

derya akbaba

she / her / hers

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

{EDUCATION}

8/2019 - present **University of Utah** Salt Lake City, UT
Expected Degree: Ph.D. Computer Science, HCI
Advisor: Miriah Meyer
Research Interests: Intersectional Visualization Design, Data Visualization for Society

Graduated 5/2013 **Cornell University** Ithaca, NY
BS Industrial and Labor Relations
Minors: Cognitive Science, Economics

{INVITED WORKSHOPS + AWARDS}

2021 CRA-WP Grad Cohort for Women {cra.org}
2020 ComSciCon Flagship Workshop Participant {comsicon.com}
2020 Critical Code Studies {criticalcodestudies.com}
2019 School for Poetic Computation {sfpc.io}
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

Undergraduate Research, Cornell University Ithaca, NY
1/2013 - 5/2013 Policy Analysis and Management Lab
1/2012 - 5/2012 Scheinman Institute on Conflict Resolution
9/2011 - 12/2011 Cognitive Science Lab

{TEACHING}

8/2020 - 12/2020 Teaching Mentor, COMP 1010 - Computing for All, University of Utah.
Undergraduate course for non-CS students to learn the basics of computer programming

7/2020 - 5/2021 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 + SERVICE}

- 8/2020 - present College of Engineering Diversity Committee, U of Utah. Salt Lake City, UT.
Graduate body representative working with administration to expand equal opportunity and inclusiveness
- 7/2020 - present Visualization Design Lab Blog, U of Utah. Salt Lake City, UT.
Writing and editing articles to communicate visualization research for a broader audience
- 6/2016 - 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
- 9/2011 - 5/2012 Art Beyond Cornell. Ithaca, NY.
Taught art lessons to incarcerated girls {[about abc](#)}

{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. {[personal digital copy](#)}

Akbaba, Derya. "State COVID-19 Dashboards." *Visualization Design Lab Blog*. July 2020. {[vdl blog](#)}

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

{VOLUNTEER WORK}

- 7/2020 - present U of Utah, Habitat for Humanity club: founding member
- 2/2018 - 1/2019 NYC Make-a-Thon Site Leader (Make a Mark): organized 2019 NYC Make-a-Thon event {[letsmakeamark.org](#)}
- 1/20/2018 Created Design Equity campaign in a 12-hr design-a-thon {[design equity campaign](#)}
- 6/2017 - 9/2017 Biked across America, built affordable homes, raised over \$5k {[bikeandbuild.org](#)}
- 12/2015 - 8/2016 Non-Resident Coordinator for Back on My Feet - Team Brooklyn {[backonmyfeet.org](#)}
- 3/2010 - 3/2010 UMass Alliance for Community Development, Exmore, VA: spring break focused on social justice work