

Nadja Rupprechter
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EDUCATION

University of Zurich, PhD (Dr. phil) in Media and Comm. Science; 04/2025–today

- Focus of interest: human-chatbot relationships
- Defense planned: Spring 2028

University of Vienna, Master of Arts; 2022–2024

- Communication Science
- GPA = 3.9 (Austrian grading 1.54)

University of Vienna, Bachelor of Arts; 2019–2022

- Communication Science

Bundesoberstufenrealgymnasium Lauterach, Secondary Education; 2010–2014

- Specialization in Arts and Graphic Design

EXPERIENCE

Research and Teaching Assistant, IKMZ, University of Zurich; 04/2025–today

- Supporting the principal investigator in research and administrative tasks
- Conducting independent doctoral research in communication science
- Delivering min. 2 SWS of teaching per semester

PUBLICATIONS

Preprints

- Rupprechter, N., & Dienlin, T. (2025, June 27). It's her! Investigating relationship development with social AI chatbots. https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/guc4x_v1 (Preprint)

Conference Papers

- Rupprechter, N. & Dienlin, T. (2024). It's her! Investigating relationship development with social AI chatbots. ICA; 2025
- Rupprechter, N. & Dienlin, T. (2025). Not Feeling It! Toward new measures for parasocial interaction with social AI chatbots. MePsy; 2025

STIPENDS AND GRANTS

Graduate Campus (GRC) Travel Grant; 2025

- University of Zurich
- CHF1'580

Leistungsstipendium (Merit Stipend); 2023

- Federal Ministry of Education, Austria
- 981€

TALKS

"MIAO-nipulating cognition: AI offloading, expertise and relationships.", Denver; 2025

- Annual conference of the International Communication Association (ICA)

"Human-AI and Mediated Experiences (Position Paper)", Duisburg; 2025

- 14th conference of the Media Psychology Division (DGPs)

TEACHING

Individual sessions

"Understanding parasocial encounters"; 12/2025

- invited to seminar "Influencers and Digital Health"
- University of Zurich

MEDIA APPEARANCE

Print

«Das Privatsphäre Paradox» Die Wienerin; 11/27/2025

- Offered insights into loneliness and the growing rise of chatbot companionship. Rupprechter highlights that while chatbots may serve as useful, supportive tools, they cannot replace real human connection.

«ChatGPT hat unseren Sohn getötet»: Adam suchte Hilfe – und bekam Suizid-Tipps. Schweiz am Wochenende; 09/27/2025

- Commented on human-chatbot relationships, highlighting how chatbots' humanlike interactions can create a sense of emotional closeness despite lacking real empathy or awareness.

Online

- «Das Privatsphäre Paradox» ([Link](#))
- «ChatGPT hat unseren Sohn getötet»: Adam suchte Hilfe – und bekam Suizid-Tipps. ([Link](#))

DEVELOPMENT

Workshops

Teaching Skills (Jäpel, F.); 09/2025–06/2026

- Didactica (UZH/ETH)
- <https://www.hochschuldidaktik.uzh.ch/en/ls/tsk.html>

Designing better experiments and improving causal inferences (Lakens, D.); 05/2025

- University of Zurich
- https://lakens.github.io/statistical_inferences/

Open Research (Dienlin, T); 08/2024

- Weizenbaum Institute Berlin
- <https://methodslab.weizenbaum-institut.de/program/workshop-open-research-principles-practices-and-implementation/>

SKILLS AND INTERESTS

Coding Skills: R, LaTeX, Python, HTML, SPSS, MAXQDA

Research Methods: Multivariate statistics (e.g., structural equation modeling), topic modeling (e.g. latent dirichlet allocation), qualitative methods (e.g., content analysis, interviews), open science practices

Languages: German (native), English (advanced), Korean (basic), Spanish (basic)

Interests: Media effects, computer-mediated communication, social cognition in human-machine interaction, east asian issues, internet and gaming culture, psychology, bodybuilding

Memberships: International Communication Association (ICA), Communication and Technology Division (CaT)