

Hye Sun Yun

Computer Science PhD Candidate

Boston, MA — USA

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Education

Northeastern University

PhD in Computer Science

- Advisors: Byron Wallace and Timothy Bickmore
- Expected Graduation: Spring 2025

Boston, MA

September 2020 - Present

Wellesley College

BA in Computer Science and Africana Studies

- Magna Cum Laude

Wellesley, MA

September 2013 - May 2017

Research Experience

Northeastern University, NLP Research Group

Research Assistant

- Conducted research in the field of NLP and biomedical/clinical text advised by Byron Wallace.
- Worked on NLP multi-document summarization research to improve and update systematic reviews of biomedical literature to help medical professionals make better clinical and policy decisions.
- Explored ways to utilize large generative language models to assist producing medical systematic reviews through user surveys and to automate meta-analyses.

Boston, MA

May 2021 - Present

Northeastern University, Relational Agents Group

Research Assistant

- Conducted research in the field of HCI and healthcare advised by Timothy Bickmore.
- Assisted in developing a research mHealth app with a conversational virtual agent to promote healthy behaviors for historically Black church members by exploring ways to increase engagement and use through notifications and storytelling.
- Developed a conversational agent system to enhance patient-reported outcomes for individual use.
- Conducted research on using large language models to generate clinical depression survey item variants and testing their validity and reliability.
- Designed and carried out cognitive interviews to better understand how non-medical individuals understand and feel about medical illustrations.

Boston, MA

September 2020 - Present

Truveta

ML/AI PhD Research Intern

- Conducted research in the field of LLMs and clinical notes investigating quality and diversity of training data for clinical concept extraction.
- Explored methods to optimize a generalized clinical concept extraction LLM.

Bellevue, WA

May 2024 - August 2024

Publication

Conferences

Framing Health Information: The Impact of Search Methods and Source Types on User Trust and Satisfaction in the Age of LLMs

Hye Sun Yun, Timothy Bickmore

Extended Abstracts of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, 2025

Automatically Extracting Numerical Results from Randomized Controlled Trials with LLMs

Hye Sun Yun, David Pogrebetskiy, Iain J Marshall, Byron C Wallace

Machine Learning for Healthcare Conference, 2024

Keeping Users Engaged During Repeated Interviews by a Virtual Agent: Using LLMs to Reliably Diversify Questions

Hye Sun Yun, Mehdi Arjmand, Phillip Sherlock, Michael K Paasche-Orlow, James W Griffith, Timothy Bickmore
24th ACM International Conference on Intelligent Virtual Agents, 2024

Investigating User Perceptions of Collaborative Agenda Setting in Virtual Health Counseling Session
Mina Fallah, Farnaz Nouraei, **Hye Sun Yun**, Timothy Bickmore
24th ACM International Conference on Intelligent Virtual Agents, 2024

Appraising the Potential Uses and Harms of LLMs for Medical Systematic Reviews
Hye Sun Yun, Iain Marshall, Thomas Trikalinos, Byron Wallace
Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP), 2023

Improving Multiparty Interactions with a Robot Using Large Language Models
Prasanth Murali, Ian Steenstra, **Hye Sun Yun**, Ameneh Shamekhi, Timothy Bickmore
Extended Abstracts of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, 2023

Motivating Health Behavior Change with a Storytelling Virtual Agent
Hye Sun Yun, Matias Volonte, Timothy Bickmore
22th ACM International Conference on Intelligent Virtual Agents, 2022

Techno-Spiritual Engagement: Mechanisms for Improving Uptake of mHealth Apps Designed for Church Members
Hye Sun Yun, Shou Zhou, Everlyne Kimani, Stefan Olafsson, Teresa K. O’Leary, Dhaval Parmar, Jessica A. Hoffman, Stephen S. Intille, Michael K. Paasche-Orlow, Timothy W. Bickmore
Conference on Intelligent User Interfaces Workshop: HEALTHI, 2022

Journals

Online Health Information Seeking in the Era of LLMs: Cross-Sectional Web-based Survey Study
Hye Sun Yun, Timothy Bickmore
Journal of Medical Internet Research. 2025

In a pilot study, automated real-time systematic review updates were feasible, accurate, and work-saving
Iain J. Marshall, Thomas A. Trikalinos, Frank Soboczenski, **Hye Sun Yun**, Gregory Kell, Rachel Marshall, Byron C. Wallace
Journal of Clinical Epidemiology pp. 26–33. 2023

Media

Church after Sunday: supporting everyday well-being through techno-spiritual health interventions
Teresa K O’Leary, Elizabeth Stowell, Darley Sackitey, **Hye Sun Yun**, David Wright, Michael Paasche-Orlow, Timothy Bickmore, Andrea G. Parker
Interactions pp. 90–93. 2022

Preprints

Caught in the Web of Words: Do LLMs Fall for Spin in Medical Literature?
Hye Sun Yun, Karen Y. C. Zhang, Ramez Kouzy, Iain J. Marshall, Junyi Jessy Li, Byron C. Wallace
arXiv. 2025

Professional Experience

Wayfair

Boston, MA

Full-stack Software Engineer/Engineering Manager

July 2017 - August 2020

- Developed and implemented features for a supplier-facing web tool, enabling efficient bulk addition of new products to the catalog.
- Successfully spearheaded two major, multi-phase refactoring initiatives: frontend migration from Tungsten to React and Redux and completely rewriting the team’s Excel sheet import service.
- Provided guidance and mentorship during rapid team growth, facilitating the onboarding of 10+ new hires.
- Led team-wide adoption of pair programming to foster collaboration and knowledge sharing and established a program to train new code reviewers.
- Managed and led a team of three software engineers, cultivating a collaborative and productive work environment, and ensuring successful project delivery.

