

CHRISTOPHER JOSEPH MILES

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EMPLOYMENT

2026- Present	Indiana University , Bloomington IN Postdoctoral Fellow, Mapping the Structure, Dynamics, and Innovation Processes of Quantum Materials
2024- Present	Indiana University , Bloomington IN Researcher, IEEE Robotics & Automation Society History Project
2024	University of Colorado-Boulder , Boulder CO Instructor, Media, Communication, and Information
2021-24	Cornell University , Ithaca NY Postdoctoral Associate, Natural Resources and the Environment
2012-21	Indiana University , Bloomington IN Associate Instructor, Communication & Culture; Informatics

EDUCATION

2021	Indiana University , Bloomington IN <i>Doctor of Philosophy</i> , double major: Informatics (Computing, Culture, & Society); Communication and Culture (Film & Media Studies) Dissertation: <i>Data Farm: Precision Agriculture and the Government of Nature</i> Co-Chairs: Eden Medina and Theodore Striphas
2009	New York University , New York NY <i>Master of Arts</i> , Cinema Studies
2005	SUNY Oswego , Oswego NY <i>Bachelor of Arts</i> , double major: History; Broadcasting & Mass Communication

PUBLICATIONS

- 2026** Christopher Miles and Stephen Wolf. “‘Capital is Not Coded for Impact:’ A critical analysis of agtech innovation systems and socioecological problems.” *Science, Technology, and Human Values*. Forthcoming.
- 2023** Christopher Miles. “On Agricultural Techniques: *Broadcast, precision*, and the media of culture.” *New Media & Society* 25(8). 1842–1862. DOI: 10.1177/14614448231174519
- 2019** Christopher Miles. “‘The Combine Will Tell the Truth:’ On Precision Agriculture and Algorithmic Rationality.” *Big Data & Society* 6(1). <https://doi.org/10.1177%2F2053951719849444>
- 2016** Christopher Miles. Review of *The Cybernetics Moment: or Why We Call Our Age the Information Age* by Ronald R. Kline. *ICON: Journal of the International Committee for the History of Technology* 22. 146-148
- 2015** Christopher Miles and Nancy Smith. “What Grows in Silicon Valley? The Emerging Ideology of Food Technology.” In *The Ecopolitics of Consumption: The Food Trade*, ed. H. Louise Davis, Karyn Pilgrim and Madhudaya Sinha. Lanham: Lexington Books

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

- 2018 - 2019** Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant, National Science Foundation, Award #1755078. Grant awarded in support of research expenses for dissertations in the area of Science, Technology, and Society. (\$9,248)
- College of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Indiana University. Fellowship stipend awarded in recognition of past achievements and future scholarly merit to support dissertation writing and research in its final year. (\$25,000)
- 2017** College Arts and Humanities Institute, Graduate Research Travel Award, Indiana University. (\$800)

- 2016 - 2017** College of Arts and Sciences Graduate Recruitment Fellowship, Indiana University. Yearlong fellowship awarded for writing and research towards the advancement of my dissertation. (\$18,000)
- 2016** Rob Kling Center for Social Informatics Student Research Grant, Indiana University. Competitive campus award given to a doctoral student studying the ways computerization, the Internet, or digital media interact with people, organizations, or society. (\$1500)
- 2015** Virginia Gunderson Award, for “Digital Accessories: On Access as Apparatus,” Communication and Culture, Indiana University. Highest departmental honor; faculty-nominated award for top student paper that year. (\$1000)
- 2013** Brantlinger-Naremore Prize, for “FILIAVIATION: On the Cultural and Technological Evolution of ‘Drones,’” Cultural Studies program, Indiana University. An award for the best graduate essays in Cultural Studies. (\$300)

PRESENTATIONS

- 2025** “Capital is not coded for impact: a critical analysis of agtech innovation systems and socioecological problems,” *Agriculture 4.0, Solution or Repetition Workshop* UC Berkeley, April 26
- 2023** “A Promise of Promise: on agtech development, the gossamer of data, and sustaining the unsustainable,” *4S*, November 8th
- Co-Organizer, *Agtech Innovation Intermediaries and Sustainability Workshop*, Cornell University, October 5-6th
- Discussant, “Digital agricultures and the environment: imaginaries, materialities and governance” panel. *Conference of the Association for the Study of Food and Society (ASFS) and the Agriculture, Food & Human Values Society (AFHVS)*, May 31st
- “The Promise of Promise: Agtech intermediaries & sustainability transitions,” *Science Studies Research Group*, Cornell University, March 20th.

- 2022** “Critical Analyses of Digital Agriculture: Implications for Environment”
Dept. of Natural Resources and Environment Research Seminar, Cornell University, September 27th
- 2021** “From Enclosure of the Commons to Enclosure of the Æther: historicizing *precision agriculture* in the birth of ‘the’ media,” *Society for Cinema and Media Studies*, March 20th
- Co-organizer, “Farm Tech as Media Culture: The Agrarian Roots of Media Studies” panel, *Society for Cinema and Media Studies*, March 20th.
- 2018** “Technology, Control, Farming” *invited talk*, Abode Farm, New Lebanon, NY September 9th
- “Data Farm: On Precision Agriculture and the Political Ecology of Disruption.” *XIX ISA World Congress of Sociology*, Toronto, ON July 15-21st
- 2017** “Democracy Must Be Made Safe for Computing: On the Cultural Origins of Computer Security.” *Society for the History of Technology*. Philadelphia, PA October 26-29th
- “The Shape of Food to Come: On Drones, the Mediation of Nature, and Data Farming,” *Sensor Publics*, Technische Universität München, Munich, Germany, April 5-7th
- “As Below, So Above: Media Farms, Agriculture Drones, and the Quest for Transparent Nature” *Society for Cinema and Media Studies*, Chicago, IL March 22-26th
- Organizer and Chair, “Transparency and Opacity” panel, *Society for Cinema and Media Studies*, Chicago, IL March 22-26th
- 2016** “Data Farm: Drones, Ecology and the Future of Food” *midweSTS workshop*, Chicago, IL September 16-17th
- “Where Does a Body End? On access, accessories, and living media” *4S/EASST*, Barcelona, Spain, August 31 – September 3rd
- 2015** “Digital Accessories: On Access as Apparatus,” *Virginia Gunderson Lecture*, Bloomington, IN October 16th

“Drone Genealogies: On the Politics and History of an Apian Metonym”
Drone War Symposium, Bloomington, IN July 14-17th

2014 “On Biotechnology and the Mediation of Life” *Cultural Studies Association*,
Salt Lake City, UT May 29-31st

TEACHING

UC Boulder

I303 “Computer and Information History,” Instructor of record. Remotely taught course focused on histories of information and communication from antiquity through the 20th century, addressing social, political, economic, cultural, and environmental concerns at the heart of computing around the world. Multi-modal approach included class use of & contribution to archival resources, student-proposed creative final projects, and in-depth comprehensive self-assessments. Spring 2024.

Indiana University

I202 “Introduction to Social Informatics,” Associate Instructor. Discussion leader for undergraduate introduction to social, cultural, and political aspects of information technologies. Created and led remote, multi-platform activities during COVID-19 pandemic. Fall 2017, Spring 2021, Fall 2021.

I453 “Computer and Information Ethics,” Instructor of Record. Undergraduate course introducing students to ethical theories and issues regarding digital technology. Students identify and express ethical values and perspectives, develop stances on ethical issues, and cultivate skills in critical analysis, communication, and persuasion relating to ethics in informatics. Managed four graduate Associate Instructors. Fall 2019, Spring 2020.

I495 “Informatics Senior Capstone,” Associate Instructor. Year-long undergraduate capstone course. Student teams collaboratively conceive, design, and build a real-world digital program, application, or service. Served as project manager mentoring and assisting seven teams during 2nd semester portion of the course. Spring 2018.

- I590** “Data & Society,” co-designer & guest lecturer. Course co-developed with Dr. Eden Medina and Dr. David Wild. A graduate-level, core-curriculum course for Data Science students designed as a critical introduction to political, ethical, and socio-cultural issues in data science. Emphasizes concerns about big data, algorithmic culture, privacy, and more through case studies, projects, and in-depth student discussion. Spring 2018.
- C315** “Advertising and Consumer Culture,” Instructor of Record. Undergraduate course engaging students with social, political, and historical issues in consumer society and the study of culture. Develops critical media analysis skills for understanding advertising and related modes of persuasive communication. Special focus on issues of branding, ethical consumption, and digital surveillance. Fall 2015, Spring 2016.
- C190** “Introduction to Media,” Instructor of Record. Undergraduate course introducing key theories and histories of film, television, and digital media. Strong emphasis on intersectional issues of gender, race, class, and sexuality, and contemporary changes in the media-technology landscape. Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Summer 2014, Fall 2014 (Associate Instructor), Spring 2015.
- C121** “Public Speaking,” Instructor of Record. Undergraduate course developing student persuasion and oratory skills. Fall 2012, Spring 2013.

SUNY Oswego

- ENG386** “Film Theory,” Adjunct Instructor. Undergraduate course surveying theories of moving image media from the 1890s – present. Covered major areas including Soviet Montage, French New Wave, and genre theory, with special focuses on questions of moving image materiality, the ‘post-theory’ historical turn, and the human/animal divide in film. Fall 2009.
- ENG102** “English Composition,” Adjunct Instructor. Undergraduate introductory course to writing and composition at the college level. Fall 2009.

SERVICE

- 2026 - Present** **Commissioner and Treasurer, Bloomington Commission on Sustainability, City of Bloomington IN.** City Council-appointee and voting member in government body overseeing citywide sustainability.

Develop and propose resolutions, initiatives; measure, monitor and report on city progress towards sustainability

- 2017-2018** **Graduate Student Representative, Graduate and Professional Student Government, Indiana University.** Member of the Benefits Committee, representative for Communication and Culture and the Media School.
- 2013-2018** **Co-Curator, Underground Film Series, Indiana University.** A yearly series at the IU Cinema showcasing underground, avant-garde, experimental, underseen, subversive, queer, and non-normative films.
- 2017** **Organizing Committee Chair, midweSTS Graduate Student Workshop, Indiana University.** Lead member responsible for organizing and overseeing student-led Workshop, Sept. 29-Oct. 1.
- 2014-2016** **Co-founder, Excess Arts Space, Bloomington, IN.** A horizontally organized, multi-use, collaborative space focused on art, culture, food, and politics, free and open to public use.
- 2015** **Guest, “Drones at Liberty” *Interchange*, WFHB Bloomington, IN.** Shared current research about the politics of drones on local radio program, July 21.
- 2014** **PhD representative, Media School Graduate Student Advisory Board, Indiana University.** Graduate student representative for the Dept. of Communication and Culture, advocated for graduate student concerns during Media School merger process.

REVIEWER

Big Data & Society; Agriculture & Human Values; New Media & Society; Environmental Media; Environmental Communication; Economy & Society; Social Movements, Institutions, and Governance; East Asian Science, Technology, and Society (EASTS)

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Society for the Social Studies of Science

Society for the History of Technology
Society for Cinema and Media Studies

REFERENCES

Eden Medina

Associate Professor of Science, Technology,
and Society
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
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Selma Šabanović

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Elizabeth Elcessor

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LANGUAGES

English, Native. German, Spoken and Reading.