

# GAVIN W. PLOGER

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## Academic Positions

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2023-Present Postdoctoral Fellow  
Polarization Research Lab & University of Pennsylvania.

## Education

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2018-2023 Ph.D.  
Communication and Media  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

2014-2018 B.A.  
*Summa cum Laude*, University Scholar  
Psychology  
University of Montana, Missoula

## Publications

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Mustafaj, M., Madrigal, G., Roden, J., & **Ploger, G. W.** (2022). Physiological threat sensitivity predicts anti-immigrant attitudes. *Politics and the Life Sciences*, 41(1), 15–27.  
<https://doi.org/10.1017/pls.2021.11>

**Ploger, G. W.**, Dunaway, J., Fournier, P., & Soroka, S. (2021). The psychophysiological correlates of cognitive dissonance. *Politics and the Life Sciences*, 40(2), 202–212.  
<https://doi.org/10.1017/pls.2021.15>

## Forthcoming

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**Ploger, G. W.**, & Soroka, S. Political communication. In Busby, E. C., Karpowitz, C. K., & Wong, C. J. (Eds.). *Handbook of Innovations in Political Psychology*.

## Manuscripts Under Review

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Hiaeshutter-Rice, D., Madrigal, G., **Ploger, G. W.**, Carr, S., Carbone, M., Battochio, A. F., & Soroka, S. Identity driven information ecosystems. (*Revise and resubmit*)

**Ploger, G. W.** Polarization all the way down: Perceptual spillover between elite, partisan, and mass polarization in the United States. (*Revise and resubmit*)

Choi, S., Soroka, S., & **Ploger, G. W.** How self-reported and physiologically measured disgust sensitivity predicts climate change risk perceptions.

Hegland, A., **Ploger, G. W.**, & Weeks, B. E. News avoidance in disguise? Investigating the active-or passiveness of the “News-Finds-Me” perception.

## **Manuscripts in Preparation**

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Fioroni, S., **Ploger, G. W.**, & Hiaeshutter-Rice, D. Measuring partisan social identity.

Fioroni, S., **Ploger, G. W.**, & Hiaeshutter-Rice, D. Rethinking bad press in politics: Identity-based heterogeneity in media effects.

**Ploger, G. W.** Does partisan identity condition responses to polarization?

**Ploger, G. W.** & Weeks, B. E. Learning about politics from social media? Exploring informational comments and social endorsements on news stories

**Ploger, G. W.**, Wlezien, C., Soroka, S., & Traugott, M. Examining the reciprocal link between media content and public opinion.

## **Conference Presentations**

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**Ploger, G. W.** (2023). Does partisan identity condition responses to polarization? Paper presented at the 119<sup>th</sup> American Political Science Association Political Communication Pre-Conference.

Fioroni, S., **Ploger, G. W.**, & Hiaeshutter-Rice, D. (2023). Measuring partisan social identity. Paper presented at the 119<sup>th</sup> American Political Science Association Conference.

Hiaeshutter-Rice, D., Madrigal, G., **Ploger, G. W.**, Carr, S., Carbone, M., Battochio, A. F., & Soroka, S. (2023). Identity driven information ecosystems. Paper presented at the 73<sup>rd</sup> International Communication Association Conference.

**Ploger, G. W.** & Weeks, B. E. (2022). Learning about politics from social media? Exploring informational comments and social endorsements on news stories. Paper presented at the 73<sup>rd</sup> International Communication Association Conference.

**Ploger, G. W.** (2022). How perceptions of elite polarization trickle down to the mass public. Paper presented at the 118<sup>th</sup> American Political Science Association Political Communication Pre-Conference.

Choi, S., Soroka, S., & **Ploger, G. W.** (2022). How self-reported and physiologically measured disgust sensitivity predicts climate change risk perceptions. Paper presented at the 72<sup>nd</sup> International Communication Association Conference.

Hegland, A., **Ploger, G. W.**, & Weeks, B. E. (2022). News avoidance in disguise? Investigating the active-or passiveness of the “News-Finds-Me” perception. Paper presented at the 72<sup>nd</sup> International Communication Association Conference.

**Ploger, G. W.** (2022). How news shapes perceptions of ideological and affective polarization. Paper presented at the 72<sup>nd</sup> International Communication Association Conference.

**Ploger, G. W.,** Wlezien, C., Soroka, S., & Traugott, M. (2022). Examining the reciprocal link between media content and public opinion. Paper presented at the 72<sup>nd</sup> International Communication Association Conference.

**Ploger, G. W.** (2020). The causes and consequences of perceived political polarization. Paper presented at the 116<sup>th</sup> American Political Science Association Political Communication Pre-Conference.

**Ploger, G. W.,** Dunaway, J., Fournier, P., & Soroka, S. (2020). The psychophysiological correlates of cognitive dissonance. Poster accepted at the 70<sup>th</sup> International Communication Association Conference.\*

\*Poster was accepted but authors were unable to present due to COVID-19 pandemic.

Hemphill, C. J., & **Ploger, G. W.** (2018). Is anybody reading this? How environmental management practitioners incorporate public comment. Paper presented at the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the International Association of Impact Assessment.

## **Honors and Awards**

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|            |  |
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| 2023       | Rackham Predoctoral Fellowship   |
| 2023       | Howard R. Marsh Research Grant   |
| 2021       | Converse Miller Fellowship in American Political Behavior              |
| 2020       | Honorable Mention for NSF Graduate Research Fellowship                 |
| 2019       | Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies Graduate Student Research Grant |
| 2018       | Rackham Merit Fellowship   |
| 2017       | Elizabeth Jestrab Chaffee Memorial Scholarship                         |
| 2016, 2017 | Henry & Fannie Clift Kain and Daniel & Jessie McKay Scholarship        |

## **Teaching**

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### **Graduate Student Instructor, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor**

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Winter 2021 | COMM 370 - <i>Social Networks</i>             |
| Fall 2020   | COMM 370 - <i>Social Networks</i>             |
| Winter 2020 | COMM 102 - <i>Media Processes and Effects</i> |
| Fall 2019   | COMM/PSYCH 318 - <i>Media and Violence</i>    |

## **Service**

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### **University of Michigan, Ann Arbor**

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| 2022       | Co-Organizer, Political Communication Working Group Mini-Conference    |
| 2021-2023  | Graduate Student Co-Coordinator, Political Communication Working Group |
| 2020       | Graduate Student Representative, Department of Communication and Media |
| 2020, 2021 | Instructor, Summer Math Camp, Department of Communication and Media    |

## **Additional Training and Experience**

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- 2022 Milan International Summer School of Political Communication
- 2020 Graduate Student Research Assistant, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
- 2019 ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research
- Regression Analysis: Advanced Methods
  - Categorical Data Analysis
  - Causal Inference for the Social Sciences
- 2016-2017 Undergraduate Research Assistant, University of Montana, Missoula