Presentations

Invited Talks

Fall 2024. *Charting My CS Career Path: From Wellesley to Industry and PhD.*

Invited talk: Wellesley Hackathon (WHACK), Wellesley College

Fall 2024. *Automatically Extracting Numerical Results from RCTs with LLMs.*

Invited talk: Codamatrix, Boston, MA

Fall 2022. *Motivating Health Behavior Change with a Storytelling Virtual Agent.*

Guest Speaker: CS3950 Intro to CS Research, Northeastern University

Research Presentations

Fall 2024. *Keeping Users Engaged During Repeated Interviews by a Virtual Agent: Using LLMs to Reliably Diversify Questions.*

Poster: IVA, Glasgow, Scotland.

Summer 2024. *Automatically Extracting Numerical Results from Randomized Controlled Trials with LLMs.*

Poster: Machine Learning for Healthcare, Toronto, Canada.

Spring 2023. *Using Large Language Models to Reliably Diversify Questions.*

Poster: Cutting-Edge Connections in PhD Research: Healthcare Innovation Today, Northeastern University.

Spring 2023. *Appraising the Potential Uses and Harms of LLMs for Medical Systematic Reviews.*

Poster: CRA-WP Grad Cohort for Women, San Francisco, CA.

Spring 2022. *Motivating Health Behavior Change with a Storytelling Virtual Agent.*

Departmental Poster Session: Khoury College PhD Open House, Northeastern University.

Fall 2022. *Motivating Health Behavior Change with a Storytelling Virtual Agent.*

Poster: ACM IVA, Faro, Portugal.

Spring 2022. *Techno-spiritual Engagement: Mechanisms for Improving Uptake of mHealth Apps Designed for Church Members.*

Oral presentation: ACM IUI HEALTHI Workshop, Remote.

Fall 2021. *Longitudinal Analysis of the Attitudes and Conversations Surrounding Vaccines by African Americans on Social Media.*

Oral presentation: PRISM Health Symposium, San Francisco, CA.

Teaching Experience

Spring 2025 CS4983/6983 Research in Human-Centered NLP, **Instructor of Record** @ Northeastern University

Fall 2024 CS3950 Intro to CS Research, **Teaching Assistant** @ Northeastern University

2019-2020 MVC framework class, **Teaching Assistant** @ Wellesley College

Sep.-Oct. 2019 Quality Assurance to Quality Engineer, **Program Instructor** @ Wayfair

Spring 2016 CS231 Algorithms, **Peer Tutor** and Grader @ Wellesley College

Fall 2016 CS320 Tangible User Interface, **Peer Tutor** @ Wellesley College

Fall 2016 CS235 Languages & Automata, **Peer Tutor** @ Wellesley College

2014-2015 JPN101,102 Beginning Japanese, **Peer Tutor** @ Wellesley College

Mentoring

2025 Karen Y.C. Zhang, BS @ Northeastern University

2024 Patrick Wilson, Master in Public Health Dissertation @ King's College London

2024 David Pogrebetskiy, BS @ Northeastern University

2022 Nikita Salkar, MS @ Northeastern University

Service & Development

Outreach & Volunteering

- Mar. 2025 Khoury SHEROs of Color's SHEHack, **GitHub Workshop Instructor & Mentor**
- Feb. 2025 Khoury SHEROs of Color's PhD Panel, **Invited Panelist**
- Mar. 2024 Northeastern University, Khoury College PhD Open House, **PhD Student Buddy**
- Nov. 2023 Queer in AI - Graduate School Application Review Program, **Mentor**
- Aug. 2022 Northeastern University, Pathway to PhD Workshop, **PhD Student Panelist**
- July 2022 Northeastern University, Wellesley College Research Students' Visit, **PhD Student Panelist**
- Jan. 2022 Northeastern University, Khoury College, **Faculty Application Student Reviewer**
- Mar. 2021 Northeastern University, Khoury College PhD Open House, **PhD Student Panelist**
- Jan. 2021 Northeastern University, Khoury College, **PhD Student Application Reviewer**
- 2019-2020 Wayfair's Women+ in Software, **Co-founder & Leader**

Development

- 2024 Northeastern University, National Research Mentoring Network's Research Mentor Training
- 2023 Computing Research Association Widening Participation, Grad Cohort for Women
- 2022 Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), Year-Round Mentorship

Peer Review

- Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)
- Conference on Language Modeling (COLM)
- Journal of Medical Internet Research (JMIR)
- Machine Learning for Healthcare (MLHC)
- ACM Conference on Intelligent Virtual Agents (IVA)
- Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (AAMAS)
- IEEE International Symposium on Mixed and Augmented Reality (ISMAR)
- IEEE Virtual Reality (IEEE VR)
- Workshop on Robustness in Sequence Modeling @ NeurIPS 2022
- Human-Centered Large Language Modeling Workshop @ ACL 2024
- UserNLP: User-centered Natural Language Processing Workshop @ ACM Web Conference 2022
- Cochrane Evidence Synthesis and Methods
- Research Synthesis Methods

Skills

- Tools/Platforms** Git, HuggingFace, Pytorch, GCP, Docker, Weights & Biases, Prolific, Amazon MTurk
- Libraries/Frameworks** Pytorch, HuggingFace, Node.js, REST API, Flask, .NET Core
- Front-end** React, Redux, Vue.js, HTML5, SASS, Jekyll
- Programming** Python, Java, Javascript, C#, SQL, PHP, LaTeX, Shell, R, C, Racket, Assembly
- Databases** MySQL, SQLite, PostgreSQL, MS SQL Server
- Languages** English, Korean, Japanese (Basic), Swahili (Basic)