

Laura K. Nelson

L.Nelson@northeastern.edu
@LauraK_Nelson
www.LauraKNelson.com

360 Huntington Ave., 960B RP
Northeastern University
Boston, MA 02115

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PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2016-Present Assistant Professor of Sociology, Northeastern University
• Core Faculty, NULab for Texts, Maps and Networks • Affiliated Faculty, Network Science Institute • Executive Committee, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
- 2016-2017 Postdoctoral Fellow, University of California, Berkeley
• Digital Humanities @ Berkeley • Berkeley Institute for Data Science
- 2014-2016 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University, PI: Brayden King
• Research Affiliate, Northwestern Institute on Complex Systems

EDUCATION

- 2014 PhD - Sociology, University of California-Berkeley
• Dissertation: “The Power of Place: Structure, Culture, and Continuities in U.S. Women's Movements” • Committee: Kim Voss (chair), Raka Ray, Robin Einhorn
- 2009 MA - Sociology, University of California-Berkeley
- 2006 BA - Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison
• Concentration in Analysis and Research • Phi Beta Kappa

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles and Book Chapters

- Nelson, Laura K., Derek Burk, Marcel Knudsen, and Leslie McCall. 2018. “The Future of Coding: A Comprehensive Comparison of Hand-Coding and Computer-Assisted Text Analysis Methods.” *Sociological Methods and Research*.
<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0049124118769114>
Replication Repository: <https://github.com/lknelson/future-of-coding>
- Nelson, Laura K. 2017. “Computational Grounded Theory: A Methodological Framework.” *Sociological Methods and Research*. <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0049124117729703>
Replication Repository: <https://github.com/lknelson/computational-grounded-theory>
- Crossley, Alison Dahl and Laura K. Nelson.* 2018. “Feminists Reshaping Gender.” Chapter in *Springer Handbook of the Sociology of Gender*, edited by Barbara Risman, Carissa Froyum, and William Scarborough. New York: Springer Press.
*listed alphabetically, equal co-authors
- Nelson, Laura K. 2018. “‘Feminism Means More Than a Changed World...It Means the Creation of a New Consciousness in Women’: Feminism, Consciousness-Raising, and Continuity Between the Waves.” Pp. 175-197 in *100 Years of the Nineteenth Amendment: An Appraisal of Women's Political Activism*, edited by Holly J. McCammon and Lee Ann Banasak. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Manuscripts Under Review

- Nelson, Laura K. “Reproducible Measurement, Replicable Interpretation.”
- Nelson, Laura K. “Cycles of Conflict, a Century of Continuity: The Impact of Persistent Place-Based Political Logics on Women’s Movement Form.”
- Gorbatai, Andreea and Laura K. Nelson. “Narrative Advantage: Why Women Succeed in Crowdfunding.”
- Nelson, Laura K. and Brayden King. “The Meaning of Action: Linking Goals, Tactics, and Strategies in the Environmental Movement.”

Other Publications

- Nelson, Laura K. 2017. "Computational Methods, Meaning, and Comparative Historical Sociology." Special section on "Digitized (Big) Data and Comparative Historical Sociology." *Trajectories: Newsletter of the ASA Comparative Historical Sociology Section* 28(2): 35-37.
- Voss, Kim and Laura K. Nelson. 2017. "Introduction." Special section on "Digitized (Big) Data and Comparative Historical Sociology." *Trajectories: Newsletter of the ASA Comparative Historical Sociology Section* 28(2): 26.
- Nelson, Laura K. 2014. "Book Review: *Everywhere & Nowhere: Contemporary Feminism in The United States*." *Social Forces*. <http://sf.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2014/03/31/sf.sou034.extract>
- Emery, Hannah, Maggie Frye, Kristen Grey, Laura K. Nelson, and Hana Brown. 2011. *Instructor's Guide to Writing for Sociology*. Published by the University of California-Berkeley Department of Sociology with a grant from the Teagle Foundation.
- Burawoy, Michael (ed). 2011. *Facing an Unequal World: Challenges for Sociology*. Published by the Institute of Sociology, Academia Sinica, Taiwan and the Council for National Associations, International Sociological Association. Laura K. Nelson, Abigail Andrews, and Fidan Elcioglu, associate editors.

