

# Spencer Williams

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## Education

- 2018–2023 **University of Washington**  
PhD in Human Centered Design and Engineering  
Dissertation: “Technology Support for Online Science Communication”  
Committee: Gary Hsieh, Katharina Reinecke (co-chairs), Kate Starbird, Benjamin Mako Hill (GSR)
- 2018–2022 **University of Washington**  
M.S. in Human Centered Design and Engineering
- 2013–2017 **University of British Columbia**  
B.A. Honours in Psychology  
4th-year honours thesis: “The Effects of Gamma Correction on Correlation Perception in Strip Plots” (supervised by Ronald Rensink)  
3rd-year honours thesis: “Gender and Status in Contexts of Physical Strength” (supervised by Steve Heine and Kate Block)
- 2011–2013 **Whatcom Community College**  
DTA (Associates in Arts and Sciences)

## Experience

- 2023–Present **University of Washington**, Informational School, Assistant Teaching Professor  
Teaching classes in HCI and informatics, conducting research in science communication.
- 2019–Present **University of Washington**, HCDE, Graduate Researcher  
Supervisor: Gary Hsieh, Katharina Reinecke  
Studying how to improve science communication efforts in HCI and other fields.
- Summer 2022 **Meta**, User Experience Research Intern  
Supervisor: Bri Hightower  
Conducted research on discovery features for Bulletin and the Facebook App.
- Winter 2021–  
Summer 2021 **Microsoft**, Contractor  
Supervisor: Jonathan Grudin  
Designed use case scenarios for educational tool for K-12 students.
- Summer 2019 **University of Washington**, Alacrity, Graduate Researcher  
Supervisors: Gary Hsieh, Amy Bauer  
Designed technology to improve BA treatment of depression in cancer centers.
- Fall 2018 **University of Washington**, HCDE, Graduate Researcher  
Supervisor: Kate Starbird  
Studied journalists’ strategies for navigating misinformation and disinformation.
- 2016–2018 **University of British Columbia**, Psychology, Project Leader

- Supervisor: Ron Rensink  
Studied correlation perception in different visualization types.
- Winter 2017–  
Summer 2017     **University of British Columbia**, Psychology, Project Manager  
Supervisor: Kristin Laurin  
Studied people's rationalization of immoral behaviors.
- 2015-2016     **University of British Columbia**, Psychology, Research Assistant  
Supervisor: Steve Heine  
Studied effects of gender and task performance on status perception
- 2014-2015     **University of British Columbia**, Psychology, Research Assistant  
Supervisor: Colleen Brenner  
Studied neurological and neuropsychological data related to schizotypy

## Conference and Journal Papers

- 2023             Zade, H., **Williams, S.**, Tran, T. T., Smith, C., Venkatagiri, S., Hsieh, G., & Starbird, K. (2023). To Reply or to Quote: Comparing Conversational Framing Strategies on Twitter. ACM Journal on Computing and Sustainable Societies.
- 2023             Rosen, J.E., Chang, S.S.E., **Williams, S.**, Lee, J.S., Han, D., Agrawal, N., Joo, J.H., Hsieh, G., Reinecke, K. and Liao, J.M. (2023, January). Association between Risk Communication Format and Perceived Risk of Adverse Events after COVID-19 Vaccination among US Adults. In Healthcare (Vol. 11, No. 3, p. 380). MDPI.
- 2022             Meta-summaries effective for improving awareness and understanding of COVID-19 vaccine safety research. **Williams, S.**, Lee, J., Halperin, B., Liao, J., Hsieh, G., and Reinecke, K. (2022). Scientific Reports 12, 19987.
- 2022             An HCI Research Agenda for Online Science Communication. **Williams, S.**, Jones, R., Reinecke, K., and Hsieh, G. (2022). Proceedings of the ACM on Human Computer Interaction, 6, CSCW.
- 2021             The Effects of User Comments on Science News Engagement. **Williams, S.** and Hsieh, G. (2021). Proceedings of the ACM on Human Computer Interaction, 5, CSCW.
- 2021             Understanding Analytics Needs of Video Game Streamers. Mallari, K., **Williams, S.**, and Hsieh, G. (2021). In Proceedings of the 2021 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems.
- 2020             Parallel Journeys of Patients with Cancer and Depression: Challenges and Opportunities for Technology-Enabled Collaborative Care. Suh, J., **Williams, S.**, Fann, J.R., Fogarty, J., Bauer, A.M., and Hsieh, G. (2020). Proceedings of the ACM on Human Computer Interaction, 4, CSCW.

