

**Shira Michel**  
michel.sh@northeastern.edu | shiramichel.github.io

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Human-Centered AI, Human-AI Interaction, Ethical & Responsible AI, Inclusive & Participatory Design, 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

Centers community-centered perspectives on human-AI interaction, examining how community-specific values, relationships, and needs shape AI use and impact

*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 PUBLICATIONS

**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 (FAccT) 2025*

## PRESS AND MEDIA

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 (FAccT) 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 FAccT Travel Grant Award (~\$340) 2026  
ACM FAccT 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  
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 and TensorFlow basics)

## **SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

### **Organizer**

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 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**

<i>Northeastern University</i>	Portland, ME
Cherry Pham, Graduate Researcher	November 2025 – January 2026
Sarah Ahmed, Undergraduate Researcher	January 2025 – June 2025
Lien Nguyen, Undergraduate Researcher	July 2024 – December 2024