

# REBECCA M. M. HICKE

PHD CANDIDATE, COMPUTER SCIENCE, CORNELL UNIVERSITY

**Telephone:** (847) 800-1183    **Email:** rmh327@cornell.edu

**Website:** <https://rmatouschekh.github.io>

## EDUCATION

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<b>Cornell University</b> , Ph.D. Candidate, Computer Science	Fall 2022 – present
Minor: Information Science	<i>Ithaca, NY</i>
GPA: 4.00	
Committee: David Mimno (chair), Lillian Lee, Jon Kleinberg, Ross Kristensen-McLachlan	
<b>Cornell University</b> , M.S., Computer Science	October 2024
Minor: Information Science	<i>Ithaca, NY</i>
Committee: David Mimno (chair), Lillian Lee, Jon Kleinberg	
<b>Carleton College</b> , B.A. <i>cum laude</i> , Computer Science and English	June 2022
Minor: Digital Arts and Humanities	<i>Northfield, MN</i>
GPA: 3.86	
Advisors: Eric Alexander and George Shuffelton	
<i>Received distinction in both majors</i>	

## RESEARCH AND INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

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<b>Graduate Research Assistant</b> , Cornell University	August 2022 – present
Advisor: David Mimno	<i>Ithaca, NY</i>
<i>Areas:</i> Digital humanities, natural language processing, machine learning	
<b>AI Research Scientist</b> , AIIL Group, Microsoft Research	November 2025 – present
Advisor: Kiran Tomlinson	<i>Remote</i>
<i>Areas:</i> Natural language processing, machine learning, user modeling	
<b>Research Intern</b> , AIIL Group, Microsoft Research	May 2025 – August 2025
Advisor: Kiran Tomlinson	<i>Redmond, WA</i>
<i>Areas:</i> Natural language processing, machine learning, user modeling	
<b>Graduate Research Assistant</b> , Aarhus University	May 2024 – August 2024
Advisor: Ross Deans Kristensen-McLachlan	<i>Aarhus, Denmark</i>
<i>Areas:</i> Digital humanities, natural language processing, machine learning	
<b>PiTech Research Fellow</b> , Cornell University	June 2023 – August 2023
Host Organization: Good Call NYC	<i>Remote</i>
<i>Areas:</i> Data visualization, data processing and analysis	
<b>Research Scientist</b> , Authors AI	May 2023 – August 2023
<i>Areas:</i> Natural language processing	<i>Remote</i>

<b>Undergraduate Research Assistant</b> , Carleton College	June 2020 – May 2022
Advisor: Eric Alexander	<i>Northfield, MN</i>
<i>Areas:</i> Digital humanities, data visualization, human-computer interaction	
<b>Undergraduate Research Assistant</b> , UC Berkeley	June 2021 – March 2022
REU – Summer Undergraduate Program in Engineering Research at Berkeley	<i>Remote</i>
Advisors: Sarah Chasins and Aditya Parameswaran	
<i>Areas:</i> Human-computer interaction	

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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<b>Graduate Teaching Assistant</b> , Cornell University	August 2023 – present
CS/INFO 3300: Data-Driven Web Applications (1 term)	
CS 2110: Object-Oriented Programming and Data Structures (1 term)	
CS/INFO 4300: Language and Information (1 term)	
<i>Received award for TAing contributions</i>	
<b>Program Assistant</b> , Carleton College	June 2022 – August 2022
History of Computing Off-Campus Studies Program	
<b>Undergraduate Teaching Assistant</b> , Carleton College	March 2020 – June 2022
CS 111: Introduction to Computer Science (1 term)	
CS 201: Data Structures (4 terms)	
CS 202: Math of Computer Science (2 terms)	
<b>Residential and Program Assistant</b> , UT Austin	June 2018 – July 2020
First Bytes Computer Science Camp (2 sessions)	
Code Longhorn Computer Science Camp (1 session)	
Robotics Camp (2 sessions)	
Cybersecurity Camp (1 session)	

