

Emelia May Hughes

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EDUCATION

University of Notre Dame

Ph.D. Student in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Remick Fellow

Advisor: Dr. Tim Weninger

Aug 2023 - May 2028 (*expected*)

University of Washington

Bachelor of Science, Informatics, Human-Computer Interaction

Bachelor of Arts with Honors, Art, Drawing and Painting

Aug 2018 - Jun 2022

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Weninger Lab Graduate Researcher

University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN

Advisor: Dr. Tim Weninger

Aug 2023 - Present

- Conduct research on how algorithmically mediated platforms shape online community formation, visibility, and belonging
- Develop dissertation research on feed-based platforms, social inference, and emergent belonging
- Use qualitative, survey, and computational methods to study platformed social life
- Analyze platform communities including TikTok and Truth Social

Social Futures Lab Research Assistant

University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Advisor: Dr. Amy Zhang

Aug 2020 - Aug 2023

- Led project funded by WikiCred to develop novel methods of combating misinformation on YouTube
- Conducted contextual-inquiry interviews to evaluate current user wants and needs surrounding credibility
- Developed YouTube extension from design to implementation, employing Adobe XD and React JS

Center for an Informed Public Undergraduate Researcher

University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Advisor: Dr. Rachel Moran

Jan 2021 - June 2022

- Collaborated with cross-disciplinary researchers on a project analyzing the #SaveTheChildren hashtag and movement on Instagram in relation to QAnon
- Developed qualitative codebook to analyze over 1,400 applicable social media posts

Adobe Research Intern

Seattle, WA

Mentor: Dr. Jose Echevarria

Jun 2021 - Sept 2021

- Developed user experience for artists with visual impairments to navigate canvas-based applications
- Conducted background research to use current working methods to design novel accessibility tool
- Conveyed key findings and results to a wide audience of company stakeholders
- Implemented iPad prototype using Swift

PUBLICATIONS

1. **Emelia May Hughes**, Renee Wang, Prerna Juneja, Tony W Li, Tanushree Mitra, and Amy X. Zhang. 2024. Viblio: Introducing Credibility Signals and Citations to Video-Sharing Platforms. In Proceedings of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '24). Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA, Article 807, 1–20. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3613904.3642490>
2. Moran, R. E., Prochaska, S., Schlegel, I., **Hughes, E. M.**, & Prout, O. (2021). Misinformation Or Activism: Mapping Networked Moral Panic Through An Analysis Of #SaveTheChildren. AoIR Selected Papers of Internet Research, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.5210/spir.v2021i0.12212>

POSTERS AND WORK-IN-PROGRESS PAPERS

1. **Hughes, E. M.**, Weninger, T. (2025) Echo Chambers and Information Brokers on Truth Social: A Study of Network Dynamics and Political Discourse. In Companion of the 2025 Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW Companion '25). <https://dl.acm.org/doi/full/10.1145/3715070.3749241>
2. Oguine, O.C., Oghenemaro, A., **Hughes, E.M.**, & Badillo-Urquiola, K. (2024). Examining Mainstream News Media Narratives on Youth Online Safety. In Companion of the 2024 Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW Companion '24). <https://dl.acm.org/doi/abs/10.1145/3678884.3681874>
3. **Hughes, E. M.**, Wang, R., Huang, A., Juneja, P., Mitra, T., & Zhang, A. X. (2022). Introducing Credibility Signals and Citations to Video-Sharing Platforms. UW Undergraduate Research Symposium 2022.
4. **Hughes, E. M.** (2021). WikiUX: Introducing Credibility Signals and Citations to YouTube. UW Undergraduate Research Symposium 2021.

WORKSHOP PAPERS

1. **Hughes, E. M.**, Wang, R., Juneja, P., Mitra, T., & Zhang, A. X. (2021). Introducing Credibility Signals and Citations to Video-Sharing Platforms. CSCW, Information Credibility & Alternative Realities in Troubled Democracies, 2021.

PATENTS

1. "Multimodal canvas landmarks for accessible digital painting" J. Echevarria, J. Sun, and **E. Hughes**. Filed 2023.

AWARDS

Fellowships and Academic Honors

- Notre Dame–IBM Technology Ethics Fellow, 2026 cohort
- Remick Graduate Fellowship in Engineering, University of Notre Dame
- Graduate Justice Fellowship, Institute for Social Concerns, University of Notre Dame, 2025 cohort
- Doctoral Colloquium, Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR), 2024
- Notre Dame Computer Science and Engineering Poster Fair, Best Research Pitch, Honorable Mention, 2024
- Adobe Women in Technology Finalist, 2021

Competition and Leadership Awards

- RoboMaster North American Champions (3v3), 2022
- RoboMaster North American Champions (1v1), 2022
- RoboMaster North American Champions (3v3), 2021
- RoboMaster 2020, Second Prize – Open Source Award
- RoboMaster 2019, Shenzhen, China
 - Second Prize – International Regionals
 - Outstanding PR Manager Award
 - Third Prize – Hero Remote Firing
 - Most Aesthetic Robots
 - Outstanding Award A Level – Open Source Award

