Spencer Williams

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https://pulse-lab-uw.github.io/

Employment

2023-present   **University of Washington, Information School**
Assistant Teaching Professor.
Areas: Human-computer interaction, science communication, social computing

Education

2018–2023   **University of Washington**
PhD in Human Centered Design and Engineering
Dissertation: Technology Support for Online Science Communication
Committee: Gary Hsieh, Katharina Reinecke (co-chairs), Kate Starbird, Benjamin Mako Hill (GSR)

2018–2022   **University of Washington**
M.S. in Human Centered Design and Engineering

2013–2017   **University of British Columbia**
B.A. Honours in Psychology
4th-year honours thesis: "The Effects of Gamma Correction on Correlation Perception in Strip Plots" (supervised by Ronald Rensink)
3rd-year honours thesis: "Gender and Status in Contexts of Physical Strength" (supervised
by Steve Heine and Kate Block)

2011–2013   **Whatcom Community College**
DTA (Associates in Arts and Sciences)

Previous Positions

2019-Present   **University of Washington,** HCDE, Graduate Researcher
Supervisor: Gary Hsieh, Katharina Reinecke
Studying how to improve science communication efforts in HCI and other fields.

Summer 2022   **Meta,** User Experience Research Intern
Supervisor: Bri Hightower
Conducted research on discovery features for Bulletin and the Facebook App.

Winter 2021-
Summer 2021   **Microsoft,** Contractor
Supervisor: Jonathan Grudin
Designed use case scenarios for educational tool for K-12 students.

Summer 2019   **University of Washington,** Alacrity, Graduate Researcher
Supervisors: Gary Hsieh, Amy Bauer
Designed technology to improve BA treatment of depression in cancer centers.

Fall 2018   **University of Washington,** HCDE**,** Graduate Researcher
Supervisor: Kate Starbird
Studied journalists' strategies for navigating misinformation and disinformation.

2016-2018	**University of British Columbia,** Psychology, Project Leader
	Supervisor: Ron Rensink
	Studied correlation perception in different visualization types.
Winter 2017–	**University of British Columbia,** Psychology, Project Manager
Summer 2017	Supervisor: Kristin Laurin
	Studied people's rationalization of immoral behaviors.
2015-2016	**University of British Columbia,** Psychology, Research Assistant
	Supervisor: Steve Heine
	Studied effects of gender and task performance on status perception
2014-2015	**University of British Columbia,** Psychology, Research Assistant
	Supervisor: Colleen Brenner
	Studied neurological and neuropsychological data related to schizotypy

Conference and Journal Papers

2023 Zade, H., **Williams, S.**, Tran, T. T., Smith, C., Venkatagiri, S., Hsieh, G., & Starbird, K. (2023). To Reply or to Quote: Comparing Conversational Framing Strategies on Twitter. *ACM Journal on Computing and Sustainable Societies*.

2023 Rosen, J.E., Chang, S.S.E., **Williams, S.**, Lee, J.S., Han, D., Agrawal, N., Joo, J.H., Hsieh, G., Reinecke, K. and Liao, J.M. (2023, January). Association between Risk Communication Format and Perceived Risk of Adverse Events after COVID-19 Vaccination among US Adults. In Healthcare (Vol. 11, No. 3, p. 380). MDPI.

2022 Meta-summaries effective for improving awareness and understanding of COVID-19 vaccine safety research. **Williams, S.**, Lee, J., Halperin, B., Liao, J., Hsieh, G., and Reinecke, K. (2022). Scientific Reports 12, 19987.

2022 An HCI Research Agenda for Online Science Communication. **Williams, S.**, Jones, R., Reinecke, K., and Hsieh, G. (2022). Proceedings of the ACM on Human Computer Interaction, 6, CSCW.

2021 The Effects of User Comments on Science News Engagement. **Williams, S**. and Hsieh, G. (2021). Proceedings of the ACM on Human Computer Interaction, 5, CSCW.

