

# Brett Benda

brett.benda [at] ufl.edu | <https://cise.ufl.edu/~bbenda>

## Education

---

- PhD Human-Centered Computing**, University of Florida **2019-Present**  
Adviser: Dr. Eric D. Ragan  
Current GPA: 4.00/4.00
- B.S. Digital Arts and Science**, University of Florida **2019**  
Final GPA: 3.52/4.00

## Research Experience

---

- Graduate Research Assistant** **2019-Present**  
Adviser: Dr. Eric D. Ragan
- *Detection of Remapped Hands in VR* **2019-Present**  
Investigates the extend to which hand movement can be scaled or placement offset before they are detectable to users.
  - *User Trust in Machine Learning* **2020-Present**  
Examines how what users are initially told about a machine learning/AI system effects their trust and user of the system.
- Undergraduate Research Assistant** **2017-2019**  
Adviser: Dr. Jaime Ruiz
- *Communicating with Computers* **2017-2019**  
Investigated and evaluated design practices for virtual agents in collaborative tasks with humans.
  - *Biometrics Project* **2018-2019**  
Explored attitudes and perceptions held by humans towards user authentication with body-movement and speech modalities.

## Teaching Experience

---

- Undergraduate Teaching Assistant** **2017-2019**  
**CAP 3220 (3D Modeling)**
- Instructor: Dr. Rong Zhang
  - Acted as primary grader for course assignments.

- Assisted students during in-class activities and during office hours.

**CEN 3031** (Programming II), **COP 3503** (Introduction to Software Engineering)

- Instructor: Mr. Joshua Fox
- Wrote and developed course assignments and supplemental materials.
- Responsible for leading 2-3 discussion sections per week.
- Held office hours to facilitate learning of students.

## **Publications**

---

### **Peer-Reviewed Conference Publications**

1. Esmaeili, S., **Benda, B.**, and Ragan, E. (2020). Detection of Scaled Hand Interactions in Virtual Reality: The Effects of Motion Direction and Task Complexity. IEEE Conference on Virtual Reality and 3D User Interfaces (IEEE VR 2020)