

# Andrei Boutyline

aboutyl@umich.edu

## Curriculum Vitae

### Employment

|                                  |      |   |      |
|----------------------------------|------|---|------|
| University of Michigan           |      |   |      |
| Associate Professor of Sociology | 2025 | — | ...  |
| Assistant Professor of Sociology | 2017 | — | 2025 |

### Education

|                                             |     |      |
|---------------------------------------------|-----|------|
| University of California, Berkeley          | PhD | 2017 |
| Sociology                                   | MA  | 2011 |
| New York University                         | MA  | 2009 |
| Humanities and Social Thought               |     |      |
| University of California, Berkeley          | BA  | 2004 |
| Cognitive Science, Computer Science (minor) |     |      |

### Peer-Reviewed Research

Note: asterisks (\*) indicate graduate student coauthors

- Boutyline, Andrei, and Elle Johnston(\*). Forthcoming (2026). "Forging Better Axes: Evaluating and Improving the Reliability of Semantic Dimensions in Word Embeddings." *Sociological Methods and Research*.
- Kozlowski, Austin, and Andrei Boutyline. Forthcoming (2026). "Semantic Structure of Feature Space in Large Language Models." *Proceedings of the Conference on Language Modeling (COLM 2026)*, San Francisco, CA. <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2604.27169>
- Boutyline, Andrei, and Alina Arseniev-Koehler. 2025. "Meaning in Hyperspace: Word Embeddings as Tools for Cultural Measurement." *Annual Review of Sociology* 51 (Volume 51, 2025):89–107. [doi:10.1146/annurev-soc-090324-024027](https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-soc-090324-024027)
- Boutyline, Andrei, Alina Arseniev-Koehler(\*), and Devin Cornell(\*). 2023. "School, Studying, and Smarts: The Gender of Education Across 80 Years of American Print Media, 1930-2009." *Social Forces*. [doi:10.1093/sf/soac148](https://doi.org/10.1093/sf/soac148)
- Boutyline, Andrei. 2022. "Holding a Position: Public Opinion as Cognition in a Disorganized Field." *Poetics*. [doi:10.1016/j.poetic.2022.101710](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.poetic.2022.101710)
- Boutyline, Andrei, and Laura Sauter(\*). 2021. "Cultural Schemas: What They Are, How to Find Them, and What to Do Once You've Caught One". *American Sociological Review* 86, no. 4 (August): 728-758. [doi:10.1177/00031224211024525](https://doi.org/10.1177/00031224211024525)

- Honorable mention for Outstanding Recent Contribution in Social Psychology Award, ASA Social Psychology section, 2023
  - Honorable mention for Clifford Geertz Prize for Best Article, ASA Culture Section, 2022
- Boutyline, Andrei, Devin Cornell(\*), and Alina Arseniev-Koehler(\*). 2021. "All Roads Lead to Polenta: Cultural Attractors at the Junction of Public and Personal Culture." *Sociological Forum*. doi:[10.1111/socf.12760](https://doi.org/10.1111/socf.12760)
- Commissioned article for special issue on culture & cognition.
- Boutyline, Andrei and Stephen Vaisey. 2017. "Belief Network Analysis: A Relational Approach to Understanding the Structure of Attitudes." *American Journal of Sociology* 122, no. 5 (March): 1371-1447. doi:[10.1086/691274](https://doi.org/10.1086/691274)
- Boutyline, Andrei. 2017. "Improving the Measurement of Shared Cultural Schemas with Correlational Class Analysis: Theory and Method." *Sociological Science* 4: 353-393. May 29, 2017. doi:[10.15195/v4.a15](https://doi.org/10.15195/v4.a15)
- Graduate student paper award, ASA Mathematical Sociology Section, 2015
  - Honorable mention for graduate student paper award, ASA Methodology Section, 2016
- Boutyline, Andrei and Robb Willer. 2017. "The Social Structure of Political Echo Chambers: Variation in Ideological Homophily in Online Networks." *Political Psychology* 38, no. 3 (June): 551-569. doi:[10.1111/pops.12337](https://doi.org/10.1111/pops.12337)