2021 Understanding Analytics Needs of Video Game Streamers. Mallari, K., **Williams, S.**, and Hsieh, G. (2021). In Proceedings of the 2021 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems.

2020 Parallel Journeys of Patients with Cancer and Depression: Challenges and Opportunities for Technology-Enabled Collaborative Care. Suh, J., **Williams, S.**, Fann, J.R., Fogarty, J., Bauer, A.M., and Hsieh, G. (2020). Proceedings of the ACM on Human Computer Interaction, 4, CSCW.

Workshop Papers and Posters

2022	Sharif, A., Pruekcharoen, P., Ramesh, T., Shang, R., **Williams**, S., & Hsieh, G. (2022). "What's going on in Accessibility Research?" Frequencies and Trends of Disability Categories and Research Domains in Publications at ASSETS.
2020	A Parallel Journeys Perspective on Technology-Supported Depression Care for Patients with Cancer. Suh, J., **Williams, S.**, Fann, J.R., Fogarty, J., Bauer, A.M., and Hsieh, G. CHI 2020, Workshop on Technology Ecosystems & Mental Health.
2020	Information Needs of Streamers. Mallari, K., **Williams, S**., and Hsieh, G. CHI 2020, Workshop on Spectator Experience in Gaming and eSports.
2016	**Williams, S.**, Block, K., & Heine, S. (2016). Gender and Status in Contexts of Physical Strength. Poster presentation at UBC Psychology Undergraduate Research Conference 2016.

Presentations

2021	Using Twitter as a researcher. *Fred Hutch CFAR eHealth Seminar.*
2021	Understanding COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy. *Social Determinants of Health Group.*
2017	The effects of gamma correction on correlation perception in strip plots. *UBC Psychology Undergraduate Research Conference*.

Teaching

University of Washington

Fall 2023	**Instructor: Social Media, Ethics, and Automation** **INFO 103.** Undergraduate students, 1 quarter, 5 credits. **Instructor: Design Methods** **INFO 360.** Undergraduate students, 1 quarter, 4 credits.
Winter 2023	**Instructor: Experimental Research Methods**
Fall 2022	**Instructor: Experimental Research Methods** **HCDE 516.** Masters students, 1 quarter, 4 credits.
Fall 2021	**Teaching Assistant: Experimental Research Methods** **HCDE 516.** Masters students, 1 quarter, 4 credits.
Spring 2021	**Teaching Assistant: Advanced HCI** **CSE 441.** Undergraduate students, 1 quarter, 5 credits.
Winter 2021	**Teaching Assistant: Introduction to Human-Computer Interaction** **CSE 440.** Undergraduate students, 1 quarter, 5 credits.
Fall 2020	**Teaching Assistant: Introduction to Human-Computer Interaction** **CSE 440.** Undergraduate students, 1 quarter, 5 credits.

Spring 2020	**Instructor, DRG: Analyzing and Supporting Twitter-Based Science Communication**, HCDE 496/596. Undergraduate and masters students, 1 quarter, 2 credits.
Spring 2019	**Instructor, DRG: HCI, Journalism, and Misinformation**, HCDE 496/596 Undergraduate and masters students, 1 quarter, 2 credits.

Advising and Mentoring
2023-present	Phoebe Huang, pre-doctoral student.
2023-2024	Ray Cagnatta, MA Museology

Professional Service
Conference Program and Organizing Committees
2023	ACM CHI, Associate Chair

Reviewer
2020-2023	ACM CHI
2019-2023	ACM CSCW

Department and University Service
University of Washington, Information School
2023	Informatics Program Committee

University of Washington, Human-Centered Design and Engineering
2020-2022	HCDE PhD Application Reviewer
Summer 2019	User-centered Design Certificate Application Reviewer
Winter 2019	Master of Science in HCDE Application Reviewer
Winter 2019	HCDE PhD Visit Days Planning Committee

Research Grants and Awards
2023	UW Center for an Informed Public Innovation Fund

Honors, Awards and Nominations
2021	UW Teaching Excellence Award Nomination
2021	HCDE Student Teaching Award Nomination