

OLGA BOICHAK

Ph.D. Candidate, Social Science Doctoral Program
Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs
413 Maxwell Hall, Syracuse, NY 13244

oboichak@syr.edu
olgarithmic.net
[@olgarithmic](https://twitter.com/olgarithmic)

EDUCATION

2019 **Ph.D., Social Science**
(exp.) Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University (Syracuse, NY)
Dissertation: **Battlefront Assemblages: Civic Participation in the Age of Mediatized Warfare**
Committee: Jennifer Stromer-Galley (Chair), Jeff Hemsley, Jackie Orr, Bryan Semaan, Brian Taylor

2015 **Master of Public Administration, Fulbright Fellow**
Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University (Syracuse, NY)

2009 **Master of Arts, Public Policy** (cum laude)
National University of Ostroh Academy (Ostroh, Rivne oblast, Ukraine)

2007 **Bachelor of Arts, Economics** (cum laude)
Institute of Economics and Entrepreneurship (Ternopil, Ukraine)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Computational social science, critical data studies, media sociology, digital activism, social networks.

PROFESSIONAL/METHODS TRAINING

2018 **Summer School in Computational Social Science**
GESIS – Leibniz Institute for Social Sciences, University of Southern California (Los Angeles, CA)

2018 **Certificate in University Teaching**
Future Professoriate Program (FPP), Syracuse University (Syracuse, NY)

2017 **Certificate of Advanced Studies in Data Science**
School of Information Studies, Syracuse University (Syracuse, NY)

2017 **Certificate of Advanced Studies in Post-Conflict Reconstruction**
Institute for National Security and Counterterrorism, Syracuse University (Syracuse, NY)

2017 **IQMR – Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research**
Consortium for Qualitative Research Methods (CQRM), Syracuse University (Syracuse, NY)

2016 **Exploratory data mining**, Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research
(ICPSR) University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, MI)

2016 **Digital Methods Summer School**
Digital Methods Initiative, University of Amsterdam (Amsterdam, Netherlands)

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Boichak, O., Jackson, S. (forthcoming) Between National Identity and State Legitimacy: Mobilizing Digitally Networked Publics in Eastern Ukraine. *Media, War & Conflict*.

Boichak, O. (forthcoming) Mobilizing Diasporas: Understanding Transnational Relief Efforts in the Age of Social Media. *Proceedings of the 52 Annual Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences*, (HICSS-52).

Boichak, O., Canzonetta, J., Sitaula, N., McKernan, B., Taylor, S., Rossini, P., Clegg, B.A., Kenski, K., Martey, R.M., McCracken, N., Østerlund, C., Myers, R., Folkestad, J., Stromer-Galley, J. (forthcoming). Beyond the Medium: Rethinking Information Literacy through Crowdsourced Analysis. *Proceedings of the 52 Annual Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences*, (HICSS-52).

Xia, H., Østerlund C., McKernan, B., Folkestad, J., Rossini, P., **Boichak, O.**, Robinson, J., Kenski, K., Myers, R., Clegg, B.A., Stromer-Galley, J. (forthcoming). TRACE: A Stigmergic Crowdsourcing Platform for Intelligence Analysis. *Proceedings of the 52 Annual Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences*, (HICSS-52).

Boichak, O., Jackson, S., Hemsley, J., & Tanupabrungsun, S. (2018). Automated Diffusion? Bots and Their Influence During the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election. In G. Chowdhury, J. McLeod, V. Gillet, & P. Willett (Eds.), *Transforming Digital Worlds* (pp. 17–26). Springer International Publishing. DOI: [10.1007/978-3-319-78105-1_3](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-78105-1_3)

Boichak, O. (2017). Battlefront Volunteers: Mapping and Deconstructing Civilian Resilience Networks in Ukraine. In *8th International Conference on Social Media and Society: Social Media for Good or Evil, #SMSociety 2017* (Vol. Part F129683). DOI: [10.1145/3097286.3097289](https://doi.org/10.1145/3097286.3097289)

