

# Michael W. Kearney

---

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Missouri School of Journalism  
314 Lee Hills Hall  
Columbia, MO 65211-1200  
University of Missouri  
Office: (573) 882-0424  
kearneymw@missouri.edu

Google Scholar   
Faculty Page   
mikewk.com   
in/mikewk   
@kearneymw   
@mkearney 

## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Communication Studies, University Kansas 2017  
Minor: Social and Behavioral Sciences Methodology  
M.A., Communication Studies, University Kansas 2013  
B.S., Communication, Missouri State University 2012

## APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor, University of Missouri 2017–  
Journalism Studies, [School of Journalism](#)  
Data Science & Analytics, [Informatics Institute](#)  
Courtesy Appointment, University of Missouri 2018–  
Communication, [College of Arts & Sciences](#)  
Instructor, University of Kansas 2017  
Leadership Studies, [Institute for Leadership Studies](#)  
Graduate Assistant, University of Kansas 2012–2017  
Research, [Center for Research Methods & Data Analysis](#)  
Teaching, [Communication Studies](#)  
Debate coach, [Kansas Debate Team](#)

## PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Kearney, M. W. (2019). [Analyzing change in network polarization](#). *New Media & Society*. [Online First] 10.1177/1461444818822813  
Hall, J. A., Kearney, M. W., & Xing, C. (2018). [Two tests of social displacement through social media use](#). *Information, Communication and Society*. 10.1080/1369118X.2018.1430162  
Kearney, M. W. (2017). [Interpersonal goals and political uses of Facebook](#), *Communication Research Reports*, 32, 1-9. 10.1080/08824096.2016.1250069  
Pennington, N. R., Winfrey, K. L., Warner, B. R., & Kearney, M. W. (2015). [Liking Obama and Romney \(on Facebook\): An experimental evaluation of political engagement and efficacy during the 2012 general election](#). *Computers in Human Behavior*, 44, 279-283. 10.1016/j.chb.2014.11.032  
Kearney, M. W. (2014). [How durable is it? A contextualized interpretation of fiat in policy debate](#). *National Journal of Speech and Debate*, 2, 2-6. [hdl.handle.net/1808/15009](#)

## BOOK CHAPTERS

Kearney, M. W. (In press). [Automated accounts in partisan user networks on Twitter](#). In S. Jarvis (Ed.), *New agendas in communication: Conservatively speaking: How right-wing media and messaging (re)made American politics*. New York: Routledge.  
Kearney, M. W. (2018). [Analyzing tweets about the 2016 U.S. presidential “blunder” election](#). In B. R. Warner, D. G. Bystrom, M. S. McKinney, & M. Banwart (Eds.), *An unprecedented election: Campaign Coverage, Communication, and Citizens Divided*. 9781440860669/390  
Banwart, M. C. & Kearney, M. W. (2018). [Social dominance, sexism, and the lasting effects on political communication from the 2016 election](#). In B. R. Warner, D. G. Bystrom, M. S. McKinney, & M. Banwart (Eds.), *An Unprecedented Election: Campaign Coverage, Communication, and Citizens Divided*. 9781440860669/426  
Kearney, M. W., & Banwart, M. C. (2017). Methodological approaches. In C. Holtz-Bacha & M. Just (Eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Political Advertising* (29-37). 10.4324/9781315694504.ch3

OTHER SCHOLARLY  
DISSEMINATION

- Kearney, M. W. (2017). [Cross-lagged panel analysis](#). In M. Allen (Ed.), *SAGE Encyclopedia of Communication Research Methods* (313-314). [10.4135/9781483381411.n117](#)
- Kearney, M. W. (2017). [Cramér's V](#). In M. Allen (Ed.), *SAGE Encyclopedia of Communication Research Methods* (290). [10.4135/9781483381411.n107](#)
- Kearney, M. W. (2017). [Foundational literature reviews](#). In M. Allen (Ed.), *SAGE Encyclopedia of Communication Research Methods* (878-880). [10.4135/9781483381411.n304](#)
- Kearney, M. W. (2014). Persuading audiences with statistical evidence. In C. C. Bird, P. Wagner, & L. Harroff (Eds.), *Speaker-audience communication: The handbook*. Boston: Pearson Custom Publishing. [10.13140/RG.2.2.27930.34242](#)
- Kearney, M. W. (2014). [Review of \*Digital currents: How technology and the public are shaping TV news\* by Rena Bivens](#). *International Journal of Communication*, 8, 2600-2603.
- Kearney, M. W. (2014). [Review of \*Foundations and frontiers of deliberative governance\* by John S. Dryzek with Simon Niemeyer](#). *International Journal of Communication*, 8, 1540-1543.

