Patrick Gildersleve

Department of Communications, University of Exeter, Thornlea, New North Road, Exeter, EX4 4LA

✉ p.gildersleve@exeter.ac.uk   ●   🏠 gildersleve.uk

Summary: *I am an early career computational communications scientist. In my research I use computational, social, and network science approaches towards studying collaborative systems, social media, and news online. I look to answer wider questions of newsworthiness, agenda setting, collective attention and collective memory.*

Employment History

Lecturer in Communications and Artificial Intelligence   **University of Exeter**
Department of Communications, Drama, and Film   *September 2024–Present*

- Tenure-track assistant professor equivalent role.
- Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (FHEA). Distinction. 2025.

LSE Fellow in Computational Social Science   **London School of Economics and Political Science**
Department of Methodology   *2021–2024*

- Post-doctoral independent research and teaching role, including supervision of MSc dissertations.

Education

DPhil in Information, Communication and the Social Sciences   **University of Oxford**
EPSRC Funded at the Oxford Internet Institute   *2016–2021*
Supervisors: Prof Taha Yasseri, Prof Renaud Lambiotte
Assessors: Prof Brian Keegan, Dr Jonathan Bright
DPhil Thesis: *The Wikipedia News Network: Understanding Collective Response to Current Events Through the Internet's Encyclopaedia*

Master of Physics   **University of Oxford**
First Class Honours   *2012–2016*
Master's Project: *A Data Deanonymization Approach to Node Re-identification in Labor Flow Networks*
Supervisors: Dr Omar Guerrero, Dr Eduardo Lopez

Publications

Refractive Datasets as a Sensemaking Methodology in Closed Data Ecosystems   **2025**
A Beers, V Ito, A Orozco, P Gildersleve, P Aragón, F Tripodi
Big Data & Society, 12(4). DOI:10.1177/20539517251406193

WikiReddit: Tracing Information and Attention Flows Between Online Platforms   **2025**
P Gildersleve, A Beers, V Ito, A Orozco, F Tripodi
Proceedings of the International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media (Vol. 19, pp. 2434-2445).
DOI:10.1609/icwsm.v19i1.35946

The News Comment Gap and Algorithmic Agenda Setting in Online Forums   **2024**
F Böwing, P Gildersleve
arXiv preprint DOI:10.48550/arXiv.2408.07052. Possible venues: Communication Methods and Measures, Journalism Studies, Digital Journalism.

Between News and History: Identifying Networked Topics of Collective Attention on Wikipedia   **2023**
P Gildersleve, T Yasseri, R Lambiotte
Journal of Computational Social Science, 1-31 DOI:10.1007/s42001-023-00215-w

Collective Memory in the Digital Age   **2022**
T Yasseri, P Gildersleve, L David
In S. M. O'Mara (Ed.), Collective memory (Progress in Brain Research Vol. 274, pp. 203-226). Elsevier.
DOI:10.1016/bs.pbr.2022.07.001

Computational Courtship: Understanding the Evolution of Online Dating through Large-scale Data Analysis   **2021**
R Dinh, P Gildersleve, C Blex, T Yasseri
Journal of Computational Social Science, 5(1) (pp. 401-426). DOI:10.1007/s42001-021-00132-w

Modeling Collective Anticipation and Response on Wikipedia   **2021**
R Kobayashi, P Gildersleve, T Uno, R Lambiotte
Proceedings of the International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media (Vol. 15, pp. 315-326).
DOI:10.1609/icwsm.v15i1.18063

Inspiration, Captivation, and Misdirection: Emergent Properties in Networks of Online Navigation   **2018**
P Gildersleve, T Yasseri
International Workshop on Complex Networks (pp. 271-282). Springer, Cham. DOI:10.1007/978-3-319-73198-8_23

Awards and Grants

Curating the Commons – AI, Wikipedia, and the Reconstruction of Notability   **AHRC BRAID DOT**
£171k   *2025*

ADA Strategic Funding – CrAIC Launch Workshop   **University of Exeter**
£6000   *2025*

ECRN Enhancement Award   **University of Exeter**
£1500   *2025*

LSESU Award for Educating for Impact   **London School of Economics and Political Science**
Highly Commended   *2024*

Excellence in Education Award   **London School of Economics and Political Science**
£1000 x2   *2022, 2023*

Conference Presentations and Invited Talks

International Conference on Computational Social Science 2025   **SweCSS, IAS, Norrköping**
Oral Presentation   *July 2025*
WikiReddit: Tracing Information and Attention Flows Between Online Platforms

International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media 2025   **Copenhagen**
Oral Presentation & Poster   *June 2025*
WikiReddit: Tracing Information and Attention Flows Between Online Platforms

Wiki Workshop 2025   **Online [recorded]**
Oral Presentation   *May 2025*
WikiReddit: Tracing Information and Attention Flows Between Online Platforms

Wikimedia Research Showcase   **Online [recorded]**
Invited Talk   *January 2025*
Collective Attention Across Wikipedia and the Web

International Conference on Computational Social Science 2024   **UPenn, Philadelphia**
Oral Presentation   *July 2024*
The News Comment Gap and Algorithmic Agenda Setting in Online Forums

