

WILL MARLER

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 Department of Communication and Cognition
 School of Humanities and Digital Sciences
 Tilburg University
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CURRENT APPOINTMENT

2022 Assistant Professor, Department of Communication and Cognition,
 Tilburg University, Tilburg, The Netherlands (with tenure: March 2024)

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

2020 - 2022 Senior Research and Teaching Associate (Oberassistent), Internet Use &
 Society Division, Department of Communication and Media Research
 (IKMZ), University of Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland

2015 - 2020 Teaching and Research Assistant, Department of Communication Studies,
 Northwestern University

2013 - 2015 Teaching and Research Assistant, Department of Jewish, Islamic, and
 Middle Eastern Studies, Washington University in St. Louis

RESEARCH AREAS

Digital inequality, digital ethnography, mobile communication, social media, social
 capital and support, older adults, homelessness, refugees

EDUCATION

2020 **Ph.D., Media, Technology, and Society**
 Department of Communication Studies
 Northwestern University

Dissertation: "Urban Digital Inequality: Adversity and Adaptation in the
 Network Society."

Committee: Eszter Hargittai (co-chair), James Schwoch (co-chair), Gary

Alan Fine, Jeffrey Lane (Rutgers University)

Awards: *Top Dissertation Award* (2020): ICA Mobile Communication Division, International Communication Association (ICA). *Graduate Dissertation Award* (2020): Interpersonal Communication, Northwestern University, Department of Communication Studies.

- 2017 M.A., Media, Technology, and Society,
Department of Communication Studies, Northwestern University
(in pursuit of PhD)
- 2015 M.A., Islamic and Near Eastern Studies
Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures
Washington University in St. Louis
- 2010 B.A., Drury University, May 2010, International Political Studies (major),
Global Studies and Philosophy (minors)

AFFILIATIONS

Faculty Affiliate:

Ageing Network Tilburg University (ANTU), Tilburg University
Networked Mobilities Lab, North Carolina State University (NCSU)

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

2024

Marler, W., Hsu, H., Petry, L., Rice, E. (2024). "Digital Communication and Social Support for Disadvantaged Youth: A Social Network Survey of Youth Experiencing Homelessness." *New Media & Society*.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/14614448241227851>

2023

Marler, W., & Hargittai, E. (2023). Understanding the Evolving Online Learning Landscape: The Case of Science and Religion. *Social Media + Society*, 9(3).
<https://doi.org/10.1177/20563051231192972>

Marler, W., and Hargittai, E. (2023). "Doesn't Seem Like a Place to Interact, or Interact Well": Motivations to Discuss (and Not) Science and Religion on Social Media. *Socius*, 9. <https://doi.org/10.1177/23780231231157685>.

2022

Marler, W., and Hargittai, E. (2022). Division of Digital Labor: Partner Support for Technology Use among Older Adults. *New Media & Society*.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/14614448211068437>.

Marler, W., Hargittai, E., Nguyen, M. H. (2022). Can You See Me Now? Video Gatherings and Social Connectedness during the COVID-19 Pandemic. *The Information Society*, 38(1), 36-50. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01972243.2021.2007193>

2021

Marler, W. (2021). "You Can't Talk at the Library": The Leisure Divide and Public Internet Access for People Experiencing Homelessness. *Information, Communication & Society*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1369118X.2021.2006742>

Marler, W. (2021). "You Can Connect with, Like, the World!": Social Platforms, Survival Support, and Digital Inequalities for People Experiencing Homelessness. *Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication*, 27(1).
<https://doi.org/10.1093/jcmc/zmab020>

Nguyen, M. H., Hargittai, E., & **Marler, W.** (2021). Digital Inequality in Communication During a Time of Physical Distancing: The Case of Covid-19. *Computers in Human Behavior*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chb.2021.106717>

Nguyen, M. H., Gruber, J., **Marler, W.**, Hunsaker, A., Fuchs, J., & Hargittai, E. (2021). Staying connected while physically apart: Digital communication when face-to-face interactions are limited. *New Media & Society*.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/1461444820985442>

2020

Nguyen, M. H., Gruber, J., Fuchs, J., **Marler, W.**, Hunsaker, A., & Hargittai, E. (2020). Changes in Digital Communication During the COVID-19 Global Pandemic: Implications for Digital Inequality and Future Research. *Social Media + Society* 1-6. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2056305120948255>

Hargittai, E., Nguyen, M. H., Fuchs, J., Gruber, J., **Marler, W.**, Hunsaker, A., & Karaoglu, G. (2020) From Zero to a National Data Set in Two Weeks: Reflections on a COVID-19 Collaborative Survey Project. *Social Media + Society*, 6(3).
<https://doi.org/10.1177/2056305120948196>

2019

Marler, W. (2019). Accumulating Phones: Aid and Adaptation in Phone Access for the Urban Poor. *Mobile Media & Communication*, 7(2), 155-174.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/2050157918800350>

2018

Marler, W. (2018). Mobile phones and inequality: Findings, trends, and future directions. *New Media & Society* 20(9).
<https://doi.org/10.1177/1461444818765154>

Book Chapters

Marler, W. (forthcoming). Studying CMC in the context of poverty: Relationships, resources, and identity *The Handbook of Relational and Computer-mediated Communication*. Editors: Artemio Ramirez, Jr., Erin Sumner, Jeff Hall, Bree McEwan. Routledge.

