Evan Donahue

Curriculum Vitae
August, 2025

evan.donahue@nau.edu

Employment

2025-Present	Assistant Professor of Comparative Cultural Studies & Informatics, Computing, and Cyber Systems Northern Arizona University
2024-2025	Mellon-SFU Postdoctoral Fellow Digital Democracies Institute Simon Fraser University
2021-2024	Postdoctoral Fellow Tokyo College Institute for Advanced Study University of Tokyo

Education

Ph.D.	Computational Media, Arts & Cultures Duke University, 2021 Certificates: 　　Information Science & Studies 　　College Teaching 　　Teaching Writing in the Disciplines Thesis: *Android Linguistics: How Machines Do Things With Words*
B.A.	Modern Culture & Media (Hons.) Brown University, 2011 Thesis: *The Man In The Mask: Artistic Practice At The Edge Of Terror*
Sc.B.	Computer Science/Mathematics (Hons.)

Evan Donahue

Brown University, 2011

Thesis: *Searching for the Blackbox: Unsupervised Recovery of Relational Schema from Unstructured Airplane Crash Reports*

Grants, Awards & Honors

2023	Data Fluencies Grant (Collaborator)	Mellon Foundation
2020	Evan Frankel Fellow	Duke University
	Bass Instructional Fellow	
	Bass Digital Education Fellow (Declined)	
2019	Learning Innovation Coursera Fellow	Coursera Inc.
	X-Force Fellow	U.S. DoD
	1st place, Hacking4Defense Demo Day	Duke University
2018	HASTAC Scholar	HASTAC
2016	PhD Lab in Digital Knowledge Fellow	Duke University
	2nd place, Digital Humanities Software Competition	
2015	Summer Research Fellow	
2014	J.B. Duke Fellow	
	University Scholars Fellow	
2012	1st place, Disaster Preparedness Software Competition	U.S. HHS Dept.
2011	*magna cum laude*	Brown University
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2007	6th place, Extemporaneous Speaking Nationals	U.S. NFL

Publications

In-Progress

2024	Canute, Matt, Wendy Chun, Stephanie Dick and Evan Donahue.[1] "Understanding AI: Deconstruction to Reconstruction." *Critical Inquiry.* Invited Submission.
	Donahue et al. "Algorithm Obscurity in Bossware: A Sentiment Analysis Case Study." *AI Technology as Human Interaction – Linguistic and Cultural Framings of AI as Communicative Infrastructure*, special issue of *AI & Society.* Forthcoming.

Peer Reviewed

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[1]Authors listed in alphabetical order.

2024 Donahue, Evan. 2024. "Relational Reactive Programming: miniKanren for the Web." In *Proceedings of the 2024 miniKanren and Relational Programming Workshop*. Milan. Link

2023 Donahue, Evan. 2023. "Goals as Constraints: Writing miniKanren Constraints in miniKanren." In *Proceedings of the 2023 miniKanren and Relational Programming Workshop*. Seattle.

Donahue, Evan. "All The Microworld's A Stage: Realism in Interactive Fiction and Artificial Intelligence." *American Literature* 1. no. 2 (June 2023): 229-254. Link

2022 Donahue, Evan. 2022. "Efficient Variational Inference in miniKanren with Weighted Model Counting." In *Proceedings of the 2022 miniKanren and Relational Programming Workshop*, Ljubljana. Link

2021 Donahue, Evan. 2021. "Guarded Fresh Goals: Dependency-Directed Introduction of Fresh Logic Variables." In *Proceedings of the 2021 miniKanren and Relational Programming Workshop*, Virtual, 2021, 74-88. Mississauga: University of Toronto Mississauga. Link

Donahue, Evan. "Theseus in the Epistemic Labyrinth: A Critical History of the Semantic Differential Method and the Apparent Weight of Color." *Machine Intelligences in Context: Beyond the Technological Sublime*, special issue of *Culture Machine* 20, no. 1 (2021). Link

Invited Talks

2023 Donahue, Evan. "Word2Vec & Validation." Experimental Algorithmic Futures Working Group, 2023, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver.

Donahue, Evan. "What Do We Mean When We Say Language Models Are Biased?" Franklin Humanities Institute, 2023, Duke University, Durham.

Conference Presentations

2023   Donahue, Evan. "What Do Machines Learn When They Learn Language." Society for Social Studies of Science Annual Conference, 2023, Honolulu Convention Center, Honolulu. Conference Presentation.

Donahue, Evan. "Why does NLP Work?: Word2Vec and the Search for Linguistic Theory in a Computational World." Technolinguistics in Practice: Socially Situating Language in AI Systems, 2023, University of Siegen in Siegen, Germany. Conference Presentation.

