

# Cassidy Pyle

1443 Jewett Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI, 48104  
(916) 753-4711 | cpyle@umich.edu | cassidypyle.com

## EDUCATION

---

### Ph.D., Information

2020 - 2025

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI  
Advisors: Dr. Nicole Ellison & Dr. Nazanin Andalibi  
Professional Development Certificate in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion  
Affiliated Researcher, Center for Ethics, Society, and Computing (ESC)

### B.A., Communication and Film & Media Studies

2019

University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB), Santa Barbara, CA  
Minor: Feminist Studies  
Dean's List, Highest Honors, Distinction in the Major of Communication  
Thesis: *College Students' Use of Facebook: Examining College Generational Status, Social Capital, and Academic Implications*

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

---

- Social Media
- Marginalized & Stigmatized Identities
- Algorithmic Systems
- Social Support & Well-being

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

---

Brown, M., Pyle, C., Ellison, N.B. (2022). "On My Head About It": College Aspirations, Social Media Participation, and Community Cultural Wealth. *Social Media + Society*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/20563051221091545>

Ellison, N.B., Pyle, C., Vitak, J. (2022). Scholarship on Well-Being and Social Media: A Sociotechnical Perspective. *Current Opinion in Psychology*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.copsy.2022.101340>.

Pyle, C., Andalibi, N. (2021). First-Generation, Low-Income Students as Data Subjects in Higher Education Profiling and Prediction AI/ML Applications. Workshop on Artificially Intelligent Technology for the Margins: A Multidisciplinary Design Agenda. ACM SIGCHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) 2021.

Pyle, C., Roosevelt, L., Lacombe-Duncan, A. & Andalibi, N. (2021). LGBTQ Persons' Pregnancy Loss Disclosures to Known Ties on Social Media. Proceedings of the ACM SIGCHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) 2021. **Best Paper Award**.

Pyle, C. (2019). Animation and the queering of the body genre in *Big Mouth*. *UCSB Focus Media Journal*. 37, 65-72.

**Pyle, C.** (2017). Auteur theory in relation to black women filmmakers. *UCSB Focus Media Journal*. 39, 4-13.

## **PUBLICATIONS UNDER REVIEW**

---

Barta, K.\*, **Pyle, C.\***, & Andalibi, N. (2022). Toward a Feminist Social Media Vulnerability Taxonomy. Under Review at *ACM's Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW)*.

**Pyle, C.**, Ellison, N. B., & Andalibi, N. (2022). Social Media and College-Related Social Support Exchange for First-Generation, Low-Income Students: The Role of Identity Disclosures and Algorithmic Perceptions. Under Review at *ACM'S Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW)*.

\*Asterisks denote co-first authorship.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

---

**Pyle, C.** (April, 2022). Social Media Identity Disclosures and First-Generation, Low-Income Students' College-Related Support Seeking. Presented at the Computing Research Association - Widening Participation's Grad Cohort for Women Conference, New Orleans, LA.

**Pyle, C.** (May, 2021). LGBTQ Persons' Pregnancy Loss Disclosures to Known Ties on Social Media. Presented at ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, Virtual.

**Pyle, C.** (April, 2021). LGBTQ Persons' Pregnancy Loss Disclosures to Known Ties on Social Media. Presented at University of Michigan School of Information iDEI Lightning Talks, Virtual.

**Pyle, C.** (June, 2019). *College Students' Use of Facebook: Examining College Generational Status, Social Capital, and Academic Implications*. Presented to the Department of Communication at University of California, Santa Barbara, CA.

**Pyle, C.** (May, 2019). *College Students' Use of Facebook: Examining College Generational Status*. Poster presented at Undergraduate Research & Creative Activities Colloquium. University of California, Santa Barbara, CA.

**Pyle, C.** (April, 2019). *College Students' Use of Facebook*. Poster presented for Student Research Series, ONDAS Student Center, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

---

### **Graduate Student Instructor (GSI)**

**2022**

*University of Michigan SI 529: Online Communities*

- Led weekly lab sessions with 30 Master's students covering topics related to online communities, including identity, social support, harm, and algorithms
- Guest lectured to 30 Master's students about social comparison in online communities
- Provided weekly qualitative and quantitative feedback on student work
- Organized 5 guest speakers from academia and industry
- Nominated for UMSI's 2022 GSI of the Year Award

**Graduate Student Instructor (GSI) 2021**

*University of Michigan SI 110: Introduction to Information*

- Led weekly discussion sections with 50 undergraduate students covering topics including social media, information economics, and information visualization
- Guest lectured to 230 students about privacy on social media
- Provided weekly qualitative and quantitative feedback on student work

**Peer Mentor 2017-2019**

*Opening New Doors to Accelerating Success (ONDAS) Student Center, UCSB*

- Mentored Communication students to help them develop study skills and understand concepts from Communication theory and methods courses
- Developed and hosted workshops to support students with their lower division Communication coursework

**MENTORING EXPERIENCE**

---

**UMSI Master's Thesis Option Program Mentor 2022**

- Provided weekly feedback on study design, data collection, data analysis, and thesis writing for a project about how individuals living with mental illnesses perceive well-being interventions on social media

**UCSB Undergraduate Mentorship Program Mentor 2017-2019**

- Met weekly with four first-year undergraduate students to develop study plans, offer academic support, orient students to campus resources, and introduce mindfulness and other well-being strategies

