Brandon Kramer, Ph.D.

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Sociology
Rutgers University, 2019

M.A., Sociology
Rutgers University, 2014

B.A., Sociology
University of Iowa, 2010

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Coding Languages
R, Python, SQL, Stata, SPSS

Key Packages
tidyverse, tidytext, igraph, Sci-kit learn, gensim, NLTK, networkX

Other Software Tools
Git/Hub, Qualtrics, RShiny, RMarkdown, Jupyter, Gephi, Hugo, LaTeX, Adobe Illustrator

SUMMARY

Brandon Kramer (he/him) is a quantitative social scientist with a background researching innovation, ethics, and inequity in science and tech. Brandon is seeking a position as a UX researcher or data scientist in an organization that cultivates equitable social and technical systems. He has experience managing projects in collaborative team environments; conveying technical findings to stakeholders across various economic sectors; and using an array of research methods such as surveys, interviews, web scraping, modeling, experiments, network analysis, and natural language processing.

WORK EXPERIENCE

University of Virginia | Biocomplexity Institute
Postdoctoral Research Associate | Arlington, VA | 2019-Present

- Partnered with stakeholders from universities, non-profits, and government agencies to iteratively develop projects on a range of social and economic outcomes used to inform public policy
- Communicated data-driven stories to diverse audiences at more than 15 local, national, and international conferences
- Produced 7 research manuscripts and 10 online interactive websites/dashboards to convey project findings to stakeholders
- Authored two open-source software packages in R (named tidyorgs and diverstidy) that improve the detection and classification of organizational and geographic entities in unstructured text data
- Created two statistical indicators now used by U.S. federal statistical agency to measure the global spread of software usage
- Collected, cleaned, and managed unstructured data from online platforms (e.g. GitHub) in PostgreSQL database using web scraping and API tools from R and Python
- Developed longitudinal models in R and Python to predict changes in local housing markets and open-source software adoption
- Recruited, ran, and analyzed results of 250+ participants that engaged in online experiments via Amazon's Mechanical Turk
- Iterated and prototyped design of new experimental platform for conducting online experiments of networked groups
- Served as project manager on two contracts during supervisor's 5-month parental leave
- Managed two research teams of under/graduates that integrated machine learning, natural language processing, and network analysis (BERT, word2vec, node2vec) to examine software types
- Played key role in design and implementation of $4.8M NSF-funded grant evaluating social inequity and climate risks in Eastern Virginia

RESEARCH SKILLS

Research study design
Survey design/dissemination
Presentations/public speaking
Interviewing
Data visualization
Project management
Parametric statistics
Linear/logistic regression
Predictive analytics
Experimental methods
Social network analysis
Natural language processing
Geospatial methods
Web scraping/APIs
Relational databases
Package development

AWARDS

David Mechanic Scholar Award
Rutgers University
University Institute of Health
2019 | $4,000

Student Development Award
Rutgers University
Department of Sociology
2018 | $1,055

Excellence Research Fellowship
Rutgers University
University Institute of Health
2015 | $24,000

Matilda Riley Best Paper Award
Rutgers University
Department of Sociology
2013 | $350

Five-Time US National Go-Kart Racing Champion
1999 (2), 2001, 2002 (2)

Rutgers University | Department of Sociology
Graduate Research Assistant | New Brunswick, NJ | 2012-2019

- Conceptualized and executed research projects using content analysis, computational text analysis and network analysis to examine innovation and ethics in the health sciences
- Managed research laboratory for 4 years where responsibilities included hiring, supervising, and mentoring 25+ undergraduates
- Designed, recruited for, and carried out ~350 studies integrating online survey and experimental methods to examine men's health
- Crafted protocol and conducted in-depth interviews with study participants to improve research study comfort and experience
- Published four manuscripts studying the impact of social inequities and research ethics on health outcomes
- Recipient of multiple fellowships, awards, and $30,000+ in funding for writing and research excellence
- Nominated to Department's Teaching Honor Roll in both semesters as course instructor

Rutgers University | School of Communication & Information
Graduate Research Assistant | New Brunswick, NJ | 2017-2019

- Collaborated with two teams conducting research on health-related projects using experimental, survey, and computational methods
- Performed descriptive and multivariate regressions in SPSS and R
- Programmed and disseminated Qualtrics surveys to 400+ participants as part of a multi-cohort longitudinal study testing an online behavioral intervention on Facebook

Barnard College | Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies
Graduate Research Assistant | New York, NY | 2015-2016

- Interviewed medical and behavioral experts to learn about their perceptions of how medical criteria affect diverse groups
- Used multiple qualitative methodologies to study racial and gender bias in scientific research on hormones for NSF-funded book project

PROJECTS

Kramer, B. & Lee, C. "The Rise of Diversity and Population Terminology in Biomedical Research." Website: https://riseofdiversity.netlify.app.

Kramer, B. 2020. "The Molecularization of Race in Testosterone Research." *BioSocieties*. Paper available at: https://bit.ly/3pgA0Ut.

Kramer, B., Korkmaz, G., Santiago Calderón, J.B., & Robbins, C. "International Collaboration in Open Source Software: Longitudinal Network Analysis of GitHub."

Moradi-Jamei, B. Kramer, B., Santiago Calderón, J.B., & Korkmaz, G. "Community Formation and the Detection of GitHub Collaboration Networks." 2021. *Proceedings of the IEEE/ACM International Conference on Advances in Social Networks Analysis and Mining*. Paper available at: https://arxiv.org/abs/2109.11587.