XIAOLEI QIN

xiaolei_qin@outlook.com   Austin, TX   (919)-308-6189

EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin Austin, TX | Aug 2024 - May 2026 (expected)
M.S. Information Studies, concentrated on **HCI and UX Design**, GPA: 3.95/4.0

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (Portfolio: xiaoleiqin.com)

UI/UX Designer

University of Texas at Austin, Emerging Technologies and Architecture Aug 2025 - Now

- Serve as the sole designer for Sage, an **AI tutor tool** for students and professors, collaborating with an instruction designer and engineers to design web and mobile application features, including a statistics dashboard.
- Revamp high-fidelity prototypes in **Figma** and incorporate user research feedback to improve usability and overall design quality.
- Develop and maintain a cohesive design system while leading accessibility efforts to ensure **WCAG 2.2** compliance.

Associate Design Engineer

Visa, Design System May 2022 - June 2024

- Led the development and management of the Visa Product Design System React library, bridging the gap between designers and engineers.
- Achieved industry-level accessibility (WCAG 2.1) compliance in collaboration with A11y researchers.
- Authored documentation of Visa Product Design System in React and led tutorial sessions, resulting in a 50% time reduction in onboarding time for new developers globally.

PROJECTS

Venus Spring 2025

- Brainstormed a Greek art–inspired dating app focused on presence and meaningful connections, with the help of "Cupid".
- Conducted 5 user research studies, 4 competitor analyses, and a **story map** to guide app design.
- Created a mid- and **hi-fi Figma prototype** with a streamlined user flow and a design system of **18 components**.
- Conducted 10 usability tests and updated the prototype based on user feedback, addressing 8+ high- and medium-severity issues, and added user-requested features for future iteration.

Reddit Usability Research Spring 2025

- Identified 27 usability issues in the Reddit mobile app through heuristic evaluation
- Conducted 6 competitive analyses in Miro, comparing features of direct and indirect competitors like Quora and Discord
- Designed a screener and tested 5 participants with a fully developed moderator script with 6 tasks
- Identified 4 major recommendations for the Reddit mobile app

SKILLS

Design Tools: Figma, FigJam, Mural, Miro, Adobe (Illustrator, Photoshop, Lightroom, After Effects)

UX: User Interface Design, 2D Graphic Design, Interaction Design, Visual Design, Wireframes, Heuristic Evaluation, Prototyping, Usability Testing, User Research, Data Visualization.