As contemporary sites for social interaction and communication, social media and the relational and discursive data that it yields can provide critical insights about the health and well-being of its users. This potential is particularly salient for groups that are disengaged or marginalized from institutionalized systems of care, for example sexual and gender minorities of color who experience an abundance of social and health inequities relative to their White, cisgender, and heterosexual counterparts. In this talk, Dr. Young will discuss her work that draws on social media network and communication data collected from a large cohort of Black sexual minority men and transgender women to better understand the interdependencies between their online relationships and communication and their offline health and well-being. She will also discuss how insights from this work can be used to inform interventions and programs that are responsive to these dynamics.

Zoom Registration and Link: https://tinyurl.com/netsci-ley

Dr. Lindsay E. Young, PhD
Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism, University of Southern California

Lindsay Young, PhD, is an Assistant Professor of health communication and communication networks at the Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism at USC. Her research leverages social network and digital epidemiology approaches to investigate sexual and gender minority health and well-being in the context of their digital networks. In her work, Lindsay draws on a computational toolkit that includes stochastic network modeling, automated textual analysis, and predictive modeling, which she pairs with a community-centered research orientation. Her research is supported by the National Institutes of Health.