## PUBLICATIONS

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- Hamilton, Sil, **Rebecca M. M. Hicke**, Mia Ferrante, David Mimno, and Matthew Wilkens. 2025. “Too Long, Didn’t Model: Decomposing LLM Long-Context Understanding with Novels.” *Proceedings of the 9<sup>th</sup> Joint SIGHUM Workshop on Computational Linguistics for Cultural Heritage, Social Sciences, Humanities and Literature*.
- Hicke, Rebecca M. M.**, Brian Haggard, Mia Ferrante, Rayhan Khanna, and David Mimno. 2025. “Are You There God? Lightweight Narrative Annotation of Christian Fiction with LMs.” *Proceedings of the 6<sup>th</sup> Computational Humanities Research Conference*.
- Hicke, Rebecca M. M.**, Yuri Bizzoni, Pascale Feldkamp, and Ross Deans Kristensen-McLachlan. 2025. “Says Who? Effective Zero-Shot Annotation of Focalization.” *Proceedings of the 6<sup>th</sup> Computational Humanities Research Conference*.
- Hicke, Rebecca M. M.**, Sil Hamilton, and David Mimno. 2025. “The Zero Body Problem: Probing LLM Use of Sensory Language.” *Proceedings of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference on Language Modeling*.

Hamilton, Sil, **Rebecca M. M. Hicke**, and David Mimno. 2025. “A City of Millions: Mapping Literary Social Networks at Scale.” *Proceedings of the 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Natural Language Processing for Digital Humanities*.

**Hicke, Rebecca M. M.** and David Mimno. 2025. “*Looking for the Inner Music*: Probing LLMs’ Understanding of Literary Style.” *Expanding the Toolkit: Large Language Models in Humanities Research – Computational Humanities Research*.

**Hicke, Rebecca M. M.** and Ross Deans Kristensen-McLachlan. 2024. “SCIENCE IS EXPLORATION: Computational Frontiers for Conceptual Metaphor Theory.” *Proceedings of the 5<sup>th</sup> Computational Humanities Research Conference*.

**Finalist – Best Short Paper Award**

Kristensen-McLachlan, Ross Deans, **Rebecca M. M. Hicke**, Márton Kardos, and Mette Thunø. 2024. “Context is Key(NMF): Modelling Topical Information Dynamics in Chinese Diaspora Media.” *Proceedings of the 5<sup>th</sup> Computational Humanities Research Conference*.

**Hicke, Rebecca M. M.** and David Mimno. 2024. “[Lions: 1] and [Tigers: 2] and [Bears: 3], Oh My! Literary Coreference Annotation with LLMs.” *Proceedings of the 8<sup>th</sup> Joint SIGHUM Workshop on Computational Linguistics for Cultural Heritage, Social Sciences, Humanities and Literature*.

**Hicke, Rebecca M. M.** and David Mimno. 2023. “T5 meets Tybalt: author attribution in Early Modern English drama using large language models.” *Proceedings of the 4<sup>th</sup> Computational Humanities Research Conference*.

**Hicke, Rebecca M. M.** and David Mimno. 2024. “‘Let every word weight heavy of her worth’: Examining How Women Enact Power in Shakespeare’s Comedies through Interactive Speech Pattern Visualizations.” In *Computational Drama Analysis: Reflecting Methods and Interpretations*. De Gruyter.

**Hicke, Rebecca M. M.**, Maanya Goenka, and Eric Alexander. 2022. “Word Clouds in the Wild.” *2022 IEEE 7<sup>th</sup> workshop on Visualization for the Digital Humanities (Vis4DH)*.

