

GALE CHEN

Graduate Research Assistant | they/them | Vancouver, BC

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, University of British Columbia

Teaching | Vancouver, BC

Computer Science 317: Introduction to Computer Networking

Jan - Apr 2023

- Demonstrated strong Java programming and outstanding knowledge of computer networking concepts.

Cognitive Systems 401: Seminar in Cognitive Systems

Jan - Apr 2022, Sep - Dec 2022

- Demonstrated excellent academic writing and aptitude for understanding research papers in computer science, psychology, philosophy and linguistics.
- Graded and provided quality feedback on student research essays and gave a lecture on argumentative essay writing.

CBTF Coordinator, University of British Columbia

Management | Vancouver, BC | Jun 2023 – Apr 2025

- Managed the departmental Computer Based Testing Facility (CBTF), which was used for administering exams for over 34,000 student reservations across 20 courses in one academic term.
- Configured exams and student reservations, created weekly invigilation schedules for a team of 15 invigilators, and responded to instructor requests in a timely manner.

Course Coordinator, University of British Columbia

Management | Vancouver, BC | Jun 2023 – Apr 2025

- Managed two teams of 10 to 30 teaching assistants per academic term, creating schedules, assigning tasks, and conducting performance reviews.
- Coordinated two courses of up to 600 enrolled students each, per academic term, configuring online assessments, printing and scanning final exams, and recording academic concession data.

Open Science Specialist, University of British Columbia

Research | Vancouver, BC | May – Sep 2022

Murphy Lab (Faculty of Medicine), University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

- Demonstrated strong debugging skills in developing R and python scripts and installing/testing data analysis programs via Linux command line.
- Tested the usage of DataJoint, a workflow management tool based on relational database principles, by creating a local DataJoint server in Docker, and transforming and inserting fiber photometry data into the database.
- Supported life sciences research labs in adopting open science practices by co-writing R workshops and maintaining data management best-practices guides.

Bioinformatics Research Assistant, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

Research | Lethbridge, AB | Jun – Dec 2020

- Worked as part of an interdisciplinary team on the development of BeeCSI, a large-scale multi-omics diagnostic platform for assessing bee health.
- Co-authored presentation “Developing tools to study the honeybee (*Apis mellifera*) gut microbiome response to environmental stressors”, which was presented at the 2022 North America Honey Bee Research Symposium.
- Integrated Krona, an interactive taxonomic abundance data visualization tool, into our data analysis pipeline

Elementary & High School Tutor, Culture Immersion Education

Teaching | Richmond, BC | 2017 – 2018

- Provided one-on-one English, Math and Science tutoring to students from grade 5 to grade 12.

SKILLS

Design Interaction design, User Flows, Wireframing, Prototyping

Technical Figma, HTML, CSS, R, Python, Java

Research Usability testing, User Interviews, Survey Design

Hobbies Rock climbing, Hiking, Embroidery, Leatherworking, Drawing

EDUCATION

MSc Computer Science (HCI), University of British Columbia

Graduating May 2027

BSc Cognitive Systems (Cognition & Brain Opt.), University of British Columbia

Graduated May 2023

- Graduation with Distinction (2023): achieved an average of at least 85.0% on 30 percentage-graded credits of Science courses numbered 300 or above.
- Dean's Honour List (2018/19, 2020/21): achieved a standing of 80.0% or higher in a Winter Session during which at least 27 approved percentage-graded credits were completed.

VOLUNTEERING

Sexual Health Educator, Vancouver Coastal Health

Teaching | Vancouver, BC | Sep 2018 – Sep 2024

- Demonstrated dedication and passion to public health education, topics of gender, and sexual and emotional health.
- Co-author of LGBTQ+ focused sexual education curriculum to be taught in high schools, social service agencies, and youth centres throughout the Vancouver Coastal Health authority in 2024.
- Provided sex-positive and inclusive sexual health education to thousands of youth over my 5 years of experience.

Meet Up Facilitator & Climbing Mentor, Van Queer Climbers

Mentorship | Vancouver, BC | Nov 2023 - Present

- Lead monthly climbing meet ups for LGBTQIA+ individuals in gyms around the city.
- Mentored two beginner climbers, meeting regularly and providing constructive feedback on their climbing progress over a course of 4 months.

PROJECTS

Evaluating Emotion Preservation in Attribute-Preserving De-Identification (COGS 402, Python)

Sep – Dec 2022

- Capstone research paper evaluating accuracy of emotion preservation between open source GAN-based attribute-preserving facial de-identification methods.

Research Proposal: Ideological Roles of Gender Non-Conforming Identities in Anime (COGS 401)

Apr 2021

- Proposed a research project that parses anime transcripts and audience comments on internet forums to identify differences in in-universe characterization and audience perception of gender non-conforming male characters and gender non-conforming female characters in anime, revealing differences in cultural attitudes towards gender non-conformance in men and women.

Emergent Pathfinding in Pedestrian Traffic on University Campus (COGS 300, Java)

Sep – Dec 2019

- Modelled the emergent behaviour of desired paths on the University of British Columbia (UBC) campus by comparing simulated pathing of one agent to the combined pathing choices of multiple agents.