis Project," (Co-Investigator, \$25,000)

Duke Population Research Institute & Carolina Population Center, "Collaborative Summer in Residence Program Grant," (\$5,000)

Junior Faculty Development Grant, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (Co-Investigator, \$7,500)

Seed Grant, Odum Institute, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (with Kenneth Andrews, Neal Caren, Charles Kurzman, and Andrew Perrin), 2012-2013 (\$13,000)

John L. Loeb Fellowship, Harvard Divinity School, 2009 (\$10,000)

Dissertation Research Fellowship, Center for American Political Studies, Harvard University, 2008 (\$21,830)

Mid-Dissertation Fellowship, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University, 2008 (\$3,000)

European Network on Inequality Fellowship, Malcolm Weiner Center for Social Policy, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, 2005 (\$6,500)

Publications

* denotes post-doc or graduate student co-author

Books

Christopher A. Bail. 2021. *Breaking the Social Media Prism: How to Make our Platforms less Polarizing* Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press ([link](#)), ([video](#))

- Reviewed in *Science* ([link](#)), *The New York Times* ([link](#)), *Le Monde* ([link](#)), *Publisher's Weekly* ([link](#)), *The Economist* ([link](#)), *Library Journal* ([link](#)), *Salon* ([link](#)), *Kirkus Reviews* ([link](#)), *American Journal of Psychology* ([link](#)), *American Journal of Sociology* ([link](#)), *Inside Higher Ed* ([link](#)), *Times Higher Education* ([link](#)), *La Vie des Idées* ([link](#)), *Social Forces* ([link](#)), *Sociology* ([link](#)), *New Media and Society* ([link](#)), *Information, Community, and Society* ([link](#)), *Revue française de science politique* ([link](#)), *Washington Examiner* ([link](#)), *Protocol* ([link](#)), *Life in the Gospel*, ([link](#)), *The Hindu* ([link](#)), *Merion West* ([link](#)), *FaithTech* ([link](#)), *Eternity News* ([link](#)), *Medien & Kommunikationswissenschaft* ([link](#)) *Philosophie Magazine*, ([link](#)) *New Atlantis* ([link](#)) *Les Echos* ([link](#)) *Times of UP* ([link](#)) *Portal für Politikwissenschaft* ([link](#)) *Réseaux* ([link](#))

- Winner, Science Breakthrough of the Year, *Falling Walls Foundation*

- Academic Best Seller, *Library Journal*

- Best Books of the Year, *Five Books*, *Anxious Bench*

- Notable Book, *Behavioral Science Magazine*

- Nominated for *Next Big Idea Club*

- Documentary Film ([link](#))

- Translations: Japanese, French, Chinese, Korean

Mohr, John and Christopher A. Bail, Margaret Frye, Omar Lizardo, Jennifer Lena, Terence McDonnell, Ann Mische, Iddo Tavory, Frederick Wherry. 2020. *Measuring Culture*. New York, NY: Columbia University Press ([link](#))

- Reviewed in *Administrative Science Quarterly* ([link](#)), *Social Forces* ([link](#)), *Contemporary Sociology* ([link](#)), *Organization Studies* ([link](#)), *Canadian Journal of Sociology* ([link](#)), *Tijdschrift Sociologie* ([link](#)),

Bail, Christopher A. 2015. *Terrified: How Anti-Muslim Fringe Organizations Became Mainstream*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press ([link](#)), ([op-ed](#))

- Reviewed in *American Journal of Sociology* ([link](#)), *Administrative Science Quarterly* ([link](#)), *Boston Review* ([link](#)), *Contemporary Sociology* ([link](#)), *Choice* ([link](#)) *The American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences* ([link](#)), *Contexts* ([link](#)), *International Journal of Press/Politics* ([link](#)), *Political Science Quarterly* ([link](#)), *ReOrient* ([link](#)), *Salon* ([link](#))

- *Author Meets Critics Panel*, 2016 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting

- Outstanding Book Award, Association for Research on Non-Profit Organizations and Voluntary Action, 2016

- Distinguished Book Award, Religion Section, American Sociological Association, 2016

- Honorable Mention, Charles Tilly Award for Best Book, Collective Behavior and Social Movements Section, American Sociological Association, 2016

Works in Progress

Rochford, Ben,* Michelle Qiu,* Cathy Lee,* Sunshine Hillygus, Alexander Volfovsky, Christopher Bail. 2025. "A Sociological Turing Test: Social Identity Cues Shape Who is Classified as Human Online" *Open Science Framework* ([link](#))

Tierney, Graham,* Srikar Katta,* Christopher Bail, Sunshine Hillygus, Alexander Volfovsky. 2025. "A Design-based Solution for Causal Inference with Text: Can a Language Model Be Too Large?" *ArXiv* ([link](#))

Törnberg, Petter, Diliara Valeeva, Justus Uitermark, and Christopher Bail. 2023. "Simulating Social Media Using Large Language Models to Evaluate Alternative News Feed Algorithms." *ArXiv* ([link](#))

Van Loon, Austin*, Srikar Katta*, Christopher Bail, Sunshine Hillygus, Alexander Volfovsky. 2024. "Designing Social Media to Promote Productive Political Dialogue on a New Research Platform." *SocArXiv* ([link](#))

Falkenberg, Max* and Matteo Cinelli, Alessandro Galeazzi, Christopher A. Bail, Rosa M. Benito, Axel Bruns, Anatoliy Gruzd, David Lazer, Jae K. Lee, Kikuko Nagayoshi, David G. Rand, Antonio Scala, Alexandra Siegel, Sander van der Linden, Onur Varol, Ingmar Weber, Magdalena Wojcieszak, Fabiana Zollo, Andrea Baronchelli, Walter Quattrociocchi. 2024. "Is the World Really Becoming more Divided?" *ArXiv* ([link](#))

Bail, Christopher, Sunshine Hillygus, Alexander Volfovsky, Max Allamong*, Fatima Alqabandi*, Diana M.E. Jordan*, Graham Tierney*, Christina Tucker*, Andrew Trexler*, Austin van Loon.* 2023. "Do We Need a Social Media Accelerator?" *SocArXiv* ([link](#))

