

MICHAEL A. DEVITO

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Media, Technology, and Society, Northwestern University (Expected 2019)
Interdisciplinary doctorate in Communication and Human/Computer Interaction
Graduate Specialization: Cognitive Science
Advisor: Jeremy Birnholtz

M.A., Media and Public Affairs, George Washington University (2015)
Thesis: Facebook Family Values: A News Feed Hierarchy of Needs
Committee: Kerric Harvey, David Karpf, Emily Thorson

B.A., Journalism and Mass Communication, George Washington University (2013)
Minor: Theatre

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES & CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

DeVito, M.A., Gergle, D., and Birnholtz, J. (2017) "Algorithms ruin everything": #RIPTwitter, Folk Theories, and Resistance to Algorithmic Change. *Proceedings of the Annual ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*.

DeVito, M.A., Birnholtz, J., and Hancock, J. (2017) Platforms, People, and Perception: Using Affordances to Understand Self-Presentation on Social Media. *Proceedings of the 20th Annual ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing*.

DeVito, M.A. (2016) From Editors to Algorithms: A Values-Based Approach to Understanding Story Selection in Facebook's News Feed. *Digital Journalism*. Advance online publication. doi:10.1080/21670811.2016.1178592

REFEREED CONFERENCE PAPERS

DeVito, M.A. (2016, April). I Don't Want To See This: Selective Avoidance, Friend Links, and Political Filter Bubble Formation on Facebook. Paper presented at the 74th annual conference of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

DeVito, M.A. (2015, June). The Sentimental Robot: Soldiers, Metal Psychopaths and Artificial Intelligence. Paper presented at the annual conference of the International Association for Computing & Philosophy, Newark, DE.

DeVito, M.A. (2015, April). Let Me Google That For You: Truth, Thought And Trust In The Age of Search Engines. Paper presented at the 60th annual conference of the Broadcast Education Association, Las Vegas, NV.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Northwestern University

Graduate Fellowship recipient (2015 – present)

Summer Research Support recipient (2015)

George Washington University

Graduate Teaching Assistantship recipient (2013 – 2015)

School of Media and Public Affairs Thesis Research Grant recipient (2015)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Credential, The George Washington University, 2013

GPAC Graduate Teaching Assistant Certification

Instructor, Northwestern University, 2017

Computing Everywhere, senior-level undergraduates

Designed and co-taught “Algorithms Everywhere” and “Text Wrangling the Election: Computational Approaches to Classical Communication Studies” units

Teaching Assistant, Northwestern University, 2016

Communication and Technology, undergraduate

Lectured on research, led activities, moderated discussion, graded assessments

Lead Instructor, Northwestern University, 2016

Computing Everywhere, senior-level undergraduates

Designed and co-taught “Algorithms Everywhere” unit, primary admin for course

Instructor, The George Washington University, 2014

Sustainability Reporting, senior-level undergraduates

Designed curriculum and assessments, co-taught class, graded all assessments

Teaching Assistant, The George Washington University, 2013

Multimedia Reporting to Inform and Engage, senior-level undergraduates

Designed curriculum and assessments, taught 1/3 of class, graded all assessments

Teaching Assistant, The George Washington University, 2013

Media In A Free Society, large-format introductory undergraduate

Gave weekly lectures, led weekly discussion, designed and graded all assessments

Guest Lecturer, The George Washington University, 2013-2014
Research Methods, Introduction to Sustainability, undergraduate
Capstone Course, Environmental Resource Policy Management, graduate
Guest lectures on science communication, epistemology, cognitive bias

Guest Lecturer, The University of Mississippi, 2012-2014
Introduction to Multimedia Writing, undergraduate
Guest lectured on communicating science through journalism, evaluated projects

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Researcher, Northwestern University, 2015 – present
Led research projects on self-presentation and folk theories in algorithmically-driven social media platforms; supervised undergraduate research staff

Graduate Research Assistant, The George Washington University, 2014
Cross-disciplinary research for forthcoming book on television's writing culture for Patricia Phalen

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Panelist, **Interactive Documentary Summit**, Washington DC, 2014
Communicating complex scientific topics through character and visual narrative

Presenter, **SMPA Executive Education**, Washington DC, 2014
Data storytelling through character, visual communication and social media for journalism students from Shantou University, Shantou, China

SERVICE

General Chair and Program Co-Chair, InfoSocial Graduate Research Conference, 2016-present

Outside Engagement Chair, Graduate Student Steering Committee, 2016-present

Department Representative, Graduate Leadership & Advocacy Council, 2015-2016

MEMBERSHIPS

Current

Association for Computing Machinery
ACM Special Interest Group on Computer-Human Interaction (SIGCHI)

Previous

Midwest Political Science Association (2016)
Broadcast Education Association (2015)
International Association for Computing & Philosophy (2015)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Managing Editor, Planet Forward, 2012-2015

Supervise and edit all content for university-based sustainability communication initiative, run education and internship programs, mentor undergraduate and graduate interns, supervise student staff, supervise all website and social media operations, execute content plans for major Washington, DC events, contribute to high-level project planning and strategy

Web Producer, Face The Facts USA, 2012-2013

Administer all website and social media operations, write headline and promotional copy, produce fact-based videos, assist in production of televised events