Lisa Oswald
Curriculum Vitae

CURRENT POSITION

Postdoctoral Researcher   September 2023 - Present
Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin
> EU Horizon Project: Social Media for Democracy (SoMe4Dem), affiliated with the Cognition in Online Environments group at the Center of Adaptive Rationality (ARC)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Psychological foundations of political behavior
- Public discourse in online environments
- Public opinion, political polarization, media literacy, online toxicity
- Psychology of sustainable behavior, climate change skepticism

EDUCATION

PhD Political Science   2020-2023
Hertie School Berlin
> Title: Public Discourse in Online Environments: Contributions to description, measurement and communication behavior change in political online ecosystems. Supervised by Simon Munzert, Ralph Hertwig and Andrew Guess. Evaluated by Fabrizio Giliardi and Yannis Theocharis. Graded with summa cum laude.

MSc. Social Data Science   2019-2020
University of Oxford
> Interdisciplinary and international graduate program, hosted by the Oxford Internet Institute, at the intersection of social and computational science, with a practical focus on data analysis and programming with Python, Internet research and political science. Thesis: Should we talk to climate skeptics? Graduated with distinction.

MSc. Psychology   2016-2019
University of Kassel
> First major in Social and Environmental Psychology, second major in Clinical Psychology. Master thesis: Social Drivers of Individual Air Travel. Final grade 1.0. Research assistant to Andreas Ernst, Center for Environmental Systems Research, Kassel.

BSc. Psychology   2013-2016
University of Kassel
> Bachelor thesis in environmental psychology: Outdoor sport and Environmental behavior. Final grade 1.1. Research assistant to Isabel Lindner, Department of Psychology, Kassel.

PUBLICATIONS

Younger-Khan, S., Weidmann, N. B., & Oswald, L. (2024). Consistent effects of science and scientist characteristics on public trust across political regimes. *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications*, 11(1), 1–14. https://doi.org/10.1057/s41599-024-03909-2

Oswald, L. (2024). More than news! Mapping the deliberative potential of a political online ecosystem with digital trace data. *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications*, 11(1), 1–16. https://doi.org/10.1057/s41599-024-03115-0

Oswald, L. (2023). Public Discourse in Online Environments. Contributions to description, measurement and communication behavior change in political online ecosystems. *Dissertation*, Hertie School. DOI: 10.48462/opus4-5066

Lorenz-Spreen, P., Oswald, L., Lewandowsky, S., & Hertwig, R. (2022). A systematic review of worldwide causal and correlational evidence on digital media and democracy. *Nature Human Behaviour*. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-022-01460-1

Oswald, L., & Bright, J. (2022). How Do Climate Change Skeptics Engage with Opposing Views Online? Evidence from a Major Climate Change Skeptic Forum on Reddit. *Environmental Communication*, DOI: 10.1080/17524032.2022.2071314

Klaus, G., Oswald, L., Ernst, A., & Merk, C. (2021). Effects of opinion statements on laypeople's acceptance of a climate engineering technology. Comparing the source credibility of researchers, politicians and a citizens' jury. *Journal of Science Communication*, 20(1), A03.

Oswald, L., & Ernst, A. (2020). Flying in the Face of Climate Change: Quantitative psychological approach examining the social drivers of individual air travel. *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, 29(1), 68-86.

Klaus, G., Ernst, A., & Oswald, L. (2020). Psychological factors influencing laypersons' acceptance of climate engineering, climate change mitigation and business as usual scenarios. *Technology in Society*, 60, 101222.

WORKING PAPERS

Oswald, L. & Lorenz-Spreen, P. (2024). Dynamics of Digital Discourse: A Collective Field Experiment on Reddit.

Oswald, L. (2023). Effects of Preemptive Empathy Interventions on Reply Toxicity among Highly Active Social Media Users. SocArXiv.https://osf.io/preprints/socarxiv/evdxy/

Oswald, L., Munzert, S., Barberá, P., Guess, A., and Yang, J. (2023). Beyond the tip of the iceberg? Exploring Characteristics of the Online Public with Digital Trace Data. SocArXiv. https://osf.io/preprints/socarxiv/yfmzh/

Oswald, L. (2022). Automating the Analysis of Online Deliberation? A comparison of manual and computational measures applied to climate change discussions. SocArXiv. https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/qmzwx

TEACHING

Introduction to R Workshop — Spring 2022

Hertie School, Berlin (MSc Public Policy and MSc International Affairs)

- Day 1 - Base R Basics: Data types and structures, RStudio interface, operators, data frames, error handling, missing data, and best practices.
- Day 2 - Tidyverse: Tidy data principles, dplyr for data manipulation, tidyr for data cleaning, ggplot2 for visualization, and basics of functions and iteration.

Introduction to Data Science — Fall 2021

Hertie School, Berlin (MSc Data Science for Public Policy)

Teaching Assistant to Prof. Simon Munzert. Development of R tutorials. Topics included:

- Base R, GitHub for version control, Tidyverse, functions and iteration, databases, web scraping, modeling, visualization, Shell basics, debugging, Shiny for interactive applications.