Jackson, S., Zhang, F., **Boichak, O.**, Bryant, L., Li, Y., Hemsley, J., Stromer-Galley, J., Semaan, B., McCracken, N. (2017). Identifying Topics in Social Media Messages: A Lexicon-Based Approach. In *8th International Conference on Social Media and Society: Social Media for Good or Evil, #SMSociety 2017* (Vol. Part F129683). Association for Computing Machinery. DOI: [10.1145/3097286.3097298](https://doi.org/10.1145/3097286.3097298)

Zhang, F., Tanupabrungsun, S., Hemsley, J., Robinson, J.L., Semaan, B., Bryant, L., Stromer-Galley, J., **Boichak, O.**, Hegde, Y. (2017). Strategic Temporality on Social Media During the General Election of the 2016 U.S. Presidential Campaign. In *8th International Conference on Social Media and Society: Social Media for Good or Evil, #SMSociety 2017* (Vol. Part F129683). Association for Computing Machinery. DOI: [10.1145/3097286.3097311](https://doi.org/10.1145/3097286.3097311)

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

From Algorithmic Citizenship to Birth Tourism: A Study of Communication Affordances and Choice on the Russian Web (Boichak, O.)

Duped by the Duplicates? Patterns of Orchestrated Amplification in the U.S. and German Election
(Boichak, O., Hemsley, J., Jackson, S., Tromble, R., Tanupabrungsun, S.)

WORKING PAPERS (2018)

Battlefront Assemblages: Exploring Media-Warfare Nexus in the Digital Age

Using Semantic Mapping to Understand Diasporic Discourse on Social Media

Networks of Resistance: Exploring the Materiality of Digital Activism in contemporary Ukraine

Battlefront geographies: exploring frames and traces of diasporic mobilization around the military conflict in Ukraine (Boichak, O., Kumar, P.)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Social Media Lab, Ryerson University (Toronto, ON, Canada)

Visiting Scholar (Spring 2018)

- developing a collaborative project using semantic networks (part of dissertation research)
- delivering lectures and presentations to showcase social media research to date

Illuminating 2016 Project

Research Assistant, School of Information Studies, Syracuse University (Fall 2016 - present)

- part of a team developing a web-based social listening tool that uses machine learning to understand the nature of online political communication
- topic modeling, lexicon building, content analysis, sentiment analysis, data mining

TRACE – Trackable Reasoning and Analysis for Collaboration and Evaluation

Research Assistant, Center for Computational and Data Sciences, Syracuse University (Spring 2017 – Summer 2018)

- part of a team creating a web-based intelligence analysis infrastructure for Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity (IARPA)

- analytic case creation, randomized controlled experiments (lab/MTurk), survey development, data analysis, content analysis, information literacy, crowdsourcing.

PARCC – Program for the Advancement of Research on Conflict and Collaboration

Research Assistant, Maxwell School, Syracuse University (Fall 2015)

- content analysis and literature reviews for the Digital Emergency Management project.

CEPA – Center for European Policy Analysis

Research Associate, BA Rudolph Graduate Public Service Fellow (Washington, DC, Summer 2015)

- utilized digital methods to track geopolitical and military developments in eastern Ukraine

TNGO Initiative, Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs

Research Fellow, Syracuse University (Fall 2014/Spring 2015)

- applied research in the field of digital NGOs, literature reviews for the Visiting Fellows Program

Center for Public Opinion Research (Ternopil, Ukraine)

Managing Director (February 2009 – August 2015), Research Associate (July 2007 – February 2009), Field Interviewer (August 2005 – June 2007)

- designed and implemented over 40 survey projects on local social and political issues; trained and directed a team of 10 field interviewers; analyzed survey data using statistical software

Lionbridge Crowdsourcing Solutions (Kyiv, Ukraine)

Internet Assessor (February 2013-May 2014)

- provided a quality and relevance analysis of Google search results on a crowdsourcing platform

“Young Generation Will Change Ukraine” Project (2013/2014, Kyiv, Ukraine – Stockholm, Sweden)

