

Sarah Shugars

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Rutgers University

Assistant Professor, Department of Communication
School of Communication and Information
September 2022 - Present

New York University

Assistant Professor/Faculty Fellow, Center for Data Science
September 2020 - August 2022

George Washington University

Research Fellow, School of Media & Public Affairs
Twitter Healthy Conversations Project
January 2021 - August 2022

EDUCATION

Northeastern University

Ph.D., Network Science, Social Science Track. 2020.
Dissertation: Reasoning Together: Network Methods for Political Talk and Normative Reasoning.
Committee: David Lazer (co-advisor, Political Science), Nicholas Beauchamp (co-advisor, Political Science), Peter Levine (Political Science & Philosophy), Lu Wang (Computer Science).

Emerson College

M.A., Integrated Marketing Communication, 2009.

Clark University

B.A., Physics, *cum laude*. 2004.
Concentration in Asian Studies.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

[†] Indicates graduate student co-author.

21. **Shugars S.** and [†]Ha E. (2025). The character of connection: Platform affordances and connective democracy. *Social Media + Society*. 11(2). 1-11. <https://doi.org/10.1177/20563051251332427>
20. Smith M. A., **Shugars S.**, [†]Khanam S., [†]Mbonu A., [†]Lella O. S. K. M., and Myers, C. L. (2025). The black pill: (Re)conceptualizing the black right in the era of YouTube influencers. *Social Media + Society*. 11(1). 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.1177/20563051251329078>.
19. Green J., McCabe S., **Shugars S.**, Chwe H., Horgan L., Cao S., and Lazer D. (2025). Curation bubbles. *American Political Science Review*. Online first edition. 1-19. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0003055424000984>.
18. **Shugars S.** (2025). Understanding quantitative research. *SAGE Research Methods*. <https://doi.org/10.4135/9781036223113>
17. **Shugars S.** (2025). Navigating empirical methods. *SAGE Research Methods*. <https://doi.org/10.4135/9781036223038>
16. [†]Randazzo C., **Shugars S.**, [†]Acosta R., and Doerfel M. (2024). The multilayer semantic network structure of community tensions. *Frontiers: Network Analysis of Social Media Texts*. 9(1). 1-25.

- <https://doi.org/10.3389/frma.2024.1417990>.
15. **Shugars S.**, [†]Quintana-Mathé A., [†]Lange R., and Lazer D. (2024). Categorizing the non-categorical: The challenges of studying gendered phenomena online. *Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication*. 29(1). 1-12. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jcmc/zmad053>.
 14. **Shugars S.** (2024). Critical computational social science. *European Physical Journal (EPJ) Data Science*. 13(13). 1-10. <https://doi.org/10.1140/epjds/s13688-023-00433-2>.
 13. [†]Gitomer A., **Shugars S.**, Gallagher R. J., McCabe S., Lazer D., and Foucault Welles B. (2023). The speech we miss: How keyword-based data collection obscures youth participation in online political discourse. *Computational Communication Research*. 5(1). 1-33. <https://doi.org/10.5117/CCR2023.1.11.GITO>.
 12. Beauchamp N., **Shugars S.**, Swire-Thompson B., and Lazer D. (2023). How expertise mediates the effects of numerical and textual communication on individual and collective accuracy. *Decision*. 11(1). 194-211. <https://psycnet.apa.org/doi/10.1037/dec0000204>.
 11. [†]Hada R., [†]Ebrahimi Fard A., **Shugars S.**, Bianchi F., Rossini P., Hovy D., Tromble R., and Tintarev N. (2023). Beyond digital “echo chambers”: The role of viewpoint diversity in political discussion. *Proceedings of the Sixteenth ACM International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining (WSDM)*. 33-41. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3539597.3570487>.
 10. **Shugars S.** (2022). Core skills of computational social science: Data justice, intellectual humility, and algorithmic thinking. *SAGE Research Methods: Doing Research Online*. <https://doi.org/10.4135/9781529611274>.
 9. Kim S., Lebovits H., and **Shugars S.** (2021). Building a bigger table: Networking 101 for graduate students. *PS: Political Science & Politics*. 55(2). 307-312. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1049096521001025>.
 8. **Shugars S.**, Gitomer A., McCabe S., Gallagher R. J., Joseph K., Grinberg N., Doroshenko L., Foucault Welles B., and Lazer D. (2021). Pandemics, protests, and publics: Demographic activity and engagement on Twitter in 2020. *Journal of Quantitative Description: Digital Media*. 1(1). 1-68. <https://doi.org/10.51685/jqd.2021.002>.
 7. Gallagher R. J., Doroshenko L., **Shugars S.**, Lazer D., and Foucault Welles B. (2021). Sustained amplification of COVID-19 elites in the United States. *Social Media + Society*. 7(2). 1-16. <https://doi.org/10.1177/20563051211024957>.
 6. Joseph K., **Shugars S.**, Gallagher R. J., Green J., Quintana-Mathé A., An Z., and Lazer D. (2021). (Mis)alignment between stance expressed in social media data and public opinion surveys. *Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*. 312-324. <https://doi.org/10.18653/v1/2021.emnlp-main.27>.
 5. **Shugars S.** (2020). Good decisions or bad outcomes? A model for group deliberation on value-laden topics. *Communication Methods and Measures*. 15(4). 273-291. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19312458.2020.1768521>.
 4. **Shugars S.** and Beauchamp N. (2019). Why keep arguing? Predicting engagement in political conversations online. *SAGE Open*. 9(1). 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2158244019828850>.
 3. Zeng X., Li J., Wang L., Beauchamp N., **Shugars S.**, and Wong K. (2018). Microblog conversation recommendation via joint modeling of topics and discourse. *Proceedings of North American Chapter of Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL)*. 1(1). 375-385. <https://doi.org/10.18653/v1/N18-1035>.
 2. Miller J. A., **Shugars S.**, and Levine D. (2018). Games for civic renewal. *The Good Society*. 26(1). 135-192. <https://doi.org/10.5325/goodsociety.26.1.0135>.
 1. Wang L., Beauchamp N., **Shugars S.**, and Qin K. (2017). Winning on the merits: The joint effects of

