CONTACT INFORMATION	*University of Michigan* *School of Information* 2200 Hayward Street Ann Arbor, MI 48109	mgnbrown@umich.edu https://meganbrown.org

EDUCATION

University of Michigan — Ann Arbor, MI
Ph.D. in Information and Scientific Computing — 2023 - 2028

New York University — New York, NY
Bachelor of Arts — 2016 - 2019
Politics (major), Middle East & Islamic Studies (minor)

RESEARCH AFFILIATIONS

Social Media Archive — 2023 - Present
University of Michigan
Media and Democracy Data Cooperative — 2022 - Present
Executive Board — 2023 - Present
University of Texas, Austin
Center for Social Media and Politics — 2017 - Present
New York University
Institute for Research on the Information Environment — 2023 - 2024
Princeton University

‡ first or co-first authorship

JOURNAL ARTICLES

14. ‡Echo Chambers, Rabbit Holes, and Algorithmic Bias: How YouTube Recommends Content to Real Users
(with James Bisbee, Angela Lai, Richard Bonneau, Jonathan Nagler, Joshua A. Tucker)
Conditionally Accepted at *Political Communication*

13. Macdonald, M., **Brown, M. A.**, Asimovic, N., Majumdar, R., Song, L., Graham, S., Huber, L., Budiman, A., Tucker, J. A. & Nagler, J. (2025). Reaching across the political aisle: overcoming challenges in using social media for recruiting politically diverse respondents. International Journal of Social Research Methodology, 1-19.

12. ‡**Brown, M. A.**, Gruen, A., Maldoff, G., Messing, S., Sanderson, Z., & Zimmer, M. (2025). Web scraping for research: Legal, ethical, institutional, and scientific considerations. Big Data & Society, 12(4).

11. Waight, H., Messing, S., Shirikov, A., Roberts, M. E., Nagler, J., Greenfield, J., **Brown, M. A.**, Aslett, K., & Tucker, J. A. (2025). Quantifying Narrative Similarity Across Languages. *Sociological Methods & Research*, 0(0).

10. Lukito, J., Macdonald, M., Chen, B., **Brown, M. A.**, Prochaska, S., Yang, Y., Greenfield, J., Suk, J., Zhong, W., Dahlke, R., & Borah, P. (2025). Candidates Be Posting: Multi-Platform Strategies and Partisan Preferences in the 2022 U.S. Midterm Elections. *Social Media + Society*, 11(2).

9. Macdonald, M., **Brown, M. A.**, Tucker, J. A., & Nagler, J. (2025). To Moderate, Or Not to Moderate: Strategic Domain Sharing by Congressional Campaigns. *Electoral Studies*.

8. ‡**Brown, M. A.**, Lukito, J., Pruden, M. L., & Riedl, M. J. (2024). Making academia suck less: Supporting early career researchers studying harmful content online through a feminist ethics of care. *New Media & Society*, 0(0).

7. ‡**Brown, M. A.**, Sanderson, Z., Graham, S., Kim, M., Tucker, J. A., & Messing, S. (2024). Digital town square? Nextdoor's offline contexts and online discourse. *Journal of Quantitative Description: Digital Media*, 4, 1–48.

6. Dahlke, R., Lukito, J., Greenfield, J., Yang, Y., **Brown, M. A.**, Lewis, R., & Chen, B., (2024). Comparing Audio-As-Data Tools for Transcription and Computational Phonology. *Media and Communication*, 12, 1–18.

5. Lai, A., **Brown, M. A.**, Bisbee, J., Bonneau, R., Nagler, J., & Tucker, J. A. (2024). Estimating the Ideology of Political YouTube Videos. *Political Analysis*.

4. Bisbee, J., **Brown, M. A.**, Lai, A., Bonneau, R., Nagler, J., & Tucker, J. A. (2022). Election Fraud, YouTube, and Public Perception of the Legitimacy of President Biden. *Journal of Online Trust and Safety*, 1(3).

3. Wu, F., Xiao, A., Zhang, J., Moniz, K., Endo, N., Armas, F., Bonneau, R., **Brown, M. A.**, Bushman, M., Chai, P. R., Duvallet, C., Erickson, T. B., Foppe, K., Ghaeli, N., Gu, X., Hanage, W. P., Huang, K. H., Lee, W. L., Matus, M., McElroy, K. A., Nagler, J., Rhode, S. F., Santillana, M., Tucker, J. A., Wuertz, S., Zhao, S., Thompson, J., & Alm, E. J. (2022). SARS-CoV-2 RNA concentrations in wastewater foreshadow dynamics and clinical presentation of new COVID-19 cases. *Science of The Total Environment*, 805, 150121.