- wrote a grant proposal funded by the B.Hawrylyshyn Foundation
- led a team of 6 Ukrainian scholars to conduct research on governance issues in Sweden

Medical Data Management (Kyiv, Ukraine)

Regional Research Supervisor (2013)

- managed field interviewing teams in a research project on pharmaceutical and medical markets
- analyzed data using statistical software

LANGUAGE AND TECHNICAL SKILLS

English (full working proficiency), **Ukrainian** (native), **Russian** (full working proficiency), **German** (professional working proficiency), **French, Polish, Arabic** (limited working proficiency)

R, Gephi, Adobe Illustrator, wikis, MTurk, STATA, SPSS, Atlas TI.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2018 **Data in Society** (IST.343), Co-instructor
 Fall School of Information Studies, Syracuse University

2017 **Information Visualization** (IST.719), Co-instructor
 Fall School of Information Studies, Syracuse University

2017 **Fulbright Pre-Academic Orientation**, Program Facilitator
 Summer English Language Institute, Syracuse University College

2016 **TNGO Initiative Leadership Institute**, Program Facilitator
 Summer Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs, Syracuse University

2016 **Quantitative Methods for Program Evaluation** (PAI.722), Graduate Teaching Assistant
 Spring Public Administration and Int'l Affairs Department, Maxwell School, Syracuse University

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

2018 **Travel Grant**, GESIS – Leibniz Institute for Social Sciences (Cologne, Germany)
 2018 **Travel Grant**, Graduate Student Organization, Syracuse University (NY, USA)

2018 **Roscoe Martin Dissertation Award**, Maxwell School, Syracuse University (NY, USA)

2017 **Travel Grant**, European Symposium on Societal Challenges in Computational Social Science, the Alan Turing Institute and GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences (London, UK)

2017 **Travel Scholarship**, Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR) (Tartu, Estonia)

2017 **Travel Grant**, Data & Society Research Institute (New York, USA)

2016 **Travel Award**, ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research (Ann Arbor, MI, USA)

2015 **Graduate Public Service Fellowship**, BA Rudolph Foundation (Washington, DC, USA)

2014/15 **Fulbright Fellow**, Institute of International Education (Kyiv, Ukraine/Syracuse, NY, USA)

2014 **National Youth Delegate** of Ukraine to the United Nations (Kyiv, Ukraine/New York, USA)

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

2018 **Internet, Policy & Politics (IPP)** at the Oxford Internet Institute (Oxford, UK)
 Non-presenting author – Boichak, O., Jackson, S., Hemsley, J., Tromble, R., Tanupabrungsun, S. *Bot Interventions: Identifying patterns of bot interference across election campaigns on Twitter* (paper);
 Boichak, O., Gruzd, A. *Mobilizing diasporas: mapping transnational relief efforts in the age of social media* (paper).

2018 **American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Meeting** (Philadelphia, PA)
 Presenting author: Boichak, O. *Battlefront Assemblages: exploring media-warfare nexus in the digital age* (paper, CITAMS Preconference);
 Boichak, O. *In Search of Citizenship: Affective Modalities of Birth Tourism on the Russian Web* (paper);
 Boichak, O., Jackson S. *Collective identity and its boundaries: from 'cloud protesting' to state legitimacy* (paper).

2018 **Social Media and Society (#SMSociety2018)** (Copenhagen, Denmark)
 Non-presenting author: Boichak, O., Jackson, S., Hemsley, J., Tromble, R., Tanupabrungsun, S. *Identifying patterns of bot interference across election campaigns on Twitter* (poster).

2018 **Theorizing the Web** (New York, NY)
 Presenting author: Boichak, O. *Mediatizing War: Digital Media and the Battlefronts* (art-presentation)

2018 **International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Convention** (San Francisco, CA)
 Presenting author: Boichak, O. *Birth Tourism and the National American Imaginaries on the Russian Web* (paper);
 Boichak, O., Jackson, S. *'Mariupol Is Ukraine': Constructing Legitimacy Through Digitally-Networked Action* (paper).