content and style on debate outcomes. *Transactions of the Association for Computational Linguistics (TACL)*. 5(1). 219-232. https://doi.org/10.1162/tacl.a_00057.

EDITED CHAPTERS

6. **Shugars S.** and Argyle, L. (2025). Computational political psychology. In E. C. Busby, C. K. Karpowitz, and C. J. Wong (Eds.), *Handbook of Innovations in Political Psychology*. 492–512. Edward Elgar Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781803924830.00033>.
5. **Shugars S.** (2024). A matter of perspective: Computational social science and researcher choice. In J. Box-Steffensmeier, D. Christenson, and V. Sinclair-Chapman (Eds.), *Oxford Handbook of Methodological Pluralism*. Oxford University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780192868282.013.46>.
4. **Shugars S.** and González-Bailón S. (2024). Semantic and cultural networks. In J. McLevey, P. J. Carrington, and J. Scott (Eds.), *The Sage Handbook of Social Network Analysis (2nd Edition)*. 202-211. SAGE Publications. <https://doi.org/10.4135/9781529614695>
3. Cantwell D., Kirkland S., Lebovits L., Osorio M., Rojas N., Rubio R., **Shugars S.**, Torres R., and Winter R. (2022). No Rapunzel in this ivory tower: Finding your collective and overcoming academic isolation in political science. In K. Lorentz II, D. J. Mallinson, D. Phoenix, and J. C. Strachan (Eds.), *Strategies for Navigating Graduate School and Beyond*. 425-430. American Political Science Association.
2. de la Garza Y. B., Egan P., and **Shugars S.** (2022). Why you're doing this: Sustaining joy and inspiration in the scholarly vocation. In K. Lorentz II, D. J. Mallinson, D. Phoenix, and J. C. Strachan (Eds.), *Strategies for Navigating Graduate School and Beyond*. 419-424. American Political Science Association.
1. Benson T., Gentry B., and **Shugars S.** (2022). Feeling like a fraud: Imposter syndrome in political science. In K. Lorentz II, D. J. Mallinson, D. Phoenix, and J. C. Strachan (Eds.), *Strategies for Navigating Graduate School and Beyond*. 323-328. American Political Science Association.

ADDITIONAL PUBLICATIONS

6. **Shugars S.**, Zhang Y., and Jones J. J. (2024). Editors' introduction to special issue of JQD:DM in collaboration with ICWSM. *Journal of Quantitative Description: Digital Media*. 4(2024). 1-5. <https://doi.org/10.51685/jqd.2024.icwsm.1>.
5. Brown M. A., Lukito J., Greenfield J., Chen B., Graham S., **Shugars S.**, and Pruden M. L. (2024). The state of digital media data research, 2024. *Media & Democracy Data Cooperative*. <https://doi.org/10.26153/tsw/51921>.
4. **Shugars S.** (2023). A review of Taylor N. Carlson and Jaime E. Settle, "What goes without saying: Navigating political discussion in America." *Political Science Quarterly*. 138(3). 458–459. <https://doi.org/10.1093/psquar/qquad048>.
3. **Shugars S.** and Scarpino S. V. (2021). One outstanding path from A to B. *Nature Physics*. 17(4). 540-540. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41567-021-01222-2>.
2. Lazer D., Ruck D. J., Quintana-Mathé A., **Shugars S.**, Joseph K., Grinberg N., Gallagher R. J., Horgan L., Gitomer A. Bajak A., Baum M., Ognyanova K., Qu H., Hobbs W., McCabe S., and Green J. (2020). Fake news on Twitter. *The Covid States Project*. Report 18. <https://doi.org/10.31219/osf.io/vzb9t>.
1. **Shugars S.** (2020). A review of Daniel T. O'Brien, "The urban commons: How data and technology can rebuild our communities." *The Good Society*. 28(1-2). 64-69. <https://doi.org/10.5325/goodsociety.28.1-2.0064>.