2. ‡Sanderson, Z., **Brown, M. A.**, Bonneau, R., Nagler, J., & Tucker, J. A. (2021). Twitter flagged Donald Trump's tweets with election misinformation: They continued to spread both on and off the platform. *Harvard Misinformation Review*.

1. Golovchenko, Y., Buntain, C., Eady, G., **Brown, M. A.**, & Tucker, J. A. (2020). Cross-Platform State Propaganda: Russian Trolls on Twitter and YouTube during the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election. *The International Journal of Press and Politics*, 25(3), 357-389.

REFEREED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

2. ‡**Brown, M.A.**, Thomer, A. and Hemphill, L. (2025), "Unnecessarily cumbersome": Researchers' Opinions on Restricted Data Access Systems. *Proceedings of the Association for Information Science and Technology*, 62: 887-891.

1. Bellini, R., Lee, K., **Brown, M. A.**, Shaffer, J., Bhalerao, R., & Ristenpart, T. (2023). The Digital-Safety Risks of Financial Technologies for Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence, In *32nd USENIX Security Symposium (USENIX Security 23)* (pp. 87-104).

REVISE & RESUBMIT

- **Cross-platformization of right-wing news: How right-wing outlets curate their social media timelines on Twitter and Truth Social** (with Yini Zhang, Stephen Prochaska, Bin Chen, Jason Greenfield, Jiyoun Suk, Meredith Pruden, Porismita Borah, Ross Dahlke, Wei Zhong, Yunkang Yang) Revise & Resubmit at *New Media & Society*

- **Linguistic and Auditory Style on The Alex Jones Show Predicts InfoWars Sales: A Multi-Modal Analysis of a Media Empire** (with Ross Dahlke, Rebecca Lewis, Jason Greenfield, Josephine Lukito, Bin

Chen, Yunkang Yang)
Revise & Resubmit at *Information, Communication, & Society*

- ‡Network Embedding Methods for Large Networks in Political Science
(with Zhanna Terechshenko, Rachel Connolly, Angela Lai, Charlotte Ji)
Revise & Resubmit at *Social Science Computer Review*

- Post-Post-API Age: Studying Digital Platforms in Scant Data Access Times
(with Kayo Mimizuka, Kai-Cheng Yang, Josephine Lukito)
Revise & Resubmit at *CSCW*

UNDER REVIEW

- ‡**Candidata: U.S. 2024 Elections Candidates and Social Media Posts**
(with Josephine Lukito, Maggie Macdonald, Kaitlyn Dowling, Cameron Hickey, Myra Miranda)

- ‡The relationship between offline partisan geographical segregation and online partisan segregation
(with Tiago Ventura, Joshua A. Tucker, Jonathan Nagler)

- ‡Evaluating how LLM annotations represent diverse views on contentious topics
(with Shubham Atreja, Libby Hemphill, Patrick Y. Wu)

- ‡**(Commentary) Contextual Integrity and the Study of Public Figures' Online Messages**
(with Patrick Y. Wu, Maggie Macdonald, Josephine Lukito, Annelise Russell)

WORKING PAPERS

- ‡**Using Language Embeddings with Synthetic Minority Oversampling Technique**
(with Zhanna Terechshenko)

- **Small Dollar Donations and Globalization: How Trade-Related Layoffs Translate to Costly Political Action**
(with Maggie Macdonald, Rachel Porter, James Bisbee, Patrick Y. Wu)

- **The Impact of Small Dollar Donations and Donors in Congressional Campaigns**
(with Maggie Macdonald, Rachel Porter)

REPORTS & WHITE PAPERS

3. The State of Digital Media Data Research, 2024, April 2024 (with Josephine Lukito, Jason Greenfield, Bin Chen, Sarah Graham, Sarah Shugars, Meredith L. Pruden)

2. Impact of Twitter API Loss for Research , April 2023 (with Josephine Lukito, Kai-Cheng Yang)

1. The State of Digital Media Data Research, 2023, February 2023 (with Josephine Lukito, Ross Dahlke, Jiyoun Suk, Yunkang Yang, Yini Zhang, Bin Chen, Sang Jung Kim, Kaiya Soorholtz)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

1. Online Data and the Insurrection
In *Media and January 6th* (2024); Edited by Khadijah Costley White, Daniel Kreiss, Shannon C. McGregor, Rebekah Tromble; Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press

