

Nicole Schwitter, PhD

Curriculum Vitae

 nswitter.github.io

Personal Information

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Experience / Research Positions

- Since 10/2023 **Postdoctoral Researcher with Dr. Nan Zhang, Mannheim Centre for European Social Research, University of Mannheim**
○ Project: Making Diversity Work (funded by the German Science Foundation)
- Since 09/2023 **Honorary Research Fellow, University of Warwick**
- 07/2023 – 09/2023 **Research Assistant with Dr. Didier Ruedin, University of Neuchâtel**
Grant application coordination
- 01/2023 – 06/2023 **Digital Humanities Fellow, German National Library**
○ Project: Age, Period and Cohort Effects in Writing Literary Works
- 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"**
○ Project: Feasibility study on automated online price collection
- 11/2013, 11/2014 **Student Assistant, University of Bern, Department of Economics and Social Sciences**

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. Supervisors: Prof. Ulf Liebe, Dr. Andreas Murr. Examiners: Dr. Wojtek Przepiorka, Dr. Richard Lampard.
- 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**

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

Funding and Grants

- 2024 **Participant Grant for the International Conference on Computational Social Science**, University of Mannheim, "Women go abroad" scheme
- 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

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- 2024 Schwitter, N. and Liebe, U. (2024, published online 2023). Using Natural Experiments to Uncover Effects of Anti-refugee Riots on Attitudes of Refugees. *Sociology*, 58(1): 253-262. DOI: 10.1177/00380385231206072.
- 2023 Schwitter, N. (2023). Bridging the offline and online: 20 years of offline meeting data of the German-language Wikipedia. *Journal of Computational Social Science*, 6:1103-1124. DOI: 10.1007/s42001-023-00225-8.
- Schwitter, N. and Liebe, U. (2023). Not Cologne but the data collection (might have) changed everything: a cautionary tale on ignoring changes in data recording in sociological research. *European Sociological Review*, 39(6):1005-1010. DOI: 10.1093/esr/jcac057.
- 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

- Forthcoming Schwitter, N. and Yalcin, O. F. Web data collection. In Liebe, U. (Ed.) *Handbook of Quantitative Methods in Sociology*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar.
- 2022 Schwitter, N. (2023). *The role of offline ties in online communities: the case of Wikipedia*. PhD thesis. <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 0.2. Latest Version on CRAN.

Conferences

- 2024 **IC2S2**, *Voting on Wikipedia: Do offline ties matter?*, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, US
Accepted, will take place in July.
- 2024 **WikiWorkshop**, *The Role of Face-To-Face Ties in Voting Behaviour in Requests for Adminship*, Online
Accepted, will take place in June.
- 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., US
- Frühjahrstagung der DGS-Sektion Soziologische Netzwerkforschung**, *If I know you offline, I will vote for you online?*, University of Wuppertal, DE
- Sociology Doctoral Conference**, *Wikipedians' offline meetups and online voting behaviour*, University of Warwick, UK

Invited Talks

- 2024 **Wikimedia Research Showcase**, *Addressing Gender Gaps and the Role of Offline Meetings*, Wikimedia Foundation (online)
- 2023 **German National Library Lunch Talk**, *Age, Period and Cohort Effects in Writing Literary Works*, German National Library, Frankfurt, DE
- DCW Conversation Hour**, *Offline Meetings in Wikipedia*, Wikipedia (online)

Digitaler Themenstammtisch, *Die Rolle von Offline-Beziehungen von Wikipedianern*, Wikipedia (online)

2022 **Forschungskolloquium Methoden und Sozialstruktur**, *Using Wikipedia for Social Science Research*, University of Mainz, DE

Warwick R-User-Group, *Let R browse the web for you: An introduction to web-scraping with RSelenium*, University of Warwick, UK

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

Service

Institutional Responsibilities

2024 **Organising Committee of Datafest Germany**, University of Mannheim
Part of the organising committee and on-site consultant crew of the Datafest Germany, a weekend-long hackathon for rising data scientists across Germany. 70 students worked in teams of 3-5 students on independent data projects.

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 Ageing and Society, European Sociological Review, Ethnic and Racial Studies, Humanities & Social Sciences Communications, Journal of Computational Social Science, Journal of Population Ageing, Warwick Sociology Journal

Program Committee Member WikiWorkshop (2024)

Technical Committee Member Wikimedia Research Fund (2023, 2024)

Teaching Activities

2024 **Teaching Assistant**, *University of Mannheim*, Quantitative Methods in Political Sociology: Approaches to Causal Inference (UG)

2022 – 2024 **Masterclass Instructor**, *University of Warwick*, Q-Step Masterclass in Automated Web Data Collection (PG)

2021 – 2024 **Guest Lecturer**, *University of Bern*, CAS module on Digitalisation for Sustainable Development (PG)

2023/2024 **Seminar Instructor**, *University of Mainz*, Computer-Assisted Data Analysis (UG)

2021, 2023 **Seminar Instructor**, *University of Mainz*, Introduction to Quantitative Empirical Social Research (UG)

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)

Skills

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| Languages | German (native), English (fluent), French (conversational), Italian (beginner) |
| Programming | Python, Data bases (SQL), Java, JavaScript, Pascal, VBA |
| Statistics | R, Stata, pandas |
| Protocols/Formats | HTML/CSS, XML/XPath, JSON, MARC21 |