2022   Donahue, Evan. "Simulated Worlds: Games, AI, and Microworlds Research." Society for Social Studies of Science Annual Conference, 2022, Universidad Iberoamericana-Puebla in Cholula, México. Conference Presentation.

2021   Donahue, Evan. "Speaking their Minds: Language as Thought in the Early History of Artificial Intelligence." Society for Social Studies of Science Annual Conference, 2021, Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel, Toronto. Conference Presentation.

Donahue, Evan. "The Common Sense Informatic Situation: Towards an Android Linguistics." Theoretical and Foundational Problems in Information Studies, Summit of the International Society for the Study of Information, 2021, Online. Conference Presentation.

Donahue, Evan. "Between The Lines: Identifying "Bias" in Language and Code." Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference, March 2021. Conference Presentation.

Donahue, Evan. "Artificial Intelligence *as* Literature." Modern Language Association Annual Conference, January 2021. Conference Presentation.

2019   Donahue, Evan. "Theory of Games: Games as Experimental Technologies in Artificial Intelligence Research." Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts Annual Conference, November 2019, University of California, Irvine, CA. Conference Presentation.

Donahue, Evan. "The Wizard's Curse Played On: Searching for Tragedy in Bob Dylan's Tempest." Only You and Your Ghost Will Know: Music, Death & Afterlife, MoPOP Pop Conference, April 2019, Museum of Popular Culture, Seattle, WA. Conference Presentation.

2018   Donahue, Evan. "High Resolution Realities: Microworlds and
        Metanarratives in Artificial Intelligence." States of Emergence,
        American Studies Association Annual Conference, August
        2019, Marriott Hotel, Philadelphia, PA. Conference
        Presentation.
2011   Donahue, Evan. "Walking the Talk: Technology, Terror, and Art
        as a Criminal Act." Imagination, Reparation, Transformation,
        American Studies Association Annual Conference, October
        2011, Hilton Hotel, Baltimore, MD. Conference Presentation.

Non-Peer Reviewed

2022   Donahue, Evan. "Towards an Android Linguistics: Pragmatics,
        Reflection, and Creativity in Machine Language." Proceedings
        of *Theoretical and Foundational Problems in Information
        Studies* 81, no. 1 (July 2022). Link
2020   Donahue, Evan. "John McCarthy." Encyclopedia of Artificial
        Intelligence: The Past, Present, and Future of AI, edited by
        Michael Klein and Philip Frana, ABC-CLIO, 2020.
        Donahue, Evan. "Summary of White Paper on Artificial
        Intelligence: A European Approach to Excellence and Trust."
        SciPol, 2020, scipol.org/track/white-paper-artificial-
        intelligence-european-approach-excellence-and-trust.
        Donahue, Evan. "Summary of the National Artificial Intelligence
        Research and Development Strategic Plan: 2019 Update."
        SciPol, 2020, scipol.org/track/national-artificial-intelligence-
        research-and-development-strategic-plan-2019-update.
2016   Donahue, Evan. "The Last Ship Sails: Raising the Titanic from
        Black Diamond Bay." *Lute & Drum*, vol. 7, no. 1, 2016.

Media & Interviews

2019   Donahue, Evan. Interview by Liza Yeager, *Raising Devendra*,
        Invisibilia, National Public Radio, September 2019.

Teaching

Instructor of Record

2023, 2022	Introduction to Identity Studies (Co-Taught)
2022	Linguistics and Society in the Digital Age (Co-Taught)
	Global Education for Innovation and Leadership (Co-Taught)
2021	Humanities Text Mining
2018	History of Artificial Intelligence

Teaching Assistant

2017, 2016	Fundamentals of Web-Based Multimedia Communications
2015	Experimental Interface Design
2011	Creating Modern Web Applications
2011, 2010	Introduction to Computational Linguistics
2009	Introduction to Machine Learning

University Service

2023	miniKanren 5 Annual Relational Programming Workshop Program Committee
	Technolinguistics in Practice: Socially Situating Language in AI Systems Conference Organizing Committee
2020	Strategic Education Sessions on Research, Translation, and Commercialization with the Duke University Board of Trustees Graduate Student Representative
2019	Project Managed Student/Faculty Summer Textmining Research Project on War Profiteering in American History
2018	Co-Founded Duke Text Mining Collaboratorye
2017, 2015	University Scholars Interview Committee

Languages

Natural Languages

Japanese Latin

Programming Languages

Bash C HTML/CSS Java Javascript Julia Prolog Matlab miniKanren Python Scheme Smalltalk SQL