

NICHOLAS DIAS

PHD STUDENT

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Business Address:

3620 Walnut Street
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FUNDING

Baum, M. A. & **Dias, N. C.** (2018). Understanding misinformation on mobile instant messengers: A study in Brazil, India, Myanmar, Nigeria, and Pakistan. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. \$200,000.

Baum, M. A. & **Dias, N. C.** (2018). Understanding misinformation on mobile instant messengers: A study in Brazil, India, Myanmar, Nigeria, and Pakistan. Omidyar Network. \$180,000.

Baum, M. A., Lazer, D., Grinberg, N., Swire-Thompson, B., Beauchamp, N., **Dias, N. C.** & Hickey, C. (2018). Do Fact-Checks Slow the Spread of Misinformation on Facebook and Twitter? Social Science One. \$50,000.

TEACHING

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Data Science. (Fall 2020). Profs. Marc Trussler and Stephen Pettigrew.

EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania

PhD in Political Communication (Present)

Joint program between the Political Science Department and the Annenberg School for Communication
Advisors: Yphtach Lelkes and Matthew Levendusky

Columbia University

MS in Journalism (2017)

- Master's Project: "Companies, countries still violating UN shipping sanctions against North Korea"
- Advisor: Jonathan Stray
- Concentration in computational and data journalism
- Graduated with Honors

University of California, Davis

BA in Psychology and Communication (2015)

- Honors Thesis: "Resolving adult attachment theory and relational dialectics: Is the need for independence always present?"
- Advisor: Catherine Puckering
- Graduated with Highest Honors
- Accepted into University Honors Program
- Dean's Honor List in Fall 2011, Spring 2012, Winter – Spring 2013, Spring – Fall 2014 and Winter – Spring 2015
- Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi

RESEARCH EMPLOYMENT

Harvard Kennedy School of Government

Researcher, Shorenstein Center on Media Politics and Public Policy (2017–2019)

Led research undertaken by the Center's anti-misinformation initiative, the Information Disorder (ID) Lab, and helped devise the social-network monitoring processes for the Lab.

First Draft News

Senior Research Fellow (2017)

Led research on social bots targeting the 2017 UK General Election, devised social-network monitoring processes for First Draft's election projects, and wrote editorials and teaching materials.

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Dias, N. C. & Lelkes, Y. (In Press). The Nature of Affective Polarization: Disentangling Policy Disagreement from Partisan Identity. *American Journal of Political Science*.

SERVICE TO DEPARTMENT

President, Graduate Student Council.
(2020). Annenberg School for
Communication.

Treasurer, Graduate Student Council.
(2019–2020). Annenberg School for
Communication.

Commissioner, Internal Affairs
Commission. (2012–2013). Associated
Students of the University of California,
Davis.

SERVICE TO DISCIPLINE

Ad Hoc Reviewer:

Journal of Politics, Harvard Kennedy
School Misinformation Review

INVITED TALKS

Dias, N. C. (2018). Monitoring for health
misinformation on Nigerian social
networks. Talk at *Fake News that Harms*
conference in Abuja, Nigeria.

Dias, N. C. (2018). WhatsApp,
disinformation and political violence in
Kenya and India. Talk at George
Washington University, Washington, DC.

Dias, N. C. (2017). Hoaxes, memes & bots:
Learning how to navigate our polluted
information streams. Talk at Mount
Holyoke College, South Hadley, MA.

Dias, N. C. (2017). Verification and social
media monitoring. Talk at Facebook
Colombia, Bogota, Colombia.

Dias, N. C. (2017). Monitoring and mining
Facebook and Twitter. Talk at Universidad
Santo Tomas, Bogota, Colombia.

Dias, N. C. & Sippitt, A. (2020). Researching Fact Checking: Present
Limitations and Future Opportunities. *The Political Quarterly*, 91(3),
605–613. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1467-923x.12892>

Dias, N. C., Pennycook, G. & Rand, D. G. (2020). Emphasizing
publishers does not effectively reduce susceptibility to
misinformation on social media. *Harvard Kennedy School
Misinformation Review*. <https://doi.org/10.37016/mr-2020-001>

WORKING PAPERS

Dias, N. C. & Lelkes, Y. Easy for Some, Hard for Others: A Cognitive
Theory of Partisan Cue-Taking.

Dias, N. C. Mechanisms of Ideological Asymmetry between
Republican and Democratic Voters.

Dias, N. C. It's About You: Policy Preferences Fuel Affective
Polarization via Inferences About Personal Values.

Leigh, B. T., **Dias, N. C.** & Mutz, D. The Pragmatic Primary:
Prevalence and Predictors of Strategic Voting in the 2020
Democratic Primary.

SELECTED OP-EDS AND REPORTS

** Contributor / Researcher*

*Confessore, N., Gabriel, J. X., Harris, R. & Hansen, M. (Jan. 2018). "The
Follower Factory." *The New York Times*.

Dias, N. C. (Dec. 2017). "How Academics Can Help Platforms Tackle
Disinformation." *Understanding and Addressing the
Disinformation Ecosystem*, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia,
PA.

*Wardle, C. & Derakhshan, H. (Sep. 2017). "Information disorder:
Toward an interdisciplinary framework for research and
policymaking." *Council of Europe*.

Dias, N. C. (Aug. 2017). "The Era of Whatsapp Propaganda Is Upon
Us." *Foreign Policy*.

Dias, N. C. (June 2017). "Reporting on a new age of digital
astroturfing." *First Draft News*.

Watts, R., Ma, A. & **Dias, N. C.** (June 2017). "How we fact-checked
the UK Election in real-time." *First Draft News*.

Dias, N. C., Kamal, R. & Bastien, L. (Jan. 2017). "What makes a good
FOIA request? We studied 33,000 to find out." *Columbia
Journalism Review*.