

# Veronica A. Rivera

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<https://vrivera2017.github.io>

Research interests: HCI, digital harm and safety, human factors in security, future of work, ethics

## Education

- Fall 2017– **PhD Candidate, Computational Media**, *University of California Santa Cruz*  
*Dissertation*: Digital Harm in Platform-Based Gig Work  
*Committee*: David Lee (advisor), Chris Benner, Elizabeth Gerber, Elissa M. Redmiles, Norman Makoto Su
- 2013–2017 **BSc, Joint Computer Science and Mathematics**, *Harvey Mudd College*  
Concentration in Psychology

## Publications

\* indicates equal contribution, listed alphabetically by last name

### PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE & JOURNAL PAPERS

- CHI 2022 Ma, N.F.\*, **Rivera, V.A.\***, Yao, Z., Yoon, D. *“Brush it Off”: How Women Workers Manage and Cope with Bias and Harassment on Gender-agnostic Gig Platforms*. The 2022 ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems.
- CSCW 2021 **Rivera, V.A.**, Lee, D.T. *I Want to, but First I Need to: Understanding Crowdworkers Career Goals, Challenges, and Tensions*. Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction.
- JKTR 2017 Nelson, S., Orrison, M., **Rivera, V.** *Quantum Enhancements and Biquandle Brackets*. The Journal of Knot Theory and its Ramifications.
- ISVC 2015 Tenorio, D., **Rivera, V.**, Medina, J., Leondar, A., Gaumer, M., Dodds, Z. *Visual Autonomy via 2D Matching in Rendered 3D Models*. The International Symposium on Visual Computing.
- JKTR 2014 Nelson, S., **Rivera, V.** *Quantum Enhancements of Involutory Birack Counting Invariants*. The Journal of Knot Theory and its Ramifications

### PAPERS UNDER SUBMISSION

- 2022 **Rivera, V.A.**, Wilkinson, D., Redmiles, E.M., Strohmayer, A. *Post-Digital Safety in Digitally-Mediated Offline Interactions*

### PEER-REVIEWED WORKSHOP & CONSORTIA PAPERS

- CSCW 2019 **Rivera, V.A.**, Lee, D.T. *It Takes a Village to Change Jobs: Towards Workplace Relationships that Support Reskilling in Crowdwork*. The Future of Work(places): Creating a Sense of Place for On-Demand Work. Workshop at ACM CSCW.
- ITS 2018 **Rivera, V.** *A New Approach to Testing Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder Using Affect*. Doctoral Consortium at the International Conference on Intelligent Tutoring Systems.

## Teaching Experience

- Summer 2023 **Ethics in Technology**, *Stanford University SPCS*, **Instructor of Record**  
10-day online course for high school students focusing on ethical issues related to technology; I designed the curriculum based on my HCI 220 course at UCSC

- Winter 2023 **HCI 220: Ethics & Activism in Technology & Design**, *UC Santa Cruz*, [Instructor of Record](#)  
The course was made a requirement for the HCI MS program at UCSC after my first offering in Spring 2022
- Spring 2022 **HCI 220: Ethics & Activism in Technology & Design**, *UC Santa Cruz*, [Instructor of Record](#)  
Graduate-level elective course focusing on ethical issues related to technology and labor movements in the tech industry; I designed the curriculum from scratch
- Winter 2022 **CMPM 178: Human-Centered Design Research**, *UC Santa Cruz*, TA  
Upper division undergraduate course introducing user research methods
- Fall 2021 **CMPM 35: Data Structures for Interactive Media**, *UC Santa Cruz*, TA  
Undergraduate course introducing data structures to non-computer science majors
- Spring 2021 **CSE 20: Beginning Programming in Python**, *UC Santa Cruz*, TA  
First computer science course in the major for undergraduates with no prior experience
- Winter 2021 **CMPM 178: Human-Centered Design Research**, *UC Santa Cruz*, TA
- Fall 2018 **CMPS 12A: Introduction to Programming, Accelerated**, *UC Santa Cruz*, TA  
Accelerated introductory course for students with some experience, taught in Java
- Spring 2018 **CMPS 5J: Introduction to Programming in Java**, *UC Santa Cruz*, TA  
Undergraduate Java course for students with no prior experience.
- Winter 2018 **CMPS 5J: Introduction to Programming in Java**, *UC Santa Cruz*, TA
- Fall 2014 **CS 5: Introduction to Computer Science**, *Harvey Mudd College*, Undergraduate Tutor

