

Omar Olivarez

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University of Texas at Austin

Department of Psychology

108 E Dean Keaton St, Austin, TX 78712

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Emerging technology, artificial intelligence, the future of work, algorithmic bias, group dynamics, power and status, socio-economic inequality

CURRENT APPOINTMENTS

Associate Software Engineer 2018 – Present
Southwest Airlines; Dallas, TX

Part-time Research Assistant 2017 – Present
Department of Psychology at The University of Texas; Austin, TX
Advisors: Drs. Kate Blackburn, James Pennebaker

EDUCATION

The University of Texas at Austin, Canfield Business Honors Program May 2018
B.B.A. in Business Honors and Management Information Systems
Certificate: Computer Science

PUBLICATIONS

Olivarez, O., Hardie, R., & Blackburn, K. (2018). The language of romance: An open vocabulary analysis of the highest rated words used in romance novels. *Journal of Language and Social Psychology*, 37(6), 1-12. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0261927X18793976>

Write web-scraping script to extract language data for study, perform classification of thematic word clusters, present findings at 2018 Society for Personality & Social Psychology conference.

SUBMISSIONS IN PREPARATION

Blackburn, K., **Olivarez, O.**, Brody, N., Ashokkumar, A., Pennebaker, J. W., & Boyd, R. L. (in preparation). We win some, they lose some: A replication and conceptual extension of Cialdini's BIRG. Submission under consideration at *Psychological Science*.

Use R programming to clean and process 7 million social media posts, integrate R visualization libraries to create time series plots, present findings at Society for Personality and Social Psychology 2020 conference.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Blackburn, K., **Olivarez, O.**, Brody, N., Ashokkumar, A., Pennebaker, J. W., & Boyd, R. L. (2020, February). *We win some, they lose some: A replication and conceptual extension of Cialdini's BIRG*. Poster presented at the Society of Personality and Social Psychology Conference, Atlanta, GA

Olivarez, O., Hardie, R., Blackburn, K. (2018, March). *The language of romance: An open vocabulary analysis of the highest rated words used in romance novels*. Poster presented at the Society of Personality and Social Psychology Conference, Atlanta, GA

Olivarez, O., (2018, March) *Looking for Love*, Research presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Pre-conference, Atlanta, GA

Olivarez, O., (2017, May) *4 Years Post-breach, Target-Customer Relationship Continues to Suffer*, Oral Presentation at the Management Information Systems Capstone Presentations, Austin, TX

MEDIA COVERAGE

Research featured in the *San Francisco Chronicle* "What if Romance Novels Reveal What Women Really Want?" by Maggie Gordon (9-29-2018)

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/entertainment/books/article/Finally-an-answer-to-What-do-women-want-13190841.php>

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, & AWARDS

The PhD Project Fall 2021 fellow	2020
Correlation One Data Science Fellowship <i>A 5-month online program taught by Harvard's Dr. Pillai to learn business-focused data science.</i>	2020 – 2021
National Alliance on Mental Illness (Dallas Chapter) Volunteer of the Year Award	2020
High-Value Detainee Interrogation Group (HIG); \$500 FBI Funding Proposal for #BAA15F06718R0006603	2018 – 2021
Yale Emerging Leaders Scholar; \$500	2019
Business Honors Program Outstanding Student Award; \$2,000	2018
Awarded <i>2nd Place Overall Best Solution, Best Financial Solution, Best Transaction Hack</i> at TAMUHack; \$750	2018
Awarded <i>Best Designed Solution</i> at HackUTD; \$250	2018
Box Inc. Business Fellowship; \$400	2017
Awarded <i>Best Use of Data Visualization, Best Retail Solution</i> at HackTX; \$100	2017
Awarded <i>Best Simulation Using Health and Financial Data</i> at EarthHack; \$250	2017
Morgan Stanley LGBT Early Insights Participant	2016
Awarded <i>Best Regional Solution, Best Global Solution</i> at Indigitous #HACK; \$60	2016
Awarded <i>Best Solution to Address Online Harassment</i> at HackTX; \$50	2016
2 nd Place Team McCombs Real Estate Case Competition; \$50	2015
2 nd Place Team McCombs Social Impact Case Competition	2015

University of Texas Outstanding President's Achievement Scholar; \$50,000	2014
Texas Exes Scholar; \$1,000	2014
Terry Foundation Scholar; \$36,400	2014
Gelman Constitutional Scholar; \$2,700	2013

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Research Assistant 2017 – Present

The University of Texas at Austin, Department of Psychology; Austin, TX

Advisors: Drs. Kate Blackburn, James Pennebaker

Studies: Cialdini BIRG expansion in the context of online NFL fans' language (current), The language of romance, Body language experiments, Study of linguistic markers of racism and historic nostalgia, Study of language in online dating

- Code in R and Python to clean, process, and visualize large (> 16Gb) language datasets
- Conduct 12 1-hour body movement experiments
- Train peer on how to conduct body movement experiments
- Present at 2 SPSP conferences, a SPSP Data Blitz pre-conference, and during lab sessions

