Assistant Professor, Computational Social Science
Tenure-Eligible

The Department of Communication Studies at Northwestern University seeks to hire an Assistant Professor in the area of computational social science with an appointment beginning September 1, 2023. The successful candidate will be expected to publish innovative research, contribute directly to undergraduate and graduate instruction in the department, and perform some professional service. We are interested in applicants researching communication from a broad range of potential disciplinary backgrounds. Candidates with a Ph.D. or equivalent in Communication or related fields (e.g., Computer Science, Information Science, Statistics, Mathematics, Political Science, Economics, Psychology, Cognitive Science, or Sociology) are encouraged to apply. Applicants must show exceptional promise as researchers, scholars, teachers, and mentors. A Ph.D. or equivalent is required by date of hire.

We are seeking candidates with expertise in computational social science that includes, but is not limited to, the study of communication and information networks, platforms, and audiences; application to the discovery, understanding and communication of (mis)information; data visualization and communication design; artificial intelligence, machine learning, natural language processing, and text analytics; gathering and analysis of digital trace data, and advanced computational techniques applied to media and organizing. We are also interested in candidates who complement the department’s existing expertise in human-computer interaction, social media, social computing, organizations and ways of organizing, networks, collective intelligence, and computational modeling. We encourage candidates to demonstrate how their research contributes toward social justice and equity, diversity and inclusion, understanding global or marginalized populations, sustainability, or ethical access to information.

Preferred Start Date: September 1, 2023

Salary: Competitive, depending on qualifications and experience.

Application procedure: Applications and supporting documents will be accepted only by online submission here. Materials should include a cover letter, curriculum vitae, and article- or chapter-length writing sample, and the names of three references who may submit confidential letters of recommendation. Applicants are invited to submit an additional statement addressing their past and/or potential contributions to enhancing diversity, equity, and/or inclusion through research, teaching, and/or service. Inquiries about the search may be sent to the Search Chair, Professor Erik Nisbet at erik.nisbet@northwestern.edu.

Application Deadline: December 1, 2022. For full consideration, applications should be submitted by the deadline, but review of applications may continue until the position is filled.

The Department:
The Department of Communication Studies has a highly collaborative, lab-based culture. It offers a popular undergraduate major and multiple professional master’s and cross-school PhD programs that are joint with the McCormick School of Engineering, the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, and the Medill School of Journalism. Through special resources for research support and scholarly event programming, the department offers rich opportunities for scholarly development. The Department of Communication Studies hosts several leading research centers and faculty labs with a full list available at https://communication.northwestern.edu/research. For computationally intensive tasks, all Communication Studies faculty have access to NU’s computing cluster with 4008 64-bit cores running at 2.26GHZ each and 48GB of memory per node. NU’s computing cluster is listed in the Top 500 List.
of supercomputer sites. School of Communication faculty also can have opportunities during their
career at Northwestern to teach and conduct research at the Northwestern University campus in Doha,
Qatar.

**The School:** The School of Communication has five departments and offers a suite of interdisciplinary
undergraduate, professional, and graduate programs. The departments span the communication arts
and sciences including the Department of Radio-Television-Film, the Roxelyn and Richard Pepper
Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, the Department of Communication Studies,
the Department of Performance Studies, and the Department of Theatre (which includes music theatre
and dance). The faculty of over 180 includes 99 tenure-eligible faculty. The school offers instruction to
roughly 1000 undergraduate majors and 650 graduate and professional students. Founded over 144
years ago, the School has been a leader in developing the communication disciplines and professions,
and continues to be a center of excellence in the communication arts and sciences. Our current Dean is
E. Patrick Johnson.

**The University:** Northwestern University is one of the nation’s largest private research universities.
Located on the shore of Lake Michigan, the main campus is in Evanston and the medical campus is 12
miles south in downtown Chicago. There is continuing expansion of University facilities and programs,
particularly in the sciences and medicine. Diverse cultural, social, and recreational activities abound on
and near each campus.

*Northwestern requires all staff and faculty to be vaccinated against COVID-19, subject to limited
exceptions. For more information, please visit our [COVID-19 and Campus Updates](https://www.northwestern.edu/covid19/) website.*

*The Northwestern campus sits on the traditional homelands of the people of the Council of Three
Fires, the Ojibwe, Potawatomi, and Odawa as well as the Menominee, Miami and Ho-Chunk nations.
We acknowledge and honor the original people of the land upon which Northwestern University
stands, and the Native people who remain on this land today.*

*Northwestern University is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer and does not
discriminate against qualified individuals on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex,
pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, parental status, marital status,
age, disability, citizen-ship status, veteran status, genetic information, or any other protected class.
Individuals from all diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply. Hiring is contingent upon eligibility
to work in the United States. For more information, please visit the [University’s Policy on Institutional
Equity](https://www.northwestern.edu/equity/).*