Lane, J. & **Marler, W.** (2020). Networked Street Life. *The Oxford Handbook of Sociology and Digital Media*. Editors: Deana A. Rohlinger and Sarah Sobieraj. Oxford University Press.

Marler, W. (2020). Ethnography of Homelessness in the Digital Age. *Research Exposed: How Empirical Social Science Gets Done in the Digital Age*. Editor: Eszter Hargittai. Columbia University Press.

AWARDS, GRANTS, and SCHOLARSHIPS

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| 2026 | <i>NWO Open Competition XS Grant</i> , €50,000, Dutch Research Council (NWO), "Participatory Approach to Digital Integration for Refugees in the Netherlands". |
| 2023 | <i>Research Starter Grant</i> , €300,000, Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture, and Science (OCW). "Digital Inequality and Social Connectedness: Refugees, Older Adults, and Beyond". |
| 2021 | Nomination for Department Teaching Award, "Communication, Technology, and Urban Life," MA lecture, Spring 2021, Institute for Communication and Media Research (IKMZ), University of Zurich |
| 2021 | <i>Top Dissertation Award</i> . Mobile Communication Division. International Communication Association (ICA). |

- 2021 *Graduate Dissertation Award: Interpersonal Communication*. Northwestern University Department of Communication Studies
- 2019 *Top Student Paper Award*. "Connective Ambition and Creative Caution: Facebook Use among Unstably Housed Adults in Chicago." The Research Conference on Communications, Information, and Internet Policy (TPRC), Washington, D.C., September 21-22
- 2019 *Travel Award*, Buffett Institute for Global Affairs, Northwestern University
- 2018 *Research Ignition Grant*, School of Communication, Northwestern University
- 2018 *Graduate Research Grant*, The Graduate School, Northwestern University
- 2015 *Graduate Fellowship*, The Brady Scholars Program in Ethics and Civic Life, Northwestern University
- 2014 *Fellowship*, Advanced Turkish Language Studies, American Research Institute in Turkey (ARIT), Summer Language Course, Bosporus University, Istanbul
- 2014 *Fellowship*, Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS), Arabic, U.S. Department of Education (declined)
- 2010-2011 *Fulbright Fellowship*, English Teaching Assistant (ETA), Turkey, U.S. Fulbright Commission

TEACHING

Certification and Training

- 2023 – now University Teaching Qualification (BKO) (ongoing), Tilburg University

Communication and Media Studies

- 2023 *Social Media Risks & Opportunities*, MA, Department of Communication and Cognition, Tilburg University (co-taught, course development, ~130 students, lecture)
- 2023 *Methodology for Premasters*, Department of Communication and Cognition, Tilburg University (co-taught, course development, ~140 students, lecture and seminar)

- 2023 *Language Technology and Society*, MA, Department of Communication and Cognition, Tilburg University (co-taught, course development, ~80 students, lecture and seminar)
- 2022 *Research Skills: Interviews*, MA, Department of Communication and Cognition, Tilburg University (co-taught, course development, ~40 students, weekly lecture and seminar)
- 2021 *Communication, Technology, and Urban Life*, MA, Department of Media and Communication Research (IKMZ), University of Zurich (course design, ~70 students, weekly lecture, hybrid)
- 2020 *Public Speaking*, Northwestern Prison Education Program (NPEP), Cook County Jail, Chicago, IL (course design, 12 incarcerated students)
- 2019 *Learning and Organizational Change*, BA, School of Education and Social Policy, Northwestern University (course design, twice/weekly seminar, ~20 students)
- 2018 *The Civically Engaged Life*, BA, part of civic engagement program: Brady Scholars Program, Department of Philosophy, Northwestern University (weekly seminar, student-project-based, 14 students)
- 2016 *Public Speaking*, BA, School of Communication, Northwestern University (course design, twice/weekly seminar, ~15 students)

Teaching Assistant

- 2020 *Media Effects*, School of Communication, Northwestern University
- 2019 *Introduction to Community Development*, School of Education and Social Policy, Northwestern University
- 2018 *Theories of Persuasion*, School of Communication, Northwestern University
- 2018 *Theories of Mediated Communication*, School of Communication, Northwestern University
- 2017 *Theories of Persuasion*, School of Communication, Northwestern University
- 2016 *Communication and Culture*, School of Communication, Northwestern University

