

# EVIE PSARRAS

New Media & Communication Ph.D.  
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## RESEARCH EXPERTISE

Branding, Celebrity Culture, Cultural Studies, Fandom & Audience Studies, Identity, Media Representations of Race, Class, & Gender, Reality TV, Social Media, Social Class & Inequality

## EDUCATION

Ph.D. New Media and Communication January 2020  
University of Illinois at Chicago  
Advisor: Dr. Zizi Papacharissi, Professor & Head

M.A. Sociology, with Distinction November 2013  
DePaul University  
College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences

B.A. Media Studies, Summa Cum Laude June 2009  
DePaul University  
College of Communication

## PUBLICATIONS

Drenten, J. and Psarras, E. (2021). Digital Ventriloquism and Celebrity Access: The Emergence of Paid Puppeteering through Cameo. *New Media & Society*. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/14614448211041175>.

Psarras, E., Stein, K., Shah, P. (2021). “The right reasons:” Using ‘The Bachelorette’ as a Launchpad to Instafame. *Feminist Media Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14680777.2021.1984276>.

Psarras, E. (2020). “It’s a mix of authenticity and complete fabrication” Emotional camping: The cross-platform labor of the Real Housewives. *New Media & Society*, 23(1). doi.org/10.1177/1461444820975025.

Psarras, E. (2017). From a western phenomenon to a global phenomenon: A comparative cultural analysis of reality TV in the USA and China. *The Journal of Communication and Media Studies*, 2(2), 17-31. doi:10.18848/2470-9247/CGP/v02i02/17-31.

Psarras, E. (2015). We all want to be big stars: The desire for fame and the draw to the 'Real Housewives'. *Clothing Cultures*, 2(1), 51-72. doi: 10.1386/cc.2.1.52\_1.

Psarras, E. (September 24, 2015). Ordinary Fame: Perpetuating gendered stereotypes and double standards on 'Bachelor in Paradise'. *The New School: New Criticals*, <http://www.newcriticals.com/ordinary-fame>.

### **In-review**

Macon, J. and Psarras, E. (2021). Celebrity Political Voice on Instagram. *New Media & Society*. (In Review as of 8/20/21).

### **CONFERENCE PAPERS**

Psarras, E. "Money talks, wealth whispers' Real Housewives' Legacy: Class Ambivalence and Emotional Camping." Presented at the 2020 **Midwest Popular Culture Association** conference, Virtual Presentation, October 2, 2020.

Psarras, E. "After the Final Rose": Analyzing 'The Bachelor' and Public Performances of Masculinity on Instagram." Presented at the 2019 **Cultural Studies Association** conference at Tulane University in New Orleans, LA, May 31, 2019.

Psarras, E. "Money doesn't give you class, it just gives you money': Performances of class in the field of Real Housewives." Presented at the **National Communication Association** conference in Salt Lake City, UT, November 9, 2018.

Psarras, E. "Everything from the nineties is getting a reboot,' Fan culture, creativity, and community: Reviving #BeverlyHills90210 on Instagram." Presented at the **Fan Studies North America** conference in Chicago, IL at DePaul University, October 25, 2018.

Psarras, E and NeSmith, N. "After the final rose: Assessing 'Bachelorette' self-love and public identity formation on Instagram." Presented at the 2018 **Association of Internet Researchers** in Montreal, Quebec CA, October 10-13 2018.

Appignani, T. and Psarras, E. "Out and down in Beverly Hills: A critical cultural analysis of blind-item gossip." Presented at the **Cultural Studies Association** conference at Carnegie Mellon University, May 31, 2018.

Psarras, E. "I'm an expert on luxury, and I can always spot a fake": Visualizing Real Housewives Across Platforms." Accepted for presentation at the **International**

**Communication Association's Young Scholars Preconference** in San Diego, CA, May 25, 2017.

Psarras, E. "Class ambivalence, schadenfreude, and 'Real Housewives': A frame analysis exploring the cultural potency of the Bravo reality TV series." Accepted for presentation at the 2017 **National Popular Culture/American Culture Association** conference in San Diego, CA, April 2017.

