

# Amina A. Abdu

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Ann Arbor, MI

## RESEARCH AREAS

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AI ethics, law, and policy | science and technology studies (STS) | algorithmic governance

## EDUCATION

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### University of Michigan

*Ph.D. in Information (in progress)*

Ann Arbor, MI

2021–2026 (expected)

- Science, Technology & Society Graduate Certificate
- **Committee:** Abigail Jacobs (*chair*), Elizabeth Popp Berman, Ben Green, Simone Zhang (NYU)
- **Affiliations:** Researcher at the Center for Ethics, Society, and Computing (ESC)

### Pomona College

*Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics & Economics*

Claremont, CA

2014–2018

## RESEARCH

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### *Selected Works in Progress*

**Amina A. Abdu** & Abigail Z. Jacobs. Legitimacy and the Algorithmic Turn in the Administrative State. *Under Review*. Presented at *Privacy Law Scholars Conference*. Washington, D.C. 2024.

**Amina A. Abdu**, Jeremy Seeman & Abigail Z. Jacobs. Ethical Closure Problems in Formalizing Technologies. Presented at *Privacy and Public Policy Conference*. Washington, D.C. 2024.

### *Publications*

**Amina A. Abdu** & Abigail Z. Jacobs. AI Evaluations and the Standards Metaphor. Forthcoming in the *Yale Journal of Law and Technology*.

- Presented at *Governing Data Symposium*. New Haven, CT. 2025.
- Presented at *Privacy Law Scholars Conference*. Los Angeles, CA. 2025.
- Forthcoming at the *Meeting of the Society for Social Studies of Science (4S)*. Seattle, WA. 2025.

Irene V. Pasquetto, **Amina A. Abdu** & Natascha Chtena. Essential Work, Invisible Workers: The Role of Digital Curation in COVID-19 Open Science. *Journal of the Association for Information Science and Technology*. 2024.

**Amina A. Abdu**, Lauren M. Chambers, Abigail Z. Jacobs & Deirdre K. Mulligan. Algorithmic Transparency and Participation through the Handoff Lens: Lessons Learned from the U.S. Census Bureau's Adoption of Differential Privacy. *ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability and Transparency (FAccT)*. Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. 2024.

- Presented at *Privacy Law Scholars Conference*. Boulder, CO. 2023.
- Presented at *Data (Re)Makes the World Conference*, Information Society Project at Yale Law School. New Haven, CT. 2023.

**Amina Abdu** & Abigail Jacobs. Public Administration. In *Keywords on the Datafied State*. Data & Society. 2024.

**Amina A. Abdu**, Abigail Z. Jacobs & Irene V. Pasquetto. An Empirical Analysis of Racial Categories in the Algorithmic Fairness Literature. *ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability and Transparency (FAccT)*. Chicago, IL. 2023.

## AWARDS AND HONORS

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Gary M. Olson Outstanding Ph.D. Student Award – *Honorable Mention*. U-M School of Information, 2025.  
Rackham One-Term Dissertation Fellowship – *Honorable Mention*. U-M Rackham Graduate School, 2025.  
Distinction in Doctoral Pre-Candidacy Paper and Oral Defense (**top 10%**). University of Michigan School of Information, 2023.  
Racial Equity in Tech Policy Accelerator (**\$3,000**). Federation of American Scientists & Kapor Center, 2023.  
Distinction in Mathematics Senior Exercise (Pomona College Thesis Award), 2018.

## INVITED WORKSHOPS, PANELS, AND TALKS

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- Participatory AI Research & Practice Symposium. January 2025.
- Differential Privacy Beyond Algorithms. *OpenDP Community Meeting*. August 2024.
- Panelist, Keywords on the Datafied State Roundtable. *Law and Society Association Annual Meeting*. June 2024.
- Keywords and Frames. Public Technology Leadership Collaborative, Data and Society. April 2024.
- Invited Talk, Upstream Assumptions in Responsible AI: An Empirical Assessment of Racial Categories in the Algorithmic Fairness Literature. Northeastern University Network Science Institute. February 2024.
- Sociotechnical Approaches to Measurement and Validation for Safety in AI. Northwestern Center for Advancing Safety of Machine Intelligence (CASMI). July 2023.
- Methods for Inclusivity in Data Collection. Partnership on AI. May 2023.
- Keywords on the Datafied State Workshop. Data and Society. March 2023.
- Who Has an Interest in “Public Interest Technology”? *ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW)*. November 2022.
- Doctoral Colloquium. *ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT)*. June 2022.
- Governing Everyday Misinformation. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. November 2021.

## TEACHING

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**SI 206: Data-Oriented Programming.** Graduate Student Instructor, *University of Michigan*. Winter 2024.  
**SI 110: Introduction to Information Studies.** Graduate Student Instructor, *University of Michigan*. Fall 2022.  
**MATH 060: Calculus I.** Teaching Assistant & Curriculum Design, *Pomona College*. Fall 2016, Fall 2017.

## PROFESSIONAL AND RESEARCH POSITIONS

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<b>Researcher</b> <i>Center for Ethics, Society, and Computing (ESC)</i>	2025-present <i>Ann Arbor, MI</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ESC is a research center and a collective of scholars committed to feminist, justice-focused, inclusive, and interdisciplinary approaches to computing.</li></ul>	
<b>Antitrust Advocacy Associate</b> <i>Consumer Federation of America</i>	April 2020 – August 2021 <i>Washington, D.C.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Led portfolio on digital platform governance including competition law, data collection and privacy, discrimination, content moderation, and intermediary liability</li></ul>	
<b>Research Associate</b> <i>Harvard Kennedy School of Government &amp; Harvard Business School</i>	July, 2018 – March, 2020 <i>Cambridge, MA</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Data management, statistical analysis, and research for economic health policy projects regarding <a href="#">public insurance</a>, <a href="#">hospitals networks</a>, and <a href="#">regulation of the pharmaceutical industry</a></li></ul>	
<b>Computational and Applied Mathematics Researcher</b> <i>University of California, Los Angeles</i>	Summer 2017 <i>Los Angeles, CA</i>

## SERVICE

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Doctoral Committee Student Representative, UMSI, AY 2025-2026  
Co-organizer, Rackham Interdisciplinary Workshop on Science, Technology, and Society, AY 2024-2025; 2025-2026  
Reviewer, Statistics and Public Policy  
Reviewer, ACM AIES 2024, 2025  
Reviewer, ACM FAccT 2023, 2024, 2025  
Reviewer, UMSI Ph.D. Application Feedback Program, 2023-present  
Peer mentor, UMSI Ph.D. Program, 2022-present