

Sophie Bennani-Taylor

0sophietaylor@gmail.com

Education

2021-2022: University of Edinburgh

MSc Digital Sociology

- Average grade for taught components: 77
- Theory-based modules: Understanding technology (STS/SST); Issues and concepts in digital society; Controversies in the data society
- Methodological modules: Computational text analysis; Latent class analysis; Participatory workshop methods; Researching digital life
- Additional Certification: Edinburgh Social Science Methods Certificate (Introduction to R; Social Data Research Skills; Stata for Social Scientists; Constructivist Grounded Theory)
- Dissertation: *Making and managing an asylum seeker: slow violence and financial control in the everyday lives of ASPEN card users* (supervised by Professor Nasar Meer)

2013-2017: University College London

BASc (Hons) Arts and Sciences with Study Abroad: Societies

- Grades: 71, 71 and 77 in first, second and fourth year respectively (average 75 overall)
- Modules included: political sociology, public policy, political science, macroeconomics and mathematical methods
- Exchange year at *Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile*. Modules included: history, political science and mathematical methods

2011-2013: The Sixth Form College Farnborough

- A-Levels: A* A* A* (maths, English literature, French)

Articles

Academic:

Bennani-Taylor, S. (n.d.). Assembling AI: The stabilization of 'Artificial Intelligence' in and beyond National AI Strategies. *Science, Technology, & Human Values* (under review).

Taylor, S. 2022. Book review: Technology is not neutral: a short guide to technology ethics by Stephanie Hare. *LSE Review of Books* (29 Mar 2022). Available at:

<https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/impactofsocialsciences/2022/04/09/book-review-technology-is-not-neutral-a-short-guide-to-technology-ethics-by-stephanie-hare/>

Media (Selected):

Taylor, S. 2022. Cloud Services, AI, and the rise of Digital Rentier Capitalism. *CodeX*. Available at:

<https://medium.com/codex/cloud-services-ai-and-the-rise-of-digital-rentier-capitalism-8b4fa119e831>

Taylor, S. 2021. Do algorithms have politics? *Towards data science*. Available at:

<https://towardsdatascience.com/do-algorithms-have-politics-56beb25ce685>

Taylor, S., 2021. The UK Digital Identity Trust Framework: What is it and why does it matter? *Digital*

Diplomacy. Available at: <https://medium.com/digital-diplomacy/the-uk-digital-identity-trust-framework-what-is-it-and-why-does-it-matter-f402661a4441>

Taylor, S., 2020. How does 'seamless interaction' drive exploitative design? *UX Planet*. Available at: <https://uxplanet.org/how-does-seamless-interaction-drive-exploitative-design-c7e2305cf3a8>

Conferences

Academic:

Besse, J. W., **Taylor, S.**, Sai, V. and Dullaert, I. 2022. *Processes of Vulnerabilisation in e-ID: Lessons From India's Electronic Public Distribution System and the UK's EU Settlement Scheme*. STS Conference Graz, TU Graz, 2-4 May 2022. (Funded)

Taylor, S. 2022. *Assembling AI: Discursive Infrastructures and the UK's National AI Strategy*. Governance By Infrastructures Workshop, University of Lausanne, 17-18 March 2022. (Funded)

Industry:

Taylor, S., 2021. *Data ethics in practice: Building trust between a council and its residents*. Response-ability Summit. Available at: <https://vimeo.com/558910065>

Taylor, S., 2021. *How "seamless interaction" leads to exploitative design*. Interaction 21: Design in Perilous Times. Available at: <https://interaction21.ixda.org/program/talk--sophie-taylor>

Awards/Funding

- McGlashan Charitable Trust Postgraduate Fund award (2021)

Work Experience

Sopra Steria, London

September 2018 – July 2021

Senior Innovation and Digital Ethics Consultant

March 2020 – July 2021

- Co-founded Sopra Steria's Digital Ethics practice offering consultancy to public and private sector clients on the ethical risks and opportunities of their technologies, and practical solutions to address them
- Developed and ran workshops for the Digital Ethics practice, including *Introduction to Digital Ethics* and *Understanding Organisational Culture, Ethics and Values*
- Led user research for the Digital Ethics consulting offer, undertaking primary research (interviews, surveys and focus groups) with a range of user groups
- Worked with partners such as Edinburgh University, the Open Data Institute and the RSA to share best practice across institutions

Innovation and Digital Ethics Consultant

August 2019 – March 2020

- Developed successful proposals for innovative digital technologies including AI in healthcare, blockchain/DLT in transport and VR in social care
- Provided academic, market and competitor analyses to help clients navigate rapidly changing technology landscapes

Product Manager, Mentorship App

February 2019 – August 2019

- Managed the strategic direction of the development of a new app by undertaking market, competitor and user research

- Deepened understanding of software delivery processes by coordinating a multidisciplinary team including software developers, designers, infrastructure engineers, technology architects, lawyers and security consultants to deliver the app

Junior Strategy Consultant, Infrastructure Management

September 2018 – February 2019

- Undertook internal, competitor and market analysis to understand demand for new propositions
- Led the development and communication of the Sopra Steria UK DevOps strategy

Hamerville Media Group, Watford

October 2017 – July 2018

Editorial Assistant, LABM and PHPD

- Started LABM's monthly Q&A section, interviewing cross-industry actors including housing associations, local councils and government
- Honed effective communication skills by creating compelling written content for a specialist audience of 18,000 readers

Other Skills

- Languages: French (native), Spanish (professional working proficiency)
- NNG UX Certification
- AWS Solutions Architect (Associate) and Certified Cloud Practitioner
- CompTIA Security+
- Scrum Master Certified (SMC) and APMG AgilePM Practitioner