

# ANDREW AQUILINA

◇ Computational social science and natural language processing ◇  
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## Education

University of Pittsburgh  
Ph.D. Information Science

Pittsburgh, PA  
Aug 2024 – present

- Advisor: Prof. Yu-Ru Lin

Stockholm University  
M.Sc. Computer and System Sciences, Artificial Intelligence

Stockholm, Sweden  
Aug 2021 – June 2022

University of Malta  
B.Sc. Information Technology, Artificial Intelligence

Msida, Malta  
Oct 2018 – June 2021

## Awards and Fellowships

SCI Fellowship	University of Pittsburgh	2024 – 2025
Pathfinder Scholarship	Malta's Digital Innovation Authority	2021 – 2022
First Class Honours	University of Malta	2021

## Papers

Aquilina, A. and Abela, C. **Predicting links in a social network based on recognised personalities**. In *Proceedings of the 37th ACM/SIGAPP Symposium on Applied Computing, SAC '22*, New York, NY, USA, 2022. Association for Computing Machinery.

Aquilina, A., Diacono, S., Papapetrou, P., and Movin, M. **An end-to-end workflow using topic segmentation and text summarisation methods for improved podcast comprehension**, 2023. [arXiv:2307.13394](https://arxiv.org/abs/2307.13394).

## Industry Experience

Loqus Business Intelligence  
AI Engineer

San Ġwann, Malta  
Sep 2023 – July 2024

- Led new AI initiatives within the company, including the development of a customer-facing chatbot designed to answer questions related to deliveries.

Sambla Group  
Data Scientist

Stockholm, Sweden  
Nov 2022 – May 2023

- Leveraged NLP methods to cluster and summarise vast amounts of textual data to provide key insights for a cost-saving business strategy (30% cost reduction).
- Applied ranking methods to improve the accuracy and NDCG of user-item recommendation systems.

## Teaching

### Guest Lectures

- University of Pittsburgh, Social Computing, "Social link prediction using recognised personalities" (Oct 2024).

### Teaching Assistant

- Foundations of Artificial Intelligence, Big Ideas in Computing and Information (Fall 2025).
- Foundations of Cloud Computing for Data Science (Summer 2025).

### Mentorship

- Sean Jacobs, Pitt B.Sc. student
- Aishwarya Krishnamoorthy, Pitt B.Sc. student

## Community and Leadership Experience

### Reviewing

- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| • NEJLT 2025                       | • ICWSM 2025 (Posters, Demos, and Datasets Track) |
| • GeBNLP 2025 Workshop at ACL 2025 | • Pluralistic Alignment Workshop at NeurIPS 2024  |

### Student Organisations

- Doctoral Guild, University of Pittsburgh — Officer (Spring 2025) → President (current).
- IAESTE, University of Malta — Officer (2020–2021).

## Invited Panels

### Panel on Responsible Technology

Organised by Tech For Good, University of Pittsburgh

Feb 2025