Working Papers / Projects

- Nelson, Laura K. *Durable Feminist Fields: How Culture, Communities, and Continuities Shaped the Women's Movement*
- Nelson, Laura K. and Brayden King. "How the SlutWalk Movement Organized Offline Actions Online"
- Nelson, Laura K. and Jeffrey Sternberg. "Using Computer Vision for Social Science Inquiry"
- Nelson, Laura K. "Ideational and Socio-Structural Isomorphism: The Role of Network Properties in Translating Collective Ideas into Collective Action"
- Nelson, Laura K., Charlotte Mazel-Cabasse, and Claudia von Vacano (eds). *Beyond Reproducibility: Replicability, Reinterpretability, and Reliability in the Social Sciences and Humanities*

Web-Based Publications (selected)

- 2019 "How do we nurture an academic landscape that is more accessible to women? Let's start by getting rid of the in-person interview." SAGE OCEAN Blog, March 6.
<https://ocean.sagepub.com/blog/2019/3/6/how-do-we-nurture-an-academic-landscape-that-is-more-accessible-to-women-lets-start-by-getting-rid-of-the-in-person-interview>
- 2018 "The Computation/Context Trade-Off?" SAGE OCEAN Blog, November 13.
<https://ocean.sagepub.com/blog/2018/11/9/the-computationcontext-trade-off>
- 2016 "Developing a Feel It, Smell It, Touch It Analytics," *Orgtheory.net*, June 14.
<https://orgtheory.wordpress.com/2016/06/14/forum-on-data-analytics-and-inclusivity-part-1/>
- 2015 "Text as Data: A Call to Standardize Access and Training," *Mobilizing Ideas Essay Dialogue*, March 9.
<https://mobilizingideas.wordpress.com/2015/03/09/text-as-data-a-call-to-standardize-access-and-training/>

- 2015 “Feminism, Culture, and Computational Sociology,” *Mobilizing Ideas Essay Dialogue*, Oct. 3. <https://mobilizingideas.wordpress.com/2014/10/03/feminism-culture-and-computational-sociology/>
- 2014 “Computer-Assisted Content Analysis and Sociology: What You Should Know,” *BadHessian*, January 24. <http://badhessian.org/2014/01/computer-assisted-content-analysis-and-sociology-what-you-should-know/>
- 2013 “A Quick and Easy Way to Turn Your Stata Knowledge into R Knowledge,” *D-Lab Blog*, November 11. <http://dlab.berkeley.edu/blog/quick-and-easy-way-turn-your-stata-knowledge-r-knowledge>

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

- 2019 Fonds de soutien a l'activite scientifique, Science Po, “Startupper or Startupeuse? The General Constraints of Entrepreneurship in the Digital Economy,” with Jen Schradie (€60,000)
- 2018 NSF EAGER Grant, “Diffusion of Ideas of Gender Equity Interventions through Networks of U.S. Universities,” with Kathrin Zippel (\$300,000)
- 2018 Tier I Grant, Northeastern University, “Graphic-content Sharing in Our Digital Society,” with Devesh Tiwari (\$50,000)
- 2018 Tier I Grant, Northeastern University, “Measuring Social Movement Success,” with Elizabeth Dillon, Moya Bailey, Meg Heckman, and Sarah Jackson (\$50,000)
- 2017 Hathi Trust Research Center Advanced Collaborative Support Project Award (six months support)
- 2015 Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, Computational Social Science Summit, with Brian Uzzi and Laura Noren (\$15,000)
- 2015 Facebook, Computational Social Science Summit, with Brian Uzzi and Laura Noren (\$10,000)
- 2014 Leo Lowenthal Fellowship, University of California, Berkeley (\$10,000)
- 2014 Richard A. Peterson Prize for Best Student Paper, Sociology of Culture Section Student Paper Award, American Sociological Association
- 2014 Leo Lowenthal Memorial Prize, University of California, Berkeley (award: \$500)
- 2013 Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor, University of California, Berkeley (award: \$250)
- 2012 Department of Sociology Small Research Grant, University of California, Berkeley (\$2,000)
- 2010 Dean's Normative Time Fellowship, University of California, Berkeley (\$28,950)
- 2009 Teagle/Spenser Teaching Fellowship (\$4,000), to produce an instructor's guide on how to teach sociological writing to undergraduates
- 2008 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, “The Old Left and the Women's Movement: movement continuity through social change” (\$150,000 over three years)
- 2006 Regents Fellowship, University of California, Berkeley (\$26,695)
- 2006 Trewartha L&S Honors Research Grant, University of Wisconsin, Madison (\$2,600)
- 2006 United Way Research Grant, Madison, WI (\$1,500)
- 2006 City of Madison, Mayor Dave Cieslewicz, WI (\$1,900)
- 2005 Phi Beta Kappa, University of Wisconsin, Madison
- 2004 Summer Sophomore Research Apprenticeship Grant, University of Wisconsin, Madison (\$1,500)