POPULAR SCIENCE

- Kearney, M. W. (2018). [We put data science to the test to try to uncover the mystery author of the Times' Op-ed](#). *Reynolds Journalism Institute*.
- Kearney, M. W. (2017). [Trusting News project report](#). *Reynolds Journalism Institute*.

SOFTWARE

CRAN packages

- ★ [dapr: 'purrr'-Like Apply Functions](#).   
- ★ [pkgverse: Build a Meta-Package Universe](#).   
- ★ [tbltools: Tools for Working with Tibbles](#).   
- ★ [tfse: Tools for Script Editing](#).   
- ★ [funique: A Faster Unique Function](#).   
- ★ [textfeatures: Extracts Features from Text](#).   
- ★ [rtweet: Collecting Twitter data](#).   

Github packages

- ★ [tweetbotornot: Bot detection](#). *R package*. 
- ★ [kagglr: Client for accessing Kaggle's API](#). *R package*. 
- ★ [ig: Client for accessing Instagram's API](#). *R package*. 
- ★ [newsAPI: R client for newsAPIorg](#). *R package*. 
- ★ [nytimes: Interacting with NYTimes APIs](#). *R package*. 

Web Apps

- ★ [tweetbotornot: Bot detection](#). *Shiny App*. 
- ★ [Interactive Friendship Tool](#). *Shiny App*. 
- ★ [Simple tool for visualizing correlations](#). *Shiny App*. 

INVITED  
PRESENTATIONS

- [Collecting and Analyzing Twitter Data](#). (2018, November). Led workshop for the Program In Statistics and Methodology (PRISM) and Political Science Department in Columbus, OH.
- [Collecting and Analyzing Digital Trace Data](#). (2018, October). Led workshop for the Moody College of Communication in Austin, TX.
- [Automated accounts in partisan user networks on Twitter](#). (2018, April). Presentation delivered as part of 2018 New Agendas in Communication series in Austin, TX.
- [Collecting and analyzing Twitter data](#). (2018, April). Led workshop for the annual Computer Assisted Reporting Conference in Chicago, IL.
- [Twitter data for everyone: An introduction to rtweet](#). (2017, June). Presentation delivered to the R Users Group of Kansas City, Johnson County Library.

Measures of central tendency, dispersion, and some simple statistical tests. (2017, March). Presentation delivered on behalf of the Center for Research Methods & Data Analysis to SW 541 (Social Work Research Seminar).

[Data science and “big data” in communication research](#). (2017, February). Presentation delivered as part of Spring 2017 colloquium series sponsored by Communication Studies Department, University of Kansas.

Working with the NYTimes article search API. (2017, February). Presentation delivered as part of Spring 2017 workgroup on *Big Dynamic Data*, Center for Research Methods & Data Analysis, University of Kansas.

[Exploring new media environments with data science](#). (2017, January). Presentation delivered to the Pew Research Center, Washington, D.C..

Data wrangling: Parsing JSON, XML, and html data structures. (2016, November). Presentation delivered as part of Fall 2016 workgroup on *Big Dynamic Data*, Center for Research Methods & Data Analysis, University of Kansas.

[Introduction to rtweet: Collecting Twitter data](#). (2016, November). Presentation delivered as part of Fall 2016 workgroup on *Big Dynamic Data*, Center for Research Methods & Data Analysis, University of Kansas.

Data retrieval: Introduction to APIs and web scraping. (2016, October). Presentation delivered as part of Fall 2016 workgroup on *Big Dynamic Data*, Center for Research Methods & Data Analysis, University of Kansas.