UNDER REVIEW AND PAPERS IN PROGRESS

[†] Indicates graduate student co-author.

4. **Shugars S.**, Lukito J., Pruden M. L., Dahlke R., Suk J., Zhang Y., Yang Y., Brown M. A., Zhong W., and Chen B. (Working Paper). An ecosystem divided?: Cross-platform election information flows in alt-tech and mainstream social media platforms.
3. [†]Randazzo C., [†]Acosta R., **Shugars S.**, and Doerfel M. (Working Paper). The semantic structure of community tensions.
2. **Shugars S.**, [†]Jindani A., [†]Scrivani K., [†]Ha E., [†]Seo J., Ammari T., Li J., Jhaver S., Ognyanova K., and Fu S. (In development). Explicating bias in computational social science: A systematic review.
1. **Shugars S.** (Working Paper) The structure of reasoning: Inferring conceptual networks from short text. <https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/PNWD8>.

MEDIA COVERAGE

5. Sheeler A. (January 2025). Is TikTok doomed? California congressman files Hail Mary bill to temporarily spare the app. *The Sacramento Bee*. <https://www.sacbee.com/news/politics-government/capitol-alert/article298539968.html>.
4. Smith A. (January 2025). Meta drops fact checkers in US, what does this mean for the world? *Context*. <https://www.context.news/big-tech/meta-drops-fact-checkers-in-us-what-does-this-mean-for-the-world>.
3. Nazzaro M. (January 2025). Meta's fact-checking changes stoke disinformation concerns. *The Hill*. <https://thehill.com/policy/technology/5082619-meta-fact-checking-disinformation/>.
2. Brodsky S. (October 2023). Local governments take the lead in regulating AI. *AI Business*. <https://aibusiness.com/responsible-ai/local-governments-take-the-lead-in-regulating-ai>.
1. Adamczyk A. (December 2022). From quiet quitting to career cushioning, all the work phrases we loved to hate this year. *Fortune Magazine*. <https://fortune.com/2022/12/19/quiet-quitting-career-cushioning-workplace-phrases-we-hate-2022/>.

ENGAGED RESEARCH

3. **Shugars S.** (In post-production, expected publication Spring 2025). Tutorial: Conceptualizing digital trace data [Video]. *SAGE Research Methods*.
2. **Shugars S.** (In post-production, expected publication Spring 2025). Tutorial: project management [Video]. *SAGE Research Methods*.
1. **Shugars S.** (2022). Starting with computational social science [Video]. *SAGE Research Methods*. <https://doi.org/10.4135/9781529605501>.

TEACHING

Rutgers University

16:194:604 Quantitative Research Methods.
PhD course. Taught 1 time. Fall 2024.

04:192:432 Communication, Technology, and Society.
Undergraduate course. Taught 6 times. Fall 2022-Spring 2025.

04:192:305 Introduction to Social Media.
Undergraduate course. Taught 2 times. Spring 2023 & Spring 2024.
Curricular Development: Major revision of course.

17:194:514 Communication Research.

Masters course. Taught 2 times. Fall 2023 & Spring 2025.

Additional Institutions

DS 111 Data Science for Everyone. New York University.

Undergraduate course. Taught 3 times. Spring 2021-Summer 2022.

DS 2001 Programming with Data for Social Sciences. Northeastern University.

Undergraduate course. Taught 1 time. Spring 2019.

PHIL 0020 Introduction to Civic Studies. Tufts University.

Undergraduate course. Co-taught 1 time. Spring 2014.

Workshops & Short Courses

Networks I (3 weeks)

Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR).

University of Michigan. Summers 2023-2025.

Network modeling (3 hour)

Political Networks Conference. Summer 2024.

Computational methods (3 hour)

Co-instructor: Katya Ognyanova

Organizational Communication Mini-Conference (OCMC). Fall 2023.

Network and text analysis (3 hour)

Political Networks Conference. Summer 2021, Summer 2022.

STUDENT MENTORING AND ADVISING

PhD Advisees

Xiner Lai, Rutgers University. Began Fall 2024.

Ph.D. Dissertation Committee Member

Melissa Gasparotto, Rutgers University. Proposed Fall 2024.

Toward Digital Linguistic Justice: A Critical Study of Data Practices in Latin American Language Technology Development.

