Julia Mendelsohn

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Academic Appointments

2025 – **Assistant Professor**, *University of Maryland*
College of Information and UMIACS
Affiliated with the Department of Government & Politics
Affiliated with the Artificial Intelligence Interdisciplinary Institute at Maryland

2024 – 2025 **Postdoctoral Scholar**, *University of Chicago*
Data Science Institute
Supervisor: Chenhao Tan

Education

2024 **PhD, Information**, *University of Michigan*
Advisor: Ceren Budak

2019 **MS, Computer Science**, *Stanford University*
Specialization: Information Management and Analytics

2018 **BA, Linguistics with Honors**, *Stanford University*
Minor in German Studies

Industry Experience

2022 **Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence Research Intern**, Seattle, WA
2021 **Pinterest Labs Research Intern (Machine Learning)**, San Francisco, CA
2015 **Hewlett Packard Labs Technical Intern**, Palo Alto, CA

Funding

2025 Title: Leveraging AI to Analyze Public Framing and Perceptions of AI
Source of Support: Artificial Intelligence Interdisciplinary Institute at Maryland (AIM) Seed Grant
Total Award Amount: $20,000

2025 Title: Workshop on AI for Democracy
Source of Support: University of Chicago Forum for Free Inquiry and Expression
Co-PI: Chenhao Tan (UChicago)
Total Award Amount: $20,000

2022 – 2024 Google PhD Fellowship
2022 – 2024 Rackham Conference Travel Grant, University of Michigan
2022 – 2024 University of Michigan School of Information Conference Travel Grant
2024 University of Michigan School of Information Finishing Grant
2024 Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant, University of Michigan

Awards

2025 UChicago Data Science Institute ZhengTong Fellowship for Outstanding Research
2024 EMNLP 2024 Outstanding Area Chair

2023	Outstanding Methodology Award (ICWSM)
	Bridging Nations: Quantifying the Role of Multilinguals in Communication on Social Media
2023	Best Poster (NLP@Michigan Day)
	Challenges and Opportunities in Information Manipulation Detection: An Examination of Wartime Russian Media
2022	Google PhD Fellowship Recipient
2022	Meta PhD Research Fellowship Finalist
2021	Twitch Research Fellowship Finalist
2020	NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program Honorable Mention
2019	Scholarship for Uriel Weinreich Program in Yiddish Language, Literature, and Culture
2018	Krupp Foundation Stipend Recipient
2018	J.E. Wallace Sterling Award for Scholastic Achievement
2018	Delta Phi Alpha (German honor society)
2017	Sponsor's Award (NLP with Deep Learning Poster Fair)
	Modeling the Dynamic Framing of Controversial Topics in Online Communities
2017	Phi Beta Kappa
2015	President's Award for Academic Excellence

Publications

2025   **Julia Mendelsohn** and Ceren Budak. *When People are Floods: Analyzing Dehumanizing Metaphors in Immigration Discourse with Large Language Models*. Proceedings of the 63rd Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL).

2025   Shubham Atreja, Joshua Ashkinaze, Lingyao Li, **Julia Mendelsohn**, and Libby Hemphill. *Prompt Design Matters for Computational Social Science Tasks but in Unpredictable Ways*. International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM).

2025   Joshua Ashkinaze, **Julia Mendelsohn**, Li Qiwei, Ceren Budak, and Eric Gilbert. *How AI Ideas Affect the Creativity, Diversity, and Evolution of Human Ideas: Evidence From a Large, Dynamic Experiment*.ACM Collective Intelligence Conference (CI).

2025   Zhe Su, Xuhui Zhou, Sanketh Rangreji, Anubha Kabra, **Julia Mendelsohn**, Faeze Brahman, and Maarten Sap. *AI-LieDar: Examine the Trade-off Between Utility and Truthfulness in LLM Agents*. Proceedings of the 2025 Conference of the Nations of the Americas Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL).

2024   **Julia Mendelsohn**, Maya Vijan, Dallas Card, and Ceren Budak. *Framing Social Movements on Social Media: Unpacking Diagnostic, Prognostic, and Motivational Strategies*. Journal of Quantitative Description.

2023   **Julia Mendelsohn**, Ronan Le Bras, Yejin Choi, and Maarten Sap. *From Dogwhistles to Bullhorns: Unveiling Coded Rhetoric with Language Models* . Proceedings of the 61st Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL).

