

Pooja Casula

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Research interests

Content Moderation, Online Toxicity, Free Expression,
Political Discourse, Social Media

Education

Georgia Institute of Technology

Atlanta, GA

PhD in Digital Media

Aug 2020 – Present

Advisors: Dr. Anne Sullivan & Dr. Richmond Wong

Carnegie Mellon University

Pittsburgh, PA

BS in Cognitive Science

Aug 2016 – May 2020

Publications

”We found no violation!”: Twitter’s Violent Threats Policy and Toxicity in Online Discourse

Pooja Casula, Aditya Anupam, and Nassim Parvin

In Proceedings of the 10th International Conference on Communities Technologies - Wicked Problems in the Age of Tech. Association for Computing Machinery

A Lie Can Travel: Election Disinformation in the United States, Brazil, and France

William T. Adler, Dhanaraj Thakur

Contributing Authors: Pooja Casula, Lehman Montgomery, Elora Raas Fernandes, Paulo José Olicier Moreira Lara, Rafaela Cavalcanti de Alcântara, Jean-Baptiste Jeangène Vilmer

CDT Report Published by KAS

Rethinking Safe Mobility: The Case of Safetipin in India (forthcoming)

Shubhangi Gupta, Sylvia Janicki, Pooja Casula, Nassim Parvin

International Conference on Information + Communication Technologies and Development 2022

Mess and Making Matters in Feminist Teaching

Nassim Parvin, Rebecca Rouse, Diana Alvarez, Sanaz Haghani, Sharon Clark, Nettrice R Gaskins, Anne Sullivan, Erin Mergil, Jessica Pelizari, Aditya Anupam, Pooja Casula, Shubhangi Gupta

Catalyst: Feminism, Theory, Technoscience

Applying Rhetorical Structure Theory to Student Essays for Providing Automated Writing Feedback

Shiyan Jiang, Kexin Yang, Chandrakumari Suvarna, Pooja Casula, Mingtong Zhang, and Carolyn Rosé.

In Proceedings of the Workshop on Discourse Relation Parsing and Treebanking 2019, Association for Computational Linguistics

Research experience

Digital Integrative Liberal Arts Center

Mentor: Nassim Parvin

(Georgia Tech)

Aug 2020 – Present

- Working on projects relating to online toxicity and disinformation campaigns targeting women in U.S. politics.

A Lie Can Travel: Election Disinformation in the United States, Brazil, and France

Mentors: Dhanaraj Thakur, DeVan Hankerson Madrigal, William T. Adler

(Center for Democracy and Technology)

Jun 2021 – Aug 2021

- Worked on CDT's Research and Free Expression teams on two projects focusing on election and gendered disinformation.

Covid-19 Conspiracy Theories and Misinformation

Mentors: Amit Prasad, Nassim Parvin, Matthieu Bloch

(Georgia Tech)

Jun 2021

- Mentored a group of 4 undergraduate students to analyze a corpus of Covid-19 related misinformation tweets.
- Conducted a thematic analysis of the tweets to understand how strains of misinformation split and morphed into other strains.

Decimal Point

Mentor: Bruce McLaren

(Carnegie Mellon University)

Jun 2018 – May 2020

- Re-designing and re-implementing educational materials to help middle school students understand math concepts.
- Analyzing student performance data on an educational game in order to provide insight into design decisions to promote various learning strategies.

Industry experience

Amazon Web Services (AWS)

Arlington, VA

UX Research Intern

Summer 2022

- Worked on the Government Transformation Team to conduct qualitative research in collaboration with public sector clients.

Virtru

Washington D.C.

Product Research Intern

Summer 2019

- Designed and executed qualitative user research studies in collaboration with the Virtru UX and Data Analysis teams.
- Performed a heuristic evaluation and shared actionable insights with the Product Development team.

Kavayah Solutions Inc. Princeton, NJ

Software Developer Intern Summer 2017

- Developed a nodeJS module to analyze music trends from various music streaming services to develop a top 10 list for tracks and albums for a mobile app called WILT.
- Implemented and connected MongoDB, Pymongo and Mongoose databases to work with different nodeJS and Python modules.

Teaching experience

Teaching assistant, Interaction Design Studio 2 Spring 2020
Carnegie Mellon University

Teaching assistant, Cognitive Psychology Fall 2018, Fall 2019
Carnegie Mellon University

Tutorials

Twitter Bot Tutorial Parts 1 + 2 Spring 2022
Digital Integrative Liberal Arts Center

Twitter Streaming API Fall 2021
Digital Integrative Liberal Arts Center

AI Ethics 1 + 2 Spring 2021
Digital Integrative Liberal Arts Center

Skills

Programming
Proficient in: Python, Javascript
Familiar with: C