

## INGA POPOVAITE, PHD

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[www.popovaite.com](http://www.popovaite.com)

### Education:

- 2021 **PhD Sociology**, University of Iowa, Iowa City;  
Dissertation: Mars Should Be Boring: Gender and Emotions in a Space Analog Environment;  
Committee: Alison Bianchi (Chair), Sarah Harkness, Michael Sauder, Yongren Shi, James Driskell;  
Area Exams: Social Psychology, Sociology of Outer Space;
- 2016 **MA Sociology**, University of Iowa, Iowa City;  
2014 **MA Nationalism Studies**, Central European University, Budapest;  
2008 **BA Information and Communication**, University of Klaipeda, Klaipeda.

### Professional Development:

- 2020 Graduate Certificate in Informatics, University of Iowa;  
2017 Exploratory Data Mining Via SEARCH Strategies. ICPSR Summer Program, University of Michigan;  
2014 Caucasus Studies, University of Malmo.

### Research Interests:

Space analogue research, group processes, sociology of emotions, sociology of outer space, quantitative methods.

### Research Experience:

- 2021 **Crew Scientist** in a two-week Mars simulation at the Mars Desert Research Station. Utah, USA.
- 2019 – 2021 **Research Assistant**, The Center for the Study of Group Processes, University of Iowa. The Connection Between Sentiments and Social Status (NSF funded project, PI Alison Bianchi).
- 2016 – 2021 **Lab Manager**, The Center for the Study of Group Processes, University of Iowa
- 2019 **Research Assistant**, University of Iowa, Tippie College of Business. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion project. Focus group analysis;
- 2017 **Research Assistant**, University of Iowa, Department of Sociology. SERU survey data analysis;

### Teaching Assistantship:

- Spring 2019 Introduction to Sociology (Jennifer Haylett)

Fall 2018	Introduction to Sociology (Jennifer Haylett)
Spring 2018	Social Psychology of Small Groups (Alison Bianchi)
Fall 2017	Research Methods (Alison Bianchi)
Spring 2017	Introduction to Criminology (Micheila Ruppert)
Fall 2016	Introduction to Sociology (Michael Lovaglia)
Spring 2016	Gender and Society (Sarah Harkness)
Fall 2015	Introduction to Sociology (online) (Michael Lovaglia)

## Selected Professional Experience

2014	<b>Digital Ethnographer</b> , Edgeryders, UK. Part of the development team for an open source online ethnography tool that brings together qualitative text analysis and quantitative network approach.
2006-2015	<b>Journalist</b> , newspapers and news websites in Lithuania and Georgia; full time and freelance. English-language outlets: Democracy and Freedom Watch, Open Democracy Russia, The Conway Bulletin, Caucasus Analytical Digest

## Academic Publications and Presentations:

### Publications:

Popovaite, Inga, and Alison J. Bianchi. forthcoming. "Walking on "Mars": Gendered Group Processes in Space Analog Missions" *Journal of Human Performance in Extreme Environments* (accepted for publication)

Popovaite, Inga. "Gender and Leadership in Space Analogs: a Study of MDRS Commanders' Reports". Under review.

### Book chapter:

Bruch, Sarah K., Inga Popovaite, Elizabeth Felix, and Matthew Anson. "Patterns and Impacts of Racial and International Student Disparities in Experiences of Campus Climate, Academic Support, and Financial Conditions" in *Evaluating Campus Climate at U.S. Research Universities: Opportunities for Diversity and Inclusion*. Palgrave MacMillan 2018

### Presentations:

Inga Popovaite. ""Machine Learning Algorithms to Study Behavior in Space Analogs: Leadership Example. Presentation at the 24<sup>th</sup> International Mars Society Convention. Online, 2021

Inga Popovaite. "Walking on 'Mars': Gendered Group Processes in Space Analog Missions" Presentation at the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Online, 2021

Inga Popovaite. "Emotion Management in Space Analog Environments" Presentation at the Midwestern Sociological Society Annual Meeting. Online, 2021

Inga Popovaite. “Gendered Coworking Networks in MDRS Mars Simulations”. Presentation at Space Science in Context Conference. Online, 2020.

Inga Popovaite. “Men are for Mars? Gender and Status in Space Analog Environments”. Presentation at the Midwestern Sociological Society Annual Meeting. Omaha, 2020 (canceled due to COVID-19)

Inga Popovaite. “Data science for Mars”. Presentation at the 22<sup>nd</sup> International Mars Society Convention. Los Angeles, 2019.

Inga Popovaite “Automated text processing to study group behavior”. Presentation at the Python Convention Lithuania. Vilnius, 2019.

Vasi, Bogdan Ion, Sara Rynes-Weller, Bradley Mecham, Inga Popovaite “Making sense of sustainability: Justification and transparency in oil and gas companies’ corporate social responsibility strategies”. Presentation at the 35th EGOS Colloquium. Edinburgh, 2019.

Inga Popovaite “Men are for Mars? Gender in space analog facilities” Presentation at the 21<sup>st</sup> annual Jakobsen memorial conference. Iowa City 2019.

Inga Popovaite. “Using Structural Social Psychology to Study Mixed-Gender Group Processes in Isolation”. Presentation at the 21<sup>st</sup> International Mars Society Convention. Pasadena, 2018.

Vasi, Bogdan Ion, Edward T. Walker and Inga Popovaite. “Impression Management in Times of Crisis. Organizational Images and the Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill”. Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association. Philadelphia, 2018.