Alqabandi, Fatima*, Graham Tierney*, Christopher A. Bail, D. Sunshine Hillygus, and Alexander Volfovsky. 2023. "Experiments offering social media users the choice to avoid toxic political content" *SocArXiv* ([link](#))

Allamong Max*, Andrew Trexler*, Fatima Alqabandi*, Christopher Bail, Sunshine Hillygus, and Alexander Volfovsky. 2024. "Outnumbered Online: An Experiment on Partisan Imbalance in a Dynamic Social Media Environment." *Open Science Framework Preprints* ([link](#))

Tierney, Graham*, Christopher A. Bail, Alexander Volfovsky. "Author Clustering and Topic Estimation for Short Texts" *arXiv* ([link](#))

Shen, Yicheng*, Christopher A. Bail, and Alexander Volfovsky. 2025. "Enhancing Joint Ideal Point Estimation Strategies with Twitter Social Networks and Text Data." *Revise and Resubmit, Network Science*

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles and Conference Proceedings

Allamong Max*, Christopher Bail, Sunshine Hillygus, and Alexander Volfovsky. Forthcoming. "The Causal Effects of Incivility in Social Media Discussions." *American Journal of Political Science* ([link](#))

Nicolo Pagan, Petter Törnberg, Christopher Bail, Aniko Hannak, Christopher Barrie. 2025. "Can LLMs Imitate Social Media Dialogue? Techniques for calibration and BERT-based Turing-Test" *Social Sim* ([link](#))

Dorr, Timothy*, Trisha Nagpal*, Duncan Watts, and Christopher Bail. 2025. "A research agenda for encouraging prosocial behavior on social media." *Nature Human Behavior*, Vol 9, 441-449 ([link](#))

Bail, Christopher. 2024. "Can Generative Artificial Intelligence Improve Social Science Research?" 2024. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, Vol 121, No. 21 ([link](#))

- Chinese Translation ([link](#))

Kapoor, Sayash*, and Emily Cantrell*, Kenny Peng*, Thanh Hien Pham, Christopher A. Bail, Odd Erik Gunderesen, Jake M. Hofman, Jessica Hullman, Michael A. Lones, Momin M. Malik, Priyanka Nanayakkara, Russell A. Poldrack, Inioluwa Deborah Raji, Michael Roberts, Matthew J. Salganik, Marta Serra-Garcia, Brandon M. Stewart, Gilles Vandewiele Arvind Narayanan. 2024. "REFORMS: Reporting, Standards for Machine Learning Based Science" *Science Advances*, Vol 10, No. 18 ([link](#))

Argyle, Lisa, Christopher A. Bail, and Ethan Busby, Joshua Gubler, Thomas Howe*, Christopher Rytting*, Taylor Sorensen*, and David Wingate. forthcoming 2023. "Leveraging Artificial Intelligence for Democratic Discourse: Chat Interventions can Improve Online Political Conversations at Scale." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* ([link](#))

Combs, Aidan*, Graham Tierney*, Fatima Alqabandi*, Devin Cornell*, Gabriel Varela*, Andrés Castro Araújo*, Lisa P. Argyle, Christopher A. Bail, Alexander Volfovsky. 2023. "Perceived gender and political persuasion: a social media field experiment during the 2020 US Democratic presidential primary election" *Nature Scientific Reports* ([link](#))

Combs, Aidan* and Graham Tierney*, Brian Guay*, Friedolin Merhout*, Christopher A. Bail, D. Sunshine Hillygus, Alexander Volfovsky. 2023. "Reducing political polarization in the United States with a mobile chat platform." *Nature Human Behavior* ([link](#)) ([blog post](#))

Jahani, Eaman* and Natalie Gallagher*, Friedolin Merhout*, Nicolo Cavalli*, Douglas Guilbeault*, Yan Leng*, and Christopher A. Bail. 2022. "An Online experiment during the 2020 US-Iran Crisis shows that exposure to

common enemies can increase political polarization." *Nature Scientific Reports* ([link](#))

Hartman, Rachel*, Will Blakely*, Jake Womick*, Christopher A. Bail, Eli Finkel, Hahrie Han, John Sarrouf, Juliana Schroeder, Paschal Sheeran, Jay J. Van Bavel, Robb Willer, Kurt Gray, 2022. "Interventions to Reduce Partisan Animosity: A Systematic Review." *Nature Human Behavior*, 38 ([link](#))

Eli J. Finkel, and Christopher A. Bail, Mina Cikara, Peter H. Ditto, Shanto Iyengar, Samara Klar, Lilliana Mason, Mary C. McGrath, Brendan Nyhan, David G. Rand, Linda J. Skitka, Joshua A. Tucker, Jay J. Van Bavel, Cynthia S. Wang, and James N. Druckman, 2020. "Political Sectarianism in America." *Science* ([link](#))

Edelmann, Achim* and Tom Wolff*, Daniel Montagne*, and Christopher Bail. 2020. "Computational Social Science and Sociology." *Annual Review of Sociology* ([link](#)), ([blog post](#))

Bail, Christopher A. Brian Guay*, Emily Maloney*, Aidan Combs*, Sunshine Hillygus, Friedolin Merhout*, Deen Freelon, and Alexander Volfovsky. 2019. "Assessing the Russian Internet Research Agency's Impact on the Political Attitudes and Behaviors of American Twitter Users." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* ([link](#)), ([video](#))

Bail, Christopher A., Taylor W. Brown*, and Andreas Wimmer. 2019. "Prestige, Proximity, and Prejudice: The Diffusion of Google Search Terms across 199 Countries, 2004-2014." *American Journal of Sociology* 124(5) ([link](#)), ([blog post](#))

Bail, Christopher, Lisa Argyle*, Taylor Brown*, John Bumpuss*, Haohan Chen*, M.B. Fallin Hunzaker*, Jaemin Lee*, Marcus Mann*, Friedolin Merhout*, and Alexander Volfovsky. 2018. "Exposure to Opposing Views can Increase Political Polarization: Evidence from a Large-Scale Field Experiment on Social Media." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 155(37): 9216-9221. ([link](#)), ([op-ed](#)), ([video](#))