GRANTS &	*University of Michigan School of Information Travel Grant ($2,500)*	2025
AWARDS	*ICWSM Best Reviewer Award*	2025
	University of Michigan Rackham Travel Grant ($1,150)	2025
	University of Michigan School of Information Travel Grant ($2,500)	2025
	ICWSM Best Reviewer Award	2024
	University of Michigan Rackham Travel Grant ($1,400)	2024
	University of Michigan School of Information Travel Grant ($2,500)	2024

PUBLIC WRITING

12. Digital Media Research Changes Will Alter Election Studies, *Technology Policy Press*, June 2024 (with Josephine Lukito)

11. What Does CrowdTangle's Demise Signal for Data Access Under the DSA?, *Technology Policy Press*, March 2024 (with Josephine Lukito, Kai-Cheng Yang)

10. The Problem with TikTok's New Researcher API is Not TikTok, *Technology Policy Press*, March 2023

9. Echo chambers, rabbit holes, and ideological bias: How YouTube recommends content to real users, *Brookings: The Economics and Regulation of Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technologies*, October 2022 (with Jonathan Nagler, James Bisbee, Angela Lai, Joshua A. Tucker)

8. Republicans are increasingly sharing misinformation, research finds, *The Washington Post*, August 2022 (with Maggie Macdonald)

7. Gender-based online violence spikes after prominent media attacks, *Brookings: TechStream*, January 2022 (with Zeve Sanderson, Maria Alejandra Silva Ortega)

6. Twitter banned Marjorie Taylor Greene. That may not hurt her much., *The Washington Post*, January 2022 (with Maggie Macdonald)

5. Trendless Fluctuation? How Twitter's Ethiopia Interventions May (Not) Have Worked, *Technology Policy Press*, January 2022 (with Tessa Knight)

4. Twitter amplifies conservative politicians. Is it because users mock them?, *The Washington Post*, October 2021 (with Jonathan Nagler, Joshua A. Tucker)

3. Twitter put warning labels on hundreds of thousands of tweets. Our research examined which worked best., *The Washington Post*, December 2020 (with Zeve Sanderson, Jonathan Nagler, Richard Bonneau, Joshua A. Tucker)

2. How Trump impacts harmful Twitter speech: A case study in three tweets, *Brookings: TechStream*, October 2020 (with Zeve Sanderson)

1. Biden and Sanders are debating tonight. What got Twitter users buzzing during past Democratic debates?, *The Washington Post*, March 2020 (with Zhanna Terechshenko, Niklas Loynes, Tom Paskhalis, Jonathan Nagler)

MEDIA COVERAGE

18. YouTube Loosens Rules Guiding the Moderation of Videos., June 9, 2025, *The New York Times*

17. How Bad Is Antisemitism Online? It's Increasingly Hard to Know., November 17, 2023, *The New York Times*

16. Exclusive: Elon Musk's X restructuring curtails disinformation research, spurs legal fears, November 6, 2023, *Reuters*

15. The ship sank. Or did it? Titanic misinformation swirls, June 22, 2023, *AFP*

14. The Titanic Truthers of TikTok, June 16, 2023, *The New York Times*

13. Twitter's plan to charge researchers for data access puts it in EU crosshairs, March 22, 2023, *Politico*

12. Democrats fear Musk may retaliate against Twitter researchers, November 18, 2022, *The Washington Post*

11. Revealed: Just one in four Trump-endorsed candidates using Truth Social actively, November 18, 2022, *Columbia Journalism Review*

10. Investigating YouTube's Ideological "Rabbit Hole", November 12, 2022, *The Markup*

9. Parler seen as home for far-right – and now Kanye West , October 17, 2022, *AFP*

8. YouTube pushed Trump supporters toward voter fraud videos, study finds, January 20, 2022, *The Washington Post*

7. YouTube algorithm pushed election fraud claims to Trump supporters, report says, September 2, 2022, *The Washington Post*

6. YouTube's recommendations pushed election denial content to election deniers, September 1, 2022, *The Verge*

5. Pro-Trump influencers flocked to alternative social networks. Their follower counts stalled soon after., September 1, 2022, *NBC News*

4. Twitter May Be Amping Conservative Accounts Because People Can't Stop Dunking on Them, October 27, 2021, *Rolling Stone*

3. YouTube CEO Susan Wojcicki built a $1 trillion video empire by skirting scrutiny and not acting like Facebook. But insiders say a reckoning is coming as the division soars to new heights., October 21, 2021, *Business Insider*

2. YouTube's stronger election misinformation policies had a spillover effect on Twitter and Facebook, researchers say., October 14, 2021, *The New York Times*

1. Twitter blocked and labeled Donald Trump's tweets on election fraud. They spread anyway., August 24, 2021, *USA Today*

