

# Jackie Chan

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<https://jackiec1998.github.io/>

## Education

### University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

*Ph.D. in Computer Science*

**Advisor:** Dr. Eshwar Chandrasekharan

**Urbana, IL**

*Sep. '20 – Jun. '26 (Expected)*

### Carleton College

*B.A. in Computer Science & Mathematics; Cum Laude*

**Northfield, MN**

*Sep. '16 – Jun. '20*

## Experience

### Graduate Research Assistant

*Department of Computer Science, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*

**Urbana, IL**

*Sep. '21 – Present*

**Advisor:** Dr. Eshwar Chandrasekharan

- Investigate how social media curation algorithms influence user behavior and community dynamics through mixed-methods research.
- Develop and maintain scalable, fault-tolerant data pipelines in Python and Docker to continuously collect and archive Reddit data; manage multi-terabyte datasets in Postgres and MongoDB, ensuring high availability for lab-wide access.
- Analyze large-scale social media datasets using Python's pandas and advanced regression techniques; produce publication-ready visualizations with Matplotlib and Plotly to inform content moderation strategies.

### Software Engineering Intern

*Thomson Reuters*

**Eagan, MN**

*Jun. '19 – Nov. '19*

- Maintained and enhanced an internal single-page application (SPA) built with the Aurelia JavaScript framework, Express, and MariaDB, while collaborating within an Agile Scrum team.

### Undergraduate Research Assistant

*Department of Computer Science, Carleton College*

**Northfield, MN**

*Mar. '18 – Sep. '19*

**Advisor:** Dr. Amy Csizmar Dalal

- Published at the premier human-computer interaction conference (CHI) and presented research on users' familiarity of common home network troubleshooting terminology.

## Publications

### What's Trending on Reddit, and Why?: A Large-Scale Empirical Audit of Algorithmic Curation on the r/popular Feed

**ICWSM '26**

Jackie Chan, Fred Choi, Koustuv Saha, Eshwar Chandrasekharan

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2502.20491>

### Understanding Community Resilience: Quantifying the Effects of Sudden Popularity via Algorithmic Curation

**ICWSM '24**

Jackie Chan, Charlotte Lambert, Fred Choi, Stevie Chancellor, Eshwar Chandrasekharan

<https://doi.org/10.1609/icwsm.v18i1.31310>

## Teaching

### CS 516: Data Visualization

*Graduate Teaching Assistant*

**Urbana, IL**

**Instructor:** Dr. John Hart

**Semesters Taught:** Summer '25

- Support instruction in a 400-student course by grading projects and providing timely assistance on course forums; reinforce key concepts using Tableau and D3.

### CS 105: Introduction to Computer Science for Non-Technical Majors

*Graduate Teaching Assistant*

**Urbana, IL**

**Instructors:** Dr. Colleen Lewis, Dr. Katie Cunningham, Dr. Max Fowler

**Semesters Taught:** Fall '22\*, Spring '23\*, Fall '23, Spring '24, Fall '24\*

- Taught 2–3 weekly recitations of 30–40 students covering Python programming, Excel, and data science/visualization fundamentals.

**CS 124/125: Introduction to Computer Science**

**Urbana, IL**

*Graduate Teaching Assistant*

**Instructor:** Dr. Geoffrey Werner Challen

**Semesters Taught:** Fall '20, Spring '21, Summer '21, Summer '22\*, Summer '23

- Taught Java and Kotlin to computer science undergraduates, created over 30 hours of video and audio content on programming topics, and assisted in debugging Android final projects.

*\*Ranked as Excellent by Students*

## Awards & Honors

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**Graduate Research Fellowship Program Honorable Mention**

**Urbana, IL**

*National Science Foundation*

*Apr. '22*

- Awarded to graduate students in STEM working on research with high intellectual merit and broader impacts.

**Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award**

**Urbana, IL**

*Department of Computer Science, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*

*Spring '21*

- Awarded for service in CS 124/125 based on recognition by faculty and student evaluations.

**Page Scholar**

**Northfield, MN**

*Page Education Foundation*

*Sep. '16 – Jun. '20*

- Ran annual service projects helping students become first-generation college students.

## Technical Skills

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**Programming Languages:** Python, JavaScript, TypeScript, Java, Kotlin

**Other Technologies:**  $\text{\LaTeX}$ , Git, database management systems (Postgres, MongoDB), SQL, web development (React)