2023   **Julia Mendelsohn**, Sayan Ghosh, David Jurgens, and Ceren Budak. *Bridging Nations: Quantifying the Role of Multilinguals in Communication on Social Media*. International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM). (Outstanding Methodology Award)

2022	**Julia Mendelsohn***, Chan Young Park*, Anjalie Field*, and Yulia Tsvetkov. *Challenges and Opportunities in Information Manipulation Detection: An Examination of Wartime Russian Media*. Proceedings of the Findings of the 2022 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (Findings of EMNLP). [*=equal contribution]
2022	Dallas Card, Serina Chang, Chris Becker, **Julia Mendelsohn**, Rob Voigt, Leah Boustan, Ran Abramitzky, and Dan Jurafsky. *Computational analysis of 140 years of US political speeches reveals more positive but increasingly polarized framing of immigration*. In Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences 119(31), 2022.
2021	**Julia Mendelsohn**, Ceren Budak, and David Jurgens. *Modeling the framing of immigration on social media*. Proceedings of the 2021 Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics: Human Language Technologies (NAACL).
2021	Chan Young Park, **Julia Mendelsohn**, Karthik Radhakrishnan, Kinjal Jain, Tushar Kanakagiri, David Jurgens and Yulia Tsvetkov. *Detecting Community Sensitive Norm Violations in Online Conversations*. Proceedings of the Findings of the 2021 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (Findings of EMNLP).
2020	**Julia Mendelsohn**, Yulia Tsvetkov, and Dan Jurafsky. *A framework for the computational linguistic analysis of dehumanization*. Frontiers in Artificial Intelligence 3:55.
2019	Li Lucy and **Julia Mendelsohn**. *Using sentiment induction to understand variation in gendered online communities*. Proceedings for the second annual meeting of the Society for Computation in Linguistics (SCiL). ACL, 2019.
2018	Ethan Fast, Binbin Chen, **Julia Mendelsohn**, Jonathan Bassen, and Michael S Bernstein. *Iris: A conversational agent for complex tasks*. In Proceedings of the 2018 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. ACM, 2018.

Conference Presentations

2025	"A Survey on Antisemitism Research in NLP". **Julia Mendelsohn**, Karina Halevy, Chan Young Park, Maarten Sap, and Yulia Tsvetkov
	○ Workshop on Online Abuse and Harms (WOAH) at ACL. Vienna, Austria. Aug 1.
	○ International Interdisciplinary Conference on the Quantitative and Computational Analysis of Text-, Image- and Video-as-Data (COMPTEXT). Vienna, Austria. Apr 24-26.
2025	"When People are Floods: Analyzing Dehumanizing Metaphors in Immigration Discourse with Large Language Models". **Julia Mendelsohn** and Ceren Budak.
	○ Int'l Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2). Norrköping, Sweden. July 21-24.
	○ International Interdisciplinary Conference on the Quantitative and Computational Analysis of Text-, Image- and Video-as-Data (COMPTEXT). Vienna, Austria. Apr 24-26.
	○ Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA). Chicago, IL. Apr 3-6.
2025	"#HindusUnderAttack: Framing in Islamophobic Defensive Publics on Indian Social Media". Anmol Panda, Zainab Akbar, **Julia Mendelsohn**, Ceren Budak, and Matthew Bui. Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA). Chicago, IL. Apr 3-6.
2024	"On the Importance of Nuanced Taxonomies for LLM-Based Understanding of Harmful Events: A Case Study on Antisemitism". Karina Halevy, **Julia Mendelsohn**, Naomi Younger, Tammi Rossman-Benjamin, Chan Young Park, Yulia Tsvetkov, and Maarten Sap. Widening NLP Workshop at EMNLP. Miami, FL. Nov 15.