Bail, Christopher A., Friedolin Merhout*, and Peng Ding. 2018. "Using Internet Search Data to Examine the Relationship between Anti-Muslim and Pro-ISIS Sentiment in U.S. Counties." *Science Advances*, 4(6): 1-9 ([link](#)), ([video](#))

Bail, Christopher A., Taylor W. Brown*, and Marcus Mann.* 2017. "Channeling Hearts and Minds: Cognitive-Emotional Currents and Public Deliberation on Social Media." *American Sociological Review*, 82(6) 1188-1213 ([link](#))

McDonnell, Terence, Christopher A. Bail, and Iddo Tavory. 2017. "A Theory of Cultural Resonance." *Sociological Theory* 35(1): 1-14 ([link](#))

Bail, Christopher A. 2016. "Combining Network Analysis and Natural Language Processing to Examine how Advocacy Organizations Stimulate Conversation on Social Media." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 113(42): 11823-11828 ([link](#)), ([video](#))

Bail, Christopher A. 2016. "Emotional Feedback and the Viral Spread of Social Media Messages about Autism Spectrum Disorders." *American Journal of Public Health* 106(7): 1173-1180 ([link](#))

Bail, Christopher A. 2016. "Cultural Carrying Capacity: Organ Donation Advocacy, Discursive Framing, and Social Media Engagement." *Social Science and Medicine* 165: 280-288 ([link](#))

Bail, Christopher A. 2015. "Lost in a Random Forest: Using Big Data to Study Rare Events." *Big Data and Society* July: 1-3 ([link](#))

Bail, Christopher A. 2015. "Taming Big Data: Using App Technology to Study Organizational Behavior on Social Media." *Sociological Methods and Research* 46:2 189-217 ([link](#))

Bail, Christopher A. 2015. "The Public Life of Secrets: Deception, Disclosure, and Discursive Framing in the Policy Process." *Sociological Theory* 33 (2): 97-124 ([link](#)), ([online supplement](#))"

Bail, Christopher A. 2014. "The Cultural Environment: Measuring Culture with Big Data." *Theory and Society* 43 (3-4): 465-482 ([link](#))

- Reprinted in *Theory and Society: Renewal and Critique in Social Theory* by Duan Peng and Zhang Lei, Beijing: Sage

Bail, Christopher A. 2012. "The Fringe Effect: Civil Society Organizations and the Evolution of Media Discourse about Islam since the September 11th Attacks." *American Sociological Review* 77:7 855-879 ([link](#))

Bail, Christopher A. 2008. "The Configuration of Symbolic Boundaries against Immigrants in Europe." *American Sociological Review* 73:1 37-59 ([link](#))

- Reprinted in *Investigating the Social World: The Process and Practice of Research* by Russell K. Schutt, New York: Sage

Lamont, Michèle and Christopher A. Bail. 2005. "Sur les frontières de la reconnaissance: Les catégories internes et externes de l'identité collective (On the Boundaries of Recognition: Internal and External Categories of Collective Identity)." *Revue Européenne des Migrations Internationales* 21:2 61-90 ([link](#))

Other Publications

Bail, Christopher. March 10th, 2024. "GenAI Could Make Online Conversations More Civil" *Harvard Business Review* ([link](#))

Bail, Christopher A. and Lisa Pinheiro, and Jimmy Royer April 5th, 2023. "Difficulty of Detecting AI Content Poses Legal Challenges," *Law360* ([link](#))

Bail, Christopher A. March 31, 2022. "Social Media Regulation is Flying Blind: to fix social media, we need a new platform for research." *Nature* ([link](#))

Jonathan Haidt and Bail, Christopher A. 2022. "Social Media and Political Dysfunction: A Collaborative Review" *Open Source Review* ([link](#))

Bail, Christopher A. May 4, 2021. "Facebook's decision on readmitting Trump is going to enrage people. But there's more to the story." *CNN* ([link](#))

Bail, Christopher A. November 22, 2019. "Want to bridge divides? Clean your Twitter house first." *CNN* ([link](#))

Bail, Christopher A. September 9th, 2018. "Twitter's Flawed Solution to Political Polarization." *The New York Times* ([link](#))

Bail, Christopher A. December 3, 2015. "How fringe attacks on American Muslims became mainstream." *The Washington Post* ([link](#))

Bail, Christopher A. 2009. Review of "Europe Old and New: Transnationalism, Belonging, and Xenophobia." ([link](#)) (by Ray Taras) *Contemporary Sociology*, 38:562

Bail, Christopher A. 2008. Review of "Two-Faced Racism: Whites in the Backstage and Frontstage." (by Leslie Houts Picca and Joe R. Feagin) *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 31:6 1168-1183 ([link](#))

Bail, Christopher A. (with Michele Lamont) 2007. "Bridging Boundaries: the Equalization Strategies of Stigmatized Ethno-racial Groups Compared." *Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies Working Paper Series*, 154

Software

The Social Media Accelerator: An Open-Source Platform for Research on Social Media and Generative Artificial Intelligence, 2023-

Textnets: An R Package to Integrate Network Analysis and Natural Language Processing, 2019- ([link](#))

Films

Jesters and Fools (Short Documentary Based on Breaking the Social Media Prism by Rob Feld, 2023 ([link](#)))

Invited Lectures

Summer Institutes in Computational Social Science Shanghai, "Can Generative AI Improve Social Science?" June 2025

Digital Humanism Conference, Vienna, "What are the lessons for Artificial Intelligence from the Social Media Era?" May 2025

OpenAI, "Can Generative AI Improve Social Science?" April 2025

Johns Hopkins Agora Institute (online webinar), "Data for Good Roundtable" April 2025

Yale University, "Can Generative AI Improve Social Science?" March 2025

Oxford University Department of Education, "Can Generative AI Improve Social Science?" February 2025

University of California Berkeley Haas School of Business, "Bridging Divides with Generative AI" " January 2025