ADVISING

- 2024 - now PhD supervisor, Maud van Roessel, Department of Communication and Cognition, Tilburg University
- 2022 - now Yearly supervision of 6-10 MA theses; interview, survey, and content analysis methodologies, among others; Department of Communication and Cognition, Tilburg University
- 2021 MA Thesis, Lukas Hess, "Coping Strategies in Smartphone Use by Political Activists," Department of Communication and Media Research, University of Zurich

PROFESSIONAL ROLES AND SERVICE

Research:

- 2023 - now Research Theme Coordinator, Tilburg University, "Language variation, literacy and inclusion in the digital society", Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture, and Science "Sector Plans" National Research Funding Initiative.

Editor:

Guest Editor (co-editor), Special Issue of *Mobile Media & Communication*: "Homelessness and Mobile Media," forthcoming 2024, with Justine Humphrey, Maren Hartmann, and David Lowis.

Reviewer:

Journals: Information, Communication, and Society; Journal of Communication; Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication; Mobile Media & Communication; New Media & Society; Media & Communication; and others

Conferences: International Communication Association (ICA), Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR), Human Factors in Computing Conference (CHI), and others

Service to University and Field:

- 2022, '23 Faculty Mentor, PhD Research Escalator, Communication and Technology (CAT) Division, International Communication Association (ICA)

- 2021 Coordinator, IKMZ Speaker Series, Department of Communication and Media Research, University of Zurich
- 2020 Co-Coordinator, Graduate Student Steering Committee, Department of Communication Studies, Northwestern University
- 2018 Publicity Chair, InfoSocial Graduate Research Conference, School of Communication, Northwestern University

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2024

Community-Engaged Scholarship in Communication Technology: Frameworks and Lessons Learned. *International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference, Communication and Technology (CAT) Division*. Gold Coast, June 2024.

Wellbeing through Social Support across Communication Channels: An Experience Sampling Study. *Etmaal: 24 Hours of Communication Science*. Rotterdam, February 2024.

2023

Social Isolation and Digital Technology: Ethnography of Older Adults and Digital Connection during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Extended Abstract. *International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference, Communication and Technology (CAT) Division*. Toronto, May 2023.

2022

Digital-Only Communication and Social Support for Youth Experiencing Homelessness. Lead Author, Full Paper. *International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference, Communication and Technology (CAT) Division*. Paris, May 2022.

2021

Zoom Calls while Aging/Sheltering in Place: In(ter)dependence and the Uneven Promise of Digital Technology for Older Adults. *Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR), Virtual*, October 2021.

Can You See Me Now?: Video Gatherings and Social Connectedness during the COVID-19 Pandemic" *FoKo Covid-19 Colloquium*. University of Zurich. March 3, 2021.

2020

"And You Can Talk!": Making the Case for Social and Leisure Uses of Public Computers by Unstably Housed Adults, *National Communication Association (NCA) Annual Convention*, Virtual, Nov. 19-22, 2020.

Urban Poverty and Sense-making of Social Media on Public Computers, *8th European Communication Conference (ECREA)*, (postponed Sept 6-9, 2021).

Homelessness and the Digital City: The Role of Technology, Institutions, and People in the Search for Free Internet Access, *EASST + 4S Annual Conference*, Virtual, August 18-21.

Social Support for Strained Ties: Family Communication over Social Media for People Experiencing Homelessness, *11th International Conference on Social Media & Society*, Virtual, July 22-24, 2020.

Third Spaces of Public Internet Access: Evidence from Homeless Patrons at the Library and Non-Profit. *International Communication Association (ICA)*, Online, May 21-15, 2020.

2019

Connective Ambition and Creative Caution: Facebook Use among Unstably Housed Adults in Chicago. *The Research Conference on Communications, Information, and Internet Policy (TPRC)*, Washington, D.C., September 21-22, 2019. **(Award Winner: Top Student Paper)**

Homeless and on Facebook. *International Association of Media and Communication Researchers (IAMCR)*, Madrid, Spain, June 7-11, 2019.

2018

Connective Ambition and Creative Caution among Homeless Users of Facebook. *Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR)*, Montreal, Canada, October 11-13, 2018.

Access through Strategic Adaptation: Mobile Phone Subsidies and the Urban Poor. *International Communication Association (ICA)*, Prague, Czech Republic, May 24-29, 2018.

Panel Presentations

Getting Real to the End: Authenticity in the Closing of Ethnographic Relationships. Panel Presentation (Co-Chair). *International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference, Communication and Technology (CAT) Division*. Toronto, May 2023.

Authenticity at a Distance: Digital Communication for Low-income Older Adults during COVID-19. Panel Presentation (Co-Chair). *International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference, Communication and Technology (CAT) Division*. Toronto, May 2023.

