




# Tahir H. Butt

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 [tahirbutt.com](https://github.com/tahirbutt)  
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## Education

- 2011– **Doctoral candidate, Urban Education (Expected 2019)**  
*The Graduate Center, CUNY, New York, NY*  
Dissertation: “Free Tuition and Exclusion at the City University of New York, 1957-1976”  
Committee: Stephen Brier (Chair), Jeanne Theoharis, Joshua Freeman, Paul Attewell
- 1998–2002 **B.A., Cognitive Science and Mathematics**  
*Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD*

## Professional Experience

- Oct 2018– **Datadog**  
Present *Open-Source Software Engineer*  
New York, NY
- Extend performance measurement of Python libraries and frameworks
- May 2018– **Liwwa, Inc.**  
Oct 2018 *Senior Software Engineer*  
New York, NY
- Member of small engineering team with multiple responsibilities across products and systems
  - Prototyped image analysis and document digitization pipeline for low quality images (OpenCV, scikit-image, Google Cloud Vision)
  - Extended web application (Flask, SQLAlchemy, Backbone.js)
  - Improved development and production infrastructure (Vagrant, Chef, AWS)
- 2005–2017 **Amplify Education**  
*Data Analyst and Software Engineer*

Brooklyn, NY

- Led development of large data systems
- Implemented data pipelines and reporting platforms
- Supported data analysis and research on the efficacy of products in classrooms

## Fellowships

- 2016–2018 Graduate Center Digital Initiatives, The Graduate Center, CUNY  
*Digital Fellow*  
New York, NY
- 2013–2016 The Macaulay Honors College, CUNY  
*Instructional Technology Fellow*  
New York, NY
- 2012–2013 Brooklyn College, CUNY  
*Graduate Teaching Fellow*  
Brooklyn, NY

## Grants

- 2017–2018 Research Grant  
*Data science research for The Weather Company with Agustín Indaco (\$25,000)*  
NYC Media Lab
- 2016 Provost Digital Innovation Grant  
*Research Tools for Historians (\$4,000)*  
The Graduate Center, CUNY
- 2014 Advanced Research Collaborative Praxis Award  
*Inequality and Free Tuition at CUNY (\$2,000)*  
The Graduate Center, CUNY

## Invited Talks

- 2017 ‘Harvard of the Poor’ as Racial Myth: Racism and the City University of New York, 1960–1969  
Presented at Conversations in Black Freedom Studies, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, New York Public Library, November 2, 2017
- 2015 Open Admissions and the Origins of the City College Childcare Center  
Presented at Panel Stories of Struggle: Histories of Childcare Activism at CUNY, The Center for the Humanities, The Graduate Center, CUNY, March 4, 2015

## Conferences

- 2016 “When the Proletarian Harvard Was Kept Lily-White”  
Presented at American Education Research Association Annual Meeting, April 20, 2016
- 2014 “Higher Education Tuition Before Neoliberalism”  
Presented at Historical Materialism, York University, Toronto, Canada, May 11, 2014

## References Upon Request

Stephen Brier

*Professor and Program Coordinator of Interactive Technology and Pedagogy (ITP) Program*  
The Graduate Center, CUNY

Matthew Gold

*Professor and Co-Director of Digital Initiatives*  
The Graduate Center, CUNY