## Patents

- Nepomniachtchi, Grigori and Andrei Boutyline. Two patents for "Method for Applying Signature Simplicity Analysis for Improving the Accuracy of Signature Validation."
- U.S. Patent No. 8,452,098 (2013) and No. 7,787,695 (2010)

## Selected Awards and Honors

- American Sociological Association, Social Psychology Section*. Honorable mention, outstanding recent contribution in social psychology award. 2023.
- American Sociological Association, Culture Section*. Honorable mention, Clifford Geertz prize for best article. 2022.
- American Sociological Association, Section on Methodology*. Honorable mention, best paper award for graduate students. 2016.
- American Sociological Association, Mathematical Sociology Section*. Winner, best paper award for graduate students. 2015.
- National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program*. 2011 – 2014. (\$92,000).
- National Science Foundation Integrated Graduate Education Research Traineeship in Politics, Economics, Psychology, and Public Policy (NSF-IGERT)*. 2010 – 2011. (\$30,000).
- The Herbert and Rose Hirschhorn Thesis Award*. Graduate School of Arts and Science, New York University. 2009.

## Invited Talks

- “Meaning in Hyperspace: Word Embeddings as Models of Culture and Cognition”
- *International Computational Social Science Roundtable*, Institute for Analytical Sociology, Linköping University, Norrköping, Sweden. October 2025.
  - *Management and Organizations Seminar*, Ross School of Business, University of Michigan, February 2025.
  - Keynote talk, XXII Annual International «Vectors» Conference, April 2024.
  - *Worldview Lab*, Kenan Institute of Ethics, Duke University. May 2024.
- “Taming the Wild West: Increasing the Reliability and Validity of Cultural Measurement via Word Embeddings”
- *Polarization and Social Change Lab (PASCL)*. Sociology Dept., Stanford U. May 2023.
- “Cultural Schemas: What They Are, How to Find Them, and What to Do Once You've Caught One”.
- *Culture and Politics Workshop*. Pennsylvania State University. October 2020.
- “School, Studying, and Smarts: The Gender of Education Across 80 Years of American Print Media, 1930-2009”
- *The Knowledge Lab*. University of Chicago. February 2020.
- “What Explains The Systematic Character of Political Attitudes? Evidence from Two Novel Methods for Structural Analysis of Culture”
- *Computational Sociology Working Group*. UCLA. April 2017.
  - *Theory Workshop*. Sociology Dept., University of Iowa. January 2017.
  - *Morality and Hierarchy Workshop*. Sociology Dept., Stanford University. October 2016.
  - *Duke Network Analysis Center*. Duke University. February 2016.
- “The Field Structure of Public Opinion: Theory and Methods for a Cognitive Macro-Sociology”
- *Culture Workshop*. Sociology Department, Duke University. April 2014.
  - *Laboratory for Social Research*. Sociology Dept., Stanford University. November 2013.

## Selected Conference Presentations

- “Surprise: A Minimalist Theory Of Agency”
- *Sociological Science conference*. Stanford, CA. Jun. 2026
- “Meaning in Hyperspace: Word Embeddings as Models of Culture and Cognition”
- *American Sociological Association conference*. Chicago, IL. Aug. 2025.
  - *Sociological Science conference*. Ithaca, NY. Jun. 2025
- “Forging Better Axes: A New Analogy-Based Technique for Improving Cultural Measurement via Word Embeddings”
- *American Sociological Association conference*. Philadelphia, PA. Aug. 2023.
- “Cultural Schemas: a Conceptual Re-Orientations (with Free How-To Guide)”
- *American Sociological Association conference*. Philadelphia, PA. Aug. 2019. (*invited session*)
- “To Hold a Position: Public Opinion as Cognition in a Disorganized Field”
- *American Sociological Association conference*. Montreal, QC. Aug. 2017.
- “The Unbearable Linearity of Being: Measuring Complexity of ‘Culture-in-the-Mind’”
- *Culture & Cognition Mini-Conference* (part of ESS). Philadelphia, PA. Feb. 2017.

