

Shira Michel
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Human-Centered AI, Human-LLM Interaction, Conversational AI, Human Factors, Ethical & Responsible AI, AI Literacy

EDUCATION

Northeastern University, Khoury College of Computer Sciences

Portland, ME

Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science

Expected May 2028

Advisor: Dr. Mahsan Nourani

Relevant Coursework: Statistical Methods in CS, Empirical Methods in HCI, Web Development

Northeastern University, Khoury College of Computer Sciences

Boston, MA

Master of Science in Computer Science

August 2025

GPA: 3.9/4.0

Arcadia University

Glenside, PA

Bachelor of Science in Data Science; Minor in Computer Science

May 2023

GPA: 3.9/4.0

Thesis: Approaches to analyzing clustered data

EXPERIENCE

Northeastern University

Boston, MA and Portland, ME

Graduate Research Assistant

September 2023 – Present

Advisor: Dr. Mahsan Nourani

Leverages sociolinguistic and psycholinguistic perspectives on human-LLM interaction, examining how language shapes people's trust and reliance on conversational AI

Brown University

Providence, RI

REU in Data Science Research Assistant

June 2022 – July 2022

Advisor: Dr. Bjorn Sandstede

Proof-of-concept unbalanced Sinkhorn's algorithm to increase unique matched criminal sentencing between federal databases

Arcadia University

Glenside, PA

Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness Data Science Intern

September 2022 – August 2023

Mentor: Dr. Bridget Miller

Modeled deposit and enrollment likelihoods for prospective students based on key predictors

Undergraduate Research Assistant

May 2021 – August 2023

Advisors: Drs. Weihong Ni and Yanxia Jia

Modeled the development of the psychological distress among Asians during 19 months of the COVID-19 pandemic

Molzana

London, UK (Remote)

Data Analyst Intern

January 2021 – April 2021

Mentor: Matthew Nixon

Interpreted and performed audience acquisition, behavior, and conversion data analysis and visualization dashboard

REFEREED CONFERENCE PAPERS

First Impressions & AI Error Types Leave Lasting Effects on Trust Building and Calibration in Human-LLM Interactions

Shira Michel, Seamus Kane, Shiran Dudy, and Mahsan Nourani

Under Review at ACM Conference on Intelligent User Interfaces (IUI) 2027

Amplifying Rural Educators' Perspectives: A Qualitative Study of Generative AI's Impact in Rural U.S. High Schools

Shira Michel, Benjamin Taylor, Sabrina Parra Díaz, Joseph B. Wiggins, Ed Finn, and Mahsan Nourani
In Proceedings of ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) 2026

“It’s not a representation of me”: Examining Accent Bias and Digital Exclusion in Synthetic AI Voice Services
Shira Michel, Sufi Kaur, Sarah Elizabeth Gillespie, Jeffrey Gleason, Christo Wilson, and Avijit Ghosh
In Proceedings of ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FACtT) 2025

CONFERENCE WORKSHOP PAPERS AND POSTERS

Capturing No-Tech AI Mental Models from Craft Supplies: An AI Literacy Workshop

Shani Claire Spivak, **Shira Michel**, and Mahsan Nourani

IEEE VIS Workshop on Visualization Education, Literacy, and Activities (EduVIS) 2026

PRESS AND MEDIA

Khoury News: [“Giving rural educators a seat at the table in the generative AI conversation”](#) 2026

Khoury News: [“For third straight year, Khoury researchers set new publishing benchmark at CHI”](#) 2026

WIRED: [“Summon This AI Agent by Speaking Its Wake Word Mid-Phone Call”](#) 2026

TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

Amplifying Rural Educators’ Perspectives: A Qualitative Study of Generative AI’s Impact in Rural U.S. High Schools

ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) April 2026

CRA-WP Grad Cohort Lightning Talk March 2026

ACM/SIGAPP Symposium on Applied Computing (SAC) April 2025

Annual Computer Science Education Showcase December 2024

“It’s not a representation of me”: Examining Accent Bias and Digital Exclusion in Synthetic AI Voice Services

ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FACtT) June 2025

CNTR Tech + Society Seminar, Brown University – *Invited Talk* March 2025

RIET Lab, University of Connecticut – *Invited Talk* November 2024

Approaches to analyzing clustered data

Arcadia University’s Senior Thesis Day April 2022

Eastern Pennsylvania and Delaware (EPaDel) Spring Meeting April 2022

A Psychological Distress Analysis on Asians from COVID-19

National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC) Conference November 2022

Sigma Xi Symposium at Saint Joseph’s University November 2022

Southeastern Pennsylvania Consortium for Higher Education (SEPCHE) Honors Conference March 2022

AWARDS AND HONORS

ACM FACtT Travel Grant Award (~\$560) 2026

ACM FACtT Doctoral Colloquium 2026

ACM CHI Student Mentoring Program: Building a Research Cohort 2026

CRA-WP Grad Cohort Fellow 2026

SIGAPP Student Travel Award Program (~\$850) 2025

Khoury Distinguished Fellowship, Northeastern University (~\$60,000) 2023 – 2024

Sigma Zeta Award in Computer Science, Arcadia University 2023

Summa Cum Laude with Departmental Honors, Arcadia University 2023

NSF REU in Data Science Researcher, Brown University (~\$5,000) 2022

Phi Beta Delta Honor Society, Arcadia University 2020

Campus Achievement Award, Arcadia University (~\$6,600) 2020 – 2023

AU Promise Scholarship, Arcadia University (~\$9,000) 2020 – 2023

Arcadia University Grant, Arcadia University (~\$16,500) 2019 – 2023

Achievement Scholarship, Arcadia University (~\$16,000)	2019 – 2023
Distinguished Scholarship, Arcadia University (~\$100,000)	2019 – 2023
Sydney Fluck “Syd’s Kids” Scholarship (~\$1,500)	2019
Innovation and Creativity Award, Rochester Institute of Technology	2018

SKILLS

Programming Languages: Python, R, Java, SQL, WebDev (JavaScript, HTML, CSS), SAS

Software: GitHub, Git, Jupyter Notebook, RStudio, VS Code, Excel, MongoDB, Figma, Miro, AWS, Google Cloud

Research Methods: Controlled Experiments, Experimental Design, Wizard-Of-Oz, Survey Design, Semi-Structured Interviews, Thematic Analysis, Grounded Theory, Statistical Analysis, Machine Learning (scikit-learn & TensorFlow basics)

SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Organizer

Building More Honest Representations of AI Through Collective Creativity, <i>ACM FAccT Social</i>	2026
Roux Institute’s HDI Team Bi-weekly Meeting	2026
Roux Institute’s HDI Team Social	2025
Khoury VIS Lab Retreat	2024 – Present
SEPCHE Honors Conference	2023
International Conference on Computability and Complexity in Analysis (CCA2022)	2022

Reviewer

ACM Conference on Human-AI Complementarity and Alignment (HCOMP)	2026
ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems	2026

Volunteer

Code to PhD Application Support Mentorship Program Mentor	2025 – Present
ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT) Student Volunteer	2025, 2026
Khoury College PhD Program Admissions Student Reviewer	2024

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

<i>Northeastern University</i>	Portland, ME
Intensive Foundations of Computer Science, Teaching Assistant	September 2025 – December 2025
Artificial Intelligence for Human-Computer Interaction, Teaching Assistant	September 2025 – December 2025
<i>Arcadia University</i>	Glenside, PA
Introduction to Data Science with R, Teaching Assistant	September 2022 – December 2022
Learning Resource Network, Advanced Tutor	August 2021 – August 2023
Problem-Solving with Algorithms and Programming II, Teaching and Lab Assistant	March 2021 – June 2021

STUDENT MENTORING

Seamus Kane, Undergraduate Researcher, Northeastern University	July 2026 – Present
Kendall Nakai, Doctoral Researcher, MIT CSAIL	May 2026 – Present
Cherry Pham, Graduate Researcher, Northeastern University	November 2025 – January 2026
Sarah Ahmed, Undergraduate Researcher, Northeastern University	January 2025 – June 2025
Lien Nguyen, Undergraduate Researcher, Northeastern University	July 2024 – December 2024