

Julia Mendelsohn

Academic Appointments

2025 – **Assistant Professor, University of Maryland**
College of Information and UMIACS
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) <i>Challenges and Opportunities in Information Manipulation Detection: An Examination of Wartime Russian Media</i>
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) <i>Modeling the Dynamic Framing of Controversial Topics in Online Communities</i>
2017	Phi Beta Kappa
2015	President's Award for Academic Excellence

Publications

2025	Julia Mendelsohn and Ceren Budak. <i>When People are Floods: Analyzing Dehumanizing Metaphors in Immigration Discourse with Large Language Models</i> . 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. <i>Prompt Design Matters for Computational Social Science Tasks but in Unpredictable Ways</i> . International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM).
2025	Joshua Ashkinaze, Julia Mendelsohn, Li Qiwei, Ceren Budak, and Eric Gilbert. <i>How AI Ideas Affect the Creativity, Diversity, and Evolution of Human Ideas: Evidence From a Large, Dynamic Experiment</i> . ACM Collective Intelligence Conference (CI).
2025	Zhe Su, Xuhui Zhou, Sanketh Rangreji, Anubha Kabra, Julia Mendelsohn, Faeze Brahman, and Maarten Sap. <i>AI-LieDar: Examine the Trade-off Between Utility and Truthfulness in LLM Agents</i> . 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. <i>Framing Social Movements on Social Media: Unpacking Diagnostic, Prognostic, and Motivational Strategies</i> . Journal of Quantitative Description.
2023	Julia Mendelsohn, Ronan Le Bras, Yejin Choi, and Maarten Sap. <i>From Dogwhistles to Bullhorns: Unveiling Coded Rhetoric with Language Models</i> . Proceedings of the 61st Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL).
2023	Julia Mendelsohn, Sayan Ghosh, David Jurgens, and Ceren Budak. <i>Bridging Nations: Quantifying the Role of Multilinguals in Communication on Social Media</i> . International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM). (Outstanding Methodology Award)
2022	Julia Mendelsohn*, Chan Young Park*, Anjalie Field*, and Yulia Tsvetkov. <i>Challenges and Opportunities in Information Manipulation Detection: An Examination of Wartime Russian Media</i> . 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

2025 **Designing context-aware AI for harm detection**
AddressHate Symposium. New York, NY. Nov 18.

2025 **Broadening the scope of argument mining**
Workshop on Argument Mining at ACL. Vienna, Austria. July 31.

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

2025 **Measuring metaphorical dehumanization with language models**
University of Gothenburg Linguistics Seminar, Nov 25.

2025 **Modeling implicit othering in sociopolitical discourse**

- GESIS - Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences, Dec 16.
- University of Gothenburg GRIPES-CLASP Seminar, Nov 26.
- University of Maryland CLIP Colloquium, Nov 5.
- Johns Hopkins University CLSP Seminar, Oct 24.

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

Spring 2026	Transforming Unstructured Content with AI , <i>University of Maryland</i> Primary instructor for graduate-level methods course (INST 664)
Fall 2025	Computational Text Analytics Using Python , <i>University of Maryland</i> Primary instructor for PhD methods and research seminar (INST 798/808)
2024 – 2025	Data Science Clinic , <i>University of Chicago</i> Mentor for undergraduate experiential project-based course (DATA 27100)
Fall 2023	Introduction to Statistics and Data Analysis , <i>University of Michigan</i> Graduate Student Instructor for graduate-level statistics course (SI 544)
Summer 2023	Data Science Ethics , <i>University of Michigan</i> Graduate Student Instructor for graduate-level ethics course (SIADS 503)
Spring 2023	Qualitative Inquiry for Data Scientists , <i>University of Michigan</i> Graduate Student Instructor for graduate-level qualitative methods course (SIADS 601)
Spring 2019	African American Vernacular English , <i>Stanford University</i> Teaching Assistant for undergraduate sociolinguistics course (LING 65)
Winter 2019	From Languages to Information , <i>Stanford University</i> Course Assistant for undergraduate NLP course (CS 124)
Winter 2018	From Languages to Information , <i>Stanford University</i> Exam grader for undergraduate NLP course (CS 124)

Tutorials

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

Guest Lectures

Fall 2023	Political Dogwhistles and Language Technology , <i>University of Chicago</i> Course: Language and Politics
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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 Computational Social Science, ACL 2026

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: Grants

2025 European Research Council, Consolidator Grant Panel SH3 [external reviewer]

Reviewing: Journals

2025 Journal of Computational Social Science

2025 Sociological Methods & Research

2024 Language and Linguistics Compass

2024 Journal of Quantitative Description

2023 Information Processing and Management

2023 International Journal of Press/Politics

Reviewing: Conferences

2021 – Present ACL Rolling Review

2022 – Present IC2S2

2025 ACM CHI

2025 ACM FAccT

2024 AAAI ICWSM

Reviewing: Workshops

2021 – 2025 NLP+CSS Workshop

2021 – 2025 NLP for Positive Impact Workshop

2024 CustomNLP4U Workshop

2025 ACL Student Research Workshop

Department and University Service

2025 – 2026 Research Centers and Collaboration Committee, UMD College of Information

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

2021 – 2022 Doctoral Executive Committee, U. Michigan School of Information

Professional Memberships

Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)

Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)

Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)

COMPTEXT Association

Mentorship

Student Advising

Liancheng (Krystal) Gong (PhD in Information Studies; 2025 – Present)

Sagnik Chakravarty (MS in Survey Methodology and Data Science; 2025 – Present)

Tanaya Joshi (MS in Data Science; 2025 – Present)

Ashwath David (MS in Data Science; 2025 – Present)

PhD Thesis Committees

Khandaker Tasnim Huq, Information Studies (UMD)

Sagar Kumar, Network Science (Northeastern)

Jin Zhao, Computer Science (Brandeis)

Other Supervisory Committees

Phuong Anh Nguyen Le, Information Studies (UMD; Integrative Paper Committee)

Subin Seo, Library and Information Science (UMD; MLIS Thesis Committee)

Skills

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

Programming Python, R, SQL, Java, C/C++, L^AT_EX, Praat

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