

Ryan Larson

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Austin, Texas 78705

Education

University of Iowa

MAJOR Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Informatics

MINOR Computer Science, Psychology

Aug. 2013 – May 2017

Iowa City, IA

Published Work

- CarSentoGram: Geovisual Text Analytics for Exploring Spatiotemporal Variation in Public Discourse on Twitter. C. Koylu & R. Larson et al. (2018), *Cartography and Geographic Information Science*, Volume 46. [Link](#)

Experience

Freelance Software Developer

Dec. 2018 – Ongoing

- DROPBOX
 - Identified high-profile opportunity to maximize efficiency by creating tool to automate analytic process, saving users 4 hours/week.
 - Iterated with end-users to validate design decisions and functionality (drag and drop, filtering, data transformations) from start to finish.
 - Project won *Longest Outstanding Issue Fixed* during Dropbox's 2019 Hack Week.
- COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH
 - Pitched, planned, and programmed *CPHB-Events*, a full stack web application used daily at Co. of Public Health. (NodeJS, AWS)
 - *CPHB-Events* features include interactive floorplan visualizations, form validation, and data-rich interfaces. (React, Redux)
 - Created 20+ wireframes and site components for consistent look and feel.
- INTERNATIONAL WRITERS PROGRAM
 - Developed web maps for an international audience, closing the gap from user's intent to outcome.
 - Communicated central narrative, ensuring the message fit organizational values.

Data Science Research Assistant

Feb. 2017 – July 2018

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA INFORMATICS INITIATIVE

Iowa City, IA

- Produced all graphics for Article selected for cover of *Cartography and Geographic Information Science Vol. 46*. (React, D3.js)
- Designed and created a visual analytics dashboard to explore variation on Twitter over time. Article selected for cover of *Cartography and Geographic Information Science Vol. 46*. (React, D3.js)
- Collaborated with domain experts to extract insights from 72 million tweets using topic and language modeling. (Pandas, Gensim, NLTK).
- Scraped and manipulated data from a variety of online sources. (Twitter, maps, Census data)

Data Journalist

Sep. – Jan. 2016

DAILY IOWAN

Iowa City, IA

- Published 4 monthly print and web projects for the Daily Iowan.
- Extracted compelling stories from data by collaborating with reporters.
- Advised on charting conventions and coding best practices in the newsroom.

Data Visualization Intern

June – Aug. 2016

ACT

Iowa City, IA

- Created interactive web experiences for users, using machine learning models to provide informed recommendations.
- Maximized chart comprehension by conducting A/B testing with users.

Skills

Programming JavaScript, Python, TypeScript, HTML/CSS, SQL, Bash, MAKE

Tools Tableau, Adobe Illustrator, QGIS, ArcGIS, Figma, Git

Libraries D3.js, React, Redux, Express, NodeJS, MongoDB, PostgreSQL, Jest, Jupyter, NumPy, Pandas

Projects

Politiweets	Identified bot networks pushing disinformation during the 2016 Presidential Election. (Pandas, Jupyter)	Link
Higher Knowledge Graph	An interactive graph explorer for college courses. (React, D3.js, NodeJS)	Link
GeoVisualization	Geographic visualizations of GPX running traces, viewsheds, and location data.	Link

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Austin, Texas 78705

The Washington Post Graphics Team

August 6, 2020

THE WASHINGTON POST
1301 K St NW,
WASHINGTON, DC 20071

Job Application for Graphics Editor

Dear Graphics Director Chiqui Esteban, Managing Editor Tracy Grant, and Senior Editor for Recruiting Carla Broyles,

If loving charts is wrong, I don't want to be right. Instead, I want to express my interest in your Graphics Reporting role, so that I may turn my passion for visual storytelling into a profession. More importantly, I will illustrate how I can help bridge the gap between The Washington Post and its mission to connect people to the information they need most.

This is due to my strong visualization skill set, which I developed through both internships and conducting research. During my Informatics undergraduate at the University of Iowa, I have developed many of the skills you are seeking; including creating visualizations to tell an array of messages, learning about and applying best practices, and collaborating with experts to explore solutions.

