

# IAN RUGINSKI

Interdisciplinary researcher with a PhD in psychology and 6+ years of quantitative and qualitative research experience. I utilize theory-driven behavioral experiments to improve human-computer interaction in the application areas of virtual navigation, mobile navigation systems, and data visualization.

I have coauthored many [peer-reviewed scientific articles](#) and taught and [developed R learning materials](#) for PhD level social-science statistics classes.



## EDUCATION

2018  
|  
2013

### **PhD. Psychology, Cognition & Neural Science area**

University of Utah

 Salt Lake City, UT

- Conducted and published research on data visualization design, navigation in real and virtual environments, & effects of emotions on perception and navigation.
- Dissertation: Mobility for spatial cognition and navigation - Establishing construct validity and testing a novel model of individual differences in spatial cognition

2013  
|  
2009

### **B.A., Cognitive Science, Religious Studies**

Vassar College

 Poughkeepsie, NY

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2020  
|  
2019

### **Postdoctoral Fellow**

Geographic Information and Visualization Group

 University of Zurich

- Developed and analyzed behavioral studies to evaluate digital displays and maps, including using eye-tracking, biometric, and questionnaire data.
- Managed multiple projects while advising M.S. and Ph.D students.

2019  
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2018

### **Postdoctoral Fellow**

Spatial Cognition & Navigation Project

 University of Utah

- Go-to statistician on multiple projects; researched combined effects of culture and behavior on navigation and spatial memory.
- Data wrangling, analysis, and visualization for database across 6 international fieldsites in the U.S., Africa, and South America.

2018  
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2017

### **Data Science Fellow**

Sorenson Impact Center

 Salt Lake City, UT

- Worked on public and private sector projects implementing impact measurement.
- Provided customized data diagnostics, visualizations, and reports for clients.
- Learned and implemented best practices around data security and version control.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2018  
|  
2013

### **Graduate Teaching Assistant**

University of Utah

 Salt Lake City, UT

- TA & lecturer for Graduate Quantitative Methods I & II, Structural Equation Modeling.
- Taught graduate students data processing, analysis, and interpretation pipeline in R.
- Topics included multilevel models, causal inference, measurement, generalized linear modeling, & time-based models.

2018  
|  
2017

### **Department Statistical Consultant**

University of Utah

 Salt Lake City, UT

- Consulted for statistical & code problems on a case by case basis.

## CONTACT

 [ian.ruginski@gmail.com](mailto:ian.ruginski@gmail.com)

 ITRuginski

 [ianruginski.com](http://ianruginski.com)

 [LinkedIn](#)

## SKILLS

### Languages

R, SQL, Git, Basic Python

### Data & statistics

Data reduction, generalized linear modeling incl. nested data, structural equation modeling, time-based modeling, missing data, nonparametric testing, survey design

### General

Public speaking, scientific writing, intermediate Spanish

## AWARDS & FUNDING

Grant co-author: University of Zurich, \$25,000

Grant co-author: Army Research Lab, \$40,000

Teaching commendation: University of Utah

## MORE INFO

See full CV on [my website](#).

Made w/ [pagedown](#).  
Last updated on 2020-04-13.