## Workshop Papers, Posters, and Conference Presentations

- 2022 Sharif, A., Pruekcharoen, P., Ramesh, T., Shang, R., **Williams, S.**, & Hsieh, G. (2022). "What's going on in Accessibility Research?" Frequencies and Trends of Disability Categories and Research Domains in Publications at ASSETS.
- 2020 A Parallel Journeys Perspective on Technology-Supported Depression Care for Patients with Cancer. Suh, J., **Williams, S.**, Fann, J.R., Fogarty, J., Bauer, A.M., and Hsieh, G. CHI 2020, Workshop on Technology Ecosystems & Mental Health.
- 2020 Information Needs of Streamers. Mallari, K., **Williams, S.**, and Hsieh, G. CHI 2020, Workshop on Spectator Experience in Gaming and eSports.
- 2017 **Williams, S.** & Rensink, R. (2017). The effects of gamma correction on correlation perception in strip plots. Oral presentation at UBC Psychology Undergraduate Research Conference 2017.
- 2016 **Williams, S.**, Block, K., & Heine, S. (2016). Gender and Status in Contexts of Physical Strength. Poster presentation at UBC Psychology Undergraduate Research Conference 2016.

## Teaching

### University of Washington

- Fall 2022 **Instructor: Experimental Research Methods HCDE 516.** Masters students, 1 quarter, 4 credits.
- Fall 2021 **Teaching Assistant: Experimental Research Methods HCDE 516.** Masters students, 1 quarter, 4 credits.
- Spring 2021 **Teaching Assistant: Advanced HCI CSE 441.** Undergraduate students, 1 quarter, 5 credits.
- Winter 2021 **Teaching Assistant: Introduction to Human-Computer Interaction CSE 440.** Undergraduate students, 1 quarter, 5 credits.
- Fall 2020 **Teaching Assistant: Introduction to Human-Computer Interaction CSE 440.** Undergraduate students, 1 quarter, 5 credits.
- Spring 2020 **Instructor, DRG: Analyzing and Supporting Twitter-Based Science Communication, HCDE 496/596.** Undergraduate and masters students, 1 quarter, 2 credits.
- Spring 2019 **Instructor, DRG: HCI, Journalism, and Misinformation, HCDE 496/596** Undergraduate and masters students, 1 quarter, 2 credits.

## Professional Service

Associate Chair

2023-24                      **CHI: Understanding People — Statistical and Quantitative Method**  
**Subcommittee**

Reviewer

2020-2023      **ACM CHI**  
2019-2023      **ACM CSCW**  
2023              **ACM DIS**  
2023              **ACM ISS**

Department and University Service  
2023-2024      **Informatics Program Committee**  
2020-2022      **HCDE PhD Application Reviewer**  
Summer 2019   **User-centered Design Certificate Application Reviewer**  
Winter 2019     **Master of Science in HCDE Application Reviewer**  
Winter 2019     **HCDE PhD Visit Days Planning Committee**

Research Grants and Awards  
2023              **UW Center for an Informed Public Innovation Fund**

Honors, Awards and Nominations

2021              **UW Teaching Excellence Award (nominated)**  
2021              **HCDE Student Teaching Award (nominated)**  
2017              **UBC Student Scholarship in Arts**