

Alina Sue Larson, PhD

Human Factors Engineering, UX Research, Writing

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RECENT WORKING EXPERIENCE

Heriot-Watt University — *Post-Graduate Researcher*

APRIL 2024 - SEPTEMBER 2024

Designed and conducted a series of studies with a team of engineers at the National Robotarium to examine and implement improvements in conversational turn-taking for human-robot interactions (with a focus on turn-taking speed, backchannels, and hesitations). I wrote up our progress in a series of 3 reports, which were sent to our collaborators at Honda Research Institute in Japan.

Lark in the Morning — *Social Media Marketing Specialist*

SEPTEMBER 2019 - PRESENT

I manage brand presence on social media sites, write blog posts, provide materials for newsletters, help with website design, & act as photographer of musical instruments at the Lark in the Morning store.

UC Santa Cruz — *Lecturer for "Psychology of Language"*

JULY 2019 - SEPTEMBER 2019

I lectured on a range of topics concerning how people use language to communicate, as it pertains to psycholinguistics. I taught two 3.5-hour classes per week for 5 weeks. I designed lectures, in-class participation quizzes, exams, & coordinated grading with my two teaching assistants.

Catalia Health — *Engineering Intern*

JULY 2018 - SEPTEMBER 2018

I created content (visualizations using Javascript, HTML, and Python) and performed some linguistic analysis work (NLP). My primary project involved building a GUI to aid in the creation of robot animations for the robot, Mabu, and working on demos to showcase this work.

SKILLS

Research Design & Methods.

Statistical Data Analysis.

Survey Design & User Studies.

Creative & Academic Writing.

Visual Design & Illustration.

Public Speaking & Teaching.

AWARDS

Perlino Award, 2016: a competitive award for research related to deafness.

GSR Award, 2015 & 2016: Summer Graduate Student Research.

Regents' Fellowship, 2014.

Phi Beta Kappa, 2012.

Psi Chi, 2012.

**Pamplin Corporation
Scholarship, 2010–2012.**

Dean's List, 2008–2012.

LANGUAGES

Programming:

Python, Javascript, HTML.

Statistical:

SPSS, R, SAS, MATLAB.

Natural:

English, French, Russian.

EDUCATION

UC Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz CA — *M.S., Ph.D.*

OCTOBER 2014 - JUNE 2019

I completed my doctoral degree in psychology, with a focus in psycholinguistics. My research primarily focused on user impressions in the context of human-computer interaction. I examined the impact of visual and rhythmic expression on personality judgments of machine and human agents primarily using survey studies, as well as a robot study.

Lewis and Clark College, Portland OR — *B.A.*

AUGUST 2008 - JUNE 2012

I double-majored in psychology (with a focus on cognitive neuroscience) and foreign languages (French and Russian), and studied abroad in Russia for one semester.

REFERENCES – *more available upon request*

Professor Jean E. Fox Tree — *Graduate Advisor*

Department of Psychology
University of California Santa Cruz
Santa Cruz, CA 95064
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Dr. Leila Takayama

HOKU LABS Founder and Human-Robot Interaction Specialist
<http://www.leilatakayama.org/wp/takayama@gmail.com>

Associate Professor Matthew Aylett — *Line Manager*

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