2018 **iConference2018** (Sheffield, UK)
 Non-presenting author: Boichak, O., Jackson, S., Hemsley, J., Tanupabrungsun, S. *Automated Diffusion? Bots and their Influence During the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election* (paper).

2017 **First European Symposium on Societal Challenges in Computational Social Science** The Alan Turing Institute (London, UK)
 Presenting author: Boichak, O., Jackson, S., Hemsley, J., Tanupabrungsun, S. *Not All Bots Are Created Equal: automated sociality and the spread of political information in the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election* (paper).

2017 **Association of Internet Researchers Annual Conference (#AoIR2017)**, (Tartu, Estonia)
 Presenting author: Boichak, O., Jackson, S., Hemsley, J., Tanupabrungsun, S. *Automated Diffusion? Bots and Their Influence During the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election* (paper).

2017 **European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR)**, University of Oslo (Oslo, Norway)
 Presenting author: Boichak, O. *Battlefront Volunteers: Mapping and Deconstructing Civilian Resilience Networks in Ukraine* (paper);
 Boichak, O., Jackson, S. 'Mariupol Is Ukraine': *Constructing Legitimacy Through Digitally-Networked Action* (paper).

2017 **Social Media and Society (#SMSociety2017)**, Ryerson University (Toronto, ON, Canada)
 Presenting author: Boichak, O. *Battlefront Volunteers: Mapping and Deconstructing Civilian Resilience Networks in Ukraine* (paper);
 Jackson, S., Zhang, F., Boichak, O., Bryant, L., Li, Y., Hemsley, J., Stromer-Galley, J., Semaan, B., McCracken, N. *Identifying Topics in Social Media Messages: A Lexicon-Based Approach* (paper);
 Zhang, F., Tanupabungsun, S., Hemsley, J., Robinson, J.L., Semaan, B., Bryant, L., Stromer-Galley, J., Boichak, O., Hegde, Y. *Strategic Temporality on Social Media During the General Election of the 2016 U.S. Presidential Campaign* (paper);
 Boichak, O., Jackson, S., Hemsley, J., Tanupabungsun, S. *Automated Diffusion? Bots and Their Influence During the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election* (poster).

2017 **InfoSocial** at Northwestern University (Evanston, IL)
 Presenting author – Boichak, O. *Social Infrastructures for Civilian Resilience: Evidence from Ukraine* (paper).

2016 **Internet, Policy & Politics (IPP)** at the Oxford Internet Institute (Oxford, UK)
 Presenting author – Boichak O. *Battlefronts of a Virtual War: Crowdfunding Platforms Sustaining the Ukrainian Army in a Hybrid War with Russia* (paper).

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

2018 'Social media data in political campaigning' – guest lecture for DS8006 Social Media Analytics class, Ted Rogers School of Management, Ryerson University (Toronto, ON, Canada)

2018 'Mobilizing diasporas: mapping transnational relief efforts in the age of social media', Social Media Lab, Ryerson University (Toronto, ON, Canada)

2018 'Not all bots are created equal: exploring automated interventions in online political discourse', Social Media Lab, Ryerson University (Toronto, ON, Canada)

2017 'Digital Battlefronts: from Facebook into the war zone', DataBeers London City University London (London, UK)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR), member (since 2016)

International Studies Association (ISA), member (since 2017)

American Sociological Association (since 2018)

Council for European Studies (CES) Social Movements Research Network, member (since 2016)

American Statistical Association (2016/17)

Phi Beta Delta International Honor Society (since 2016)

SERVICE

BA Rudolph Foundation, chair of Graduate Public Service Application Review Committee (2016-18)

THATCampCNY, co-organizer and presenter – network visualization workshop (Syracuse, NY, 2017)

Propaganda and Media Manipulation Workshop, Data and Society Research Institute (New York, 2017)

Crisis Informatics Workshop, presenter – University of Colorado Boulder (Boulder, CO, 2017)

Lessons from the Field Workshop, participant – Data and Society Research Institute (New York, 2017)