## CONFERENCES

### Papers

Kearney, M.W. (2018, November). *Analyzing follow decisions of partisans on Twitter during the 2016 election*. Paper presented in the Political Communication Division at the 103rd Annual National Communication Association conference in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Kearney, M.W. (2018, November). *If They Run, Will Attitudes Change? Exploring the Intersection of Sexism, Image, and Viability of Women Candidates in 2018*. Paper presented in the Political Communication Division at the 103rd Annual National Communication Association conference in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Kearney, M.W. (2018, May). *A network-based approach to estimating political partisanship*. Paper presented at the 68th Annual International Communication Association conference in Prague, Czech Republic.

Hall, J. A., Kearney, M. W., & Xing, C. (2017, May). *Two tests of social displacement through social media use*. Paper presented at the 67th Annual International Communication Association Convention in San Diego, CA.

Warner, B. R., & Kearney, M. W. (2017, Sep). *No spillover: A longitudinal analysis of the effects of political communication online and off*. Paper presented at the 3rd Annual International Journal of Press/Politics Conference in Oxford, UK.

Kearney, M. W., & Webb, C. M. (2017, Sep). *#Politics: Using Twitter data to study public attitudes and public attention in event*. Paper presented at the 113th Annual American Political Science Association Meeting & Exhibition in San Francisco, CA.

Kearney, M. W. (2017, May). [An introduction to rtweet: Collecting Twitter data](#). Paper presented at the 67th Annual International Communication Association Convention in San Diego, CA.

Hall, J. A., Xing, C., & Kearney, M. W. (2017, May). *Two tests of social displacement through social media*. Paper presented at the 67th Annual International Communication Association Convention in San Diego, CA.

Webb, C. M., & Kearney, M. W. (2017, February). *Statecraft or sacrifice? The domestic political dynamics of economic sanctions*. Paper presented at the 58th Annual International Studies Association Convention in Baltimore, MD.

Kearney, M. W. (2016, April). *The null effect of social media use on political participation*. Paper presented in the Political Communication Interest Group at the CSCA Annual Conference, Grand Rapids, MI.

Kearney, M. W. (2016, April). *Theoretical and empirical review of political discussion orientation scales*. Paper presented in the Political Communication Interest Group at the CSCA Annual Conference, Grand Rapids, MI.

- Kearney, M. W. & Quenette, A. (2015, November). *"Nationalizing" the 2014 midterm election: Effects of national news source on perceived candidate polarization*. Paper presented at the 101st Annual National Communication Association Convention in Las Vegas, NV.
- Kearney, M. W. (2015, March). *The long game: Political communication and modern longitudinal designs*. Paper presented at the CSCA Annual Conference, Madison, WI.
- Kearney, M. W. (2015, March). *Emphasizing equivalent frames: Political polarization and information processing*. Paper presented at the CSCA Annual Conference, Madison, WI.  
★ Top paper panel
- Kearney, M. W. (2015, March). *Young voters and the polarizing price of political engagement*. Paper presented at the CSCA Annual Conference, Madison, WI.
- Kearney, M. W. (2015, March). *It's my party: The effects of polarizing party frames on information processing*. Paper presented at the CSCA Annual Conference, Madison, WI.
- Kearney, M. W. (2014, November). *Old arguments, new Face[book]s: Analyzing political disagreement on Facebook*. Paper presented at the NCA 100th Annual Convention, Chicago, IL.
- Kearney, M. W. (2014, November). *Yesterday's public opinion expression, today's status update: Interpersonal goals in Facebook political discussion*. Paper presented at the NCA 100th Annual Convention, Chicago, IL.
- Kearney, M. W. (2014, May). *Agonistic politics and the democratic debate following 9/11*. Paper presented at the 16th Biennial RSA Conference, San Antonio, TX.
- Kearney, M. W. (2014, March). *Civic or civic? An Empirical examination of democratic orientations and civic dialogue*. Paper presented at the Civic Dialogue and Leadership Conference, College Station, TX.
- Pennington, N. R., Winfrey, K. L., Warner, B. R., & Kearney, M. W. (2014, March). *The next Facebook election: Evaluating political engagement and efficacy on Facebook during the 2012 presidential election*. Paper presented at the CSCA Annual Conference, Minneapolis, MN.  
★ Top student paper
- Pennington, N. R., Winfrey, K. L., Warner, B. R., & Kearney, M. W. (2013, November). *Finding a role model on Facebook: Political candidates' use of Facebook and young women's political engagement*. Paper presented at the 99th NCA Annual Convention, Washington, D.C.

