

Tess Eschebach

Email: eschebach@uchicago.edu • Web: tess-e.github.io

Human-Computer Interaction * Security & Privacy * Media Theory

I am a cross-disciplinary researcher with a background integrating computer science methods and media theory to understand emerging technologies and bolster novel technical communication.

EDUCATION

University of Chicago

Ph.D. Student, Computer Science

Advisors: Blase Ur, Marc Downie, Allison McDonald (Boston University)

Chicago, IL
Expected June 2028

University of Michigan - Ann Arbor

B.S.E., Data Science, Summa Cum Laude

B.S., Film, Television, and Media, with Distinction

Ann Arbor, MI
May 2023
May 2023

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Chicago (SUPERGroup)

Graduate Researcher

Chicago, IL
September 2023 - Present

- Developed speculative scenarios about an AI agent mitigating fraud and scams and conducted 27 interviews to generate design recommendations for agent autonomy and data access
- Collaborated with an interdisciplinary team to compile over 800 pieces of art related to privacy and iteratively coded a sample to inform novel opportunities for privacy design [P2]
- Analyzed transcripts of 18 K-12 student early adopters of AI with thematic analysis [P3]
- Mentored undergraduate students, teaching qualitative analysis skills and academic writing

University of Michigan (CompHCI Group)

Undergraduate Researcher

Ann Arbor, MI
November 2021 - September 2023

- Interviewed 12 educational content creators and analyzed data using iterative open coding [P1]
- Implemented multi-threading in Python to modulate a router's blacklist based on wearable input
- Created a speculative design workbook with a team of artists and computer scientists based on thematic analysis of an open ended survey using co-design strategies

University of Michigan (Digital Water Lab)

Undergraduate Researcher

Ann Arbor, MI
May 2021 - May 2022

- Maintained interactive data visualizations in Python on AWS to remotely monitor flood risk

PUBLICATIONS

[P3] Investigating ChatGPT Usage in High Schools: Student Perspectives on Policy and Practice.

Jake Chanenson, [Tess Eschebach](#), Marshini Chetty. *The Ninth Annual ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT)*, June 2026. [To appear]

[P2] Depictions of Privacy Invasion and Surveillance in Artworks and Potential Lessons For

Privacy Communication. [Tess Eschebach](#), Emma I. C. Peterson, Nathaniel Kim, Bingning (Jolin) Liu, Marc Downie, Douglas Pancoast, Blase Ur. *Proceedings of the ACM SIGCHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)*, April 2026.

[P1] Playing “Google’s Game”: How Educational YouTubers Manage Tensions Between Education and Monetization. [Tess Eschebach](#), Nikola Banovic, Allison McDonald. *28th ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW)*, November 2025.

PRESENTATIONS

[2] **Learning From Privacy Artworks to Design More Effective Privacy Communication.** Tess Eschebach, * Emma I.C. Peterson,* Blase Ur. Poster at: Midwest Security Workshop 9, West Lafayette, IN, USA. October, 2024. *Equal contribution

[1] **Preventing Flooding Through Data Visualization.** Tess Eschebach, Jacquelyn Schmidt, Branko Kerkez. Presented at: Data for Public Good Symposium 6, Ann Arbor, MI, USA. March 2022.

EXHIBITION HISTORY

[2] **Consume.** [360 video rendered in Unity.] Tess Eschebach. Exhibited at: The Digital Studies Institute's Amplify: DSI Student Showcase, Ann Arbor, MI, USA. April 2023.

[1] **Making Memories.** [Fine-tuned GAN, HTML site, GIFs.] Tess Eschebach. Exhibited at: The Digital Studies Institute's Amplify: DSI Student Showcase, Ann Arbor, MI, USA. April 2022.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

CMSC 23200: Introduction to Computer Security Spring 2026
University of Chicago Chicago, IL

Graduate Instructional Assistant (111 Students)

CMSC 14100: Introduction to Computer Science I Taught 6 times between Winter 2024 - 2026
University of Chicago Chicago, IL

Graduate Instructional Assistant (169 - 283 Students)

CMSC 14200: Introduction to Computer Science II Spring 2025
University of Chicago Chicago, IL

Graduate Instructional Assistant (158 Students)

EECS 388: Introduction to Computer Security Winter 2023, Summer 2023
University of Michigan - Ann Arbor, College of Engineering Ann Arbor, MI

Instructional Assistant (350 Students)

SI 429: Online Communities: Analysis and Design of Online Interaction Fall 2022
University of Michigan - Ann Arbor, School of Information Ann Arbor, MI

Instructional Assistant (40 Students)

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

The University of Chicago: Library Student Advisory Council Chicago, IL
Physical Science Representative January 2024 - March 2025

- Partnered with 12 students across disciplines and library administrators to develop programming opportunities and increase access to library materials

Inter-Cooperative Council: MichMinnie's Cooperative House Ann Arbor, MI
Treasurer May 2022 - August 2023

- Managed 6K monthly budget for 40 house residents with a focus on meal and utility spending
- Collaborated with nonprofit organization for accounting and reimbursement purposes
- Led budget meetings with 30+ individuals to vote on specific allocation of funds

AWARDS

USENIX Security '26 Student Grant. USENIX. To attend USENIX Security '26. 2026.

GREPSEC VII Travel Award. USENIX. 2026.

Special Recognitions for Outstanding Reviews. ACM CHI. 2026.

Gary Marsden Travel Awards. SIGCHI. To attend CSCW '25. 2025.

NSF Support for CS&Law '24. To attend CS&Law '24. 2024.

The Daniels Fellowship. The University of Chicago. 2023.

Excellence in Sustainability Honors Cord Program. The University of Michigan. 2022-2023.

Golden Wallet. Winter Annual Meeting. Inter Cooperative Council Ann Arbor. 2023.

Best in Show. Amplify. Digital Studies Institute at The University of Michigan. 2023.
James B. Angell Scholar. The University of Michigan. March 2022. March 2024.
Honorable Mention. Amplify. Digital Studies Institute at The University of Michigan. 2022.
University Honors. The University of Michigan.
Dec. 2018, April 2020, Dec. 2020, Dec. 2021, April 2022, Dec. 2022, April 2023.
Dean's List. The University of Michigan.
Dec. 2018, Dec. 2019, Dec. 2021, April 2022, Dec. 2022, April 2023.
William J. Brainstorm Freshman Prize. The University of Michigan. 2019.

MENTORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Natalia Marcha: Undergraduate, University of Chicago	June 2026 - Present
Jolin (Bingning) Liu: Undergraduate, University of Chicago	January 2025 - Present
Margaret Jennings: Undergraduate, University of Chicago	May 2025 - Present
Nathaniel Kim: Undergraduate, University of Chicago	March 2025 - April 2026

SKILLS

Qualitative Analysis: Grounded theory, open coding, qualitative software (Nvivo, MAXQDA)

Programming Languages: Python (Pandas, PyTorch, TensorFlow), R, SQL, HTML

Creative Software: Adobe Premiere, Adobe Illustrator, Unity and Unreal Engine [for VR], Figma

REFERENCES

References available upon request

[Updated July 2026]