

# Michael W. Kearney

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## 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](#)

## PUBLICATIONS

Kearney, M. W. (Invited). 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.

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. (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. (2017). [Interpersonal goals and political uses of Facebook](#), *Communication Research Reports*, 32, 1-9. [10.1080/08824096.2016.1250069](#)

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](#)

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](#)

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](https://doi.org/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](https://hdl.handle.net/1808/15009)

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](https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.27930.34242)

#### 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*.

#### BOOK REVIEWS

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.

#### SOFTWARE

Kearney, M. W. (2018). tweetbotornot: Bot detection. *R package*. [github.com/mkearney/tweetbotornot](https://github.com/mkearney/tweetbotornot)

Kearney, M. W. (2018). tweetbotornot: Bot detection. *Shiny App*. [mikewk.shinyapps.io/botornot](https://mikewk.shinyapps.io/botornot)

Kearney, M. W. (2018). textfeatures: Extracting text features. *R package*. [cran.r-project.org/package=textfeatures](https://cran.r-project.org/package=textfeatures)

Kearney, M. W. (2018). getwebdata: Importing web data. *R package*. [github.com/mkearney/getwebdata](https://github.com/mkearney/getwebdata)

Kearney, M. W. (2018). smartread: Smarter way to read data. *R package*. [github.com/mkearney/smartread](https://github.com/mkearney/smartread)

Kearney, M. W. (2018). tidyversity: Analysis tools for academics. *R package*. [github.com/mkearney/tidyversity](https://github.com/mkearney/tidyversity)

Kearney, M. W. (2018). hexagon: Hexagon shaped xy data frames. *R package*. [github.com/mkearney/hexagon](https://github.com/mkearney/hexagon)

Kearney, M. W. (2018). kaggler: Client for accessing Kaggle's API. *R package*. [github.com/mkearney/kaggler](https://github.com/mkearney/kaggler)

Kearney, M. W. (2018). wordword: Simple little thesaurus package. *R package*. [github.com/mkearney/wordword](https://github.com/mkearney/wordword)

Kearney, M. W. (2018). ig: Client for accessing Instagram's API. *R package*. [github.com/mkearney/ig](https://github.com/mkearney/ig)

Kearney, M. W. (2018). name2sex: SSA sex proportions. *R package*. [github.com/mkearney/name2sex](https://github.com/mkearney/name2sex)

Kearney, M. W. (2018). pkgverse: Create your package universes. *R package*. [github.com/mkearney/pkgverse](https://github.com/mkearney/pkgverse)

Kearney, M. W. (2018). funique: Faster unique function. *R package*. [cran.r-project.org/package=funique](https://cran.r-project.org/package=funique)

Kearney, M. W. (2017). Interactive Friendship Tool. *Shiny App*. [mikewk.shinyapps.io/friendship](https://mikewk.shinyapps.io/friendship)

Kearney, M. W. (2017). chr: Simple string manipulation. *R package*. [github.com/mkearney/chr](https://github.com/mkearney/chr)

Kearney, M. W. (2017). newsAPI: R client for newsAPIorg. *R package*. [github.com/mkearney/newsAPI](https://github.com/mkearney/newsAPI)

Kearney, M. W. (2017). nytimes: Interacting with NYTimes APIs. *R package*. [github.com/mkearney/nytimes](https://github.com/mkearney/nytimes)

Kearney, M. W. (2016). rtweet: Collecting Twitter data. *R package*. [cran.r-project.org/package=rtweet](https://cran.r-project.org/package=rtweet)

Kearney, M. W. (2016). Simple tool for visualizing correlations. *Shiny App*. [mikewk.shinyapps.io/correlation](https://mikewk.shinyapps.io/correlation)

INVITED  
PRESENTATIONS

- TBD talk/workshop on data science tools in R. (2019, February). Talk to be hosted by the Carnegie Mellon University Data Science Club in Pittsburgh, PA.
- TBD talk/workshop on collecting and analyzing social media data. (2018, November). Talk to be hosted by the Program In Statistics and Methodology (PRISM) and Political Science Department in Columbus, OH.
- TBD talk/workshop on data science with R. (2018, October). Talk to be hosted by 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). Workshop directed at 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, May). *A network-based approach to estimating political partisanship*. Paper accepted for the 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 NCA 101st Annual Convention, 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. (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.

#### 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

- ★ 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 <i>In charge of planning, developing, and coordinating the schedule of events, finances (maintaining a \$250,000 budget), hiring (40+ staff members), and overall maintenance of the 2-week, 3-week, and incoming-freshman debate camps (200 plus participants).</i>	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 <i>Organized ad hoc committee on increasing graduate student involvement in the Political Communication division at NCA</i>	2015–2016
* 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	2017–2018
* Committee, Lauren Hieger, Journalism	2018–
* Committee, Daniel Yesenosky, Journalism	2018–
* Committee, Chen Chang, Journalism	2018–
* Committee, Erdenetungalag Erdenekhuyag, Journalism	2017–2018
* Committee, Timothy Maylander, Journalism	2017–
* Committee, Meghan Welsh, Journalism	2017–
* Committee, Rory Doehring, Communication	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

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. (2018, August).

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.