## Panels

- Kearney, M.W. (2018, November). *Just "Playing" with Social Media Data? Doing Social Analytics in the Era of Cambridge Analytica*. Discussion panel in the Human Communication and Technology Division at the 103rd Annual National Communication Association conference in Salt Lake City, Utah.
- Kearney, M. W. (2016, April). *Bayesian estimation*. Panel presentation in the Political Communication Interest Group at the CSCA Annual Conference, Grand Rapids, MI.
- Kearney, M. W., & Bird, C. C. (2015, November). *#aGreatPlaceToFeelUnsafe: Social media and activism on campus*. Panel presentation at the NCA 101st Annual Convention, Las Vegas, NV.
- Banwart, M. C., Easley, T. M., Kearney, M. W., Stone, C., & Winfrey, K. W. (2013, November). *Dialing in to women...and men? Examining gender in 2012 debates through RTR research*. Panel presentation at the 99th NCA Annual Convention, Washington, D.C.

## Chairing

- Chaired panel. (2016, November). *Social media and political campaigns: Messages, reactions, and uses of social media in the 2016 presidential election*. Political Communication Division, NCA 101st Annual Convention, Pennsylvania, PA.
- Organized panel. (2016, April). *Updating foundations in quantitative research methods*. Political Communication Interest Group, CSCA Annual Conference, Grand Rapids, MI.
- Chaired panel. (2016, April). *Cultural identity and political influence*. Political Communication Interest Group, CSCA Annual Conference, Grand Rapids, MI.

Chaired panel. (2015, November). *Mediated coverage of political information*. Political Communication Division, NCA 101st Annual Convention, Las Vegas, NV.

Chaired panel. (2014, November). *Partisanship and its many effects*. Political Communication Division, NCA 100th Annual Convention, Chicago, IL.

## Responding

Respondent. (2018, November). *Innovations in Political Communication Research*. Political Communication Division, NCA 103rd Annual Convention, Salt Lake City, UT.

## TEACHING

### University of Missouri

- ★ [JOURN 8016: Advanced Quantitative Research Methods](#) 2018
- ★ JOURN 8006: Quantitative Research Methods in Journalism 2018
- ★ JOURN 8000: Mass Media Seminar 2017
- ★ DATA\_SCI 7600: Introduction to Data Science 2018
- ★ DATA\_SCI 8801: Advanced Topics: Streaming Social Media Data 2018
- ★ DATA\_SCI 8610: Statistical and Mathematical Foundations for Data Analytics 2017-2018

### University of Kansas

- ★ COMS 307: Intro. to Political Communication 2016
- ★ COMS 356: Intro. to Behavioral Research Methods 2015-2016
- ★ COMS 201: [Online] Intro. to Leadership Studies 2014-2015
- ★ COMS 343: Seminar in Leadership (Teaching Assistant) 2014
- ★ COMS 131: Honors Speaker-Audience Communication 2014
- ★ COMS 130: Speaker-Audience Communication 2012-2014
- ★ LDST 201: Intro. to Leadership Studies 2017

## HONORS & AWARDS

### Academic Awards

- ★ [Lynda Lee Kaid Outstanding Dissertation Award, NCA](#) 2017
- ★ Kim Giffin Research Award, University of Kansas 2017
- ★ Awarded Honors for Dissertation, University of Kansas 2017
- ★ Donn W. Parson Award for Excellence, University of Kansas 2016
- ★ Hobb Crockett Departmental Research Award, University of Kansas 2016
- ★ Sene and Louella Carlile Scholarship, University of Kansas 2016
- ★ Awarded Honors for Comprehensive Examinations, University of Kansas 2015
- ★ William A. Conboy Outstanding Graduate Student Award, University of Kansas 2015
- ★ Top Paper Panel, CSCA Graduate Student Caucus 2015
- ★ Top Student Paper (co-author), CSCA Political Communication 2014
- ★ Selected Representative, Master's Research Day, Capitol Research Summit 2014
- ★ Awarded Honors for Master's Thesis, University of Kansas 2013