Psarras, E. "'I may be an actress, but that doesn't mean I'll stick to your script': A cross platform frame analysis of Real Housewives of Beverly Hills." Accepted for presentation at the 2017 **Center for Media and Celebrity Studies** conference in Los Angeles, CA, March 2017.

Psarras, E. "'In Beverly Hills you can be anything, but it's most important to be yourself': Exploring the branded-women of 'Real Housewives' on Instagram." Presented at the 2016 **Midwest Popular Culture/American Culture Association** conference in Chicago, IL, October 9, 2016.

Psarras, E. "From a western phenomenon to a global phenomenon: Reality TV in the U.S., China, and Arab nations." Presented at the Inaugural **Communication & Media Studies** conference in Chicago, IL, September 2016.

Appignani, Tim and Psarras, E. "'Everyone in this town is so full of it': Social class via cultural contexts in the 'Real Housewives' series." Presented at the **Cultural Studies Association** conference at Villanova University, Philadelphia, PA, June 2016.

Psarras, E. "Is gossip good? 'Be very afraid': A discourse analysis of D-Listed." Presented at the **Media Sociology** pre-conference at Northwestern University, Chicago, IL, August 2015.

## **MEDIA INTERVIEWS**

*Chicago Tribune*, expert interview on trolling and racism in *The Bachelor* franchise: [The Bachelor Franchise](#).

*Quartz*, Atlantic Media, expert interview on reality TV and social media influencers: ["Sociologists are using the bachelorette Instagram posts to study modern femininity"](#)

*Yahoo! News Canada*, expert interview on social media, the exploitation of people online & media ethics. ["Debby from Toronto's tragic death is a cautionary tale for media, social media audiences everywhere."](#)

*Dame Magazine*, expert interview on reality TV's villain edit and duty of care measures for participants. ["How Reality TV Fails its Stars."](#)

*Rosebuds*, Podcast, expert interview on social media influencers and *The Bachelor & The Bachelorette*: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/id1253730396>.

*Centre for Media & Celebrity Studies* live interview with Dr. Samita Nandy on the state of celebrity studies: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W2Ifq7zzlm0>.

*Centre for Media & Celebrity Studies* Instagram Live interview on #FreeBritney with Drs. Tamar Salibian and Samita Nandy: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TxaT0lZ0GoU>.

*Centre for Media & Celebrity Studies* interview on StreamYard, “Working Actors in Hollywood,” with Dr. Samita Nandy, Casey Lloyd, and George Tsouris: <http://cmc-centre.com/live-talk-june-25-working-actors-in-hollywood/>.

## TEACHING

### Loyola University Chicago

- COMM 273: Interpersonal Communication Winter 2021

### DePaul University

- MCS 343: Media Ethics Winter 2021
- MCS 575: Digital Media Ethics Winter 2021
- CMNS 570: Introduction to Digital Communication Winter 2020
- MCS 274: Diversity and Inclusion in Cinema and TV Spring 2020 - 2021

### University of Illinois at Chicago

- COMM 100: Fundamentals of Human Communication Fall 2014 – 2020
- COMM 102: Interpersonal Communication Summer 2016 – Spring 2020
- COMM 103: Introduction to Mass Media Spring 2018 – Spring 2019

### Elmhurst College

- COMM 114: Interpersonal Communication Fall 2019 – Winter 2020

## INVITED TALKS

“State of Celebrity Studies” Live Chat with Dr. Samita Nandy for the Center for Media & Celebrity Studies, June 2021: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W2Ifq7zzlm0>.

“Doing Qualitative Research: In-Depth Interviews,” guest lecture in Dr. Greg Scott’s Qualitative Research Methods course, DePaul University, May 2014.

“Reality Television and Social Media Use,” guest lecture in Dr. Deena Weinstein’s Mass Media and Society course, DePaul University, November 2013.