From classroom to career, I have a track record of distinguishing signal from noise. My senior year I enrolled in a Networking class, and investigated political tweets during the 2016 Presidential election. My work uncovered a network of fake accounts from over 1 TB of data, who were systematically pushing propaganda.

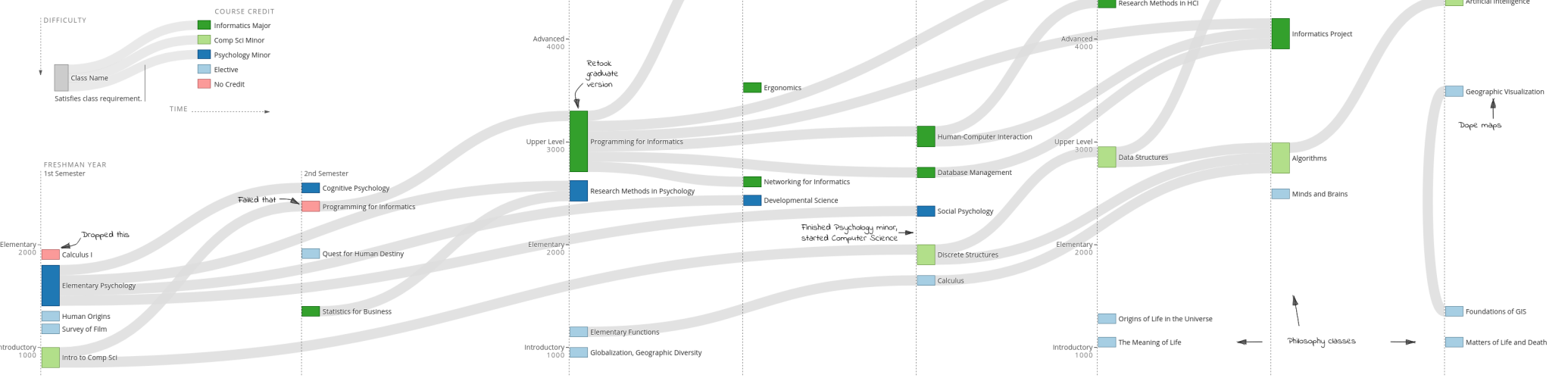
Thank you for your time and consideration, I will follow up by email in one weeks time. I look forward to discussing your Graphics Reporter role further.