Templeton Foundation, "Bridging Divides with Generative AI" " December 2024

Google/Jigsaw, "Designing Social Media to Promote Productive Political Dialogue on a New Research Platform" October 2024

University of Richmond, "Bridging Divides with Generative AI" October 2024

Elon University, "Bridging Divides with Generative AI" October 2024

University of Oslo, "Can Generative AI Improve Social Science?" August 2024

University of Iceland, "Can Generative AI Improve Social Science?" August 2024

Asheville Ideas Festival, "Generative AI and the 2024 Presidential Election" October 2024

Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques (Paris), "Can Generative AI Improve Social Science?" June 2024

Complexity Hub, Vienna, "Simulating Social Media using Generative AI" May 2024

Keynote Lecture, IMBESS, University of Latvia, "Bridging Divides with Generative AI" May 2024

Northwestern University, "Can Generative AI Improve Social Science?" May 2024

Cornell University, "Can Generative AI Improve Social Science?" April 2024

The University of Washington, "The New Social Media Order." February 2024

Behavioral Insights Team, "Leveraging AI for democratic discourse: Chat interventions can improve online political conversations at scale", London, October 2023

Stanford Graduate School of Business, "Leveraging AI for democratic discourse: Chat interventions can improve online political conversations at scale", October 2023

Furman College, "Breaking the Social Media Prism", October 2023

University of Amsterdam, "The Past Present and Future of Computational Social Science", September 2023

Science and Cocktails, "Breaking the Social Media Prism" Koncerthuset, Copenhagen, September 2023

Science and Cocktails, "Breaking the Social Media Prism" Paradiso, Amsterdam, September 2023

Howard University, "An Introduction to the Duke Polarization Lab", July 2023

Beijing University, "AI Chat Assistants can Improve Conversations about Divisive Topics", July 2023

Institute for Advanced Study, University of Amsterdam, "New Platforms for Research on Social Media", June 2023

University of Amsterdam, "AI Chat Assistants can Improve Conversations about Divisive Topics", June 2023

Chinese University of Hong Kong, "AI Chat Assistants can Improve Conversations about Divisive Topics", June 2023

NextDoor, "AI Chat Assistants can Improve Conversations about Divisive Topics", June 2023

Northwestern University, "AI Chat Assistants can Improve Conversations about Divisive Topics", May 2023

Technische Universität Braunschweig, "AI Chat Assistants can Improve Conversations about Divisive Topics", May 2023

Facebook Data Science, "AI Chat Assistants can Improve Conversations about Divisive Topics", May 2023

Carnegie Mellon University, "AI Chat Assistants can Improve Conversations about Divisive Topics", May 2023

UNESCO Most Forum, "Polarization and Sustainability Science", April 2023

U.S. Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, "Introduction to the Duke Polarization Lab", February 2023

Meta Foo Camp, "AI Chat Assistants can Improve Conversations about Divisive Topics", February 2023

White House National Security Council & Office of Science and Technology Policy, "Introduction to the Duke Polarization Lab", February 2023

Ecole Polytechnique, "New Platforms for Social Media Research", November 2022

University of Texas, Austin, "Breaking the Social Media Prism", November 2022

Academy for Human Rights, "Breaking the Social Media Prism", November 2022

Northwestern University, "New Platforms for Social Media Research", November 2022

International Conference on Computational Social Science, "New Platforms for Social Media Research", June 2022

International Conference on Weblogs and Social Media, "New Platforms for Social Media Research", May 2022

University of Innsbruck (Austria), "Breaking the Social Media Prism", April 2022

Oxford Literary Festival, "Breaking the Social Media Prism", April 2022

International School of Geneva, "The Gap Between Social Media and Real Life," March 2022

Aarhus University, "Perceived Gender and Political Polarization: A Field Experiment on a Social Media Platform for Scientific Research," March 2022

MIT/Lincoln Labs, "Three Field Experiments on Identity, Social Media, and Political Polarization, February 2022

Northeastern University, "Perceived Gender and Political Polarization: A Field Experiment on a Social Media Platform for Scientific Research," December, 2021

University of Leeds, "Breaking the Social Media Prism: How to Make our Platforms Less Polarizing," December, 2021

Ohio State University, "Breaking the Social Media Prism: How to Make our Platforms Less Polarizing," December, 2021

Falling Walls Foundation, "Breaking the Social Media Prism: How to Make our Platforms Less Polarizing," November, 2021

LinkedIn Data Science, "Breaking the Social Media Prism: How to Make our Platforms Less Polarizing," November, 2021

University of North Carolina, "Gender and Political Persuasion: A Field Experiment on Social Media," November, 2021

Harvard Business School, "Breaking the Social Media Prism: How to Make our Platforms Less Polarizing," October, 2021

University of Pennsylvania, "Breaking the Social Media Prism: How to Make our Platforms Less Polarizing," October, 2021

Keynote Address, Academy of Sociology Conference (Germany), "Breaking the Social Media Prism: How to Make our Platforms Less Polarizing," Online

Pontifical Academy of Sciences, "Breaking the Social Media Prism: How to Make our Platforms Less Polarizing," Vatican City, September 2021

SBE Distinguished Lecturer, National Science Foundation "Breaking the Social Media Prism: How to Make our Platforms Less Polarizing," May 2021

Keynote Lecturer, Graphex, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, "Breaking the Social Media Prism: How to Make our Platforms Less Polarizing," May 2021

Stanford University, "Breaking the Social Media Prism: How to Make our Platforms Less Polarizing," May 2021

University of Arizona, "Breaking the Social Media Prism: How to Make our Platforms Less Polarizing," May 2021

Chinese University of Hong Kong, "Breaking the Social Media Prism: How to Make our Platforms Less Polarizing," May 2021

Mechanics Institute (San Francisco), "Breaking the Social Media Prism: How to Make our Platforms Less Polarizing," May 2021

Illinois Institute of Technology, "Breaking the Social Media Prism: How to Make our Platforms Less Polarizing," May 2021

Princeton Public Library, "Breaking the Social Media Prism: How to Make our Platforms Less Polarizing," May 2021