Artistic Honors

- Women United Art Prize, Shortlisted Artist, 2022
- Priscilla and Melvin Wilson Scholarship, University of Washington School of Art, 2022

ACADEMIC, PROFESSIONAL, AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Academic and Professional Service

Reviewer

- CSCW 2025
- CHI 2026
- ICWSM 2025, 2026

Student Volunteer

- ACM CHI, 2021

Board and Organizational Leadership

Secretary of Executive Board Notre Dame Graduate Society of Women Engineers (GradSWE)

Spring 2026

- Maintain meeting records and organizational documentation while supporting event logistics and programming
- Produce the organization's newsletter and help lead member communications around professional development, mentorship, and community engagement

President of the Board 501(c)(3) supporting Advanced Robotics at the University of Washington
2023 – present

President Advanced Robotics at the University of Washington (ARUW)

2021–2022

- Led a 75-person student robotics team to the 2022 North American RoboMaster Championship
- Coordinated team operations, scheduling, competition logistics, and organizational decision-making
- Redesigned recruitment and application processes to broaden participation and improve equity within the organization

Vice President Advanced Robotics at the University of Washington (ARUW)

2019–2021

- Supported team leadership across design, build, and competition cycles
- Helped oversee project management, sponsorship efforts, and cross-subteam coordination

Outreach and Community Engagement

Event Volunteer and Livestream Host RoboMaster North America Competition

- San Diego, CA, 2025
- Boulder, CO, 2024

Invited Speaker Humboldt State University Robotics Camp, 2021

University of Washington, ARUW Outreach and Recruitment

- Volunteer, Admitted Student Preview, 2022
- Speaker and Volunteer, Mechanical Engineering Orientation, 2022, 2020
- Speaker and Volunteer, Electrical Engineering Orientation, 2022, 2020
- Volunteer, School of Engineering Kick-off, 2022, 2021, 2020
- Event Organizer, Dawg Daze, 2021, 2020, 2019
- Volunteer, Giving Day, 2019
- Volunteer, Engineering Discovery Days, 2019
- Volunteer, Sammamish High School STEM Fair, 2019
- Volunteer English Streaming Host, RoboMaster 2019

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record: Current State and Future of Generative AI (ESTM 60244)

ESTEEM Master's Program, University of Notre Dame

Fall 2025; scheduled again Fall 2026

- Designed and taught a graduate course for master's students on generative AI, prompt design, ethics, and AI product development
- Developed course materials, assignments, readings, and project structure
- Led class discussion on AI ethics, bias, labor, and responsible use of generative systems

Instructor of Record: Elements of Computing I (CSE 10101)

Computer Science and Engineering, University of Notre Dame

Spring 2026

- Served as Instructor of Record for *Elements of Computing I*, an introductory computing course designed for non-major undergraduate students
- Taught foundational programming and computational thinking concepts with an emphasis on accessibility, practical application, and building confidence among students new to computing
- Designed and led instruction, assignments, and assessments for learners with diverse academic backgrounds and varying levels of prior technical experience

Teaching Assistant: Database Concepts (CSE 30246)

Computer Science and Engineering, University of Notre Dame

Instructor: Dr. Tim Weninger

Fall 2023; Fall 2024

- Supported undergraduate instruction across two semesters through grading, office hours, and one-on-one student support
- Assisted students in developing understanding of core database concepts, query design, and course assignments
- Provided regular feedback on coursework and helped troubleshoot student questions about technical material and project expectations

Teaching Assistant: Human-Computer Interaction (CSE 40424)

Computer Science and Engineering, University of Notre Dame

Instructor: Annalisa Szymanski

Spring 2025

- Supported instruction through grading, office hours, and individual mentorship for student assignments and projects
- Contributed to assignment design and course materials for an undergraduate HCI course
- Guided students in applying human-computer interaction concepts to design, evaluation, and research-focused work

ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Long-Term Substitute Teacher

Forest Ridge School, Bellevue, WA

March 2023 - June 2023

Taught two classes, Calculus 2 and Web Development, taking over mid-year. For Calculus 2, continued and completed the curriculum established by the previous instructor. In Web Development, developed a new curriculum focused on addressing real-world problems identified by the students.

Robotics Teacher

St. Catherine of Siena School, Seattle, WA

September 2022 - June 2023

Designed and taught a robotics elective for middle school students using Lego Mindstorm robots. Focused on programming principles and real-world use cases.

Extended Care Program Assistant

St. Catherine of Siena School, Seattle, WA

September 2022 - June 2023

Worked alongside the program director to run the after-school care program, working with kindergarten through eighth grade.

Tutor

Private & Grade Potential Tutoring

2016 - 2023

Worked with students to determine individual needs and custom learning plans. Topics tutored include: math (algebra through calculus), physics, chemistry, SAT/ACT prep, English, and writing.