

# OLGA BOICHAK

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## 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., & Tanupabrunsun, 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). Battlefield 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., Tanupabrunsun, 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., Tanupabrunsun, 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 Imageries 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., Tanupabrungrun, 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., Tanupabrungrun, 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)
- THATCampNY**, 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)