Lachlan Kermode

BORN:	17 November 1994, Wellington, New Zealand
LANGUAGES:	English (mothertongue), Italian (4 years), Latin (5 years)
WEBSITE:	lachlankermode.com
RESUME:	resume.lachlankermode.com
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EDUCATION

05.2018 AB in COMPUTER SCIENCE, **Princeton University**.
Coursework includes 5+ upper level seminars in critical theory, media theory and performance theory.
Thesis: "Towards critical computing: a template for animated documentary," Advised: Arvind NARAYANAN
GPA: 3.3/4.0

PUBLICATIONS

11.2019 Objects of violence: synthetic data for practical ML in human rights investigations.
NEURIPS 2019, AI for Social Good Workshop, Producing Good Outcomes. (First author.)
https://lachlankermode.com/objectsofviolence_neurips_2019.pdf

LECTURES AND SEMINARS

12-25.10.2020	Practical Introduction to Deep Learning with FastAI	Brown University, remotely.
24.09.2019	AI and Human Rights	Sigrid Rausing Trust, London.
16.09.2019	Citizen Forensics workshop	School of Machines, Berlin.
31.08.2019	Spatial Research Practice Roundtable	Flaneur Festival at HKW, Berlin.
23.07.2019	Machine Learning in Forensic Investigations	United Nations / ATI - AI, Peace, and Security, London.
17.07.2019	Machine Learning and Synthetic Data	Goldsmiths University, London.
04.07.2019	On Algorithmic Vision	Birkbeck's Critical Theory Summer School, London.
19.06.2019	Computer Visions	Princeton-Weimar Summer School for Media Studies.
21.03.2019	Using Synthetic Data	ElementAI's AI for Social Good meetup, London.
10.10.2018	Machine Learning in Counter Forensics	Princeton University (co-taught seminar).
03.11.2018	Lessons in Counter Forensics: Interpretation	Turner Prize seminars at Tate Britain.

SELECTED INVESTIGATIONS AT FORENSIC ARCHITECTURE

For the full list see my profile at https://forensic-architecture.org/about/team/member/lachie-kermode.

17.11.2020	The Beirut Port Explostion	https://forensic-architecture.org/investigation/beirut-port-explosion
28.10.2020	Brutality at BLM Protests	https://forensic-architecture.org/investigation/police-brutality-at-the-black-lives-matter-protests
19.08.2019	The Battle of Ilovaisk	https://forensic-architecture.org/investigation/the-battle-of-ilovaisk
21.03.2018	The Grenfell Tower Fire	https://forensic-architecture.org/investigation/the-grenfell-tower-fire

AWARDS AND HONOURS

09.2018	Top 5 (of 125+) 'Hive'	HACKZURICH 2018
09.2017	Top 25 (of 125+) 'Midnight Grain to Georgia'	HACKZURICH 2017
06.2017	Undergraduate Research Fellow	PIIRS, Berlin
2016-19	Advisory Board	Paideia Institute for Humanisitic Study
12.2015	1st Place 'ClaireCutApp'	Burda Hackday, Munich
10.2015	Dropbox API Prize 'Stitch'	HackZurich 2015
09.2015	1st Place 'Pocketbadge'	Bic Lazio Talenttime Hackathon, Rome
10.2012	1st Place	Auckland University Latin Speaking Competition

Positions

06.2018–	**Advanced Software Researcher** - FORENSIC ARCHITECTURE *London, UK* I direct engineering for several full stack platforms and machine learning workflows. I also sit on our data management committee for digital security, and offer expertise across investigations that are computer oriented. See forensic-architecture.org/subdomain/oss for related publications, and github.com/forensic-architecture for the open source softwares I maintain.
04.2020-01.2021	**Developer at The Syllabus** - THE SYLLABUS *Berlin, Germany* Designed and developed the frontend for two websites in Vue: the-syllabus.com and cabinet.the-syllabus.com (by subscription only). User-based authentication, account management (reset and deletion), payment via Stripe, and a page-display algorithm to simulate A4 pages on the web. In 2020 these websites were used by some 20,000 users.
11.2019-03.2020	**Visiting Research Fellow** - UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND, DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE *Auckland, New Zealand* Conceptualising and undertaking an investigation to recenter Muslim and Maori communities in New Zealand by documenting how a racialised figuration of 'the terrorist' persists in the wake of the Christchurch mosque shootings in March 2019. In partnership with Forensic Architecture.
01.2019–	**Full stack engineer** - MERANTIX *Berlin, Germany [remote]* I develop tooling for deep learning workflows on a part time basis for Merantix ventures. Working mainly in Python and the Jupyter notebook stack, we aimhttps://www.overleaf.com/project/563a21fa2a2d7d4a123ba0ed to augment tooling in industry DL. Technologies include Kubernetes, GCP, Tensorflow, Jupyter notebooks, Svelte, Vue, and React.
08.2016-03.2017	**CTO and co-founder** - DIRECT DRINKS *Wellington, NZ [remote]* We provide a direct sales channels between large corporate suppliers and small resellers in the FMCG industry, disrupting a pipeline that is currently dominated by mid-tier redistributors. As CTO, I developed from scratch an end-to-end platform for web, mobile, and tablet.
06-08.2016	**Mobile developer** - INFLECTION *San Francisco, USA* Developed an Objective C SDK for an OAuth2 verification flow, and prototyped two React Native applications. Contributions to Dockerized Rails backend.
04-06.2016	**Full stack developer** - ARTIRIGO *Bamburg, Germany* React Native frontend for iOS and Android. In addition, Dockerized and contributions to Rails application. I worked intermittently for Artirigo remotely after returning to complete my degree at Princeton through 2018.
06.2015-02.2016	**Digital humanities fellow** - PAIDEIA INSTITUTE *Rome, Italy* After an internship developing an iOS application in 2015, I became the inaugural Digital Humanities Fellowship, taking a year off from Princeton to head digital operations from the office in Rome. I learned Italian, renovated Paideia's website, wrote web crawlers for research and development, developed two iOS applications, and imm-proved internal operations at the institute with Google Scripts, Python, and general technical suggestions. Since the fellowship concluded, I have sat on the institute's advisory board.

