William Brannon

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77 Mass Ave, Bldg E14
Cambridge, MA 02139

Education

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (in progress)
Ph.D., Media Arts and Sciences (MIT Media Lab) Cambridge, MA
- Research interests: natural language processing, graph methods, and applications to large-scale media ecosystems.
- Advisor: Deb Roy

Massachusetts Institute of Technology 2020
S.M., Media Arts and Sciences (MIT Media Lab) Cambridge, MA
- Transferred from the Social and Engineering Systems program (2017 - 2019).

College of William & Mary 2011
B.S., Mathematics and International Relations Williamsburg, VA
Summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa
- Exchange student, University of Münster, 2010.
- RA in the AidData project for data-driven approaches to foreign aid.

Publications

Conference Proceedings

RadioTalk: A Large-Scale Corpus of Talk Radio Transcripts
    Beeferman, Doug, William Brannon, and Deb Roy
    Interspeech, 2019, Graz, Austria

Theses

Mapping U.S. Talk Radio: A Textual Survey at Scale
    Brannon, William
    S.M. Thesis, 2020

Teaching

College of William & Mary 2009
Teaching Assistant Williamsburg, VA
- Taught a weekly recitation section for German 101.

Service

Monitor Journal of International Studies 2009
Publicity Director Williamsburg, VA

Awards and Grants

- **Elsa Diduk Fellowship**. College of William & Mary, 2010. Support for study in Germany.

- **Monroe Scholar**. College of William & Mary, 2008. $3000 for summer research support, awarded to top 7% of students.

- **Word Power Challenge Scholarship**. Reader's Digest, 2007 - 2011. Tuition assistance of $25,000 for undergraduate study.

Professional Experience

Democratic National Committee   2015 - 2017
Data Scientist   Washington, DC

- Led DNC Data Science work on fundraising analytics, including developing research agendas and design/analysis of experiments.
- Seconded to the Hillary Clinton campaign in 2016: testing, experiments and election-night reporting.

Analyst Institute   2013 - 2015
Director of Analytics   Washington, DC

- Managed a team of five analysts in implementing and analyzing 100+ political field experiments.

Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee   2013
Analytics Manager   Washington, DC

Presidential Inaugural Committee   2012 - 2013
Lead Digital Analyst   Washington, DC

Obama for America   2012
Deputy Data Director / Associate Analyst   Chicago, IL

William & Mary Global Research Institute   2011 - 2012
Project Manager   Williamsburg, VA

- Managed two international surveys on the foreign policy opinions of academics and senior policy-makers.

Software

- **Ado**: Open-source Stata interpreter (in R / C++), including a Stata parser and command implementations. Currently in alpha. ([Link](#)).

- **sqlscore**: R utilities for database-backed scoring of generalized linear models ([Link](#)).

- **schemeR**: A Lisp-like mini-language for R, including support for macros ([Link](#)).

Languages

- **English** (native)

- **German** (fluent)

Memberships

International Speech Communication Association, Association for Computational Linguistics