

GAVIN PLOGER

University of Pennsylvania & Polarization Research Lab

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Academic Positions

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

Education

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

Hiaeshutter-Rice, D., Madrigal, G., **Ploger, G.**, Carr, S., Carbone, M., Battocchio, A. F., & Soroka, S. (2024). Identity driven information ecosystems. *Communication Theory*.
<https://doi.org/10.1093/ct/qtae006>

Ploger, G. (2024) Polarization all the way down: How coverage of elite and partisan polarization spills over to perceptions of the U.S. mass public. *Political Communication*.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/10584609.2024.2312867>

Mustafaj, M., Madrigal, G., Roden, J., & **Ploger, G.** (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., 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

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

Manuscripts in Preparation

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

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

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

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

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

Ploger, G., Lelkes, Y., & Westwood, S. J. Elite and public attitudes about democratic reforms.

Ploger, G., Lelkes, Y., & Westwood, S. J. Informational utility, selective exposure, and expressive responding.

Ploger, G., Lelkes, Y., & Westwood, S. J. Support for democratic norms is conditional, not consistent.

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

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

Conference Presentations

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Honors and Awards

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

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

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

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

Additional Training and Experience

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