

Xi Rao

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<http://xi-rao.me>

EDUCATION

Expected 2018	Illinois Institute of Technology — Chicago, IL PhD. Technology and Humanities
2015	Illinois Institute of Technology — Chicago, IL M.S. Information Architecture
2013	Huazhong University of Science and Technology — Wuhan, China B.S. Software Engineering

RESEARCH

2014- Current	Collaboration and Social Media Lab — Illinois Institute of Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Assist and work with Professor Libby Hemphill- Implement an interactive system based on Django to explore the activities of U.S Congress members on Twitter in Python, HTML, CSS, JavaScript- Analyze big datasets of tweets and create efficient data schema based on MySQL and Python- Research and explore big data visualization
2014- 2015	Research Method & Resources Course — Illinois Institute of Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Parse three-month tweets of hashtag 1ReasonWhy and designed a data schema to persist clean data- Use quantitative and qualitative text analysis methods to access the behavior and attitudes of participants- Design and implement the representation of results including interactive infographics
2014- 2015	Environmental NGOs Project — Illinois Institute of Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Work with Professor Matt Shapiro- Collect data and create a dataset of news on Chinese environmental organizations by scraping articles on the most popular Chinese media, xinhuanet.com- Apply a Chinese segment base, Genius, to analyze Chinese text
2013- 2014	Gewgaws Lab — Illinois Institute of Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Assistant of Professor Karl Stolley- Designed and co-developed an iOS application — BookShare with students in Computer Science- Practiced and researched new ways to build websites with pre-processors: HAML, SASS and Ruby

PUBLICATIONS

- 2016 Xi Rao and Libby Hemphill. **Asian American Chicago Network: A Preliminary Study of Facebook Group Use By Immigrant Groups.** *Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing.*
- 2015 Xi Rao. **The Aesthetic of Play.** *First Person Scholar.*
- 2015 Matthew Shapiro and Xi Rao. **Selling Out or Buying In: Citizen Based Environmental NGO Success in China.** *Midwest Political Science Association.*

PPRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS

- 2016 Xi Rao and Jodi Houlihan. **Southerly Wind: Exploring Chicago Chinese Immigrants' Struggles in the early 1900's.** *Digital Humanities and Computer Science*
- 2016 Xi Rao and Libby Hemphill. **Facebook in the Diaspora: The Case of the Asian American Chicago Network.** *European Workshops in International Studies*
- 2015 Michael DeAnda, Xi Rao, and Jodi Houlihan. **Revisiting #1ReasonWhy: Curating the Canon.** *Chicago Colloquium on Digital Humanities & Computer Science.*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2014 **UX Designer Intern** — Foodstub Inc. Chicago
- Conducted user research to understand and get feedback from people's behavior
 - Designed all interfaces of the iOS application—FoodStub
 - Designed flyers and back-end management interfaces
- 2013 **Product Designer Intern** — Baitianinfo Corporation, Guangzhou, China
- Plotted events among gamers to increase page view
 - Analyzed monthly statistics such as page view and users' comments in order to give feedback for iterating products
- 2011-2013 **Research Intern** — Entrepreneurship Incubation base, Wuhan, China
- Designed mobile applications on both Android and iOS platforms obeying official principles
 - Co-founder of HTML5 Club at Huazhong University of Science and Technology
 - Cooperated with Integrasco Inc. and scraped data from Norway by Python and XML

AWARDS & HONORS

2015	Nominated 2016 Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools (MAGS) Distinguished Master's Thesis Awards
2015-present	Illinois Institute of Technology Research Assistantship
2013-2015	Illinois Institute of Technology Graduate Fellowship (2-year full scholarship & stipend)
2011, 2012	Huazhong University of Science and Technology People's Scholarship
2012	11th prize in Free App section, China Mobile Million Entrepreneurship Competition
2012	21st prize in Paid App section, China Mobile Million Entrepreneurship Competition
2012	Excellency prize in 2012 Tencent HTML5 Competition
2010	Huazhong University of Science and Technology Freshman Excellency Scholarship

AFFILIATIONS & SERVICES

2016	HASTAC scholar
2014-2015	Invited Translator, Superior Design Consortium, China
2014	Illinois Institute of Technology Global Alumni Ambassador
2013	SWE Member
2012-2013	OPhone Club Mobile App Designer/Committee, Huazhong University of Science and Technology
2012	HTML5 Club Vice Chair, Huazhong University of Science and Technology

SKILLS

Languages: Python (Django); SQL (MySQL, MongoDB); HTML5; CSS; JavaScript (JQuery, D3, Node.js); Ruby (Rails)

Tools: Photoshop; Illustrator; Axure RP; MockUp; Mind Manager