“The Profusion of Reality TV and Celestoid-Celebrity,” guest lecture in Dr. Deena Weinstein’s Sociology of Celebrity course, DePaul University, September 2013.

## **PARTICIPATION**

- **DePaul Online Teaching Series (DOTS) Training** – Summer 2020 with DePaul University, Intensive Online Teacher Training, with emphasis on pedagogy in the time of COVID-19.
- **Oxford Internet Institute** – Summer Doctoral Program at University of Oxford, Oxford, England during July 3-14, 2017 (<http://sdp.oii.ox.ac.uk/>).
- **Digital Media Research Centre** - Summer School Program at Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia during February 6-10, 2017 (<http://dmrcss.org>).
- **University of Illinois-Chicago**, Communication Pedagogy Course Completion, with Distinction, Fall 2017.

## **AWARDS/SCHOLARSHIPS/TRAVEL GRANTS**

- **Early Career Representative** of the Popular Communication Division, International Communication Association
- **International Communication Association Student Teaching Award**, 2017
- Recipient of **Student Travel Grant Award** from the Cultural Studies Association, annual conference May 2019.
- Recipient of **Popular Communication Travel Grant** from the International Communication Association, annual conference May 2019.
- **Assistantships** for the Fall 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018; Spring 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019; Summer 2016, 2019 semesters, by the Department of Communication, University of Illinois at Chicago
- Recipient of the **PhD Student Travel Award** from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Illinois at Chicago, September 2016; October 2017
- Recipient of the **PhD Student Travel Award** from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Illinois at Chicago, October 2016.
- Recipient of the **Graduate Student Council Travel Award** from the University of Illinois at Chicago, April 2016; October 2016; November 2018; October 2019.

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Evolve Media, LLC**  
News Writer

Remote  
June 2019 to Current

<b>International Communication Association</b> Social Media Strategist, Popular Media & Culture division	Remote May 2019 to May 2021
<b>Fountainhead Press</b> Consultant	Chicago, IL February 2017 to August 2018
<b>Finkel, Martwick, &amp; Colson, P.C.</b> Legal Assistant	Chicago, IL 2009-2013
<b>Zig Advertising</b> Media Relations	Chicago, IL January to June 2009
<b>WGN-TV</b> Creative Services	Chicago, IL 2008-2009
<b>WXRT-Radio</b> Social Media & Promotions	Chicago, IL 2007-2008

## SERVICE TO THE DISCIPLINE

### Associate Editor

- Common Ground Publishing Journals

### Journal/Article Reviewer

- New Media & Society
- Feminist Media Studies
- The Interdisciplinary Social Sciences Journal Collection
- The International Journal of the Image
- Communication and Media Studies

### Representative

- *International Communication Association Early Career Representative of the Popular Communication Division*
- *Student Representative for University of Illinois at Chicago, Graduate Student Council*

### Session Chair

- *Reality Television Division of the Midwest Pop Culture Association: "Reality TV." October 2020.*
- *Feminist Scholarship Division of the International Communication Association: "Gendered bodies and representations: Feminist understandings of identity and diversity." May 2019.*
- *Popular Communication Division of the International Communication Association: "Popular girlhoods." May 2019.*

### **Conference Reviewer**

- Select Priority Topics, *Association of Internet Researchers*, 2017/2018/2019
- Popular Communication Division, *International Communication Association*, 2017/2018/2019/2020
- Mass Communication Division, *International Communication Association*, 2017/2018/2019
- Student Section, *National Communication Association*, 2016/2017/2018/2019

### **MEMBERSHIPS**

- **Alpha Kappa Delta**, International Honor Society of Sociology
- **Association of Internet Researchers**
- **Communication & Media Studies Knowledge Community**
- **Cultural Studies Association**
- **International Communication Association**
- **National Communication Association**
- The Honor Society of **Phi Kappa Phi**

### **REFERENCES**

Available upon request.