

# ELLEN VAN WYK

User Experience Designer

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ellenvanwyk.github.io

## EDUCATION

- University of California, Berkeley** – Master of Information Management and Systems 2016 (anticipated)  
Relevant Courses: Information Visualization, Web Programming, User Experience Design, Distributed Computing
- University of Washington, Seattle** – Bachelor of Science, Neurobiology 2013
- University of Washington, Seattle** – Bachelor of Arts with Honors, Interdisciplinary Visual Arts 2013

## WORK EXPERIENCE

- UC Berkeley School of Information** / Fall Semester 2015 **Berkeley, CA**  
*Graduate Student Researcher for Tapan Parikh*
- Collaborated on experimental design and protocol for a study on youth interpretations of data
  - Designed and built a site for research group in support of research efforts
- Amazon.com** / Summer 2015 **Seattle, WA**  
*User Experience Design Intern - Amazon Marketing Services*
- Conducted and compiled research on user population and competition
  - Developed high fidelity prototype in Axure for testing with 7 AMS users
  - Analyzed user study results and finalized UX and visual design of system scheduled for release in early 2016
- University of Washington Computer Science Department** / 2013 -2014 **Seattle, WA**  
*Research Assistant - Facial Expression Research Group*
- Wrote sections of research paper submitted to SIGGRAPH Asia, including facial expression psychology and math related work sections, that received positive feedback from paper reviewers
  - Developed components of math model in MATLAB that were integrated into Maya plugin prototype, using PCA, interactive visualizations, multivariate regressions, clustering, and crowd-sourced data
  - Designed, analyzed in MATLAB, and presented user study experiment for SIGGRAPH Asia paper
  - Presented related work and math research weekly to an interdisciplinary team of artists and computer scientists

## TEACHING & LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

- UC Berkeley School of Information** / Spring Semester 2015 **Berkeley, CA**  
*Tutor - Interface Aesthetics*
- Supported lecture development, critiqued student work, and organized course materials for graduate class
- UC Berkeley Code 510** / Fall 2014 - present **Berkeley, CA**  
*Mentor for High School Students*
- Supported high schoolers developing a game in Javascript in weekly meetings
  - Contributed to paper on Code 510 outcomes led by Sarah Van Wart submitted to ICER 2015
- University of Washington Undergraduate Neuroscience Journal Grey Matters** / 2012 - 2014 **Seattle, WA**  
*Cofounder and Editor*
- Recruited and connected art students with authors in the sciences to produce editorial illustrations
  - Raised \$3,000 for journal and established mentorship relations in neurobiology department
  - Established an ongoing community of over 50 members and bi-annual print and online publications
  - Contributed articles and editorial illustrations about current issues in neurobiology

## AWARDS & CERTIFICATIONS

Mary Gates Leadership Scholarship  
Robert C. Byrd Scholarship  
National Merit Commended Scholar  
Certified Natural Science Illustrator (2014)

## SKILLS & SOFTWARE

Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator, Justinmind  
Autodesk Maya  
HTML, CSS, Python and MATLAB  
Painting and Drawing