**HONORS AND AWARDS**

---

**Best Paper Award, ACM CHI 2021 2021**

- Awarded to top 1% of submissions for ACM'S CHI 2021 conference

**University Service Award of Distinction, UCSB 2019**

- Awarded to graduating seniors who made an outstanding contribution to campus life

**Luis Leal Social Science Undergraduate Award, UCSB 2019**

- Awarded to a graduating student for outstanding achievement in the social sciences

**Steven H. Chaffee Award for Excellence in Communication Research, UCSB 2019**

- Awarded to a graduating Communication student who demonstrated excellence in research

**GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

---

**Rackham Merit Fellowship, University of Michigan 2020 - 2025**

- Awarded to Rackham graduate students who have a record of superior academic achievement, are underrepresented in higher education, and/or demonstrate a commitment to diversity in their academic, professional, and civic endeavors

**Donald A. Strauss Public Service Project Grant (\$15,000) 2018**

- A non-profit-based grant awarded to college sophomores and juniors to help them conduct a community-based public service project

**Undergraduate Research & Creative Activities Grant (\$750), UC Santa Barbara 2018**

- Awarded to undergraduates to fund independent research and creative activities

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

---

**Co-Investigator** **June 2021 - Present**

*School of Information, University of Michigan*

- Conducting a qualitative interview study on how individuals embodying diverse social identities experience visibility and vulnerability on social media

**Principal Researcher** **April 2021 - Present**

*School of Information, University of Michigan*

- Conducting a qualitative interview study on how first-generation students use social media and disclose their identities as they apply to and select a college

**Co-Investigator** **March 2021 - Present**

*School of Information, University of Michigan*

- Conducting a qualitative and ethnographically informed research project on Chinese programming professionals' use of social media in their professional and private lives

**Research Assistant & Co-Investigator** **May 2020 - August 2020**

*School of Information, University of Michigan*

- Assisted with data analysis and drafting of paper on LGBTQ+ people's pregnancy loss disclosure decisions on social media under advisement of PI Dr. Nazanin Andalibi

**Research Assistant** **June 2019 - Jan 2020**

*Department of Communication, University of California, Santa Barbara*

- Compiled database of essential literature on the topic of technology and marginalization for ICA 2020 Post-Conference: *Essential Scholarship on Technology and Marginalization: A Discussion*.
- Assisted with the special edition of *Social Media + Society* on social media and marginalization

**Co-Investigator** **Sept 2018 - June 2019**

*Department of Communication, University of California, Santa Barbara*

- Conducted quantitative experimental research for a project entitled *College Students' Use of Facebook: Examining College Generational Status, Social Capital, and Academic Implications* under advisor & PI Dr. Scott Reid

## GUEST LECTURES

---

**Social Comparison in Online Communities** **2022**

*University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI | SI 529: Online Communities*

**Privacy on Social Media** **2021**

*University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI | SI 110: Introduction to Information*

**LGBTQ Communities' Use of Social Media** **2021**

*Pleasant Grove High School, Elk Grove, CA | Queer Studies 101*

## **ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIPS & PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES**

---

International Communication Association Member	2021 - Present
ACM Special Interest Group on Computer-Human Interaction	2020 - Present
Lambda Pi Eta (AIIH)	2017 - 2019

## **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

---

### **Assistant, Algorithmic Reparation Workshop, U. of Michigan July 2022 - Present**

- Assisted Dr. Apryl Williams and Dr. Jenny L. Davis with the organization of the Algorithmic Reparation Workshop by marketing the workshop via email and social media, coordinating accommodations for workshop attendees, and coordinating conference logistics

### **Alumni Panelist, Communication Career Day, UCSB April 2022**

- Spoke with Communication undergraduates about career paths in academia and the technology industry

### **Panelist, DSO Pre-Candidacy Panel, UMSI April 2022**

- Spoke with UMSI Ph.D. students about best practices for the pre-candidacy paper milestone

### **Panel Moderator, Virtual Visiting Days, UMSI March 2022**

- Moderated a five-person panel about life in Ann Arbor for admitted UMSI Ph.D. students

### **Doctoral Executive Committee, UMSI April 2021 - Present**

- Served as an elected member of the Doctoral Executive Committee where I co-organized academic and social programming for UMSI Ph.D. students

### **Editorial Assistant, Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication 2021 - Present**

- Assessed submitted manuscripts, helped facilitate the peer review process, and cultivated the journal's social media presence

### **Alumni Panelist, Communication Career Day, UCSB April 2021**

- Spoke with Communication undergraduates about career paths in academia and the technology industry

## **PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP & ENGAGEMENT**

---

### **Researcher Wellbeing & Best Practices in Emotionally Demanding Research, CHI 2022**

- Attended a workshop at the ACM CHI 2022 conference to discuss strategies and contribute to a document of best practices for maintaining researcher well-being in the context of sensitive or emotionally demanding research

### **Institute for Social Change Summer Program, University of Michigan 2021**

- Participated in a two-week summer program about conducting publicly engaged scholarship with an emphasis on social change and social justice

### **UMSI Community Connections First-Generation Group Leader 2021**

- Initiated and led a virtual support group for first-generation students at the University of Michigan School of Information

## **QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS**

---

**Qualitative Research:** Interviews, Focus Groups, Participant Observation, CAQDAS (e.g., Dedoose, Atlas.ti), Miro/Mural, Figma

**Quantitative Research:** Surveys, Digital Field Experiments, SPSS, R (including ggplot2 and dplyr packages)