### Debate Awards

- ★ Donn W. Parson Award for Excellence in Coaching 2013
- ★ [1st Round At-Large Bid, 3rd Seed, and 4-time qualifier, NDT](#) 2010
- ★ Quarterfinalist, 10th speaker, All-American, 4-time elim participant, CEDA 2010

## REVIEWING

### Editorial Board

- ★ Western Journal of Communication 2017–

### Ad Hoc Reviewer

- ★ Visual Communication Quarterly 2019
- ★ Journalism Studies 2018–
- ★ Political Communication 2018–
- ★ New Media & Society 2018–
- ★ International Journal of Public Opinion Research 2018–
- ★ Journal of Computer Mediated Communication 2018–
- ★ International Journal of Communication 2018–

★ Communication Monographs	2018–
★ Journal of Elections, Public Opinion & Parties	2018–
★ Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly	2017–
★ Western Journal of Communication	2017–
★ Asian Journal of Communication	2016–

#### SERVICE

##### Service to School

★ Chair, Curriculum Committee, Data Science & Analytics, University of Missouri	2018–2019
★ Member, Curriculum Committee, Data Science & Analytics, University of Missouri	2017–2018
★ Member, Committee on Innovation, School of Journalism, University of Missouri	2017–2018
★ Recruiting, Communication Studies, University of Kansas	2013–2016
★ Volunteer, Graduate Student Orientation, University of Kansas	2013–2016
★ Faculty representative, Graduate Student Organization	2015
★ Secretary/Treasurer, Graduate Student Organization	2014–2015
★ Meetings with prospective students, Kansas Debate Team	2012–2015
★ Associate Director and Assistant Director Jayhawk Debate Institute	2013–2015
★ Judge, Linkugel Speech Competition, University of Kansas	2013–2014

##### Service to Discipline

★ Chair, Lynda Lee Kaid Dissertation Award Committee, NCA	2018
★ Paper Reviewer, Political Communication Division, ICA	2017–2018
★ Member, Committee on Grad Student Involvement, NCA	2015–2016
<i>Organized ad hoc committee on increasing graduate student involvement in the Political Communication division at NCA</i>	
★ Secretary, Political Communication Interest Group, CSCA	2015–2016
★ Paper Reviewer, Political Communication Division, NCA	2014–2015
★ Paper Reviewer, Political Communication Interest Group, CSCA	2013–2015
★ Social Media Operator, Political Communication Interest Group, CSCA	2013–2015
★ Local arrangements student volunteer, NCA	2014
★ Local arrangements student volunteer, CSCA	2013

#### ADVISING

##### Doctoral

★ Chair, Lingshu Hu, Journalism	2018–
★ Committee, Taoues Hadour, French Linguistics	2018–
★ Committee, Warren Davis, Communication	2018–

##### Masters

★ Chair, Yutong Yuan, Journalism	2018–
★ Chair, Kyle Brown, Journalism	2018–
★ Chair, John Heniff, Journalism	2018–
★ Chair, Tamar Wilner, Journalism	2018
★ Committee, Jared Andrews, Journalism	2018–
★ Committee, Lauren Hieger, Journalism	2018–
★ Committee, Chen Chang, Journalism	2018–
★ Committee, Timothy Maylander, Journalism	2017–
★ Committee, Rory Doehring, Communication	2018–
★ Committee, Daniel Yesenosky, Journalism	2018
★ Committee, Erdenetungalag Erdenekhuyag, Journalism	2018
★ Committee, Meghan Welsh, Journalism	2018
★ Chair, Matt Snively, Data Science	2018
★ Committee, Eileen Joyce, Data Science	2018
★ Committee, Bryan Diestelkamp, Data Science	2018
★ Committee, Samir Hashem, Data Science	2018
★ Committee, David Hedrick, Data Science	2018

#### MEDIA

Roll Call (2019, February). [Democrats ‘went low’ on Twitter leading up to 2018](#) by Aleszu Bajak and Floris Wu.