What Kind of Care by Whom? Forms and Sources of Digitally Mediated Care for Unhoused Adults in Chicago. On panel: Homelessness and Digital Communication: A Matter of Care? *International Communication Association (ICA), Virtual*, May 20-17, 2021.

Knowing the South Side: Mediated Storytelling in a Divided City. On panel: Urban Ethnography and Communication: Opening Up the Digital City for Research. *International Communication Association (ICA)*, Gold Coast, May 21-15, 2020.

Homelessness Research in the Digital Age. On panel: Being open about methods: innovations for the study of communication & tech. *International Communication Association (ICA)*, Gold Coast, May 21-15, 2020.

Workshops, Poster Presentations, and Graduate Student Conferences

Participant, Doctoral Student Consortium. *International Communication Association (ICA)*, Washington, D.C. May 23, 2019.

Panelist, Research with Disadvantaged Communities. *InfoSocial Graduate Research Conference*. Evanston, IL, April 12-13, 2019.

Presenter, Making Do with a Free Government Phone: Ethnography as Policy Critique. Graduate Student Colloquium. *The Research Conference on Communications, Information and Internet Policy (TPRC)*, Arlington, Virginia, September 8-9, 2017.

Presenter, Making Do with a Free Government Phone: Ethnography as Policy Critique. Poster. *International Communication Association (ICA)*, San Diego, California, May 25-29, 2017.

Presenter, Making Do with a Free Government Phone: Ethnography as Policy Critique. Design for Underserved Communities Workshop. CSCW. February 25 – March 1, 2017.

INVITED TALKS AND LECTURES

- 2022 Guest, *JCMC: The Discussion Section Podcast*. Episode 2: "Marginalized Communities in the Digital Age."
- 2021 "Accumulating Phones: Mobile Access and Homelessness," Guest Lecture in Course: "Screens and Sidewalks," Instructor: Dr. Burcu Baykurt, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Virtual, October 14.
- 2021 "Ethics of Research with Homeless Populations," Guest Lecture in Course: "Special Topics in Communication Research Methods: Research with Marginalized Populations," Instructor: Dr. Bianca Reisdorf, University of North Carolina-Charlotte, Virtual, October 14.
- 2021 "Mobile Media and Homelessness," Guest Lecture in Course: "Mobile Media," Instructor: Dr. Lillian Boxman-Shabtai, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Virtual, January 22.
- 2020 "Homelessness Research and Human-Computer Interaction: Lessons from the Field," Guest Lecture in Course: "Human-Computer Interaction," Instructor: Dr. Sneha Narayan, Carleton College, Northfield, MN, February 28.
- 2019 "Homelessness and Networked Technologies: Opportunities for Research and Intervention," Michigan Interactive and Social Computing (MISC) Research Group, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, October 22.
- 2019 "The Ethics of Research with Disadvantaged Communities," Panel, InfoSocial Graduate Research Conference, Department of Communication Studies, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, April 12-13.
- 2019 "Research Ethics in Digital Homelessness Ethnography," Guest Lecture in Course, "Design Ethnography," Dr. Sheena Erete, DePaul University College of Computing and Digital Media, Chicago, IL, May 14.
- 2019 "Ethnography of Homelessness in the Digital Age," Guest Lecture in Seminar, "Leveraging Computing and Digital Media to Positively Impact Those Who Experience Homelessness." DePaul University College of Computing and Digital Media, Chicago, IL, May 1.

ADDITIONAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2021 Postdoctoral Researcher for Grant: "Learning about Science and Religion Online: Who, What, Where, How?" PI: Eszter Hargittai. The Sociology of Science and Religion: Identity and Belief Formation, Rice University and University of California, San Diego Regranting Initiative, 2020-2022,

\$182,961

- 2019 Research Assistant, 5G and the Environment, Dr. James Schwoch,
Northwestern School of Communication
- 2016 Research Assistant, Health Communication, Dr. Bruce Lambert,
Northwestern School of Communication

ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Middle Eastern Studies

- 2014 Teaching Assistant, "Introduction to Islamic Civilization," Department of
Jewish, Islamic, and Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, Washington
University in St. Louis
- 2013 Teaching Assistant, "Introduction to Jewish Civilization," Department of
Jewish, Islamic, and Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, Washington
University in St. Louis

English as a Second Language (ESL)

- 2011 Instructor, "English for Theological Study," Department of Theology,
Ankara University (Ankara, Turkey)
- 2010 Instructor, "Academic English," Ahi Evran University (Kirsehir, Turkey)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Member:

International Communication Association (ICA)
Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR)
International Association of Media and Communication Researchers (IAMCR)
National Communication Association (NCA)
Digital Ethnography Working Group (DEWG), Rutgers University
Digital Society Initiative (DSI), University of Zurich

LANGUAGES

English (native), Turkish (intermediate), Dutch (beginner)