

Thomas R. Davidson

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- EDUCATION** Ph.D. Candidate in Sociology, Cornell University, 2017-present.
M.A. in Sociology, Cornell University, 2014-2017.
M.Sc. in Political Sociology, *Distinction*, London School of Economics, 2012-2013.
B.A. Honours in American Studies, *First Class*, University of East Anglia, 2007-2011.
Study abroad, Reed College, 2009-2010.
- RESEARCH INTERESTS** Computational methods, political sociology, social movements, sociology of culture.
- REFEREED PUBLICATIONS** **Davidson, Thomas.** *Forthcoming.* “Black Box Models and Sociological Explanations: Predicting High School GPA Using Neural Networks.” *Socius*.
Davidson, Thomas and Mabel Berezin. 2018. “Britain First and the UK Independence Party: Social Media and Movement-Party Dynamics.” *Mobilization*. 23(4).
Davidson, Thomas and Paromita Sanyal. 2017. “Associational Participation and Network Expansion: Microcredit Self-Help Groups and Poor Women’s Social Ties in Rural India.” *Social Forces*. 95(4): 1695-1724.
Davidson, Thomas, Dana Warmlesley, Michael Macy, and Ingmar Weber. 2017. “Automated Hate Speech Detection and the Problem of Offensive Language.” *Proceedings of the Eleventh AAAI International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM)*: 512-515. **Media:** *New Scientist, Tech Republic, Wired*.
- OTHER PUBLICATIONS** Berezin, Mabel and **Thomas Davidson**. “The big winners in Italy’s election are really big on Facebook.” *The Washington Post*. March 7th 2018.
Schofield, Alexandra, and **Thomas Davidson**. 2017. “Identifying Hate Speech in Social Media.” *Association for Computing Machinery XRDS*. 24(2): 56-59.
Waseem, Zeerak, **Thomas Davidson**, Dana Warmlesley, and Ingmar Weber. 2017. “Understanding Abuse: A Typology of Abusive Language Detection Subtasks.” *Proceedings of the First Abusive Language Workshop, Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*: 78-84.
Davidson, Thomas, and Julius Lagodny. “Germany’s far-right party AfD won the Facebook battle. By a lot.” *The Washington Post*. September 26th 2017.
Davidson, Thomas. “Social Media and the 2017 General Election.” *Medium*. June 15th 2017.

Berezin, Mabel, and **Thomas Davidson**. “The Handwriting on the Facebook Wall: Brexit Was Never Only EU.” *The Huffington Post*. June 27th 2016.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Davidson, Thomas. “Opinion Leadership on Social Media: The Case of the Brexit Referendum” *Manuscript in preparation*.

Davidson, Thomas. “Temporal Dynamics of Online Party-Movement Relations” *Manuscript in preparation*.

Davidson, Thomas. “The Organizational Ecology of the Online Brexit Referendum” *Manuscript in preparation*.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Core Data Science Intern, Facebook, Menlo Park, CA. Summer 2018.

Graduate Research Assistant for Professor Michael Macy, Cornell University. Fall 2017, 2018.

Data Science Research & Development Intern, Civis Analytics, Chicago, IL. Summer 2017.

Eric and Wendy Schmidt Data Science for Social Good Fellow, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL. Summer 2016.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Ph.D. Teaching Assistant for Assistant Professor Cristian Danescu-Niculescu-Mizil, *Language and Information*, Department of Computer Science, Cornell University, Spring 2017, Spring 2018.

Instructor, Social Dynamics Lab, Cornell University, workshops on web scraping, Facebook and Twitter API usage, and machine learning. 2015 - 2018.

Capstone Project Partner, Master of Professional Studies in Information Science, Department of Information Science, Cornell University, Fall 2016.

Teaching Assistant for Assistant Professor Kendra Bischoff, *Introduction to Sociology*, Department of Sociology, Cornell University, Fall 2016.

Teaching Assistant for Professor Doug Heckathorn, *Drugs and Society*, Department of Sociology, Cornell University, Spring 2016.

Teaching Assistant for Professor Richard Swedberg, *Classical Theory*, Department of Sociology, Cornell University, Fall 2015.

Teaching Assistant in Sociology, LSE Choice Widening Participation Scheme, London School of Economics and Political Science, Summer 2013.

Learning Support Assistant, Park High School, Stanmore, U.K., September 2011-October 2012.

CONFERENCE TALKS

Davidson, Thomas, and Mabel Berezin. “The UKIP at the ballot box, Britain First on Facebook: Party-Movement Interactions on Social Media.” April 2018. *Young Scholars Conference, Center for the Study of Social Movements, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN*. (Invited).

Siriani, Antonio, and Thomas Davidson. “Fundamentally retrogressive? A Sociological Study of the Career Trajectories of Adult Film Performers.” February 2018. *Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD*.

Berezin, Mabel, and Thomas Davidson. “Political Conversations on Social Media: Bridging Between Parties and Movements in the United Kingdom.” August 2017.

American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, Quebec.

Waseem, Zeerak, Thomas Davidson, Dana Warmley, and Ingmar Weber. 2017. "Understanding Abuse: A Typology of Abusive Language Detection Subtasks." August 2017. *First Workshop on Abusive Language Online, Association for Computational Linguistics, Vancouver, British Columbia.*

Davidson, Thomas, Dana Warmley, Michael Macy, and Ingmar Weber. 2017. "Automated Hate Speech Detection and the Problem of Offensive Language." May 2017. *Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence, Eleventh International Conference on Web and Social Media, Montreal, Quebec.*

Davidson, Thomas, and Paromita Sanyal. "Microcredit Self-Help Groups and Social Networks in Rural India: Expanding Poor Women's Personal Contacts". August 2016. *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA.*

Berezin, Mabel, Thomas Davidson, and Elizabeth Becker. "Foreign Conversations: How Northern Europe Differs from Southern Europe" (Invited panel session). August 2016. *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA.*

Berezin, Mabel, and Thomas Davidson. "Populists Talking to Each Other: Right Wing Party and Movement Supporters on Social Media in the UK". April 2016. *Council for European Studies Conference, Philadelphia, PA.*

Davidson, Thomas. "Blockmodeling Caste and Religious Divisions in Interaction Networks in Rural India." June 2015. *International Network for Social Network Analysis Sunbelt Conference, Brighton, United Kingdom.*

Davidson, Thomas. "The Paradox of (Anti)Social Media: A Content Analysis of Conflictual Framing in a Far-Right Social Movement." September 2014. *Social Media and Social Movements, Laboratory for Internet Studies, Higher School of Economics, St. Petersburg, Russia.*

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Eric and Wendy Schmidt Data Science for Social Good Summer Fellowship, University of Chicago, 2016.

Sage Doctoral Fellowship, Cornell University, Department of Sociology, 2014.

Conference Travel Grant, Cornell University Graduate School, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017.

Commendation for Academic Excellence from the Faculty, Reed College, 2010.

SERVICE

Applicant reviewer, Data Science for Social Good, 2018.

Program Committee member for ICWSM 2018, Workshop on Abusive Language Online 2018.

Co-President, Sociology Graduate Student Association, Cornell University, 2016-17.

Occasional reviewer for *American Journal of Sociology*, *American Sociological Review*, *Socius*, *Sociological Forum*, *ICWSM*, *ACM Transactions on Social Computing*, *EPJ Data Science*, *Big Data*.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Sociological Association, Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence, International Network for Social Network Analysis.