Summer Institute in Computational Social Science (SICSS)

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Sociologie UQAM

Calendrier des conférenciers / Agenda of Speakers

JUNE 14

**3:30-
5 PM**

The Cultural Structure of Online Platforms

BY ASHTON ANDERSON

The cultural makeup of an online community is difficult to understand, given the large-scale nature of online discussions. This talk will provide an overview of how researchers are making strides in understanding the cultural structure of online platforms, specifically Reddit communities. It will highlight some exciting work describing the impact of the current political environment on Reddit communities and revealing counterintuitive findings on the polarization of the internet.
PRESENTATION SLIDES (coming)

SUMMARY
REGISTRATION

Assistants : Nima Zahedinameghi, Robert Djogbenou, Georges N'Galé

JUNE 15

3:30-5 PM

Computational Approaches to Studying Anti-Social Behavior in Social Media

BY ANATOLIY GRUZD

In recent years, social media research has become more focused on understanding antisocial behavior in online communities. This presentation will discuss how to use automated content analysis and machine learning to study anti-social behavior in online discourse. It will also introduce and demonstrate Communalytics, a novel research tool for studying social media communities. *PRESENTATION SLIDES (coming)*

SUMMARY

REGISTRATION

JUNE 16

3:30 – 5 PM

Machine Learning Algorithms and Statistical Models

BY ERIC LACOURSE

This talk presents a framework for reviewing and choosing between statistical models. The framework incorporates the concepts of *regularization* and *penalization* in machine learning: two critical tools for selecting the best statistical model given a huge number of variables. The talk will highlight the strengths of such methods in generating reproducible research and provide various examples to illustrate their use in practice. *PRESENTATION SLIDES (coming)*

This presentation will be held in French

SUMMARY

REGISTRATION

Assistants : Nima Zahedinameghi, Robert Djogbenou, Georges N'Galé

JUNE 17

3:30 – 5:30 PM

Culture, Knowledge, and Data

BY PETER MCMAHAN

Computational social science is making inroads into the study of culture and knowledge. Studies of activists, academics, artists, and others have shown that computational methods can help us understand how people make sense of and come to understand the world around them. This presentation will discuss how computational approaches can be used in these domains using careful construction of reflexive models and substantial engagement with social theory. *PRESENTATION SLIDES (coming)*

SUMMARY

REGISTRATION

JUNE 18

3:30 – 4:30 PM

Fairness in Machine Learning

BY GOLNOOSH FARNADI

Machine learning tools are being used in many domains to make decisions that affect peoples' lives. This practice raises concerns of bias and algorithmic discrimination, which motivate the development of fairness-aware mechanisms in the machine learning community. This presentation will show how to measure bias and define fairness as well as strategies to ensure fairness at different stages of the machine learning pipeline. *PRESENTATION SLIDES (coming)*

SUMMARY

REGISTRATION

Assistants : Nima Zahedinameghi, Robert Djogbenou, Georges N'Galé