## Fellowships and Awards

- 2021 **ARCS Scholarship**, *UC Santa Cruz*, excellence in academics and STEM research
- 2019 **Chancellor's Graduate Internship Fellowship**, *UC Santa Cruz*, for research that advances student experiences at UC Santa Cruz  
1 out of 5 recipients across entire graduate division
- 2019 **Travel Scholarship**, *CRA*, To attend CRA-W Grad Cohort Workshop for Women
- 2019 **Travel Scholarship**, *CRA*, To attend CRA-URMD Grad Cohort Workshop for underrepresented students
- 2018 **Summer Regent's Fellowship**, *UC Santa Cruz*
- 2013 **President's Scholarship**, *Harvey Mudd*, 4-year full-tuition  
1 out of 8 recipients across graduating class of 2017

## Invited Talks

- April 2023 **Post-Digital Harm in Digitally-Mediated Offline Interactions**, UC San Diego HCI Seminar
- February 2023 **Post-Digital Harm in Digitally-Mediated Offline Interactions**, Stanford University Security Lunch
- January 2023 **Using Design to Teach Ethics and Activism to HCI Students**, Stanford University Computing & Society Seminar
- April 2022 **Long-Term Worker Well-Being in the Future of Work**, Stanford University HCI Lunch

## Research Appointments

- July 2022– **Max Planck Institute for Software Systems, Visiting Researcher**  
 Jan.2023 Advisor: Elissa M. Redmiles  
 Researching digital security and safety concerns and protective behaviors in digitally-mediated offline interactions; statistical analysis of survey data
- Jan.2019– **University of California, Santa Cruz, Graduate Researcher**  
 Advisor: David T. Lee  
 Researching well-being in digitally-mediated gig work as related to career development; semi-structured interviews and qualitative analysis
- Sep.2017– **University of California, Santa Cruz, Graduate Researcher**  
 Jan.2019 Advisor: Sri Kurniawan (advisor and lab change in Jan.2019)  
 Researching how educational classroom tools can be used students with Autism Spectrum Disorder; conducted observations in a special education classroom
- Aug.2016– **Harvey Mudd College, Undergraduate Researcher**  
 May 2017 Advisor: Lisa Kaczmarczyk & The MITRE Corporation  
 Developed an image de-identification algorithm that makes it harder for Local Binary Patterns and Dlib Deep Learning algorithms to recognize an individual in a photo for undergraduate group thesis project
- Summer 2015 **Harvey Mudd College, Undergraduate Researcher**  
 Advisor: Zachary Dodds  
 Investigated the strengths and drawbacks of using the Matterport 3D camera for robotic spatial reasoning.
- 2011-2015 **Claremont McKenna College, High School/Undergraduate Researcher**  
 Advisor: Sam Nelson  
 Studied topology and knot theory and researched ways of defining new knot invariants

## Service

- 2022 **Paper Reviewer, CHI 2022**  
 Special recognition for outstanding reviews
- 2020-2021 **Assistant Community Manager, UC Santa Cruz Computational Media Department**  
 Helped organize department social events, and visit days for admitted graduate students; Organized and maintained list of undergraduate research opportunities; Led grad school info sessions with undergraduate STEM cultural groups
- 2019-2021 **Paper Reviewer, CSCW 2019, 2020, and 2021**  
 Special recognition for outstanding reviews (2021)
- 2019 **Paper Reviewer, Human-Computer Interaction Journal**  
 Invited reviewer
- 2018, 2020 **Alumni Admissions Interviewer, Harvey Mudd College**
- 2018 **Graduate Student Mentor, UC Santa Cruz Department of Computational Media**  
 Helped first year graduate student navigate the department and grad school

## Undergraduate Research Mentoring

**Betros Abraha, UC Santa Cruz**

**Ashvini Bhupatiraju, UC Santa Cruz, Now: Technology analyst at Wells Fargo**

**Jason Chan, UC Santa Cruz, Now: Product Designer at Fin**

**Mark Gonzales, UC Santa Cruz, Now: Electronic Engineer at ZaiNar Tech**

**Gurdikhia Kaur, UC Santa Cruz, Now: MSc Student at UCL, Prev: UX Researcher at Toyota Research Institute**

**Sonali Malik, UC Santa Cruz, Now: Product Manager at Microsoft**

**Taylor McPherson, UC Santa Cruz, Now: Frontend Engineer at Hightouch**

**Benjamin Paulsen**, *UC Santa Cruz*

**Mathew Raju**, *UC Santa Cruz*

**Saki Yokokawa**, *UC Santa Cruz*

**Celeste Zhao**, *UC Santa Cruz*, Now: MS Student at UW HCDE

**Su Zin**, *UC Santa Cruz*

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## Professional Development

- 2022 **Invited workshop presenter**, MuC Conference Workshop on Inclusive Security by Design
- 2021 **Teaching for Equity Certificate**, UC Santa Cruz Center for Innovations in Teaching and Learning
- 2020 **Graduate Student Leadership Certificate**, UC Santa Cruz Graduate Division
- 2019 **Invited workshop attendee**, JobKit Developer's Conference at the US White House
- 2019 **Invited workshop attendee**, Human-Computer Interaction Consortium on the Futures of Work