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## SERVICE

**Workshop Organizer:** Natural Language Processing for the Digital Humanities [NLP4DH] (2025)

**Session Chair:** Computational Humanities Research [CHR] (2023)

**Reviewer:** CHR Journal (2025), Workshop on Computational Linguistics for Cultural Heritage, Social Sciences, Humanities and Literature [LaTeCH-CLfL] (2024, 2025, 2026), Digital Humanities [DH] (2024, 2025, 2026), CHR (2023), Open Research Europe (2023), Journal of Computational Literary Studies (2023)

**Graduate Mentor + Organizer:**

ACSU Research Night (2023, 2024, 2025)

*Organized graduate presenters for outreach events getting students interested in research*

Student-Applicant Support Program (2022, 2023, 2024)

*Provided advice + feedback on application materials for applicants to Cornell CS PhDs*

New Visions in Engineering (2022-2023, Coordinator: 2023-2024)

*Mentored high school students interested in futures in engineering + CS research*

Bowers Undergraduate Research Experience (BURE) (2023)

*Mentored and organized social events for undergraduate research assistants*

## AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

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<b>Foundational AI PhD Fellowship</b> , Cornell University	January 2026 – May 2026
<b>Hopcroft Fellowship</b> , Cornell University	2022 – 2023
<b>Laurence McKinley Gould Prize in Natural Science</b> , Carleton College	May 2022
<b>David John Field Prize</b> , Carleton College	May 2022
<b>The David Pollatsek '96 Prize in Computer Science</b> , Carleton College	May 2022
<b>Distinction – Computer Science Senior Thesis</b> , Carleton College	May 2022
<b>Distinction – English Senior Thesis</b> , Carleton College	April 2022
<b>Thorsen Scholarship</b> , Carleton College	2020 – 2022
<b>Larson International Fellowship</b> , Carleton College	2021

## PRESENTATIONS

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<b>Says Who? Effective Zero-Shot Annotation of Focalization</b> , CHR 2025	December 2025
<b>Are You There God? Lightweight Narrative Annotation of Christian Fiction with LMs</b> , CHR 2025	December 2025
<b>The Zero Body Problem: Probing LLM Use of Sensory Language</b> , COLM 2025 Poster Presentation	October 2025
<b>SCIENCE IS EXPLORATION: Computational Frontiers for Conceptual Metaphor Theory</b> , CHR 2024	December 2024
<b>[Lions: 1] and [Tigers: 2] and [Bears: 3], Oh My! Literary Coreference Annotation with LLMs</b> , LaTeCH-CLfL 2024 Poster Presentation	March 2024
<b>T5 meets Tybalt: author attribution in Early Modern English drama using large language models</b> , CHR 2023	December 2023
<b>T5 meets Tybalt: author attribution in Early Modern English drama using large language models</b> , TADA 2023 Poster Presentation	November 2023

<b>Large Language Models and NER: <i>Better Results with Less Work</i>, DH 2023</b>	July 2023
Poster Presentation	
<b>Word Clouds in the Wild</b> , Vis4DH – IEEE Vis	October 2022
<b>Examining How Women Enact Power in Shakespeare's Comedies through Interactive Speech Pattern Visualizations</b> , Workshop on Computational Drama Analysis	September 2022
<b>Practicum 2.0: An Interactive Tool for Introductory CS Topics</b> , Carleton College Computer Science Undergraduate Senior Thesis Talk	May 2022
<b>"Let every word weight heavy of her worth"</b> , Carleton College English Undergraduate Senior Thesis Talk	May 2022
<b>Technical Talk – "Let every word weigh heavy of her worth"</b> , Carleton College English Undergraduate Senior Thesis Technical Talk	March 2022
<b>Tools for Tracking Police Misconduct Data</b> , Carleton College Summer Research Presentation	October 2021
<b>Technical Talk – Tools for Tracking Police Misconduct Data</b> , UC Berkeley SUPERB REU Technical Talk	August 2021
<b>Virtual Poster Session – Word Clouds in the Wild</b> , Carleton College	October 2020
<b>Word Clouds in the Wild</b> , Carleton College Summer Research Presentation	August 2020