ADAM ALEKSIC
Etymology Nerd, LLC
etymologynerd@gmail.com

EDUCATION

A.B. in Government and Linguistics, *cum laude*. 2023. Harvard University.
Thesis: "The Effects of Language Policy on Language Identity in Serbia And Croatia."
Awards: Kenneth Juster Fellowship, Aloian Memorial Scholarship

BOOKS

October 2027. "Reality Drift: How AI and Algorithms Manufacture Trends and Hijack Perception." New York: Bloomsbury Publishing.

July 15, 2025. "Algospeak: How Social Media is Transforming the Future of Our Language." New York: Knopf.

OPINION EDITORIALS

August 18, 2026. "Why Tools to Detect AI-Generated Text Are Doomed." *The Washington Post*.

August 17, 2026. "How Online Fandom Shaped Our World." *Financial Times.*

June 2, 2026. "AI Chatbots have a Romance Language Problem." *The Washington Post.*

December 28, 2025. "The Ugly Memes Driving Crypto Sales." *Financial Times*.

September 4, 2025. "From Skibidi to Rizz, Why the Internet Loves Slang." *Financial Times.*

August 20, 2025. "It's Official: People Are Starting to Talk More Like ChatGPT." *The Washington Post.*

August 17, 2025. "The Insidious Creep of Trump's Speaking Style." *The New York Times.*

July 14, 2025. "How Incel Language Infected the Mainstream Internet." *The Verge*.

June 20, 2024. "These Gaming Terms Are Transforming Slang." *The Washington Post.*

May 15, 2024. "Gen Z's New Punctuation." *The Washington Post*.

April 11, 2024. "How Gen Z Took Over Incel Slang." *The Washington Post*.

KEYNOTES, LECTURES, AND PANELS

November 2, 2026. "The Semiotics of Slop." Harvard Linguistics Department. Cambridge, MA.

November 2, 2026. "Facts Aren't Enough: Why Some Ideas Travel and Others Stall." SciCom Summit. Boston, MA.

October 21, 2026. “The Semantics of Slop.” *Hugo J. Mueller Lecture Series*. American University, Washington, DC.

October 16, 2026. “How Political Meaning is Produced Online.” *Beyond Polarization Symposium Panel*. Yale University, New Haven, CT.

September 15, 2026. “Resolved: Speak the Language of the Internet.” Yale Political Union. New Haven, CT.

July 12, 2026. “A Post-Slop World with Etymology Nerd.” *Last Summer First Summer,* Fractal Tech. New York, NY.

July 9, 2026. “Sloptimist Etymologies.” Conversation with Daniel Keller. *The Epistemologies of Slop* exhibition, TIAT gallery, San Francisco, CA.

June 26, 2026. “How Reality Gets Made Online.” VidCon conversation with Aidan Walker. Anaheim, CA.

June 25, 2026. “AI, Authenticity, and the Slop Problem.” VidCon panel. Anaheim, CA.

June 24, 2026. “Etymology Nerd Fireside Chat.” *Microsoft Communications Team Week.* Opening Keynote and conversation with CCO Frank X. Shaw. Redmond, WA.

June 9, 2026. “Communicating in the Social Media Age.” Live *Terms of Service* Podcast with Clare Duffy. The Paley Museum, New York, NY.

March 27, 2026. “Adam Aleksic Author Talk.” *2026 CogFest & BLN Symposium.* Ohio State University Linguistics Department. Columbus, OH.

March 13, 2026. “Vibe Shift: How New Media Upended Our Ideas and Aesthetics.” South by Southwest. Austin, TX.

February 26, 2026. “An Evening with Adam Aleksic.” Berkeley Forum, Berkeley Linguistics Department, and Berkeley Center for New Media. Berkeley, CA.

February 25, 2026. “The Etymology Nerd.” *Undergraduate Distinguished Speaker Event.* CU Boulder Linguistics Department. Boulder, CO.

January 29, 2026. “The Future of Language.” *Conversation with the New York State Writers Institute.* University at Albany. Albany, NY.

January 11, 2026. “Stop Calling Yourself an Influencer.” 1 Billion Followers Summit. Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

November 23, 2025. “Language and Art in the Age of AI.” Miami Book Fair. Miami, FL.

November 20, 2025. “Etymology Nerd Speaker Event.” Miami-Dade Honors College Book Fair Colloquium. Miami, FL.

November 11, 2025. “Why Are People Starting to Sound Like ChatGPT?” TEDNext. Atlanta, GA.

November 7, 2025. “Go Viral or Vanish.” National Association of Science Writers. Chicago, IL.

November 6, 2025. “Are We Cooked?” Northwestern University Linguistics Student Association. Evanston, IL.

October 29, 2025. “Language and Social Media.” University of Florida Undergraduate Linguistics Society. Gainesville, Florida.

October 26, 2025. “The Algorithmic Gaze.” Smith College Student Events Committee Lecture. Northampton, MA.

October 22, 2025. “What We Know, What We Say, and How We Say It.” *Conversation with Stephen Pinker and Alison Wood Brooks.* Boston Book Festival. Boston, MA.

June 19, 2025. “Creators, Platforms, and Power: How Social Media is Reshaping News and Public Discourse.” VidCon. Anaheim, CA.

June 19, 2025. “Beyond Entertainment: How Creators Are Reshaping Education.” VidCon. Anaheim, CA.

May 19, 2025. “Speaker Event: Etymology Nerd.” Oxford Undergraduate Psychology Society and Oxford Undergraduate Linguistics Society. Oxford, UK.

April 8, 2025. “Algorithms Are Changing How You Talk.” *What’s the L?* Miami University Linguistics Department. Oxford, OH.

April 7, 2025. “How-To: TikTok Your Lingcomm.” LingComm25 Conference.

March 27, 2025. “Algorithms and Language: Is Social Media Changing The Way We Speak?” Rutgers Undergraduate Linguistics and Cognitive Science Clubs. New Brunswick, NJ.

March 10, 2025. “Conversations with Kirkland: Algospeak.” Harvard Undergraduate Linguistics Society. Cambridge, MA.

March 5, 2025. “How Social Media Algorithms Are Changing Language.” New York University League of Linguistics. New York, NY.

February 7, 2025. “Social Media Algorithms Are Changing Your Language.” *Poynter Fellowship Lecture.* Yale University Linguistics Society. New Haven, CT.

January 31, 2025. “How Social Media Is Changing Modern Language.” Carnegie Mellon University Activities Board Lecture. Pittsburgh, PA.

January 12, 2025. “Meme vs. Podcast: How Trump Made It To The White House.” 1 Billion Followers Summit. Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

September 25, 2024. “Social Media Is Changing The Way You Speak.” Oberlin College Linguistics Society. Oberlin, OH.

May 9, 2024. “Social Media Is Changing How You Talk.” *Riddell Endowed Lecture.* Stanford University. Stanford, CA.

April 6, 2024. “How Social Media Is Changing How You Talk.” TEDxUniversity of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA.

March 18, 2024. “Language and Social Media.” *GU Lecture Fund.* Georgetown University. Washington, DC.

CONSULTATION AND TESTIMONY

2025. Sydney Nicole LLC and Sydney Nicole Gifford v. Alyssa Sheil LLC and Alyssa Sheil, U.S. District Court in the Western District of Texas, Austin Division (No: 1:24-cv-00423-RP), expert witness on behalf of the defendant.