Research Assistant 2020 – Present

Harrisburg University of Science and Technology, Department of Social Analytics; Harrisburg, PA

Advisors: Dr. Kayla Jordan

Studies: Power dynamics in the US political party system (current)

- Code in R to clean congressional hearings dataset, merge with other dataset, create visualizations

Summer Research Assistant Summer 2020

James Pennebaker Summer Language Lab; Austin, TX

- Host R training sessions for 6 lab peers to disseminate technical knowledge
- Prepare Cialdini replication paper for publication

Summer Research Intern Summer 2013

Texas A&M University, College of Education and Human Development; College Station, TX

Advisors: Dr. Glenda Bryns

Studies: Barriers to education in south Texas communities

- Studied environmental factors affecting educational attainment in south Texas Hispanic communities

WORK EXPERIENCE

Associate Software Engineer 2018 – Present

Southwest Airlines, Crew & Safety Technology; Dallas, TX

- Migrate thick Java client application to AWS Cloud to generate \$100k+ in company savings
- Own the planning, design, development, testing, customer communication for auditing application
- Automate customers' data entry process and import 10,000 data points to application

- Perform DevOps function to 10 applications over 8-month period parallel to development work
- Research application connectivity to external systems

Program Manager 2019 – Present

Southwest Airlines, Technology Onboarding Program; Dallas, TX

- Set the program’s yearly agenda and budget in partnership with 6-person leadership team
- Establish DEI initiatives within the program and onboard the program’s first DEI Lead
- Communicate to stakeholders: Program’s 200 members, 20 Technology directors, executive sponsor

Founder & Photographer 2020 – Present

Yuri Alexanders Photography; Dallas, TX

- Provide photography services to 20 families in the Texas area

Canfield Business Honors Program Peer Mentor Fall 2017

McCombs School of Business; Austin, TX

- Mentored 10 business freshmen by sharing access to campus resources and fostering camaraderie

Technology Advisory Intern Summer 2017

KPMG, SAP GRC Technology; Dallas, TX

- Assessed the client’s security posture through their application, database, and networking layers

IT Audit Intern Summer 2016

Armor Cloud Security; Dallas, TX

- Assessed the company’s security posture through a Clean Desk audit and ISO:27001 audit
- Generated 1 executive report and 16 departmental reports to communicate audit findings

Computer Help Desk Associate 2015 – 2018

The Perry–Castañeda Library; Austin, TX

- Helped library’s 1,000 morning patrons with software, hardware, and locating technical resources

Campus Event Planner 2014 – 2016

University of Texas Division of Housing; Austin, TX

- Coordinated inclusive monthly events consisting of up to 5,000 residents of UT Austin campus

¡VIVA! Peer Tutor 2012 – 2014

National Library of Medicine; Edinburg, TX

- Presented English/Spanish content regarding medical resources to medically underserved community

SERVICE

Latinitas Startup Conference

Fall 2020

Mentor 6 girls through business development process during Latinitas Startup Chica conference

CLIMB Lab Fall 2020

Update Computers, Language, Individuals, & Modern Behavior Lab site using HTML and CSS.

Canfield Business Honors Program Mentorship Program Fall 2020

Share advice and facilitate career discussions with undergraduate business student

Summer Language Lab Summer 2020

Led data analysis sessions for peers in Psychology summer lab

Los Exponentialistas (The Exponentialists) Summer 2020

Create Spanish online content to teach product development to 50 Latin American students

Canfield Business Honors Program Fall 2018

Make-A-Mark Scholarship Endowment donor; \$500

Austin State Hospital 2017 – 2018

Coordinated photography, social media efforts for Austin State Hospital's annual fundraiser

COMMUNITY IMPACT MEMBERSHIPS

Lead Presenter & Multi-cultural Awareness Panel Speaker 2020 – Present

National Alliance on Mental Illness; Dallas, TX

Largest grassroots mental health advocacy group in the US

Dallas Chapter Founder 2020 – Present

Out in STEM (oSTEM) Dallas Chapter; Dallas, TX

Non-profit professional society focused on LGBTQ people in STEM

Digital Marketing Mentor 2020 – Present

COVID-19 Business Fellowship; Chicago, IL

Initiative connecting young professionals with small businesses to solve issues relating to COVID-19

Founder, Board Member, & Profesor de Desarrollo de Productos 2016 – Present

The Exponentialists; Austin, TX

Non-profit startup providing business education and entrepreneurship training in the US and Latin America

Adult Financial Literacy Curriculum Development Lead 2015 – 2018

Capital Community; Austin, TX

Non-profit organization providing financial literacy education to underserved Texas communities

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Association of Latino Professionals For America (ALPFA)

Dear Future Colleague

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
Out in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (oSTEM)
Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)
Techqueria
Texas Exes

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Data analysis: Python; pandas; numpy; R; ggplot2; dplyr; tidy; SQL; Waikato Environment for Knowledge Analysis (WEKA)

Language analysis: Language Inquiry Word Count (LIWC); Meaning Extraction Helper (MEH); Word Embedding Likeness Perusal (WELP)

Application programming: CSS; Docker; git; HTML; Java; Jenkins; Swift (iOS); Xcode