International Conference on Computational Social Science 2023   **University of Copenhagen**
Oral Presentation   *July 2023*
depths of wikipedia: Understanding Cross-Platform Online Attention, Content Creation, and Success

Wiki Workshop 2023   **Online [recorded]**
Oral Presentation   *May 2023*
depths of wikipedia: Understanding Cross-Platform Online Attention, Content Creation, and Success

Wikimedia Research Showcase   **Online [recorded]**
Invited Talk   *August 2020*
What matters to us most and why? Studying popularity and attention dynamics via Wikipedia navigation data

External Seminar Series   **National Institute of Informatics, Tokyo**
Invited Talk   *January 2020*
How Does News Become History? Using Wikipedia, Network Science, and Time Series Analysis to Understand the
Chronicling of Collective Memory

NetSciX 2020   **Waseda University, Tokyo**
Oral Presentation   *January 2020*
Navigating Historical Events through Wikipedia's Link Structure: A Comparative Analysis of Article Networks in 6 Language Editions

NetSciX 2020   **Waseda University, Tokyo**
Poster Presentation   *January 2020*
Bridging the Floating Gap: How News Events Build Networks of Collective Memory on Wikipedia

TORCH PastNet Hackathon   **University of Oxford**
Invited Talk   *May 2019*
Using Wikipedia and Networks to Study the Recording of History

Conference on Complex Systems 2018   **Aristotle University of Thessaloniki**
Oral Presentation   *September 2018*
The Interplay of Internal and External Traffic on Online Networks in the Prediction of Collective Attention

Computational Social Science Satellite @ CCS2018   **Aristotle University of Thessaloniki**
Oral Presentation   *September 2018*
Computational Romance: What Matters for Personal and Public Perceptions of Attractiveness in Online Dating?

International Conference on Complex Networks   **Northeastern University, Boston**
Oral Presentation & Publication   *March 2018*
Inspiration, Captivation, and Misdirection: Emergent Properties in Networks of Online Navigation

International Conference on Computational Social Science   **GESIS, Cologne**
Poster Presentation   *July 2017*
Order in User Navigational Structures on Wikipedia

Data Natives   **City University of London**
Oral Presentation   *May 2017*
Order in User Navigational Structures on Wikipedia

Teaching Positions

CMMM013: AI & Society: Critical and Cultural Perspectives   **University of Exeter**
Lecturer & Seminar Teacher   *2026*

CMM2017: Internet Foundations and Frontiers   **University of Exeter**
Convenor   *2025*

CMM1004/CMM2008: Communications Research Methods   **University of Exeter**
Convenor   *2025-26*

CMM3002/3: Dissertation / Practical Research Project   **University of Exeter**
Convenor (Co-convened with Dr Alexander RE Taylor 24-25)   *2024-26*

CMMM001: Advanced Theory and Concepts   **University of Exeter**
Lecturer & Seminar Teacher (Convenor Dr woori han, Dr Zizheng Yu)   *2024–25*

CMM2002: Communications in the Workplace   **University of Exeter**
Lecturer & Seminar Teacher (Convenor Dr Alexander RE Taylor)   *2024–25*

MY580: Modern Text Analysis and NLP with Python (Short Course)   **London School of Economics**
Convenor   *2025*

ME202: Social Network Analysis (Summer School)   **London School of Economics**
Co-Convenor with Dr Eleanor Power & Dr Milena Tsvetkova   *2024-25*

MY459: Quantitative Text Analysis   **London School of Economics**
Co-convenor with Dr Friedrich Geiecke   *2023-24*

MY470: Computer Programming   **London School of Economics**
Seminar Teacher (Convenor Dr Milena Tsvetkova)   *2021-24*

MY461: Social Network Analysis   **London School of Economics**
Lecturer & Seminar Teacher (Convenors Dr Eleanor Power & Dr Milena Tsvetkova)   *2021-24*

MY472: Data for Data Scientists **London School of Economics**
Seminar Teacher (Convenor Dr Friedrich Geiecke) *2021-22*

MY452: Applied Regression Analysis **London School of Economics**
Seminar Teacher (Convenor Dr Daniele Fanelli) *2021-22*

- Designed and delivered lecture content, class materials, and assessments for these undergraduate (CMM1/2/3) and postgraduate (CMMM, MY4) level courses. Held weekly seminars, marked and provided feedback for assignments and exams across these five courses. Conducted course administration through Moodle and GitHub platforms.

Introduction to Computational Social Science with Python **GESIS Fall Seminar, Mannheim**
Co-convenor with Dr Milena Tsvetkova *September 2022*
Week-long intense course for graduate students and professionals.

