

# Nicole Schwitter, PhD

## Curriculum Vitae

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🌐 [nschwitter.github.io](https://nschwitter.github.io)

### Education

- 09/2018 – 01/2023 **PhD in Sociology**, *University of Warwick*  
Thesis Title: The Role of Offline Ties in Online Communities: The Case of Wikipedia.
- 10/2015 – 09/2017 **M.A. in Sociology**, *University of Leipzig*
- 09/2012 – 09/2015 **B.A. in Social Sciences (major) and Computer Science (minor)**, *University of Bern*

### Experience / Research Positions

- 01/2023 – 06/2023 **Digital Humanities Fellow**, *German National Library*
- 03/2023 – 06/2023 **Research Assistant with Dr Stella Chatzitheochari**, *University of Warwick*  
○ Project: Disability and Discrimination in Hiring Practices: An Intersectional Approach (funded by the Warwick Research Development Fund)
- 07/2017 – 09/2021 **Research Assistant with Prof Ulf Liebe**, *University of Bern (until 12/2017)/University of Warwick*  
○ Project: Social Status and Prosociality: A Cross-Cultural Study in Four Selected Countries (funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation and German Research Foundation)  
○ Project: Uncovering Evidence of Structural Poverty Reduction by Re-Using Existing Data at Oxfam GB (funded by the Warwick ESRC Impact Acceleration Account, International Development NGO Data Fund)
- 11/2015 – 09/2017 **Student Research Assistant with Prof Thomas Voss**, *University of Leipzig*, Institute of Sociology
- 06/2014 – 09/2014 **Internship**, *Federal Statistical Office of Germany*, Wiesbaden, Department “National Income and Expenditure, Prices”

### Methods Training

- 2022 **Physalia Courses**  
Data visualization in R with ggplot2
- 2021 **Summer Institute in Computational Social Science**, *University of Oxford*
- 2019 – 2021 **ICPSR Summer Program**, *University of Michigan*  
Four-week courses: Network Analysis II: Advanced Topics, Categorical Data Analysis, Data Science and Text Analysis, Multilevel Models II: Advanced Topics
- 2018 – 2021 **Q-Step Masterclasses**, *University of Warwick*  
One-day method workshops: Panel Data Analyses, Quantitative Text Analysis, Automated Web Data Collection, Agent-Based Modeling, Spatial Statistics, Reproducible Analyses in R, Deep Learning, Social Network Analysis, Introduction to Longitudinal Analysis

### Publications

#### Peer-Reviewed Articles

- 2022 Schwitter, N., Pretari, A., Marwa, W., Lombardini, S. and Liebe, U. (2022). Big data and development sociology: An overview and application on governance and accountability through digitalization in Tanzania. *Frontiers in Sociology*. DOI: 10.3389/fsoc.2022.909458.

Liebe, U., Schwitter, N. and Tutić, A. (2022). Individuals of high socioeconomic status are altruistic in sharing money but egoistic in sharing time. *Scientific Reports*, 12: 1083. DOI: 10.1038/s41598-022-14800-y.

Schwitter, N. and Liebe, U. (2022). Does living in districts with higher levels of ethnic violence affect refugees' attitudes towards the host country? Empirical evidence from Germany. *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 45(15): 2793-2821.. DOI: 10.1080/01419870.2022.2052141.

Schwitter, N. (2022, published online 2020). Social capital in retirement villages: A literature review. *Ageing and Society*, 42(7): 1560-1588. DOI: 10.1017/S0144686X20001610.

2021 Liebe, U. and Schwitter, N. (2021). Explaining Ethnic Violence: On the Relevance of Geographic, Social, Economic, and Political Factors in Hate Crimes on Refugees. *European Sociological Review*, 37(3): 429-448. DOI: 10.1093/esr/jcaa055.

2019 Liebe, U., Schwitter, N. and Tutić, A. (2019). Objektiver Status, subjektiver Status und Prosozialität bei Schweizer Berufsschülerinnen und Berufsschülern. *Schweizerische Zeitschrift für Soziologie*, 45(1): 57-81. DOI: 10.2478/sjs-2019-0004.

### Other Publications

2022 Schwitter, N. (2022). *The role of offline ties in online communities: the case of Wikipedia*. PhD Thesis. Available at <http://wrap.warwick.ac.uk/175384/>.

2020 Schwitter, N. and Liebe, U. (2020). *Going Digital: Web data collection using Twitter as an example*. Oxford: Oxfam GB. DOI: 10.21201/2020.5686. Shared in podcast: Coronavirus and Web Data Analysis. *Oxfam Real Geek Series*.