INVITED TALKS

- Text As Data Course, "Audio as data methods," Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., April 2025

- Honors Recommendation Systems Course, "Auditing YouTube's recommendation system for extreme content and election denial content," University of Maryland, College Park, September 2024

- Disrupt, Ally, Resist, Embrace (DARE): Action Items for Computational Social Scientists in a Changing World Workshop, "Creating research infrastructure for computational social science," ICWSM, June 2024

- Institute for Research on the Information Environment Workshop, "Creating baseline samples for social media research," February 2024

- New York Anti-Violence Project Webinar, "Digital Safety for Financial Technologies and Social Media," New York Anti-Violence Project, November 2023

- CSMaP Social Media and Politics Seminar, "Creating an Ethics of Care for Early Career Researchers," New York University's Center for Social Media and Politics, November 2023

- CSMaP Social Media and Politics Seminar, "The effects of offline partisan segregation on online behavior on Twitter," New York University's Center for Social Media and Politics, September 2023

- Summer Intitute for Computational Social Sciences, "Collecting and analyzing social media data," New York University's Silver School for Social Work, June 2023

- CSMaP Midterm Elections Series, "How YouTube Recommends Content to Real Users," New York University's Center for Social Media and Politics, November 2022

- Trust & Safety Research Conference, "Election Fraud, YouTube, and Public Perception of the Legitimacy of President Biden," Stanford University, September 2022

- Meta Computational Social Science Seminar, "How YouTube Recommends Content to Real Users," Facebook - New York, July 2022

- Digital Data Conference, "Data Engineering for Computational Social Science," University of Texas at Austin, April 2022

- The Capitol Coup One Year Later, "New Research Questions," Center for Information, Technology and Public Life at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill & Institute for Data, Democracy, and Politics at George Washington University, January 2022

- Twitter Developer Talks, "How CSMaP Uses Twitter Data for Research," Twitter Headquarters, October 2021

- Knight Research Network Tool Demonstration Day, "Using the YouTube Data API for research," Center for Informed Democracy & Social - Cybersecurity at Carnegie Mellon University, October 2021

- Knight Research Network Tool Demonstration Day, "Using SMaBERTa for research," Center for Informed Democracy & Social - Cybersecurity at Carnegie Mellon University, October 2021

- South Hub: Social Cybersecurity Working Group, "How YouTube Recommends Ideological Content to Users," South Big Data Hub, September 2021

- Academic Research on YouTube: The State of the Field and Potential Future Directions, "The Role of Ideology in YouTube Recommendations," YouTube Headquarters, May 2021

- Politics and YouTube, "Using the YouTube API for Research," Center for the Study of Democratic Politics at Princeton University, April 2019

CONFERENCES **2026**: MPSA

2025: CSMaP Annual Conference, Congress and History Conference, ICA, CBS Money in Politics Conference, IC2S2, Trust and Safety Conference, AOIR, ASIS&T

2024: MPSA, CSMaP Annual Conference, Visions in Methodology Conference, ICWSM, ICA, CBS Money in Politics, Post-API Conference, IC2S2, APSA, WiLS Conference, ADSA, IPES, NCA

2023: MPSA, CSMaP Annual Conference, ICA, PolMeth, PaCSS, APSA, AOIR, Post-API Conference

2022: AAPOR, CSMaP Annual Conference, APSA, Trust and Safety Conference

2021: CSMaP Annual Conference, APSA

TEACHING EXPERIENCE **University of Michigan**

Graduate Student Instructor, SI 495: Information Analytics Capstone II   W25
Graduate Student Instructor, SI 485: Information Analytics Capstone I   F25

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Data Engineer (consultant)   2022 - Present
Community Tech Alliance
- Create and maintain Extract-Transform-Load (ETL) pipelines for Get Out The Vote text campaigns

Case Lead (volunteer)   2021 - Present
Cornell Clinic to End Tech Abuse, Cornell University
- Work with clients to secure their technology from abusers, guiding them through walk-throughs of the security settings of their devices and online accounts
- Conduct research on platform abuse in the context of Intimate Partner Violence

Research Engineer/Research Scientist   2019 - 2023
Research Engineer/Research Scientist (2019 - 2022)
Sr. Research Engineer/Research Scientist (2022 - 2023)
Center for Social Media and Politics, New York University

- Work with multidisciplinary teams of students, postdoctoral researchers, professors, and other researchers to develop methods for the collection and analysis of social media data for social science research

Research Associate   2017 - 2019
Center for Social Media and Politics, New York University
- Assisted in research on the intersection of social media and politics, developed data collection and analysis pipelines, conducted literature reviews