

Lara Dal Molin

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ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

Science and Technology Studies PhD

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

September 2022 - Present

- Project: "Addressing Gender Bias in Generative Pretrained Transformer (GPT) Language Models through Design Justice"

Science and Technology Studies MRes

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

September 2021 - August 2022

- Awarded University of Edinburgh STIS Prize for Best Overall Performance in the programme for overall grade of 75

Artificial Intelligence MSc

UNIVERSITY OF ST ANDREWS

September 2019 - September 2020

- Dissertation: Artificial Societies: Simulating Social Evolution and Adaptation through Unity Game Engine

Stanford Summer Session

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

June 2018 - August 2018

- Key modules: Machine Learning for Social Scientists in R, Creative Non-Fiction Writing

Liberal Arts and Sciences BSc

UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

September 2015 - July 2019

- Major in Social Sciences, minor in Computer Science
- Dissertation: "Digital Surveillance and Democracy"

SKILLS

- **Programming:** Java, Python, C#, R, Stata
- **Software Development:** GitHub, Unity Game Engine
- **Machine Learning:** Natural Language Processing
- **Software Design:** Sketch, Marvelapp
- **Writing:** Microsoft Office Suite, LaTeX
- **Languages:** bilingual Italian-English; intermediate French and Spanish; competency in written Latin.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Tutor

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

December 2021 - December 2024

- UG Courses: The Internet and Society; Investigating Science in Society; Professional Issues; Doing Survey Research
- PG Courses: Computational Sociology

Guest Lecturer

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

2022 - 2024

- UG Courses: The Internet and Society
- PG Courses: Computational Sociology; Data Collection; Internet, Society and Economy

AI Ethics and Social Impact Expert

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

December 2022 - March 2023 & December 2023 - March 2024

Advised student teams on AI ethics and social impact as part of the UG Informatics course System Design Project.

Teaching Assistant

SICSS-EDINBURGH

June 2023

Supported the Summer Institute for Computational Social Science at the University of Edinburgh.

PhD Assistant

EDINBURGH FUTURES INSTITUTE

December 2022 - March 2023

Co-organised and delivered workshops for the EFI project: New Perspectives in AI Futures.

Content Developer and Teacher

EDUCATIONAL

March 2021 - Present

Developed and taught Machine Learning, computational thinking and Python course for children aged 6 to 12.

Research Assistant

UNIVERSITY OF ST ANDREWS

March 2021 - July 2021

- Topics: agent-based simulations; Natural Language Processing; inference and prompt engineering (GPT models).

Software Engineering and Design Intern

IBM

August 2017 - May 2018

Contributed to the design, development and delivery of a learning platform for IBM MQ developers.

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SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

Social Data Science PhD Scholarship

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH
UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN

August 2022 - August 2026

Awarded the Joint Edinburgh-Copenhagen Social Data Science Scholarship for a PhD in Science and Technology Studies.

Global Humanities Institute 2024 Scholarship

CHCI - UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA

Awarded a full scholarship to attend in person the CHCI and Andrew W. Mellon Foundation 2024 Global Humanities Institute in Design Justice AI at the University of Pretoria.

EFI Student Research Projects 2023/24

EDINBURGH FUTURES INSTITUTE

Awarded this grant to expand my PhD project and run Gender Bias in AI workshops with broader Edinburgh community.

Highly Commended - Digital Research Prizes

CENTRE FOR DATA, CULTURE AND SOCIETY

PhD project was Highly Commended in the 2023 CDCS Digital Research Prizes for "Best Novel Use of a Digital Method".

CDCS-Edinburgh Training Bursary

CENTRE FOR DATA, CULTURE AND SOCIETY

Awarded a CDCS Training Bursary to attend the Digital Methods Winter School at the University of Amsterdam.

STIS MRes Best Overall Performance 2022

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

Awarded the University of Edinburgh Science, Technology and Innovation Studies MRes Prize for overall grade of 75.

ACM-W Scholarship

ASSOCIATION FOR COMPUTING MACHINERY

Awarded the Association for Computing Machinery Women Scholarship to attend GECCO 2021 as a presenter.

Club Colours Award

UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

Awarded for outstanding contribution to the running and administration of the Surrey Snowsports club for three years.

PUBLICATIONS

Academic

Dal Molin, L. (forthcoming). Participatory Prompting: A Design Justice-Inspired Approach to Studying Gender Bias in Large Language Models through Prompt Engineering. *Information, Communication and Society*.

