NINA BERNARD-TRAN

HCI DESIGN RESEARCHER

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
ninabernardtran@gmail.com | ninakt.github.io/researcher

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Passionate about accessibility with 5+ years of experience in user research, statistical analysis, accessibility testing, and universal design. A 100% commitment to developing inclusive and user-centered experiences.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Instructional Designer

February 2025 - Present
Nova Scotia Community College

- Designed and developed course materials for the Deaf Interpreter Program according to the universal design for learning standard and accessibility guidelines
- Collaborated with faculty and subject matter experts to ensure alignment between learning outcomes and curriculum content

Freelance Researcher

January 2024 - Present
Self-employed

- Developed survey questions, eligibility criteria, and recruitment methods, using Overleaf and Qualtrics
- Conducted literature review in interdisciplinary fields, including human-computer interaction (HCI), deaf studies, and computing

Graduate Research Assistant

August 2022 - December 2023
Gallaudet University

- Designed and implemented the Wizard-of-Oz experimental setup, evaluating usability of smart home assistants like Alexa and Google Home
- Employed Python-based tools to visually synthesize data and present key findings

Teaching Assistant

May 2023 - July 2023
Purdue University

- Mentored and led 12 undergraduate students through weekly meetings, providing guidance and technical support in Jupyter Notebook, Anvil, R, Python, and Agile methodologies
- Contributed to the design and implementation of data science projects for corporate partners and the Data Mine team

Undergraduate Research Intern

May 2021 - September 2021
Microsoft Research

- Developed the study design focused on the deaf community's perspectives of automated sign language translation (ASLT) systems, using mixed research methodologies
- Employed R-based tools for the analysis of interview data from more than 150 participants, completed within 12 weeks

EDUCATION

Master of Science in Accessible Human-centered Computing   2023

Gallaudet University
Thesis: What is Project Alexa?: Design and Research on Intelligent Personal Assistants for Deaf users

Bachelor of Arts in Disability Studies and Informatics   2019

University of Washington
Thesis: Exploring the Deaf Community's Perspectives on Automatic Sign Language Translation Systems

SKILLS

User Research | Usability testing | Prototyping | Wireframing | Accessibility testing | Project management | Data analysis
Python | R | Figma | Qualtrics | Miro | Microsoft 365 | D2L BrightSpace | Canva | VPAT Documentation