BRANDON L. KRAMER, PHD

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PhD-level computational social scientist with background researching innovation and ethics in science, technology, and health. Experience with research, questionnaire, and experimental design; natural language processing; social network analysis; geospatial methods; data visualization; regression and predictive analytics; supervised and unsupervised machine learning; relational database management; collecting, cleaning, and merging large administrative, online social media, and unstructured text data. Proficient in R, Python, SQL, SPSS, Stata, bash, Git, GitHub, Gephi, Qualtrics, NVIVO, Looker, PowerBI, Tableau, Excel, Word, PowerPoint, LaTeX, and working in high-performance computing environments. Strong communication, public speaking, writing, multitasking, and project management skills.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Postdoctoral Researcher 2019-Present
University of Virginia - Biocomplexity Institute Arlington, VA

- Partnered with university, non-profit, and local/federal government stakeholders to develop, execute, and disseminate research projects on social, economic, policy, and health-related issues
- Developed data analysis pipelines in R and Python to predict inequities in local housing markets, identify pathways to economic mobility, and determine factors leading to international disparities in software development
- Authored two software packages in R (named tidyorgs and diverstidy) that improved the detection and standardization of organizational, geographic, and population-based entities in large-scale text data
- Extracted, cleaned, and transformed unstructured online social media data to PostgreSQL database using web scraping and application programming interface (API) tools in R and Python
- Leveraged natural language processing strategies, including supervised text mining, topic modeling, and word embedding algorithms like word2vec and BERT, to draw insights from unstructured text data
- Identified key influencers of large social platform using social network analytics like node2vec
- Created reports, presentations, dashboards, websites, and online interactive visualizations using Rmarkdown, RShiny, LaTex, PowerPoint, and Gephi to tell compelling data-driven stories to non-technical audiences

Graduate Research Assistant 2018-2019
Rutgers University - School of Information & Communication New Brunswick, NJ

- Worked collaboratively with principal investigators, graduate, and undergraduate students on two research teams conducting research on health-related research projects using experimental, survey, and computational methods
- Performed descriptive and multivariate regression analyses in SPSS, Stata, and R statistical software environments
- Programmed and disseminated surveys via Qualtrics as part of a multi-cohort longitudinal study

Doctoral Researcher & Graduate Research Assistant 2012-2019
Rutgers University - Department of Sociology New Brunswick, NJ

- Conceptualized and executed mixed-method research projects that used quantitative and qualitative strategies to examine innovation and ethics in the biomedical and health sciences
- Managed research laboratory where my responsibilities included hiring, supervising, and mentoring 25 students on how to run experiments, collect and store biological specimens, and clean messy health data
- Published four manuscripts studying the impact of social inequalities and research ethics on health outcomes
- Recipient of multiple fellowships, awards, and $10,000+ in funding for writing and research excellence

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Sociology, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ 2014-19
M.A. Sociology, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ 2012-14
B.A. Sociology, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 2006-10