Best regards,

Ryan Larson

Attached: Resume, Portfolio

Every Class and Requirement from My Undergraduate Degree



First, let me introduce myself

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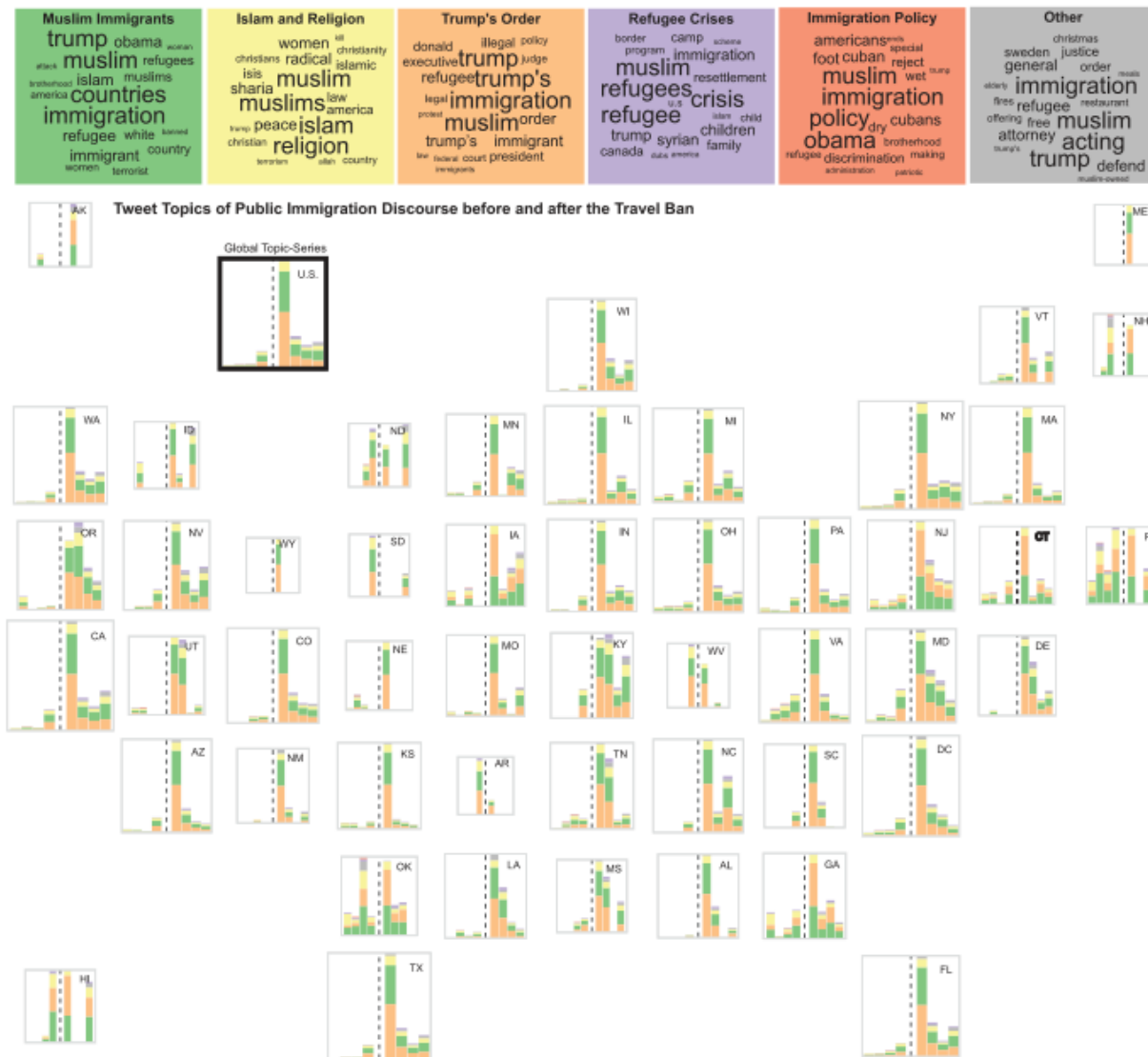


Figure 4. Topic View is dynamically linked with a series of keyword clouds that illustrate the top keywords in topic clusters over the 8-week period before and after the travel ban.

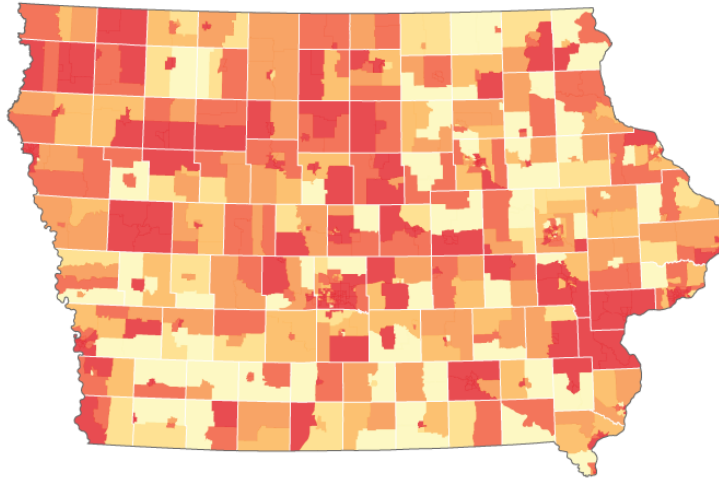
GIS and Mapping

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[Article](#), [Source](#)

