Trent Davidson

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EDUCATION

University of Nebraska at Lincoln   Lincoln, NE

Master of Arts, Sociology, Expected conferral 2020

- Interests: Social Psychology, Quantitative Methods, Biosociology, Demography, Network Theory, Neurosociology, Influence Systems, Computational & Mathematical Sociology, Political Sociology, Sociology of Religion
- Interdisciplinary interests: Philosophy (Political Philosophy, Bioethics, and Philosophy of Mind), Psychology (Pathology, Moral Psychology, and Evolutionary Psychology), Anthropology (Ethnography and Biological Anthropology), Economics (Behavioral), and Environmental Studies (Environmental Racism and Population Ethics).

University of California at Santa Barbara   Goleta, CA

Bachelor of Arts, Sociology with Distinction in the Major, 2018

- *Cum Laude*
- Dean's Honors.
- 3.87 GPA in Major courses.

PUBLICATIONS & ACADEMIC CONTRIBUTIONS

2017

- Research Assistant to Dr. Lisa Hajjar: assisted in organizing her book regarding anti-torture lawyering; analyzed and coded interviews with legal workers representing individuals in Guantanamo, suing the government on behalf of torture victims, and working with European lawyers to try to prosecute US officials for torture overseas; constructed a database of said interviews and other resources.
- Senior Honor's Thesis: focused on the psychological mechanism enabling torture and the emergence of "tortureporn"; conducted in-depth public opinion analysis of polling on torture from 1999 onwards; using Python to write a natural language processor, analyzed the Pornhub dataset to examine popularity of "tortureporn" between 2007 and 2018; conducted in-depth video and content analyses using additional natural language processing methods.
- Davidson, Trent. 2018. "Free Will and Determinism in Islam." *The Islamic Studies Notebook: A Manual in Islamic Traditions*. Ed. Brendan Newlon.
- Conducted a meta-analysis on the sociology of morality under the direction of Dr. Alicia Cast and in collaboration with University of Iowa's Dr. Steve Hitlin.

2016

- Conducted an interdisciplinary research project alongside Economics, History, and Environmental Science majors developing a policy analysis for energy production in Japan; contributed extensively through a social analysis of Japanese attitudes, cultural norms, and views of nuclear energy.

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

2018

- UNL Othmer Fellowship ($8,000, renewable up to three years): Awarded based on academic merit and promise.

- UNL Ogle Fellowship ($3,280): Awarded based on academic merit and promise.

2017
- UCSB Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Grant ($750): Awarded to conduct research on the relationship between public endorsement of state-sponsored torture and trends of viewership in torture pornography.

WORKSHOPS & ADDITIONAL TRAINING

2018
- Population Dynamics and the Environment, Santa Fe Institute
- Agent-based Modeling, Santa Fe Institute
- Complexity Science, Santa Fe Institute

RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Research Methods and Statistics: Quantitative Methods, Linear Regression, Analysis of Variance (ANOVA/ANCOVA)
- Statistical Analysis Software and Programming Expertise: SPSS, SAS, Stata, Python

TEACHING

Graduate Teaching Associate, University of Nebraska- Lincoln (2018-)
- Sociology 101: Introduction to Sociology (Fall 2018), Teaching Assistant