Syracuse University, "Breaking the Social Media Prism: How to Make our Platforms Less Polarizing," May 2021

DIGIZOOM, University of Umea (Sweden), "Breaking the Social Media Prism: How to Make our Platforms Less Polarizing," May 2021

The Strand Book Store (New York), "Breaking the Social Media Prism: How to Make our Platforms Less Polarizing," May 2021

New York University, Abu Dhabi, "Breaking the Social Media Prism: How to Make our Platforms Less Polarizing," May 2021

Facebook Core Data Science, "Breaking the Social Media Prism: How to Make our Platforms Less Polarizing," May 2021

Center for the Study of Media and Politics, New York University, "Breaking the Social Media Prism: How to Make our Platforms Less Polarizing," May 2021

Keynote Lecture, The Great Mediation Conference, University of Chicago, "Breaking the Social Media Prism: How to Make our Platforms Less Polarizing," May 2021

Keynote Lecture, PRISM Health Symposium, "Cultural Bridges and Social Media Outreach," December 2020

Keynote Lecture, Conference on Digital Experimentation, Massachusetts Institute of Technology "The Future of Research with Robots in the Social Sciences," November 2020

Suessmilch Lecture, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, "Exposure to Common Enemies can Increase Political Polarization," October 2020

University of California, Berkeley, Political Science Department, "Using Bots to Study Political Polarization," October 2020

Johns Hopkins University, "Disrupting Identity on Social Media: A Field Experiment on a New Platform" February 2020

European University Institute, "Three Field Experiments on Identity and Filter Bubbles" November 2019

University College Dublin, "Exposure to Opposing Views can Increase Political Polarization, October 2019

University of Helsinki, "Three Field Experiments on Identity and Filter Bubbles" October 2019

Linköping University, "Computational Social Science and Culture in the Age of Social Media" October 2019

Bocconi University, Milan, "Three Field Experiments on Filter Bubbles and Identity" October 2019

University of California, Berkeley "Exposure to Opposing Views can Increase Political Polarization" April 2019

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, "Exposure to Opposing Views can Increase Political Polarization" April 2019

New York University "Exposure to Opposing Views can Increase Political Polarization" March 2019

Columbia University, Greater Good Gathering "Technology and Political Polarization" February 2019

Oxford University, "Exposure to Opposing Views can Increase Political Polarization" November 2018

London School of Economics, "Exposure to Opposing Views can Increase Political Polarization" November 2018

University of Michigan, "Exposure to Opposing Views can Increase Political Polarization" October 2018

Complexity Hub Vienna, "Exposure to Opposing Views can Increase Political Polarization" October 2018

University of Southern California, "Cultural Networks and Bridges" July 2018

Stanford University, "Exposure to Opposing Views can Increase Political Polarization: Evidence from a Large-Scale Field Experiment," May 2018

Harvard University, "Exposure to Opposing Views can Increase Political Polarization: Evidence from a Large-Scale Field Experiment," May 2018

University of Chicago, "Exposure to Opposing Views can Increase Political Polarization: Evidence from a Large-Scale Field Experiment," April 2018

Institute for Advanced Study, Toulouse, "Exposure to Opposing Views can Increase Political Polarization: Evidence from a Large-Scale Field Experiment," March 2018.

University of Pennsylvania, "Exposure to Opposing Views can Increase Political Polarization: Evidence from a Large-Scale Field Experiment," January, 2018

Wharton School of Business, "Combining Natural Language Processing and Social Network Analysis to Examine how Social Media Posts go Viral," January, 2018

University of Oslo, "Studying Political Extremism on Social Media (Keynote Address to Social Media and Social Order Conference)," November, 2017

Northwestern University, "Combining Natural Language Processing and Social Network Analysis," November, 2017

University of Zurich, "Combining Natural Language Processing and Social Network Analysis," October, 2017

Stanford University, "Power, Prestige, and Proximity: The Global Diffusion of Google Searches, 2004-2014.", 2017

Brown University, "Collecting and Analyzing Digital Trace Data," August 2017

National Academy of Sciences, "Revising Social Science Curricula in the Age of Computational Social Science," June 2017

University of Indiana, Bloomington. "Terrified: How Anti-Muslim Fringe Organizations Became Mainstream," April 2017

University of Bern (Switzerland). "Developing New Techniques to Formalize the Study of Culture," October 2016

Cornell University. "Cultural Flow: How Advocacy Organizations Stimulate Public Conversation about Autism Spectrum Disorders on Facebook," Department of Sociology, October 2016

Keynote Lecture to the Annual Conference of the Islamic Society of North America. "Understanding the Rise of Anti-Muslim Sentiment," September 2016

Democratic National Convention, Interfaith Council, "Understanding the Rise of Anti-Muslim Sentiment," 2016

Columbia University. "Cultural Flow: How Advocacy Organizations Stimulate Public Conversation about Autism Spectrum Disorders on Facebook," Department of Sociology, 2016

Harvard University. "Anti-Muslim Sentiment in the Republican Primary" Islamic Studies Program, 2016.

University of California, Irvine. "Terrified: How Anti-Muslim Fringe Organizations Became Mainstream," Department of Sociology, 2016

Connecticut College. "Terrified: How Anti-Muslim Fringe Organizations Became Mainstream," Department of

Sociology and Anthropology, 2016

Boston College, "Anti-Muslim Organizations and Social Media," Islamic Studies Program, 2015

Notre Dame University, "Measuring Cultural Emergence," Department of Sociology, 2015

European University Institute, "How Fringe Groups Shape the Integration of Muslims in the West," Muslims and the West Conference, 2015

Princeton University, "Filling Cultural Holes: How Autism Advocacy Organizations Mobilize New Audiences on Social Media," Department of Sociology, 2015

City University of New York, "The Rhythm of Communicative Styles: Advocacy Organizations, Social Media, and Mass Persuasion," Department of Sociology, 2015

Duke University, "The Rhythm of Communicative Styles: Advocacy Organizations, Social Media, and Mass Persuasion," Department of Sociology, 2014