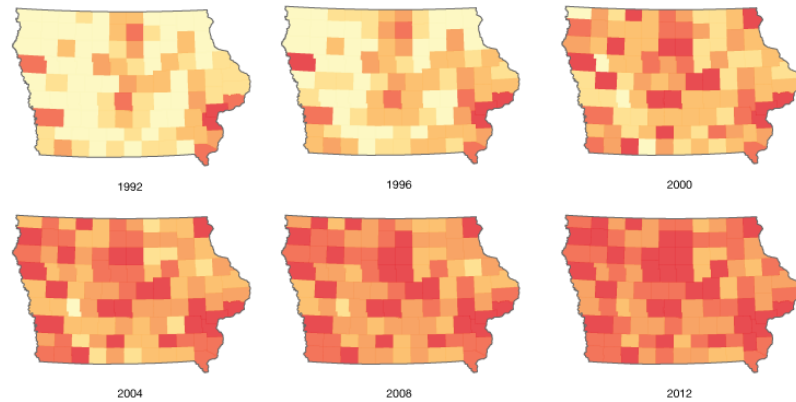
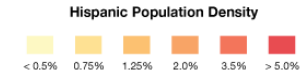
Iowa's current Hispanic population

The data, taken from 2014 Census Tract estimates, shows how far Iowa has come.



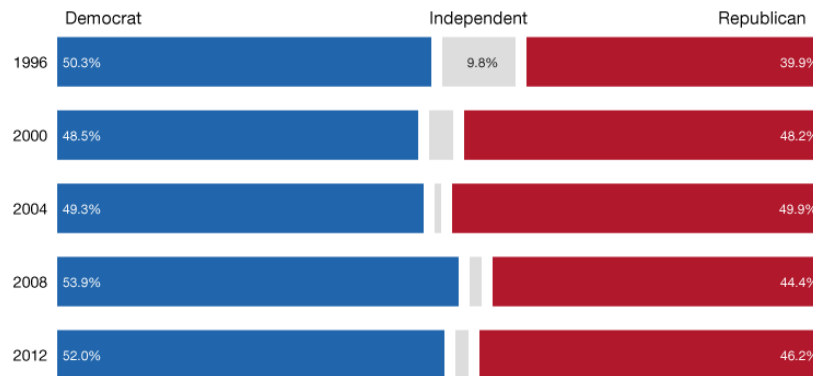
Iowa's Hispanic population growth

Percentage of Hispanic Citizens in each Iowa county over time.



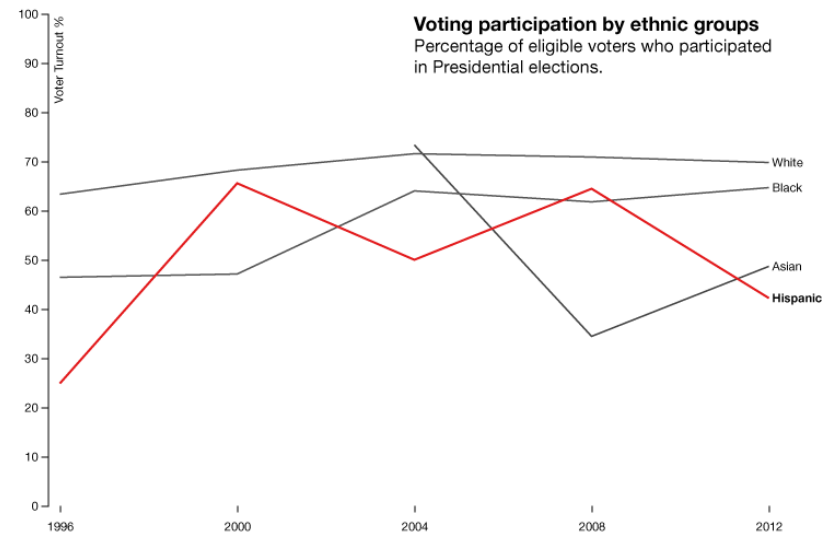
How Iowa voted

Voter distribution between Democratic, Independent, and Republican parties.



Voting participation by ethnic groups

Percentage of eligible voters who participated in Presidential elections.



Data Journalism at The Daily Iowan

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[Article](#), [Source](#)