Catanzariti, B., **Dal Molin, L.** and Galanos, V. (forthcoming). Stay or Leave? Mapping participatory and abolitionist approaches in Critical Data Studies. *Handbook of Critical Data Studies*. De Gruyter.

Dal Molin, L. 2024. Notes towards infrastructure governance for large language models. *First Monday*, 29(2).
<https://doi.org/10.5210/fm.v29i2.13567>

Dal Molin, L., Kanwal, J., and Stone, C. L.. 2021. Resource Availability and the Evolution of Cooperation in a 3D Agent-Based Simulation. In *2021 Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference (GECCO'21)*, July 10–14, 2021, Lille, France. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 9 pages.
<https://doi.org/10.1145/3449639.3459380>

Media

Dal Molin, L. 2024. From Pretoria to Amsterdam: Discussing Decolonial Practices at EASST-4S? *EASST Review: Volume 43(2)* December 2024.

Dal Molin, L. 2023. Beyond the Algorithm: Digital Divide, Biases and Hidden Labour. *The University of Edinburgh Teaching Matters* podcast.

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

AI Ethics & Society (AIES) Group

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

October 2022 - Present

Co-organising talks, reading groups and events exploring the social and ethical dimensions of AI. Personally led:

- AIES Science Fiction Book Club (current)
- Reading groups: Machine Learning Political Orders; Anthropomorphisation, Gender and Eeriness in AI

Global Humanities Institute: Design Justice AI

UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA

- Presentation: "Participatory Prompting as a Design Justice-inspired approach to prompt engineering: insights from the 2023/24 Gender Bias in AI workshops at the University of Edinburgh and Scottish AI Summit"

Digital Methods Winter School 2023

UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM

- Project: "Cross-Vision API Studies: Digital Methodologies for Interpreting Computer Vision Datasets"

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ADDITIONAL COURSES

Data Ethics, AI and Responsible Innovation

EDINBURGHX

April 2021 - May 2021

• Key content: Data Ethics in relation to legislation, crime and justice, smart cities and health.

Startup School

YCOMBINATOR

July 2019 - September 2019

• Key content:: KPIs, product testing and user research.

Silicon Valley Innovation Academy

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

June 2018 - August 2018

Teams developed "moonshot" projects to solve socio-technical issues and presented ideas to public and industry audience.

VOLUNTARY WORK

Teamer

STAR SURF CAMPS

August 2021 - September 2021

Supported general operations in a surf camp in Northern Spain, including check-ins, surf lessons and cooking.

Section Leader

STANFORD UNIVERSITY CODE IN PLACE

April 2020 - May 2020

Volunteer position for teaching an online Python course to help retrain individuals during the Covid-19 pandemic.

President and Treasurer

UNIVERSITY OF SURREY SNOWSPORTS CLUB

May 2018 - May 2019; May 2016 - May 2017

Supported club development, managed the committee and club finances, and handled daily relations with members.

Student Ambassador

UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

January 2016 - June 2016

Presenter and speaker for the Liberal Arts and Sciences degree at university open days.

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

STS Italia 2025

POLITECNICO DI MILANO

• Presentation: "How are Large Language Models transforming medical self-diagnosis?"

Reflexions: AsSIST-UK 2025

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

• Presentation: "Reflexion as a Methodological Challenge in Participatory Research with Large Language Models"

HaPoP-6: Fairness and Bias in the History of Programming

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

• Presentation: "Prompt Engineering as Programming in Natural Language: from ELIZA to ChatGPT"

EASST-4s 2024

VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT AMSTERDAM

• Presentation: "Participatory Prompting: A Design Justice-Inspired Approach to Prompt Engineering"

"Broken Machines" 2024

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

Co-organised the AI Ethics and Society 2024 Conference on "Broken Machines", with themes: failure, repair, reuse, glitches.

Scottish AI Summit 2024

EDINBURGH

• Presentation: "Participant Interactions with an Open-Source Large Language Models" (Workshop)

Algorithms for Her? 2

UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD

• Presentation: "Addressing Gender Bias in Large Language Models through Participatory Methods: a Pilot Study"

Governance by Infrastructure Workshop

UNIVERSITY OF LAUSANNE

• Presentation: "Large Language Models as Gender-Shaping Infrastructures"

Genetic and Evolutionary Computation 2021

UNIVERSITY OF LILLE (ONLINE)

• Presentation: "Artificial Life: Simulating Social Evolution and Adaptation through Unity Game Engine"