Insider (2018, August). [13 things that aren't helping your mental health as much as you think](#) by Arielle Tschinkel.

Revolution Analytics (2018, September). [Who wrote that anonymous NYT op-ed? Text similarity analyses with R.](#)

Vox.com (2018, September). [Who wrote the anonymous White House op-ed? A linguistic analysis.](#) by Julia Azari.

VarianceExplained.com (2018, September). [Who wrote the anti-Trump New York Times op-ed? Using tidytext to find document similarity](#) by David Robinson.

Vital Updates (2018, August). [Study Sheds Light on How Social Media Affects Real Social Situations](#) by Tori Linville.

Data Science + (2018, July). [Automated Text Feature Engineering using textfeatures in R](#) by Abdul Majed Raja.

TensorFlow for R Blog (2018, January). [Analyzing rtweet Data with kerasformula](#) by Pete Mohanty.

Guardian (2018, January). [Guardian US reaches milestone with over 300,000 paying supporters in America.](#)

juliasilge.com (2018, June). [Punctuation in literature](#) by Julia Silge.

StudyFinds (2018, August). [Anti-Social Media? Users Not Having Fewer Face-To-Face Interactions, Study Shows](#) by Ben Renner.

LEO Weekly (2018, January). [An examination of the Twitter habits of Kentucky lawmakers](#) by Robert Kahne.

Revolution Analytics (2018, March). [BotRNot: An R app to detect Twitter bots](#)

Daily Mail (2018, March). [Social media DOESN'T make people isolated and depressed, new research suggests](#) by J. Baulkman.

KOMU (2018, March). [Social media use doesn't affect relationships, study finds](#) by M. McDonald.

Digital Journal (2018, March). [No decline in face-to-face interactions in the social media era](#) by T. Sandle.

Psych Central (2018, March). [Social Media Does Not Reduce Social Interactions](#) By R. Nauert.

Business Services (2018, March). [No proof that social media decrease face-to-face interactions](#) by J. Mackey.

Futurity (2018, March). [Social media doesn't hurt your face-to-face socializing](#) by C. Riley.

Missourian (2018, March). [Social media doesn't affect our face-to-face interactions, study finds](#) by H. Black.

Barron's (2018, March). [Could Social Media Be Good for You? These Researchers Say Yes](#) by J. Swartz.

MU News Bureau (2018, March). [Social media does not decrease face-to-face interactions, MU study finds](#) by C. Riley.

MediaPost (2018, February). [Social Media And Human Contact Thrive Together](#) by J. Loechner.

Columbia Tribune (2018, February). [Air Force officer discusses report on Russian meddling at MU](#) by R. Keller.

Missourian (2018, February). [Columbia vulnerable to Kremlin fanning flames of 2015 protests](#) by E. McKinley.

Politico (2018, January). [GOP voters trust CNN, N.Y. Times over Breitbart, InfoWars](#) by J. Schwartz.

Wired (2018, January). [You can't trust Facebook's search for trusted news](#) by A. Rogers.

Fortune (2018, January). [New York Times Stock Surges After Facebook's 'Trusted News' Announcement](#) by D. Morris.

The Atlantic (2018, January). [5 Questions About Facebook's Plan to Rate Media by 'Trustworthiness'](#) by A. Madrigal.

CNET (2018, January). [With two questions Facebook is deciding the future of news](#) by I. Sherr.

- AdWeek (2017, August). [How A British TV Network Became One of the Most Trusted News Sources Among Americans](#) by A. J. Katz.
- MarketWatch (2017, August). [These are the most — and the least — trusted news sources in the U.S.](#) by S. Chang.
- O'Dwyer's (2017, August). [Internet News Sites Seen as Least Trustworthy](#) By J. Gingerich.
- The Guardian(2017, August). [Four UK news sources among top 10 most trusted in US – survey](#) by G. Ruddick.
- The Wrap (2017, August). [British Media Outlets Most Trusted US News Sources in New Poll](#) by B. Flood.
- The Drum (2017, August). [BuzzFeed and Breitbart at bottom of media trust list as Americans place trust in British outlets](#) by J. Glenday.