2019 Schwitter, N. and Liebe, U. (2019). Twitter Data Analysis. In A. Pretari, *Active Citizenship in Tanzania: Impact Evaluation of the 'Governance and Accountability through Digitalization' project*. *Impact Evaluation Report 2017-2019*: Chapters 3.4 and 4.3. Oxford: Oxfam GB. DOI: 10.21201/2019.4764.

### Software

ISC008ConveRsions R-package for the conversion of ISCO codes to prestige scores. R package version 0.1.1. Latest Version on CRAN.

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### Conferences

2023 **WikiWorkshop**, *Data Brief: Twenty years of offline meeting data of the German-language Wikipedia*, Online

2022 **Web Conference: WikiWorkshop**, *Offline Meetups of German Wikipedians: Boosting or braking activity?*, Lyon, FR

**Frühjahrstagung der DGS-Sektion Soziologische Netzwerkforschung**, *Social norm enforcement on Wikipedia: The role of offline and online networks*, University of Wuppertal, DE

2021 **Joint Sunbelt and NetSci Conference**, *If I know you offline, I will vote for you online?*, Washington D.C., USA

**Frühjahrstagung der DGS-Sektion Soziologische Netzwerkforschung**, *If I know you offline, I will vote for you online?*, University of Wuppertal, DE

**Sociology Doctoral Conference**, *If I know you offline, I will vote for you online? The effect of Wikipedians' offline meetups on online voting behaviour*, University of Warwick, UK

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## Invited Talks

- 2023 **DCW Conversation Hour**, *Offline Meetings in Wikipedia*, Wikipedia (online)  
**Digitaler Themenstammtisch**, *Die Rolle von Offline-Beziehungen von Wikipedianern*, Wikipedia (online)
- 2022 **Warwick R-User-Group**, *Let R browse the web for you: An introduction to web-scraping with RSelenium*, University of Warwick, UK  
**Forschungskolloquium Methoden und Sozialstruktur**, *Using Wikipedia for Social Science Research*, University of Mainz, DE  
**Digitaler Themenstammtisch**, *Die Rolle von Offline-Beziehungen von Wikipedianern*, Wikipedia (online)
- 2021 **Mind Odyssey Café**, *Explaining Ethnic Violence*, London, UK
- 2019 **Q-Step Methods Spring Camp**, *Social media for improved governance: an impact evaluation?*, University of Warwick, UK  
With Alexia Pretari  
**Workshop “Where research meets practice: collaborating for maximum impact in international development”**, *Online talk and offline walk? A social media intervention study in Tanzania*, Institute for Fiscal Studies, London, UK  
With Ulf Liebe

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## Funding and Grants

- 01/2023 – 06/2023 **Digital Humanities Fellowship**, Deutsche Nationalbibliothek
- 10/2021 – 09/2022 **Project Grant**, Wikimedia Foundation
- 2019 **North America Bursary**, International Office of the University of Warwick

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## Teaching

- 2021, 2023 **Seminar Instructor**, *University of Mainz*, Introduction to Quantitative Empirical Social Research (UG)
- 2022, 2023 **Masterclass Instructor**, *University of Warwick*, Q-Step Masterclass in Automated Web Data Collection (PG)
- 2021 – 2023 **Guest Lecturer**, *University of Bern*, CAS module on Digitalisation for Sustainable Development (PG)
- 2020, 2021 **Teaching Assistant**, *University of Michigan*, ICPSR Summer Program: Network Analysis II: Advanced Topics (PG)
- 2020 **Workshop Instructor**, *University of Warwick*, Introduction to Qualtrics (PG)
- 2018 – 2021 **Teaching Assistant**, *University of Warwick*, Intermediate Social Analytics: Survey Analysis and Reporting (UG)
- 2018 – 2021 **Teaching Assistant**, *University of Warwick*, Intermediate Social Analytics: Survey Design and Data Collection (UG)
- 2013, 2014 **Student Assistant**, *University of Bern*, Freshers' tutorials for students of the Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences (UG)

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## Service

### Institutional Responsibilities

- 2018 – 2020 **Co-Supervision of Nuffield Research Placement Students**, Q-Step Centre, University of Warwick  
Provided guidance and training to students in sixth form to conduct 4-week research projects (which qualified for CREST gold awards) within the field of quantitative social science research.

### Referee Activity

Peer Reviewing	Warwick Sociology Journal, Ageing and Society, Ethnic and Racial Studies, Journal of Population Ageing
Technical Committee Member	Wikimedia Research Fund (2023)

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### Skills

Languages	German (native), English (fluent), French (conversational)
Programming	Data bases (SQL), Java, JavaScript, Pascal, Python, VBA
Statistics	R, Stata
Protocols	XML, JSON, MARC21