Ohio State University, "The Rhythm of Communicative Styles: Advocacy Organizations, Social Media, and Mass Persuasion," Department of Sociology, 2014

University of Michigan, "The Rhythm of Communicative Styles: Advocacy Organizations, Social Media, and Mass Persuasion," Department of Sociology, 2014

University of Chicago, "The Rhythm of Communicative Styles: Advocacy Organizations, Social Media, and Mass Persuasion," Department of Sociology, 2014

Brown University, "The Rhythm of Communicative Styles: Advocacy Organizations, Social Media, and Mass Persuasion," Department of Sociology, 2014

Princeton University, "Studying the Global Diffusion of Culture with Big Data," Department of Sociology, 2014

Facebook Inc., "Winning Hearts and Minds: Advocacy Organizations, Field Rhythms, and Bystanders," Data Science Division Workshop, 2014

University of Michigan (Blalock Lecture), "Measuring Culture with Big Data," ICPSR, 2014

University of California, Santa Barbara, "Measuring Culture with Big Data," Department of Sociology, 2014

North Carolina State University, "Big Data and Social Science," Dean's Panel, 2014

University of Michigan, "The Fringe Effect: Civil Society Organizations and the Evolution of Public Discourse about Islam," Interdisciplinary Committee on Organizational Studies, 2013

Notre Dame University, "The Fringe Effect: Civil Society Organizations and the Evolution of Public Discourse about Islam," Department of Sociology, 2013

University of British Columbia, "Finding, Mapping, and Analyzing Discursive Fields using Big Data," 2013

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, "Terrified: Emotions, Social Movements, and Islam, 2001-2008," Department of Sociology, 2010

Princeton University, "Terrified: Emotions, Social Movements, and Islam, 2001-2008," Department of Sociology, 2010

University of Michigan, "Terrified: Emotions, Social Movements, and Islam, 2001-2008," Department of Sociology, 2010

Duke University, "Terrified: Emotions, Social Movements, and Islam, 2001-2008," Department of Sociology, 2010

Stanford University, "Terrified: Emotions, Social Movements, and Islam, 2001-2008," Department of Sociology, 2010

University of California, Los Angeles, "Terrified: Emotions, Social Movements, and Islam, 2001-2008," Department of Sociology, 2010

Vanderbilt University, "Terrified: Emotions, Social Movements, and Islam, 2001-2008," Department of Sociology, 2010

New York University, "Terrified: Emotions, Social Movements, and Islam, 2001-2008," Department of Sociology, 2010

Boston College, "Terrified: Emotions, Social Movements, and Islam, 2001-2008," Department of Sociology, 2010

University of Georgia, "Terrified: Emotions, Social Movements, and Islam, 2001-2008," Department of Sociology, 2010

Emory University, "Terrified: Emotions, Social Movements, and Islam, 2001-2008," Department of Sociology, 2010

Yale University, "Making Terrorists Racist: The Culture of Secrecy in Britain's Domestic Counter-Terrorism Policy, 2001-2008," Department of Sociology, 2009

University of Georgia, "Making Terrorists Racist: The Boundaries of Multicultural and Counter-Terrorism Policy in Britain, 2001-2008," Department of Sociology, 2009

Harvard University, "Inter-Ethnic Relations in Quebec: A Roundtable with Charles Taylor and Gerard Bouchard," Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, 2009

Valencia, Spain, "Diverse Diversities: The Configuration of Symbolic Boundaries against Immigrants in Twenty-One European Countries," City-to-City Conference of the European Union, 2007

Yale University, "Bridging Boundaries: The Everyday De-stigmatization Strategies of Marginalized Groups Compared" (with Michele Lamont), Culture Workshop, 2005

Selected Conference Presentations

Foo Camp, "AI Chat Assistants can Facilitate more Productive Conversations about Divisive Issues", February 2023

AlpPop Conference, La Thuile, Italy, "Exposure to Opposing Views can Increase Political Polarization. January 2019"

American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, "Exposure to Opposing Views can Increase Political Polarization."

American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, "Culture and Computational Social Science." (Organizer, Plenary Panel 2017)

American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, "Cultural Carrying Capacity: Organ Donation Advocacy, Discursive Framing, and Social Media Engagement." 2015

American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, "NSF Sponsored Panel on Big Data and Social Science Research," 2014

American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY, "Winning Minds Through Hearts: Civil Society Organizations, Emotional Feedback, and Social Media," 2013

American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, "The Fringe Effect: Civil Society Organizations and the Evolution of Media Discourse about Islam, 2001-2008," 2012

American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, "How Terrorists became Racists," 2009

Harvard/Manchester Conference on Social Change, Manchester, England, "Homeland Insecurity: Structural Holes in the Muslim Civil Rights Movement," 2008

American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY, "The Configuration of Symbolic Boundaries toward Immigrants in Twenty-One European Countries," 2007

11th Annual Aage Sorensen Memorial Conference, Oxford University, England, "The New Black Brahmins? Elite African Immigrants and the Stigma of Africanité," 2007

National Association for Ethnic Studies Annual Meeting, New Paltz, NY, "Diverse Diversities: The Configuration of Symbolic Boundaries against Immigrants in Twenty-One European Countries," 2007

Eastern Sociological Society, Philadelphia, PA, "Diverse Diversities: The Configuration of Symbolic Boundaries against Immigrants in Twenty-One European Countries," 2007

American Sociological Association Annual Meeting Minorities, Montreal, Quebec, "Three Worlds of Xenophobia: a Typology of Anti-Immigrant Boundaries in Europe," 2006

International Conference on Comparative Social Sciences, Sophia University, Tokyo, Japan, "Three Worlds of Xenophobia: a Typology of Anti-Immigrant Boundaries in Europe," 2006

10th Annual Aage Sorensen Memorial Conference, Stockholm University, Sweden, "Three Worlds of Xenophobia: Towards a Typology of Anti-Immigrant Prejudice in Europe," 2006

Council for European Studies Annual Meeting, Section on Ethnic Boundaries and Regionalism, Chicago, IL, "Three Worlds of Xenophobia: Mapping the Configuration of Ethnic Boundaries in Twenty European Countries," 2006