Rachel Acosta, Rutgers University. Proposed Spring 2024.

A Multilevel Framework for Interconnected Tensions in Organizational Stakeholder Partnerships in Collaborative Governance.

Casey Randazzo, Rutgers University. Defended Spring 2025.

The Potential of Generative AI to Support Community Disaster Communication.

First Position: University of California, Santa Barbara.

Luxan Wang, Rutgers University. Defended Spring 2023.

Cultivating Perceptions: Exploring the Influence of News Media on Perceived Polarization.

First Position: Researcher, Pew Research Center.

Ph.D. Qualifying Committee Member

Eunbin Ha, Rutgers University. 2024.

Algorithmic bias, large language models, artificial intelligence.

Casey Randazzo, Rutgers University. 2023.

Social capital, online community, social networks.

Melissa Gasparotto, Rutgers University. 2023.

Linguistic justice, natural language processing.

Ph.D. Directed Studies

Remy LeWinter, Northeastern University. 2023. *Reasoned Belief and Argumentation as Networks.*

Additional Student Mentoring

Mentor. Communication and Technology Doctoral Consortium. *International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference*. May 2023.

PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING

Level 2 Badge for Implementation of Inclusive Teaching

Spring 2024

Rutgers University's Office of Teaching Evaluation and Assessment Research (OTEAR).

Completed through three OTEAR staff observations of my teaching in 04:192:432, coded using the Protocol for Advancing Inclusive Teaching Efforts (PAITE).

Level 1 Badge for Lifelong Learning in Inclusive & Equitable Teaching

2022-2023

Rutgers University's Office of Teaching Evaluation and Assessment Research.

Completed Competency 1 by attending *Culturally responsive course design and teaching strategies* and *Cultural humility in the classroom – a discussion*.

Completed Competency 2 by attending *Strategies for creating an inclusive classroom*.

Completed Competency 3 by attending *Creating accessible online content: Text, documents, images, and video*.

Future Faculty Program

2017-2019

Northeastern University's Center for Advancing Teaching and Learning Through Research.

Attended workshops in: Fostering an inclusive learning environment, Designing authentic assignments, Active learning in STEM courses, Discussions that work: Engaging structures and practical facilitation moves, and creating a space for difficult topics in the classroom.

Additional Training

2024: *Encouraging dialogue and exploring different perspectives in classrooms of all disciplines*.

Workshop organized by the Eagleton Institute of Politics and the Department of Political Science.

2023: *Developing classroom policies and practices to respond to ChatGPT*. Workshop organized by the Office of Teaching Evaluation & Assessment Research.

2022: *Supporting neurodiverse students in Your courses*. Workshop offered by the Office of Teaching Evaluation & Assessment Research.

2022: *Teaching tips: Exploring crowd-sourced RU instructor teaching tips*. Workshop organized by the Office of Teaching Evaluation & Assessment Research.

INVITED TALKS

23. "Connecting with computational social scientists."

Tutorial on "training computational social science Ph.D. students for academic and non-academic careers" at the *International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2)*. University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA. July 2024.

22. "Interpreting trace data across platform contexts."

Preconference on "the future of computational message science: Theoretical advances, computational frontiers, and grand societal challenges" at the *International Communication Association (ICA) Conference*. Queensland University of Technology. Brisbane, Australia. June 2024.

21. "The character of connection: Platform affordances and democratic outcomes."

Political Communication Working Group. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI. November 2023.

20. "The character of connection: Platform affordances and connective democracy."

Elihu Katz Colloquium. University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA. October 2023.

19. "Choose your own adventure in computational social science."

