

# Ruijia “Regina” Cheng

## Qualitative & Quantitative UX researcher

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**Ph.D. in Human-computer interaction (HCI).** 6+ years of experience in **qualitative and quantitative research** on **AI-powered programming, creativity and writing software, online communities, and education technology.**

**Key Skills** **Qualitative Research:** interview, ethnography, usability testing, design probe, grounded theory, design workshops, thematic analysis, literature review | **Quantitative Research:** survey, A/B testing, experiment design, statistical modeling, inferential statistics, psychophysics | **Programming:** Python, R, SQL, MATLAB, JavaScript, web development (React, Node.js), machine learning (PyTorch), Unity | **Design:** Photoshop, Figma, Illustration, Blender

## Selected Professional Experiences

- Apple AI/ML Resident in Human Centered Machine Intelligence**07/2023 to present
  - Led and collaborated in research about AI in data visualization, creativity support, and software development tools.
  - Contributed to the **development of internal tools and products. Published** in broader academic communities.
- University of Washington Graduate Researcher, HCI**09/2018 to 06/2023
  - Led 10+ **formative and evaluative** research projects and **published research reports** on top HCI venues. Topics include online peer production platforms, data science & programming tools, STEM education, and creativity support.
  - Conducted **100+ interviews & 50+ user studies**; analyzed activity log of **500k+ users** using **statistical methods**.
  - Designed and built **data pipelines** and **user-facing web applications**.
  - Managed** teams of 5-10 researchers and engineers, **set agendas**, and **mentored** junior researchers.
- Microsoft Research HCI Research Intern, AI Software Development Tools**06/2022 to 09/2022
  - Led a multi-phase research on user trust in **AI-powered code generation** tools; designed and conducted **30+ interviews & 20+ evaluative studies** with software engineers; **built visual prototypes** to convey design insights.
  - Generated **research reports** for engineering teams and disseminated findings in broader academic communities.
  - Reported to director-level stakeholders; contributed to the product strategy** of GitHub Copilot with concrete design guidelines and visual prototypes.
- Dataminr HCI Research Intern, Human-AI Collaboration in NLP**09/2021 to 12/2021
  - Led research on **human-in-the-loop** text summarization; **synthesized 600+ academic literatures** into design framework; developed **Figma prototypes** and conducted **evaluative studies** with **crowd workers**.
  - Generated **research reports** for internal usage and **publications** in broader academic communities.
  - Reported to director-level stakeholders** and impacted the design of internal **AI-powered tools**.
- Meta UX Research Intern, Video Recommendation**06/2020 to 09/2020
  - Led **20k+ surveys** in **5 countries**, **interviews**, **usability tests**, and **statistical analysis of 20k+ user logs**.
  - Impacted** the design of recommendation algorithms and video players with insights from **international markets**.
  - Collaborated effectively with **cross-functional teams** (engineering, design, PM, and data) and **vendors**.

## Education

- University of Washington (UW)**
  - Doctor of Philosophy** in Human Centered Design & Engineering2023
  - Master of Science** in Human Centered Design & Engineering2021
- University of California, San Diego (UCSD) Magna Cum Laude**
  - Bachelor of Science** in Cognitive Science with a Specialization in Computation2018
  - Bachelor of Science** in Mathematics: Applied Science2018