

TAL AUGUST

510 421 9208 ◊ talaugust6@gmail.com
711 Bellevue Ave. E, Apt 318, Seattle WA, 98102

EDUCATION

University of Washington

PhD, Computer Science

Advisors: Katharina Reinecke & Noah Smith

GPA: (3.89/4.0)

Seattle, WA

Expected: June 2022

Tufts University

BS, Computer Science

Cumulative GPA: (3.98/4.0)

Medford, MA

May 2017

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Allen Institute for AI

Research Intern

June 2021 - September 2021

Seattle, WA

- Working with Kyle Lo and the Semantic Scholar team on automated reading tools for scholarly documents.

UW Computer Science & Engineering

Graduate Research Assistant

September 2017 - Present

Seattle, WA

- Conduct online experiments to inform adaptive language interfaces
- Projects include building tools for adapting language to different reader audiences

Microsoft Research AI

Research Intern

June 2019 - September 2019

Redmond, WA

- Worked with Dr. Shamsi Iqbal to design and implement user study investigating mobile microtask writing process

Tufts University Department of Computer Science

Research Assistant

September 2016 - May 2017

Medford, MA

- Worked under Rob Jacob investigating user mental workload with Functional Near Infrared Spectroscopy sensors (fNIRs)
- Additionally worked under Remco Chang researching new behavior mining techniques to interpret interaction data and extract user search strategy

Tufts University

Researcher and Course Developer

June - August 2016

Medford, MA

- Collaborated on faculty and student team to conceptualize multi-disciplinary, higher level design course
- Evaluated research on design and pedagogical practices, wrote course assignments, readings, and projects integrating these findings

Tufts University Department of Psychology

Research Assistant

September 2014 - May 2015

Medford, MA

- Worked under Ayanna Thomas in the Cognitive Aging and Memory lab exploring the relationship between effects of retrieval enhanced suggestibility and forward testing

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Washington

September 2019 - May 2020

Teaching Assistant, HCI & NLP Capstone Courses

Seattle, WA

- Organized and taught weekly sections providing design and research feedback for 20+ students

Tufts University

September 2014 - May 2017

Writing Fellow, Head Arabic and Computer Science Tutor

Medford, MA

- Assigned specific writing-intensive courses to support peers in writing process
- Organized weekly drop-in hours and facilitated discussions among students of diverse backgrounds

Orient Occident Foundation

September 2015 - December 2015

English Instructor

Rabat, Morocco

- Led conversation groups in English grammar and language skills with sub-Saharan African immigrants

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Conference Papers

1. Amanda Baughan¹, Nigini Oliveira¹, **Tal August**, Naomi Yamashita, and Katharina Reinecke, *Do Cross-Cultural Differences in Visual Attention Patterns Affect Search Efficiency on Websites*, Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI), 2021.
2. **Tal August**, Lauren Kim, Katharina Reinecke, and Noah Smith, *Writing Strategies for Science Communication: Data and Computational Analysis*, Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP), 2020.
3. David Wadden, **Tal August**, Qisheng Li, and Tim Althoff, *The Effect of Moderation on Online Mental Health Conversations*, Conference on Web and Social Interaction (ICWSM), 2020.
4. **Tal August**, Shamsi Iqbal, Michael Gamon, and Mark Encarnación, *Characterizing the Mobile Microtask Writing Process*, Human Computer Interaction With Mobile Devices and Services (MobileHCI), 2020.
5. **Tal August**, Dallas Card, Gary Hsieh, Noah Smith and Katharina Reinecke, *Explain like I am a Scientist: The Linguistic Barriers of Entry to r/science*, Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI), 2020.
6. Amanda Baughan, **Tal August**, Naomi Yamashita, and Katharina Reinecke, *Keep it Simple: How Visual Preferences for Simple or Complex Websites Impact Search Efficiency*, Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI), 2020.
7. Tomoki Shibata, Alena Borisenko, Anzu Hakone, **Tal August**, Leonidas Deligiannidis, Chen-Hsiang Yu, Matthew Russell, Alex Olwal, and Robert J.K. Jacob, *An Implicit Dialogue Injection System for Interruption Management*, ACM ICPS Augmented Humans International Conference (AH), 2019.
8. **Tal August** and Katharina Reinecke, *Pay Attention, Please: Formal Language Improves Attention in Volunteer and Paid Online Experiments*, Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI), 2019.
9. **Tal August**, Nigini Oliveira, Chenhao Tan, Noah Smith, and Katharina Reinecke, *Framing Effects: Choice of Slogans Used to Advertise Online Experiments Can Boost Recruitment and Lead to Sample Biases*, Proceedings of ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW), 2018.

¹Equal Contribution

10. Manuel Nordhoff, **Tal August**, Nigini Oliveira and Katharina Reinecke, *A Case for Design Localization: Diversity of Website Aesthetics in 44 Countries*, Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI), 2018.

Workshop Papers

1. **Tal August**, Maarten Sap, Elizabeth Clark, Katharina Reinecke, and Noah Smith, *Exploring the Effect of Author and Reader Identity in Online Story Writing: the StoriesInTheWild Corpus*, Workshop on Narrative Understanding, Storylines, and Events (NUSE) @ ACL, 2020.

SERVICE

Reviewer	CHI'19, CHI'21, ACL'21
Reader	UW Pre-Application Review Service (PARS)
Organizer	CSE Interactive Systems Seminar
Organizer	DUB Retreat Organizing Committee
Reader	PhD Program Admissions (CSE)

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Twitch Research Fellowship	2020
UW Endowed Fellowship in Computer Science & Engineering	2018
Tufts Phi Beta Kappa	2017
Tufts Audrey Butvay Gruss Science Award	2017
Tufts Priscilla N. Dunne Prize in Psychology	2017
Tufts Dean's List	2013-2017
Participant on Tufts Innovates! Grant	2016
Tufts Entrepreneurial Leadership Grant	2015