

# DERYA D. AKBABA

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University of Utah  
School of Computing  
SCI Institute  
Salt Lake City, UT

## {EDUCATION}

- 08/2019 - present    [University of Utah](#)    Salt Lake City, UT  
Expected Degree: Ph.D. Computing  
Advisor: Miriah Meyer  
Research Interests: Critical Visualization Design, Data Visualization for Society
- Graduated    [Cornell University](#)    Ithaca, NY  
05/2013    BS Industrial and Labor Relations  
Minors: Cognitive Science, Economics

## {AWARDS}

- 2020    ComSciCon Flagship Workshop Participant {[comscicon.com](#)}  
2020    CRA-WP Grad Cohort for Women (postponed to 2021) {[cra.org](#)}  
2011    High Road Fellowship, Cornell University  
2010    Writing Excellence Award, UMass Amherst

## {SELECTED EXPERIENCE}

- 10/2013 - 6/2019    [Locus Analytics](#)    New York, NY  
*Locus is pioneering an information system for economic data.*  
Positions: Director of Research and Development. Creative Director.
- \* Worked with team of senior managers and CEO to set 3 to 5-year company objectives
  - \* Researched & developed new paths of use for information system technology
  - \* Set goals, monitored progress, and managed team of 12 analysts and developers
  - \* Expanded 11 new projects across countries, academics, and private companies
- 3/2018 - 12/2018    [wedwell](#)    New York, NY  
Consulted women-run startup on technical direction for their envisioned product.
- 01/2013 - 5/2013    [Undergraduate Research, Cornell University](#)    Ithaca, NY  
01/2012 - 5/2012    Policy Analysis and Management Lab  
9/2011 - 12/2011    Scheinman Institute on Conflict Resolution  
Cognitive Science Lab

## {TEACHING}

- 8/2020 - 12/2020    COMP 1010 - Computing for All, University of Utah.  
Teaching Mentor. Undergraduate course for non-CS students to learn the basics of computer programming.
- 7/2020 - present    Student Advisor, University of Utah.  
Advising and mentoring undergraduate student working on visual tools for network exploration.
- 06/2018    Locus Summer Internship for Undergrads, New York.  
Curriculum development and training.
- 05/2017    Locus Business Workshop, Cameroon.  
Led 2-day workshop for 30 business owners in Cameroon.

## {OUTREACH}

- 07/2020 - present    Visualization Design Lab Blog, University of Utah.  
Writing and editing articles to communicate visualization research for a broader audience.

- 06/2016 - 8/2016 Locus Summer Internship for Highschool Students. New York, NY.  
Partnered with community schools in Harlem/Bronx with a focus on developing skills for economic analysis
- 09/2011 - 5/2012 Art Beyond Cornell. Ithaca, NY.  
Taught art lessons to incarcerated girls [orgsync.rso.cornell.edu/org/artbeyondcornell](https://orgsync.rso.cornell.edu/org/artbeyondcornell)

### {PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS}

Akbaba, Derya, Lauren Klein, and Miriah Meyer. "An Onto-Epistemological Examination of Uncertainty Visualization." (in progress)

### {OTHER PUBLICATIONS}

Akbaba, Derya. "Visualizing Uncertainty: What can graphics convey about the character of data?" *Natural History Magazine*, September 2020.

Akbaba, Derya. "State COVID-19 Dashboards." *Visualization Design Lab Blog*. July 2020.  
<https://vdl.sci.utah.edu/blog/2020/07/20/state-dashboards/>

Akbaba, Derya. "Consider the Wallace." *UMass Amherst Writing Anthology 2011-2012*.

### {VOLUNTEER WORK}

- 07/2020 - present Founding U of Utah's Habitat for Humanity club (club is in the process of official university registration)
- 02/2020 - present U of Utah, School of Computing Graduate Student Advisory Committee (GradSAC) member
- 02/2018 - 1/2019 NYC Make-a-Thon Site Leader (Make a Mark): organized 2019 NYC Make-a-Thon event [letsmakeamark.org](https://letsmakeamark.org)
- 01/20/2018 Created Design Equity campaign in a 12-hr design-a-thon [design equity campaign](https://designequitycampaign.org)
- 06/2017 - 9/2017 Biked across America, built affordable homes, raised over \$5k [bikeandbuild.org](https://bikeandbuild.org)
- 12/2015 - 8/2016 Non-Resident Coordinator for Back on My Feet - Team Brooklyn [nyc.backonmyfeet.org](https://nyc.backonmyfeet.org)
- 03/2010 - 3/2010 UMass Alliance for Community Development, Exmore, VA: spring break focused on social justice work