2024	"Who gets to frame? Peer and group-level dynamics of political framing on social media". Patrick Wall, **Julia Mendelsohn**, and Ceren Budak. International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2). Philadelphia, PA. July 17-20.
2024	"How AI Ideas Affect the Creativity, Diversity, and Evolution of Human Ideas: Evidence From a Large, Dynamic Experiment". Joshua Ashkinaze, **Julia Mendelsohn**, Li Qiwei, Ceren Budak, and Eric Gilbert. International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2). Philadelphia, PA. July 17-20.
2024	"Does Prompt Engineering Matter for LLM-based Toxicity and Rumor Stance Detection? Evidence from a Large-scale Experiment". Shubham Atreja, Joshua Ashkinaze, Lingyao Li, **Julia Mendelsohn** and Libby Hemphill. Workshop on Online Abuse and Harms (WOAH). Mexico City, Mexico. June 20.
2023	"Framing Social Movements on Social Media: Unpacking Diagnostic, Prognostic, and Motivational Strategies". **Julia Mendelsohn**, Dallas Card, and Ceren Budak.
	○ Widening NLP Workshop at EMNLP. Miami, FL. Nov 15, 2024.
	○ New Directions in Analyzing Text as Data (TADA). Amherst, MA. Nov 9-10.
	○ Politics and Computational Social Science (PaCSS). Los Angeles, CA. Aug 30.
2023	"Bridging Nations: Quantifying the Role of Multilinguals in Communication on Social Media". **Julia Mendelsohn**, Sayan Ghosh, David Jurgens, and Ceren Budak.
	○ Widening NLP Workshop at EMNLP. Singapore. Dec 6, 2023.
	○ SoCal ML & NLP Symposium. Santa Barbara, CA. Nov 18, 2022.
	○ International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2). Virtual. July 27-31, 2021.
2022	"Sounding the Bullhorn: Surfacing and Analyzing Dogwhistles with Language Models". **Julia Mendelsohn**, Maarten Sap, and Ronan Le Bras.
	○ New Ways of Analyzing Variation 50. San Jose, CA. Oct 13-15.
	○ New Directions in Analyzing Text as Data (TADA). New York, NY. Oct 6-7.
2022	"Challenges in Opinion Manipulation Detection: An Examination of Wartime Russian Media". **Julia Mendelsohn***, Chan Young Park*, Anjalie Field*, and Yulia Tsvetkov. New Directions in Analyzing Text as Data (TADA). New York, NY. Oct 6-7.
2021	"Modeling the framing of immigration on social media". **Julia Mendelsohn**, Ceren Budak, and David Jurgens.
	○ New Directions in Analyzing Text as Data (TADA). Ann Arbor, MI. Oct 28-29.
	○ Politics and Computational Social Science (PaCSS). Virtual. Aug 9-13.
	○ International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2). Virtual. July 27-31.
2020	"A framework for the computational linguistic analysis of dehumanization". **Julia Mendelsohn**, Yulia Tsvetkov, and Dan Jurafsky. *International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2)*. Virtual. July 17-20.
2019	"The social meaning of diphthong fronting in Berlin German". Jannedy, S., M. Weirich, G. Schüppenhauer & **Julia Mendelsohn**. *Phonetik und Phonologie Tagung*, Düsseldorf, Germany. Sept 26-27.
2018	"Computational linguistic analysis of dehumanization of LGBTQ groups in the media". *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 47*, New York, NY. Oct 18-21.

| 2017 | "Cross-community variation in onset /l/ among California Latinx speakers". Podesva, R., F. Conover, A. Flores-Perez, C. Gratton, A. Kane, D. Leigh, **Julia Mendelsohn**, C. Rentie & A. Sprenger. *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 46*, Madison, WI. Nov 2-5. |

Invited Talks

Panels

2023	**Automated detection of online hate speech**
	Center for Research on Antisemitism. Virtual. Oct 12.
2022	**Mismatches between computational tools and social science needs**
	Cassandra Project Roundtable Series. Ann Arbor, MI. Nov 11.

Seminars

2024	**Detecting Implicitly Harmful Language in Political Discourse**
	○ University of Pennsylvania Computational Linguistics Lunch, Nov 25.
2024	**Unveiling Implicit Political Appeals with NLP**
	○ Columbia University NLP Group, May 1.
	○ University of Melbourne Information & Influence Hub, Apr 24.
	○ University of Melbourne NLP Group, Apr 8.
2024	**Computational approaches for uncovering implicit strategies in political discourse**
	○ Brandeis University, Department of Computer Science, Mar 1.
	○ University of California, San Diego, Halicioglu Data Science Institute and School of Global Policy & Strategy, Feb 21.
	○ University of Maryland, College of Information Studies & Department of Government & Politics, Feb 15.
	○ University of Oregon, Department of Data Science, Feb 11.
	○ University of Chicago, Chicago Human+AI Lab, Jan 16.
2023	**Computational analysis of nuanced political rhetoric**
	○ Tübingen/Brown Health NLP Lab, Dec 15.
	○ University of Southern California NLP Group, Aug 31.
	○ Cornell Computational Psycholinguistic Discussion Group, Mar 17.
	○ Michigan Computational Social Science/Data Science Seminar, Mar 16.
	○ INCITE: Columbia and McGill NLP for Social Science Seminar, Mar 9.
2021	**Modeling the framing of immigration on social media**
	○ Carnegie Mellon University Language Technologies Institute, Sep 17.
	○ Conversational AI and Social Analytics Lab at Philipps Universität Marburg, Sep 14.
2021	**Pairwise Learning to Rank for Closeup Stream Recommendations**
	Pinterest ML Lunch Series, June 10.
2021	**Uncovering dehumanization with computational linguistics**
	University of Washington Center for Statistics and the Social Sciences Seminar, Jan 20.
2020	**A computational analysis of immigration discourse on Twitter**
	University of Michigan Sociolinguistics, Contact, and Discourse Meeting, Oct 30.
2020	**A framework for the computational linguistic analysis of dehumanization**
	University of Michigan Computational Social Science/Data Science Seminar, Feb 20.

