

Julia Mendelsohn

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Academic Appointments

- 2025 – **Assistant Professor**, *University of Maryland*
College of Information
Department of Government & Politics
- 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

- 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

- 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 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.
- 2024 Shubham Atreja, Joshua Ashkinaze, Lingyao Li, **Julia Mendelsohn**, and Libby Hemphill. *Prompt Design Matters for Computational Social Science Tasks but in Unpredictable Ways*. arXiv preprint arXiv:2406.11980
- 2024 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*. arXiv preprint arXiv:2401.13481
- 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 "Dangerous Waters: A Computational Analysis of the Framing of Immigration through Dehumanizing Metaphors". **Julia Mendelsohn** and Ceren Budak. 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

- Fall 2024 **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)

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

Professional Service

Area Chair ACL Rolling Review (2024-2025) (**EMNLP 2024 Outstanding Area Chair**)

Reviewing (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)

Reviewing (Conferences) ACM FAccT (2025)
IC2S2 (2022-2025)
ACL Rolling Review (2022-2024)
ICWSM (2024)
EMNLP (2022)
NAACL (2022)
ACL (2021)
NLP for Positive Impact Workshop (2021-2024)
NLP+CSS Workshop (2020-2024)
CustomNLP4U Workshop (2024)

Service UMSI Doctoral Committee Student Representative (2023-2024)
UMSI Doctoral Executive Committee (2021-2022)
EMNLP 2023 Student Volunteer
EMNLP 2022 Student Volunteer
NAACL 2022 Student Volunteer

Memberships Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)
Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)

Skills

Languages English (native), German (high intermediate), Spanish (high intermediate), Yiddish (intermediate)

Programming Python, R, SQL, Java, C/C++, \LaTeX , Praat

NLP/ML SpaCy, Pandas, scikit-learn, Tensorflow, PyTorch, Transformers, NLTK, Apache Spark