

# MATTHEW PERKS

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WATERLOO, ON N2L 3G1

## EDUCATION

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2017 - Present	<b>PhD</b>	University of Waterloo, Sociology Thesis: "No Longer an Afterthought: Examining the Impact of Embedded Community Management on Platforms and Content Developers" Supervisor: Dr. Jennifer R. Whitson
2017	<b>MA</b>	Concordia University, Sociology Thesis: "Indexing Behaviours Indicative of Eco-Citizenship in the Canadian Population" Advisors: Dr. Katja Neves & Dr. Danielle Gauvreau
2014	<b>BA</b>	Concordia University, Specialization in Sociology

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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2017	Refiguring Innovation in Games (ReFiG) Graduate Student Grant
2017	Dr. Andrés Petrasovits Award for Excellence in Public Health
2016	Concordia University Arts and Science Faculty Conference Support
2016	Concordia Conference and Exposition Award
2015	Cary Boucock Memorial Award
2015	Quebec Inter-University Centre for Social Statistics (QICSS) Entrance Scholarship

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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2017 – Present	<b>Research Assistant</b> , University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON Indie Interfaces: Examining Independent Game Development Support Networks, SSHRC Insight Development Grant, PI: Dr. Felan Parker, <a href="http://indieinterfaces.com">http://indieinterfaces.com</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Conduct ethnography with independent game developers and intermediaries on sustainability and networks in the industry.</li><li>• Co-author and copy-edit papers based on data collected from ethnography and interviews.</li><li>• Represented project at international games conferences, presenting on our work with cultural intermediaries in the independent game development industry.</li><li>• Operate research project's newsletter to keep collaborators and stakeholders, both academic and industry, engaged in research.</li></ul>
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- 2017 – Present      **Research Assistant**, York University, Toronto, ON  
 Refiguring Innovation in Games, SSHRC Insight Partnership Grant,  
 PI: Dr. Jennifer Jensen, <http://refig.ca>
- Conduct interviews with independent game developers on gender equity policies linked to federal government arts funding opportunities.
  - Organized and received funding for a workshop for graduate research assistants to and begin drafting papers.
- 2015 – 2017      **Project Assistant / Analyst**, Public Health Agency of Canada, Montreal, QC, Social Determinants and Science Integration Directorate, Health Inequality Reporting Initiative
- Cleaned and analyzed data collected from Statistics Canada to create a database capturing health inequality in Canada.
  - Drafted chapters related to food insecurity, disability, and working poor population inequality for national report.
  - Prepared presentations for provincial public health agencies.
- 2015 – 2017      **Research Assistant**, Concordia University, Montreal, QC  
 Research Chair on Gambling, Lifestyle and Addiction Lab
- Organized a symposium on the convergence of data and gambling bringing together over 40 international scholars
  - Drafted a paper that examined the differences between indexed scores based on different types of gambling activity on the Canadian index for problem gambling
- 2015      **Research Assistant**, Concordia University, Montreal, QC  
 Dr. Katja Neves
- Collect information on bio-diversity governance, including partnerships and international agreements involving botanical gardens primarily located in Europe, Asia, and Canada.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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- June 2018 to December 2018      **University of Waterloo**, Waterloo, ON  
**Teaching Assistant**, Sociology & Legal Studies
- Introduction to Sociology, an undergraduate course averaging 200 students per semester, covering the following topics: foundational theorists, gender, labour, and religion.
- September 2017 to December 2017      **University of Waterloo**, Waterloo, ON  
**Teaching Assistant**, Sociology & Legal Studies
- Research Methods, an undergraduate course averaging 40 students covering the following topics: quantitative methods, qualitative methods, ethics, and research design.

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| September 2016 to<br>December 2016 | <b>Concordia University</b> , Montreal, QC<br><b>Teaching Assistant</b> , Sociology & Anthropology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Construction of Sexuality, an undergraduate course averaging 30 students.</li> </ul> |
| September 2016 to<br>December 2016 | <b>Concordia University</b> , Montreal, QC<br><b>Teaching Assistant</b> , Sociology & Anthropology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self and Society, an undergraduate course averaging 30 students.</li> </ul>                 |
| January 2015 to<br>May 2015        | <b>Concordia University</b> , Montreal, QC<br><b>Teaching Assistant</b> , Sociology & Anthropology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Demography, an undergraduate course averaging 30 students.</li> </ul>                |

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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### ***Journal Publications***

**Perks, M.** (2015). Composting Program Participation and Availability Across Canada. *Sojourners: Undergraduate Journal of Sociology*. 6/7:42-57.