2018	**Understanding social change with NLP: a case study of LGBTQ representation in the *New York Times***
	Leibniz-Zentrum Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft, Aug 29.

Teaching Experience

Courses

2024 – 2025	**Data Science Clinic**, *University of Chicago*
	Mentor for undergraduate experiential project-based course (DATA 27100)
Fall 2023	**Introduction to Statistics and Data Analysis**, *University of Michigan*
	Graduate Student Instructor for graduate-level statistics course (SI 544)
Summer 2023	**Data Science Ethics**, *University of Michigan*
	Graduate Student Instructor for graduate-level ethics course (SIADS 503)
Spring 2023	**Qualitative Inquiry for Data Scientists**, *University of Michigan*
	Graduate Student Instructor for graduate-level qualitative methods course (SIADS 601)
Spring 2019	**African American Vernacular English**, *Stanford University*
	Teaching Assistant for undergraduate sociolinguistics course (LING 65)
Winter 2019	**From Languages to Information**, *Stanford University*
	Course Assistant for undergraduate NLP course (CS 124)
Winter 2018	**From Languages to Information**, *Stanford University*
	Exam grader for undergraduate NLP course (CS 124)

Tutorials

July 2025	**The Role of AI in Misinformation: Current Trends, Detection, and Mitigation**, *IC2S2*
	(with Miriam Schirmer, Dustin Wright, Dietram Scheufele, and Ágnes Horvát)
June 2025	**Addressing AI-Driven Misinformation: Detection, Spread, and Mitigation in Science and Politics**, *ICWSM*
	(with Miriam Schirmer, Dustin Wright, Dietram Scheufele, and Ágnes Horvát)

Guest Lectures

Fall 2023	**Political Dogwhistles and Language Technology**, *University of Chicago*
	Course: Language and Politics
Winter 2022	**Computational Sociolinguistics**, *Stanford University*
	Course: Linguistics Capstone Seminar
Spring 2019	**Representations of African American English in Disney Films**, *Stanford University*
	Course: African American Vernacular English

Volunteer

2014 – 2018	English as a Second Language Tutor for Stanford custodial staff
2014 – 2017	Mathematics and writing tutor for middle school students in East Palo Alto

Service

Professional Service

2025	Workshop Organizer, NLP for Democracy, COLM 2025

2024 – 2025	Area Chair, ACL Rolling Review
2025	Ethics Reviewer, ACL Rolling Review
2022 – 2023	Student Volunteer at NAACL (2022), EMNLP (2022-2023)

Panels and Moderated Sessions

2025	Panelist, "Postdocs on the Job Market", UChicago Data Science Institute
2024	Panelist, "Navigating the Academic Job Market", U. Michigan School of Information

Reviewing

Grant Panels

European Research Council, Consolidator Grant Panel SH3 (2025)

Journals

Sociological Methods & Research (2025)
Language and Linguistics Compass (2024)
Journal of Quantitative Description (2024)
Information Processing and Management (2023)
International Journal of Press/Politics (2023)

Conferences

ACL Rolling Review (2022-2025)
IC2S2 (2022-2025)
ACM FAccT (2025)
ICWSM (2024)
EMNLP (2022)
NAACL (2022)
ACL (2021)

Workshops

NLP for Positive Impact Workshop (2021-2025)
ACL Student Research Workshop (2025)
NLP+CSS Workshop (2020-2024)
CustomNLP4U Workshop (2024)

Department and University Service

Departmental and University Committees

2023 – 2024	Doctoral Committee Student Representative, U. Michigan School of Information
2021 – 2022	Doctoral Executive Committee, U. Michigan School of Information

PhD Thesis Committees

Sagar Kumar, Network Science (Northeastern)
Jin Zhao, Computer Science (Brandeis)

Professional Memberships

Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)
Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)
Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)
COMPTEXT Association

Skills

Languages	English (native), Spanish (high intermediate), German (intermediate), Yiddish (intermediate)
Programming	Python, R, SQL, Java, C/C++, LaTeX, Praat
NLP/ML	SpaCy, Pandas, scikit-learn, Tensorflow, PyTorch, Transformers, NLTK, Apache Spark