

UNCG COMPUTER SCIENCE COLLOQUIUM SERIES



USING DATA SCIENCE TO UNDERSTAND EXTREMIST GROUP FINANCING

GUEST SPEAKER: DR. MEGAN SQUIRE
FRIDAY, APRIL 9TH, 1:00-2:00 PM

ONLINE: <https://go.uncg.edu/cs-colloquium>

Abstract

Data science is a systematic process for applying techniques from statistics, data mining, and machine learning to solve complex problems. In this talk, Dr. Megan Squire will explain how she uses the data science process to understand the complex socio-technical phenomena that drive online hate, including how hate groups finance their propaganda and activities. Dr. Squire's research on extremist group financing has been featured in The New York Times, The Guardian, WIRED, and numerous other venues.

Bio

Dr. Megan Squire is a professor of Computer Science at Elon University. Her main research area is applying data science techniques to understand niche and extremist online communities, particularly radical right-wing groups on social media. Dr. Squire is the author of two books on data cleaning and data mining, and over 40 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters, including several Best Paper awards. In 2017, she was named the Elon University Distinguished Scholar. She currently serves as a Senior Fellow for data analytics at the Southern Poverty Law Center, and as a Senior Fellow and head of the Technical Research Unit at the Center for Analysis of the Radical Right.