Multidisciplinary Program on Inequality and Social Policy, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, "Toward a Typology of Ethnic Boundaries: A Cognitive Analysis of Racial, Religious, Linguistic, and Cultural Boundaries in Twenty-One European Countries," 2005

Summer Institute on International Migration, Ethnic Diversity, and Cities, International School for the Humanities and Social Sciences, Universiteit van Amsterdam, Netherlands, "On the Ethnic Boundaries of Immigration: Economic, Cultural, and Racial Parameters of Xenophobia," 2005

9th Annual Aage Sorensen Memorial Conference: Cambridge, MA, "Black or African American? The Socio-Economic Attainment of Africans in the United States," 2005

Teaching and Advising

PhD Chair

Hajar Yazdiha (co-chair, UNC-Chapel Hill, placement: Associate Professor (with tenure), University of Southern California)

Marcus Mann (Duke University, placement: Assistant Professor, Purdue University)

Friedolin Merhout (Duke University, placement: Assistant Professor, University of Copenhagen)

Taylor W. Brown (Duke University, placement: Facebook Core Data Science)

Devin Cornell (Duke University)

Fatima Alqabandi (Duke University)

Benjamin Rochford (Duke University, in progress)

PhD Committee member

Brian Aronson (Duke University)

John Bumpuss (Duke University)

Haohan Chen (Duke University, Political Science)

Andrew Carr (Duke University, in progress)

Aidan Combs (Duke University, in progress)

Molly Copeland (Duke University)

M. Ali Kadivar (UNC-Chapel Hill)

Brandon Gorman (UNC-Chapel Hill)

Brian Guay (Duke University, Political Science)

Kevin Kiley (Duke University, in progress)
Jaemin Lee (Duke University)
Jonathan Morgan (Duke University)
Maria Cristina Ramos-Flor (Duke University)
Chris Ritter (Duke University, Political Science)
Charles Seguin (UNC-Chapel Hill)
Lauren Valentino (Duke University)
Roland Adorjani (University College, Dublin)
Ashwin Rajadesingan (University of Michigan, Information Science)
Imari Smith (Duke University)
Tina Tucker (Duke University, Political Science)
Graham Tierney (Duke University, Statistical Science)
Cathy Lee (Duke University, Statistical Science)
Junsol Kim (University of Chicago, Sociology)

MA Committee Member

David Rigby (UNC-Chapel Hill)
Nandini Datta (Duke, Psychology/Neuroscience)
Zhengran Ji (Duke, Electrical Engineering)
Jiaxun Cao (Duke, Computer Science)
Mitchell Wang (Duke, Computer Science)

Senior Thesis Committee Member

Kulsoom Rizavi
Ariel Heckier

Courses Taught

Computational Social Science (graduate), Fall 2025
Human-AI Co-Evolution, Spring 2025
Computational Social Science (undergraduate), Spring 2025
Computational Social Science (graduate), Fall 2024
Data Science and Society, Spring 2024
Introduction to Sociology, Spring 2023
Data Science and Society, Fall 2022
Computational Social Science, Spring 2022
Data Science and Society, Spring 2022
Polarization and Social Media, Fall 2021
Computational Social Science, Spring 2021

Data Science and Society, Spring 2021
 Data Science and Society, Fall 2020
 Data Science and Society, Spring 2020
 Web Scraping and Text Analysis, Data Science Program, Duke University, Spring 2020
 Web Scraping and Text Analysis, Data Science Program, Duke University, Spring 2018
 Distant Suffering: Humanitarian Advocacy in the Age of Social Media, Venice International University, Fall 2019
 Cultural Globalization and Data Science, Venice International University, Fall 2019
 Introduction to Sociology (Sociological Inquiry), Duke University, Fall 2018
 Web Scraping and Text Analysis, Data Science Program, Duke University, Spring 2018
 Graduate Seminar on Computational Sociology, Duke University, Spring 2018
 Introduction to Sociology (Sociological Inquiry), Duke University, Spring 2018
 Computational Social Science (Undergraduate), Duke University, Spring 2017
 Graduate Seminar on Computational Sociology, Duke University, Fall 2016
 Introduction to Sociology (Sociological Inquiry), Duke University, Fall 2016
 Graduate Seminar on Computational Sociology, Duke University, Fall 2015
 Introduction to Sociology (Sociological Inquiry), Duke University, Fall 2015
 Graduate Seminar on Cultural Sociology, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, Spring 2015
 Introduction to Sociology (Sociological Perspectives), University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, Spring 2015
 Introduction to Sociology (Sociological Perspectives), University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, Fall 2013
 Social Studies 10, Harvard University, Spring 2007
 Sociological Theory, Harvard University, Fall 2006

Professional Service

Co-Organizer (with Brinnae Bent), Responsible AI Symposium, Duke University, 2025
 Scientific Advisory Board, Tumble Science Podcast for Kids, 2025-
 Member, Editorial Board, Annual Review of Sociology, 2026-2030
 Guest Member, Editorial Board, Annual Review of Sociology, 2025
 Editor, Oxford University Press Series in Computational Social Science, 2018-
 Director, Summer Institutes in Computational Social Science, 2023-
 Advisory Committee, National Science Foundation Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences Directorate, 2018-2023
 Director, Summer Institutes in Computational Social Science, 2022
 Co-Organizer, Summer Institutes in Computational Social Science, 2021
 Co-Chair, SBE-CISE Subcommittee, National Science Foundation Social Advisory Council, Behavioral and Economic Sciences Directorate, 2021
 Member, Broadening Participation Subcommittee, National Science Foundation Social Advisory Council, Behavioral and Economic Sciences Directorate, 2021-2023
 Co-Organizer, Summer Institutes in Computational Social Science, 2020
 Advisory Committee, Human Networks and Data Science Program, National Science Foundation, 2020-2021

