

Jack LaViolette

CONTACT INFORMATION

Columbia University
Department of Sociology
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EDUCATION

Columbia University in the City of New York

Ph.D., Sociology, 2025 (expected)
M.Phil., Sociology, 2023 (expected)
M.A., Sociology, 2022

Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford

M.Sc. with Distinction, Social Science of the Internet, 2018

University of Pennsylvania

B.A. with Honors, Linguistics, *summa cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa, 2016

HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, & AWARDS

INCITE Graduate Fellowship, Columbia University, 2021–

Mellon Sawyer Seminar Doctoral Fellowship (“The Trust Project @ Columbia University,” P.I. Dr. Gil Eyal), 2021–2022

Paul F. Lazarsfeld Fellowship, Columbia University, 2020–2025

Clarendon Scholarship, Oxford University, 2017–2018

Phi Beta Kappa, University of Pennsylvania, 2016

Best Undergraduate Essay Prize (“Cyber-metapragmatics and alterity on reddit.com”), Society for Linguistic Anthropology, American Anthropological Association, 2016

UNDER REVIEW

LaViolette, J. Unidentified objects: Affordances, bodies, and the two-ness of place. Under review, *American Journal of Sociology*.

*Langrock, I., **LaViolette, J.**, Gonclaves, M. S. O., and Spoon, K. Book bans in political context: Evidence from U.S. public schools. Under review, *PNAS Nexus*.

Wimmer, A., Lee, S., and **LaViolette, J.** Domain specificity and cultural diffusion: The spread of romantic nationalism in Europe’s long 19th century. Under review, *American Journal of Sociology*.

FORTHCOMING

Brunila, M., **LaViolette, J.**, CH-Wang, S., Verma, P., Féré, C., and McKenzie, G. Toward a critical toponymy framework for named entity recognition: A case study of Airbnb in New York City. Forthcoming, *Proceedings of EMNLP 2023*.

O’Hanlon, R., Altice, F., Lee, R., **LaViolette, J.**, Mark, G., Papakyriakopoulos, O., Saha, K., De Choudhury, M., and Kumar, N. Misogynistic extremism: A scoping review. Forthcoming, *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse*.

*Denotes alphabetical/equal authorship.

- Han, S., **LaViolette, J.**, Borkenhagen, C., McAllister, W., and Bearman, P. Interdisciplinarity through knowledge recombination and its post-graduation implications. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science* 120(43), e2221915120.
- *Capotescu, C., Cohn, E., Eyal, G., **LaViolette, J.**, and Tomson, D. L. (2023). The TrustWorkers Project: Challenges and methods of building trust into public scholarship. *Public Philosophy Journal* 5(1), 1–11.
- *Capotescu, C., Chodon, T., Chu, J., Cohn, E., Eyal, G., Goyal, R., Ige, O., **LaViolette, J.**, Mallik, S., Phillips, L. M., Spencer, P., and Tomson, D. L. (2022). Community health workers' critical role in trust building between the medical system and communities of color. *American Journal of Managed Care* 28(10), 294–296.
- Brunila, M., and **LaViolette, J.** (2022). What company do words keep? Revisiting the distributional semantics of J.R. Firth & Zellig Harris. *Proceedings of the 2022 Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics: Human Language Technologies*, 4403–4417.
- Brunila, M., and **LaViolette, J.** (2021). WMDecompose: A Framework for Leveraging the Interpretable Properties of Word Mover's Distance in Sociocultural Analysis. *Proceedings of the 5th Joint SIGHUM Workshop on Computational Linguistics for Cultural Heritage, Social Sciences, Humanities and Literature*, 154–167.
- LaViolette, J.**, and Hogan, B. (2019). Using platform signals for distinguishing discourse: The case of Men's Rights and Men's Liberation on Reddit. *Proceedings of the 13th International Conference on Web and Social Media*, 323–334.
- Koene, A., Clifton, C., Hatada, Y., Webb, H., Patel, M., Machado, C., **LaViolette, J.**, Richardson, R., and Reisman, D. (2018). A governance framework for algorithmic accountability and transparency. Report commissioned by the European Parliament Science and Technology Options Assessment Panel. Presented to the panel Oct 25, 2018.
- LaViolette, J.** (2018). Modeling the manosphere: Towards a computational discourse analysis of online masculinities. Master's Thesis, Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford. Supervised by Dr. Bernie Hogan.
- LaViolette, J.** (2018). Empathy as industry: An undergraduate perspective on neoliberalism and community engagement at the University of Pennsylvania. In *The 'Experience' of Neoliberal Education*, ed. B. Urciuoli, Ch. 3. New York: Berghahn Books.
- LaViolette, J.** (2017). Cyber-metapragmatics and alterity on *reddit.com*. King's College London Working Papers in Urban Language and Literacies, Tilburg University Papers in Cultural Studies.
- LaViolette, J.** (2016). *Look at those suitcases!*: A quantitative and interpretative analysis of demonstrative determiners with body parts in 31 Super Bowl broadcasts. Honors thesis, Department of Linguistics, University of Pennsylvania. Supervised by Dr. Meredith Tamminga.
- LaViolette, J.** (2016). Evidence for phonological assimilation and other predictors in the allophonic distribution of rhotics in Abidjanais French. Senior project, Department of Linguistics, University of Pennsylvania.
- Bercik, B., McGeehan, B., Hansen-Fliedner, D., Holmes, H., Jadick, J., Kiderman, E., Kole, L., **LaViolette, J.**, Mainella, D., Rea, E., Schwartz, A. D., and Singh, A. (2014). *RE:CREATION MYTH*. Philadelphia: Institute of Contemporary Art.