- Summer Institute of Computational Social Science (SICSS) Penn.* University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA. June 2023.
18. "Platform affordances and deliberative democracy."
Center for Social Media and Politics. Florence, Italy. April 2023.
 17. "Pandemics, protests, and publics."
Panelist at the *Digital Activism Symposium.* University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA. April 2023.
 16. "Measuring viewpoint diversity in online political discussion."
Formal and Quantitative Seminar (FAQS). University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Chapel Hill, NC. October 2022.
 15. "Choose your own adventure in computational social science."
Summer Institute of Computational Social Science (SICSS) Rutgers. Rutgers University. New Brunswick, NJ. June 2022.
 14. "Working with interdisciplinary teams."
Panelist at the *ICERM Workshop on Network Analysis for Social Systems.* Brown University. Providence, RI. June 2022.
 13. "Beyond digital 'echo chambers': The role of viewpoint diversity in political discussion."
Center for Social Media and Politics. New York University. New York, NY. April 2022.
 12. "Data ethics."
Panelist at the *Data Science Symposium.* University of Delaware. Newark, DE. November 2021.
 11. "Getting started with computational social science."
Spark Talk. McMaster University. Virtual. November 2021.
 10. "Engagement dynamics in online political conversations."
Social Personality Series. Michigan State University. Virtual. October 2021.
 9. "Engagement dynamics in online political conversations."
Cognitive Science Seminar. University of Memphis. Virtual. October 2021.
 8. "Assessing modeling choices for political conversation."
Social Science Data Lab Seminar Series. University of Mannheim. Virtual. September 2021.
 7. "The dynamics of group deliberation on value-laden topics."
SIAM Minisymposium on Opinion Dynamics in Complex Social Systems. Virtual. May 2021.
 6. "Pandemics, protests, and publics: Demographic activity and engagement on Twitter in 2020."
CoCo Seminar Series. Binghamton University. Virtual. April 2021.
 5. "The construction of expertise: Voice and inequality in the spread of COVID-19 information and misinformation."
Center for Data Science Seminar Series. New York University. Virtual. October 2020.
 4. "Why keep arguing? Predicting engagement in political conversations online."
Connected_Politics Lab Seminar Series. University College Dublin. Virtual. April 2020.
 3. "The structure of reasoning: Measuring justification and preferences in text."
Women in Network Science (WiNS) Seminar Series. Virtual. April 2020.
 2. "Inferring conceptual networks from free response text."
New Faces in Political Methodology. Pennsylvania State University. State College, PA. April 2019.
 1. "Confidence and collaboration: Gender and working together in the public sphere."
Gendered Creative Teams Conference. Central European University. Budapest, Hungary. May 2017.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

[†] Indicates graduate student co-author.

51. **Shugars S.**, Lukito J., Pruden M. L., Dahlke R., Suk J., Zhang Y., Yang Y., Brown M. A., Zhong W., and Chen B. (2025, scheduled). An Ecosystem Divided?: Cross-Platform Election Information Flows in Alt-Tech and Mainstream Social Media Platforms. *International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference*. Denver, CO.
50. [†]Randazzo C., [†]Acosta R., **Shugars S.**, and Doerfel M. (2024). The semantic structure of interconnected tensions. *National Communication Association (NCA) Annual Conference*. New Orleans, LA.
49. **Shugars S.**, Lukito J., Pruden M. L., Dahlke R., Suk J., Zhang Y., Yang Y., Brown M. A., Zhong W., and Chen B. (2024). Cross-platform election information flows. *American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Conference*. Philadelphia, PA.
48. [†]Randazzo C., **Shugars S.**, and Doerfel M. (2024). Social tie formation in online neighborhood threads. *International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference*. Gold Coast, Australia.
47. [†]Ha E. and **Shugars S.** (2024). AI's role as mediator: A comparison of toxicity between human and machine-generated responses. *International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference*. Gold Coast, Australia.
46. **Shugars S.**, Lukito J., Pruden M. L., Dahlke R., Suk J., Zhang Y., Yang Y., Brown M. A., Zhong W., and Chen B. (2024). Cross-platform election information flows. Poster at the *International Conference of Computational Social Science (IC2S2)*. Philadelphia, PA.
45. **Shugars S.**, Lukito J., Pruden M. L., Dahlke R., Suk J., Zhang Y., Yang Y., Brown M. A., Zhong W., and Chen B. (2024). Cross-platform election information flows. *Political Networks (PolNet) Conference*. Florida State University. Tallahassee, FL.
44. **Shugars S.** (2023). What we see and what we get: Critical computational challenges in using speech and text as data. *National Communication Association (NCA) Annual Conference*. National Harbor, MD.
43. **Shugars S.** and [†]Ha E. (2023). The character of connection: Platform affordances and connective democracy. *American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Conference*. Los Angeles, CA.
42. **Shugars S.** (2023). Advances in computational social science. Panelist for the task force on engaged methodological pluralism mini-conference: Ending the divide? *American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Conference*. Los Angeles, CA.
41. **Shugars S.** and [†]Ha E. (2023). Information flows and the structure of online discourse. *International Network for Social Network Analysis (Sunbelt) Conference*. Portland, OR.
40. **Shugars S.** (2023). Elevating marginalized communities through community-aware collaborative filtering. Preconference on building the conditions for responsible human-centric AI systems. *International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference*. Toronto, Canada.
39. **Shugars S.** and [†]Ha E. (2023). Platform affordances and deliberative democracy: Are productive online political conversations possible? *Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Conference*. Chicago, IL.
38. **Shugars S.** (2022). A matter of perspective: Computational communication and researcher choice. *National Communication Association (NCA) Annual Conference*. New Orleans, LA.
37. Green J., **Shugars S.**, Fishman N., and Levine P. (2022). Measuring belief systems as directed networks of attitudes. *American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Conference*. Montreal, Canada.
36. **Shugars S.**, Green J., Fishman N., and Levine P. (2022). Measuring belief systems as directed