TEACHING

Courses

Analyzing Complex Digitized Data, graduate, Northeastern University, Interdisciplinary Studies, Social Sciences and Humanities. [Syllabus here.](#)

[Introduction to Programming for Data Science](#), undergraduate, Northeastern University, Data Science.

Foundations of Social Theory II, required graduate, Northeastern University, Department of Sociology. [Syllabus here.](#)

Text Analysis for Humanists and Social Scientists, upper level undergraduate, University of California, Berkeley, Department of History. [Syllabus here.](#)

Comparative Historical Sociologies of Women's Movements in the United States, undergraduate capstone seminar, University of California, Berkeley, Department of Sociology.

Online Courses

Fall 2017 “Introduction to Applied Data Science for Social Scientists”, SAGE Campus.
<https://campus.sagepub.com/introduction-to-applied-data-science-methods-for-social-scientists>

Workshops (selected)

2018 “The Practice of Curating Big Datasets,” *Big Data and Managing in a Digital Economy*, an *Academy of Management Conference*, Surrey, UK, April 18

2018 Introduction to Python, Measures for Justice, Rochester, NY, August

2016-2017 *Computational Text Analysis for the Humanities and Social Sciences*

Digital Humanities @ Berkeley Summer Institute: August 14-18, 2017

Materials here: <https://github.com/lknelson/DH-Institute-2017>

Digital Humanities Institute, The Claremont Colleges: May 22-24, 2017

Materials here: <https://github.com/lknelson/text-analysis-2017>

Digital Humanities @ Berkeley Summer Institute: August 15-19, 2016

Materials here: <https://github.com/lknelson/text-analysis-2016>

2013 *Effective and Efficient Grading*. Graduate Student Instructor Teaching Conference. University of California, Berkeley: August 23

INVITED TALKS AND MEETINGS (SELECTED)

2019 Keynote Speaker. Novel™ workshop. Banff, Alberta, October 17.

2019 Invited Speaker. “Collecting, Analyzing, and Sharing Cultural Sociology,” a professionalization panel, Section on the Sociology of Culture, American Sociological Association Annual Conference, August 11.

2019 Invited Advisor and Discussion Lead. “Word Vectors for Thoughtful Humanists Institute,” Northeastern University, July 17-19.

- 2019 Invited Participant. “THINK-PLAY-HACK .i||i. the new algorithmic analysis of culture, interaction, and experience,” Taos, NM, July 1-5.
- 2019 Invited Speaker. “To Measure Meaning in Big Data Don’t Give Me a Map,” Summer Institute in Computational Social Science-Boston, June 27.
- 2018 Invited Speaker. “Finding Simple Patterns in Complex Data,” TextXD, Berkeley Institute for Data Science, University of California, Berkeley, December 7.
- 2018 Invited Speaker. “Machine Learning is Feminist,” All Boats Rise? Social Capital, Promise and Peril. A one-day, invitation only gathering of scholars, activists, and leaders, Amazon HQ, October 17.
- 2018 Invited Participant. Data Science Leadership Summit, Park City Utah, October 12-13.
- 2018 Invited Speaker. “Finding Simple Patterns in Complex Data,” Symposium on Applied Text Analysis, Harvard University, May 3.
- 2018 Invited Speaker. “Reproducibility in the Social Sciences and Humanities,” Oxford U., April 24.
- 2018 Invited Speaker. “Ideational and Socio-Structural Isomorphism: The Role of Network Properties in Turning Collective Ideas into Collective Practice” • Workshop in Computational Social Science, University of Chicago, February 22 • Workshop in History, Culture and Society, Harvard University, February 16
- 2018 Invited Speaker. “Statistical Impacts of OCR Errors,” An Agenda for Historical and Multilingual OCR, Northeastern University, February 8.
- 2018 Invited Speaker. “Beyond Collections as Data: Answering Specific Historical Questions using Computational Methods,” HathiTrust Research Center UnCamp, Berkeley, CA, January 25.
- 2018 Invited Speaker. “Computational Means, Qualitative Ends,” Workshop on Applied Statistical Methods, Harvard University, January 24.
- 2017 Invited Speaker. “Computational Grounded Theory: A Tutorial,” *Policy and Research Workshop: New Tools for Measuring Culture*. American Sociological Association Annual Conference, August 14.
- 2017 Invited Speaker. “Digital Technologies and the Future of Qualitative and Interpretive Analysis,” *DH Fellows Talk*, University of California, Berkeley, March 17.
- 2016 Invited Speaker. “Computers, Cognition, and Machine Learning: Toward a Human-Centered (Big) Data-Driven History,” Section on Comparative-Historical Sociology Invited Session. *Digitized (Big) Data and Comparative Historical Sociology*. American Sociological Association Annual Conference, August 22.
- 2016 Invited Speaker. “The Future of Coding,” Computational Research Day, Northwestern University, April 19.
- 2016 Invited Speaker. “Measuring Collective Cognitive Structures via Collectively Produced Text,” Text as Data Speakers Series, Center for Data Science, New York University, March 10.
- 2015 Invited Speaker. “Enduring Feminist Fields: The Persistence of Structure and Culture in New York City and Chicago” • The Culture Workshop at the University of Notre Dame, November 6 • Northwestern Department of Sociology Weekly Colloquia, October 22 • Wednesdays@NICO, Northwestern University, October 14 • Brown Bag Seminar Series, School of Information Studies,

