# ANDREW AQUILINA

◇ Computational social science and natural language processing ◇

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## Education

**University of Pittsburgh** — *Pittsburgh, PA*
Ph.D. Information Science — **Aug 2024 – present**

- Advisor: Prof. Yu-Ru Lin

**Stockholm University** — *Stockholm, Sweden*
M.Sc. Computer and System Sciences, Artificial Intelligence — **Aug 2021 – June 2022**

**University of Malta** — *Msida, Malta*
B.Sc. Information Technology, Artificial Intelligence — **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**.

## Industry Experience

**Loqus Business Intelligence** — *San Ġwann, Malta*
AI Engineer — **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** — *Stockholm, Sweden*
Data Scientist — **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).

## Community and Leadership Experience

### Reviewing

- NEJLT 2025
- GeBNLP 2025 Workshop at ACL 2025
- ICWSM 2025 (Posters, Demos, and Datasets Track)
- 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**