

# 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"