

# Rachel Bergmann

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## EDUCATION

### **MCGILL UNIVERSITY** Master of Arts, Communication Studies

2017 - Exp. 2019 | Montréal, QC, Canada  
Specialization in Gender & Women's Studies  
Advisor: Jonathan Sterne

### **MCGILL UNIVERSITY** Honours Bachelor of Arts & Science, Cognitive Science

2012 - 2016 | Montréal, QC, Canada  
Specializations in Computer Science & Philosophy, Minor in Art History  
Undergraduate Exchange at Lund University, Sweden 2014-2015

## RESEARCH

### **CULTURE & TECHNOLOGY WORKING GROUP, MCGILL UNIVERSITY** | Research Assistant

Sep 2017 – Present | Montréal, QC, Canada

- Assist Prof. Jonathan Sterne with research for books, articles, and grants about the social implications of digital technologies
- Conduct archival research, copy edit manuscripts, and compile interdisciplinary literature reviews across media studies, STS, history of science and technology, critical AI studies, queer and disability studies, engineering fields
- Present summaries of findings through monthly written and oral reports

### **CRITICAL NEUROSCIENCE RESEARCH GROUP, MCGILL UNIVERSITY** | Research Assistant

Jul 2017 – Sep 2017 | Montréal, QC, Canada

- Worked as first research assistant for early stages of project evaluating effects of screen time on children's literacy
- Conducted literature review across neuroscience, psychology, educational technology, literacy and education studies

### **NEUROPHILOSOPHY LAB, MCGILL UNIVERSITY** | Lead Undergraduate Researcher

Sep 2015 – Apr 2017 | Montréal, QC, Canada

- Designed and implemented a mixed-methods experiment assessing Internet usage, cities, social support, and discrimination as factors of mental health and illness (worked collaboratively with professors and another undergraduate)
- Collected quantitative data via 50 in-person questionnaires and ethnographic data through 10 semi-structured interviews

### **EMBODIED COGNITION GROUP, POTSDAM UNIVERSITY** | Research Assistant

Jun 2015 – Aug 2015 | Potsdam, Germany

- Designed computational psychology experiment to determine usability, comprehension, and memorability of contemporary data visualizations and graphs
- Reviewed literature across embodied cognition, applied cognitive psychology, perception, and data visualization research

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 "Epistemic Practices of Google.org." 4S conference. New Orleans, USA. Exp. Sep 2019.
- 2019 "#FarmToBrowser: Mozilla making data privacy palatable on Instagram." Theorizing the Web conference. Museum of the Moving Image, New York City, USA. Exp. Apr 2019.
- 2018 "'A Better World, Faster': Silicon Valley philanthropy as infrastructure." Association of Internet Researchers conference. Montréal, QC, Canada. Oct 2018.
- 2018 "'Tech For Good': Critically Examining Silicon Valley Philanthropy." Access Points Graduate Conference. Concordia University, Montréal, QC, Canada. Apr 2018.
- 2016 "JPEG Decompressed: The Image Codec as an Object of Historical and Cultural Analysis." Algorithms in Culture conference. University of California, Berkeley, USA. Dec 2016.
- 2015 "Google ontologizing the world's problems: the politics of visualization and Google's mapping of environmental issues." Canadian Society for Women in Philosophy conference. University of Regina, Canada. Oct 2015.

## PANELS AND OTHER TALKS

- 2019 **Panel Co-Organizer**, "Making Objectivity in Data-Centric Knowledge Practices" (Co-organized with Julianne Yip & Dörte Bemme). Panel accepted to 4S conference: New Orleans, USA, Exp. Sep 2019.
- 2016 **Invited Panelist**, "What Youth Can Do", Uniterra Symposia Series, World University Service of Canada (WUSC) McGill Chapter, Montréal, Canada.
- 2015 **Invited Panelist**, "Feminist Technologies," Community-University Research Exchange (CURE), Concordia University, Montréal, Canada.

## EVENTS

### **GRADUATE STUDENT SYMPOSIUM | Co-Organizer**

Oct 2017 – Mar 2019 | McGill University | Montréal, QC, Canada

- Worked with team of 4 to coordinate annual student-run conference and graduate symposium for McGill Art History & Communication Studies department with theme "Potentials of Ecocriticism"
- Wrote grant applications and funding requests from departmental and university funds
- Coordinated logistics of event, including room rental and catering for 60 people

### **AMPERSAND: IN THE AGE OF BIG DATA | Conference Chair**

May 2015 – May 2016 | McGill University | Montréal, QC, Canada

- Planned and executed two-day, student-run, annual interdisciplinary conference with the theme "In the Age of Big Data"
- Designed interdisciplinary programme of academic and industry leaders from machine learning, artificial intelligence, media studies, education, computational linguistics, & game design

### **JUSTHACK | Co-Founder & Lead Organizer**

Apr 2015 – Oct 2015 | Montréal, QC, Canada

- Organized Canada's first 24-hr **social justice hackathon** with 50% women and 40% first-time hackathon attendees
- Planned, delegated, and executed every detail of the hackathon, which included managing nonprofits, community groups, sponsors, speakers, and leading a team of 15 volunteers
- Wrote and helped implement an extensive accessibility guide and hand-coded website in HTML/ CSS and JavaScript

## AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

2019, Media@McGill Award

2017-2019, Graduate Excellence Fellowship

2017-2019, McKinnon E-Research Award

## GRADUATE COURSEWORK

Feminist Science & Technology Studies • Affect Theory •

Critical Philanthropy Studies • Feminist Theories & Methods •

Sound, Power, and Technology • Visual Culture • Proseminar

## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR)

Society for Social Studies of Science (4S)

## LANGUAGES & CITIZENSHIP

Languages: English (Native), French (Intermediate),

German (Intermediate), Latin (Advanced)

Citizenship: USA

## REFERENCES

(Contact information available upon request)

- Jonathan Sterne, James McGill Chair in Culture and Technology, McGill University
- Ian Gold, Canada Research Chair in Philosophy & Psychiatry, McGill University
- Stevan Harnad, Canada Research Chair in Cognitive Science, UQAM