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)

- 2019 “High Dimensional History,” panel on The Future of Comparative-Historical Social Science I: Scholarly Borderlands, Social Science History Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, November 21
- 2019 “Exploring the Use of Machine Vision to Understand Neighborhood Inequality,” (with Jeffrey Sternberg), panel on New Approaches to Understanding Inequality, American Sociological Association Annual Conference, New York City, NY, August 11
- 2018 “Finding Simple Patterns in Complex Data,” Preconference on Politics and Computational Social Science, Northeastern University, August 29
- 2017 “What Do Organizations Do? Strategic and Tactical Repertoires in the U.S. Environmental Movement, 1998-2014,” Mobilization Conference on Social Movements and Protest: Nonviolent Strategies and the State. San Diego: May 5-6
- 2016 “How we Talk about Organizations and the Discursive Configuration of an Organizational Field” (with Brayden King), European Group for Organizational Studies, Naples, Italy
- 2015 “Gender and the Language of Crowdfunding” (with Andreea Gorbatai)
• West Coast Research Symposium on Technology Entrepreneurship, Foster School of Business, Seattle, WA • Annual Meeting of the Academy of Management, Vancouver, BC, Canada • American Sociological Association’s Annual Conference, Chicago, IL • European Group for Organizational Studies, Athens, Greece
- 2015 Panel Discussant, “Big Data and Social Movements,” with Chris Bail, Brayden King, and John MacArthur, organized by Edwin Amenta, American Sociological Association’s Annual Conference, Chicago, IL
- 2015 “Bohemia, Feminism, Socialism, and Class: The Geographical and Historical Determinants of Second-Wave Feminist Politics,” Session on History and Social Movements, American Sociological Association’s Annual Conference, Chicago, IL
- 2015 “Computer-Assisted Text Analysis in Python: Applications for Organization Studies,” Content Analysis PDW. Annual Meeting of the Academy of Management, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2015 “On Tactics and Targets: The Transformation of the U.S. Environmental Movement Between 1998 and 2014” (with Brayden King)
• *Protesters and their Targets*, Collective Behavior and Social Movements Section Mini-Conference, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL • Computational Social Science Summit, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE

University Service

- 2018-Present Co-Director, Integrating Digital Proficiencies Initiative, Northeastern University
- 2018-Present Feminist Coding Collective, NULab, Northeastern University
- 2017-Present Undergraduate Committee, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Northeastern University

Editorial Boards

- 2019-Present Editorial Board, *Sociological Methodology*
- 2018-Present Editorial Board, *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*

