Tess Eschebach

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EDUCATION

University of Chicago Chicago, IL
Ph.D. Student, Computer Science: Human Computer Interaction, Security & Privacy Expected June 2028
Advisors: Blase Ur, Marc Downie, Allison McDonald (Boston University)
Coursework: Surveillance Aesthetics; Political Economy of Technological Change; Online Speech

University of Michigan - Ann Arbor Ann Arbor, MI
B.S.E., Data Science, Summa Cum Laude May 2023
Coursework: Human-Centered ML; Usability Eval & Needs; Web Systems; Intro Computer Security
B.S., Film, Television, and Media, with Distinction May 2023
Coursework: New Media Theory; Media Prod: Virtual Reality, Volumetric & 360 Cinema, Digital Bodies

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Chicago (SUPERGroup) Chicago, IL
Graduate Researcher 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 students who were early adopters of AI with thematic analysis
- Mentored undergraduate students, teaching qualitative analysis skills and academic writing

University of Michigan (CompHCI Group) Ann Arbor, MI
Undergraduate Researcher 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) Ann Arbor, MI
Undergraduate Researcher May 2021 - May 2022

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

PUBLICATIONS

[P2] "Depictions of Privacy Invasion and Surveillance in Artworks and Potential Lessons For Privacy Communication." **Eschebach, T.**, Peterson, E.I.C., Kim, N., Liu, B., Downie, M., Pancoast, D., Ur, B. CHI 2026, [Paper forthcoming]

[P1] "Playing `Google's Game': How Educational YouTubers Manage Tensions Between Education and Monetization." **Eschebach, T.**, Banovic, N., and McDonald, A. CSCW 2025, DOI: 10.1145/3757496

PRESENTATIONS

"Learning From Privacy Artworks to Design More Effective Privacy Communication." **Eschebach, T.,*** Peterson, E.I.C.,* Ur, B. Poster at: Midwest Security Workshop 9; October, 2024; West Lafayette, IN.
*Equal contribution

"Preventing Flooding Through Data Visualization." **Eschebach, T.**, Schmidt, J., Kerkez, B. Presented at: Data for Public Good Symposium 6; March 2022; Ann Arbor, MI.

EXHIBITION HISTORY

"Consume." [360 video rendered in Unity.] **Eschebach, T.** Exhibited at: Digital Studies Institute's "Amplify: DSI Student Showcase"; April 2023; Ann Arbor, MI

"Making Memories." [Fine-tuned GAN, HTML site, GIFs.] **Eschebach, T.** Exhibited at: Digital Studies Institute's "Amplify: DSI Student Showcase"; April 2022; Ann Arbor, MI

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Chicago Chicago, IL
Intro to Computer Science - *Instructional Assistant* January 2024 - Present

- Redesigned course set-up to use streamlined tutorials to better serve 250+ introductory students
- Held weekly office hours and discussion sessions to support students with Python programming

University of Michigan - College of Engineering Ann Arbor, MI
Intro to Computer Security - *Instructional Assistant* December 2022 - July 2023

- Developed course materials with Autopsy, Tor, and HTML sites with a focus on accessibility
- Taught a lecture-style discussion section and held weekly office hours for 350+ student course

University of Michigan - School of Information Ann Arbor, MI
Online Communities - *Instructional Assistant* August 2022 - December 2022

- Provided guidance to students using qualitative methods to analyze online communities
- Supported further engagement amongst students by setting up a hybrid Discord community

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

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

Jolin (Bingning) Liu: Undergraduate, University of Chicago — January 2025 - Present
Nathaniel Kim: Undergraduate, University of Chicago — March 2025 - Present
Margaret Jennings: Undergraduate, University of Chicago — May 2025 - Present

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 March, 2026]