Teaching Assistant – Online Social Networks **Oxford Internet Institute**
Convenor: Dr Bernie Hogan *January–March 2018 & 2019*
MSc and PhD level course

Teaching Assistant – Python for Social Data Science **Oxford Internet Institute**
Convenor: Dr Bernie Hogan *October–November 2018*
MSc Social Data Science, DPhil Information, Communication and the Social Sciences

Teaching Assistant – Scripting for Social Scientists (Python) **Oxford Internet Institute**
Convenor: Dr Bernie Hogan *October–December 2017*
MSc Social Science of the Internet, DPhil Information, Communication and the Social Sciences

Teaching Assistant – Social Network Analysis **Oxford Summer School in Economic Networks**
Convenor: Prof Taha Yasseri *June 2017*

Graduate Supervision

Selected project titles:
University of Exeter MA Media and Communications
Smiling Under Algorithmic Discipline: Aesthetic Negotiation and Emotional Labour Among Female Creators on Short Video Platforms
AI Trust Discourse Practices in Corporate Press Releases: The Case of Google
Between Assistance and Manipulation: The Dual Impact of AI-Powered Personalization on Human Information Practices
LSE MSc Applied Social Data Science
What Makes the News: Selection Bias in Collective Action Reporting by Domestic and Dissident Media in China
Public Attitudes Towards Foreign Trade During the US-China Trade War: a Reddit Case Study
Measuring the Comment Gap: A Machine Learning and Quantitative Text Analysis Approach to Studying News Media User Comments *(Best Dissertation Prize)*
Postpartum Depression: Analyzing Reddit Social Media Behaviour for Deepening Understanding and Early Detection – A Quantitative Text Analysis and Machine Learning Approach
Making sense of the Danish 'Climate Election' Using Word and Document Embeddings
The Ties that Bind: A Social Network Analysis of Cultural Capital in Denmark

Service Responsibilities

Journal & Conference Reviewer – Communications Methods and Measures, Information, Communication and Society, International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media, EPJ Data Science, Communications Earth & Environment, EPJ B, PLOS ONE

External Examiner **University of Warwick**
Department of Politics and International Studies *2024–Present*

Lead for Communications and Public Relations **University of Exeter**
Institute for Data Science and Artificial Intelligence *2025*

Director - The Critical AI Centre (CrAIC) **University of Exeter**
 2024–Present

Employability Representative **University of Exeter**
Department of Communications, Drama, and Film *2024–2025*

Programme Committee – International Conference on Computational Social Science **Philadelphia**
Organizing Committee: Prof Dan Hopkins, Prof Xi Song *July 2024*

Programme Committee – Wiki Workshop 2023, 2024	**Online**
Organization: Wikimedia Foundation	*May 2023, 2024*
Programme Committee – ACM Hypertext	**Rome**
Organizing Committee: Dr Alessio Antonini, Dr Francesca Benatti	*September 2023*
Programme Committee – NetSciX	**Santiago**
Organizing Committee: Dr Bruno Gonçalves, Prof Leo Ferres, Dr Javier Bustos-Jiménez	*January 2019*
Assistant Interviewer	**Somerville College, University of Oxford**
BA, MMath in Mathematics, Mathematics & Statistics, Mathematics & Computer Science	*December 2018, 2019*
Chair	**Oxford Internet Institute**
Graduate Joint Consultative Committee	*October 2018–2019*
Student Representative	**Oxford Internet Institute**
Research Committee, Graduate Studies Committee	*November 2017–November 2018, February 2018–June 2019*

Media Appearances and Other Outputs

LSE Impact Blog	
Grokipedia falls flat, but AI is already rewriting Wikipedia's future	*November 2025*
Wikimedia Research Showcase	
Collective Attention Across Wikipedia and the Web	*January 2025*
Personal Blog	
Elon Musk is right about Wikipedia	*October 2023*
Wikimedia Research Showcase	
Navigation, Networks, News, Wikipedia	*August 2020*
Oxford Sparks Big Questions Podcast	
Can data find me a date?	*February 2020*
BBC News	
Hot or not: Does rating yourself highly get you more dates?	*October 2018*

Affiliations and Research Positions

Visting Fellow	**Department of Methodology, London School of Economics and Political Science**
	2025–Present
Research Collaborator – Search Prompt Integrity and Learning Lab	**CITAP, UNC Chapel Hill**
Principal Investigator: Dr Francesca Tripodi	*2024–Present*
Research Assistant – Computational Romance Project	**Oxford Internet Institute**
Principal Investigator: Dr Taha Yasseri	*June–September 2018*
Intern – Central Laser Facility	**Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Harwell**
Supervisors: Prof Peter Norreys, Prof David Neely	*August–September 2014*

Student Funding

TORCH PastNet Bursary	**University of Oxford**
£200	*2020*
Green Templeton College Competitive Conference and Fieldwork Funding	**University of Oxford**
£830	*2018, 2020*
Oxford Internet Institute Academic Scholarship	**University of Oxford**
£1464	*2019*
DPhil Studentship	**EPSRC**
£14,500 annually	*2016-2020*
Worcester College Academic Scholarship	**University of Oxford**
	2015

Research Skills

- **Computing:** Comfortable with: Python, R, SQL, HTML, UNIX CLI. Working knowledge of: MATLAB, C, C++. Experienced in visualisation, parallelisation, cloud computing, and integrating generative AI tools.
- **Communication and Presentation skills:** Attended and presented at various conferences and seminars both internal and external to department and university. Built on guidance for personal and professional development from DPhil seminars and subsequent courses. Comfortable performing to crowds through additional teaching and musical stage experience.