Inga Popovaite. “ Georgian Muslim Women: Strangers in their Own Country”. Presentation at the Association for Study of Nationalities Annual World Convention. New York City, 2016.

Inga Popovaite and Benjamin Renoust “At the Edge of the future: Nowcasting amongst citizen experts for action-oriented foresight”. Presentation at the International Conference on Future-Oriented Technology Analysis. Brussels, 2014

Inga Popovaite “Ethnicity and National Identity in Right-Wing Populist Rhetoric in 2012 Lithuanian Parliamentary Elections”. Presented at the European Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities. Budapest, 2014.

Inga Popovaite “Religiosity Patterns of Minority and Majority Religious Groups in Armenia and Georgia”. Presented at the International Symposium on Identity. Baku, 2014.

### **Selected Invited Talks and Lectures:**

*Next Destination – Mars*. Invited speaker at What’s Next 2020 conference. Vilnius, 2020 (canceled due to COVID-19)

Guest lecturer in Dr. Alison Bianchi’s Research Methods. “Participant Observation”. University of Iowa, 2019

Guest lecturer in Dr. Alison Bianchi's *Social Psychology of Small Groups* course, University of Iowa. "Men are for Mars? Gender in space analog facilities", 2019

Guest lecturer in Dr. Jennifer Haylett's *Introduction to Sociology*, University of Iowa. "Work and economy", 2019

*National Identity and Ethnic Threat Perception in Russia*. Invited speaker at the Ilia State University. Tbilisi, 2017

*Blogging and website building tutorial*. Reoccurring workshop for students enrolled in the Capstone course. University of Iowa. 2018- 2021.

### **Selected Other Publications:**

Popovaite, Inga (2020). "Coronavirus quarantine could provide lessons for future space travel on how regular people weather isolation". *The Conversation*, April 20. Available at <https://theconversation.com/coronavirus-quarantine-could-provide-lessons-for-future-space-travel-on-how-regular-people-weather-isolation-134762>

Popovaite, Inga (2020). "What the 2010s taught us about women in space". *SpaceNews*, January 14. Available at <https://spacenews.com/what-the-2010s-taught-us-about-women-in-space/> .

Popovaite, Inga (2016) "Sunni and Shia Muslims in Georgia: a Societal Margin in Motion?". *Caucasus Analytical Digest* No 81. Available at [https://css.ethz.ch/content/specialinterest/gess/cis/center-for-securities-studies/en/publications/cad/cad-all-issues-and-articles/details.html?id=/n/o/8/1/no\\_81\\_religious\\_minoritiesnr\\_81\\_religiou](https://css.ethz.ch/content/specialinterest/gess/cis/center-for-securities-studies/en/publications/cad/cad-all-issues-and-articles/details.html?id=/n/o/8/1/no_81_religious_minoritiesnr_81_religiou) .

Popovaite, Inga (2015) "Radicalization in Georgia: a self-fulfilling prophesy?" *Open Democracy*, October 23. Available at <https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/odr/radicalisation-in-georgia-self-fulfilling-prophecy/> .

Popovaite, Inga (2015) "Lithuania needs to listen to its Poles before Russia does". *Open Democracy*, June 19. Available at <https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/can-europe-make-it/lithuania-needs-to-listen-to-its-poles-before-kremlin-does/>.

Popovaite, Inga (2015) "Georgian Muslims are strangers in their own country". *Open Democracy*, March 5. Available at <https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/odr/georgian-muslims-are-strangers-in-their-own-country/>.

### **Fellowships, Grants, Awards:**

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| 2021 | Dissertation Writing Fellowship. College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, University of Iowa.   |
| 2020 | Graduate Student Research Award. Department of Sociology&Criminology, University of Iowa.<br>Research Award. Midwest Sociological Society.<br>Summer Fellowship. Graduate College, University of Iowa. |

- 2019 Graduate Student Travel Award. Graduate College, University of Iowa.
- 2018 Digital Scholarship & Publishing Studio Fellowship. Graduate College, University of Iowa.  
Graduate Student Travel Award. Graduate College, University of Iowa.  
Graduate Student Travel Award. Department of Sociology, University of Iowa.
- 2017 Graduate Student Travel Award. Department of Sociology, University of Iowa.  
Summer School Scholarship. ICPSR Summer Program, University of Michigan.
- 2016 Graduate Student Travel Award. Department of Sociology, University of Iowa.
- 2014 Graduate Thesis Research Grant, Central European University.  
Graduate Student Travel Award, Central European University.
- 2013 Alumni Scholarship. Central European University.

### **Skills:**

Computer Languages / Software: Python, R, SQL, C++, STATA  
Languages: Lithuanian (native), Russian, Georgian

### **Journal Reviewer:**

Nations and Nationalism.

### **Service:**

- 2020-2021 Coordinating Committee of the University of Iowa Graduate Student Union (COGS)
- 2018-2019 Coordinating Committee of the University of Iowa Graduate Student Union (COGS)  
Graduate Student Employment Committee  
Social and Education Science Representative at the Graduate and Professional Student Government
- 2016-2019 Senator at the Graduate Student Senate
- 2015-2017 Communications Committee of the Department of Sociology

### **Professional Affiliations:**

Midwest Sociological Society  
American Sociological Association

## References:

Dr. Alison Bianchi  
Associate Professor  
Director of the Center for the Study of Group Processes  
Department of Sociology and Criminology  
University of Iowa  
W28D Seashore Hall  
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Associate Professor  
Department of Sociology and Criminology  
University of Iowa  
W114 Seashore Hall  
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