Haoting (Ophelia) Ma

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Profile

An aspiring Master of Information Studies Student at McGill University with a strong background in user-centered design and human-computer interaction, seeking to leverage interdisciplinary skills to create innovative solutions that enhance user experiences. Passionate about exploring the intersection of accessibility and emerging technologies to drive impactful design.

Education

Bachelor of Arts (Statistics)   **September 2019 – May 2023**
McGill University Montréal, Québec
GPA of 3.45/4.00

Master of Information Studies (Expected in June 2025)   **September 2023 – Ongoing**
McGill University Montréal, Québec
GPA of 3.96/4.00

Academic-Related Experience

Master Thesis (Under supervision of Professor Karyn Moffatt)   **September 2023 – Ongoing**
Discovering VR Design Opportunities on Reminiscence Support for Older Adults
- Designed a workshop session aimed at exploring user interactions with emerging technologies, focusing on discovering user needs and preferences in virtual reality (VR) on reminiscence
- Facilitated an interactive workshop involving hands-on activities and collaborative group discussions. Leveraged design thinking techniques to gather qualitative insights into participants' reminiscence experiences and expectations for designing a reminiscence tool
- Conducting qualitative data analysis to extract key insights and generate design recommendations, contributing to the development of a user-centered framework for future VR applications in reminiscence

Master Course Project   **September 2024 - Ongoing**
Prototyping and Wireframing a Personal CV Website
- Designed a low-fidelity wireframe to define the layout and functionality, ensuring alignment with the goals of a personal CV website before progressing to high-fidelity designs
- Developed an interactive prototype using tools like Figma to visualize design concepts and facilitate user testing, enabling iterative design enhancements
- Refined both the prototype and wireframe based on feedback from course instructor, and utilized tools like Google Font, Bootstrap, ensuring a seamless and user-friendly final design in CSS and HTML

Master Course Project   **September 2024 - Ongoing**
Designing and Developing a Database that Support Prospective CS PhD Applicants
- Researched and analyzed the global diversity of Computer Science PhD programs, focusing on application requirements, deadlines, and evaluation criteria across North America
- Identified challenges in the decentralized and fragmented PhD application processes, including diverse requirements, financial constraints, and geographic or cultural barriers, impacting applicant experiences
- Proposed a centralized database solution to streamline application management for North American CS PhD programs, addressing inefficiencies and enhancing transparency for applicants and admission committees

Technical Skills

- Programming languages: Python, R, SQL, JavaScript
- Web development: HTML, CSS
- Applications: Canva, Figma, Unity, MySQL, Eclipse, Visual Studio Code, R Studio
- Documentation: Microsoft Office Suite, Apple iWork (Pages, Numbers, Keynote), EndNote
- Languages: Bilingual (English & Mandarin)