### ***Journal Papers in Review***

**Perks, M.** How Does Games Journalism Impact Game Design Decisions? A Case Study of Monetization and Loot Boxes. *Games and Culture*.

Browne, P., Schram, B., Whitson, J., Simon, B., Parker, F., **Perks, M.**, Yolgormez, C., Lavenir, G. Hosting a Symposium as Data Collection: Combining Para-site, Rapid Ethnographic Assessment and Swarm methods to generate fast data from ephemeral events. *Canadian Journal of Sociology*.

Monson, E., Kairouz, S., **Perks, M.**, & Arsenault, N. Are General and Activity-Specific PGSI Scores Consistent? *Journal of Gambling Issues*.

### ***Book Reviews***

**Perks, M.** (2018). Review of Tusikov, Natasha. 2016. *Chokepoints: Global Private Regulation on the Internet*. Surveillance and Society. 16(2). 263-265. <https://ojs.library.queensu.ca/index.php/surveillance-and-society/article/view/11624>

### ***Conference Papers***

(Peer-Reviewed)

Perks, M. and Whitson, J., "Counting, Categorizing, and Representing: Gender Diversity Initiatives in Canadian Game Industry Funding," ReFiG 4.0: Places and Spaces, October 2018

Perks, M., "Making Eco-Citizens: New Metrics in Environmental Sociology," Canadian Sociology Association Congress, June 2015

(Abstract-Reviewed)

Perks, M. and Whitson, J., "Refuse, Remediate, REFIGure: Making Games Sustainable for Women: Indie Interfaces," Digital Games Research Association Conference, July 2018.

Perks, M., "The Modern-Day Patch Note: Technical Communication to the Configuration of Player Communities," Digital Games Research Association Conference, July 2018.

Perks, M., "The Role of Criticism in Shifting Monetization of Video Games," Canadian Game Studies Association Annual Conference, May 2018.

Perks, M., "Gambling in Modern Virtual Economies, Unknowable, Unregulated, Unaccountable," Canadian Game Studies Association Annual Conference, June 2017.

Perks, M., "Indexing Behaviours Indicative of Eco-Citizenship Among the Canadian Population," Third ISA Forum of Sociology: The Futures We Want, July 2016

Perks, M., "I Only Have 3 Points of Food Left: Examining the Gamification of Big Data," ESS Digital Sociology Mini-Conference at the ESS Annual Meeting, March 2016

Perks, M., "Just One More: Gambling Within Modern Virtual Economies," Big Data & Risk Workshop, November 2015

Perks, M., "Gamification of Our Health, Behaviour and Data," Brave New Worlds: Sociology & Anthropology in the Digital Age, October 2015

Perks, M., "Environmental Civic Responsibility: Using Government Collected Quantitative Data to Engage Citizens," SAGSA Annual Graduate Student Conference, March 2015

Perks, M., "Managing and Mitigating Global Risk through Eco-Citizenship," Sensing Risk: Risk Related Research in Sociology and Anthropology, November 2014

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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Association of Internet Researchers, 2018-Present  
International Game Developers Association, 2017-Present  
Digital Games Research Association, 2017-Present  
Canadian Game Studies Association, 2016-Present  
Canadian Sociological Association, 2015-Present

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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### **Symposium Co-Organizer**

Summer Interactive Symposium – Research 2.0, Symposium, 2015  
Sociology and Anthropology Graduate Student Conference, Symposium, 2015

### **Peer-Reviewed Articles for:**

- Loading... Journal of the Canadian Game Studies Organization

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

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**First Person Scholar**, <http://www.firstpersonscholar.com>

Volunteer Copy-Editor, Waterloo, ON, September 2017 to Present

- A middle-state publication aimed at accessible, critical games scholarship articles.

## LANGUAGES

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**English:** Native Language

**French:** Intermediate Listener, Novice Speaker, Advanced Reading and Writing