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CONFERENCE
PRESENTATIONS

- Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing 2023 (EMNLP: Singapore December 6–10, 2023)
Presenter, “Toward a Critical Toponymy Framework for Named Entity Recognition: A Case Study of Airbnb in New York City” (with Mikael Brunila and Sky C.H. Wang).
- The 9th International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2: Copenhagen, July 17–20, 2023)
Presenter, “Quantifying the origins and impacts of book bans in U.S. public schools, 2021–2022” (with Isabelle Langrock, Katherine Spoon, and Marcelo Silva).
- The 2022 Annual Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL: Seattle, July 10–15, 2022)
Presenter, “What company do words keep? Revisiting the distributional semantics of J.R. Firth & Zellig Harris” (with Mikael Brunila).
- The 5th Joint SIGHUM Workshop on Computational Linguistics for Cultural Heritage, Social Sciences, Humanities and Literature (virtual: November 10th, 2021)
Presenter, “WMDecompose: A framework for leveraging the interpretable properties of Word Mover’s Distance in sociocultural analysis” (with Mikael Brunila).
- The International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM: Munich: June 11th–14th, 2019)
Presenter, “Using platform signals for distinguishing discourse: The case of Men’s Rights and Men’s Liberation on Reddit.”

TEACHING
EXPERIENCE

- Center for Smart Streetscapes, Department of Engineering, Columbia University
Instructor, “Survey methods for the social science of technology.” Workshop held on July 11, 2023.
- Vagelos Computational Science Center, Barnard College, Columbia University
Instructor, “Data Analysis for Social Media: A Primer on the Twitter API.” Workshop held on October 7, 2022.
- Department of Sociology, Barnard College, Columbia University
Teaching assistant, “Social Theory” (Prof. Debbie Becher), Fall 2022

GRANTS

- Columbia University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Matching Travel Small Grant
\$300 to support attendance at EMNLP 2023
- Paul F. Lazarsfeld Lecture Series Grant, 2023
\$3,000 to support the original lecture series, “NLP for Social Science: From Language Models to Social Structures” in Spring 2023
- SICSS Research Grant: SSRC, the Russell Sage foundation and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, 2022
\$1,500 to support the Banned Books Project (with Katie Spoon, Isabelle Langrock, and Marcelo Goncalves)
- Small Research Grant: Columbia University Sociology Department, 2022
\$882.15 to support conference attendance at NAACL 2022

PROFESSIONAL
SERVICE

- Peer reviewer
- International Conference on Web and Social Media (Buffalo: June 3rd–6th, 2024)
ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (Hamburg: April 23rd–28th, 2023)
International Conference on Web and Social Media (Atlanta: June 6th–9th, 2022)
International Conference on Web and Social Media (virtual: June 8th–11th, 2020)
- Graduate student representative, Department of Sociology, Columbia University, 2021–2022
- Communication and Outreach teams volunteer, Connected Life Conference (Oxford, UK: June 18th, 2018)

OTHER SKILLS

Programming: Python, R

Software: Gephi, Praat

Languages: French (advanced), Italian (elementary)