Conferences

- 2019 Program Committee Co-Chair, SocInfo 2019, Doha, Qatar, November 18-31
- 2018 Workshop Chair, International Conference on Computational Social Science, Northwestern University, July 12-14
- 2016 Co-Organizer, International Conference on Computational Social Science, Northwestern University, June 23-26, maintained social media presence, @IC2S2
- 2015 Co-Organizer, Computational Social Science Summit, Northwestern University, May 15-17
- 2014 Co-Organizer, "Big cities, big data: Big opportunity for computational social science," ASA pre-conference Datathon, D-Lab, University of California, Berkeley, August 15 - 16

Workshops / Working Groups

- 2016-2017 Co-Organizer, TextXD, Berkeley Institute for Data Science, University of California, Berkeley
- 2016-2018 Co-Organizer, Computational Text Analysis Working Group, D-Lab, University of California, Berkeley
- 2015-2016 Workshop Leader, "Social Movements and Social Enterprise," Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University
- 2014 Workshop Leader, "Social Science Research Methods and Data-Intensive Research," a D-Lab workshop, University of California, Berkeley

Advisory Boards

- 2019 "Subjectivity and bias in college admissions: Can letters of recommendation promote fairer decisions?" PI: Jesse Rothstein. Granting Agency: William T. Grant Foundation

Peer-Reviewer

• *American Sociological Review* • *American Journal of Sociology* • *PNAS* (guest editor) • *Science Advances* • *Organization Science* • *Network Science* • *Sociological Methods and Research* • *Mobilization: An International Journal* • *Sociological Methodology*

Program Committees

• ICWSM 2018-Present • IC²S² 2016-Present • TheWebConf 2018 • ICWS 2018

MENTORING

- Cara Marta Messina (Northeastern University, English). Dissertation Committee. *"I'm the Thing that Monsters Have Nightmares about": Resistance, Power, and Justice in Fan Genre*.
- Brian Joseph (Northeastern University, Computer Science). Undergraduate research advisor, Summer 2019.
- Jeffrey Sternberg (Northeastern University, Sociology). Research advisor, Fall 2018 - present.
- Rebekah Getman (Northeastern University, Sociology). Research advisor, Fall 2018 - present.
- Emilie Falguieres (Northeastern University, Sociology). Research advisor, Fall 2018 - present.
- Christopher Tirrell (Northeastern University, Sociology). Research advisor, Summer 2019.
- Naomi Darom (Northeastern University, Sociology). Research advisor, Fall 2018.
- Taylor Braswell (Northeastern University, Sociology). Research advisor, Fall 2018.
- Elicia Cousins (Northeastern University, Sociology). Comprehensive Exam Reader, December 12, 2018. *Gender, Motherhood, and Feminism in Environmental Activism and Leadership*.

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES/COMPUTER SKILLS

Python: • BeautifulSoup • Pandas • scikit-learn • scipy • numpy • NLTK • TextBlob • matplotlib • Networkx

R: • stm • topicmodels • tm • sna • igraph

Other: • bash • Git • Linux/UNIX • Zotero • Stata • SAS

Find samples of my code on GitHub: <https://github.com/lknelson>

REFERENCES

Kim Voss, Professor, Department of Sociology
University of California, Berkeley
410 Barrows Hall
Berkeley, CA 94720-1980
Phone: 510-642-4756
Email: kimvoss@berkeley.edu

Brayden King, Professor and Co-Chair, Management and Organizations
J.L. Kellogg School of Management
Northwestern University
2211 Campus Drive
Evanston, IL 60208
Phone: 847-467-6950
Email: b-king@kellogg.northwestern.edu

Heather Haveman, Professor, Department of Sociology
University of California, Berkeley
410 Barrows Hall
Berkeley, CA 94720-1980
Phone: 510-642-3495
Email: haveman@berkeley.edu

Leslie McCall, Associate Director, Stone Center on Socio-Economic Inequality
Presidential Professor of Sociology and Political Science
The Graduate Center, CUNY
365 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10016
Phone: 212-817-7000
Email: lmccall@gc.cuny.edu

Teaching References

Catherine Albiston, Jackson H. Ralston Professor of Law and Professor of Sociology
Executive Committee, Henderson Center
University of California, Berkeley
108 JSP
2240 Piedmont Ave.
Berkeley, CA 94720
Phone: 510-642-0493
Email: calbiston@law.berkeley.edu

Julia Flanders, Professor of the Practice in English
Northeastern University
213B Snell Library
360 Huntington Avenue,
Boston, MA 02115
Phone: 617-373-4435
Email: j.flanders@northeastern.edu