

## 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** Politics; Culture; Computational Social Science; Social Network Analysis; Natural Language Processing.
- REFEREED PUBLICATIONS** **Davidson, Thomas**, and Paromita Sanyal. 2017. "Associational Participation and Network Expansion: Microcredit Self-Help Groups and Poor Womens 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*.
- 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.
- OTHER PUBLICATIONS** Schofield, Alexandra, and **Thomas Davidson**. 2017. "Identifying Hate Speech in Social Media." *Association for Computing Machinery XRDS*. 24(2): 56-59.
- Davidson, Thomas**, and Julius Lagodny. "Germanys 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. "Black Box Models and Sociological Explanations: Predicting Highschool GPA Using Neural Networks." *Under review at Socius*.
- Davidson, Thomas and Mabel Berezin. "UKIP at the ballot box, Britain First on Facebook: Party-Movement Relationships on Social Media." *Manuscript in preparation*.
- Davidson, Thomas, Dana Warmlesley, Michael Macy, and Ingmar Weber. "Hate Speakers on Twitter." *Manuscript in preparation*.

Siriani, Antonio, and Thomas Davidson. "Fundamentally retrogressive?" *Manuscript in preparation*.

Davidson, Thomas. "The Evolution of Musical Genres."

Davidson, Thomas. "Variation in Caste Homophily Across Villages and Contexts in Rural India."

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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

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

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

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lead Teaching Assistant for Assistant Professor Cristian Danescu-Niculescu-Mizil, *Language and Information*, Computer Science/Information 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, 2016.

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

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 Warmsley, 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 Warmsley, 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 Womens 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*.

**TECHNICAL SKILLS**

*Statistical analysis:* Proficient in R and Stata.

*Programming languages:* Fluent in Python and intermediate in Java.

*Other tools:* Experience using scikit-learn, pandas, statsmodels, keras, SQL, PostgreSQL, MongoDB.

**HONOURS AND AWARDS**

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

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

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

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

**SERVICE**

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

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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