EXHIBITIONS

02.06.2020 | Violent Legalities   - ADAM ART GALLERY
Wellington, New Zealand

This project cartographically chronologises three separate projects. Each aims to spatialise relationships between legislative activity and occurrences of violence to inspect enduring trends between settler-colonial law-making processes and state policies in Aotearoa/New Zealand.

20.02.2020 | Model Zoo in Uncanny Valley: Being human in the age of AI   - DE YOUNG MUSEUM
San Francisco, USA

This exhibition presented the research project I steered at Forensic Architecture in computer vision and synthetic data. Accompanying technical details are available at https://forensic-architecture.org/investigation/detecting-tear-gas.

13.05.2019 | Triple Chaser in Whitney Biennial 2019   - WHITNEY MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART
New York, USA

Forensic Architecture's invited contribution, I worked with filmmaker Laura Poitras and Praxis Films to steer the project from a machine learning perspective. Accompanying technical details are available at https://forensic-architecture.org/investigation/cv-in-triple-chaser.

13.05.2019 | Destruction and Return in Al-Araqib in Turner Prize nomination 2018   - TATE BRITAIN
London, UK

An exhibition produced for Forensic Architecture's nomination for the 2018 Turner Prize, and my first investigation with the research group, I helped develop an interactive platform displaying more than 30Gb of point clouds and other citizen-mapped data in the Negev/Naqab desert.

03.2019 | Talking Popcorn's First Last Words with Nina Katchadourian   - FRIDMAN GALLERY
New York, USA

Sixteen people from a wide variety of fields and areas of expertise were asked to address Talking Popcorn's last words from their particular disciplinary perspectives. The soundtrack played in a room with the burned, damaged carcass of the first machine standing on a black plinth upon which was written the machine's final pronouncement.

Bachelor of Arts in COMPUTER SCIENCE

Princeton University

COURSE	GRADE
COM 205, Classical Roots of Western Literature	B
COS 126, Introduction to Computer Sceince	A
ECO 101, Introduction to Macroeconomics	C+
ENG 201, American Literary History	A-
ATL 494, Creating Musical Comedies by 'Baby Wants Candy'	P
COS 226, Algorithms and Data Structures	B
GER 306, German Intellectual History: The Frankfurt School	A-
WRI 147, Writing Seminar: Cultural Landscapes	A-
ANT 215, Human Adaptation	P
COS 217, Introduction to Programming Systems	B
EAS 415, Intellectual History of China to the 5th Century	B+
HIS 391, History of Contemporary Science	B
SOC 323, Sociology of Intellectuals and Ideas	A-
COS 333, Advanced Programming Techniques	B
DAN 321, Mobilizing Bodies, Dancing the State	A-
GER 517, Modernism and Modernity: Signal to Noise	A
MAT 175, Mathematics for Economics/Life Sciences	B+
COS 326, Functional Programming	C+
COS 340, Reasoning about Computation	B
COS 001, Independent Work, Elm and the Functional Web	B-
GER 517, Aesthetics of Surveillance	A
ITA 304, Tutto Dante	P
COS 424, Fundamentals of Machine Learning	A
COS 426, Computer Graphics	B-
COS 90, Data Driven Resistance	A
COS 002, Independent Work: Topic Modeling in Phonopost	B+
GER 517, Digital Cultures	B+
COS 318, Operating Systems	B
COS 4432, Information Security	C
DAN 90, Performance Theory: Theatricality, the Anthropological Turn, the Body, and the Digital	A
GEO 102A, Climate: Past, Present, and Future	P
COS 445, Economics and Computing	B-
VIS 325, New Orleans Culture, Climate and Art	A-
Senior Departmental Exam	A
Senior Thesis	A
Total	33
GPA	3.315

High School Diploma with Cambridge A Levels

Auckland Grammar School

Course	Grade
A Level - max A*	
Mathematics	A
Physics	A*
English	A*
Music	B
AS Level - max A	
Latin (2011 and 2012)	A
Thinking Skills	A
Classical Studies	A
IGCSE - max A*	
English Literature	A
English Language	A
Chemistry	A*
Music	A
Mathematics	A*
Combined Science	A*