

# Spencer Williams

sw1918@uw.edu

<https://www.sprwilliams.com/>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/spencer-williams-2b082319b/>

## Education

- 2018–Present **University of Washington**  
PhD 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

- 2019–Present **Microsoft Corporation**, Contractor  
Supervisor: Jonathan Grudin  
Designed use case scenarios for educational tool for K-12 students.
- 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 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

## Publications

- 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.

## Posters and Conference Presentations (\*non-archival\*)

- 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

- Spring 2020      **Instructor, DRG: Analyzing and Supporting Twitter-Based Science Communication**, HCDE 496/596. Undergraduate and masters students, 1 quarter, 2 credits.
- Spring 2019      **Co-Instructor, DRG: HCI, Journalism, and Misinformation**, HCDE 496/596 Undergraduate and masters students, 1 quarter, 2 credits.

## Professional Service

Reviewer

- 2020-2022      **ACM CHI**  
2019-2022      **ACM CSCW**

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## Department and University Service

Winter 2021     **HCDE PhD Application Reviewer**  
Winter 2020     **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**

## Honors and Awards

2017             **UBC Student Scholarship in Arts**