

Emily Zou

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Research Interests:

I study how online networks share and codify information, with particular interest in how the mechanisms to do so have been created and revised by online communities. I hope to expand on the theoretical work of Internet studies while also learning from and using empirical research methods from both quantitative and qualitative social sciences. My goal is to identify and clarify the newly-emerging facets of digital life that continue to elude our understanding, even as its impact is continually felt by all that use the Internet, as well as those who do not.

Education (2):

Northwestern University Evanston, IL (September 2021–present)

Bachelor of Arts in American Studies

GPA: 3.93

University of California, San Diego La Jolla, CA (September 2020– September 2021)

GPA: 3.95

Research (6):

Community Data Science Collective, Evanston IL (March 2022– present)

Undergraduate Research Assistant

- Conducted 8 1–2 hour long interviews with moderators of online communities to study online governance, digital culture and identity, rule formation and rule enforcement.
- Recruited 10 participants for above-mentioned study
- Transcribed and corrected 10 transcripts from interview study, organized and maintained files for team
- Qualitatively coded 6 interview transcripts with my own code set
- Collected additional contextual data on online community background
- Wrote qualitative memos based off coded interview data

Weinberg College Baker Program in Undergraduate Research, Evanston IL (June 2023–August 2023)

Undergraduate Research Assistant

- Edited 2 books in progress, both related to topics of normative political philosophy, international relations, and American politics.
- Investigated and summarized findings on potentially relevant topic threads

Center for Connected Learning and Computer-Based Modeling, Evanston IL (January 2023–March 2023)

Undergraduate Research Assistant

- Categorized and analyzed 40+ scholarly articles on the usage of computer models in education for a scoping review
- Distilled article content into paragraphs with recommendations on viability for the study

Community Data Science Collective, Evanston IL (May 2022– October 2022)

Independent Research

- Funded by the NSF (Grant: IIS-1910202, DGE-1842165) for conducting related independent undergraduate research
- Formulated and proposed project on mutually-beneficial antagonistic relationships between online communities
- Wrote extensive code (Python) for data scraping and later data analysis
- Created data visualizations and wrote summaries on the significance of my observations
- Presented a poster "(Don't) Ignore Your Haters: Antagonistic Mutualism in Online Communities." at the 2022 Human Computer Interactions and Design Lambert Conference

Learning in Places Lab, Seattle, WA /Remote (Jan 2022– April 2022)

Undergraduate Research Assistant

- Qualitatively coded 6 1hr+ long footage of elementary-aged children engaging with curriculum designed with

- principles of ecology
- Reported to PI with analysis and recommendations

Human Ecology Lab (Scripps Institute of Oceanography) La Jolla, SD /Remote (Mar 2021– June 2021)
Undergraduate Research Assistant

- Used SPSS and Excel to analyze 50+ survey results in assisting a Master student's final project
- Wrote overviews on data implications and reported to lab team

Professional Experience (4):

National Education Association Washington D.C / Remote (September 2023– December 2023)
Editorial Intern

- Interviewed NEA members on implementations of climate change curriculums
- Used text-scraping and processing to summarize information on US school shootings
- Writing article based on interviews with educators on classroom policies around ChatGPT

Center for Connected Learning and Computer-Based Modeling, Evanston IL (May 2022–Current)
Lab Manager and Program Coordinator

- Moderated the 3000+ member Netlogo Community Google Group, mailing lists, and website
- Updated website with 4000+ APA references, community models, and lab projects
- Redesigned lab website from scratch with HTML and CSS
- Copywrote 20+ grant proposals, research papers, and textbook chapters
- Scheduled and coordinated meetings between collaborators

Ocean Conservancy Washington D.C /Remote (June 2021– September 2021)
Public Policy and Finance Intern

- Researched and wrote for 90–page document for municipal leaders on plastic use in cities
- Conducted independent research on Shipping Ports, and Environmental Justice, created presentation on local community organizations and area-specific environmental concerns
- Presented above research (30 minutes) and fielded questions from a team of marine scientists
- Conducted individual research on current regulations on plastics in paint

University of California San Diego La Jolla, SD /Remote (March 2021– July2021)
Video Editor and Content Creator

- Filmed and edited videos for UC San Diego's donors and alumni as part of the u.care campaign
- Storyboarded and scripted video ideas across a team of six students

Campus Involvement:

Northwestern eSports Club Evanston, IL (June 2022– June 2023)
Treasurer

- Managed club expenditures for the 2022–2023 academic year, including tournaments, jerseys, and transportation fees

North by Northwestern Evanston, IL (September 2021– Jan 2023)
Social Media Manager & Staff Writer

- Wrote 7 articles in local news, entertainment, and campus life as a staff writer
- Designed (Canva) fliers and promoted various publication events and pieces on social media
- Scheduled social media posts on each article, including summarizing content

WNUR News Evanston, IL (September 2021– June 2022)
Staff Contributor

- Scripted three audio pieces for student radio station
- Interviewed and recorded audio bits from Northwestern students
- Edited audio, music, and sound effects on Adobe Audition
- Worked during weekly shifts to run broadcasts

The Climate Change Review San Diego, CA (January 2021– June 2021)

Staff Contributor

- Wrote three articles (including two interviews) for a student-led publication on climate change

The Triton San Diego, CA (remote) (September 2020– June 2021)

Staff Contributor

- Wrote three articles for student publication
- Interviewed several students (remotely) about new writing curriculum

Groundworks Bookstore San Diego, CA (September 2020– January 2021)

Staff

- Worked weekly shifts to maintain student bookstore, including cataloging and organizing books

Volunteer Experience:

San Diego 350 La Jolla SD / Remote (June 2021–Jul 2021)

- Organized curriculum for San Diego 350's environmental justice youth summer camp
- Served as lead mentor for a team of seven camp counselors
- Organized Google Drive and Slack materials, sent email announcements to all members

UC San Diego Office for Students with Disabilities (remote) La Jolla SD / Remote (January 2021–March 2021)

- Transcribed lectures for hard of hearing students, submitted transcriptions to students

Change the Chamber La Jolla SD / Remote (January 2021–Jul 2021)

- Met with student-led activist group focusing on environmental reform through the US Chamber of Commerce
- Researched and wrote summaries on relevant American policy topics

Norcal Resilience Network Oakland, CA (January 2021– June 2021)

- Interviewed 4 local community leaders from across the Bay on their philosophy and practices
- Wrote articles based on above interviews for publication on organization website
- Assisted with editing on grant proposals
- Worked in two urban farms (planting, repotting, cleaning) in Oakland while following COVID-19 protocols

Skills:

Python, R, Linux, HTML, CSS, Tableau

Adobe Premiere, Adobe Audition, Final Cut Pro