

Anna D. Gibson

Curriculum Vitae

Somerville, MA 02143 USA
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Department of Communication, Stanford University. 2023.

M.A. Department of Communication, Stanford University. 2020.

B.A. Linguistics and Cognitive Science, Pomona College. 2012.

RESEARCH SKILLS AND INTERESTS

Qualitative social science research, civic media, online communities, digital ethnography, human-computer interaction, sociotechnical systems, quantitative social science research, R, communication studies, sociology, platform studies

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Academic Positions

2023 – 2025 Postdoctoral Associate. Massachusetts Institute of Technology,
Comparative Media Studies/Writing.

2022 – 2023 Postdoctoral Teaching Associate. Northeastern University, Communication
Studies Department.

2020 Intern. Microsoft Research New England, Social Media Collective.

Select Non-academic Positions

2025 – present Associate Managing Editor, Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication,
University of Michigan

2012 – 2014 Analyst/Lead UX Designer, Global IT Services, Cisco Systems, Inc.

PUBLICATIONS

Articles in Refereed Journals

- 2024 “Health and toxicity in content moderation: the discursive work of justification.” **First author**, with Niall Docherty and Tarleton Gillespie, *Information, Communication & Society*, 27(7), 1441-1457, DOI: 10.1080/1369118X.2023.2291456
- 2023 “What teams do: exploring volunteer content moderation team labor on Facebook.” **Solo author**. *Social Media + Society*, 9(3), DOI: 10.1177/20563051231186109
- 2019 “Free speech and safe spaces: How moderation policies shape online discussion spaces.” **Solo author**. *Social Media + Society*, 5(1). DOI: 10.1177/2056305119832588

Other Publications

- 2026 (expected) Chapter: “Case Study: Over-the-Shoulder Observation of Facebook Group Admins.” *Practicing Digital Ethnography*. Ed. Devin Proctor. Routledge.
- 2022 Book Review: “Work Pray Code” – Managing and Deploying Spirituality in Silicon Valley. *The Arts Fuse*. (April 11).
- 2020 Editorial: “The promise of restorative justice in addressing online harm” with Amy Hasinoff and Niloufar Salehi in *Tech Stream* by Brookings. (July 27)

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS & AWARDS

- 2021 – 2022 Stanford Ethnography Lab Fellow, Stanford Ethnography Lab
- 2021 Graduate Research Opportunity Grant, Stanford School of Humanities and Sciences
- 2021 Centennial Teaching Assistant Award, Stanford Center for Teaching and Learning
- 2018 – 2019 Graduate Student Fellow, McCoy Family Center for Ethics in Society, Stanford University

INVITED TALKS

- 2024 “Entrepreneurial moderation: how volunteers build career capital,” All Things in Moderation. Australian Community Managers (ACM). Virtual. May 16.
- 2024 Speaker on “Legal Panel,” MIT AI for Filming Hackathon. MIT Filmmakers Association. Cambridge, Massachusetts. February 18.
- 2024 “Entrepreneurial moderation: managing speech in the era of the influencer” in the Science, Technology, and Society Lunch Seminar at Tufts University. Medford, Massachusetts. January 26.
- 2023 “What teams do: mapping the labor of distributed teamwork in ambiguous spaces” in the Human-Robot Interaction Symposium at Tufts University. Medford, Massachusetts. September 8.

REFEREED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2023 “Speculative Futures of Restorative Online Content Moderation,” with Amy Hasinoff and Niloufar Salehi, presented in paper session “Platform Policy.” Trust and Safety Research Conference. Stanford, California.
- 2023 “Over-the-shoulder observation: a novel method for digital ethnographers” presented in paper session “Developments in Qualitative Methods,” in Qualitative Methodology unit. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- 2023 “Health and toxicity in content moderation: the discursive work of justification” with Niall Docherty and Tarleton Gillespie, presented in panel “Re-Imagining Core Concepts.” Platform Governance Research Network Conference. Digital.
- 2022 “Ethical Issues in Facebook Group Moderation” in workshop on “Ethical Tensions, Norms, and Directions in the Extraction of Online Volunteer Work.” ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work And Social Computing [CSCW]. Digital.
- 2022 “The role of teams in volunteer content moderation on Facebook” in paper session “Platforms, Visibility, and Power” in Section on Communication, Information Technologies, and Media Sociology [CITAMS]. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Los Angeles, California.
- 2022 “Weighing words: how economies of worth help us understand decision-making in platform-based content moderation” in Postconference on Media Sociology at the International Communication Association [ICA]. Paris, France.

- 2020 “The role of teams in volunteer content moderation” in Workshop on Empirical Approaches in Platform Governance Research presented by Alexander von Humboldt Institute for Internet and Society. Digital.
- 2020 “Content farms & content cultivators: mapping the labor of platform video production” in panel “Platforms and AI: Labour, Power, Governance” in Media Industry Studies division, International Communication Association. Digital.
- 2019 “Some preliminary findings on content farms” in panel “Working with Algorithms, Thinking through Automation” at the Society for Social Study of Science [4S]. Washington, D.C.
- 2018 “Towards a normative ethics of online moderation” with Andrew Fitzgerald in panel “Critical Data Studies: Ethics and Human Contexts of Data Science” at the Society for Social Study of Science [4S]. Sydney, Australia.
- 2018 “The lurker: Naming the online watcher” in preconference on Data & Publics at International Communication Association [ICA]. Prague, Czechia.
- 2017 “Safe spaces & free speech: Effects of moderation policy on structures of online forum discussions” at Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences [HICSS]. Waikoloa Village, Hawaii.

DEPARTMENTAL TALKS

- 2024 “Entrepreneurial moderation: Managing speech in the era of the influencer” at Comparative Media Studies/Writing, MIT. February 29.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

(Note: Instructor of record unless otherwise indicated)

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Introduction to Media Studies (Fall 2024, Spring 2025)

Current Debates in Media (Fall 2023, Spring 2025)

Critical Internet Studies (Fall 2023)

Northeastern University

Communication and Gender (Fall 2022, Spring 2023)

Intercultural and Global Communication (Fall 2022, Spring 2023)

Scams, Frauds, and Catfishing (Intersession 2023)

Simmons University

Media Writing and Editing (Spring 2022)

Stanford University

Media Processes and Effects (Winter 2020)

Communication Research Methods (Winter 2020)

Welcome to Cyberspace (Summer 2017, Summer 2018)

Politics of Algorithms (TA: 2018, 2019)

Communication Research Methods (TA: 2019)

Media Processes & Effects (TA: 2017, 2018)

Perspectives on American Journalism (TA: 2018)

Virtual People (TA: 2017)

Media, Culture and Society (TA: 2017)

Information Control in Authoritarian Regimes (TA: 2016)