

MICHAEL A. DEVITO

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Media, Technology, and Society, Northwestern University (Expected 2020)
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)

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES & CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

DeVito, M.A., Walker, A. M., and Birnholtz, J. (2018) "Too Gay for Facebook:"
Presenting LGBTQ+ Identity Throughout the Personal Social Media Ecosystem.
Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction, Vol. 2, CSCW, Article 44.

DeVito, M.A., Birnholtz, J., Hancock, J.T., French, M., and Liu, S. (2018) How People
Form Folk Theories of Social Media Feeds and What It Means for How We Study
Self-Presentation. *Proceedings of the Annual ACM Conference on Human Factors in
Computing Systems*, Paper 120.

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*, 3163-3174.

DeVito, M.A., Birnholtz, J., and Hancock, J.T. (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*, 740-754.

DeVito, M.A. (2017) From Editors to Algorithms: A Values-Based Approach to
Understanding Story Selection in Facebook's News Feed. *Digital Journalism*, 5(6),
753-773.

NON-ARCHIVAL CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP CONTRIBUTIONS

DeVito, M.A., Hancock, J.T., French, M., Birnholtz, J., Antin, J., Karahalios, K., Tong, S., and Shklovski, I. (2018, April) The Algorithm and the User: How Can HCI Use Lay Understandings of Algorithmic Systems? Panel presented at the Annual ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, Montreal, QC, Canada.

DeVito, M.A. (2018, April) Commentary on ‘The Other Side: Algorithm as Ritual in Artificial Intelligence.’ Session at alt.CHI, part of the Annual ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, Montreal, QC, Canada.

French, M., Hancock, J., Liu, S., **DeVito, M.A.**, and Birnholtz, J. (2018, May) Confronting the unexpected: The nature and effects of attributing responsibility to social media platforms for expectancy violations. Paper presented at the 69th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association, Prague.

DeVito, M.A. (2017, May) Supporting Algorithmic Literacy with User Curiosity-Prompting Design. Paper presented at the Designing for Curiosity workshop, part of the Annual ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, Denver, CO.

DeVito, M.A. (2017, February) Implications for Theory: Creating a Virtuous, Multidisciplinary Cycle. Paper presented at the Theory Transfers workshop, part of the 20th Annual ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing, Portland, OR.

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, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

Northwestern University

Irving J. and Laura Lee Fellowship (2018-2019)

Sexualities Project at Northwestern Summer Research Grant (2017, 2018)

Cognitive Science Travel Grant (2017)

Pre-Doctoral Summer Research Support (2015)

George Washington University

Graduate Teaching Assistantship (2013 – 2015)

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

School of Media and Public Affairs Conference Travel Grant (2015)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Credential, The George Washington University, 2013

GPAC Graduate Teaching Assistant Certification

Instructor, Northwestern University, 2018

Human/Algorithm Interaction, upper-level undergraduates

Designed new course for undergraduate writing requirement focusing on algorithm studies in HCI and putting together one's first research proposal

Instructor, Northwestern University, 2016-2018

Computing Everywhere, upper-level undergraduates

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

Teaching Assistant, Northwestern University, 2016-2017

Communication and Technology, undergraduates

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

Instructor, The George Washington University, 2014

Sustainability Reporting, upper-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, upper-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

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Researcher, Northwestern University Social Media Lab, 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

SERVICE

Reviewing: CHI (2017*, 2018*), CSCW (2018), Digital Journalism (2017, 2018), Social Science Computer Review (2018)

**Received special recognition for excellent reviewing*

General Chair and Program Co-Chair, InfoSocial Graduate Research Conference, 2016-2017

Outside Engagement Chair, Graduate Student Steering Committee, 2016-2017

Member, Chicago Bisexual Health Taskforce, 2018

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