

9th Annual Department of Communication Distinguished Lecture:

Making Sense of Digital Screen Time and Children's Health in the Era of Open Science



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Few propositions excite popular imagination and anxiety more than the idea that the time young people devote to interactive digital media including video games, social media, and smartphones significantly impacts their psychological and physical health.

Arising from a vacuum of reliable science, a cottage industry of consultants, gurus, and digital addiction clinics have mushroomed in the United States and abroad.

This talk focuses on the existing evidence base and the reproducibility revolution in the social and medical sciences, and will orient the audience to what we know and how we know it. Data examining the effects of screens, insights from the metascience of technology influence, and new studies will be discussed. In particular, the talk will consider how conclusions drawn from these information sources should be weighed in light of pressing policy demands from caregivers, and professional and governmental policies.

The talk will close with a reflection of the role that academic researchers and the technology industry must play in order to advance our understanding of what happens when young people turn on, log in, and engage digital contexts.

About the speaker

Since completing his Ph.D., Professor Przybylski has given more than 50 presentations at international academic conferences and universities and written more than 30 scientific papers, which have been cited more than 5,000 times in the fields of psychology, communication, pediatrics, human development, and experimental psychology.

Monday Oct. 29 7-8p.m.
Fife Theatre, Moss Arts Center
Open to the public, free of charge