Scientific Advisor, Neighborhood Vitality Advisory Board, NextDoor 2024-
 Scholars Council, Braver Angels, 2021-
 Scholars Advisory Council, Civic Health Project, 2022-
 Scientific Advisor, Ukraine Initiative, 2022-
 Member, Coalition for Independent Tech Research, 2022-
 Advisory Board, Strengthening Democracy Challenge, 2021-2022
 Scientific Advisory Board, Streitgut, 2021-2022
 Advisory Board, Project IMMUNE, Bocconi University, 2020-
 External Reviewer, Master of Science in Data Analytics and Computational Social Science, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 2020
 Co-Organizer, Summer Institutes in Computational Social Science (Bamberg, Cape Town, Chicago, Istanbul, Los Angeles, Monterrey, New York City, Oxford, Princeton, Research Triangle Park, Zurich), 2019
 Co-Organizer, Summer Institutes on Computational Social Science (Boulder, Cape Town, Chicago, Helsinki, Princeton, New York City, Washington), 2018.
 National Science Foundation Sociology Panel, 2018
 Co-Organizer, Summer Institute on Computational Social Science, Princeton University 2017
 Associate Editor, *Science Advances*, 2017-2018
 Editorial Board, *American Journal of Sociology*, 2017-2019
 Book Review Editor, *Social Forces*, 2014-2015
 Editorial Board, *Sociological Theory*, 2010-2015
 Editorial Board, *Social Forces*, 2011-2015
 Editorial Board, *American Journal of Cultural Sociology*, 2011-2019
 Nominations Committee, Methodology Section, American Sociological Association, 2015.
 Council Member, Section on Communication and Information Technologies, American Sociological Association, 2013-2014
 Nominations Committee, Section on Organizations, Occupations, and Work, American Sociological Association, 2015-2016
 Program Committee, International Conference on Computational Social Science, Helsinki Finland, 2015
 Student Paper Award Committee, Communication and Information Technology Section of the American Sociological Association, 2015
 Student Paper Award Committee, Political Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association, 2015
 Nominations Committee, Section on Political Sociology, American Sociological Association, 2013-2014
 Nominations Committee, Section on the Sociology of Emotions, American Sociological Association, 2013-2014
 Occasional Reviewer *Nature*, *Science*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science*, *Science Advances*, *Nature Human Behavior*, *American Political Science Review*, *American Sociological Review*, *American Journal of Sociology*, *American Political Science Review*, *Poetics*, *Political Communication*, Princeton University Press, Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, *Social Forces*, *Sociological Theory*, European Commission's Joint Research Centre, *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, *Sociological Methods and Research*, *Social Problems*, *American Journal of Cultural Sociology*, *Sociological Forum*, *National Science Foundation*, *Russell Sage Foundation*, Templeton Foundation, and many others.
 Organizer, Culture and Computational Science Panel, American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, 2016
 Organizer, International Conference on Computational Social Science, 2015

Organizer, Computational Sociology Summit, 2015

Organizer, Computational Social Science and the Study of Social Behavior, Social Psychology Section, American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, 2014

Presider, Section on Cultural Sociology, American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, 2013

Presider, Section on Ethnic and Racial Minorities Round-table, American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, 2006

University Service

Co-Director, Integrated Graduate Education Collaborative in Society-Centered AI, 2025-

Member, Rhodes iID Scientific Advisory Committee, 2025-

Member, AI at Duke Steering Committee, 2025-

Member, Ad Hoc Advisory Committee, Duke Computing Initiative, 2024

Faculty Chair, Life with AI Pillar Advisory Committee, 2025-

Advisor, AI Education Task Force, 2025-

Member, Provost's Interdisciplinary Strategy Council, 2024-

Member, Tenure and Promotion Committee for Dr. Anne Washington, Sanford School of Public Policy, 2025

Junior Faculty Search Committee, Department of Sociology, 2024

Presenter, "Bridging Divides with Generative AI" Trinity Board of Visitors, November 2024

Organizer, "Social AI Mini-Conference," April 2024

Presenter, "Best of Duke Study Tour, Alumni Engagement and Development, 2024

Presenter, "AI and the Liberal Arts," Undergraduate Education Committee, Duke University Board of Trustees, 2023

Presenter, "Discussing Challenging Topics," Trinity College Board of Visitors, 2023

Organizing Committee, Provost's Forum "Examining Problems in Big Tech."

Chair, Tenure and Promotion Committee for Dr. Craig Rawlings, Sociology Department, 2022-2023

Executive Committee, Sociology Department, 2022-2023

Graduate Studies Committee, Sociology Department, 2019-2022

Faculty Governance Committee, Duke Initiative for Science and Society, 2022-

Faculty Supervisor, Duke Computational Social Science Workshop, 2020-2022

Steering Committee, Duke Center for Computational Thinking, 2020

Chair, Re-appointment Committee for Dr. Craig Rawlings, Sociology Department, 2020

Search Committee, Director of Social Science Research Institute, 2018-2019

Director, Science Core, Duke Population Research Center, 2018-2020

Co-Director, Science Core, Duke Population Research Center, 2017-2018

Director, Computational Social Science Track, Multidisciplinary Program in Data Science, 2016-2020

Member, Curriculum Development Committee, Multidisciplinary Program in Data Science, 2016-2018

Junior Faculty Search Committee, Department of Sociology, Duke University, 2017

Executive Committee, Department of Sociology, Duke University, 2017-2018

Faculty Computing Representative, Department of Sociology, Duke University, 2016-2018

Executive Committee, Department of Sociology, Duke University, 2015-2016

Colloquium Series Organizer, Department of Sociology, Duke University, 2015-2016

Publications Committee, Department of Sociology, UNC-Chapel Hill, 2014-2015

Graduate Student Placement Coordinator, Department of Sociology, UNC-Chapel Hill, 2013-2014

Committee on Undergraduate Studies, Department of Sociology, UNC-Chapel Hill, 2013-2014

Non-Academic Employment

Consultant, Schmidt Futures, 2022-2023

Academic Consultant, Twitter, August 2021-June 2022

Languages

French (advanced/intermediate), Italian (beginner/intermediate), Mandarin Chinese (beginner/intermediate), R, Python, \LaTeX

Last updated: December 26, 2025