Statistical Modeling & Causal Inference — Spring 2021, Spring 2022

Hertie School, Berlin (Master in Public Policy)

Teaching Assistant to Prof. Simon Munzert. Weekly R tutorials for interdisciplinary and international student groups. Collaborated on creating assignments to assess learning. Topics included:

- Causality, DAGs, potential outcomes framework, regression, matching, instrumental variables, regression discontinuity, difference-in-differences, panel data, fixed effects, moderation, and mediation.

Quantitative Methods II — Spring 2015, Spring 2016

University of Kassel, Germany (BSc Psychology)

Teaching Assistant to Dr. Isabel Lindner. Tutorials in German focused on deriving estimates conceptually and applying them in R. Topics included:

- Analyses of variance, repeated measures, (semi)partial correlation, multiple regression, analyses of covariance, and non-parametric tests.

Quantitative Methods I — Fall 2015

University of Kassel, Germany (BSc Psychology)

Teaching Assistant to Dr. Isabel Lindner. Tutorials in German focused on deriving estimates conceptually and applying them in R. Topics included:

- Scales and variables, measurement theory, descriptive statistics, logic of statistical tests, t-tests, correlation, and regression.

Guest Lectures & Short Workshops

Various Institutions

- **Boosting Online Decision Making: Later Reading and Online Search** (Fall 2024): Guest Lecture at the Hertie School, Berlin.
- **Reference Management with Zotero and Overleaf** (Spring 2024): Workshop at ARC, MPIB Berlin.
- **Decision Making in Online Environments** (Spring 2024): Guest Lecture at HU Berlin, MSc Mind and Brain.
- **Selective Engagement in Online Public Discourse** (Fall 2023): Guest Lecture at University College Dublin, Connected Politics Lab.

TALKS & COMMUNICATION

Conference Presentations

IC2S2, Philadelphia, USA - conference presentation: Dynamics of digital discourse: A collective field experiment on Reddit	2024
EPSA, Köln - conference presentation: Digital literacy in Germany: testing interventions with survey experiments and web tracking data	2024
Digital Democacy Workshop, Zurich - conference presentation, Exploring the online public (sphere) with digital trace data	2022
EPSA, Prague - conference presentation, Who Engages Where on the Online Public Square? Evidence from Digital Trace Data	2022
ICP+ - conference presentation, How do climate change skeptics engage with opposing views? Mechanisms of social identity and cognitive dissonance in an online forum	2021
MPA - conference presentation, How do climate change skeptics engage with opposing views? Invited talk within the 'internet explorer' symposium	2021

Invited talks

Embassy of Belgium in Berlin - invited talk: Digital Media, Disinformation and Democracy	2024
German Foreign Office, Berlin - invited talk, young diplomats program: Digital Media and Democracy	2024
Abgerodnetenhaus, Berlin - invited talk, Die Zukunft der Parlamentarischen Demokratie im Angesicht digitaler Medien	2024

Science Communication

Science Podcast: Unraveling Behavior - Digital Media and Democracy	2024
Press writing: The Conversation - Is the global decline in democracy linked to social media? We combed through the evidence to find out	2022

ACADEMIC COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Representation and committee work

Elected PhD Representative & IT committee Hertie School	2022-2023
Elected Student Representative, Graduate Center for Environmental Studies and Teaching (GradZ), University of Kassel	2018-2019
Elected Student Representative, Directorate, Department of Psychology, University of Kassel	2017-2018

Seminar organization and event management

SmP seminar organization: Network Analysis for Sustainable Development. 4-day seminar with international speakers and 85 participants in Berlin, funded by Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes	2020
SmP seminar organization: Artificial Intelligence and Society. 3-day seminar in Munich, funded by Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes	2019

SmP seminar organization: Sustainability Scenario Modeling. 3-day seminar in Vienna, funded by Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes	2018

Reviewing Journal Articles

Journal of Politics
Political Behavior
PNAS Nexus
Journal of Quantitative Description: Digital Media
Royal Society Open Science
Journal of Science Communication
Politics and Governance
International Journal of Human-Computer Interaction

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Doctoral Scholarship 2021-2023
German Academic National Foundation (Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes)
> Supporting doctoral students from different disciplinary and personal backgrounds that are "united in their particular scientific ability, in their curiosity that extends beyond their own discipline and life world, and in their pronounced sense of social responsibility."

Best poster award 2022
Political Methodology Europe
> For the poster: "Measuring Deliberative Potential in the Online Public Sphere – A Latent Class Segmentation Analysis." presented at PolMeth Europe 2022, annual award.

Highly commended thesis 2020
Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford
> Honoring MSc thesis (Should we talk to climate skeptics?), annual award.

Carl-Friedrich Graumann Award 2018
German Psychological Society (DGPs), Section Environmental Psychology
> Honoring BSc thesis (Outdoor Sport and Environmental behavior) as best newcomer scientist work in the field of environmental psychology, biannual award.

Scholarship 2016-2020
German Academic National Foundation (Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes)
> Supporting "the university education of young people who, on account of their exceptional academic or artistic talents and their personalities, can be expected to make an outstanding contribution to society as a whole."

CONTACT

E-Mail	oswald@mpib-berlin.mpg.de
Website	https://lfoswald.github.io/
GoogleScholar	https://shorturl.at/UHpT4
LinkedIn	https://www.linkedin.com/in/lfoswald/
Twitter	@LisaFOswaldo
Bluesky	@lfoswaldo.bsky.social