- networks of attitudes. *Political Networks (PolNet) Conference*. Virtual.
35. [†]Gitomer A., **Shugars S.**, Gallagher R. J., McCabe S., Lazer D., and Foucault Welles B. (2022). How keyword-based data collection obscures participation in online election discourse. *Politics and Computational Social Science (PaCSS) Conference*. Harvard University. Cambridge, MA.
 34. [†]Gitomer A., **Shugars S.**, Gallagher R. J., McCabe S., Lazer D., and Foucault Welles B. (2022). The speech we miss: (Re)examining young people’s participation in U.S. presidential discourse. *International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference*. Paris, France. May 2022.
 33. Green J., **Shugars S.**, Fishman N., and Levine P. (2022). Measuring belief systems as directed networks of attitudes. *Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Conference*. Chicago, IL.
 32. **Shugars S.** (2021). Networks all the way down: Assessing modeling choices for political conversation. *American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Conference*. Seattle, WA.
 31. Green J., **Shugars S.**, McCabe S., and Lazer D. (2021). Reinflating the filter bubble: Domain versus URL level analyses of news sharing. *American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Conference*. Seattle, WA.
 30. **Shugars S.** (2021). Pluralistic approaches to complex inferential challenges. *American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Conference*. Seattle, WA.
 29. **Shugars S.** (2021). Networks all the way down: Assessing modeling choices for political conversation. *Political Networks (PolNet) Conference*. Virtual.
 28. **Shugars S.** (2021). Networks all the way down: Assessing modeling choices for political conversation. *Politics and Computational Social Science (PaCSS) Conference*. Virtual.
 27. [†]Gitomer A., **Shugars S.**, Gallagher R. J., Lazer D., and Foucault Welles B. (2021). Online voice, attention, and (in)equality in the 2020 U.S. presidential election. *Politics and Computational Social Science (PaCSS) Conference*. Virtual.
 26. McCabe S., Green J., **Shugars S.**, Harrington J., and Lazer D. (2021). Curation bubbles: Domain versus URL level analysis of partisan news sharing on social media. *Politics and Computational Social Science (PaCSS) Conference*. Virtual.
 25. Joseph K., **Shugars S.**, Gallagher R. J., Green J., Quintana-Mathé A., An Z., and Lazer D. (2021). (Mis)alignment between stance expressed in social media data and public opinion surveys. *Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*. Virtual.
 24. **Shugars S.** (2021). Modeling political conversation as networks. Joint gathering of the *International Network for Social Network Analysis (Sunbelt) Conference* and *NetSci Conference*. Virtual.
 23. **Shugars S.**, Green J., McCabe S., Harrington J., and Lazer D. (2021). Curation bubbles. *Society for Political Methodology (PolMeth) Annual Meeting*. Virtual.
 22. Foucault Wells B., **Shugars S.**, Gallagher R. J., Doroshenko L., Gitomer A., and Lazer D. (2021). Gendered patterns in the amplification of COVID-19 elites in the United States. *International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference*. Virtual. May 2021.
 21. Green J., **Shugars S.**, McCabe S., and Lazer D. (2021). Reinflating the filter bubble: Domain versus URL level analyses of news sharing. *Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Conference*. Chicago, IL.
 20. **Shugars S.**, Gallagher R. J., Foucault Welles B., and Lazer D. (2020). Voice and inequality in the spread of COVID-19 information and misinformation. *American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Conference*. Virtual.
 19. **Shugars S.**, Gallagher R. J., Foucault Welles B., and Lazer D. (2020). Voice and inequality in the spread of COVID-19 information and misinformation. Joint Conference of the *Politics and Computational Social Science (PaCSS) Conference* and the *Political Networks (PolNet) Conference*.

Virtual.

