

To: Parsons DT hiring associate.

Re: Teaching at DT Bootcamp.

As educators, we want to help students envision the future, to let them gain insight from what they are learning and apply them to their own work. To truly look into what students do, we have to know what they desire, fear, and interact with; we have to know ourselves as well.

I am a designer grounded with the understanding of knowledge of mechanisms of human thought. At UC Berkeley I studied artificial intelligence in computer science, and worked in a user interface lab to create wall-sized gesture and touch interfaces for collaborative web design. Inspired by the computational vision algorithms used there, I interned at Palo Alto Research Center on human tracking systems that use intelligent sampling in complex states to predict human movements. Fascinated by human systems but wanting look more into brain circuits that make movements and motivations occur, I did neuroscience research at UCLA on motor control, and on reward systems at RIKEN institute Japan. I didn't forget my original love of design, and realized that the only way to study how people create is to become a creator myself. I enrolled in Tokyo MODE fashion design school to build up my drawing, patterning, creative thinking, CAD, and a palette of skills for creating intelligent technologies.

At Parsons Design and Technology, I am currently studying in my first year of the MFA. I have experience in TAding for Communications Design: Creative Computing, which uses technology to understand design constraints. I have engaged in laser cutting projects and Virtual Reality both for courses and for my own work at Tokyo. At Cal-Berkeley I have implemented an Augmented Reality environment for doing experiments in loading weights with Professor Richard B. Ivry. I had a great time interacting with the instructors and fellow research associates. I am able to work on weekends and evening schedules due to my flexible schedule at DT. I have also taught at Waseda University in Japan and UCLA in the USA, and can bring principles of teaching students who are still working on their language proficiency to bear as well. Moreover, I love working with people in different disciplines, working with fashion designers in Japan, and with fabricators and creative coders in New York. My background is suitable for teaching coding or design, as I am an undergrad CS major and have practicing experience as a designer.

In short, I believe I am a great fit for teaching Bootcamp at DT and hope that I will be able to contribute to Parsons Design and Technology, helping to maintain this interdisciplinary arena of learning that brings DT students together.

Yours, Ray LC (Ray Luo).