

Rachel Bergmann

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EDUCATION

MCGILL UNIVERSITY Master of Arts, Communication Studies

2017 - 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

SOCIAL MEDIA COLLECTIVE, MICROSOFT RESEARCH | Research Assistant

Jul 2019 – Present | Cambridge, MA, USA

- Assist researchers Nancy Baym, Tarleton Gillespie, and Mary Gray to study social, cultural, historical, and political aspects of contemporary digital technologies
- Compile interdisciplinary literature reviews, conduct in-depth interviews, and analyze news articles
- Help share research across academia, industry, and public sphere by co-organizing conference sessions, writing blog posts, and copy editing manuscripts

CULTURE & TECHNOLOGY WORKING GROUP, MCGILL UNIVERSITY | Research Assistant

Sep 2017 – Jul 2019 | Montréal, QC, Canada

- Assisted Prof. Jonathan Sterne with research for books, articles, and grants about artificial intelligence, culture, and social implications of digital technologies
- Sourced research materials, copy edited manuscripts, and compiled literature reviews across media studies, STS, history of science and technology, critical AI studies, queer and disability studies, engineering fields

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
- Coded and analyzed data from 10 semi-structured ethnographic interviews and 50 in-person questionnaires

PUBLICATIONS

Bergmann, R. (2019, June 17). Digital hygiene. *Real Life Magazine*. <https://reallifemag.com/digital-hygiene/>

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 "Interdisciplinarity and tech: the shortcomings of a political middle ground." Theorizing the Web conference. Museum of the Moving Image, New York City, USA. Exp. Oct 2020.
- 2020 "Whose SharedPlans? Scripts, Collaboration, and Feminist AI Research." AoIR virtual conference. Exp. Sep 2020.
- 2020 "Whose SharedPlans? Scripts, Collaboration, and Feminist AI Research." 4S virtual conference. Exp. Aug 2020.
- 2019 "#FarmToBrowser: Mozilla making data privacy palatable on Instagram." Theorizing the Web conference. Museum of the Moving Image, New York City, USA. Apr 2019.
- 2018 "'A Better World, Faster': Silicon Valley philanthropy as infrastructure." AoIR 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

- 2020 **Panel Co-Organizer**, "Old Scholarship, New Life" (Fishbowl organized with Nancy Baym, Annette Markham, Tarleton Gillespie, Dylan Mulvin, and Zoe Glatt). Panel accepted to AoIR virtual conference.
- 2019, 2020 **Invited Guest Speaker**, "Facing the Techlash: An Introduction to Critical Algorithm Studies," final lecture for graduate course CS 506 "Computational Tools for Data Science," Boston University, Boston, MA, USA.
- 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.
- 2016 **Invited Panelist**, "What Youth Can Do", Uniterria 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 program of academics 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 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), **Spanish** (Elementary), **Latin** (Advanced)
Citizenship: **USA**

REFERENCES

(Contact information available upon request)

- Jonathan Sterne, James McGill Chair in Culture and Technology, McGill University
- Ian Gold, Associate Professor of Philosophy and Psychiatry, McGill University
- Carrie Rentschler, William Dawson Scholar of Feminist Media Studies, McGill University
- Stevan Harnad, Professor Emeritus, University of Southampton