18. **Shugars S.**, Gallagher R. J., Foucault Welles B., and Lazer D. (2020). Voice and inequality in the spread of COVID-19 information and misinformation. *International Network for Social Network Analysis (Sunbelt) Conference*. Virtual.
17. **Shugars S.** (2019). The structure of reasoning: Inferring conceptual networks from short text. *American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Conference*. Washington, DC.
16. **Shugars S.** (2019). Inferring conceptual networks. *Politics and Computational Social Science (PaCSS) Conference*. Georgetown University. Washington, DC.
15. **Shugars S.** and Beauchamp N. (2019). Networks of engagement in political conversations online. *Political Networks (PolNet) Conference*. Duke University. Durham, NC.
14. **Shugars S.** (2019). Inferring conceptual networks from text. *NetSci Conference*. Burlington, VT.
13. Rosenblatt S., **Shugars S.**, Hébert-Dufresne L., and Dombrowski K. (2019). Viable targeted immunization strategies in complex networks: Addressing the boundary specification problem. *NetSci Conference*. Burlington, VT.
12. **Shugars S.** (2019). The structure of reasoning: Inferring conceptual networks from free response text. *International Network for Social Network Analysis (Sunbelt) Conference*. Montréal, Canada.
11. **Shugars S.** and Beauchamp N. (2019). Inferring conceptual networks. Poster at *New Directions in Analyzing Text as Data*. Stanford University. Stanford, CA.
10. **Shugars S.** and Beauchamp N. (2019). Inferring conceptual networks. Poster at the *Society for Political Methodology (PolMeth) Annual Meeting*. MIT. Cambridge, MA.
9. **Shugars S.** and Beauchamp, N. (2019). Conversational dynamics in online arguments. *Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)*. Chicago, IL.
8. **Shugars S.** (2019). Using text as data. Panelist for professional development session at the *Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)*. Chicago, IL.
7. **Shugars S.** and Beauchamp N. (2018). Why argue? A Bayesian model of conversational dynamics in online arguments. Doctoral Consortium at *New Directions in Analyzing Text as Data*. University of Washington. Seattle, WA.
6. **Shugars S.** and Beauchamp, N. (2018). A Bayesian model of conversational dynamics in online arguments. *American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Conference*. Boston, MA.
5. **Shugars S.** (2018). Mapping conceptual networks: Modeling political reasoning. *Politics and Computational Social Science (PaCSS) Conference*. Northeastern University. Boston, MA.
4. **Shugars S.** and Beauchamp N. (2018). Why keep arguing? Predicting engagement in political conversations online. Poster at the *Society for Political Methodology (PolMeth) Annual Meeting*. Brigham Young University. Provo, UT.
3. **Shugars S.**, Beauchamp N., and Levine P. (2018). Inferring conceptual networks at Ssale. *Political Networks (PolNet) Conference*. George Mason University. Arlington, VA.
2. **Shugars S.** (2018). Inferring conceptual networks from free response text. *North American Social Networks Conference (NASN)*. Washington, DC.
1. Beauchamp N., **Shugars S.**, and Levine P. (2017). Mapping conceptual networks. *New Directions in Analyzing Text as Data Conference*. Princeton University. Princeton, NJ.

AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

Honors & Awards

Rutgers University Andrew Carnegie Fellowship Nominee.

Sole junior nominee from Rutgers University, selected through an internal process in which each institution may nominate only one junior scholar. 2024.

Top Paper Award.

National Communication Association, Organizational Communication Division. 2024.

Top Student Paper Award.

International Communication Association, Political Communication Division. 2022.

Honorable Mention: Thomas E. Patterson Best Dissertation Award.

APSA Political Communication Division. 2021.

John Sprague Award for Best Paper in Political Networks presented by a graduate student.

American Political Science Association (APSA) Political Networks Division. 2020.

First Place, Best Project Award. From *Understanding and Exploring Network Epidemiology in the Time of Coronavirus (Net-COVID)*, a workshop series presented by the University of Maryland's COMBINE program in network biology in partnership with the University of Vermont's Complex Systems Center. Award for "COVID-19 misinformation on Twitter" research project with Amy Knopf, Sam Rosenblatt, Ravi Sharma, Jihye Song, and Arjumand Younus. June 2020.

Northeastern Outstanding Graduate Student Award in Leadership.

Given annually to a single graduate student from across the university. April 2018.

Invited Participation

Invited Participant, Workshop on Linking Digital Footprint and Survey Data for Open Research. To be held at the University of Manchester. Manchester, United Kingdom. February 2025.

Invited Participant, ANN-SONIC International Workshop on Network Theory. University of Southern California. Los Angeles, CA. 2024.

Invited Participant, Candidates and Social Handles Election Database Gathering. University of Texas at Austin. Austin, TX. 2024.

Invited Participant, Social Science Foo. Hosted by Meta and O'Reilly Publishing. Menlo Park, CA. 2023, 2024.

HASTAC (Humanities, Arts, Science and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory) Scholar, 2017-2019.

NULab for Text, Maps, and Networks Fellow, 2016-2017.

Invited Participant, 1 Year Until 2020: US Election Research Workshop. Facebook, Menlo Park, CA. 2019.

Invited Participant, Complex Networks Winter Workshop (CNWW). Québec City, Canada. 2018.

Invited Participant, Summer Institute for Computational Social Science (SICSS). CU Boulder Satellite. Boulder, CO. 2018.

Invited Participant, Summer Institute of Civic Studies. Tisch College of Civic Life at Tufts University, Medford, MA. 2013.

GRANTS

NetSeed Research Grant. \$5,500 for "Mapping Ideological Belief Systems." With Jon Green. May 2021.

National Science Foundation Travel Grant. Awarded by the Political Methods Division of the American Political Science Association (APSA). 2019.

National Science Foundation Travel Grant. Awarded by the Political Networks Division of the American Political Science Association (APSA). 2019.