“Towards a Cognitive Macro-Sociology of Culture”

— *American Sociological Association annual meeting*. Seattle, August 2016 (*invited panel*)

“Belief Network Analysis: Findings from a Novel Structural Methodology”

— *American Sociological Association annual meeting*. Chicago, IL. August 2015.

“Improving the Measurement of Shared Cultural Schemas with Correlational Class Analysis”

— *American Sociological Association annual meeting*. San Francisco, CA. August 2014.

“Belief Network Analysis: A Relational Approach to Understanding the Structure of Attitudes”

— *American Sociological Association annual meeting*, August 2012. Denver, CO.

— *Political Networks conference*, June 2012. Boulder, CO.

— *International Network for Social Network Analysis conference (Sunbelt)*, February 2012. Redondo Beach, CA.

“The Social Structure of Political Echo Chambers: Ideology and Political Homophily in Online Communication Networks”

— *Group Processes conference*. August 2013. New York, NY.

— *American Sociological Association annual meeting*, August 2011. Las Vegas, NV.

— *Political Networks conference*, June 2011. Ann Arbor, MI.

— *European Network of Analytical Sociologists conference*, June 2011. Paris, Fr.

— *International Network for Social Network Analysis (Sunbelt)*, Feb 2011. St. Pete Beach, FL.

## Teaching

*University of Michigan, Dept. of Sociology*

### Graduate

— *Culture and Cognition*

Winter 2018, 2020, 2023.

— *Social Network Analysis*

Winter 2019.

— *Measuring and Modeling Culture workshop*

Fall 2019, Winter 2020, 2022.

### Undergraduate

— *Research Methods*

Winter 2019, Fall 2019, F 2022,

F 2023, W 2023, W 2024,

F 2024, W 2025, W 2026.

— *Culture and Cognition*

Winter 2020, 2022, 2023, 2025, 2026.

— *Introduction to Statistics*

Fall 2017.

### Additional teaching interests

— *Sociology of Culture*

(G, UG)

— *Computational Social Science*

(G, UG)

— *Computational Text Analysis*

(G)

— *Research Methods*

(G)

— *Theory Construction*

(G)

## Departmental Service

University of Michigan, Dept. of Sociology

|                  |                                                     |                   |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Administration   | Director of Graduate Admissions & Recruitment       | 2025 —            |
| Committee member | <i>Culture and Knowledge Preliminary Exam Comm.</i> | 2019–'20, '23–'24 |
|                  | <i>Comm. on Administration of Graduate Affairs</i>  | 2018–'19, '23     |
|                  | <i>Colloquium Committee</i>                         | 2019–'20          |
|                  | <i>Committee on Graduate Admissions</i>             | 2017–'18          |

## Professional Service

|                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Chair-Elect       | ASA Section on Decision Making, Social Networks, and Society. 2026-27.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Ad-hoc reviewer   | <i>American Journal of Sociology, American Sociological Review, Social Forces, American Journal of Political Science, Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, Demography, Poetics, Sociological Methodology, Sociological Methods &amp; Research, Sociological Theory, Social Networks, Social Psychology Quarterly, Socio-Economic Review, British Journal of Sociology, Social Science Research, Socius</i> , and other venues |
| Maintainer        | <i>corclass R</i> package for Correlational Class Analysis (on CRAN)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Member            | American Sociological Association                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Session Organizer | 2024. "Computational Approaches to Culture and Cognition". ASA Social Psychology Section.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Committee member  | 2020. Outstanding graduate student paper award committee. ASA Mathematical Sociology section.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |