

SOPHIA TOUBIAN

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EDUCATION

University of California, Los Angeles (Graduate) – 2023-2027 (tentative), School of Education and Information Studies, Third Year Ph.D. in **Information Studies**

University of California, Los Angeles (Undergraduate) – Graduated 2022, **Political Science** and **Society and Genetics**

London School of Economics (International Exchange) – Attended 2022, **International Law** and **Behavioral Economics**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Christopher Kelty (Co-Chair): Information Studies, Anthropology

Robert Montoya (Co-Chair): Information Studies

Todd Presner: European Languages and Transcultural Studies, Digital Humanities

Miriam Posner: Information Studies, Digital Humanities

RESEARCH

AI and Cultural Heritage Lab @ UCLA

Researcher: Fall 2024 – Present

Conducted data analysis, grant, and paper writing using Python, OpenAI API, Grok API, Gemini API, etc. leveraging linguistic + numerical data to explore AI ethics and future directions of Holocaust testimony.

The LAByrinth Project @ UCLA

Lab Manager and Graduate Student Researcher: F 2022 – S 2023; Manager and GSR, F 2023 – S 2024

Developed research methods for understanding interactions between humans and urban animals, developed a categorical typology of feral cat colonies, and worked in the Archive to digitize city documents.

TEACHING

TA for Cluster 73 @ UCLA

TA and Section Leader: F 2024, W 2025, F 2025, W 2026
Taught 2 sections of a yearlong Freshman cluster consisting of 250 students.

Instructor for “Brain as Database” @ UCLA

Course Designer and Instructor: S 2025, S 2026
Taught R-based labs in data analysis and visualization, while guiding student projects using NLP and database logic to address real-world scientific communication challenges.

MENTORSHIP

UCLA Undergraduate Research Week - Billy Peir and Aditya Patil: “Using Large Language Models to Disambiguate Holocaust Interview Testimonies” (With Aileen Tang)

UCLA Library Prize for Undergraduate Research –

Aidan Teeling: *Borderline Bias: Gender Disparities and The Male Experience of BPD*

SELECTED TALKS

Invited Participant at the AI and the Future of Holocaust Research and Memory conference @ UW (2025)

Invited Participant at the Livescu NNAI: Confronting the Crises of AI Through Research @ UCLA (10-week faculty discussion group; 2025)

Guest Lecture in Communications 277 at UCLA on Data, Definitions, and Measurements (2025)

Guest presentation in Information Studies 291B @ UCLA on AI-Driven Metrics for Information Translation in Science Communication (2024)

Closing Remarks @ the 2023 Inaugural Conference for Graduate Students in Social Data Science Hosted at University of Copenhagen.

ARTICLES/FEATURES

Prime @ UCLA “Bearing Witness” – Feature (2025)

Cambridge Forum on AI: Culture and Society “Empirical AI and Holocaust Memory” - Special Issue Contribution (With AICHL; Forthcoming)

SKILLS

Languages: R, Python, SAS, ZSH, Bash, SQL, HTML

Development: Git, numpy, network analysis, Neo4j, Tableau