

POOJA CASULA

PhD Student at Georgia Institute of Technology

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EXPERIENCE

Research Intern

Center for Democracy and Technology

📅 June 2021 - August 2021 📍 Washington D.C.

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

Graduate Research Assistant

Georgia Tech, Digital Integrative Liberal Arts Center

📅 August 2020 - present 📍 Atlanta, GA

- Working to create a labeled data set of tweets that threaten violence against U.S Congresswomen.
- Helped organize a series of ethics and technological futures events.
- Collaborated with graduate DILAC fellows on a workshop on AI, Ethics and Bias.

Product Research Intern

Virtru

📅 June 2019 - August 2019 📍 Washington D.C.

- 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.

Undergraduate Research Assistant

Carnegie Mellon University, Human Computer Interaction Institute

📅 June 2018 - May 2020 📍 Pittsburgh, PA

- 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.

Software Developer Intern

Kavayah Solutions, Inc.

📅 June 2017 - August 2017 📍 Princeton, NJ

- 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.

EDUCATION

Georgia Institute of Technology

PhD in Digital Media

📅 2020 - 2024 exp. 📍 Atlanta, GA

Advisor: Dr. Nassim Parvin

Carnegie Mellon University

B.S. in Cognitive Science

Minor in Human Computer Interaction

📅 2016 - 2020 📍 Pittsburgh, PA

Rutgers Preparatory School

High School Diploma

📅 2012- 2016 📍 Somerset, NJ

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Social Media
- Free Expression
- Technology Policy
- Women's Studies
- Human Computer Interaction
- Social Computing

PUBLICATIONS

(Click title to read)

"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
DOI:<https://doi.org/10.1145/3461564.3461589>

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
DOI:<https://doi.org/10.18653/v1/W19-2720>

PROJECTS

Covid-19 Conspiracy Theories and Misinformation

Georgia Tech

📅 Summer 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.

"Twitter Twitter on the wall, to remove these tweets, who do I call?"

DILAC - Georgia Tech

📅 Ongoing

- Using the Twitter API to compile a corpus of threat tweets that target U.S Congresswomen to create a labeled data set
- Conducting a thematic analysis of the tweets using legal and philosophical frameworks regarding free speech and 'intent'

Contrasting Different Forms of Feedback in Intelligent Tutoring Systems

Advanced Topics in Personalized Online Learning - Carnegie Mellon

📅 Spring 2019

- Collaborated on a team to investigate different forms of feedback in self-directed environments using Cognitive Tutoring systems.

Practical RST Tutor

Personalized Online Learning - Carnegie Mellon

📅 Fall 2018

- Collaborated on a team to design and build an intelligent tutoring system to train human annotators to apply Rhetorical Structure Theory (RST) to text in order to provide feedback for improving writing quality across genres.

SELECT COURSEWORK

Graduate

The Computer As an Expressive Medium
Social Justice and Ethical Imagination in Design

Principles of Interaction Design

Whiteness and Technoculture

Global Politics of Technology (ongoing)

Undergraduate

Human AI Interaction

Principles of Imperative Computation

Principles of Functional Programming

Human Information Processing and Artificial Intelligence

Applications of Cognitive Science

Cognitive Modeling

SKILLS

Programming

Python C HTML JS CSS
SML Jira

Research

Usability Testing Tweet Analysis
Heuristic Evaluation IBM SPSS
Cognitive Task Analysis Writing

Design

Prototyping Wireframing InVision

TEACHING AND MENTORING

Teaching Assistant

Interaction Design Studio - Carnegie Mellon HCII

📅 Spring 2020

- Worked to ensure student success in learning material by holding office hours and providing written feedback on assignments and exams.

Teaching Assistant

Cognitive Psychology - Carnegie Mellon

📅 Fall 2018, Fall 2019

- Worked to ensure student success in learning material by holding office hours and providing written feedback on assignments and exams.

Undergraduate Writing Consultant

Carnegie Mellon Global Communications Center

📅 Fall 2018 - Spring 2020

- Provide academic tutoring for CMU students in writing and revising various forms of written works.

Peer Advisor

Carnegie Mellon Dietrich Academic Advisory Center

📅 Fall 2017, Fall 2018

- Worked with incoming Dietrich freshmen to ensure smooth college transition.
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