Graduate Student Travel Award. MPSA Women's Caucus for Political Science. April 2019.

National Science Foundation Travel Grant. Awarded by the Political Methods Division of the American Political Science Association (APSA). 2018.

NULab for Texts, Maps, and Networks Travel Grant. Northeastern University. 2017, 2018, 2019.

NetSI Travel Grant, Network Science Institute. Northeastern University. 2017, 2019.

SYNS Travel Grant. Society of Young Network Scientists. 2017.

SERVICE TO THE DISCIPLINE

Editorships and Editorial Board Memberships

Co-Editor. Special Issue of *The Journal of Quantitative Description: Digital Media (JQD:DM)* in collaboration with the *International AAAI Conference on the Web and Social Media (ICWSM)*. 2023 - 2024.

Editorial Board Member. Journal of Quantitative Description. 2020-Present.

Senior Editor. *The Good Society: A Journal of Civic Studies*. 2015 - Present.

Ad Hoc Reviewer

General Interest Journals: PNAS (x1), Nature (x1), PloS One (x1).

Communication Journals: Communication Research (x1), Communication Review (x1), Communication Theory (x1), Journal of Communication (x1), Nature Communication (x1), Political Communication (x2), International Journal of Press/Politics (x1).

Other Journals: American Journal of Political Science (x2), American Politics Review (x1), American Political Science Review (x3), American Sociological Review (x1), EPJ Data Science (x2), Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association (x1), Journal of Deliberative Democracy (x1), Journal of Politics (x3), Journal of Quantitative Criminology (x1), Journal of Quantitative Description: Digital Media (x2), Language and Cognition (x1), Nature Human Behavior (x1), Political Analysis (x2), PS: Political Science & Politics (x1), Political Science Quarterly (x1), SAGE Publishing (x6), Science Advances (x1), Social Networks (x2), Sociological Methods and Research (x1), Springer Publishing (x1).

Grant Agencies: European Research Council (x1), National Science Foundation (x3).

Reviewer, Conference: International Communication Association (ICA), National Communication Association (NCA), International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2), Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI).

Contributions to Professional Organizations

Member, Political Ties Award selection committee for best paper in political networks. American Political Science Association (APSA) Political Networks Division. 2025.

Member, Media & Democracy Data Cooperative (MDDC). 2023-present.

Social Media Manager and Executive Committee Member. International Communication Association ICA Computational Methods Division. 2022 - Present.

Diversity Taskforce Member. International Communication Association ICA Computational Methods Division. 2022 - Present.

Chair. John Sprague Best Paper Award selection committee. American Political Science Association (APSA) Political Networks Division. 2022.

Program Committee Member, Political Networks Conference (PolNet). American Political Science Association (APSA) Political Networks Division. 2021.

Committee Member. John Sprague Best Paper Award selection committee. American Political

Science Association (APSA) Political Networks Division. 2021.

Conference Organization

Program Committee Member. Political Networks Conference (PolNet). Organized by the American Political Science Association (APSA) Political Networks Division. 2021. 2025.

Core organizer & Co-Chair. Conference on Politics and Computational Social Science (PaCSS). 2018 - Present.

Publicity chair. ACM Web Science Conference (WebSci). Rutgers University. Fall 2024-Spring 2025.

Co-Organizer. Society for Young Network Scientists. 2017-2018.

Program Committee Member. International Conference of Computational Social Science (IC2S2). 2018.

Co-coordinator. Women in Network Science. 2018.

Student organizer. Text as Data conference. 2016.

SERVICE TO DEPARTMENT, SCHOOL, AND UNIVERSITY

Contributions to the Department

Member. AI Curriculum Development Committee. Department of Communication. Fall 2024 - Present.

Member. Research Development Committee. Department of Communication. Fall 2023 - Present.

Member. Faculty Search Committee. Technology and Data Science. Fall 2023.

Contributions to the School

Member. SC&I Diversity Committee. Fall 2024 - Present.

Faculty Affiliate. SC&I NetSCI Lab. Fall 2022 - Present.

Faculty Affiliate. SC&I Computational Social Science Lab. Spring 2023 - Present.

Panelist. SC&I Scholarship Incubator. Spring 2024.

Panelist. Inaugural SC&I Teaching Incubator. Inclusive Teaching. Fall 2023.

Panelist. SC&I Scholarship Incubator on Inclusive Discovery. Spring 2023.

Guest Speaker. Faculty-student salon SC&I Unplugged. Spring 2023.

Contributions to the University

Moderator. Rutgers' Office for the Vice Provost's Research Ideation Forum on ML/AI. Fall 2022.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life, Tufts University
Communications Manager/Communications Specialist, 2008-2015

Anti-Defamation League, New England Region
Communications Assistant, 2005-2008