

# Nicole M. Pierski

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## Education

- Ph.D., Sociology, University of California-Irvine  
*Expected 2016*
- 2012 M.A., Sociology, University of California-Irvine
- 2008 B.A., Journalism, European Studies, New York University

## Skills

Qualitative and quantitative research, User Experience, Cognitive walkthroughs, Usability testing, Focus groups, Interviews, Ethnography, Field studies, Surveys, Card Sorts, Content Analysis, Qualitative and quantitative data analysis, Strategic communications, Competitive Analysis, Technical writing, Marketing copy, Developmental editing, Copyediting, Software (Microsoft Office, Dedoose, SPSS, Photoshop)

## Experience

Research Assistant, University of California-Irvine, Irvine CA

2010-Present

*NSF Social-Computational Systems (SoCS) Grant, "Improving Political Deliberation with Computational Supports for Frame Reflection," PI Francesca Polletta and Geraldine Gay*

- Plan and execute cognitive walkthroughs, usability testing, focus groups and surveys for user experience of a web application
- Analyze and present research findings to project stakeholders
- Formulate recommendations for design modifications

*STEM Heuristics Study, PI Andrew Penner*

- Plan and execute ethnography and interview studies of university students' academic experiences
- Analyze and present research findings

*Networks, Computation, and Social Dynamics Lab, PI Carter Butts (2010-2011)*

- Design and conduct statistical analysis of social network users' preferences and habits
- Analyze and present research findings

Teaching Assistant, University of California-Irvine, Irvine CA

2011-Present

- Develop course curriculum, lesson plans, course materials, and assessments for face-to-face and online courses
- Present complex and technical material to lay audiences
- Assist in course administration and student support
- Courses taught: Research Methods, Intro to Sociology, Intro to Social Psychology, Sociology of Gender, Sociology of Age, Computer Research in the Social Sciences, Media Writing

Assistant Account Executive, Mueller Communications Inc., Milwaukee WI

2008-2009

- Assisted in designing, managing, and conducting marketing and public relations campaigns, including creating marketing collateral, event planning, and media and governmental relations

### **Conference Presentations**

- 2013 “Hanging Back or Jumping In? Gender Equality in Deliberation Democracy.” Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (Roundtable). August 2013.
- 2013 Eric Baumer, Francesca Polletta, Nicole Pierski, Christopher Celaya, Karen Rosenblatt, and Geraldine Gay. “Developing Computational Supports for Frame Reflection.” In Proceedings of the iConference (Fort Worth, TX).
- 2011 “Taking Privacy to the Next Level: A Multinational Look at Facebook.” Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (Roundtable). August 2011.
- 2011 “Semantic Networks in the Political Blogosphere.” (With Carter T. Butts.) 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Political Networks Conference and Workshops, Ann Arbor, MI. June 2011.
- 2011 “Comparative Analysis of Classroom Interactions Using Relational Event Models.” (With Chris Dubois, Carter T. Butts, and Dan McFarland.) International Network for Social Network Analysis (INSNA) 31<sup>st</sup> Sunbelt Conference, St. Pete’s Beach, FL. February 2011.

### **Publications**

- In Press Catherine Bolzendahl and Nicole Pierski. “Parental Leave” in *Encyclopedia of Family Studies*, Ed. Constance L. Shehan. Wiley-Blackwell.

### **Awards and Grants**

- 2013 Department of Sociology Summer Research Fellow. University of California-Irvine. \$1,000.
- 2012 ACM Web Science 2012, Best Student Paper Award. Evanston, Illinois. Emma Spiro, Jeannette Sutton, Matt Greczek, Sean Fitzhugh, Nicole Pierski and Carter Butts. “Rumoring During Extreme Events: A Case Study of Deepwater Horizon 2010.”
- 2012 Department of Sociology Summer Research Fellow. University of California-Irvine. \$1,000.
- 2011 NSF Travel Grant to 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Political Networks Conference and Workshops in Ann Arbor, MI. NSF Grant Number SES-0851084. \$680.
- 2011 Department of Sociology Summer Research Fellow. University of California-Irvine. \$1,500.
- 2008 New York University European Studies Award.

### **Service**

- 2012-2013 Mentor, UC-Irvine Department of Sociology, Graduate Student Peer Mentor Program
- 2011-Present Graduate Student Representative, UC-Irvine Academic Senate  
Served on Council for Student Experience, Council on Undergraduate Admissions
- 2011-Present Graduate Student Representative, Council of the UC-Irvine Associated Graduate Students

### **Professional Associations**

- 2010-Present American Sociological Association